**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**

**Mr. Worawut Smuthkalin, Counsellor**

**at the Review of Iraq**

**during the 34th Session of the Working Group on the UPR**

**on Monday, 11 November 2019, 14:30-18:00 hrs.**

**(Speaker Number: 21 / Speaking Time: 1 minute 5 seconds)**

Mr. President,

Thailand welcomes the delegation of Iraq to the UPR.

Thailand is encouraged by the Iraqi Government’s efforts to promote gender equality and combat violence against women. We welcome the establishment of the Women’s Empowerment Division of the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, as well as other mechanisms and strategies to promote women’s rights, including women in rural areas and Kurdistan Region.

Thailand welcomes Iraq’s efforts to improve prison facilities in compliance with international standards. We welcome the measures aimed at improving the treatment of women prisoners and non-custodial measures for women offenders, taking into account their specific needs and the UN Bangkok Rules.

Thailand recommends the following:

**First, implement laws and policies to further promote women’s political and economic empowerment and combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women, including migrant women.**

**Second, incorporate human rights education into school and university curriculums, including on gender equality and children’s rights.**

Thailand wishes Iraq every success in the UPR.

Thank you.

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