PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement

by

His Excellency Mr. Norachit Sinhaseni Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations

before the Sixth Committee

of the 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda Item 76: Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission

New York, 12 October 2012

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Mr. Chairman,

Thailand associates itself with the statement made by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned
Movement for this agenda item.

Criminal accountability is a fundamental element in upholding the rule of law. It requires that all
persons be held accountable for their actions, regardless of their role and status. This basic principle must
also apply to the United Nations and its personnel who are expected to adhere to the highest standards of

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Mr. Chairman,

Thailand, as a country that has contributed its forces to peacekeeping operations, firmly adheres to
the policy of zero tolerance and will uphold the highest standards in its codes of conduct for our contingent. We strongly believe that adequate and mandatory pre-deployment training is an essential preventive approach that should be taken. In this regard, Thailand supports the ongoing training, awareness-raising activities and preventive measures taken by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support. We wish to place on record our sincere appreciation to the two departments' assistance in the pre-deployment training of Thai troops in the various UN peacekeeping missions.

Mr. Chairman,

On the proposed international instrument aimed at ensuring the accountability of United Nations officials and experts who are on assignment with UN peacekeeping operations, Thailand is of the view that while there is merit in the proposal, there also remain many unresolved concerns. These concerns should be addressed before we begin discussions on the draft convention.

Thailand looks forward with great interest to the outcome of the working group established during
this session, especially on the issue of investigation and exchange of information. The issues of difficulties in gathering sufficient evidence for a prosecution under the applicable substantive and procedural law and the way to communicate this information to the most useful parties require careful consideration. Resolving these two issues in a satisfactory manner will

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