Statement by
Mr. Pornsith Pibulnakarintr
First Secretary
Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations

at the Second Committee
of the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

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Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Thailand wishes to align itself with the statement of the distinguished representative of Fiji on behalf of the G-77 and China and the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of Vietnam on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Mr. Chairman,

With the MDGs deadline approaching in 2015, the international community should mobilize all-out efforts to achieve the final realization of the MDGs. At the same time, we are working on a post-2015 development framework to respond to increasingly prominent global challenges ranging from poverty, climate change, loss of biodiversity to healthcare and natural disasters. The financing needed to meet these challenges will be significant. Therefore, a coherent, effective and efficient UN Development System will be essential for the achievement of these priorities and delivery of results on the ground.

Thailand welcomes the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing in June 2013. We believe that the report from the committee will provide practical strategies to facilitate the mobilization of resources and effective use of financing. These much needed strategies will give strong support to developing countries in their efforts to take actions towards sustainable development.

Thailand is deeply concerned about the decline in official development assistance (ODA) which hinder efforts of developing countries, including conflict and post-conflict societies, as well as those of the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in overcoming their development challenges.

Thailand supports the enhancement of global partnership, encompassing all stakeholders, in order to expedite the mobilization of all kinds of financial resources required to facilitate developing countries in achieving their sustainable development objectives and in advancing the UN development agenda beyond 2015.

Thailand appreciates the Secretary-General’s continuous efforts to strengthen the coverage, timeliness, reliability, quality and comparability of system-wide data, including with regard to definitions and classifications, for financial reporting on operational activities for development.

In this connection, the international community must continue to cooperate to further improve policies and development strategies, both nationally and internationally. Aid effectiveness need to be increased through increased efficacy of ODA in achieving economic development according to the needs of the recipient nations.

My delegation wishes to emphasize that the operational activities for development must respond to the development needs, national policy and priorities of the host countries. There is no “one-size-fits-all” solution for development. Only customized development programmes addressing the specific needs and circumstances of each country will deliver the best outcomes and have the desired impact on the ground.
Mr. Chairman,

In the area of South-South and Triangular cooperation, Thailand urges the UN Office for South-South Cooperation to take the lead in coordinating such cooperation programmes among UN agencies in order to synergize inter-agency efforts and make the full use of resources more efficiently. Greater coordination among UN Country Teams, UN Resident Coordinators and Regional Commissions is also needed to bring about a more coherent and efficient cooperation for development.

On our part, Thailand is committed to intensify South-South and Triangular Cooperation. The Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) has been extending technical cooperation under various frameworks at the bilateral, sub-regional, regional, trilateral, and multilateral levels to other developing countries especially our neighboring countries. We are ready to share our knowledge, experiences and expertise in areas that respond to the global issues such as climate change, food security, agriculture, health, education and infrastructure.

Recently, Thailand launched the Thai-Africa Initiative to strengthen the long standing partnership between Thailand and African countries. We intend to move this initiative towards creating a long-term linkage between Asia and Africa.

Mr. Chairman,

Although our development path may be difficult and challenging at this time, Thailand is committed to working closely with the international community and the UN to address these challenges that lie ahead and forge ahead into the post-2015 development era.

Thank you.