Thailand Written Statement on
Agenda 34.1 Progress Report – D: Eradication of dracunculiasis
(resolution WHA64.16 (2011))

Thailand appreciates the report by the Director-General on the eradication of dracunculiasis. We note that number of reported cases are declining and had reduced by 50% from the previous year.

We commend the determination of the countries that are eradicating the disease and appreciates the WHO and its global partners in their supports. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, those countries maintained key activities such as surveillance, active case searches, and strengthen national surveillance. These result in an excellent outcome of neither human cases nor infected animals were found in either country. This reflects health systems commitment and capacities of those countries on the eradication of dracunculiasis.

Thailand emphasizes the importance of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) as critical fundamental in preventing this disease. Safe WASH also contributes to livelihoods and helps to create resilient communities living in healthy environments.

With the effort in disease surveillance, maintaining safe WASH, as well as the control of dracunculiasis in animals, Thailand hopes to see the disease being eradicated from the world in the years to come.