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Statement

by

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Counsellor

before the Fourth Committee

of the 81st Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda Item 49: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

10 November 2026

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Mr. Chair,

1. Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by Indonesia on behalf of ASEAN and by Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

2. We extend our sincere appreciation to Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations and Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support for their dedicated leadership in ensuring UN peacekeeping remains an essential anchor for global peace and security.

Mr. Chair,

3. As a committed troop- and police-contributing country for nearly seven decades, with over 27,000 personnel deployed across 20 UN missions, Thailand reaffirms that the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34) remains the only UN body mandated to comprehensively review the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.

4. Following the successful adoption of the 2026 C-34 report, Thailand welcomes the decision to biennialise future reports. The value of the C-34 should ultimately be measured not by the frequency of its reports, but by their substantive contributions to improving peacekeeping operations on the ground. We view this as an opportunity for more focused deliberations, while preserving the Committee's central role in shaping the future of UN peacekeeping.

5. To ensure UN peacekeeping remains fit for purpose in an increasingly complex security environment, Thailand wishes to emphasise four key priorities:

6. First, **we must ensure that peacekeeping operations strictly adhere to the core principles of consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force except in self-defence and defence of the mandate.**

7. In line with the Secretary-General's call to reinvest in peacemaking and preventive diplomacy, early peacebuilding must be prioritised to address the root causes of conflict and support nationally-led and nationally-owned peace processes. Peacebuilders can play important role in this regard. Through our Horizontal Military Engineering Company in UNMISS, Thailand integrates community development into our operations based on a people-centered approach. This strengthens community resilience and contributes to SDG 16 and broader goal of sustaining peace.

8. Furthermore, we reiterate our unwavering support for the UN's zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse to safeguard the trust of local communities and maintain the legitimacy of peacekeeping operations.

9. Second, **we must safeguard personnel safety and security, in tandem with operational and financial viability of the missions**. Peacekeepers must be equipped with adequate resources, comprehensive threat assessments, and peacekeeping intelligence. In parallel, the UN and Member States must strengthen proactive strategic communications to counter misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech targeting blue helmets.

10. Equally critical is addressing the persistent UN liquidity crisis, which directly impacts reimbursements to T/PCCs. Frontline contributors, who bear significant human and financial costs, must not be left to shoulder the budgetary burden. Mission effectiveness and troop safety must not be compromised by financial constraints. We therefore call for predictable reimbursement and urge all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations in full, on time, and without conditions.

11. Third, **we must drive operational excellence through partnerships and capacity-building.** At the regional level, Thailand continues to deepen regional cooperation in conflict prevention and peace support, while valuing the UN's continued support for peacekeeping capacity-building and training in ASEAN.

12. Nationally, the Peace Operations Center of the Royal Thai Armed Forces continues to conduct UN-certified courses, including the UN Staff Officers Course. In fulfilment of our pledges at the 2025 UN Peacekeeping Ministerial, Thailand is pleased to host engineering courses under the UN Triangular Partnership Programme for 2026-2028.

13. Lastly, advancing the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda requires turning national commitments into concrete action. Thailand has achieved 42.1% female representation among individual military observers in UNMISS and UNMOGIP, exceeding UN targets. We remain dedicated to maintaining female representation above 30% among individual military and police personnel, while enhancing gender-responsive facilities for our engineering company.

14. We call on the UN and Member States to strengthen operational frameworks and qualification pathways to provide women peacekeepers with greater opportunities to serve in senior leadership and command positions. This is not only a matter of representation, but also an investment in the effectiveness and operational performance of peacekeeping missions.

Mr. Chair,

15. Thailand takes note of the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's review on the future of all forms of UN peace operations and looks forward to a follow-up and subsequent reviews that are Member State-driven, transparent and inclusive.

16. In closing, Thailand stands ready to work constructively with all Member States during the upcoming C-34 substantive session to build on the achievements of the 2026 report and translate our shared commitments into practical and actionable outcomes.

I thank you.

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