

**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand,
H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi,
Ambassador and Permanent Representative,
15th Session of the Working Group on the UPR – United Arab Emirates
28 January 2013**

Mr. President,

As a member of the Troika, Thailand warmly welcomes the delegation of the United Arab Emirates to the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation made.

Thailand applauds the United Arab Emirates' efforts to take comprehensive and concrete steps to follow up on accepted recommendations and pledges made at the first cycle of its UPR. These include, among others, the accession to various UN Conventions, the improvement of domestic legislative framework, and the capacity building of human rights related stakeholders.

Additionally, we acknowledge efforts made to combat trafficking in persons at the national and bilateral levels. In this regard, we recommend the full implementation of the recently adopted legislation and strategy on combating trafficking in persons to ensure effective provision of assistance, rehabilitation and reintegration for victims of trafficking, particularly women and children, and the bringing of perpetrators to justice.

We also appreciate steps taken to safeguard and improve the working and living conditions of migrant workers, including the adoption of a strategy and plan of action on the promotion of workers' rights and the dissemination of the "Rights and Obligations of Workers" booklet in seven languages to raise public awareness. Here, we recommend the United Arab Emirates to ensure full implementation of the said strategy and plan of action to guarantee fair and equal wages. We also recommend that appropriate follow up mechanisms be set up in this regard.

Lastly, we wish the United Arab Emirates much success in the second cycle of its UPR.

Thank you, Mr. President.
