**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**

**Ambassador Krerkpan Roekchamnong**

**Chargé d’Affaires a.i. and Deputy Permanent Representative of Thailand**

**at the Review of Lebanon**

**during the 23rd Session of the Working Group**

**on the Universal Periodic Review**

**on Monday 2 November 2015 from 14:30 to 18:00 hrs.**

**in Room XX of the Palais des Nations in Geneva**

**(Speaker Number: 14 – Time: 1:15 minute)**

Mr. President,

Thailand welcomes the Lebanese delegation to the second UPR Cycle. We commend the Government of Lebanon for the progress made in implementing our recommendations from the first UPR Cycle, in particular to improve the livelihood of persons with disabilities and to address the protracted refugee situation in the country.

We applaud Lebanon for its success in launching the National Plan for the Integration of Persons with Disabilities in 2012. We encourage the Government of Lebanon to continue its efforts to enhance access to quality education and better employment opportunities for persons with disabilities, to ensure that they can truly be a part of society. We recommend Lebanon to expedite the necessary process to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Thailand appreciates the additional steps taken by the Lebanese Government to improve the situation of refugees and asylum-seekers in the country. We are particularly concerned that many refugee women and girls are still vulnerable to economic exploitation through forced labor, sexual abuse, early and forced marriage, and discrimination by host community members. We therefore recommend that the Government of Lebanon puts in place measures to protect refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls from economic and sexual exploitation, gender-based violence, including sexual abuse, as well as child and forced marriage and discrimination.

I thank you, Mr. President.