



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
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Statement

by

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**at the 16th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

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**Mr. President,
Excellencies,
CRPD Committee Members,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

1. On behalf of the Royal Thai Government together with Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, I have the honour to reiterate Thailand's firm commitment to the **full realisation and effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.**

2. Allow me to underscore three points:

3. First, Thailand has continued to place high importance on **harmonising national policies and strategies** with the CRPD, expanding opportunity and promoting equality while addressing remaining disparities in order to create a just society for all. We have also strived to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities in all aspects, including, among others, **accessibility, independent living and sustainable social inclusion.**

4. Second, in our endeavour to recover from the **COVID-19** pandemic over the past few years, Thailand has introduced additional policies and measures and upgrade its infrastructure aiming to promote a more effective and inclusive implementation of the amended **Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Act and the National Plan for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.** This is to ensure that the rights of all persons with disabilities are duly protected while also promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as eliminating remaining obstacles for persons with disabilities in having equal access to welfare and social facilities.

5. In this regard, we expanded a **Disabled ID Card** registration system and **Disability Service Centres, or One Stop Service Centres**, at local hospitals, as well as developed mobile medical services and digital service systems to allow persons with disabilities to have immediate access to urgent health care and public services. Thailand also introduced a project called “**Foster Family for Persons with Disabilities**”, which has provided financial support for foster families to assist persons with disabilities to live and integrate in their communities.

6. Third, Thailand promotes **vocational job opportunities** for persons with disabilities for both general employment and self-employment, as well as develops and supports social enterprises for persons with disabilities. This has been implemented with the strengthening of the employment laws and various vocational training projects. Since last year, the Royal Thai Government has organised **208 vocational training projects** for **24,515 persons** with disabilities and allocated vocational grants for **15,929 persons** with disabilities and their care takers in a total amount of over **23.10 million USD**.

Mr. President,

7. In conclusion, Thailand remains fully committed to further promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. By harmonising national legal and policy frameworks with CRPD, promoting its compliance through various international fora and cooperation, reaping the benefits of digital accessibility, and reaching those who might be left furthest behind, together, we will move closer towards a more inclusive society that truly embraces the full realisation of human potential. It is our hope that the rights of persons with disabilities will continue to be an important part of the UN’s continuing efforts to **leave no one behind**, as we seek to achieve

the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs** and
prepare for a sustainable future. Thank you.

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