

**STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY DR. CHAIYONG SATJIPANON  
AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THAILAND TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS AT THE INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE ON PROGRESS  
REPORT OF WORKING GROUP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
OP.6 OF UNGA RESOLUTION 60/251  
3 OCTOBER 2006, GENEVA**

Mr. President,

Allow me at the outset to join other delegations in expressing our sincere appreciation to the Ambassador of the Czech Republic, the Ambassador of Jordan and the Ambassador of Switzerland for their tireless efforts as facilitators of the open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group in charge of formulating recommendations on the issue of re-examination, improvement and rationalization of all mandates, mechanisms, functions, as well as complaint mechanism, transferred from the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) to the Human Rights Council (HRC), pursuant to op. para 6 of UNGA Resolution 60/251.

My delegation would like to share some specific views on this matter as follows:

In reviewing and rationalizing all the human rights Special Procedure Mechanism and mandates, we should find a balance and attach equal importance to civil and political rights as well as economic, social and cultural rights. All mandate holders should be directly elected by the HRC based on nominations by States or regional groups, with equitable geographical distribution.

The election process should be transparent and the mandate holders should have high standards of impartiality, objectivity, independence, expertise and professionalism.

My delegation notes with interest a revised and updated draft manual of the mandate holders by the Coordination Committee on Special Procedures at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the mandate holders in June 2006 to assist and facilitate the mandate holders in promoting and protecting human rights. However, many elements in this manual such as relations with non-state actors, guidelines for country visits, coordination among the mandate holders and cooperation with relevant partners (OHCHR, UNCTs, UN agencies and other institutions, and civil society) should be further explored and discussed, while guidelines or codes of conduct on working methods and interaction with media, as well as specified and uniformed terms of office should be clearly elaborated.

On the Sub-Commission for the promotion and protection of human rights, we feel that an advisory body, consisting of independent experts, is an indispensable mechanism of the HRC. This mechanism should be a subsidiary body of the HRC and its composition should not expand more than the existing numbers of experts in the Sub-Commission, while at the same time reflecting the geographical representation of regional groups in the Council.

The advisory body should add value to the existing and/or newly established human rights mechanism. In this regard, we encourage the Council to further discuss the roles of the advisory body and its relation with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), the 1503 complaint procedure, the treaty body and the special procedure mechanism.

My delegation concurs that the 1503 procedure should consider only a pattern of gross and systematic human rights violations in individual countries. If this procedure is maintained, a clear set of criteria for admissibility of complaints and allegations should be laid down and its nature of confidentiality must be strictly upheld. The 1503 procedure should aim at real protection of human rights on the ground; therefore, it should focus on capacity building and technical assistance, as requested by the State concerned.

Mr. President,

My delegation realizes that the discussion on this issue is still at an early stage and requires more attention and in-depth deliberations. In this regard, my delegation will do our utmost to actively engage in this review process with a view to bringing about credible and effective mechanisms for the HRC.

Thank you.

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