

**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**  
**H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi,**  
**Ambassador and Permanent Representative,**  
**14<sup>th</sup> session of the Working Group on Universal Periodic Review,**  
**Japan**  
**30 October 2012**

*H.E. Mr. Aidaichi Ueda  
Ambassador in charge of Human Rights  
and Humanitarian Affairs*

Madam President,

Thailand welcomes the delegation of Japan to today's session and we thank them for the presentation made.

We welcome Japan's voluntary follow-up action from its first UPR cycle as a good example of its preparation for the next UPR cycle.

As Thailand values the constructive role of the special procedures and treaty bodies in assisting countries to uphold human rights, we appreciate the decision of the Government of Japan to extend standing invitation to all Special Procedure mandate holders and its consideration to become Party to the CRPD. We also take note of steps taken to establish the national human rights commission.

On the rights of women and children, we welcome the adoption of the Third Basic plan for Gender Equality and the development of laws and measures in combating against child pornography. In particular, we take note of the law which penalize its nationals for offenses related to child prostitution or possession of child pornography outside Japan.

In this connection, Thailand wishes to propose 2 recommendations. First, to take further concrete steps to raise public awareness of, and to eliminate gender stereotypes against women. Second, to ensure provision of adequate and timely assistance, including judiciary assistance and interpreters, to victims of sexual exploitation, both women and children, or other gender-based violence, regardless of their nationality, race or origins.

Thank you, Madam President.