



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

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**Statement  
by  
Ms. Chanitnat Yankittikul  
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**before the Second Committee  
at the 77<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Agenda item 19: Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban  
Agenda and strengthening of UN Habitat and Agenda item 23:  
Operational activities for development and sub-items**

**14 October 2022, New York**

*Thank you Chair,*

1. Thailand aligns itself with the statement delivered by **Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China**, and the ASEAN statement.
2. We thank the Secretary General for his reports on these agenda items, and would like to share the following three points.
3. **First**, Rapid urban development and unplanned growth, aggravated by the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19, have posed **economic, environmental, and social challenges**, including **extensive and unsustainable resource consumption** and **housing shortage**, which are especially particularly challenging for vulnerable populations.
4. But at the same time, **cities also have a key role to play** in responding to emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters, providing public services like water, health and education, and advancing sustainable development. The **New Urban Agenda** provides the guidance in this regard.
5. The NUA calls for the access to **adequate and affordable housing** – one of the most basic human needs and one that is fundamental to creating an inclusive and health society for all. In this regard, Thailand's example of the **Baan Mankong, or Stable Housing, project** is one that enables the active engagement of local communities in decision-making, which has provided approximately 250,000 low-income households with housing in over 3,000 communities across the country.
6. Furthermore, cities and local governments can be instrumental in **localizing SDGs**, enhancing community resilience, and promote more sustainable and inclusive practices at local levels.

7. **Second**, on the repositioning of the **UN Development System (UNDS)**, Thailand stresses the need to **move forward on the mandates from the 2020 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR)**. We welcome the progress made on the repositioning and the **reinvigorated resident coordinator system** and reiterate a **call to the entities of the United Nations development system to assist countries in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda**.

8. In December last year, Thailand endorsed the **United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022–2026**. The Framework serves as a guide for cooperation between the Government and the United Nations Country Team in **delivering on the SDGs** while **aligning with Thailand’s Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP)** and other development strategy and plans. It also supports Thailand’s efforts toward **sustainable economic growth through the Bio - Circular - Green (BCG) Economy Model**.

9. To ensure a participatory and inclusive process, Thailand’s UNSDCF was developed through **multi-stakeholder consultations with the private sector, parliament, civil society, and academia**. The consultations also adopted the use of innovative approaches, digital tools, polling and social media platforms for wider outreach.

10. **Third**, Thailand strongly believes that **partnerships are vital to help developing countries attaining SDGs**. We reiterate our commitment in promoting development cooperation, especially in spirit of **South-South cooperation**. For instance, we continue to support human resource development through **Annual International Training Course (AITC)**. Our **Friends from Thailand (FFT) volunteer program**, selected as part of the

**showcase on SDG good practices** by United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), not only provides technical assistance but also fosters **people-to-people connection**, which is critical to partnerships for development.

11. We encourage all countries to **share locally driven and homegrown development approaches and pathways** to accelerate actions to implement the 2030 Agenda. The recent **Global South-South Development Expo**, co-hosted by Thailand, ESCAP and UNOSSC in Bangkok last month, served as a global platform for developing countries to exchange ideas, share adaptable solutions, and explore new partnerships for development cooperation.

*Chair,*

12. **To conclude**, Thailand reaffirms our continued commitment to work with all to advance the important agenda of the Second Committee, including the New Urban Agenda and Operational activities for Development this year.

13. I thank you.