



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

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## **Statement**

**by**

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**Ambassador and Permanent Representative**

**of Thailand to the United Nations**

**to the Sixth Committee of the 61<sup>st</sup> Session**

**of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Agenda Item 100: Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism**

**New York, 13 October 2006**

***Please check against delivery***

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation is pleased to address the Sixth Committee on Agenda item 100: Measures to eliminate international terrorism today.

Before making additional comments from the national perspective, my delegation wishes to align itself with the statement delivered yesterday by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Vietnam on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism remains one of the most serious threats to international peace and security for all mankind. It undermines good order of societies and brings grievances as well as indignation into our global community. My delegation continues to firmly condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. There can be no justification in resorting to acts of terrorism whenever, wherever and for whatever purposes.

Despite today's unabated number of terrorist attacks, we should not give up hope to fight and eventually eliminate them. My delegation remains optimistic that with our unwavering commitment and collective effort we can indeed realize this goal. Everyone - governments, international organizations and civil society - must work together in order to rid the world of the scourge of terrorism.

For our part, Thailand has a firm policy to support all actions against terrorism at all levels - including not only through regional commitments, such as those under ASEAN, but also under the wider framework of the United Nations, including relevant General Assembly and Security Council's resolutions. Up to now Thailand has ratified and acceded to 6 international anti-terrorism conventions and protocols, as well as become signatory to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism during the last session of the General Assembly. Pending our ratifications to the remaining international anti-terrorism instruments, legal provisions under our domestic law do allow us to take necessary measures to counter-terrorism in the interim. Thailand was also pleased to work with United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in organising two workshops in this field: the workshop on Legislative Implementation of Universal Anti-Terrorism Investment and Transnational Organized Crime Convention in March 2005 and the National Workshop on Legislative Development Against Transnational Organized Crime and International Terrorism in July 2006.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism knows no boundaries, no race, religion nor culture. That is why a solidified international cooperation is of utmost importance. It is imperative that we redouble our efforts in implementing and enforcing legislation already in place against terrorist acts and to reorient our strategy in order to effectively eradicating the threat of terrorism. In this regard, my delegation welcomes the adoption, on 8 September, of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by consensus, which will enhance collective and coordinated response to terrorism. My delegation takes note of the common strategic and operational measures set forth in the Strategy and looks forward to working with other Member States as well as the Counter-terrorism Implementation Task Force to implement them.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation wishes to express our appreciation to the Secretary-General for the two reports before us - first, the report on "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" (A/61/210), which provides useful information on measures taken by Member States and international organizations as well as by the UN Secretariat relating to the prevention and suppression of international terrorism; and second, the report on "Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime" (A/61/178). My delegation notes with satisfaction the UNODC's work, particularly in facilitating and providing technical assistance to States in order to promote effective national implementation of the universal conventions and protocols. My delegation continues to support its work in this regard and wishes to see more resources be allocated to such activities.

Mr. Chairman,

Our effort to combat international terrorism would not be complete without the conclusion of a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism. My delegation wishes to express our gratitude to H.E. Ambassador Rohan Perera for the work done as well as the presentation of his report given to the Committee yesterday. Despite the inability to conclude it during the last session of the General Assembly, my delegation continues to endorse the call of our leaders at the 2005 World Summit to make every effort to reach an agreement on the draft comprehensive convention. The President of the 61<sup>st</sup> session of the General Assembly also urges us to do so as soon as possible. It is our earnest hope that the spirit of cooperation and compromise will once again help us to overcome our differences on thorny issues which have for so long inhibited our progress in this area.

That being said, my delegation believes that together with the existing or impending legal instruments, the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism must also be addressed in a comprehensive manner. These, *inter alia*, include poverty, lack of development, social deprivation and marginalization, human rights abuse, sense of powerlessness, and cultural and religious discrimination and misconception. My delegation shall look forward to further discussion and working with other Member States and UN agencies on this issue in due course.

Mr. Chairman,

To conclude, each of us knows that there are many ways to combat and counter- terrorism. It is now high time for us to translate our promises and commitments into practice in order to make our world safe from the threat of terrorism and to regain international peace, stability and prosperity for all human beings.

I thank you.