**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**

**Mr. Phanpob Planprayoon**

**Minister-Counselor, Permanent Mission of Thailand**

**at the Review of Papua New Guinea**

**during the 25th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**on Friday 6 May 2016 from 9:00 to 12:30 hrs.**

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

**(Speaker Number: 52 – Time: 2 minutes)**

Mr. President,

Thailand welcomes the delegation of Papua New Guinea (PNG) to the second UPR Cycle. We commend the progress made since the first UPR Cycle, particularly the adoption of numerous legislations aimed at promoting and protecting the rights of at-risk groups, especially women, children and persons with disabilities.

Thailand also welcomes the National Health Plan 2011-2020 which has set
the direction for the strengthening of primary healthcare and improving health service delivery for the majority of its population who live in rural areas as well as for the urban disadvantaged. We recommend that PNG continue to improve access to healthcare and raise awareness of reproductive health for women, children, youth, as well as migrants and asylum seekers in order to decrease maternal, child and infant mortality.

Thailand appreciates PNG’s efforts to promote gender equality and address domestic abuses and sexual violence against women. We recommend that PNG intensify its effort to combat domestic violence by effectively implementing its laws, particularly the Family Protection Act (2013), improving access to justice, providing adequate support for victims and raising awareness of women’s rights.

Thailand notes the positive measures taken by the PNG Government to address concerns regarding the special agricultural business leases scheme, especially
the establishment of an independent Commission of Inquiry. We hope that PNG will address the negative impact on human rights of large-scale land acquisitions under this scheme and find equitable and sustainable solutions to this problem.

I thank you, Mr. President.