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**Mr./Madam President,
Distinguished delegates,
My esteemed colleagues,**

1. Today, we meet at a time of multiple global challenges, including geopolitical tensions, humanitarian crises in many regions and declining sustainability of our planet. The IPU was founded almost 135 years ago in the quest for peace and now more than ever, the world needs parliamentary diplomacy as a vital part of the solutions to complement and support the governments' undertakings. Thailand has always pursued parliamentary diplomacy, and now it is time to strengthen this role given the current state of global affairs.

2. Throughout 77 years of our membership in the United Nations, Thailand has consistently played a proactive and constructive role, adhering to our international obligations, abiding by international law, and respecting the principles of the UN Charter. I am also proud that, building on 74 years of our past track record in the IPU, the Thai Parliament has been a responsible and reliable member that contributes positively to this inter-parliamentary community.

3. The Parliament of Thailand has been reaching out to friends and partners all around the world to forge closer ties of cooperation through parliamentary diplomacy. On the bilateral front, high-level exchange of visits of parliamentary delegations between Thailand and many countries has become the norm for decades. Over 35 Parliamentary Friendship Groups have also been productively engaging, through parliamentary dialogue, with their counterparts. Apart from that, many bilateral MOUs have been signed in goodwill between the Thai parliament and our friends from across the world to strengthen partnership and understanding.

4. Beyond the IPU, Thailand continues to put a lot of faith in the multilateral system, especially the regional body, namely **AIPA** which works hand-in-hand with **ASEAN**, to maintain its important role in consolidating peace and stability in the region, while tackling new challenges, ranging from peace endeavours for Myanmar to transboundary haze pollution and marine debris. With regard to global

governance, Thailand is behind the IPU's lead in promoting more meaningful involvement of national parliaments in the UN processes to address contemporary global crises, both natural and man-made. We also welcome closer partnerships between the IPU and other regional organizations as a critical building block for more effective multilateralism.

Mr./Madam President,

5. I wish to emphasize the need for the international community to restore trust and confidence in the multilateral system and work closely on the issues of mutual interest, which includes providing humanitarian assistance to countries in need and the promotion of human rights for all. To this end, the Parliament of Thailand expresses its full support to our candidature for the **UN Human Rights Council** membership for the term 2025 - 2027. This reaffirms our sincere commitment to addressing pressing human rights challenges of our time, both at home and abroad.

6. On this note, I am delighted to announce that Thailand will co-host a "**Regional Conference on Global Health Security**" for the Asia-Pacific region in collaboration with the IPU during this coming November in Bangkok. We do hope that this regional event will not only be a great opportunity to showcase Thailand's resilient healthcare system, but also to mobilize parliamentary cooperation to strengthen regional health architecture in the post-COVID world.

7. To conclude, the National Assembly of Thailand remains steadfast in giving our full support to enhance the IPU's role as a platform for leveraging parliamentary diplomacy to promote global peace and prosperity. We must redouble our efforts to ensure that the IPU continues to be the best representation of our global parliamentary community and solidarity. Thailand stands ready to do its part to further strengthening the multilateral system and cooperation under the framework of the IPU with all stakeholders and partners to translate global commitments into realities at the national and local levels for the benefits of the people.

Thank you, Mr./Madam President.