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Statement by the Delegation of Thailand Mr. Pakawat Srisukwattana, First Secretary 17th session of the Working Group on Universal Periodic Review - NIGERIA 22 October 2013

Mr. President,

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

Thailand appreciates Nigeria's serious efforts in implementing the accepted recommendations in the first cycle of its UPR review process. We commend Nigeria's recent accession to several important international human rights instruments, in particular the CRPD and its Optional Protocol and the two Optional Protocols to the CRC. We recommend Nigeria to take appropriate measures to translate these international obligations into its national laws and regulations to ensure their effective implementation.

On democracy and the rule of law, Thailand commends Nigeria's comprehensive and inclusive approach in solving the violent insurgency emanating from the Boko Haram through various mechanisms, including the Amnesty Programme and the establishment of a Presidential Committee on Dialogue and Peaceful Resolution of Conflict and Security Challenges in the North.

On the right to health, we welcome the Government's initiative to ensure access to quality health as well as its plan to hold a Presidential Summit on Universal Health Coverage. For Thailand, we strongly believe that universal health coverage should be part of the post-2015 development agenda.

While we recognize the Government's efforts to guarantee a sustainable environment through legislative and policy frameworks, concerns remain on the challenges of oil spill and its impact on the natural habitat and fundamental rights of local communities in the Niger Delta Region. We therefore recommend Nigeria to consider strengthening measures to prevent and protect the human rights of local communities from environmental impacts.

Finally, Thailand stands ready to cooperate with Nigeria in the promotion and protection of human rights and urge the international community to lend necessary assistance to Nigeria upon its request.

Thank you, Mr. President.