

# PHILIPPINES

THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT AND GOOD MORNING TO YOU.

AS THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE ARE TAKING THE FLOOR, MY DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR COLLEAGUES IN CONGRATULATING YOU FOR YOUR ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF THE 9TH MSP AND IN EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE MILED FOR HIS ABLE LEADERSHIP OF THE 8TH MSP.

MR. PRESIDENT, OUR DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS ITS SATISFACTION OVER THE REPORT JUST DELIVERED BY GEN. TUM RONGSAK IN SUPPORT OF THAILAND'S REQUEST FOR EXTENSION. AS FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN), OUR TWO NATIONS' DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENTS WORK IN CLOSE PARTNERSHIP. WE ARE THUS AWARE OF THE GREAT CHALLENGES REMAINING IN THAILAND'S EARNEST CAMPAIGN TO RID ITS TERRITORY OF THE SCOURGE OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES.

WE WOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO ENDORSE THAILAND'S EXTENSION REQUEST AND CALL ON THE GLOBAL ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE COMMUNITY TO FURTHER SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE THAILAND'S MINE ACTION EFFORTS.

AND THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT.

LT. COL LEONIDAS L. HIDALGO (CAU) PA

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