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**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand,
Ms. Piyatida Khinana
16th Session of the Working Group on UPR – Tuvalu
24 April 2013**

Mr. President,

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

Thailand appreciates Tuvalu's efforts in implementing all 10 recommendations received during the first cycle of its UPR process. We are pleased to note that several legislations have been adopted with a view to promote and protect human rights in the country.

While Thailand welcomes the establishment of Tuvalu's Department of Women's Affairs to ensure gender equality and women's basic rights, and ongoing consideration of the Family Protection and Domestic Violence Bill, we remain concerned about reports of domestic violence and stereotyping regarding women's subordinate role in society. In this connection, we recommend Tuvalu to consider strengthening its policy and relevant legislation, as well as allocating adequate resources, to further promote gender equality and women's participation in public life.

On the rights of the child, we appreciate the submission of Tuvalu's initial report on the implementation of the CRC. The establishment of a school for children with special needs in 2011 is another commendable progress in this regard. Thailand supports Tuvalu to continue to place child rights as a top national agenda. We also recommend Tuvalu to consider becoming Party to the Optional Protocols to the CRC.

Mr. President,

Thailand is cognizant of the constraints and challenges faced by Tuvalu in implementing of its human rights obligation, particularly given the financial and human resource needs. We therefore encourage the international community and the OHCHR to provide appropriate assistance and capacity building to the Government of Tuvalu upon its request.

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

Thank you, Mr. President.