The 13th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting
28-29 September 2005
at SEAMEO RIHED Office,
Bangkok, Thailand

The Regional Seminar on Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries: A Current Update
29 September 2005
at Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

The International Seminar for Higher Educational Institutions on Cooperation Strategies among Universities in the GMS: Constraint Elimination for Regional Human Resources Development
25-26 November 2005
at Ubon Ratchathani Rajabhat University,
Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand

The First Meeting of Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region
5-6 December 2005
at Renaissance Hotel,
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
SEAMEO RIHED considers itself as a Centre responsible for promoting development in higher education in Southeast Asian region. We have been doing our parts in serving the region for many years. Our activities included those of training workshops/seminars conferences, research on higher education, information dissemination, and promotion of collaboration and linkage among higher education institutions and policy makers as well.

In the past 6 months, our main activities were 2 meetings and 2 seminars namely, the 13th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting, the First Meeting of Director General / Secretary General / Commissioner on Higher Education in Southeast Asia Region, the Regional Seminar on Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries: A Current Update. We also co-hosted with Ubon Ratchathani Rajabhat University: an International Seminar for Higher Educational Institutions on Cooperation Strategies among Universities in the GMS: Constraint Elimination, Strengthening and Expanding Cooperation for regional Human Resources Development. We are now conducting 2 research works namely, “Situation Analysis of Cyber University in Southeast Asian Countries” and “A Survey of University Governance in Southeast Asia”. These 2 research studies were funded by the Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand. Our 3 upcoming events are a Study Visit Programme to United Kingdom (UK) for Senior Staff of Thai and other Southeast Asian Universities during 21-26 May 2006, The Second Meeting of Thai University Presidents and Malaysian Vice-Chancellors/Rectors during 22-24 June 2006, and IIEP/RIHED Programme on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia during 24-28 July 2006.

These past activities and those on-going and upcoming activities were designed and delivered to share our part in enhancing and strengthening higher education institutions and system in the region. If there is anything you wish our Centre to undertake, please feel free to suggest and advice.

We always consider ourselves as “Your Partner in Higher Education”.

Please join our endeavor and we definitely will join you in your endeavor to make this region better and stronger.

VISITS & LINKAGES

Mrs. Pichya Pannasawat, Data Processing Officer welcomed a visitor at the SEAMEO RIHED Booth at the WORLDIDIDAC ASIA 2005 and the 1st National Education Leaders Forum. The event, held from 19 to 21 October 2005 at Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, was attended by over 700 educational representatives.

Dr. David Lancaster, Managing Director of the International Training, Research and Education Consortium (InTREC), during one of his visit to SEAMEO RIHED, discussed with Professor Supachai Yavaprabhas, Ph.D., SEAMEO RIHED Director; Mrs. Chompunuch Sawangdee, HRD Officer and Ms. Thanthakorn Phuangsawat, Programme Officer on the preparation of a programme entitled “A Study Visit to United Kingdom for Senior Staff of Thai and other Southeast Asian Universities”.

Ms. Thanthakorn Phuangsawat, Programme Officer, as a representative of SEAMEO RIHED Director, attended the Second ASEAN-EU Rectors’ Conference held on 16-19 November 2005 at Leuven, Belgium. The Conference was attended by 97 participants from ASEAN and European Countries.

Asst. Prof. Dr. Pichan Sawangwong, Vice-President for International Relations; Assoc. Prof. Saroot Sukunrat, Director of Graduate School of Public Administration; and Burapha University’s staff welcomed SEAMEO RIHED Director and his staff during a visit to Burapha University on 27 December 2005.
Study Visit to United Kingdom (UK) for Senior Staff of Thai and other Southeast Asian Universities

Organisers: SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED) and International Training, Research and Education Consortium (InTREC)

Date and Venue: May 21-26, 2006 at King’s College London, University of London; University of Birmingham; Oxford University and University of Central England, United Kingdom.

Objective:
1. To provide an opportunity for senior staff of Thai universities to understand the policy and practice of university management in other countries, specifically UK
2. To provide an opportunity to understand recent and current developments in university management and their applicability in relation to universities in Thailand.
3. To further develop aspects of the leaderships and management skills of the participants.

Call for Participation:
Senior Staff and High Level Administrators of Thai and the Greater Mekong Subregion Universities

The Second Meeting of Thai University Presidents and Malaysian University Vice-Chancellors/Rectors

Organisers: The Council of University Presidents of Thailand (CUPT) and The Malaysian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee (MVCC) in coordinate with SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)

Date and Venue: 22-24 June 2006 at Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia

Objective:
1) To provide an opportunity for the Thai university administrators to familiarize with Malaysian universities in the real setting
2) To exchange ideas, visions and/or experiences on significant policies concerning higher education reform in both countries
3) To realize certain collaborative projects of mutual interest of CUPT and MVCC

Participants:
Thai University Presidents and Malaysian University Vice-Chancellors/Rectors

IIIEP/RIHED Programme on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia

Organisers: The International Institute for Educational Planning (IIIEP) and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)

Date and Venue: 24-28 July 2006 at Vientiane, Lao PDR

Participants: Higher Education Administrators in Southeast Asian Countries
The 13th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting
28-29 September 2005
at SEAMEO RIHED Office, Bangkok, Thailand

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

At the Opening Ceremony: Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director reported to Prof Dr. Pavich Tongroach, Secretary-General, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand and Chairperson of SEAMEO RIHED and Prof. Dr. Pavich delivered his Opening Address

SEAMEO RIHED Director briefed all delegates about E-Library Project of SEAMEO RIHED during their visit to SEAMEO RIHED’s Library

Training/Workshops
1) Training on Quality Assurance for Higher Education in GMS Countries;

Research
2) A Survey of University Governance in Southeast Asia;
3) Situation Analysis of Cyber University in Southeast Asian Countries;
4) Database of Higher Education Expertise in Greater Mekong Sub-region Countries

Seminars/Conferences
5) Regional Seminar on Natural Resources and Environmental Management in the Greater Mekong Sub-region: The Role of Higher Education in Policy Design and Implementation
6) The Second Meeting between the Thai University Presidents and the Malaysian University Vice-Chancellors/Rectors
7) The First Meeting of the Thai University Presidents and the Vietnamese University Presidents
8) The First Meeting of Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asia

Others
9) The establishment of SEAMEO RIHED’s Electronic Library
10) Senior University Administrators Study Visit Programmes

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.

The 13th Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED) Governing Board Meeting was convened at SEAMEO RIHED Office, Commission on Higher Education’s Building, Bangkok on 28-29 September 2005. It was attended by SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Members from 10 member countries; Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam. And also in attendance were SEAMEO Secretariat Director and Deputy-Director, SEAMEO RIHED Director, Director of Bureau of International Cooperation Strategy, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand and representatives from UNESCO Bangkok, and ASAIHL (Association of Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning).

The Opening ceremony was presided over by Prof. Dr. Pavich Tongroach, the Secretary-General of Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand and a chairperson of the SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board. In his opening address Prof. Dr. Pavich acknowledged SEAMEO RIHED’s past achievements and urged for the way to synergize efforts of ASEAN and SEAMEO in order to maximize the benefits of the regional cooperation. Prof. Dr. Pavich also indicated that SEAMEO RIHED should work with countries beyond the Southeast Asian region and with other regional and international organizations on higher education development.

During the course of the meeting, chaired by Prof. Dr. Supeno Djanali, Governing Board Member from Indonesia, the Governing Board members reviewed the progress of the Centre’s activities implemented in FY 2004/2005 and approved the Centre’s proposed annual budgets and the work plan for FY 2005/2006. In 2005/2006, SEAMEO RIHED proposed activities are the followings:

- Training/Workshops
  1) Training on Quality Assurance for Higher Education in GMS Countries;

- Research
  2) A Survey of University Governance in Southeast Asia;
  3) Situation Analysis of Cyber University in Southeast Asian Countries;
  4) Database of Higher Education Expertise in Greater Mekong Sub-region Countries

- Seminars/Conferences
  5) Regional Seminar on Natural Resources and Environmental Management in the Greater Mekong Sub-region: The Role of Higher Education in Policy Design and Implementation
  6) The Second Meeting between the Thai University Presidents and the Malaysian University Vice-Chancellors/Rectors
  7) The First Meeting of the Thai University Presidents and the Vietnamese University Presidents
  8) The First Meeting of Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asia

- Others
  9) The establishment of SEAMEO RIHED’s Electronic Library
  10) Senior University Administrators Study Visit Programmes

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.

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Regional Seminar on Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries: a Current Update
29 September 2005
at Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

With a view to providing up-to-date movement of higher education development in Southeast Asian region, Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED) in cooperation with the Commission on Higher Education convened “the Regional Seminar on Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries: a Current Update” on 29 September 2005 at Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, Bangkok. The seminar has a privilege to have contribution from the guest speakers who serve as SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board members and high-level administrators in higher education from 8 countries of SEAMEO Member countries namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The objectives of the Regional Seminar were
1) To update the university administrators as well as those students and scholars of higher education in Thailand on the current situation of higher education in the region
2) To document the changes in higher education in the region and disseminate it to all key stakeholders in the region; and
3) To create an opportunity for dialog and exchanges of information and ideas among scholars, administrators and other interested parties.

In addition to addressing the current situation, future trends and development of higher education among their own respective countries, the seminar also provide a forum for scholars, administrators and other interested parties to discuss and exchange the idea on issues related to higher education. More than 250 university administrators, scholars and graduate students attended the event.

The Regional Seminar on Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries: a Current Update which was held back to back with the SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting on 28 September 2005 was one among many activities of the University Fair organised during 29 September - 1 October 2005 by the Commission on Higher Education to showcase Thai higher education institutions’ programs of study, research and innovation to students, parents and the public. Country Papers and Presentations on current update of higher education in Southeast Asian countries, can be access at www.rihed.seameo.org.
The International Seminar for Higher Educational Institutions on Cooperation Strategies among Universities in the GMS: Constraint Elimination for Regional Human Resources Development
25-26 November 2005
at the Main Auditorium, Ubon Ratchathani Rajabhat University, Ubon City, Thailand


The Opening Ceremony began with the report of Asst. Prof. Kasem Boonrom, President of Ubon Ratchathani Rajabhat University, and followed by the Opening Remark of the event chair, Dr. Suchart Muangkeow, Deputy Secretary General, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education. After the opening ceremony, Dr. Suchart also delivered his Keynote Speech on “Strategies on Cooperation Development among Universities in Neighbouring Countries”. During the seminar, there was a special talk of Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director on the topic of “The Roles of SEAMEO RIHED in Fulfiling University Missions on Human Resources Development in the GMS Countries”. The representatives of Department of Public Instruction, State of Wisconsin, U.S.A. and UNCOFIN also presented their lectures on “The Roles of International Organizations in Supporting Projects in Cooperation among Universities in the GMS Countries”.

Representatives from universities in GMS countries, including those from Siem Reap Provincial Teacher Training College, Cambodia; National University of Laos, Lao PDR; Kunming University of Science and Technology and Yangzhou University, P.R. China; Hue College of Arts, Hue University and Vinh University, Vietnam and Ubon Ratchathani Rajabhat University, Thailand, also shared their proposals on Academic Cooperation.

After Summary of the event by Dr. Seri Somchob, Vice-President for International Affairs of Ubon Ratchathani Rajabhat University, representative of each countries had put the signatory on the MOU for Cooperation Strategies among Universities for Regional Human Resources Development.

The International Seminar held in the traditional spirit of Greater Mekong Subregion friendship and solidarity, was met with great success.
The First Meeting of Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region
5-6 December 2005
At Renaissance Hotel, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

The Malaysian Department of Higher Education Management, with the support of SEAMEO RIHED hosted the First Meeting of Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region during 5-6 December 2005 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This Meeting was initiated by the Malaysian Director-General of Higher Education, Dato Prof. Dr. Hassan bin Said and SEAMEO RIHED and approved by the Governing Board of SEAMEO RIHED at the 13th Meeting in Bangkok.

The objectives of the meeting were to provide an opportunity for the Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner of Higher Education in the region to familiarize with her/his counterpart in the real setting; to exchange ideas, visions and/or experiences on significant policies concerning higher education reform in the region and to realize certain collaborative projects of mutual interest both at the bilateral and multilateral level.

The Meeting chaired by Dato’ Professor Dr. Hassan bin Said, was attended by the Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner/ country representative from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, the Director of SEAMEO RIHED and the SEAMEO RIHED programme officers. The Meeting discussed extensively those issues that could enhance and/or inhibit collaborations in higher education in the region and agreed that the region should pay special attention on 1) the university governance 2) capacity building including human resource development 3) research capabilities 4) quality assurance including mutual recognition and accreditation 5) students and staff exchange and 6) higher education funding system.

The second meeting is scheduled to held in Bangkok, Thailand during July 2006 so as to follow up the collaborative proposal on the 6 identified issues.
The Proceedings of Regional Seminar on Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries: A Current Update

This proceedings is documented those good contents appeared in the Regional Seminar on Higher Education in Southeast Asian Countries: A Current Update, was organized by SEAMEO RIHED and Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand on 29 September 2005 at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand. The contents include the current situation and future trend of higher education in the respective countries, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam and the PowerPoint presentations from our honorable speakers compiled and published in the proceeding. SEAMEO RIHED need that the proceeding will allow each country to learn more on other countries in term of higher education situation.

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