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**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand  
Mr. Pitchaya Ritchaem  
13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review  
Ecuador  
21 May 2012**

Madame President,

Thailand welcomes the delegation of Ecuador to the UPR Working Group and appreciates its national report presentation.

From its report, we welcome the 2008 people- and environment-centered Constitution. In particular, its progressive recognition of the rights of nature is noteworthy. At the same time, we appreciate its effort to promote a multi-national and multi-cultural society and all rights related to good-living while combating poverty through public investment. Moreover, it is important to mention Ecuador's share of the highest proportion of refugees in Latin-America, as recognized by the UNHCR.

Madame President,

While Thailand takes note with appreciation Ecuador's comprehensive rights-based approach to improvement of prison conditions and prisoners' rights based on the recommendations from the previous UPR, we wish to present the following recommendations for its consideration.

First, we recommend Ecuador to further promote prisoners' well-being and communication, particularly of those non-Spanish speaking, to equally gain access to relevant rights such as medical treatment and occupational courses. Second, we recommend Ecuador to strengthen its efforts to promote and protect the rights of women prisoners, pregnant women prisoners and children born in prison, especially in accordance with the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders, otherwise known as the "Bangkok Rules." In this connection, Thailand stands ready to share with Ecuador our experience in treatment of women prisoners through our royal project of "Enhancing Lives of Female Inmates or ELFI."

Thank you, Madame President.

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