The 12th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting
2-3 September 2004
at the Montien Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

The First Meeting between the Philippine Association for Teacher Education and the Thai Council of Deans of Education
22 October 2004
at Ramkhamhaeng University and Suan Dusit Rajabhat University

Workshop for the Establishment of the Greater Mekong Sub-regional Virtual University
17-18 November 2004, the Imperial Tara Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

Regional Seminar on Human Resource Management for Global Competitiveness
8 December 2004, the Montien Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand
Visit of Ms. Aulia Dian Palupi, Secretary to the Director from SEAMOLEC on 7 September 2004 to discuss about strategic planning of marketing.

AUNP Credit Transfer System Workshop
30-31 August 2004, Siam City Hotel, Bangkok

Dr. Voraporn Bovornsiri as SEAMEO RIHED representative attended “AUNP Credit Transfer System Workshop” organised by ASEAN-EU University Network Programme. The Workshop aimed to inform participants on the state of implementation of credits and credit transfer systems in Europe and, at the same time, discussed the prospects of the establishment of an ASEAN Credit Transfer System. Approximately 30 participants shared active interests in the development and promotion of Quality Assurance and Credit Transfer System in both ASEAN countries and EU member states.

The First ASEAN-EU Rectors’ Conference on Higher Education and Sustainable Development
4-6 October 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Dr. Padoongchart Suwanawongse, SEAMEO RIHED Director, participated in this First ASEAN-European Union Rectors’ Conference on Higher Education and Sustainable Development held during 4-6 October 2004 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The main objectives of the Conference were to raise awareness for the role of universities in initiating and safeguarding sustainable development, and to assess the need for a regular meeting of ASEAN and EU university leadership and to assist in its establishment.

The 27th SEAMEO High Officials Meeting

2-4 December 2004, at Amari Watergate Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

The 27th SEAMEO High Officials Meeting was attended by 89 participants, representing SEAMEO Member Countries, Associate Member Countries, SEAMEO Centres/Network and the SEAMEO Secretariat.

Dr. Arief S Sadiman, Director of SEAMEO Secretariat delivered his welcome remarks. Dato Paduka Hj Sheikh Adnan bin Sheikh Mohamad, Chairperson of the 26th SEAMEO HOM gave the opening remarks, while H.E. Mr. Piyabutr Cholvicharn, Vice-Minister of Education, Thailand delivered the Keynote Address on behalf of the Minister of Education, Thailand.

Many new projects being launched by SEAMEO were approved at the meeting such as: Regional Seminar on Human Resource Management for Global Competitiveness, Transforming Schools into Learning Centres, and Proposal for the Regional QEE Forum 2005. Also, other ongoing projects were discussed.

The HOM was successful. Various projects were discussed and approved which would benefit and strengthen education development in the Southeast Asian region.
6-10 September 2004, at the Ambassador Bangkok Hotel, Thailand

Co-organised by the Office of the Education Council, Thailand, SEAMEO RIHED and other agencies, this International Forum was attended by more than 200 education professionals from all 10 SEAMEO Member Countries and other countries in Asia and other continents. Participating as keynote speakers were distinguished professors and educators from the U.K., U.S.A., Hong Kong, China, and UNESCO. In addition to country reports from various nations both within and outside the SEAMEO region, there were also concurrent sessions in which research papers and articles on Learner-Centered Approach were presented and discussed upon.

International Conference Making Educational Reform Happen: Learning from the Asian Experience and Comparative Perspective
22-24 September 2004, at the Sofitel Hotel, Central Plaza, Bangkok, Thailand

This International Conference was organised to explore and discuss upon successful strategies for educational reform and their impacts on education in Asian countries. It was co-organised by Burapha University, SEAMEO RIHED, Illinois State University, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and the Federation of Private Educational Associations of Thailand. Distinguished educators from Mahidol University, Thailand and Illinois State University, presented and discussed on their papers in the Pre-Conference Workshop as well as in the Conference.

The First Asia-Link Forum
19 November 2004, Hotel Plaza Athenee, Bangkok

The First Asia-Link Forum in Bangkok aimed at fostering the development of higher education networks between Asia and Europe, in order to enable higher education practitioners to better understand respective education systems and the potential benefits of Asia-Europe cooperation in this area for staff and students. The event provided lots of opportunities for match-working and the set-up of new joint Asian-European education and research projects. Approximately 280 persons attended this forum. The forum included the topics on Student Mobility in Europe and the Erasmus Mundus; Destination Europe-Cooperation of Higher Education Institutions from EU and ASEAN Countries; Conditions and Challenges for Future Success; Education Cooperation in Higher Education and Specific Areas.

Asia-Link Programme had the objective of fostering regional and multilateral networking between higher education institutions in Europe, and those in developing countries in Asia. The 2005 Asia-Link partnership projects focused on one or more of the three types of activities: Human resource development: activities to upgrade the skills of university teaching staff, in particular young faculty and future teachers (i.e. postgraduate students) and administrators; Curriculum development: the development of new curricula and the production of new/improved courses, modules or teaching/training materials; Institutional and systems development: to enhance the overall management of higher education institutions through the sharing of know-how between Asian and European institutions.
The 12th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting
2-3 September 2004, the Montien Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

The 12th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting took place at the Montien Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand during 2-3 September 2004. It was attended by all Governing Board Members from the 10 member countries. Also in attendance were SEAMEO Secretariat Deputy-Director, SEAMEO RIHED Director, and representatives from UNESCO Bangkok, ASAIHL, AUAP, and the French Embassy.

The opening ceremony was presided over by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pavich Tongroach, the Secretary-General of Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand, who delivered his opening address acknowledging SEAMEO RIHED’s past achievements and urging the Governing Board to provide continued supports, cooperation, and clear directions so that the Centre can effectively fulfill its functions.

During the course of the Meeting, chaired by Prof. Leo Wee Hin Tan, Governing Board Member from Singapore, the Governing Board acknowledged the Centre’s Annual Report, and Financial Audit Report; and approved the Centre’s proposed annual budgets, Calendar of Activities in FY 2004/2005, and the following planned activities for the upcoming fiscal year:

- Project on ICT-Enhanced Education Partnerships for Quality Improvement in Education and Community Development
- Project on Greater Mekong Sub-region Virtual University (GMSVU)
- The Fourth International Forum on Education Reform: Learner-Centred Approaches towards Education for Sustainable Development
- The Second Meeting the Thai University Presidents and the Malaysian University Vice Chancellors and Rectors
- The First Meeting Between the Philippine Association for Teacher Education and the Thai Council of Deans of Education
- Regional Workshop on Strategic Management of Quality Assurance in Higher Education Institutions
- Regional Workshop on Institutional Management in Higher Education
- Regional Seminar on Access to higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries
- Regional Seminar on Research Collaboration between Higher Education Institutions and Industrial Sector in Southeast Asian Countries
- A Study on Situation Analysis of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries

As the term of office of the present SEAMEO RIHED Director will be completed soon, the Board spent a final session deliberating on guidelines for selection of the Centre Director for the next term.
The First Meeting between the Philippine Association for Teacher Education and the Thai Council of Deans of Education

22 October 2004
at Ramkhamhaeng University and Suan Dusit Rajabhat University

The objectives of this meeting between the Philippine Association for Teacher Education (PAFTE) and the Thai Council of Deans of Education (TCDE) are the following:

1. To establish professional relationship,
2. To gain better understanding about teacher education in each country,
3. To share visions and experiences, and
4. To explore possible collaborations benefiting both parties.

A total number of 170 high level administrators comprising Philippine teacher education administrators and the Thai counterparts attended this meeting at Ramkhamhaeng University. In the Opening Session, Mr. Prachuab Chaiyasan, Chairman of Ramkhamhaeng University Council delivered his welcoming remarks; followed by remarks by Dr. Padoongchart Suwanawongse, SEAMEO RIHED Director; a presentation by Dr. Khompet Chatsupakul, Chairman of TCDE; and a presentation by Dr. Amor de Torres, President of PAFTE.

During the course of the meeting, presentations on teacher education in various aspects of the two countries were made and followed by discussion on possible cooperation between PAFTE and TCDE. The two organizations agreed to work out on MOU and would continue cooperation and collaboration in these following areas:

1. Staff development;
2. Organising International Seminar;
3. Research cooperation; between institutions; and
5. Visiting programme.

In the afternoon the participants went to Suan Dusit Rajabhat University to visit the Academic Resource Center, Virtual Library, and the International Culinary School.
Workshop for the Establishment of the Greater Mekong Sub-regional Virtual University
17-18 November 2004
at the Imperial Tara Hotel, Bangkok

Thirty-two participants from five GMS countries namely China (Yunnan Province), Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam; and partner agencies attended this workshop. The workshop hosted by UNESCO Asia Pacific Bureau for Communication and Information (ACI), New Delhi, India and UNESCO, Bangkok in collaboration with SEAMEO RIHED, and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT).

This workshop marked the closing of a pre-pilot project as well as taking another step towards establishment of a virtual university in the sub-region. During the workshop, participating university representatives reported on the development of their modules: Hanoi University of Technology-Hardware Module, Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University - Software Module, Yunnan Radio and TV University - Internet Module, and Asian Institute of Technology - Virtual Class Module. Unable to participate in the workshop, however, Rector of the Yangon University of Distance Education had sent the slides on Network Module for distributing to the participants. Guiding principles for a digital library and other groupware services for authors, tutors, and learners, chosen in common by the GMS countries were also presented at the workshop by representative from Danish Technical University, Copenhagen.

It was agreed that a pilot project would be implemented by building on the pre-pilot project experience. The modules that had been prepared could be further developed and refined as an IT course for non-IT university instructors. The participants also discussed about European funding possibilities.
Regional Seminar on Human Resource Management for Global Competitiveness

8 December 2004
at the Montien Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

This regional seminar was organised by ASAIHL, SEAMEO RIHED, SEAMEO Secretariat, Commission on Higher Education, Thailand, and Council of University Presidents of Thailand. The objectives were to create a deeper understanding of current trends on human resource management for universities and institutions of higher education among educators, policy makers and other key stakeholders; and to gain an appreciation of private-sector involvement in improving delivery of quality higher education.

Professor Dr. Pavich Tongroach, Secretary-General of the Commission on Higher Education presided over the Opening Ceremony, Honoured speakers for this regional seminar were Professor Dr. Ing Wardiman Djojonegoro, the former Minister of Education, Indonesia; Professor Dr. Wichit Srisa-an, a Member of the Thai Parliament; Dr. Krissanapong Kirtikara, President of King Mongkut’s University of Technology, Thonburi; Mr. Andrew McBean, Managing Director of Microsoft Thailand Limited; and Professor Dr. Chira Hongladarom, Secretary-General of the Foundation for International Human Resource Development.

One hundred and seventy participants from various public and private higher education institutions, schools and private sector in Thailand and Indonesia attended this regional seminar. The seminar had brought about knowledge gained and innovative ways on producing and developing human resources for global skills and competitiveness. Problems on human resource management and recommended practical solutions were also discussed.
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

The Second Meeting between the Thai University Presidents and the Malaysian University Vice-Chancellors and Rectors

A Study on Situation Analysis of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries

UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

The International Seminar Report on University Admissions: Insights and Issues

The Summary Report of Workshop on Long Range Planning for Higher Education

For more information, please contact: Dr. Padoongchart Suwanawongse, SEAMEO RIHED Director.
If you wish to contribute any comments or information, please contact Mrs. Wachareeporn Nilratt
Bulletin Staff: Mr. Nopporn Kongtharat, Mrs. Pichaya Pansawat, and Mr. Preecha Angthong.

SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (RIHED)
5th floor, Commission on Higher Education Building, 328 Sri Ayutthaya Road, Rajthewee, Bangkok 10400 THAILAND
Tel: (66) 0-2644 9856-63, 0-2644 5591, Fax: (66) 0-2644 5421, E-mail: rihed@seameo.org

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