



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

351 EAST 52ND STREET • NEW YORK, NY 10022
TEL (212) 754-2230 • FAX (212) 688-3029

Statement

by

His Excellency Mr. Norachit Sinhaseni

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand
to the United Nations**

before the Sixth Committee

of the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda Item 107: Measures to eliminate international terrorism

New York, 8 October 2014



Please check against delivery

Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first time Thailand takes the floor, allow me to congratulate you and members of the bureau on your elections. You can be assured that the Thai delegation will give you our full support and cooperation. Allow me also to pay tribute to your predecessor, Ambassador Paliha Kohona of Sri Lanka and the members of his bureau for the excellent work of the Committee at the 68th UNGA.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished Permanent Representative of the Lao PDR on behalf of ASEAN and by the representative of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Thailand thanks the Secretary General for his annual report on this item which we find highly informative. It provides an important basis for our deliberations and for our work.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism poses a real and serious threat to international peace and security. Not only does it threaten the territorial integrity and security of States, but also affects the collective conscience of the international community. Terrorism displays total disregard for human life and decency. At the personal level, terrorism causes loss and suffering to innocent civilians and their families whose lives and livelihood will never be the same. Here, allow me to offer Thailand's sincere condolences to the victims and the bereaved families of terrorist attacks everywhere. Nowhere is this more evident than the heinous acts of violence being committed by the Islamic State militants in Iraq and Syria.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand reiterates our unequivocal condemnation of terrorist acts in all forms and manifestations as totally unjustifiable crime. For this reason, Thailand is fully committed to actively engage in the prevention, combating and elimination of terrorism at the international, regional and domestic levels. We commit to bring to justice, on the principle of "extradite or prosecute", any perpetrator or person who engages in terrorist acts.

Thailand therefore welcomes the recent unanimous adoption of Resolution 2170 (2014) which condemns gross and widespread abuse of human rights by extremist groups in Iraq and Syria and Resolution 2178 (2014) on foreign terrorist fighters. The adoption of the said resolutions demonstrates the Security Council's determination to fulfill its primary responsibility in maintaining international peace and security. As a responsible and principled member of the United Nations, Thailand reaffirms our readiness to implement the two resolutions as well as other relevant resolutions.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand remains fully committed to supporting the work of Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate or CTED and other bodies in capacity building and international coordination. We also reiterate our readiness to support the implementation of the UN Global Terrorism Strategy. The Strategy provides an inclusive framework for international cooperation by engaging Member States and other actors, including non-governmental organizations and civil society. The fourth biennial review of the Global Strategy, held in June this year, provided Member States and relevant UN bodies the opportunity to share information and discuss their efforts to implement the measures outlined in the Global Strategy's four pillars.

Mr. Chairman,

Recognizing that suppression of terrorism requires international cooperation, Thailand has ratified 9 out of 16 UN Anti-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols and is taking all necessary steps to become parties to the remaining instruments.

In addition, recognizing the need to interdict and prevent proliferation of WMDs, Thailand joined the Proliferation Security Initiatives or PSI since November 2012. Subsequently, Thailand has conducted PSI activities to maintain interdiction of WMD proficiency.

Mr. Chairman,

At the regional level, as a Party to the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism, Thailand works closely with fellow ASEAN Member States to ensure effective implementation of our regional counter-terrorism measures as well as other international obligations. Such commitment by ASEAN Member States was clearly elaborated in the joint ASEAN Statement delivered by the Lao PDR yesterday.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism cannot operate without financial resources. Therefore, one of the most effective ways to fight terrorism is to stem the financial flows and monetary resources. Comprehensive anti-money laundering laws are needed. Thailand has been actively and systematically strengthening its jurisdiction and control, reviewing our existing laws as well as introducing new ones. In June last year, the Plenary of the Financial Action Task Force or FATF recognized Thailand's success. FATF announced that Thailand was no longer subject to FATF's ongoing Anti Money Laundering and Counter Financing Terrorism compliance.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism presents a real and eminent threat to international peace and security as the recent events so tragically remind us. The international community can no longer remain complacent. We must continue our utmost efforts in the fight against terrorism, particularly through the implementation of

international legal instruments as well as relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions on counter-terrorism.

Terrorism has changed and evolved in response to the international community's efforts to eliminate it. We are now faced with the possibility of terrorists processing and employing WMDs, the continued emergence of homegrown terrorism and self-radicalization, the growth of violent extremist beliefs among youths and the growing threat of cyber-terrorism. The need for a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism or CCIT more evident than ever.

My delegation therefore commends the work of the *Ad hoc* Committee, established by General Assembly resolution 51/120 of 1996, and welcomes the progress made in finalizing a draft CCIT. We reiterate our longstanding position that the CCIT should contain a sufficiently clear and precise definition of terrorism without reference to "State terrorism". Furthermore it is Thailand's view that a finalized draft of the CCIT is a prerequisite to the convening of a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

My final point, Mr. Chairman,

While strengthening the international and regional legal regimes and their enforcement is important, that alone is not enough. In order to successfully combat terrorism, its root causes and the conditions conducive to terrorism must also be addressed. Non-State actors must also be engaged. The promotion of dialogues among civilizations is required to enhance interfaith and intercultural understanding. And no less important, any response to terrorism and terrorist acts must be in compliance with international law, particularly, international human rights and humanitarian laws.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.