**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**

**Mr. Phanpob Plangprayoon, Ambassador and DPR**

**at the Review of Lesotho**

**during the 35th Session of the Working Group on the UPR**

**on Wednesday, 22 January 2020, 14:30-18:00 hrs.**

**(Speaker Number: 53 / Speaking Time: 1 minute 20 seconds)**

Madam President,

Thailand welcomes the delegation of the Kingdom of Lesotho to the UPR.

Thailand applauds the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on UPR as a national mechanism to promote the implementation of UPR recommendations.

Thailand commends Lesotho’s commitment to implementing the National Strategy Development Plan II, which addresses several cross-cutting, rights-related issues.

Thailand commends Lesotho’s progress in advancing women’s rights and gender equality. We welcome the Government’s Gender and Development Policy, and measures to combat trafficking of persons, especially women and children. We also welcome the legislative changes and campaigns aimed at ending child marriage and child labor.

Thailand recognizes that HIV/AIDS represents a major challenge for Lesotho. We welcome the Government’s human rights based response to HIV, including efforts to combat discrimination and provide greater access to the healthcare and treatment for people living with HIV, including inmates.

Thailand commends Lesotho’s political commitment and efforts to end hunger and promote food security. In this regard, we applaud the active role of His Majesty King Letsie III as the FAO’s Special Ambassador for Nutrition and the Nutrition Champion for the African Union.

Thailand recommends the following:

**First, strengthen the enforcement of relevant laws to combat and punish acts of domestic violence, violence against women, and discrimination against women.**

**Second, continue to strengthen efforts to eradicate hunger, malnutrition, and food insecurity, including through agricultural investments and multi-stakeholder partnerships at domestic and international levels.**

Thailand stands ready to continue sharing good practices through technical cooperation program with Lesotho, particularly in promoting sustainable agricultural development based on the application of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy.

We wish Lesotho every success in the UPR.

Thank you.