

Statement by Miss Patcharee Poompachati,
Deputy Director General of the Department of American and South Pacific
Affairs and Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand,
at the 30th Post-Forum Dialogue (PFD) Partners' Plenary Session
4 September 2018, Yaren, Nauru

The Honorable Baron Divavesi Waqa, President and Minister of Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Nauru,

Dame Meg Taylor, Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum,
Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Nauru for the warm hospitality extended to the Thai delegation as well as your leadership as Chair of this year's Pacific Islands Forum (PIF). In addition, I wish to thank the PIF Secretariat for inviting Thailand to participate in the 30th Post-Forum Dialogue of PIF.

Excellencies,

This year's **theme** "*Building a Strong Pacific – Our People, Our Islands, Our will – our security through sustainable development, management and conservation*" is indeed timely. In a world of rapid geopolitical and technological changes, we all share the goal of providing peace, prosperity, stability and security for our people. The issues facing the Pacific, including climate change, environmental degradation, food security, and sustainable development are also high priorities for Thailand. We commend the leadership of the Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) for making these issues front and centre, especially on climate change, which in turn led to the realization of the Paris Agreement.

Thailand and the Pacific Island Countries (PICs) enjoy friendly relations. Thailand has provided technical cooperation for PIC since 1995 and we've been a strong partner in PIF since 2004. Over the years, our technical cooperation, both in bilateral and multilateral frameworks has expanded in many areas. Thailand announced the Three Year

Development Partnership Programme (2015-2017) between Thailand and the Pacific Island Countries in 11 sectors. In reiterating our commitment to supporting the Pacific region as they build capacity to benefit from sustainable development through technical cooperation, we wish to announce the second Three Year Development Partnership Programme (2019-2021), which will cover 5 sectors: 1) Climate Change Mitigation and Environment Protection; 2) Fisheries, Aquaculture, and Management of Marine Resources; 3) Sustainable Community Development based on the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy of the late His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej; 4) Sustainable Tourism and Eco-Tourism; and 5) Agriculture. We welcome further discussions with our partners in the Pacific region, as well as your input, on this matter as our aim is to ensure that these programmes will be of maximum benefit. At the same time, we will continue to offer short-term and long-term training courses on an annual basis.

Excellencies,

As a middle-income country and responsible member of the international community, Thailand is committed to sustainable development and as such is working to achieve low carbon emission and a climate resilient society consistent with our national strategy. As the world is gearing towards the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda and the Paris Agreement, it is evident that the realization of the SDGs requires cooperation among all, and by all. In this context, we recognize the importance of global actions and commitment to take further steps in implementing conservation measures and Thailand is doing its part, for example, it has:

1) Established the 20-Year Pollution management Strategy, Pollution Management Plan 2017 – 2021, and Master Plan on Waste Management 2016 – 2021

2) Announced the Energy 4.0 initiative, committing ourselves to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20-25% within 2030 while at the same time set a renewable energy target 30% of total consumption. We've also created an Integrated Energy Blueprint, which is the first long-term energy master plan aimed towards stability, prosperity and sustainability in energy.

3) In terms of food security, we realize the importance of Food, Water, and Energy Nexus as a holistic approach to address food security and achieve sustainable agriculture through a more coordinated and integrated management of natural resources across those three sectors. Also, as one of the world's leading exporters of seafood, Thailand gives utmost priority to food quality and standard. We recognize that the

sustainable fishing industry can strengthen global food security thus we are doing our utmost to comprehensively eliminating IUU fishing.

Excellencies,

Thailand believes that sustainable development can only be achieved when all countries, both developed and developing, North and South, come together and leave no one behind. We will continue to work closely with our partners in various forums, including the Pacific Island Countries, to address issues of common interests and concerns. Thus, I wish to reaffirm our committed to share our experiences and strengthen cooperation with our friends in the Pacific region and the global community to overcome our common challenges. Thank you.
