**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand,**

**Ms. Eksiri Pintaruchi,
Minister Counselor,**

**14th Session of the Working Group on UPR – Argentina**

**22 October 2012**

Madame President,

 Thailand welcomes the delegation of Argentina to the Working Group today. We thank them for the updates on the implementation of the UPR recommendations as well as their voluntary pledges.

 A number of issues are indeed worth highlighting. We welcome progress in improving its prison system, including ratification of the OPCAT and the organization of the first International Meeting on Prison Infrastructure last year. We also commend its efforts to improve conditions for incarceration of women. In this regard, we wish to ask Argentina whether it has considered the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders, otherwise known as the “Bangkok Rules” as part of their work.

Madame President,

We acknowledge continuing efforts in Argentina to promote and protect the rights of all vulnerable groups. On the rights of persons with disabilities, we note with appreciation its cross-cutting approach, especially the establishment of the National Justice System Assistance Programme for Persons with Disabilities in order to follow up on their ratification of the CRPD.

In this connection, we wish to recommend that Argentina take further steps to ensure that children with disabilities be included in the development of education system and in health insurance plans, as well as take all necessary measures to ensure the implementation of legislation providing services for children with disabilities. We also recommend Argentina to ensure that persons with disabilities enjoy the right to access to justice, including simplified legal actions for reporting cases of discrimination as well as remedies when denied reasonable claims; and that persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities can act as witnesses in their own claims.

 Lastly, we wish Argentina success in the UPR process and further achievements in implementing the recommendations and its pledges.

 Thank you, Madame President.

**\* \* \* \* \***