

PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement

By

H.E. Mrs. Chulamanee Chartsuwan Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations

before the Sixth Committee

of the 71^{st} Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda Item 108:

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

New York, 3/4 October 2016

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Since this is the first time the Kingdom of Thailand takes the floor, allow me to take this opportunity to congratulate you, Mr Chairman and the members of the Bureau on your elections and to assure you of our full support and cooperation during the deliberations of this Committee.

Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by His Excellency the Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on behalf of ASEAN member states and His Excellency the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Align movement.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand reiterates its position in condemning terrorist acts in all its forms and manifestations. Terrorism poses daunting threats to security and stability at all levels in the society, affecting sustainable development and collective conscience of all nations. We commit ourselves to be part of the global efforts to combat and eliminate terrorism, through our active role at national, regional and international levels.

At the national level, Thailand has been continuously working to enhance its domestic legal framework to respond to new forms of terrorist threats. In 2003, terrorism has been incorporated as a criminal offence in the Penal Code. In 2013, the Transnational Organized Crime Act was promulgated to implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Furthermore, we are committed to fulfilling its obligations under relevant UNSC resolutions through our national legislations. The Anti-Terrorist Financing Act B.E.2556 (2013) was also promulgated to support the UNSC resolution 1373 of 2001 on the implementation of legal measures including civil measures to combat terrorism and financial support to terrorism. In addition, Thailand is in the process of developing the Prevention and Suppression of Terrorist Financing and Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Act in order to fulfill the obligation of the UNSC resolution relating to proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

At the regional level, Thailand remains committed to fully implementing the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism, which is the key regional framework to combat terrorism as stipulated in the ASEAN Political-Security Community

Blueprint. We continue to intensify our cooperation with ASEAN member states through various fora and means to prevent and suppress all forms of terrorist acts.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand attaches great importance to international cooperation in the suppression of terrorism. Thailand is a Party to 9 UN Anti-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols and is in the process of ratifying and acceding to the remaining instruments. We are in the process of developing required laws to become a party to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation. We are also in the process of amending our Nuclear Energy Act with a view to acceding to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. Chairman,

In response to the complex and evolving nature of international terrorism including the usage of Weapons of Mass Destructions, we apply national measures to prohibit weapons of mass destruction and prevent their proliferation. Thailand has joined and been active in several cooperation frameworks, for instance the Proliferation Security Initiatives or PSI, the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand stands ready to cooperate with the UN and other member states to translate the UN Global-Terrorism strategy into practice. This strategy serves as a common platform for member states, non-governmental organizations and civil society to prevent, tackle and combat terrorism.

Thailand also fully supports the work of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC), the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), and other bodies in capacity building and in coordinating the members States' anti-terrorist efforts. We welcome the outcome of the special meeting of the CTC held in Madrid in 2015 in relation to stemming the flow of foreign terrorist fighters. The sub-regional workshops on effectively countering terrorism organized by CTED were held successfully in Thailand in October last year.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand believes that the finalization of draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) will contribute significantly in the global action towards the fight against terrorism. We reiterate our view that the draft convention should contain a clear and precise definition of terrorism and without reference to "State terrorism." In light of growing concerns of terrorism and the need for global action to tackle the problem, we call on States to take extra steps in the effort to finalise draft CCIT at the earliest opportunity.

Finally, Thailand believes that the root causes of terrorism and radicalization such as poverty, social marginalization, lack of access to resources and sense of injustice, must be addressed. We must promote sustainable and inclusive development. Thailand has been offering the international community its experience in implementing His Majesty the King's Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) as means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Promoting better understanding among diverse faiths and cultures, and enhancing interfaith partnership also contribute to stemming extremism.

Mr. Chairman,

To conclude, Thailand firmly believes that member states need to continue to cooperate closely and in a comprehensive manner in order to eliminate international terrorism and achieve sustainable global peace and security.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman