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## The President of Sri Lanka Amarapura Maha Sanga Sabha Most Ven. Karagoda Uyangoda Maithri Moorthi Mahanayaka Thero

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Hon President & Council of Members

International Council for Day of Vesak

International Association of Buddhist Universities

Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University,

Thailand

Dear Esteemed Members of the International Association of Buddhist Universities,

## <u>Subject: Felicitation on the occasion of Vesak Day at the International Council for Day of Vesak</u>

It is with great honour and reverence that I write this message to you, the Esteemed Members of the International Association of Buddhist Universities,today on this momentous occasion of Vesak Day, a sacred observance recognised internationally for its profound significance to millions around the world. By resolution 54/115 of 1999 of the United Nations, this esteemed Assembly rightfully acknowledged the immense contributions of Buddhism to our shared humanity.

I wish to extend my heartfelt felicitations to all nations and peoples observing this auspicious day, commemorating the birth, enlightenment, and passing away of Lord Buddha. The principles of Buddhism, promoting peace, compassion, and wisdom,

resonate deeply with the universal aspirations for harmony and understanding among all nations and cultures.

This observance is a testament to the vision and dedication of the late Hon. Lakshman Kadirgamar, the former Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka, whose noble proposal paved the way for Vesak Day to be recognized as an International Observance Day. His efforts exemplified the spirit of dialogue and mutual respect that the United Nations embodies.

As we gather in unity and reflection, let us reaffirm our commitment to the values of tolerance, non-violence, and respect for all life. May the teachings of Lord Buddha continue to inspire us in our collective pursuit of global peace and sustainable development.

In closing, May I express my deepest gratitude to The Supreme Sangha Council of Thailand, The International Association of Buddhist Universities, The Government of the Royal Kingdom of Thailand and the United Nations General Assembly for their ongoing support of Vesak Day and its role in promoting interfaith harmony and mutual understanding worldwide.

May I also Wish His Majesty, King Maha Varjiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua on his 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday blest with health & happiness for many more years to come.

May Vesak Day inspires us all to strive for a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world for present and future generations.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Most Ven Karagoda Uyangoda Maithri Moorthy Mahanayaka Thera

President - Sri Lanka Amarapura Sangha Council

2024.05.11

Karagoda Uyangoda Maithri Moorthi Mahanayaka Thero The President of Sri Lanka Amarapura Maha Sanga Sabha Sri Dharmananda Piriven Viharaya, Miriswatta, Balangoda, Sri Lanka.