Intervention by Thailand on the Model of Financing the Implementation of Support Unit Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention Monday, 20 June 2011

Co-chairs,
Distinguished delegates,

Since this is the first time Thailand takes the floor, I, on behalf of the Thai delegation, would like to express our appreciation to you and your team for the excellent work to make this Meeting of Standing Committees possible and beneficial to all states parties, states not party as well as all interested organizations. I would also like to assure you that Thailand will do our utmost to ensure the success of this meeting. As always, Thailand commends the ISU team for its tireless efforts and dedicated work under the leading role of its Director, Mr. Kerry Brinkert.

Our appreciation also goes to all members of the Open-Ended Working Group who have been working very hard towards an acceptable model of financing the ISU as tasked by the 10th Meeting of States Parties here in Geneva last December.

Co-chairs,

Thailand takes the issue of financing the ISU seriously since we have recognized and greatly valued the important role of the ISU in providing advice and assistance to all states parties in fulfilling their obligations under the Convention. Last year, Thailand has financially contributed to the ISU reflecting our appreciation for the excellent services the ISU has provided.

Thailand views that the assessed contribution is a baseline model that could help improve the ISU's financial situation. Configurations regarding how to use this model will need to be worked out. Overall, the assessed contribution approach will be expected to provide a more predictable, manageable and sustainable budgetary system ideal for budget planning for both the ISU and the states parties themselves.

However, Thailand totally understands that each state party has different financial circumstances and constraints. Thailand is therefore flexible and open to all recommendations that would help us reach an agreeable and sustainable solution to overcome the ISU's financial difficulties. We encourage other state parties to take part in the discussion of this crucial issue and hope that we could endorse the new ISU's financing model at the 11MSP later this year.