

Statement by the Delegation of Thailand

Mr. Natapanu Nopakun

**Minister Counselor, Permanent Mission of Thailand
at the Review of Belarus**

**during the 22nd Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
on Monday 4 May 2015 from 9:00 to 12:30 hrs.
in Room XX of the Palais des Nations in Geneva
(Speaker Number: 5 – Time: 1 minute 15 seconds)**

Thailand congratulates Belarus on its recent accession to various international human rights agreements. We encourage Belarus to continue working closely with the relevant stakeholders towards the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

We welcome the progress made in ensuring gender equality in the realms of education and employment. We recommend Belarus to further abolish any discriminatory practices against women in accessing higher education, diversify academic disciplines for men and women, and take additional measures to encourage men and women to choose non-traditional career choices.

We are concerned that certain populations are still susceptible to human trafficking, especially those from the disadvantaged background who seek employment overseas. We therefore recommend the Government of Belarus to enhance job opportunities at home for this vulnerable group.

We also encourage Belarus to develop a national policy on children with disabilities, provide support to parents of children with severe disabilities, and intensify its efforts to combat social stereotypes against persons with disabilities. We also look forward to Belarus' accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).