



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

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Statement

Delivered by

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Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations

**At the General Debate of the First Committee,
the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

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Mr. Chair,

1. The delegation of Thailand would like to express to you and the members of the Bureau our warmest congratulations on your election. Please rest assured of our full support.
2. Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and ASEAN.

Mr. Chair,

3. As our endeavor to recover from COVID-19 has shown us, international cooperation is indispensable to a peaceful and prosperous world, especially when the geopolitical landscape keeps evolving such as today. Be they tensions between major powers, the modernization of nuclear arsenals, or the weaponization of new technology, we must **rise to new security challenges and cooperate in good faith** to lay a strong foundation for a more secure future. It is our collective responsibility to put an end to an ever-growing risk of security threats and work together to **prevent the setback in our arms control efforts**.
4. Thailand supports international efforts toward achieving a world free of nuclear weapons. We reaffirm our commitment to international obligations under **the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)**, which is the cornerstone of such efforts. We remain hopeful that the long-awaited **10th NPT Review Conference** will live up to the expectations and deliver tangible outcomes. In this regard, Thailand stands ready to engage meaningfully in the Conference, and urges all Member States to collectively advance the progress in all three pillars in a balanced manner.
5. 22nd January this year marks the historic entry into force of **the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)**, the first international legal instrument to completely delegitimize nuclear weapons. Now that we have successfully cemented our nuclear disarmament efforts under international law, we should turn our focus towards implementing the text of the Treaty. Thailand wishes to reaffirm its support throughout and beyond the **First Meeting of States Parties** scheduled in March next year.
6. This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the opening for signature of the **Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)**, which has yet to enter into

force. Thailand joins others in calling upon the **remaining Annex 2 States**, to ratify it without delay.

Mr. Chair,

7. Thailand remains concerned by the nuclear-related situations in the world today. Further efforts are needed to revitalize the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)**. We encourage all parties to engage in the on-going dialogue in Vienna and call upon Iran to return to full compliance with the Agreement. We also support the resumption of diplomatic efforts to denuclearize **Korean Peninsula** and call upon the DPRK to comply fully with its obligations under relevant UN Security Council resolutions. To this end, Thailand reiterates our full support to the invaluable work of the **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)** on the verification and monitoring of nuclear activities.

8. On chemical and biological weapons, Thailand calls upon Member States to fully comply with their obligations under the **Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)**, and reiterates our full support to work of the **Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)**. We also stress an urgent need to strengthen the framework of the **Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)**. We must act swiftly to diminish the risk of these WMDs ever being deployed again.

Mr. Chair,

9. Thailand notes the serious threat posed by **conventional weapons** as their illicit use and transfer continue to exacerbate violence, transnational crime and human rights violations. We therefore attach utmost importance to the **UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (the UN PoA)** to promote Member States' capacity in combating arms smuggling and proliferation. We further welcome the constructive outcome document of the **Seventh Biennial Meeting of States (BMS7)**, which lays down practical steps for States in dealing with new challenges from Small Arms and Light Weapons. Thailand also continues to uphold the **Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)** as we are working towards Treaty's ratification.

10. Thailand is proud to be serving as the **Chair of the Victim Assistance Committee** under the framework of the **Mine Ban Convention**. In addition, we have put our utmost efforts to mine clearance operations in order to fulfill our commitments under the Convention. To date, more than 95 percent of our mine contaminated areas have been cleared and released.

Mr. Chair,

11. In the past years we have seen considerable development in the use of **outer space**, which demands our action to prevent it from becoming another domain of arms race.

12. The pandemic has demonstrated the extent to which **Information and Communications Technology (ICTs)** is intertwined with our everyday lives. We must therefore do our utmost to ensure that State behaviour in cyberspace is of peaceful nature. In this regard, Thailand welcomes the adoption, by consensus, of the recent outcomes of the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) and the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) on this matter, and restates its readiness to join others in the efforts to safeguard cyberspace from malicious activities.

13. In closing, Thailand reaffirms its steadfast commitment to advance disarmament and non-proliferation agenda, not only to promote a more secure world, but also to **solidify trust in multilateralism** that works for the benefits of humankind.

I thank you.
