



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

**136 EAST 39th STREET • NEW YORK, NY 10016
TEL (212) 754-2230 • FAX (212) 688-3029**

Statement

by

Mr. Jatuporn Buruspat,

**Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environment of the Kingdom of Thailand**

at the General Discussion

during the Eighteenth Session

of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF18)

8 May 2023, UNHQ, New York

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

Thailand has recognised the benefits of forest for a long time. Forest has been one of the major resources that significantly propel our economic and social development as well as environmental services. Thus, we have attached great importance to the area of sustainable forest management which is in line with the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests.

Through our 20-Year National Strategy, the 2018-2037 National Forest Policy, as well as the Forestry Development Master Plan, all stakeholders have been involved in sustainable forest management. We are looking beyond the natural forest. The target to increase the country's green areas, which include protected areas, economic forests, and urban forests to 55% has been set up. Furthermore, the legislative framework for the forest sector such as the Forest Act, Forest Plantation Act, and Community Forest Act, has been recently amended and enacted to promote participation and governance in sustainable forest management, both in terms of conservation and production.

Moreover, the Royal Thai Government has also introduced the Bio- Circular-Green Economy Model to pave the way towards the forest goals while enhancing biodiversity conservation as well as climate actions. The Model has been overwhelmingly welcomed by the Fifth APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry, hosted by Thailand last year.

In addition, Thailand is walking the talk by seriously implementing the Paris Agreement, which includes driving carbon credit derived from the forest sector, both mangrove and terrestrial forests. It is anticipated that those carbon credits

will be one of the useful pathways towards the achievement of our commitments to the Paris Agreement while contributing to the betterment of quality of life of the local people.

These are our contribution to the global forest goals and targets as well as SDGs and other international forest-related agreements. And Thailand promises to keep walking. We stand ready to collaborate with all stakeholders to tackle challenges of global significance related to forests and sustainable forest management, both foresighted unexpected.

Thank you. ขอบคุณครับ