

NIWAT TROWATTANA : EFFECTS OF GATT'S NEGOTIATIONS ON THE REDUCING OR ELIMINATING OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY SUBSIDIES ACCORDING TO THE DRAFT FINAL ACT OF GATT SECRETARY ON THAI ECONOMIC LAW IN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY PRODUCTION AND TRADE. THESIS ADVISOR : SUDHARMA YONAI DHARMA, 327 PP. ISBN 974-582-961-7

This research has the objective to study how the principles and rules of GATT regarding reduction and elimination of agricultural subsidy effect Thai economic law and Thai trade law.

This research found that if Thailand accepts commitment prescribed in the Draft Final Act, it will be beneficial to the Thai commodity trading system. However, some adjustments have to be made concerning laws and regulations dealing with agricultural subsidies program. The research finds that such arrangements be carried out by (1) modifying Thai economic law regarding import restrictions, non-tariff barriers, circumvention export subsidies and domestic subsidies which, for long, unduly place burden on consumers ; (2) the probable outcome of acceptance of the Draft Final Act is that it will have negative impact on imported products but positive impact on export sector.

Finally, it is submitted that (1) producers should put more emphasis on production efficiency as well as productivity, (2) Thai government should devise new policy and action plan concerning marketing, pricing and export of Thai agricultural product, and (3) taking steps, according to results of international accord, towards a more open market, tariffication of barriers, providing domestic subsidies without trade distortion effects which must satisfy general availability requirement and without discrimination based on type or volume of product subject to subsidy grant; export subsidies may be provided according to an internationally agreed principles and (4) Thailand should consider adopting a countervailing duty law to do away with injury caused by an import of subsidized agricultural product.