

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

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Statement

by

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before the Sixth Committee

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Agenda Item 83

The rule of law at the national and international levels

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Madame Chair,

1. I am very happy to see you presiding over the meeting, and grateful for your support in chairing the session, which allows me to speak this afternoon on **behalf of my country**. Many thanks to you and the other Bureau members for the continued support provided to me and my delegation.

2. Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of **Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement** and **the Philippines on behalf of ASEAN**.

3. Thailand would also like to express our **appreciation to the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken by the United Nations to promote the rule of law** as highlighted in his annual report on strengthening and coordinating the rule of law activities at the national and international levels.

Madame Chair,

4. From halls of the Hague in 1899 and 1907 to the League of Nations in 1920 and through the turn of the new century to the present day, Thailand has been steadfast and resolute in its **belief that the rule of law should prevail amongst nations and amongst peoples**.

5. In this regard, allow me to underscore the following five points.

6. **First**, Thailand **reaffirms its commitment to the rule of law** at the national and international levels. Among the shifting sands of global politics, Thailand maintains **an abiding faith in the sanctity of the rule of law** and in the **conviction of the merits of constructive engagement**. This very same faith and conviction form the bedrock

upon which multilateralism was founded and international instruments were developed – instruments which States large or small, powerful or modest, wield in the pursuit of peace, prosperity, and progress.

7. **Second**, our commitment to and belief in the rule of law stay constant, but the world is rapidly and constantly changing. From pandemics to cybercrime, challenges of the modern day never cease to exist. **New technologies have emerged both as a challenge that cannot be overlooked and as a tool, with which such challenge can be dealt and addressed, including in the evolving contemporary contexts of international law.** Multilateralism, and the rule of law, must meet this new evolution and must meet it well.

8. **Third**, one way to take advantage of this new evolution is to **use technology to promote the rule of law and access to justice, in line with Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals.** The importance of **peace, justice, and strong institutions** in upholding the rule of law cannot be overstated.

9. The rule of law can be upheld if our institutions are **inclusive, and they are considered inclusive if access to justice is provided to all.** For example, videoconference technology was resorted to in the examination of witnesses in Thai courts, starting during the COVID-19 pandemic, so not to delay justice and bring peace to those involved. **No one shall be left behind** on our path to peaceful and inclusive societies, which are key to sustainable development.

10. **Fourth**, the rule of law and access to justice should be promoted through **knowledge-sharing and education.** Thailand supports the efforts of the United Nations in this regard, including the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the

Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. We are proud to co-host the **UN Regional Course in International Law** for the Asia Pacific, and we hope to continue this partnership with the Office of Legal Affairs for years to come.

11. Furthermore, Thailand appreciates the work taken to **strengthen and promote the United Nations treaty framework**. Timely registration and publication of treaties promote accessibility, inclusivity, transparency – and thus the rule of law. On our part, **Thailand also maintains a treaty database for multilateral and bilateral treaties, which Thailand is Party**. This treaty database, our humble contribution to the promotion of the rule of law, is accessible by members of the public.

12. **Fifth and lastly**, Thailand welcomes the important role of the International Law Commission in the promotion of the rule of law as a **principle of governance**, including through its work on the codification and progressive development of international law. Thailand also welcomes this year's ILC report, which includes a section on its current role in promoting the rule of law.

Madame Chair,

13. As we navigate through the uncharted waters of new and emerging technologies and the turning tides of global development, **commitment to the rule of law** and rules-based multilateralism must stay constant.

14. Thailand stands ready to engage and cooperate in the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels to strengthen international peace and security, human rights and development, that is sustainable development, for all.

15. Thank you, Madame Chair.
