



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

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**Statement**

**By**

**His Excellency Mr. Sihasak Phuanketkeow**

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**at the United Nations Security Council Open Debate on  
the Impact of Climate Change and Food Insecurity  
on the Maintenance of International Peace and Security**

**New York, 13 February 2024**

Mr. President,

1. I wish to congratulate Guyana for assuming the Presidency of the UN Security Council for this month of February. I also wish to thank Secretary-General António Guterres and all the briefers for their valuable insights and recommendations.

2. Despite decades of progress in development, our sense of safety and security remains low. The UNDP's 2022 special report "New threats to human security in the Anthropocene" explains such a development paradox that we are all facing. From the pandemic, inequalities and rising geopolitical tensions to devastating climate-related weather events and food insecurity, these challenges have reversed decades of development gains. I concur with the report's recommendations that addressing these threats would require policy makers to consider protection, empowerment, and solidarity alongside one another so that human security, planetary considerations, and human development all work together.

3. Without sustainable development, a sustainable planet and human rights, peace and security will be out of reach. That is why this Open Debate, focusing on climate change, food insecurity and peace, is so timely.

4. As policy makers, what can we do? I wish to offer the following three points:

5. First, we should ensure that our institutions, policies, and priorities match the people's needs and expectations. People expect to be protected from violent conflicts, adverse impacts of climate change and food insecurity. People also expect to be empowered with basic human rights, be they healthcare or education, so that they can attain better living standards.

6. Therefore, **a people-centered approach** should be at the core of our efforts in all aspects to ensure human development and human security for the peoples. If peace and security is to be sustained, the Security Council should have human security as part of its deliberations.

7. With human security as our goal, there can be a stronger integrated response within the UN to our present-day challenges. Strengthened coordination between the Security Council and other relevant UN bodies, especially the ECOSOC, is vital.

8. Second, climate change is the defining crisis of our time and will continue to affect our lives in multiple dimensions. Climate change is a threat multiplier, respects no borders and poses an urgent and serious threat to all of us, especially to LDCs and SIDS. So our approach should also be **planet-centric**. We must work together to address this crisis under the UNFCCC.

9. The UNFCCC, together with its Paris Agreement, remains the cornerstone of global climate governance and should be upheld.

10. However, developing countries need support to enhance their capacity to adapt and become more resilient to the adverse impacts of climate change. Thailand reiterates the call of developing countries, echoed by the UN Secretary-General at the Third South Summit, for existing financial commitments to be met by developed countries to deliver 100 billion USD annually and to double adaptation finance.

11. This is not only an investment in the future of the planet but also in human security, and the peace and stability of States and societies.

12. Third, global challenges such as climate change, food insecurity and conflicts are interconnected. They require systematic and integrated consideration to address solutions for the people and the planet. People-centered and planet-centric approaches should be the way forward for our sustainable and peaceful future.

13. Our efforts to overcome today's global challenges as well as new threats in the future require global solidarity, commitment and partnerships. Multilateralism and international cooperation are the most viable solutions to addressing such challenges. In this light, we look forward to the Summit of the Future as an opportunity to reinvigorate the multilateral system, with the UN at its core, and to renew our vision for peace which should be a comprehensive one, taking into account sustainable development and human rights.

14. As a candidate to the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) for the term 2025-2027, Thailand hopes to make the work of the HRC more impactful, especially for individuals on the ground many of whom are in conflict situations. It is our belief that UN organs and mechanisms need to work to complement each others in light of multifaceted challenges we are facing.

15. Thank you, Mr. President.

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