

33RD Human Rights Council session
23 September 2016, 10:00
ITEM 6- UPR Outcome
Thailand
Statement by International Lesbian and Gay Association

Delivered by Zhan Chiam

Mr. President,

This statement has been developed in consultation with Thailand LGBTI Rights CSOs that work on the subject of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristic as well as the promotion of human rights for the LGBTI community.

With the suspension of the 2007 Constitution, the provisions to provide protection for LGBTI individuals has been terminated. Therefore, Thailand should ensure that the implementation of the new Constitution with safeguards against discriminations based on gender identity and expression, sexual orientation and sex characteristics be applied. The government should also allow LGBTI individuals to participate in the development of legislation and policies to protect the rights of LGBTI persons, including protection against abuse and discrimination in educational institutions, the right to be recognized as a transgender person, and recognition of same-sex marriage.

During the 25th UPR session, Thailand accepted recommendations relating to SOGIESC. It especially accepted the recommendations made by Mexico that aimed to protect LGBTI women, and the recommendations made by South Africa and Spain that aimed to prevent discrimination in all cases. We believe that this should also include LGBTI persons. We urge the Thai government to take action and implement such recommendations.

We would also like the government to implement the following actions that will protect the LGBTI community:

- Raise public awareness and recognize sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics rights under the Constitution to protect and uphold equality and dignity for LGBTI persons.
- Enact legislation on family rights for all by ensuring adequate public participation in the drafting process of laws in order to be inclusive of LGBTI persons.
- Amend laws that discriminate against LGBTI individuals and that are not in line with international human rights standards
- Enact legislation to ensure gender recognition and create gender sensitivity within all contexts and segments of society.
- Enact an anti-discrimination law and a monitoring body specifically for employment discrimination, and penalize perpetrators of such violations.
- Develop and enforce clear anti-bullying policies covering students of all genders, emphasizing management of bullying perpetrators in a manner involving no discrimination on the basis of the sex, sexual orientation or gender expression of either perpetrators or victims.

The Thailand LGBTI rights CSOs stands ready to work with the government to implement all the recommendations.

Thank you, Mr. President