

SEAMEO RIHED Bulletin



ISSN 0859-9084/ January 2007

Message from Centre Director



First of all, I would like to say “Best Wishes and A Happy New Year” to all readers. This January issue highlights several events in the final months of the year 2006. In September last year, SEAMEO RIHED and the Ministry of Education, Cambodia were delighted

to welcome the Governing Board members in “the 14th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting,” held during 28-29 September 2006 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Immediate after the Meeting, we held “The Regional Seminar on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries” on 29 September 2006, as a back-to-back seminar with our Governing Board Meeting. This event was also kindly co-organised by the Ministry of Education, Cambodia.

Apart from the successful events above, we also had the opportunity to welcome the visit of H.E. Pit Chamnan, Secretary of State and Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS), Cambodia, and his Excellency’s colleagues during 4-9 December 2006 in Thailand.

As for the on-going and future activities, the

important events will be “The Study Visit to the United Kingdom of Senior Staff and Administrators from Universities in Thailand and Southeast Asia.” This event will be held in cooperation with the International Training Research and Education Consortium (InTREC) in May 2007. Furthermore, the research project on “A Study on Higher Education Innovation,” sponsored by the Knowledge Network Institute of Thailand (KNIT) and the Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand, is also in good progress. Another important highlight, which will be featured in our next bulletin, is the “Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia.” The event will be convened in cooperation with International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), UNESCO during 23-27 July 2007 in Siem Riep. Well, again, in our popular destination, Cambodia!

Lastly, if there is anything you need to communicate with us, please do not hesitate to do so. Any suggestion which is for the best interest of higher education development in the region or any comment which would be constructive to the development of our Centre and our activities are also very much welcome.



In this Issue



The 14th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting

*28-29 September 2006
in Phnom Penh, Cambodia*



Regional Seminar on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries

*29 September 2006
in Phnom Penh, Cambodia*



The Visit Program for Cambodian Higher Education Team to Thailand

*4-9 December 2006
in Bangkok, Thailand*

The 2nd International Conference “Sustainable Development for Peace: New Dimensions of Friendly Cooperation in the Upper Greater Mekong Sub-region”

25-26 September 2006 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Visits and Linkages



The Visit of Cambodian Higher Education Minister to Thailand, 4-9 December 2006

SEAMEO RIHED welcomed the visit of H.E. Pit Chamnan, Secretary of State and higher education delegates from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS), Cambodia during 4-9 December 2006 in Thailand.

The objectives of the visit was to learn about Thailand's experience and development of higher education policy visions and strategic plans. The 12 delegates also learned about different models of HEIs in Thailand which could be further developed to suit with the long-term visions of Cambodia's higher education system. Moreover, the Ministry of Education, Cambodia, could further develop a long-term capacity to respond to the needs of higher education institutions via the establishment of a closer link with key players in higher education institutions in Thailand.

SEAMEO HIGH OFFICIALS MEETING (HOM), 23-24 November 2006

Thailand's Minister of Education, Professor Dr. Wichit Srisa-an opened the 29th SEAMEO High Officials Meeting on 23 November 2006. Prof. Wichit emphasised has asked education officials in Southeast Asia to join force in tackling educational issues and renew their commitments to build

a stronger community through education. The Meeting was attended by vice ministers, permanent secretaries and senior officials of the Ministries of Education of SEAMEO member countries, directors of SEAMEO units and representatives from associate member countries and partner organisations. Professor Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director, also discussed the issue of Quality Assurance in the Meeting's Discussion Forum.



Celebrating the 2007 New Year

SEAMEO RIHED Director presented New Year gifts to Dr. Krissanapong Kirtikara, Secretary General, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand on 5 January 2007 (centre). Asst. Prof. Chariya Hasitpanitkun, President of Rajamangala University of Technology Suvarnabhumi (right) and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Piniti Ratananukul, Executive Director of ASEAN University Network (AUN) (left) presented New Year gifts to SEAMEO RIHED Director in the occasion of celebrating the 2007 New Year at SEAMEO RIHED office.

Meeting



It is our greatest pleasure to have welcomed new SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board members from Brunei Darussalam, Dr. Diana Cheong Poh Poh, Dean of Postgraduate and Research Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam and Prof. Dr. Mya Aye, Rector of University of Mandalay, Myanmar. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to Dr. Hajah Hairuni binti Haji Mohamed Ali Maricar and Prof. Dr. Tun Khin, the previous Governing Board Members from Universiti Brunei Darussalam and University of Yangon, for their strong commitment and unflinching support to the growth and success of SEAMEO RIHED.

The 14th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting 28-29 September 2006



The 14th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting was convened at Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 28-29 September 2006. It was attended by SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Members from 7 member countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Vietnam. Also in attendance were SEAMEO Secretariat Director, Dr. Edilberto

C. de Jesus, SEAMEO RIHED Director, and representatives from ASAIHL (Association of Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning). The opening ceremony was presided over by H.E. Pit Chamnan, Secretary of State, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia. During his opening address, His Excellency acknowledged and congratulated SEAMEO RIHED for its commitment and

great achievements to promote higher education and development in the region. During the course of the meeting, the Governing Board members reviewed the progress of the Centre's activities implemented in the FY 2005/2006 and approved the Centre's proposed annual budgets and the work plan for the FY 2006/2007. In the FY 2006/2007, SEAMEO RIHED proposed the following activities:

Training/Workshop Programmes

- 1) Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia
- 2) Study Visit Programme to the United Kingdom for Senior Staff of Universities in Southeast Asia
- 3) Study Visit Programme to Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam for Senior Staff of Universities in Southeast Asia
- 4) Regional Workshop on Quality Assurance for University Administrators in GMS Countries
- 5) Study Abroad: Pre-departure Orientation Workshop

Research Projects

- 1) Situation Analysis of Higher Education Innovations in Southeast Asia

Seminars and Conferences

- 1) Regional Seminar on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries
- 2) Regional Seminar on University Governance in Southeast Asian Countries
- 3) Regional Seminar on Cyber University in Southeast Asian Countries
- 4) The Second Meeting of Director General/ Secretary General/ Commissioner on Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region

Other Programmes

- 1) Development of SEAMEO RIHED's Electronic Library
- 2) Development of Database on Higher Education Expertise in Southeast Asian Countries and Database on Higher Education Expertise in GMS Countries



Through these activities, SEAMEO RIHED aims at enhancing human resource capabilities, strengthening regional and international collaborations, and sharing visions and experiences on higher education management within and beyond Southeast Asian region. More information on SEAMEO RIHED activities is available at www.rihed.seameo.org.



Regional Seminar

Regional Seminar on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries, 29 September 2006



With a view to provide the current state of quality assurance systems in Southeast Asian region, SEAMEO RIHED, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia, convened



scholars in HEIs in Cambodia on the current situation of quality assurance within the region. It was also to document the changes of quality assurance in HEIs in other countries and disseminate the report to all key stakeholders in the region. The seminar also gave the opportunity for participants to establish future dialogues and exchange information and ideas with other scholars and university administrators on the issue of quality assurance.



The guest speakers in the seminar were SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board members and high-level administrators in higher education from 8 SEAMEO Member countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

the Regional Seminar on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries on 29 September 2006 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The objectives of the regional seminar were to update the university administrators as well as students and



International Conference

The 2nd International Conference “Sustainable Development for Peace: New Dimensions of Friendly Cooperation in the Upper Greater Mekong Sub-region”, 25-26 September 2006



The Second International Conference on “Sustainable Development for Peace: New Dimensions of Friendly Cooperation in the Upper Greater Mekong Sub-region” was held during 25-26 September 2006 in Cambodia. This time, it was co-organised by UNESCO Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific; National Institute of Education, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia; Royal Academy of Cambodia; Royal University of Phnom Penh; Build Bright University; National Research Council of Thailand; Faculty of Social Work, University of Hawaii, USA; Australian Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics CAPPE; Mekong River Commission and SEAMEO RIHED.



The participants were from Thailand, Cambodia and other countries in Asia Pacific, including Australia, Sri Lanka, Nepal, the Philippines, Japan, Lao PDR and Myanmar. The key issues discussed during the conference were consisted of 7 sub-themes on Education and Human Resource Development, Culture, Environment, Bio-Diversity and Shared Natural Resource Management, Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building, Social-Economics and Politics Challenges within GMS, Human Development, and Resolutions and Agenda for Future Action.



UPCOMING EVENTS

A Study Visit to the United Kingdom of Senior Staff from Universities in Thailand and Southeast Asian Countries

- Organisers** : International Training, Research and Education Consortium (InTREC) and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)
- Date and Venue** : 20-26 May 2007, UK
- Objectives** : The objectives of this study-visit are to conduct a training programme for the university administrators in Southeast Asian countries on the topic of university administration. In the increasing competitive environment in higher education sector, the activity of this sort is believed to provide opportunities for the university administrators in Southeast Asian countries to meet and exchange ideas within the group and also with the university administrators in the UK HEIs.

Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia

- Organisers** : International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), UNESCO and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)
- Date and Venue** : 23-27 July 2007, Siem Riep, Cambodia
- Objectives** : The workshop focuses on the recent changes in university management and its relevance to the development of higher education in Asia as well as on the efforts to improve efficiency in operation and to diversify sources of funding.

For more information, please contact:



Professor Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director

Any comments and suggestions, please contact:

Mrs. Wachareeporn Nilratt, Programme Officer

Staff Bulletin: Mr. Nopporn Kongtharat, Mrs. Pichaya Pansawat, and Mr. Preecha Anghong.

SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (RIHED)

5th floor, Commission on Higher Education Building, 328 Sri Ayutthaya Road, Rajthwee, Bangkok 10400 THAILAND

Tel: (66) 0-2644 9856-63, 0-2644 5591, Fax: (66) 0-2644 5421 E-mail: rihed@rihed.seameo.org

Visit the RIHED Website - www.rihed.seameo.org