



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

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**Statement**

**by**

**Mr. Panupong Pechploy**

**Second Secretary,**

**Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations**

**at the 14<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the Second Committee**

**77<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Joint Consideration on**

**Eradication of Poverty and Other Development Issues &**

**Agriculture Development, Food Security and Nutrition**

**UNHQ, New York, 12 October 2022**

*(Please check against delivery.)*

*Madam Chair,*

1. Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by **Pakistan** on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and by **Viet Nam** on behalf of ASEAN.

2. The pandemic, climate change, and ongoing geopolitical tensions have exacerbated inequalities and set in motion the **three-dimensional crisis on food, energy and finance**. This crisis takes a heavy toll on the most vulnerable groups in developing countries and threatens to derail our hard-won progress on SDGs.

3. As we continue to navigate unprecedented challenges posed by the current state of **global food insecurity**, allow me to share Thailand's reflections on how we can push towards achieving **the 2030 Agenda**.

4. First, we must **safeguard multilateralism** by facilitating **constructive dialogues** and improving **policy coordination** among UN agencies, WTO, and other players to avert the largest food crisis in history. As we move forward on ensuring **seamless cross-border flows of food, fertilisers and essential goods**, it is critical that all countries **keep our supply chains open and refrain from imposing export restrictions** inconsistent with WTO rules.

5. Thailand welcomes the efforts of the **Global Crisis Response Group** and the **Black Sea Grain Initiative** to establish a maritime corridor for safe export of foodstuffs to African nations. Moreover, we welcome timely decision to exempt **WFP's humanitarian aid** from food export bans and will continue to work with the WFP to provide emergency food assistance to people living in vulnerable situations in many parts of the world in responding to today's hunger crises.

6. Second, to better prepare for future crises, we must scale up action to accelerate **food systems transformation** towards greater **resilience and sustainability**.

7. In addressing the **triple planetary crises** of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss, Thailand shares the view that **agroecology** is an essential solution to building healthier and more equitable food systems.

At the same time, we pursue the **Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) Economy Model** to drive towards a more balanced post-pandemic growth while preserving environment.

8. It is also important to invest and make sure that our smallholder farmers have access to **affordable technologies and innovations for precision and sustainable agriculture** that enable them to **produce more with less** and reduce **food waste and loss** throughout the supply chains.

9. As one of the world's largest net food exporters, Thailand will continue to play our part in strengthening global food security and sharing our best practices on **food self-sufficiency, sustainable soil management and smart farming** through **South-South and Triangular Cooperation**.

10. Last, let us not lose sight of the need to **eradicate poverty and tackle inequalities** in all dimensions, so that **no one is left behind**.

11. Since 2016, Thailand has no persons living under the international poverty line which is living proof of the progress made on eradicating extreme poverty. The pandemic has exposed **growing income and wealth inequalities** that need to be urgently addressed.

12. We need transformative solutions. Thailand has introduced a **National Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index** that looks **beyond income** and developed database to ensure targeted support for vulnerable groups, as we continue to **empower our local communities** by investing in **universal health coverage, quality education, and social protection** going forward.

*Madam Chair,*

13. To conclude, I wish to take this opportunity to reaffirm Thailand's commitment to work together with our partners to join the **fight against poverty and transform our agri-food systems** by improving people's livelihoods, ensuring access to healthy diets and protecting our planet.

14. Thank you.