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UPR25/Thailand

Statement by Slovakia

11 May 2016

Mr. President,

Slovakia acknowledges Thailand's commitment to the second UPR cycle and efforts to improve the level of human rights protection since the first UPR cycle.

We take positive note of steps involving development of social protection system and efforts to improve the welfare system, particularly for the most vulnerable groups. Slovakia also welcomes the legislative progress made to further promote and protect human rights, for instance by adopting *The Protection of Vulnerable Persons Act of 2014* and by amending the Criminal Code to criminalise child pornography.

However, the imposition of death penalty for various criminal offences still remains a matter of concern. Furthermore, Slovakia encourages the authorities of Thailand to investigate the allegations of practices amounting to torture and ill-treatment by security and military officials.

We would like to make the following recommendations:

1. To abolish immediately death penalty,
2. To adopt a definition of torture which is fully in compliance with article 1 of the CAT; its inclusion as a specific crime in Thailand's legislation; to undertake prompt, thorough and impartial investigation of all allegations of torture and ill-treatment,
3. To ratify the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance

Thank you.