**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**

**H.E. Mr. Phanpob Plangprayoon**

**Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative**

**at the Review of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea**

**during the 33rd Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**on Thursday 9 May 2019 from 14.30 to 18.00 hrs.**

**(Speaker Number: 93 Time: 1 minute 20 seconds)**

Mr. President,

Thailand welcomes DPRK delegation. We are encouraged by the current developments in the Korean Peninsula from the two Summits between with the US and the three Inter-Korean Summits. We hope that the DPRK and all parties concerned maintain the momentum of the dialogue and negotiation to completely achieve the goals of denuclearization and permanent peace.

We welcome DPRK’s continued engagement with UPR as well as some UN human rights bodies, including the Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures.   
We believe that this will help improve human rights situation on the ground.

Noting with concern the Chair of DPRK Humanitarian Country Team’s Report “2019 DPRK: Needs and Priorities” which reveals that around 10.9 million people remain in need of food and health security, Thailand recommends DPRK **to intensify efforts in ensuring rights to food and health for all people in the country, with priorities given to vulnerable or specific groups such as children, women, persons with disabilities and older persons.**

We also recommend DPRK to **take concrete measures to improve conditions of detention by implementing the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Mandela Rules) and the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (Bangkok Rules).**

I thank you.

\* \* \* \* \*

*(208 words)*