

**Intervention by H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi,
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
Technical Briefing on the OHCHR Report 2013
3 July 2014**

- Thank you, Chair.
- I wish first to thank the Deputy High Commissioner and, through her, the High Commissioner and her Office for presenting us with the comprehensive OHCHR Report 2013.
- We welcome her explanation about the balance of work between civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights, which is very important.
- Having considered the Report in detail, I wish to commend the Office for its continued efforts to improve its organizational efficiency and effectiveness, particularly through the development of the Performance Monitoring System, the Global Management Outputs, and its function review process. These improvements have helped the Office to fulfill its mandate and respond to the increasing demands placed upon it, despite the financial constraints faced.
- Here, my delegation wishes to reiterate once again our call for the Office to be allocated more resources from the UN regular budget. The increasing number of mandates, strategic priorities and work programmes of the OHCHR mean that more funding is required for the Office to function effectively. We also believe that most of the funding should come from the UN regular budget, rather than relying upon on voluntary contributions, so as to ensure predictability of funding, particularly for multi-year programmes.
- In terms of its work, we welcome the allocation of extra budget to respond to emergency situations and invest in communication and outreach activities. Nevertheless, while the Office has emphasized the need for increased field presence and work on the ground, we note the decrease of OHCHR expenditures devoted to fieldwork from 52% to 45.7%. We therefore hope that the budget allocated would continue to support effective field presence, which we believe is the best way to make a difference to the lives of people on the ground.

- We also attach great importance to technical cooperation and capacity building. Here, we note that during the biennium 2012-13, the Office has increased its regular budget allotment and expenditure for advisory services and technical cooperation in response to the many requests received which has helped member states meet their human rights obligations. We therefore hope that the Office will continue to prioritize this area of work at the request of member states.
- Lastly, I wish to conclude by expressing our appreciation, through you, to the High Commissioner for her efforts to promote and protect human rights over the past six years. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.
- Thank you.