

## **Suggested Talking Points**

### **“Sustaining peace as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development”**

- Thailand supports the commitment to forge stronger linkages between peace, security and sustainable development, which we believe are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.
- We continue to look for ways to strengthen our commitments to make 2017, in the words of the UNSG Antonio Guterres, a ‘year of peace’, especially through the implementation process of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We believe they are an important tool for achieving sustainable peace as well as sustaining peace.
- Thailand gives importance to conflict prevention through peacekeeping operations, emphasizing the need for sustainable development in order to prevent all conflicts at root causes. The concept of sustaining peace is thus supported fully. Within the scope of peacekeeping operations, Thailand’s peacekeepers have helped enhance capacity-building of the people in the conflict areas so that they can become self-reliant at post conflicts and it would also prevent recurrence of the conflicts. Ever since 1958, Thailand has sent out more than 27,000 troops over 20 UN Peacekeeping Operations. Among the notable missions are in Timor-Leste and Darfur, where Thailand has sent troops to help support local people in order for them to be able to stand on their feet afterwards. Thailand also supports greater participation of women in peacebuilding. We believe that in achieving peaceful and inclusive society, women’s engagement is highly crucial too.
- On our part, Thailand’s successful national development policy and models have been guided by the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) of His Majesty the late King Rama IX, which support the realization of the SDGs in our country. The SEP emphasizes a people-centered and balanced approach to achieve sustainable economic development. We have promoted the exchange of knowledge and best practices on SEP for other Member States through scholarships, site visits, and development projects, and stand ready to share experiences and collaborate with Uruguay in this regard.
- In addition, the National Legislative Assembly (NLA) of Thailand has passed two groundbreaking laws earlier this year – the National Strategy Act and the National Reform Plans Act – both of which become into force this July. These two laws have highlighted the interlinkage between sustainable development and national security as one aspect of the 20-year national strategic plan. The legal instruments would also task the government and all public agencies with their works toward sustainable development and sustaining peace in their respective strategic plans. In this regard, Thailand stands firm to advance this agenda for the years to come.