



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

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Statement

by

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United Nations Office and other International Organizations in
Geneva**

**General Debate
of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee
for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the
Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

23 April 2013, Palais des Nations, Geneva

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Mr. Chairman,

1. On behalf of the Thai Delegation, I wish to congratulate you upon your election as Chair of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee of the 2015 NPT Review Conference. Given your able leadership and under your wise guidance, I am confident that this meeting will be concluded successfully and will contribute positively towards the 2015 Review Conference. Towards this end, please rest assured of Thailand's full support.

2. Thailand also wishes to associate itself with the statement made by the distinguished delegate of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) States Parties to the NPT.

Mr. Chairman,

3. It has been more than four decades since the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) entered into force. Over the years, the NPT has proven to be the only regime which addresses the three equally important issues of nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The adoption of the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference by consensus not only represents a successful negotiation, but also reflects the strong political will of all NPT States Parties to achieve concrete results which includes the 64-point action plan. Building on the achievement of the First Session of the Preparatory Committee last year, it is incumbent upon us to make tangible progress towards the goal of nuclear disarmament over the next two weeks.

4. Towards that end, Thailand firmly believes that nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation must be treated as substantively interrelated and mutually reinforcing. These two intertwined challenges require strong political will and practical undertakings from both nuclear-weapon states and non-nuclear-weapon states. It is also important to stress the universality of the NPT – a crucial aspect that will promote progress towards achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

5. The vision of a world free of nuclear weapons will never be realized if the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against any non-nuclear-weapon state persists. Thailand therefore calls for the early conclusion of a universal and legally binding agreement on negative security assurances. In this regard, Thailand welcomes the convening of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament, to be held on 26 September 2013 which will provide us with a timely opportunity to further our on-going dialogue on a range of methods and topics to accelerate multilateral action towards the said vision. We also welcome the result of the Conference on Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in Oslo in March this year which further illustrated the devastating effect of the use of nuclear weapons on human life as well as the environment. We hope that such abhorrent scenarios have rendered any contemplation to engage nuclears arsenal as irresponsible, reprehensible and unthinkable.

6. More broadly, Thailand hopes that the fresh initiatives introduced at the UN General Assembly last year will revitalize the Conference on Disarmament and looks forward to the commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material, as well as a Nuclear Weapon Convention, which should be held in an inclusive manner.

Mr. Chairman,

7. To achieve practical outcome in all three pillars of the NPT, global efforts must be further enhanced by regional efforts. As an active proponent of the Bangkok Treaty, which established the South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ), Thailand supports the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in different regions. We are therefore disappointed that the Conference to establish the NWFZ in the Middle East has been postponed. Thailand urges all parties to fully support the convening of the conference at

the earliest opportunity to avoid any negative repercussions on the relevance and credibility of the NPT.

8. Cooperation amongst different NWFZs, as well as agreements between NWFZs and nuclear-weapon States, will enhance the effectiveness of the agreements in serving as confidence-building measures at the regional and global levels. As a State Party to the SEANWFZ Treaty, Thailand welcomes progress made by the States Parties and the nuclear-weapon States towards the signing of the Protocol to the Treaty.

9. Thailand has also been active in promoting activities that complement the implementation of the NPT. Among other things, Thailand has participated actively in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT), Nuclear Security Summit and just became part of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI). Moreover, Thailand in cooperation with the United States, will host an ASEAN Regional Forum Workshop on Implementation of UNSCR 1540 in Bangkok, from 14-15 May 2013. The aim of this workshop is to assist ARF Member States to establish effective domestic controls to prevent trafficking of weapons of mass destruction, thereby contributing towards the global nuclear security framework.

Mr. Chairman,

10. It is the inalienable right of States Parties to develop and use nuclear energy in a safe, secure and peaceful manner, in accordance with the obligations under Article IV as well as other relevant provisions of the NPT. However, we believe that such rights must come with responsibilities. Thailand attaches great importance to nuclear safety, security and safeguards at the national, regional and international levels. At the regional level, in particular, we have proposed the idea of establishing a network amongst nuclear regulatory bodies within the Southeast Asian region to provide a framework for the issues of safety, security and safeguards, based on IAEA standards and practices.

11. In closing, Mr. Chairman, Thailand remains hopeful that, despite the many challenges ahead, we will be able to achieve substantive progress over the next fortnight. My delegation looks forward to working closely with you and other delegations to achieve this goal.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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