



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

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**Statement**

**by**

**His Excellency Mr. Vathayudh Vichankaiyakij**

**Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Thailand**

**to the United Nations**

**at the Plenary Meeting**

**of the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Agenda item 14: Culture of Peace**

**New York, 2 May 2024**

Mr. President,

1. At the outset, Thailand aligns itself with the ASEAN Statement delivered by Brunei Darussalam.

2. As we mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of adoption of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, we note progress made in the promotion of a culture of peace, interreligious and intercultural dialogue as highlighted in the report of the Secretary-General, and look forward to further realization of the Programme of Action.

3. Amidst the current geo-political atmosphere and growing polarization at various levels, the promotion of a culture of peace is even more important. It is critical for the international community to work together to achieve global peace and strengthen commitments to maintain peace through dialogue and cooperation.

4. Thailand has always supported harmony, use of dialogue and peaceful means in addressing differences and peaceful reconciliation anchored on tolerance, moderation and respect for diversity.

5. To this end, Thailand wishes to emphasize the following points:

6. First, we recognize that promoting a culture of peace requires enhanced mutual understanding, mutual respect and continuous dialogue. We must foster a more conducive atmosphere that promotes mutual trust and that enable people and communities with diverse backgrounds and beliefs to live together in harmony and contribute to social and economic progress.

7. As a multicultural society, Thailand continues to promote religious freedom, interfaith and mutual understanding at the national level, as reflected in our Action Plan for Promoting Coexistence under Multicultural Society 2023 - 2027.

8. Second, a culture of peace helps facilitate a culture of prevention. We believe that a culture of peace helps reinforce preventive diplomacy and this helps promote stability.

9. That is why Thailand has been a supportive member of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and remains committed to support

UNESCO in its effort to promoting education on a culture of peace. And that is why we believe that promotion of a culture of peace as well as preventive diplomacy should be an integral part of ongoing efforts to reinforce multilateralism and therefore captured in the envisaged Pact for the Future and the New Agenda for Peace.

10. Lastly, we emphasize the importance of strengthening engagement at the regional level that contribute to a culture of peace.

11. Enhanced regional dialogue and cooperation help promote a culture of peace and a regional environment conducive to regional peace and stability. ASEAN's community-building process, for example, helps advance an environment and policies that are conducive to further development of a culture of peace for Southeast Asia.

12. We therefore welcome continued dialogue and engagement between regional organizations and the international organizations to promote best practices, capacity-building and information exchange regarding a culture of peace, and stress the need to promote it at both the regional and global levels.

13. To conclude, Thailand wishes to reaffirm our readiness to work closely with the international community to promote a culture of peace for all.

14. Thank you.

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