

- Draft -
Statement
by
Ms. Pawinrat Mahaguna,
Counsellor
at the Thematic Discussion on Conventional Weapons
before the First Committee of the 80th Session
of the United Nations General Assembly
24 October 2025, New York

Chair,

1. Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by NAM and ASEAN.
2. The proliferation and irresponsible use of conventional weapons remain a primary driver of human suffering, protracting conflicts and undermining peace and security. **While States retain the inherent right to self-defence under the UN Charter, they bear the responsibility to uphold their obligations** under international law, international humanitarian law (IHL), and relevant arms control instruments, **and resolutely refrain from the use of inhumane weapons.**
3. In this context, Thailand wishes to highlight three points:
4. First, our commitment to **humanitarian principles** is reflected in our efforts under the **Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC)**. We have cleared more than 99.5 percent of mine-contaminated areas and continue to advance **Victim Assistance and Mine Risk Education** as part of our comprehensive mine action efforts. We call on all States Parties to maintain **full compliance** with their obligations and to strengthen international cooperation in humanitarian demining.
5. **Universalization** of the Convention is critical, which is why Thailand is a proud supporter of the **UNSG's Campaign on Humanitarian Disarmament and Mine Action**. Furthermore, our support for **the Political Declaration on Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas** is rooted in the unwavering conviction that the protection of civilians must be paramount in all our disarmament and arms control efforts.
6. Second, **Thailand welcomes the Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management** as a vital voluntary guide for States in managing ammunition stockpiles safely, securely, and sustainably, at all levels.

7. We also reaffirm our commitment to the full and effective implementation of the **POA on small arms and light weapons and International Tracing Instrument**, which are essential to prevent diversion and illicit flows. To bridge critical capacity gaps, we urge **international technical and financial assistance** to all states in need.

8. Third, **the development and use of emerging technologies** must be consistent with international law and humanitarian principles. The potential for indiscriminate effects and unpredictable consequences posed by **AI-enabled systems**, including **Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS)**, underscores the urgent need for **effective regulation and constructive and inclusive discussions** to meet this challenge head-on.

9. In conclusion, Thailand reaffirms our commitment to collaborate with all stakeholders in advancing peace and security through the effective control and management of conventional weapons.

Thank you.

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