



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

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Statement

by

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**at the General Debate of the Second Committee
77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Under the theme “*Transforming political commitment into actions
for sustainable recovery- rebuilding a sustainable future for all*”**

UNHQ, New York, 4 October 2022

Madame Chair,

1. Congratulations to you and the Bureau on your election, and appreciation for Malta and the Bureau of the 76th Session for guiding the Second Committee previously.
2. Thailand aligns itself with the statement delivered by **Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China**, and by **Cambodia on behalf of ASEAN**.
3. While there appears to be **light at the end of the tunnel with regard to overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic**, we are still in the tunnel, especially as vaccinations have not reached everyone. There are also **long-term socio-economic impacts**, exacerbated by global challenges of climate change, disasters, food and energy crises, and humanitarian situations.
4. By all accounts, the gains of development of past decades have been eroded, resulting in more poverty, more malnutrition, and more hardship. **This is the unfortunate backdrop for our Committee's work this year.**
5. We are thus at a tipping point, in the race to reverse the slide in development gains, to **“rescue the SDGs”** and to protect our planet. Thailand therefore believes in the urgency of now: **to transform political commitment into actions**, and to put the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development back on track.

Madame Chair,

6. To regain momentum, we must redouble our efforts **in all three pillars of sustainable development** through the lens of increased ambitions, pragmatism and inclusiveness. In this light, Thailand wishes to share our take on what the **key priorities for achieving a sustainable recovery and securing a sustainable future would involve**.
7. **First, a balanced mindset and approach should be the bedrock of all recovery efforts, with people at the centre.** We must create the much-needed **balance between human and nature, and ensure that human security and protection of the planet is pursued in a sustainable manner.**
8. In Thailand's case, we are guided by the **Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) Economy Model based on the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy** to recover from the effects of the pandemic, achieve more balanced development, and minimize

impacts on environment. This is also being done regionally at the **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)** Economic Leaders' meeting in Bangkok this year. As host, Thailand hopes that the proposed "**Bangkok Goals on Bio-Circular-Green Economy**" will help support APEC-wide work on sustainability.

9. **Second, on the environmental front**, we have had a number of **key "Moments for Nature"** in 2022 where our leaders reaffirmed their commitments to protecting our planet. The Stockholm+50, UNEP@50 and the UN Ocean Conference. We must now **move to implementation** and overcome the **triple planetary crises** of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

10. Much work remains to be done. The **Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution** under UNEA will commence its work next month. The **UNFCCC COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh** will be another critical moment to prioritize climate action, especially on climate finance, adaptation and loss and damage. **Part 2 of the CBD COP15** will consider the **Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework**. Thailand stands ready to engage constructively in all these planet-centred processes.

11. **Third**, looking for the future, we must **build resilience in our societies for current and future generations**, including by having **robust social protection systems**. Every person should be able to enjoy **Universal Health Coverage**. And we must build on the **Transforming Education Summit** to achieve inclusive and equitable quality education for all.

12. And **lastly**, in order to realize these aspirations while leaving no one behind, **developed countries must "walk the talk"** in providing support and means of implementation to **developing countries** to enable transformative actions on their front. The recently adopted **Doha Programme of Action for the LDCs** is an example of reinvigorated commitments and partnerships to answer to that call.

13. The **developing countries** should also walk the talk, and one way we are doing it is through **South-South cooperation**, where Thailand was proud to host the **Global South-South Development Expo** last month that generated sharing of best practices and development approaches.

Madame Chair,

14. To **conclude**: the Second Committee has a big task ahead of us, as we lay the **groundwork for 2023** – the midpoint to 2030. Because next year, we will

take stock of the progress made on **the Sendai Framework, the Water Action Decade, the Political Declaration on UHC, Financing for Development,** and the 2030 Agenda at the **SDG Summit**.

15. As we cooperate for positive transformation and change, Thailand stands ready to support you and your team to achieve the common goal of a sustainable future for all.

16. Thank you.
