

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

H.E. Mr. Nontawat Chandrtri Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Thailand to the United Nations

before the Sixth Committee of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly

> Agenda Item 109 Measures to eliminate international terrorism New York, 2/3 October 2017

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Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first time Thailand takes the floor, my delegation would like to congratulate you and all the members of the Bureau on your elections and to express our full support for the work of the Committee throughout this session. We look forward to actively participating in the deliberations of this Committee.

Thailand aligns itself with the statements made by Mr. Sovann Ke, Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations, on behalf of ASEAN Member States and His Excellency Mr. Gholamali Khoshroo, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations on behalf of the Non-Align Movement (NAM).

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand strongly condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as it threatens peace and security of all nations. Terrorism not only prevents us from achieving sustainable development but also often lessens our shared values of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence, and respect for human rights. We are therefore fully committed to taking part in the fight against terrorism at the national, regional and international levels.

At the national level, Thailand has continuously strengthened its domestic legal framework to combat terrorism. A number of anti-terrorism laws are in force and at the same time a series of legislation is being developed or amended. In implementing UN Security Council resolution 1373, a number of legal measures including civil measures have been put in place to counter the financing of terrorism and combat money laundering by depleting their source of funds. And in this regard, it is our honour to announce that the Prevention and Suppression of Terrorist Financing and Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Act already came into force in December last year.

At the regional level, Thailand remains committed to the implementation of the 2007 ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism, which is a key regional legal framework to combat terrorism as stipulated in the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint. Thailand will continue to work closely with other ASEAN Member States to further strengthen our related regional cooperation in this regard.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand believes that international cooperation, supported by strong international legal frameworks, is key in the suppression of terrorism. We have

become party to nine international legal instruments relating to anti-terrorism, with the intention of eventually becoming party to the remaining 10 instruments. In particular, we are currently in the process of developing necessary laws and regulations that would allow us to become party to, among others, the 2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, the 1980 Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and its 2005 Amendment, as well as the 1988 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and its 2005 Protocol.

Mr. Chairman,

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Thailand attaches great importance to the fight against terrorism. Such commitment is clearly reflected in our National Security Policy for the year 2015-2021, which incorporates various anti-terrorism strategies as an essential part of our efforts to maintain peace and security in Thailand and beyond.

Thailand stands ready to cooperate with the United Nations and other countries to translate into practice the 2006 UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. To this end, we fully support the work of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC), the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the newly established UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (OCT), and other UN bodies in promoting capacity-building and accelerating efforts of Member States to effectively prevent, tackle and combat terrorism. It is also imperative that we must work together in a holistic manner to ensure that each of our work and effort complement and reinforce, rather than duplicate, one another.

Thailand believes that the finalization of the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) will contribute significantly to the global fight against terrorism. We therefore call upon all States to step up their efforts to finalize the draft CCIT and work together in good spirit to ensure that the draft contains a clear and precise definition of terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

More importantly, we must seek to address the root causes of terrorism and give more attention to the preventive side. We must join efforts to, among other things, eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, promote social inclusion, better access to basic rights and resources, and foster interfaith dialogues and tolerance, gearing towards sustainable and inclusive development. In this regard, Thailand believes His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) can be a simple but effective means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and we therefore stand ready to share our experiences and lessons learned with all of you.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman,

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I cannot emphasize enough that Thailand firmly believes in the strength of close cooperation among Member States in order to eliminate international terrorism. To win this fight, it is only through collective action and joint efforts that we can effectively respond to the threats of terrorism and restore peace and security to our world.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman

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