## EXIM Thailand Pledges Full Cooperation on Myanma Loan Investigation

EXIM Thailand will extend full cooperation with the AEC in their investigation into the Bank's 4-billion-baht term loan to Myanmar for infrastructure development in Myanmar and investment promotion for Thai business operators.

According to Dr. Apichai Boontherawara, President of Export-Import Bank of Thailand (EXIM Thailand), the Bank is ready to provide information and cooperation with the Assets Examination Committee (AEC) in their investigation proposed by the Office of Auditor-General into the Bank's 4-billion-baht loans to Myanma Foreign Trade Bank (MFTB). As a state-owned financial institution under the Ministry of Finance's supervision, the Bank has given top priority to the adherence of good corporate governance principles. In addition to supporting Thai export and investment overseas, the Bank has also expanded its development objectives beyond national boundaries to include the promotion of intraregional economic development in the Greater Mekong Subregion as well as the ASEAN region.

EXIM Thailand's 4-billion-baht loan with a repayment term of 12 years was officially granted to MFTB for Myanmar's road construction and infrastructure development in June 2004. MFTB is a state bank designated to allocate the loan funds to various Myanma governmental agencies for use in the procurement of capital goods and services originating from Thailand. Up to the present, EXIM Thailand has provided financial support to Thai exporters and investors under the procurement contracts granted by the Myanma Government worth 3,934 million baht. A total drawdown amount of 2.9 billion baht has been made with all four installments of interest payment satisfactorily fulfilled.

This lending has created more jobs and income for 16 export companies in Thailand. Under the approved credit line, 1,756 million baht has been extended to nine exporters of machinery and equipment in Thailand, 980 million baht to three overseas construction contractors, 598 million baht to two petrochemical enterprises and 600 million baht to two telecommunications companies. The Bank's lending objective is to support economic development in neighboring countries while promoting Thai export and overseas investment which, ultimately, will help increase Thailand's national income.

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## About Export-Import Bank of Thailand

Export-Import Bank of Thailand (EXIM Thailand) is a state-owned specialized financial institution under the Ministry of Finance's supervision. Established under the Export-Import Bank of Thailand Act B.E. 2536 (1993), which was amended in 1999 to expand its role in supporting investments, EXIM Thailand was mandated to provide financial services for the promotion and facilitation of Thailand's exports, imports and investments for national development. The Bank's objectives are to strengthen the competitive edge of Thai exporters and investors abroad as well as promoting business activities that contribute to the earning or saving of foreign exchange.