

**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand,**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Group on the UPR – Bahamas**

23 January 2013

Ms. EKSIPI PINTARUCHI  
MINISTER COUNSELLOR

Mr. President,

Thailand welcomes the delegation of the Bahamas to the UPR Working Group today and thanks them for the presentation made.

We are pleased to learn that the Bahamas withdrew its reservation to Article 16 (1) (h) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), to ensure, on a basis of gender equality, equal property rights for both spouses. We also note the progress in its preparation for accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

Thailand applauds the efforts of the Bahamas to overcome the challenges of trafficking in persons, in particular the enactment of a new legislation in 2008 as well as the establishment of an Inter-Ministry Committee and a task force in this regard. The Bahamas's effort to promote human rights education is also commendable.

In this connection, Thailand has two questions for the delegation of the Bahamas. First, what is the latest status or the outcome of consultative review regarding the draft legislation on Disability. Second, what is the status of the elaboration of a National Plan against Trafficking in Persons?

Mr. President,

Thailand attaches high importance to the promotion and protection of women and children's rights. We are pleased to note that relevant legislation has been strengthened to further promote the gender equality. However, we have concern on some particular legislation and wish to recommend the Bahamas to consider revising relevant legislation on the matter of transfer of nationality from parents to children to ensure equal rights between men and women.

As for the treatment of female prisoners, Thailand recommends the Bahamas to consider incorporating the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders, otherwise known as the "Bangkok Rules", as part of its programme to enhance the condition of detainees in Her Majesty's Prison.

We wish to take this opportunity to invite all countries who are in a position to do so to respond positively to the Bahamas' request for the sharing of good practices, assistance and technical cooperation in support of its efforts to further enhance the human rights situation in the country.

*Please check against delivery.*

Lastly, we wish the delegation of the Bahamas much success in the second cycle of its UPR.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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