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**Joint Statement of Leaders**

**of the 5 major Religious Traditions in Thailand**

**With Approval of the Interreligious Dialogue Sector**

**Department of Religious Affairs – Ministry of Culture**

**Presented to**

**H.E. Mr. Ambassador of the Republic of France to Thailand**

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Concerning the terrorist attacks in the French capital, Paris, that took place during the night of 13 November last, causing the death of many innocent people and injuring many others, the leaders of the five major religious traditions in Thailand, namely Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Bahaman-Hinduism and Sikhism, wish to express their deep condolences to the people of France during this time of mourning. According to our own religious traditions, we join in prayer for the dead, the injured, and the families affected by this tragedy. May the Merciful Almighty grant the victims eternal rest and offer consolation and hope to the injured and their families.

Our march for peace today is a symbol of the unity of the five major religious traditions in Thailand. Together we implore the Almighty above to inspire and strengthen us for the building of peace. Violence resolves nothing, and we vigorously condemn every act of violence perpetrated in the name of religion. We invite all to join hands with us to build a sustainable peace through justice, solidarity, and non-discrimination with regard to nationality, religion, and caste or color. May everyone be steadfast, persevering and self-dedicating in building peace in the world and in our beloved Nation!

*Religious Leaders – Commission of Interreligious Dialogue in Thailand*

Bangkok, 19 November 2015