



Statement

by

H.E. Mr. Chuti Krairiksh

Minister of Social Development and Human Security

at the Interactive Dialogue of  
the 10<sup>th</sup> Economic and Social Council Youth Forum  
7 - 8 April 2021

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United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Royal Thai Government and the people of Thailand, I would like to extend my appreciation to the Economic and Social Council for continuing to provide a platform for young people. It is essential that young people can make meaningful contributions towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through their ideas, solutions and innovations.

This year, we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ECOSOC Youth Forum at a time when the world is witnessing unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, cooperation from all the sectors in the society, especially young people, is even more crucial.

Since the early stages of the pandemic, the Royal Thai Government has been working closely with multiple stakeholders, including youth volunteers, to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are addressed in our response to the emergency.

Thai youth, many of whom possess significant digital and technical skills, have played an important role in volunteering in their community to help people access social welfare assistance and protection. Many young people have also actively engaged in policy dialogues. In so doing, they are leveraging frameworks on poverty eradication as well as the promotion and expansion of social safety net for people in their communities.

As Thailand will be presenting our second Voluntary National Review to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development this year, we seek to highlight feedback and inputs from youth in our report. We wish to utilise the consultation process to further engage youth in the implementation of the SDGs.

Thailand will continue to invest in youth to ensure that we achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. I wish you all a very successful Forum, and success in your future undertakings.

Thank you.

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285 words (approximately 2.5 mins at 114 words/min)