



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

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Statement

Delivered by

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Youth Delegates of Thailand**

**before the Third Committee of the 79th Session of the United Nations
General Assembly
Agenda Item 24 (a, b, c): Social Development**

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Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,
Fellow Youth Delegates,

1. Thailand aligns with the statement by Uganda on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and the statement by Vietnam on behalf of ASEAN.

2. It is an honour for us to speak as youth delegates, representing the voices of youth in Thailand to create a better world for current and future generations.

3. We fully support the United Nations' commitment to meaningful youth engagement, and welcome the visit to Thailand by the Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs in March this year. We hope that the United Nations Youth Office will continue to inspire young people around the world.

4. The Summit of the Future was an important inflection point, where we realised that “business-as-usual” is no longer enough, and youth, as imminent leaders, change-makers, and influencers, are no longer “bystander” but key actors to our joint effort toward a sustainable future.

5. To this end, we believe that 3 areas are of crucial importance.

6. First, *engaging youth on Climate Action*

7. The impact from climate change is global, multi-faceted, and affected all generations. As one of ten countries most vulnerable to future climate change impacts, Thailand has witnessed first-hand the impact from rising temperatures, and severe droughts and floods in recent years.

8. With more than 1.2 billion youth all around the world, youth-led initiatives hold immense potential – we should **promote** youth

participation, **amplify** their voices, and **invest** in their potential to address climate change.

9. In Thailand, we have had numbers of youth-focused initiatives at all levels: (i) at **local level**, we have launched the ‘Active Learning on Biodiversity and Climate Change Handbook’ with UNICEF to help children learn about addressing climate change at home; (ii) at **regional level**, we have organized the “Green Talent Generation Hackathon” to allow Southeast Asian youth to collaborate their knowledge and innovative solutions on renewable energy, air pollution, and waste management; and (iii) at **international level**, we will have youth representatives joining COP29 in Azerbaijan in November.

10. My colleague will now continue with our statement.

11. Second, *Localising SDGs*.

12. Today’s development challenges are unique to each region and thus require cooperation from local actors. It is imperative to **localize the SDGs to ensure context-based and inclusive policy-making**.

13. In Thailand, local government and NGOs are working to support youth innovations, activities, and learning spaces through **Children and Youth Councils** across the country.

14. Together with my friends, I have established a youth-led organization called ‘**YoungRise Thailand**’, with support from UNICEF, to promote youth advocacy and connect youth advocates, particularly from rural areas and vulnerable groups, on issues such as social equity, education access, and policy participation.

15. Third, *Bridging youth collaborations*

16. **Collaboration between youth networks and sectors of society** are necessary to amplify their voice and turn ideas into action.

17. As digital natives, we – the youth – recognise the advantages of online platform which help promote collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and mobilisation of youth and hope governments will continue to promote online platforms as venue for collaboration with youth.

18. This year, Thai universities with Model UN are utilizing online platform to work together as **Thailand Model UN Network**, to exchange knowledge and ideas on how to achieve the SDGs. We also established **UN Youth Delegate Association of Thailand** earlier this year to connect former youth delegates with an aim to empower Thai youth and expand youth participation in UN issues.

19. But more must be done. It is crucial to connect youth groups at national and international levels to **ensure youth voices are adequately represented and fully contribute to social advancement.**

20. We believe that millions of small threads of youth voices can be weaved into a strong tapestry of cooperation, and together, we will **bridge** different forces to make a resilient future that we can all be proud of.

21. Thank you.
