

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

136 EAST 39th STREET · NEW YORK, NY 10016

TEL (212) 754-

-3029

Statement

by

His Excellency Dr. Suriya Chindawongse

Ambassador and Permanent Representative

of Thailand to the United Nations

before the Sixth Committee

of the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda Item 83

The rule of law at the national and international levels

New York, 17 October 2023

Madame Chair,

1. I am very happy to see you presiding over the meeting, and grateful for your support in chairing the session, which allows me to speak this afternoon on **behalf of my country**. Many thanks to you and the other Bureau members for the continued support provided to me and my delegation.

2. Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of **Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement** and **the Philippines on behalf of ASEAN**.

3, Thailand would also like to express our **appreciation to the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken by the United**

upon which multilateralism was founded and international instruments were developed ~~in~~ instruments which States large or small, powerful or modest, wield in the pursuit of peace, prosperity, and progress.

7. **Second**, our commitment to and belief in the rule of law stay constant, but the world is rapidly and constantly changing. From pandemics to cybercrime, challenges of the modern day never cease to exist. **New technologies have emerged both as a challenge that cannot be overlooked and as a tool, with which such challenge can be dealt and addressed, including in the evolving contemporary contexts of international law.** Multilateralism, and the rule of law, must meet this new evolution and must meet it well.

8. **Third**, one way to take advantage of this new evolution is to **use technology to promote the rule of law and access to justice, in line with Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals.** The importance of **peace, justice, and strong institutions** in upholding the rule of law cannot be overstated.

9. The rule of law can be upheld if our institutions are **inclusive, and they are considered inclusive if access to justice is provided to all.** For example, videoconference technology was resorted to in the examination of witnesses in Thai courts, starting during the COVID-19 pandemic, so not to delay justice and bring peace to those involved. **No one shall be left behind** on our path to peaceful and inclusive societies, which are key to sustainable development.

10. **Fourth**, the rule of law and access to justice should be promoted through **knowledge-sharing and education.** Thailand supports the efforts of the United Nations in this regard, including the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the

Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. We are proud to co-host the **UN Regional Course in International Law** for the Asia Pacific, and we hope to continue this partnership with the Office of Legal Affairs for years to come.

11. Furthermore, Thailand appreciates the work taken to
11.

15. Thank you, Madame Chair.
