



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

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Statement

by

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**at the 17th Conference of the State Parties to the Convention on the Rights
of Persons with Disabilities**

New York, 11 – 13 June 2024

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Mr. President,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, and the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, it is my great pleasure to deliver a statement at the 17th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

2. For over three decades, Thailand has been committed to the care and development of persons with disabilities, changing from rehabilitation to empowerment, enhancing their quality of life by fostering collaboration with all of the stakeholders, including persons with disabilities themselves and their representative organisations, to ensure that they have access to the rights and welfare from the state fairly and equally.

3. We have developed a disability registration system through One Stop Service Centers, engaging families in caring for persons with disabilities through a project called **“Foster Family for Persons with Disabilities”** as an alternative to the care provided by welfare institutions. Local administrative organizations and Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) have also established community and local general disability service centers.

4. Moreover, educational institutions have also developed vocational skill training courses for persons with disabilities and their families, leading to an increase in employment in business enterprises, with over 90% of business enterprises quota fulfilled and we expect to achieve at least 60% of persons with disabilities employment target for state agencies in 2024.

5. Moreover, we provide assistive devices and facilities, auxiliary aids, and personal assistants for persons with disabilities with an aim to not leave any persons with disabilities in the society behind.

6. Our ultimate goal is for persons with disabilities to live an independent, dignified life, and capable of taking care of themselves and their families, and contributing meaningfully to society.

7. In conclusion, Thailand remains fully committed to promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities, as we seek to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs, as well as prepare for the discussion of the Summit of the Future. Thank you.

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