



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

351 EAST 52nd STREET • NEW YORK, NY 10022

TEL (212) 754-2230 • FAX (212) 688-3029

Statement

by

RADM Nattapong Kettsumboon

**Representative of Thailand on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister of Defence of Thailand**

at

2019 United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial Conference

29 March 2019

The United Nations, New York

Please check against delivery

Mr. Chair, Ministers, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honored to be here on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of Thailand. I am even more pleased to update you all on the progress and successes thus far on implementing the pledges made by the Thai Prime Minister at the Leaders' Summit on Peacekeeping, held here in New York.

In 2015, Thailand pledged to contribute a developmental engineering unit, a field hospital, staff officers and our cooperation to provide training and capacity building for peacekeepers. Since then, it has been Thailand's earnest efforts and continued commitment to turn these pledges into concrete results through the UN Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System.

First, our newly deployed Horizontal Military Engineering Company has started its mandate in the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) since December 2018. In preparation for the second and subsequent rotation, we will continue to ensure that all Thai peacekeepers are properly prepared, trained and equipped to meet all challenges.

Second, Thailand recognizes the importance of immediate and proper medical attention to peacekeepers. Therefore, Thailand is pleased to inform you that our enabling capacities for a Level 2 Hospital has recently been elevated to Level 3 of the PCRS.

Third, ensuring peacekeepers meet international and UN standards before and during deployment is one of our priorities. In collaboration with the relevant agencies, Thailand continues to support the delivery of consistent and coherent training for all mandates. Recently, the United Nations Staff Officer's Course (UNSOC) conducted by Thailand's Peace Operations Center, was officially certified by the UN. The course is especially designed for not only Thai peacekeepers but also for peacekeepers in the region selected to be deployed in UN peacekeeping operations.

Distinguished Delegates,

Next month (April), Thailand hosts the Association of Asia-Pacific Peace Operations Training Centers (AAPTC). The meeting will be an opportunity to exchange views and strategic plans with all members of the AAPTC to promote innovation, capacity building and training collaboration in response to current operational environments and challenges. In July, we will also organize a regional training course on the issue of Children and Armed Conflict in collaboration with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

It is also Thailand's firm commitment to support the agendas that are crucial to the success of peacekeeping. The prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse remains an important emphasis and Thailand's pledged units will be equipped with situational awareness capability in support of the mission's efforts to protect those at risk. On the Women, Peace and Security initiative, Thailand has provided and will increase deployment opportunities for female personnel. Currently, there are a number of talented female peacekeeping-instructors in Thailand. We will continue to explore opportunities to support other Police/Troop Contributing Countries with their training capacities.

To conclude, let me assure you of Thailand's commitment to support the cause of peace and peacekeeping operations. We will continue to adapt and enhance our roles and capacities to suit current developments in peacekeeping and field requirements. Thank you.

* * * * *