



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

**136 EAST 39<sup>th</sup> STREET · NEW YORK, NY 10016**

**Statement**

**by**

**Ms. Rachada Suthepakul  
Minister Counsellor**

**before the Sixth Committee  
of the 79<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly  
Agenda Item 84**

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

**New York, 17 October 2024**

Mr. Chair,

1. Thailand **aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and Singapore on behalf of ASEAN.**
2. Thailand extends our **appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report** and commends the efforts undertaken to strengthen and coordinate rule of law activities, including those aimed at promoting full, equal and equitable participation.
3. The presence of delegations in this chamber alone speaks volume of **the importance that the international community attached to this principle of governance.** The rule of law is indispensable to peaceful coexistence among States. It is essential to achieving sustainable development and crucial to a peaceful, inclusive and just society, where no one is left behind. The rule of law is even more important during the most challenging time. To universally serve expectations and aspirations of nations and peoples, the rule of law must constantly be reviewed and improved.
4. To advance the rule of law, we must strengthen its foundation. Thailand, therefore, **welcomes this year's subtopic on 'the full, equal and equitable participation at all levels in the international legal system.'** We believe in the international legal system that is inclusive, taking diverse perspectives into account in order to better address specific needs. This is key to laying a stronger foundation for universal adherence to the rule of law. In this light, allow us to share our view on this year's subtopic.
5. First, it is imperative to **encourage and facilitate full participation of all relevant stakeholders.** This year marks the 125th anniversary of the **Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), established by the 1899 Hague Peace Conference**, in which Thailand had the honor to take part. As we celebrate the key milestone of the historical institution, it is important not to lose sight on the **origins of multilateralism and of the making of international law, whereby**

**States participate on an equal footing**, regardless of their sizes, political might or economic power.

6. Second, **equal participation ensures equal rights and opportunities in having one's voice heard**. Thailand strongly advocates for **leveling the playing field to ensure equitable participation**. This includes better **gender parity** in the legal field.

Mr. Chair,

7. It is ingrained in this belief of equal participation that Thailand **co-sponsors the General Assembly resolution 77/276 and participates in the International Court of Justice Advisory Proceedings on the Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change**. We look forward to the oral proceedings, in which we will again participate to add legal perspectives to this very important issue of international law.
8. We are proud to contribute to the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law by **co-hosting the UN Regional Course in International Law for Asia Pacific**. We are also honored to be entrusted to host the operationalization meeting of **an Advisory Centre on International Investment Dispute Resolution** in December this year. For Thailand, we see much merit in having the Advisory Centre established to provide legal services and technical assistance concerning investor-State dispute settlement, to least-developed and developing countries.
9. Third, the development of international law could benefit from **more diversity**. Thailand was honored to co-host the **62nd Annual Session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization** last month to further promote representation of Africa and Asia in the international legal system. We will continue to do so to advocate for more inclusive and equitable representation as also underlined in the Krungthep Declaration, the outcome document of the 62<sup>nd</sup> AALCO Annual Session.

10. Forth, for States to make an informed decision, **participation at all levels, including by relevant stakeholders**, should be encouraged. As we prepare to tackle emerging trends and new challenges — be they artificial intelligence or outer space, views of experts and practitioners in their respective fields must be sought and taken into account. At our domestic level, relevant stakeholders are invited to focus group meetings or public hearing to share their experiences and views when Thailand drafts new laws or considers being a party to new legal instruments. The Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs also makes accessible their **online treaty database** free of charge to facilitate full participation and promote appreciation of international law.

Mr. Chair,

11. From Thailand's participation at the Hague Conferences of 1899 and 1907 to Thailand's current engagement in treaty-making processes, Thailand remains steadfast in our determination and commitment in advancing the rule of law. We stand ready to engage and cooperate with the international community to achieve a peaceful, inclusive and just society the world aspires to become.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

---