



**Message
from
His Excellency Mr. Srettha Thavisin
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand**

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I extend my warmest felicitations to all BIMSTEC Member States on the auspicious occasion of the BIMSTEC Day, 6 June 2024.

Today, BIMSTEC stands as a region of increasing strategic, economic and commercial importance that enjoys peace and steady development. Since its inception, BIMSTEC has transformed into a symbol of unity and collaboration that brought about economic growth, enhanced connectivity, and cultural ties among our diverse societies.

As we commemorate BIMSTEC Day this year, let us reflect on the vision that BIMSTEC was founded upon, which is to create an enabling environment for rapid economic development of our region. This vision holds even greater significance today, with trade and investment serving as primary drivers of regional prosperity and development. The BIMSTEC Free Trade Area Agreement stands as a cornerstone in realizing this vision and unlocking the full potential of our region.

This year is especially important for Thailand. The upcoming Sixth BIMSTEC Summit will not only mark the second time the meeting is held in Thailand but also the first time BIMSTEC Leaders will meet in person since 2018. The Summit presents a valuable opportunity for Leaders to discuss the future of BIMSTEC and adopt the Bangkok Vision 2030 to define our path towards building a sustainable, prosperous, inclusive, resilient and robust, and open BIMSTEC.

With our continued dedication and resolve, I am confident that BIMSTEC will make steady progress towards realizing our goals as enshrined in the Bangkok Declaration and the Bangkok Vision 2030. Together, let us march forward towards a brighter future for all.

(Srettha Thavisin)
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand