



Department for  
International Trade



Message from  
The Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP,  
Secretary of State for International Trade

**I**t gives me great pleasure to welcome Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha and his high level delegation to the United Kingdom. This visit presents an excellent opportunity to deepen our trade and investment relations with Thailand.

Thailand is the second largest economy in South East Asia and bilateral trade with the UK increased by 2.8 per cent to £5.6 billion between 2015 to 2016. Currently the majority of UK exports are in machinery, vehicles and mechanical appliances.

Thailand is implementing its '4.0 industrial strategy', with a particular emphasis on moving towards a digital economy, from rolling out high-speed internet access for all villages to setting up a big data analytics centre.

The UK's trade with Thailand is growing steadily, but there is still huge untapped demand for British goods

and services across the Thai economy, which is growing strongly and has a large middle class.

The IMF predicts 90 per cent of global growth in the coming years will come from outside the EU, and this government is putting the UK in a position to benefit, particularly by boosting export finance and showcasing British companies to the Asian market.

As an international economic department we will continue to help businesses of all sizes forge ties and cultivate relationships with potential buyers and investors in growing markets around the world.

Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP,  
Secretary of State  
for International Trade