

Report on the Mission to SEAMEO CHAT GB Meeting

The 9th Governing Board Meeting of SEAMEO CHAT was convened on 23-24 September 2010 at SEAMEO CHAT, Yangon, the Union of Myanmar. In my observation, the Meeting was not quorum. The Meeting was attended only by four Governing Board Members from Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The Members from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia and the Philippines were unable to attend the meeting. Her Excellency Ambassador of the Philippines and officials from the Embassies of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, and Lao PDR represented the respective members from their countries. However, these representatives were not assigned officially by their respective Ministry of Education. Acting Director of SEAMEO CHAT, the Deputy Director for Administration and Communication of SEAMEO Secretariat and Programme Officer II of SEAMEO Secretariat also attended the Meeting.

Mr U Zaw Htay, Director General, Department of Higher education (Lower Myanmar) on behalf of H E Dr Chan Nyein, Minister of education, the Union of Myanmar delivered Opening Address. The Director General highlighted the valuable role of SEAMEO CHAT in strengthening the socio-cultural community pillars of Southeast Asian nations. He also noted the Centre's efforts in conducting and sponsoring collaborative researches, training and linkages in Southeast Asian history and tradition.

Dr Tinsiri Siribodhi, Deputy Director for Administration and Communication, the SEAMEO Secretariat, in her remarks highlighted the Resolutions of 45th SEAMEO Council Conference. She informed the Meeting on recent important SEAMEO Secretariat programme and activities, especially on SEAMEO Strategic Planning, Key Performance Indicators, Mother Tongue Project, and 10 project on Reaching the Unreached, and efficiency of SEAMEO. She also shared to the Meeting on Governing Board Guideline which is very useful for the Board members and the conduct of Governing Board Meeting.

The Meeting discussed eleven (11) working papers which encompassed matters for acknowledgement, matters for approval, and matters for information. Before the adoption of the GB Meeting proceedings, GB Members from Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam presented power point presentation on history and tradition of their respective countries.

From my observation, the quality and the format of working papers and proceedings still need to be improved.

After closing ceremony of the Meeting, SEAMEO CHAT staff took the GB Members to visit Basic Education Middle School No 3 Insein, Yangon (a SEAMEO CHAT's community involvement school) and to Swedagon Pagoda.



Mr U Zaw Htay, Director General, Department of Higher education (Lower Myanmar), Ministry of education, Myanmar delivered Opening Address.



Dr Tinsiri Siribodhi, Deputy Director for Administration and Communication, SEAMEO Secretariat, delivered her Remarks during Opening ceremony of 9th SEAMEO Chat Governing Board Meeting



SEAMEO CHAT Governing Board Members and representatives took picture together with the Director General of Higher education of Ministry of education, Myanmar



Governing Members from Member Countries and Observer from SEAMEO Secretariat during the SEAMEO CHAT Governing Board Meeting



Students of Grade 1 of No 3 Basic Education Middle School Insein, Yangon welcomed the SEAMEO CHAT Governing Board Members



Governing Board Members of SEAMEO CHAT took picture together with the Head Master of No 3 BEMS and Education Officials of Insein Yangon



Cultural visit to Swedagon Pagoda, Yangon