Country Statement by
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“Love, Passion, Collaboration, Human can turn impossible Dream into Unforgettable Reality”

At Item 2 Session:
“Review of the Progress and Remaining Challenges in Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in Asia and the Pacific in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”

Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+25 Review

Bangkok, 27 November 2019

Time allocation: 6 minutes

Mr. / Madame Chair,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to deliver my country statement at this important regional gathering today. My statement will try to respond to the three assigned topics.

Firstly, on synergizing the Platform for Action with the 2030 Agenda, Thailand has embraced women’s rights as enshrined in all relevant international and regional instruments.

At the international front, Thailand has been Party to the CEDAW since 1985.

Domestically, in terms of legislations, a number of mainstream legislations have been enacted to ensure gender equality and safeguard the rights of all Thais.
In terms of policy frameworks, the 5-year Strategy for Women’s Development has been introduced to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action at the national level.

Excellencies,

Secondly, I would like to share with you some of our policy actions to address the key challenges in implementing the Platform for Action.

On women in power and decision making, women in Thailand held 44 percent of all CEO and Managing Director jobs in the private sector in 2018. For political participation, starting from next year, appropriate measures will be introduced to encourage more women to enter politics at all levels.

Excellencies,

With the girl child and women poverty, the Child Support Grant has been introduced to provide welfare supports for low-income earners. The Grant covers children under 6 and will reach out to almost 1.8 million children living in poor families nationwide.

On women and health, Thai women and girls are guaranteed their equal access to healthcare services. Furthermore, under the recently amended labour law, maternity leave has been increased to 98 days. Moreover, volunteer caregivers have been established to assist older persons including elderly women throughout the nation.

With regard to human rights, Thailand has implemented a national plan of action to protect the rights of women prisoners, in compliance with the Bangkok Rules. In 2020, we will support the “House of Blessing Foundation” in providing care for women prisoners’ children, and with their fundraising activities. On this coming Friday, a live
concert, performed by women prisoners’ children, will be organized at the Pullman Bangkok King Power Hotel to showcase their talents.

On **women and education and training**, a ministerial regulation has been enforced allowing pregnant students to study until their graduation. Thailand also supports single mothers by providing special trainings to increase their capacity and skills. In addition, measures are in place to ensure that Thai students are geared for the 21st Century skills, and to mainstream the topics of family planning and financial planning into school or training curriculums.

Excellencies,

On **women and the economy**, the Women Development Fund has been established to help increase their access to finance. In addition, Thailand has voluntarily hosted the ASEAN Women Entrepreneur Network Conference for 2 years from 2018 to 2019, and will organize the third consecutive Conference in 2020.

On **violence against women and girls**, national campaigns are conducted to raise awareness and end all forms of violence. Moreover, the Social Assistance Centre has been established to provide 24 hours assistance for victims of violence.

Excellencies,

**Thirdly, on regional collaboration and partnerships**, I believe that there are existing forums and mechanisms at all levels to deal with the issue effectively.

**At the international and regional level**, we have the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), and UN Women. **At the ASEAN level**, we also have the ASEAN Commission on the
Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW).

On this note, let me reiterate that Thailand remains engaged and dedicated to work closely with our colleagues and friends from Asia and the Pacific to advance and accelerate our tasks to promote and protect women and girls, based on the mantra “with love, passion and collaboration, we can turn impossible dream into unforgettable reality”.

Thank you very much to attention.

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