

**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**

**Ms. Benjaporn Niyomnaitham**

**First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Thailand**

**at the Review of Ireland**

**during the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**on Wednesday 11 May 2016 from 14:30 to 18:00 hrs.**

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

**(Speaker Number: 54 – Time: 1 minute 20 seconds)**

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Mr. President,

Thailand congratulates Ireland on its ratification of the Optional Protocol to the CRC. We welcome the establishment of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission and encourage Ireland to consider adopting a national human rights action plan. We also commend Ireland’s continued endeavours to promote women’s participation in the prevention and resolution of conflicts through its Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

Thailand welcomes legislative amendments to respond to new challenges in the promotion and protection of women’s rights, including the adoption of the Protection of Life during Pregnancy Act 2013 which allows abortion to be performed if continued pregnancy endangers the mother’s life.

We also welcome Ireland’s introduction of various support services to protect the human rights of women and children affected by violence. We are, however, still concerned that the incidents of violence against women and children in Ireland remain high. We therefore recommend Ireland to undertake the necessary steps to strengthen its response to domestic violence as recommended by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

We recognize Ireland’s intention to become party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. We recommend that the Government of Ireland expedite the necessary legislative reforms and set a concrete timeline towards ratification of the Convention

I thank you, Mr. President.