



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

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Intervention

by

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to the United Nations**

at the ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment (OAS)

Session 1: OAS opening and high-level dialogue

between the SG and UN Member States

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Madam President,

First of all, Thailand aligns itself with the statement delivered by **Pakistan** on behalf of G77 and China.

At the invitation of the Secretary General, let us try to be more interactive. I think it is important for this morning's session.

Recalling Madam President's reference to climate change being in red alert, if you look into sustainable development, then we are beyond red alert. As the Secretary General said, we are in emergency mode, we have to rescue it. Because without sustainable development, dear colleagues, there is a little hope for a lot of people. 100 million people slipped into poverty in 2020 and joining so many millions more already in poverty. So, **there is no hope, if there is no sustainable development.**

So, what can we do?

There are three levels, beginning with **the global level**. One thing we can do right away is to **extend our support to many of the proposals made by the Secretary General**, many of which are in Our Common Agenda. Whether it is a New Global Deal, or ways to revitalize the international financial institutions (IFIs) agenda to focus more on financing for development. Here, many delegations have spoken on the need for funding, not only for specific projects, but more strategic issues as a whole. There are suggestions regarding closer cooperation between the G20, ECOSOC and the IFIs. These are things that we can try to support right away.

There are two additional suggestions that I would like to flag. Number one is – can we **make use of the ECOSOC High Level Political Forum (HLPF)** to zero in on specific quick wins that we can do to rescue the SDGs? Like a top-10 list of things that we can do concretely and have that guide some of our deliberations at the HLPF. In the longer term, we have in the UNSG proposals, the Summit for the Future coming up next year. Can we **integrate the rescuing of the SDGs as an important part of the Future's Summit**? Because, again, without sustainable development

there is very little future for many of the countries represented here. That is one suggestion.

Secondly, at **the national level**, it is important that we focus on the fact that no one-size-fits-all. This is one of the areas where the UN has made a lot of progress. For Thailand, we are one of the countries in that 95% where there is a close alignment between the Cooperation Framework and our national development strategies. We have the revitalized UN Country Team. We have the reinvigorated the Resident Coordinator that has done a lot of good work. In fact, Madame Excellency, the Deputy Secretary General, had a very successful visit to Thailand last month. We have worked very closely to show how **the Bio-Circular-Green economy concept** can be used to advance sustainable development. This very close interaction will be very critical. One slight suggestion is that the issue of human security can be factored in, as appropriate, in alignment with national country's priorities.

The regional level is one thing that we can do more. In ASEAN we have worked very closely with the UN. We, in Southeast Asia, have welcomed the Secretary General to the region many times in various summits. Let us see if we can **make better use of the various ASEAN centers, such as ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue in Thailand** and other institutions in the region. They are your natural partners to advance and rescue the SDGs. So, we look forward to working on that.

Lastly, as Thailand is the host economy of the chair of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) this year, we are very much in line with and support the sustainable development agenda. Let us see how we can **make better use of the partnership between the UN, ECOSOC and the APEC** to advance some of the things that we have in mind to help rescue the SDGs.

Thank you very much, Madam President.
