

Mr. Chair,

1. Thailand wishes to provide our preliminary comments on the designated Cluster III of the Report of the International Law Commission, comprising Chapter VII ‘Succession of States in respect of State responsibility’ and Chapter VIII ‘General principles of law’.

Chapter VII Succession of States in respect of State responsibility

2. First, on the topic ‘Succession of States in respect of State responsibility’, Thailand **commends the Special Rapporteur,** () **for his fifth report** and devotion to this topic. We take note of the Commission’s decision to **change the form of the outcome of its work from draft articles to draft guidelines** as well as its **provisional adoption of 11 draft guidelines** (6, 7 *bis*, 10, 10 *bis*, 11, 12, 13, 13 *bis*, 14, 15 and 15 *bis*), together with commentaries thereto.

3. Second, Thailand is of the view that **evidence of State practice** on this particular topic **has yet to be sufficiently established**. In this regard, it would be useful to **indicate clearly which draft guidelines are based on State practice and which reflect progressive development of international law**.

Chapter VIII General principles of law

4. Third, turning to ‘General Principles of Law’, Thailand has followed the progress on this topic with great interest, given the importance of general principles of law as a source of international law as indicated in Article 38 paragraph 1 (c) of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and its function in avoiding situations of *non liquet*. Thailand therefore **welcomes the third report**

6. Fifth,