Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha

Office of the Prime Minister

Government House

Pitsanulok Road

Bangkok 10300

**THAILAND**

Dear Prime Minister

May I express my troubling concern that arose when I read a report that in Thailand a significant number of 286 citizens have been accused simply because of their participation in peaceful protests.

Even minors are among them. For example, Thanakorn "Petch" Phiraban was sentenced to two years of imprisonment (on probation), simply because he participated in protests and expressed his free opinion.

Dear Prime Minister, I surely do not need to remind you the very basic Human Rights Declaration principles.

> Every person has a legal right to assemble.

> Every person has a legal right to express his free opinion.

The young woman “Sand” is another example. She faces certain accusations because of her Human Rights activities she ‘committed’ as a minor.

Dear Prime Minister, you cannot deny that youth and minors deserve special protection in regards to juridical treatment. I kindly ask for your action and to use your influence

> to revise the verdict against “Petch”;

> to abandon the accusations against “Sand”;

> to enable young persons as well as all citizens to exercise their full rights in expressing their opinion or participating in demonstrations.

May your efforts prevent the impression that in Thailand civil rights are not consistently respected, but rather are repressed.

With kind respect