

Thailand's Country Statement (3 minutes)
Agenda item 3: Special Body of Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and
Small Island Developing States
79th Commission Session
ESCAP Hall, UNCC and online
15.30 – 17.00 hrs., 16 May 2023

Madam Chair,
Madam Executive Secretary of ESCAP,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

Despite our collective efforts to achieve the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and rising geopolitical conflicts have set back decades of hard-won development gains. The development gap is now widening between and within developing countries. The situation is much more challenging for least developed countries to sustain the criteria for graduation¹.

Thailand is a strong advocate for global partnerships in assisting LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDs to reach the SDGs through South-South and Triangular Cooperation as part of our commitment to SDG 17. Over the years, Thailand has actively engaged with LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDs in all regions to support their graduation journey and prepare their Smooth Transition Strategy.

Thailand's current international development cooperation strategy aims to promote hardware and software connectivities as well as smart and sustainable capacity development in 4 areas namely food, health, job and, energy & environment. Our strategy also embraces the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP), our home grown approach, and Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) Economy Model, which we believe will ensure a more resilient and sustainable future.

¹ The indexes for LDC graduation criteria include (1) Gross national income per capita, (2) Human Assets Index, and (3) Economic and Environmental vulnerability Index.

We are proud to partner with UN agencies in advancing the global agenda for sustainable development through South-South and Triangular Cooperation. In September last year, Thailand was honored to co-host the 11th Global South-South Development Expo in Bangkok. The event provided an invaluable forum to exchange new ideas, share adaptable solutions, reinforce existing networks, and build new partnerships for development cooperation.

Madam Chair,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Sustainability will provide a solid foundation for our shared security, prosperity and future. It can only be achieved through our common resolve and collective efforts.

In closing, I thank all the development partners for useful insights and contributions this afternoon. I would like to reaffirm Thailand's strong commitment to further strengthen partnerships for seamless connectivity and development with LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDs in driving forward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you.
