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Predee Pravichpaibul

Statement by the Delegation of Thailand
17ᵗʰ Session of the Working Group on UPR – Malta
30 October 2013
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Mr. President,

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

Thailand commends the Maltese Government's endeavors to eliminate discrimination in its society and promote equal opportunities, especially the empowerment and participation of women in the labor market, such as through the 'Unlocking the Female Potential' project.

Thailand is pleased that Malta has decided to continue to assess and award 'Equality Mark' certifications to qualified organizations to actively foster gender equality, a sexual harassment-free environment in the workplace, as well as to promote family-friendly measures for men and women with care responsibilities.

Thailand applauds Malta's continued efforts to deal with irregular migrants while also ensuring full respect of their human rights by offering refuge and respite. However, we remain concerned that a number of women and children still fall prey to illicit trafficking networks. We recommend Malta to further develop laws and practices with regards to legal proceedings and identification of victim of human trafficking. Facing similar challenges, Thailand stands ready to cooperate and exchange good practices on these issues.

We welcome the entry into force in Malta of various legislations, as well as the ratification of the CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the signing of the CRC Optional Protocol on a communication procedure. We take good note on the finalization and implementations of its National Children's Policy, and recommend Malta to incorporate non-discrimination in its policy, whilst expediting the process, as we believe that the policy will work to secure the rights of the child in the country.

Finally, Thailand wishes Malta much success in its second cycle of the UPR.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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