



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

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Statement

by

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**Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand
to the United Nations**

**at the United Nations Security Council Open Debate on
Climate, Peace and Security**

New York, 13 June 2023

Madam President,

1. Thailand congratulates the United Arab Emirates as it continues its Presidency of the UN Security Council this month and welcomes the UAE's initiative in convening today's Open Debate on the critical issue of climate change. We thank the briefers for their insights.
2. Climate change is the defining existential crisis of our times. We cannot turn away from the facts. We cannot turn a blind eye on their implications.
3. In 2021, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) declared a "Code Red" for humanity that we are at risk of hitting 1.5 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels.
4. In March, the Sixth Assessment Report of the IPCC warns us that climate change has led to widespread impacts and related losses and damages to nature and people, as well as 1.1 degree rise in global temperature since 2020. And just last month, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) reported that global temperatures are likely to surge to record levels in the next five years.
5. The conclusions are clear.
6. One: climate change poses an existential threat to many countries, especially to Small Island Developing States (SIDs) and their people.
7. Two: climate change brings about multidimensional impacts on the livelihoods of people – from water scarcity and drought to floods and land degradation, from exacerbating food insecurity and job security, to sparking mass migration and sometimes conflict. And women and girls are disproportionately affected by these negative impacts.
8. And three: the negative impacts of climate change have direct consequences on human security and sustainable development, and thus become a multiplier of risk which affects the lives of people and the stability of States and societies.
9. What then can the international community do?
10. I offer the following four points.
11. First, multilateralism and international cooperation are the only viable solutions to addressing the challenge of climate change and its negative impacts on human security and on the long- term stability of States, communities and indeed our planet.

12. We must therefore uphold the UN Framework Convention of Climate Change and its Paris Agreement while respecting the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as well as equity as the cornerstone of global climate governance. To this end, we fully support and look forward to the UNFCCC COP28 to be held in Dubai later this year. The UN including the Security Council should extend its support to this process.

13. Second, developing countries need means of implementation and support to enhance their resilience to adverse impacts of climate change and to reduce risks.

14. Thailand thus echoes the call of the UN Secretary-General to developed countries to deliver the 100 billion USD annually; to replenish the Green Climate Fund; and to deliver on their finance commitments to adaptation. This is not only an investment in the future of the planet, but also an investment in human security and the stability of States and societies.

15. Third, in UN peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations, we can all promote more effective measures to reduce environmental footprint including through better environmental management in the field. We can encourage policies that will enable societies and communities overcoming conflict to be better prepared to surmount the negative impacts of climate change.

16. We thus support effective implementation of the Environmental Strategy for Peace Operations and environment-related mandates of respective missions.

17. Fourth and lastly, countries in conflict may encounter shortfalls in capacities to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.

18. Therefore, the Council should focus on climate change-induced risks in country-specific settings in order to mobilize greater resources and support from the UN system and the international community for such countries. Such efforts will increase the chances of sustainable peace and stability in the post-conflict period.

19. Thank you Madam President.
