**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**

**H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi,**

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative,**

**14th session of the Working Group on Universal Periodic Review,**

**Pakistan**

**30 October 2012**

Madam President,

 Thailand welcomes the delegation of Pakistan and we thank them for the presentation made.

 We are pleased to learn about progress achieved in the implementation of many recommendations including the ratification of the Optional Protocol of the CRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, the enactment of number of new laws and the adoption of administrative measures to promote and protect human rights and the establishment of the National Commission for Human Rights.

We also welcome the initiatives taken to enhance gender equality and promote balanced representation of gender and vulnerable in society by establishing “quotas” for women, minorities, those vulnerable and other traditionally underrepresented groups to participate in the administrative, parliamentary and judiciary branches.

 We take note of the challenges facing Pakistan relating to refugees and encourage the Government of Pakistan to maintain its close collaboration with the international community on this.

Madam President,

 The Thai delegation wishes to propose two recommendations.
First, to consider providing universal free primary education to all children, regardless of their sex, nationality, race or ethnic origin. Second, to continue efforts to enhance legislations and measures to further address the situation of religious minorities, including blasphemy laws, force conversion and discrimination against non-Muslim minorities.

 Thank you, Madam President.