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Statement

by

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**before the Sixth Committee
of the 75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

Agenda Item 86:

The rule of law at the national and international levels

New York, 20 October 2020

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Mr. Chair,

Thailand wishes to begin by aligning itself with the statements delivered by the Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Kingdom of Cambodia on behalf of ASEAN. We would like to thank the Secretary-General for his annual report on “Strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities” which provides a comprehensive overview of the constructive role of the United Nations in assisting Member States to strengthen the rule of law at all levels. We also acknowledge with appreciation the Common Position of the United Nations system to address global Corruption.

Mr. Chair,

The rule of law is fundamental to the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 16. It is also equally important to realise that before a truly peaceful and inclusive society can be created, it must be understood that the rule of law can only truly serve the people, if it is upheld first and foremost by the people themselves.

In this regard, we would like to affirm our commitment to promoting and ensuring the rule of law at all levels. This year’s subtopic of discussion on “Measures to prevent and combat corruption” comes at an opportune time and provides a great opportunity for countries to share experiences and good practices on approaches and efforts to combat corruption.

Mr. Chair,

In Thailand’s context, corruption is a serious impediment to the rule of law and sustainable development. As we face more complicated

corruption challenges globally, it is necessary to reinforce every State's measures to prevent and combat corruption. During recent years, Thailand has strengthened our anti-corruption policies and legislation, as well as prioritising the fight against corruption in our national agenda and putting best efforts to advance our laws and regulations in compliance with the UNCAC and international standards.

In addition, the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand ensures that the performance of duties and exercise of powers by the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) shall be in an honest, just, courageous and impartial manner. In 2018, an amendment of the Organic Act on Anti-Corruption has come into force. Such amendment is considered to be a remarkable effort to comply with additional provisions of the UNCAC, such as the ability to directly recover assets located in a foreign jurisdiction, strengthening of measures to prevent obstruction of justice, and establishing bribery of foreign public officials and officials of public international organisations as a criminal offence. Furthermore, the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Phase 3 has been launched in 2019 with an aim of creating a culture of zero-tolerance against corruption, enhancing good governance in integrative administration of the country and encouraging participation by all stakeholders.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand is of the view that in order to prevent and combat corruption effectively, it is imperative that individuals are actively involved in the efforts led by the government and private sectors. In light of this, the NACC has launched the Anti-Corruption Education programs for all schools, universities and other institutions in order to ensure that culture of zero-tolerance against corruption is well-understood and appreciated by the younger generations.

At an international level, Thailand would like to commend the UNODC for its excellent work in this area. The conferences and review mechanism managed by the UNODC provide a platform for all Member States to exchange best practices, identify challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption. With regard to the Implementation Review Mechanism, Thailand wishes to express our sincere gratitude to the Secretariat and the reviewing State Parties, and would like to ensure that the outcome of the review will be properly reflected in our efforts to develop laws and regulation on this matter.

Mr. Chair,

Thailand once again reaffirms our commitment to promoting and ensuring the rule of law at all levels. We will continue to strengthen the rule of law in an effort to build a truly inclusive society where no one is left behind. We also look forward to actively engage in the special session of the General Assembly against corruption, to be held in 2021.

Thank you.