

Welcome Address  
Dr. Pakorn Peetathawatchai  
President, The Stock Exchange of Thailand  
Thailand Focus 2022 – “The New Hope”  
Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok  
Wednesday August 24, 2022 at 09:00-09:10 hrs. (10 minutes)

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Minister of Finance, Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, (อาคม เติมพิทยาไพสิฐ)

Governor, Bank of Thailand, Dr. Sethaput Suthiwartnarueput, (เศรษฐพุฒิ สุทธิวาทนฤพุฒิ)

Distinguished guests,

## 1. Introduction “Why New Hope?”

- It is my great pleasure to extend a warm greeting to all of you at “Thailand Focus”, The Stock Exchange of Thailand’s annual flagship event to showcase the Thai capital market to investors all over the world.
- After two years of virtual activities amid the global pandemic, the Thailand Focus 2022 event is returning to a physical setting.
- “The New Hope” is the theme for this year and it is not only a gimmick that we are a fan of Star Wars, but we do believe in the storyline of “new hope”.
- Today’s Thailand Focus will demonstrate the resilience and ability of the Thai economy and capital market to withstand challenges, successfully recover from the pandemic, adapt to new possibilities, and create businesses for the new economy and global trends, and once again serve as an appealing investment venue for international investors.

## 2. What’s New Hope?

### [Traditional Business]

- In the afternoon session, you will observe how Thai’s traditional businesses adjust to the new normal environment. For example, “food tech”, which is the core strength and future growth engine of the Thai economy, is now emerging with new industry trends that focus more on health-conscious foods such as plant-based meals and medicine foods.

- For “tourism”, a new tourist chapter of health and medical living, and long-term residence is growing. The tourism industry now capitalizes on Thailand strengths and in line with global demographic trends.

### **[New Business]**

- Also, you will get a flavor on how Thai’s new economy businesses are growing and advancing. We have seen in recent years that new breeds of companies have been listed on the stock exchange, for example, those in the digital transformation, new S-curve industries. It is also evident that investors have asked to meet with small and medium-sized businesses, especially in the new economy industry, in a strikingly greater number.
- We can see the trend shift for both the novel supply and expanded interest of investors.

### **[Sustainability Business]**

- In addition, recent crises and disruptions suggest that corporates need to adapt in order to keep up with major global dynamics. It is important to follow sustainability principles that take into account not only ESG factors but also flexible and agile components. Thai firms are transformed rapidly as they embrace a more diverse, sustainable and innovative strategic approach to building resilient, agile businesses that can meet existing and future economic opportunities and challenges.
- Thai companies do not rely on a single industry any more. Diversification and innovation provide a business the ability to grow and endure. To illustrate, you will have a chance to listen to how the energy industry is expanding to the telecommunication and digital assets industry. The oil refinery is now having batteries and electricity. Cement producers are developing a new value chain of industry businesses.

### **3. Conclusion “New Hope is Now”**

- We believe that Thailand Focus 2022 will increase investor confidence and point to new opportunities in Thailand.
- You will witness Thailand new hope from the strength of the Thai capital market and Thai listed companies. It’s a new exciting trend that you may see in both traditional-new and truly new-new batches of companies and their adaptations to the world of the future.
- That’s about “The NEW HOPE” to be explored at the Thailand Focus 2022 from a fantastic line up of speakers and panelists.
- I wish to conclude my remarks by saying “May the (Thailand) Focus be with you, always”.
- The next session will be the keynote address by His Excellency Minister of Finance, Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith. Please welcome His Excellency.