



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Statement

by

H.E. Mr. Don Pramudwinai

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

at the Ministerial Meeting

of the Group of Friends of the Global Development Initiative (GDI)

20 September 2022,

Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations, New York

**Your Excellency State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi,
Excellencies,**

1. I am honoured to be at this meeting to discuss a very timely and important issue.
2. **As a founding member of the Group of Friends of the GDI**, Thailand's commitment and full support to the Global Development Initiative has been clearly demonstrated.
3. As the world is facing compounding crises as the result of COVID-19 and conflicts, the GDI under the leadership of President Xi Jinping to **“build a global community of development”** provides an **excellent opportunity to accelerate progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** that they too are under threats.
4. The GDI's seven core principles: development-first principle, a people-centered approach, inclusive benefits, innovation-driven development, harmony with nature, action-oriented tactics, and synergy with existing mechanisms, represents a **unity of purpose and shared belief in the universal benefits of the SDG that ultimately will leave no one behind.**
5. The GDI's emphasis on **pluralism, multilateralism, and increased dialogues** with different stakeholders on global development that **puts high consideration on local needs and local contexts** will enable the SDG' drive to achieve **inclusive tangible results that are genuinely people centered.** Last week, Thailand hosted the Global South-South Development Expo that focused on the recovery efforts of developing countries. But GDI goes beyond localized development but covers the north-south cooperation as well. With this flexibility, the GDI can serve as a crucial platform for mobilising partnerships of all types, encompassing North-South, south-south, and public-private sector partnerships including investments and financing for sustainable development.
6. Lastly, Thailand believes that the GDI can play a central role in this Decade of Action for the SDGs and can be exemplary in terms of its **openness and transparency.** Thailand stands ready to work with the Group of Friends of GDI in building a bridge between GDI and other multilateral mechanisms to achieve a common aspiration in shaping our next steps toward a better prospect for the world and all humanity.
