

THAILAND

The 30th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Agenda 3: General Debate

Statement Delivered by

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Mr. Chair,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. It is an honour and pleasure for me to represent Thailand in joining the 30th CCPCJ today. Please allow me to congratulate you, Mr. Chair, on your election to preside over this session.
2. The unrelenting spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed unprecedented challenges to the crime prevention and criminal justice system, and also to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. **First**, in Thailand's draft resolution entitled *Advancing the Criminal Justice System Reform amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic*, Thailand recommends the Member States to review the criminal justice system in overall, recognizing that the COVID-19 is an unprecedented health risk to prisons and detention facilities. Accordingly, we strongly commit to continue an implementation of the Nelson Mandela Rules and the Bangkok Rules to improve detention conditions. Additionally, we request the UNODC to further study on the impact of the COVID-19 or other serious health-related issues on criminal justice system with an emphasis on future preparedness.
4. **Second**, Thailand recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the youth, The hardships faced during the COVID-19 crisis are the risk factors associated with crime, violence, and drug use. It is the responsibility of the criminal justice system to offer appropriate response to that regard. Through our second draft resolution entitled *Integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies*, we encourages the Member States to integrate sport-based interventions into crime prevention and criminal justice strategies and programmes.

5. **Third**, referring to the thematic discussion of this session, the COVID-19 also has a profound impact on organized criminal groups, including migrant smuggling network. The economic impact of the pandemic has encompassed rising unemployment, and increasing debt and loss of livelihood. Bearing in mind the travel restrictions between international borders, however, it could not prevent people from fleeing conflict, violence, dangerous, and inhumane conditions. Under these circumstances, we should protect migrants' rights, taking into consideration the special needs of vulnerable groups, especially women and children. In this regard, ensuring fair, equitable, and widespread provision of the COVID-19 vaccine for all in a society is pressing and necessary.

6. On my last note, Thailand stays affirmed in supporting the roles of the Commission in fostering accountable, responsive, and inclusive criminal justice system. This is not the work that the Commission can do solely but rather through concerted efforts at all level.

7. Lastly, I wish this Commission a successful and fruitful deliberations.

Thank you.