

**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand,  
Mr. Pakawat Srisukwattana  
16<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Group on UPR – Azerbaijan  
30 April 2013**

Mr. President,

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

We welcome the accession of Azerbaijan to the CRPD and the Optional Protocol to the CAT, as well as the adoption of new laws, in particular the Law on Education, the Law on Combating domestic violence and the Law on Ensuring the Rights and Freedoms of Detained Persons, as part of its legal mechanism to promote and protect human rights in the country.

We also appreciate the efforts of the Government to improve imprisonment conditions through its Programme on the Development of the Justice System. In this connection, we recommend that consideration be given to incorporating the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders, also known as the “Bangkok Rules”, to its internal rules and regulations for the treatment of women prisoners.

Thailand is also pleased to note that the promotion of gender equality is one of the priority issues of the Government of Azerbaijan. We remain concerned however about reports of discrimination against women and the subordinate role of women in society as a whole. We therefore recommend Azerbaijan to further enhance gender equality, including by taking appropriate administrative or legal measures, as well as allocating adequate resources to empower women.

Thank you, Mr. President