

PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement

by

His Excellency Mr. Cherdchai Chaivaivid

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand

to the United Nations

at the United Nations Security Council High-Level Open Debate on Maritime Security: Prevention, Innovation, and International Cooperation to Address Emerging Challenges

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Mr. President,

- 1. I would like to start by expressing our appreciation to the Republic of Panama for convening this very important debate. Thailand prides itself as a peace-loving, maritime nation and, indeed, maritime security is at the core of our national agenda. There are four points that I wish to highlight:
- 2. **First**, a holistic approach is essential in **addressing the root causes of maritime security challenges:** economic development, good governance, environmental protection, community engagement as well as regional and international collaboration. Tackling underlying issues such as poverty, illegal fishing, and ineffective law enforcement is always key to ensuring lasting stability at sea.
- 3. Second, cooperation among Member States is vital in addressing transboundary maritime security challenges. Thailand is committed to enhancing maritime safety and addressing maritime security challenges through ASEAN-led platforms, including the ASEAN Regional Forum, and other multilateral fora, particularly the IMO and the UNODC. Thailand supports strengthening international cooperation through innovative technologies including satellite, unmanned systems, and AI to strengthen real-time monitoring and collective responses to maritime threats.
- 4. Third, we must speed up efforts to ensure sustainable, equitable, and responsible use of maritime resources. Thailand is fully committed to combatting illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, advancing maritime spatial planning under our Blue Economy strategy, and working toward ratifying the BBNJ Agreement. Such efforts contribute to Thailand's implementation of SDG Goal 14 and Nice Ocean Action Plan and aligns with the spirit of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030).
- 5. And last but not least, laws alone cannot ensure maritime security or maritime stability. They must be upheld in practice. It is, therefore, imperative to fully implement international law, particularly the 1982 UNCLOS which serves as the legal framework governing all activities in the oceans and seas. Let me stress that without effective implementation of international law, maritime security remains at risk.

Mr. President,

- 6. To conclude, a secure and rules-based maritime order grounded in international law is essential for global peace and prosperity. Strong international cooperation is therefore extremely crucial to advancing sustainable development and global economic growth and connectivity.
- 7. I thank you for your attention.

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