



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

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Statement

by

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of the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations

before the Sixth Committee

of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda item 85

The rule of law at the national and international levels

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Madam Chair,

1. At the outset, the Kingdom of Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Kingdom of Cambodia on behalf of ASEAN and the Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. Thailand also expresses our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his annual report which illustrates the constructive role of the United Nations in assisting Member States to promote the rule of law at all levels.

Madam Chair,

3. The rule of law is important as the basis for sustainability, equity and justice for all. And in this time, it guides us towards “building back better” and achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while ensuring that no one is left behind, especially the most vulnerable and marginalised.
4. In this light, allow me to highlight the following points:
5. First, as international law plays a pivotal role in our paths towards a more predictable and fairer world, our endeavour must continue to strengthen **the effective implementation of the rule of law** both at the international and national levels. We wish to echo the Secretary-General’s Report, which stressed the need to promote universal adherence to **international cooperation guided by**

international law¹ so as to cope with global challenges and achieve Our Common Agenda.

6. In this regard, Thailand appreciates the UN's constant efforts to promote the rule of law through capacity-building, technical assistance and dissemination of legal knowledge. We reiterate our readiness to further support and collaborate closely with the Codification Division to this end through the co-hosting of UN Regional Courses in International Law for Asia-Pacific.

7. Second, we must bring the law closer to the people. Indeed, **inclusivity and sense of ownership** are key to the entire enterprise of law and its compliance. As the current pandemic created greater awareness of how multilateralism and international law are critical to our collective response and recovery, it is important that our people realise the relevance and significance of the rule of law in their daily lives. This will, in turn, help enhance compliance with the rule of law by the people, and create a mutually reinforcing relationship. In the end, a rules-based society will no longer be only an aspiration.

8. In line with this, Thailand welcomes the Secretary-General's suggestion to consider a **sub-topic on "Promoting a people-centred rule of law at the national and international levels as the foundation of our common agenda"** in order to ensure that the rule of law is responsive to the people's needs.

¹ Report of the Secretary-General on Our Common Agenda

9. And third, turning to the national level, the rule of law lies at the heart of the Thai legal system. The **Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2560 (2017)** stipulates that the exercise of sovereign power and the enactment of a law resulting in the restriction of rights or liberties of a person shall be in accordance with the rule of law. To this end, Thailand is fully committed to harmonising its domestic laws with relevant international norms and standards.

10. In the context of increasing public participation in the treaty-making process, in August 2021, the Cabinet of Thailand has approved, in principle, the **draft act** prescribing procedures for the public to participate in the conclusion of a treaty. The draft act is a good example which illustrates our ongoing efforts at the national level to ensure the **people-centred rule of law**.

Madam Chair,

11. The rule of law ensures that everybody is equal. This is especially important in the context of facing the impact of the current pandemic. We should, therefore, embrace this opportunity to reaffirm our efforts to be guided by the people-centred rule of law, not only for sustainable recovery, but also for achieving Our Common Agenda in the years to come.

I thank you.

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