Statement by the Delegation of Thailand, Mr. Krerkpan Roekchamnong, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative, 16th Session of the Working Group on the UPR – Uzbekistan 24 April 2013

Mr. President,

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

We applaud the Government of Uzbekistan's commitment to fulfill its human rights obligations by conducting various legislative reforms, especially the strengthening of democratic, judicial and legal reforms to ensure transparency, independence and equality of all its population before the law.

Thailand also commends Uzbekistan for the medical care provided for children and the promotion of school attendance, including support for specialized school for children with disabilities. We <u>recommend</u> Uzbekistan to further promote inclusive and accessible education to children with disabilities at ordinary schools and to consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Rights of the Child on Communications Procedures, to protect the child's rights.

In addition, we take note of the national plan of action for 2010-2014 to implement the concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), as well as the increasing presence of women in politics and society. We wish to further recommend Uzbekistan to ensure equal opportunity to employment and the right to equal pay for equal job for women.

Thailand wishes Uzbekistan much success in the second cycle of its UPR and stands ready to support the country in its endeavor. We hope that their experience in transforming its society into a rights-based one would be useful for other countries and contribute to the work of the Council as a whole.

Thank you, Mr. President
