

PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement

Delivered by

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Agenda Item 71 (a - d): Promotion and protection of human rights

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Madam Chair,

- 1. Thailand thanks the Special Rapporteur for shedding light on challenges of caregivers of disabled children. We share the belief that the world can do better for children with disabilities and their caregivers so that they can contribute more to our society. Resources must be directed and systematic gaps must be addressed to relieve the unequal burden of care work and for both caregivers and the children to enjoy human rights.
- 2. Thailand continues to advance the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and its Optional Protocol. We have strengthened community- and family-based support systems through the National Action Plan of Alternative Care for Children (Phase 1: 2022-2026), which promotes family and community care and enables children with disabilities to live in family and community settings. This approach is reinforced by the Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Act and the Education for Persons with Disabilities Act, guaranteeing accessibility, inclusive education, and equal opportunities from early childhood onward.
- 3. Building on these foundations, the 6th National Plan for the Development of the Quality of Life of Persons with Disabilities (2023-2027) and Thailand's national commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) continue to promote inclusive public services. These include One-Stop Service Centres, mobile medical units, and inclusive early childhood development centres that improve access to healthcare, education, and social support, while strengthening assistance for children with disabilities and their caregivers. Thailand also encourages the participation of persons with disabilities in policymaking and continues to engage with their organizations, families, and caregivers.

Madam Special Rapporteur,

- 4. To build further from what have already been done, from your experience, what practical measures could help States redirect more efforts towards community-and family-based support for children with disabilities and their families?
 - 5. Thank you.
