



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

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Statement

by

Delegation of Thailand to the United Nations

before the Sixth Committee

of the 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda Item 105: Measures to eliminate international terrorism

New York, 8/9 October 2012

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Mr. Chairman,

First of all, let me congratulate you and the bureau members on your election and to assure you of our full support and cooperation during the deliberations of this Committee.

Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by Viet Nam on behalf of ASEAN as well as that of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Thailand also associates itself with other delegations in resolutely condemning terrorist acts in all its forms and manifestations and continues to be actively engaged in the prevention, combating and elimination of terrorism at the domestic, regional and international levels. We also wish to offer our profound condolences to the victims and the bereaved families of recent terrorist incidents around the world.

We reiterate that any terrorist acts are criminal and unjustifiable. Perpetrators of such acts must be relentlessly pursued and brought to justice.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand commends the counter-terrorism efforts under the United Nations framework, in particular, the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which represents the unified intention of the UN Member States to formulate a common strategic approach to combat terrorism effectively and comprehensively. In this connection, Thailand also welcomes the third biennial review of the Strategy, which should aid in our deliberations on enhancing international responses to terrorism. We would also like to thank the Secretary-General for his report entitled “United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy”, as well as his annual report on Measures to eliminate international terrorism (A/67/162), which contains useful information on steps taken by Member States, the United Nations and other international organizations in the prevention and suppression of international terrorism.

Thailand also appreciates the work of the General Assembly to enhance the role of UN agencies and bodies as well as to assist Member States in their fight against terrorism, as described in the report of the Secretary-General prepared in pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/178. We would like to commend, in particular, its Terrorism Prevention Branch, in its delivering of technical assistance in the area of counter-terrorism. It is important that the recommendations in this report be implemented to ensure that the international legal regime against terrorism is taken seriously. In this regard, the UN could assist by formulating model legislation relating to terrorism offences as specified in the Conventions and Protocols, in a similar manner to how it assisted with the Model Legislation on Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

Every successive Thai government has given utmost priority to the fight against terrorism. We are convinced that terrorism presents one of the gravest threats to international peace and security, a threat which requires comprehensive and concerted global responses. Thailand recognizes the necessity of the legal framework shaped by various UN Conventions and Protocols on counter-terrorism, which is aimed at improving the efficiency of international responses towards the many manifestations of terrorism. Thailand is currently party to more than half of these international legal instruments, and is firmly committed to becoming a party to all the remaining ones. Indeed, we are now in the process of ratifying

the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation. Furthermore, in recognizing the importance of preventive strategies and in order to ensure that we meet our international obligations in this area, Thailand is also in the process of thoroughly reviewing and updating our legislation, particularly on anti-money-laundering and on preventing the financing of terrorism in accordance with the articles of the Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism. The draft legislation on both issues is currently under consideration by our Parliament.

Moreover, Thailand welcomes international and regional cooperation in the fight against terrorism. In addition to actively engaging in the counter-terrorism forum within ASEAN, Thailand stands ready to render cooperation internationally, regionally and bilaterally in accordance with international law and under the framework of extradition treaties and mutual legal assistance treaties.

Mr. Chairman,

Notwithstanding the abundant number of existing counter-terrorism instruments, Thailand is of the view that to strengthen international counter-terrorism mechanisms, there is still a need for a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) to fill gaps in existing treaties and to enhance international efforts to bring the perpetrators of terrorist acts to justice. States must ready themselves to face major developments that will re-define terrorism in the years ahead, namely: (1) the usage of weapons of mass destruction; (2) the continued emergence of homegrown terrorism and self-radicalization; (3) the spread of violent extremist beliefs and ideas among our youths; and (4) the growing threat of cyber-terrorism.

In this regard, we would like to express our support to the working group established during this session of the UNGA, which is working on finalizing the draft of the CCIT. It is Thailand's view that a finalized draft of the CCIT is a prerequisite of the convening of a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

Mr. Chairman,

We believe that the root causes of terrorism must be addressed in parallel with the strengthening of the international legal regime and improved law enforcement. The timely establishment of a dialogue among civilizations to increase understanding of intercultural differences will provide an important opportunity for all nations to participate in combating the root causes of terrorism.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, although the threat is great and the road ahead long, we have it within us to prevail. What is needed now is a firm commitment by Member States to answer this challenge in a vigorous, coordinated and comprehensive manner. I wish to reaffirm Thailand's continued support for and participation in the concerted efforts by Member States to combat terrorism for our common goal of lasting global peace and security.

Thank you.