



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

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Statement

by

Ms. Pawinrat Mahaguna,

Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations,

**at the Plenary of the 2026 Substantive Session
of the United Nations Disarmament Commission,**

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United Nations Headquarters, New York

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Chair,

1. Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and by the Philippines on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). I wish to make the following remarks in our national capacity.

2. At the outset, let me extend Thailand's sincere congratulations to you and the Bureau of the United Nations Disarmament Commission for your dedicated efforts in attempting to guide this body toward consensus. Despite the challenging environment, the Bureau has acted with utmost transparency and patience, and for that, you deserve our full appreciation and respect.

3. Thailand remains deeply committed to the work of the UNDC as the specialized, deliberative body within the disarmament machinery. The UNDC's role in generating substantive recommendations is indispensable, particularly in a geopolitical climate marked by the erosion of long-standing arms control frameworks, rising nuclear rhetoric, and deepening strategic mistrust.

4. We note with disappointment, Chair, that the Commission is unable to adopt its agenda, especially as we are now in the final year of the current three-year cycle (2024–2026). This effectively nullifies any prospect of producing consensus recommendations for the General Assembly.

5. On nuclear disarmament, the global landscape has grown more precarious. The expiration of the New START treaty — the last remaining bilateral arms control agreement between the United States and the Russian Federation — represents a significant setback to strategic stability. Thailand calls for the urgent negotiation of a verifiable and inclusive nuclear arms control framework to fill this vacuum; such a new arrangement should include all stakeholders. Furthermore, as we approach the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), it is imperative that States Parties demonstrate the political will to achieve a meaningful and successful outcome that strengthens all three pillars of the Treaty — non-proliferation, peaceful uses, and nuclear disarmament under Article VI — in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner.

6. Thailand underscores the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any nuclear weapon use. No state or international organisation possesses the capacity to adequately respond to a nuclear detonation. This reality must remain at the centre of all our disarmament deliberations. In this regard, Thailand recognises the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) as an important and complementary

instrument that reinforces the humanitarian imperative to eliminate nuclear weapons. We view the TPNW, the NPT, and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) as mutually reinforcing pillars of global disarmament and non-proliferation architecture. Thailand reiterates its call for the early entry into force of the CTBT and its universalisation, and we continue to uphold the moratorium on nuclear-test explosions.

7. While the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones and WMD-free zones is a positive step globally, we note that such zones are especially critical in regions where the risk of nuclear war remains high. Thailand reaffirms its strong support for the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty — the Bangkok Treaty. We continue to urge all nuclear-weapon States to accede to the Protocol of the Treaty without reservations, which would contribute significantly to strengthening the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and reinforcing the security of our region.

8. On emerging technologies, Thailand is alarmed by the rapid integration of artificial intelligence, autonomous weapons systems, and other emerging technologies into military doctrines. These developments risk lowering the threshold for conflict and creating new arms races without adequate legal or ethical guardrails. The application of new technologies in military domain must be in line with international law, including the UN Charter and international humanitarian law. We call for meaningful human control over the use of force in the context of emerging technologies. The UNDC is well positioned to begin formulating recommendations on risk reduction, transparency, and responsible behaviour. The inability to do so is a missed opportunity. Thailand looks forward to resuming discussions on this topic.

9. In closing, Thailand reiterates its full commitment to fulfilling our obligations under the relevant disarmament machinery. We call upon all delegations to demonstrate the political will and flexibility necessary to break the recurring procedural impasse. The UNDC must be strengthened to be able to fulfill its mandate and produce meaningful and substantive recommendations.

Thank you, Chair.

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