



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

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Statement

by

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Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand

to the United Nations

before the Sixth Committee

of the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda Item 110: Measures to eliminate international terrorism

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Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first time my delegation takes the floor, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and members of the bureau on your elections. You can be assured of the Thai delegation's full support and cooperation during the deliberations of this Committee.

Thailand wishes to thank the Secretary General for his annual report on this item which contains important information on progress made at the national and international levels to eliminate terrorism.

At the outset, my delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Lao People's Democratic Republic on behalf of ASEAN and by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism results not only in loss and suffering, but affects the collective conscience of the international community since it displays total disregard for human life and decency. Here, allow me to offer our sincere and profound condolences to the victims and the bereaved families of recent terrorist attacks, including the recent attack in Kenya and elsewhere. Thailand reiterates our unequivocal condemnation of all terrorist acts in all forms and manifestations as heinous and totally unjustifiable crime. For this reason, the Royal Thai Government is fully committed to actively engage in the prevention, combating and elimination of terrorism at the domestic, regional and international levels. We will bring to justice, on the principle of "extradite or prosecute", any perpetrator or person who engages in terrorist acts.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand thus welcomes the establishment by the United Nations of partnership to tackle terrorism at regional and global levels. Here, the UN- Global Terrorism Strategy is important since it engages not only Member States but also other actors, including non-governmental organizations and civil society. We look forward to and will actively participate in the fourth biennial review of the Global Strategy.

At the regional level, Thailand will continue to work closely with the UN at all levels, in particular, with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and other bodies in capacity building and international coordination.

Mr. Chairman,

As recent events have shown, terrorism continues to be one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. The fight against terrorism must be given utmost priority and all Member States must join in the fight. States must commit to and implement all international legal instruments as well as the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions on counter-terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

One of the most effective ways to fight terrorism is to eliminate its financial resources by establishing firm anti-money laundering laws. Thailand has been actively and systematically strengthening its jurisdiction and control, reviewing our existing laws and introducing new ones. This June, the Plenary of the Financial Action Task Force or FATF, in recognizing Thailand's success, announced that Thailand is no longer subject to FATF's ongoing Anti Money Laundering and Counter Financing Terrorism compliance.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand recognizes the need to interdict and prevent proliferation of the WMD. We have become a Participant to the Proliferation Security Initiatives or PSI since November 2012, and have effectively conducted PSI activities to maintain the interdiction of WMD proficiency with the support of our main partner, the United States.

In addition, Thailand is 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 and its Protocol.

Mr. Chairman,

The international community is now facing new and complex phenomena related to terrorism, ranging from the usage of WMD , the continued emergence of homegrown terrorism and self-radicalization; the growth of violent extremist belief among our youths and the growing threat of cyber-terrorism. Existing regimes of counter-terrorism treaties need to be supplemented and soon.

Thailand therefore commends the work of the *Ad hoc* Committee, established by General Assembly resolution 51/120 of 1996, and welcomes progress made in finalizing the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism or (CCIT). We pledge our full support to the working group which will be established during the 69th session of the GA in order to finalize the draft CCIT.

Regarding the text of the draft CCIT, Thailand wishes to reiterate our longstanding position that the CCIT should contain a sufficiently clear and precise definition of terrorism without a 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.

Mr. Chairman,

On a final point, in order to successfully combat international terrorism, the root causes of terrorism and the conditions conducive to terrorism must be addressed in parallel with the strengthening of the international legal regimes and improved law enforcement. We also need to continue to promote dialogues among civilizations and enhancing interfaith and intercultural understanding. But at the same time, any response to terrorism and terrorist acts must be in compliance with international law, particularly, international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law.

Thank you.