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TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Statement

by

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First Secretary

Representative of the Kingdom of Thailand

to the United Nations

**before the Sixth Committee
of the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Agenda Item 111
Measures to eliminate international terrorism
New York, 3 October 2018**

As delivered

Mr. Chair,

Allow me to take this opportunity to join others in congratulating you, Mr. Chair, and the members of the Bureau on your elections. I assure you of our full support in this seventy-third session. Thailand would also like to align itself with ASEAN and the Non-Aligned Movement, in their respective statements just made on this topic. We express our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his annual report on this agenda item.

Mr. Chair,

All terrorist acts are criminal and unjustifiable. They cause unnecessary loss and suffering for the victims, affecting the collective conscience of the international community as a whole in its total disregard for human life. Terrorism remains one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. It is a barricade to the achievement of sustainable development. Thailand condemns all acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and remains fully committed to taking part in the fight against terrorism at the national, regional and international levels.

At the national level, Thailand has adopted a National Anti-terrorism Strategy 2017-2021, focusing on prevention of, response to, and recovery after the occurrence of terrorist acts. At the regional level, Thailand remains committed to fully implementing the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism, the region's key legal framework to combat terrorism, and will continue to work closely with other ASEAN countries to foster stronger cooperation in various areas under the ASEAN Convention.

Mr. Chair,

It is our conviction that strong international legal frameworks in support of international cooperation are crucial to the effective suppression of terrorism. At present, we are party to nine international legal instruments relating to anti-terrorism, and are undertaking the process required to become party to the remaining ten instruments.

There is also a stronger need to translate the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy into action. In this regard, we hope to conclude the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) in a timely manner and look forward to the deliberations of the Working Group of this session on the remaining issues.

Mr. Chair,

Thailand welcomes the convening of the first UN High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States earlier this year. In addition, Thailand welcomes the launch of a Code of Conduct held at the initiative of the Government of Kazakhstan last week.

Thailand also fully recognizes the work of the related UN agencies in promoting capacity-building and accelerating efforts of Member States to effectively prevent, tackle and combat terrorism. We have been pleased to host a number of national and regional workshops and reiterate our continued and full support to these offices.

Mr. Chair,

The international community has come to understand that to stop terrorism, we must first cut the illicit financial flows and resources supporting terrorist groups. At the same time, and perhaps even more importantly, we must also double our efforts to address terrorism at its root. This means halting the spread of hateful ideologies, and addressing the conditions conducive to violent extremism and radicalization in all communities. We need to work harder to reduce poverty and injustice, and promote social and economic inclusion and education for all, in particular young children. Understanding, peaceful co-existence, and tolerance are the key.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.

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