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**Statement**

**by**

**Mr. Natthakit Singto,  
Second Secretary,  
Representative of the Kingdom of Thailand**

**before the Sixth Committee  
of the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Agenda item 83**

**The rule of law at the national and international levels**

**New York, 11 October 2019**

**Check against delivery**

**Mr. Chair,**

1. Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representative of Cambodia on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

2. We thank the Secretary-General for his report which outlines at great length the activities of the United Nations in assisting Member States to promote the rule of law, in particular at the national level.

**Mr. Chair,**

3. The rule of law is the foundation for peaceful co-existence and an inclusive society where no one is left behind. Without it, we will continue to face with conflicts, chaos, and calamity. It is therefore crucial to ensure that the rule of law is truly upheld first and foremost for the people and by the people themselves. The rule of law is not something that can be said and not done. There needs to be concrete action, the positive impact of which are felt and recognised by the people. In other words, the only way to truly build and strengthen the rule of law is to place the people at the center and to respect and protect all human rights.

**Mr. Chair,**

4. For one thing, the rule of law allows us to reach out to those who are often left furthest behind. Every year in this Assembly my delegation talks about the Bangkok Rules as one of the many vivid examples how the rule of law can be further strengthened in the aspect of criminal justice, not just in my own country but everywhere. Initiated by Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Narendira Debyavati of Thailand, the UNODC Goodwill Ambassador for the Rule of Law in Southeast Asia, the Bangkok Rules aims to protect the rights of women and provide fair and humane treatment for them during imprisonment, taking into account their specific needs including in terms of health. It also seeks to support their reintegration into the community thereafter. Thailand stands ready to share experiences with all Member States and relevant partners in this regard.

**Mr. Chair,**

5. Thailand wishes to once again commend the UN, in particular the International Law Commission and the Sixth Committee, for the essential role in the codification and progressive development of international law and the strengthening of the multilateral legal framework. We will continue to support these areas of work fully. We also hope that the dialogue among the ILC, the Sixth Committee and the Legal Advisers will be further strengthened.

6. With respect to the dissemination of knowledge of international law, Thailand is a proud co-host of the UN Regional Course in International Law for the Asia-Pacific, the next one to be organised next month, from 18 November to 13 December at UNESCAP in Bangkok. These programmes, currently organised in three regions, have allowed individuals in different professions including academics, to have a greater and deeper understanding of international law, which in turn promotes its further dissemination and wider appreciation. Mr. Chair, my delegation stands ready to continue working with the Codification Division to further this collaboration. Please rest assured of our full support.

7. Thailand is pleased with the work done thus far in the development of the Audiovisual Library and podcasts, despite many technical challenges. We commend once again the work of the Advisory Committee and the Secretary.

**Mr. Chair,**

8. The rule of law is both a fundamental prerequisite to, and an outcome of, the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As the mid-point of the 2030 Agenda is fast approaching, Thailand remains committed more than ever to working with all Member States, the United Nations and relevant agencies to further advance the rule of law at the national and international levels.

I thank you.