Independent Study Paper Title   : A Comparative Study of the Foreign Investment Law between Thailand and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

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ABSTRACT

Presently, member countries of AEC is poised to open their countries to promote foreign investment and try to push their economic growth by changing the related domestic factors. In this regard, Myanmar changed its policy and foreign investment law in 2012 to relax restrictions on foreign investment and to attract more foreign investment.

This research focuses on the new foreign investment law of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar by comparison between the foreign investment law of Thailand and Myanmar, in order to provide guideline for Thai investors to understand important requirements of the FIL 2012 before making an investment. This study might be beneficial as guideline to determine the framework and appropriate measures for the revisions of domestic laws or investment promotion policy to be consistent with the impacts of the FIL 2012 which is looming.

The research found that investment in Myanmar for Thai investors does not appear to be difficult, and Thai investors have significantly better opportunities than investors from other countries. This is because the investment laws of Thailand and Myanmar are similar to each other, Thailand and Myanmar have long standing business relationship for a long time, etc. Nonetheless, information on investment in Myanmar is limited, insufficient and unclear. Therefore, Thai investors should make a careful study before making an investment. In addition, to support the distribution of Thai products to Myanmar's market, the Thai government should have a promotion investment policy agreed between Thailand and Myanmar. The related information center to support Thai investors should also be considered. Nevertheless, Thai government should provide proper related policy to support, they should stand on public interests.