Statement

by

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before the First Session of the Preparatory Committee
for the 2015 Review Conference of the States Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Cluster 3 Specific issue – Peaceful uses of nuclear energy and other provisions of the Treaty

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Please check against delivery
Mr. Chairman,

1. First of all, Thailand would like to associate ourselves with the statement made by the distinguished delegate of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) States parties to the NPT.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Article IV of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty recognises the rights of States parties to peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference also recognises the importance of cooperation amongst States parties, as well as through the IAEA, to promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Thailand is of the view that it is crucial for peaceful uses of nuclear energy to be carried out in a sustainable, safe and secure manner.

3. Thailand is fully committed to the principles of safety, security and safeguards for the use of nuclear energy. We have long enjoyed close cooperation with the IAEA, particularly in the areas of public health, food and nutrition, industrial application, energy and water management – the last area was illustrated by our exhibition during the Scientific Forum, paralleled to the 55th IAEA General Conference in Vienna in 2011. After the recent severe flood, which significantly affected agricultural areas in Thailand, the Emergency Support to Thailand’s Flood Relief and Rehabilitation Efforts programme has been set up to improve agricultural and livestock production, as well as soil and water management through the application of nuclear techniques.
The programme has been carried out with the IAEA's emergency funding, with an aim towards advancing the agricultural industry in a sustainable manner.

Mr. Chairman,

4. In recent years, the global demand for the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes has been on the rise. Thailand is of the view that safe, secure and peaceful uses of nuclear energy can also be effectively promoted at the regional level. Thailand's proposal to establish a network amongst nuclear regulatory bodies in ASEAN, which has been welcomed by ASEAN Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit is a serious attempt to uphold the level of nuclear safety, security and safeguards in the region based on the IAEA standards and practices.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Although we have postponed our decision to embark the nuclear power plant programme for three years right after the Fukushima accident, we are currently working towards ensuring the maximum level of safety and security of the programme, once embarked, in accordance with the IAEA standards.

Mr. Chairman,

6. Thailand reiterates once again our commitment towards the global nuclear safety, security and safeguards regimes. We are currently working towards becoming a party to all relevant international legal instruments, as well as cooperating with our partners and the IAEA in order to safely and securely utilise nuclear energy for solely peaceful purposes.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.