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

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Statement

by Thailand on behalf of the Human Security Network

and in the national capacity

delivered by

Ms. Pornpimol Kanchanalak,

Advisor and Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

at the UNSC Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security

on 13 October 2015, UNSC Chamber,

UN Headquarters, New York



Building Bridges for Partnership
THAILAND

ASEAN Candidate for the UN Security Council 2017 – 2018

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It is an honour for Thailand to speak in the capacity as current chair of the Human Security Network, on behalf of Austria, Chile, Costa Rica, Greece, Ireland, Jordan, Mali, Norway, Panama, Switzerland, Slovenia, and South Africa as an observer and my own country, Thailand. I would like to thank Spain for organizing this important debate and all speakers for their valuable input into today's deliberations.

Since the adoption of resolution 1325 in 2000, the world has experienced rapid increase in conflicts, violent extremism, and humanitarian crises. Its effects have fallen heavily in distinct ways on women and children.

Women too often continue to remain unequally involved in peace, security, particularly in political and decision-making processes, and are also the target of sexual and gender based violence. Women, thus, have a great stake in peace processes and conflict prevention since they still suffer the most painful wounds of a conflict, whether or not they participate in them. The positive role women can play in such processes of conflict prevention and resolution is often ignored instead of utilized.

As a group of countries promoting human security, the Human Security Network would like to emphasize that women's security is essential for human security. The Network welcomes the efforts by the Secretary-General to request a Global Study on the implementation of resolution 1325 and looks forward to its conclusion and recommendations.

The Network calls upon member states, UN entities, regional and sub-regional organization to support member states in their efforts to implement resolution 1325. The Network also calls for greater efforts to promote and respect the human rights of both women and girls, as well as to strengthen the efforts that address gender-based violence through a people-centered approach. Specifically, this can be done by ensuring and implementing strategies that protect their integrity, and promoting women's representation at all decision-making levels and in mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict.

Effective measures and immediate actions should be taken to end impunity and to prosecute and punish those responsible for violation of human rights including crimes against women and girls in conflict.

We find it crucial to include a gender-responsive approach and dedicate efforts to provide lifesaving and non-discriminatory response services. Civil society, including grass-root women's organizations and networks play an important role in providing assistance to victims and survivors of sexual violence in conflict.

Women's empowerment and participation are essential to any prevention and protection response. As such, strategies for effective integration of gender perspective should be pursued to promote women's empowerment and participation.

The importance of women's participation in peace processes as well as peacekeeping operations has been underlined in Resolution 1325. We call for greater recognition and support for their participation in all stages of conflict resolution and post-conflict reconciliation processes so peace agreements can be reached and are more likely to last.

In my national capacity, allow me briefly to impress upon you a few important points.

Excellencies,

Much too often, we take the view of women and girls as victims of violence. But in fact they are effective agents of change contributing to peace processes at all stages, including in rebuilding their societies after conflict. This is already evident. Imagine if they are supported to do more. Imagine if they are given more opportunities to participate in processes that have a direct impact on them. As member states, we can help to give them this opportunity. Member states can do more to help women and girls make a real difference by promoting women's participation in peace processes in concrete terms. This also means investing in women's capacity to lead, mediate, and play a pivotal role in peace and security.

Excellencies,

The Thai government agencies involved have for the past few months, undergone a rigorous process of drafting, discussing, amending and presenting to the public at large, our National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. We have conducted one large public hearing thus far in the capital and will conduct a few more in the provinces, in order to ensure that our NAP is relevant, beneficial and gains the necessary local support and awareness for it to be effective. We hope that in just a few months' time, this draft will be able to undergo the final approval process and be duly launched.

In the meantime, another area we feel requires due attention is in data collection and in building a body of evidence to inform our good efforts in this regard. We hope that recommitting ourselves to this agenda on this 15th anniversary will bear fruit in this area as well.

I would also like to associate Thailand's statement with the statement of ASEAN to be delivered/delivered by Viet Nam.

I thank you, Mr. President.
