

**H.E. Mr. Christian Rehren Bargetto, Ambassador of the Republic of Chile to Thailand, paid a courtesy call on H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives.**

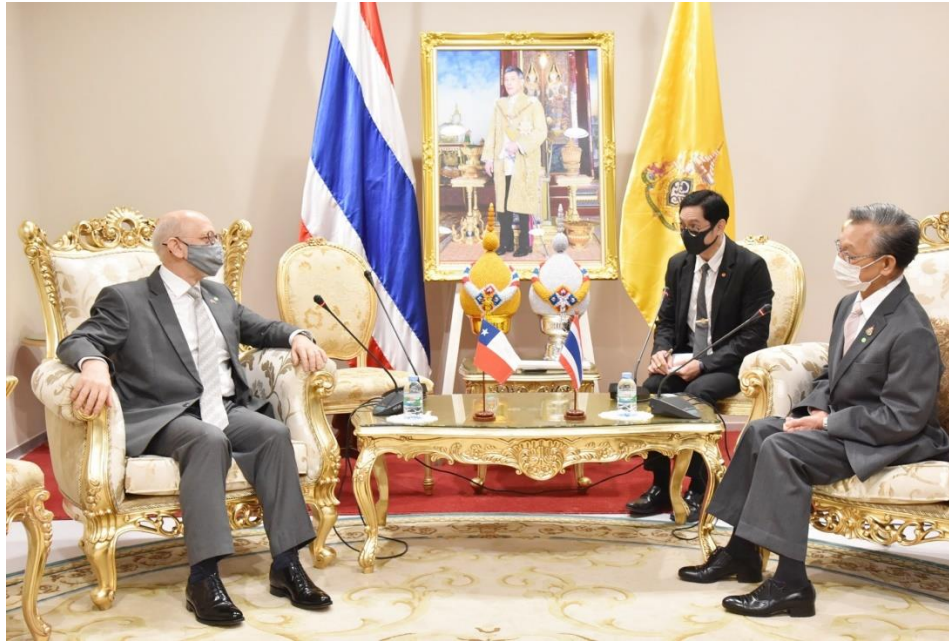
On 15 June 2021, at 11.00 hrs. H.E. Mr. Christian Rehren Bargetto, Ambassador of the Republic of Chile to Thailand, paid a courtesy call on H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives, to bid a farewell on the occasion of completing his term of office.

The Ambassador praised Thai parliament and government for their effective management of COVID-19 situation. He stated that the outbreak of COVID-19 had dramatically changed the way of life of the people. Although Thailand and Chile were unable to enjoy their relations under normal circumstances, it provided an excellent opportunity to reassess the Thai-Chilean relationship and give it a new direction. He added that the two countries Parliamentary Friendship Group would be an important channel for further developing and strengthening their relationship between Thailand and Chile. The Ambassador wished Thailand success in resolving the crisis and extended an invitation to the President of the National Assembly to pay an official visit to the Republic of Chile once the situation had returned to normal.

The year 2022 will mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Thai-Chile diplomatic relations which have always been cordial and supportive. In terms of trade and investment, Thailand and Chile signed a free trade agreement in October 2013 under which tariffs on all products covered by Thai-Chile FTA will be eliminated entirely by 2023.

The President of the National Assembly expressed gratitude to the Ambassador for his admiration for the management of the Thai parliament and government by COVID-19. He agreed with the Ambassador's assessment that the crisis presented an opportunity for positive changes. He added that the Thai Parliament could continue its work with more intensive measures during the current parliamentary session.

In 1999 the President of the National Assembly paid an official visit to the Republic of Chile where he met with H.E. Mr. Eduardo Frei, President of the Republic of Chile at that time. In this occasion, the President of the National Assembly wishes to convey his warm regards to the former President as well as President of the Parliament of the Republic of Chile as well as to wish the Ambassador success in all endeavors.



Division of International Information  
Bureau of International Relations  
The Secretariat of the House of Representatives