



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

351 EAST 52ND STREET • NEW YORK, NY 10022
TEL (212) 754-2230 • FAX (212) 688-3029

STATEMENT

BY

H.E. KHUNYING LAXANACHANTORN LAOHAPHAN

**AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THAILAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**BEFORE THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE
60TH SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

NEW YORK, 10 OCTOBER 2005

**AGENDA ITEM 108: MEASURES TO ELIMINATE
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM**

Please check against delivery

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation wishes to associate itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of Vietnam on behalf of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I wish to extend profound my condolences to the victims and their bereaved families of recent terrorist attacks in London and Bali.

Mr. Chairman,

International terrorism has become a global issue, with its existence, bringing grievances, despair and indignation into the international community. Thailand unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomsoever, wherever and for whatever purposes. Terrorism undermines the freedom from fear and constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand very much welcome the successful adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism after the laborious work of the Ad Hoc Committee established by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 51/210 at its 51st session. This 13th international legal instrument concerning the fight against terrorism provides us with additional means to suppress more effectively this type of heinous crime. It must be emphasized that the Convention is, indeed, a successful result of considerable efforts and compromise exercised by all sides and is expected to attract a high level of acceptance from the community of States. In this regard, Thailand is pleased to be one of the first signatory states that signed the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism on the first day of its opening for signature at the Treaty Event in September 2005. We look forward to becoming a party to this Convention and encourage others to sign and to ratify without delay.

Mr. Chairman,

In parallel with the means of legal instruments, my delegation believes that root causes of terrorism must also be addressed, including *inter alia* poverty, social deprivation, human rights abuse, intolerance, sense of powerlessness, and cultural and religious discrimination and misperception. In this context, my delegation would like to stress that in pursuing fights against international terrorism, the protection of human rights must also be upheld.

Mr. Chairman,

It is high time that the international community redoubles its effort and reorients its strategy in dealing with terrorism of this era. It is with this premise that Thailand supports the convening of a special session of the General Assembly as proposed by Egypt in order to examine and adopt a United Nations action plan for cooperation against terrorism, in both legal and procedural aspects. We are of the view that the special session of the General Assembly, built upon the momentum achieved at the 2005 World Summit, will enhance cooperation and solidify United Nations activities against international terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand wishes to express its appreciation for the Report of the Secretary General on Measures to eliminate international terrorism (A/60/228), which contains useful information on measures taken by Members States and international organizations as well as by the Secretariat of the United Nations relating to the prevention and suppression of international terrorism.

As a number of the United Nations departments and offices are dealing with the issue with different and perhaps overlapping mandates, coordination and coherence have to be ensured. Setting up a single office, exclusively mandated with the issue of elimination of terrorism, some type of Office of the High Commissioner on Counter-Terrorism may provide an answer and may be an idea worth exploring further. Thailand believes this unified and consolidated work will enhance the efficiency and effectiveness in the fight against international terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

Thailand endorses the call of the 2005 World Summit to conclude a comprehensive convention on international terrorism during this 60th Session of the General Assembly. One of the most difficult tasks would be a solution on the definition of terrorism. It is our earnest hope that a spirit of cooperation and compromise will prevail over differences we have had in the past. Time is of the essence. We all need to find a fine balance to end this long-debated matter as the comprehensive convention is now urgently needed by the international community.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.