



“The New Horizon”

“Opening Address”

By Dr. Prasarn Trairatvorakul, Chairman, The Stock Exchange of Thailand

Summarized by SET Research Team

In the speech by the Chairman, The Stock Exchange of Thailand, several key points about steady growth of Thailand's economy and capital market are highlighted:

Steady Growth of Thailand's Economy Towards 'The New Horizon'

- **Economy** - Thailand's economy, characterized by steady growth, derives strength from diverse sectors including tourism, services, domestic consumption, and investment. Despite global uncertainties and potential export slowdowns, the economy is forecasted to achieve around 3% growth this year. However, enhancing competitiveness and identifying new growth sectors remain key challenges.
- **Tourism and Soft Power** - The tourism industry, driven by Thai hospitality and natural beauty, shows promise. Yet, sustained growth requires sustainability efforts and adaptability. Additionally, the "soft power" sector encompassing film, music, martial arts, and culinary traditions holds potential but necessitates strategic positioning in the global market.
- **Monetary Policy** - In navigating global uncertainties, Thailand's financial sector relies on effective monetary policies to ensure macroeconomic stability. The Central Bank's adept management of inflation and interest rates provides a solid financial foundation, contributing to the nation's resilience.
- **Capital Market** - Thailand's capital market is undergoing digital transformation, expanding accessibility and fostering inclusivity. The Stock Exchange of Thailand's impressive performance with strong turnovers and successful IPOs reinforces the nation's competitive edge in the global market.
- **Market Confidence**: Confidence is a cornerstone of economic progress. Recent instances of corporate misconduct underline the importance of risk management, market conduct, and ESG-

focused initiatives to sustain market integrity. Building collective confidence through transparent practices and strong oversight is pivotal.

Shifting in Political Landscape and Business Opportunities

- **Supply chain relocation:** Global geopolitical tensions, notably the Russia-Ukraine conflict, reverberate through energy and commodity prices, potentially disrupting supply chains and economic recovery. However, the conflict also prompts shifts in global supply chains, providing opportunities. Thailand, with its strategic position and expertise, stands to capitalize on supply chain reconfigurations.
- **Politics:** As Thailand navigates its political landscape post-general election, a new government is taking shape. The country's capital market has proven resilient to political changes historically. Economic policies take center stage across political parties, with expectations of measures aimed at economic recovery and stimulating both domestic and foreign investments. The evolving administration emphasizes adaptability and stability.

Our Commitment to Sustainability Practices

- **Trend and Positioning:** Globally, sustainability considerations are redefining success in capital markets, integrating ESG factors into investment decisions. Thailand is part of this trend, with the Stock Exchange of Thailand promoting sustainable practices. Environmental, social, and governance aspects are becoming integral criteria in investment strategies.
- **Key Initiatives:** Thailand's commitment to sustainability extends through initiatives like the 'One-Report' mandate, promoting transparency in ESG performance disclosure. The ESG data platform empowers investors and companies with insightful data for informed decisions. Further, the development of an ESG taxonomy aims to standardize reporting and streamline sustainable practices. Climate risk, a core facet of sustainability, drives low-carbon initiatives, carbon markets, and diverse ESG products.