



No. 52101/ 1403

PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
GENEVA

5 July 2011

Dear Mr. Sarkin and Ms. Sekaggya,

I wish to refer to your communication dated 16 February 2011 informing the Royal Thai Government concerning the situation of Ms. Angkhana Neelaphaijit. The communication has been forwarded to the authorities concerned in Thailand.

I wish to take this opportunity to reaffirm that the Royal Thai Government attaches importance to promoting and protecting the rights of human rights defenders. Regarding the case of Ms. Neelaphaijit, the Government has always provided her with protection in response to her safety concerns. The relevant authorities also stand ready to offer any necessary protection measures to ensure her safety in accordance with our laws and Constitution. In fact, the concerns regarding the safety of Ms. Neelaphaijit, which were raised earlier by the relevant Special Procedures, were promptly and duly investigated, according to the clarifications in the letters of the Permanent Mission dated 2nd April 2008 as well as 5th and 15th February 2010.

Mr. Jeremy Sarkin,
Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary
Disappearances,
Ms. Margaret Sekaggya,
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders,
Special Procedures Branch,
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights,
Palais des Nations,
GENEVA.

OHCHR REGISTRY

7 - JUL 2011

Fax: 022 917 9006

Recipients :.....SPD.....

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Although the alleged threatening phone calls as indicated in this particular communication may coincide with ongoing legal proceedings involving Ms. Neelaphaijit's husband and with her roles as a human rights defender, it would be presumptuous to draw any conclusion at this stage, especially before the authorities concerned have completed all relevant investigations.

Furthermore, I wish to reassure you that the Royal Thai Government does not condone any acts which would constitute enforced or involuntary disappearances. The Government takes all allegations regarding the cases of enforced or involuntary disappearances seriously, including the case of Mr. Neelaphaijit, and is determined to carefully follow-up on these allegations until justice is served.

Lastly, the Royal Thai Government remains committed to working with both the Working Group and the Special Rapporteur and will convey any further information as soon as it is received.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sek Wannamethee', with a stylized flourish at the end.

(Sek WANNAMETHEE)
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.