**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand,**

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

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative,**

**14th Session of the Working Group on the UPR – Republic of Korea**

**25 October 2012**

Madame President,

 Thailand welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Korea to the UPR today and appreciates its updates on the implementation of the recommendations.

 Among others, we welcome the review of its National Action Plan for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights immediately after its first UPR. We are pleased to learn that such recommendations as those related to gender have also been integrated in the current Action Plan.

 We also commend the active roles of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family in combating gender-based discrimination such as provision of support and consultation through its Emergency Support Center to women of foreign nationals married to ROK nationals. We hope that additional interpreters in foreign languages would be provided at these centers.

Madame President,

 On the rights of migrant workers, Thailand notes the efforts of the Government of the Republic of Korea in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of all migrant workers. At the same time, we note with concern the practices of employers withholding migrant workers’ travel documents as well as involuntary relocation of these workers which have frequently made them fall victims of unfair treatment. We therefore recommend the Republic of Korea to continue to strengthen its measures to promote and protect the rights of all migrant workers by ensuring their appropriate welfare and standard of living.

 Moreover, on the rights of persons with disabilities, particularly landmine victims, we note the need for accurate statistics of victims and hope that such a database can be developed. We also recommend that consideration be given to the implementation of measures and programs to provide assistance for landmine victims such as psycho-social, medical and financial support.

 Thank you, Madame President.

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