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Statement by the Delegation of Thailand H.E. Mr. Thani Thonghakdi

Ambassador and Permanent Representative 18th session of the Working Group on Universal Periodic Review - Cambodia 28 January 2014

Mr. President,

Thailand warmly welcomes the delegation of Cambodia to the UPR Working Group.

As a fellow member of ASEAN and a neighbouring country, Thailand welcomes Cambodia's engagement with and contribution to ASEAN human rights mechanisms, as well as its collaboration with the UN Special Rapporteur, and other human rights mechanisms and stakeholders, which we hope will continue to be strengthened.

We are pleased to note that Cambodia became Party to the CRPD and has taken measures to strengthen the Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as adopted administrative decrees to ensure the rights of disabled persons, in compliance with the Convention.

On land rights, Thailand recognizes Cambodia's determination to address land disputes and hopes that pending cases will be resolved in an equitable, transparent and sustainable manner.

Thailand commends Cambodia's determination to promote education and healthcare. In this regard, we <u>recommend</u> Cambodia to promote access to free education and healthcare services, especially in rural areas, including through enhanced cooperation with neighbouring countries and development partners.

With a view to strengthening its human rights infrastructure, we also recommend that Cambodia establish an independent national human rights institution.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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