

**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**  
**Mr. Natapanu Nopakun, Counselor**  
**17<sup>th</sup> session of the Working Group on Universal Periodic Review of**  
**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**  
**25 October 2013**

Mr. President,

Thailand appreciates the efforts of the Government of the Central African Republic to put in place necessary measures to protect human rights despite a challenging internal political situation. We also welcome the cooperation given to the Independent Expert for the report on the fact-finding mission presented at the recently concluded Council session.

We welcome the Presidential Decree to dissolve the Séléka group and to re-establish the rule of law, in compliance with the spirit of the Libreville Peace Agreement signed earlier this year. We regret however the recent sectarian violence which adds to the continuing humanitarian crisis in the country.

While Thailand acknowledges with sympathy the difficult situation and challenges that the Government confronts as a post-conflict country, we are concerned by the attack and looting of the healthcare centers in the country. We recommend the Central African Republic to take necessary measures to prevent and protect further assaults on health services centers.

We underline the need for the Government to protect its citizens from gender-based violence, execution, torture, illegal detention as well as to promote access to safe drinking water and sanitation. We recommend the Government to adopt appropriate measures to guarantee equal access to education without any discrimination to pave the way to the country's economic and social development in a sustainable manner.

Finally, we wish the Central African Republic much success in the second cycle of its UPR review process. Thailand urges the international community to lend necessary assistance to the country upon its request.

Thank you, Mr. President.