

## **National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT)'s Statement**

### **Title: Concerns on the Incident of Anti – Government Protest**

Due to the protest against the election candidacy registration process and the draw for political parties' number at the Thai – Japanese sport stadium, Bangkok, Thailand, and the NHRCT's observation, there was the crash and violence which affected rights and liberty of people in general. This also violated rights guaranteed in National Constitution of Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2550 (2007), related laws and international human rights conventions. NHRCT deeply concerns and is afraid that the incident will widely spread.

To ensure the liberty of assembly peacefully without arms under the National Constitution and related laws, NHRCT which has power and duties to both promote the respect for human rights and protect the violation of those rights including right and liberty in life and body, rights in personal property, would like to ask all parties as the followings:

1. The protesters should assemble peacefully without arms and comply with the principles of rights and liberties under democratic system and National Constitution of Kingdom of Thailand, B.E. 2550 (2007). They also should solve the conflict in order to prevent unintentional situation particularly crashing which might lead to the violation of laws or other person's rights and liberties. They, moreover, should not stir up or stimulate the violence.
2. The Government and relevant authorities should instruct officials to deal with the conflict under the framework of National Constitution of Kingdom of Thailand, B.E. 2550 (2007) and related laws. They should end the conflict by stop using devices for dispersing the protest such as tear gas canisters or rubber - bullet guns in the manner that does not comply with the international laws and might cause people in danger. This could prevent people from being injured or losing their life as well as preventing any damages. Thus, the Government and those authorities should find the way to arrange the conversation with the protesters and gently solve the problem.
3. The Government and relevant authorities should rapidly assist people living in the area of the conflict and violence, particularly children, women, person with disability and elderly. These persons should be provided with the compulsory shelters.

NHRCT will closely watch the situation and wish that both the protesters when protesting and the Government when choosing control-riot measures should consider the respect for rights of each other. This will bring peace to the society. If anyone witness violation of people's rights and liberties, please call at the hotline no. 1377 or email: [help@nhrc.or.th](mailto:help@nhrc.or.th)

National Human Rights Commission of Thailand

26 December B.E. 2556 (2013)