



Mission Report

SEAMEC President Visit to Cambodia and Lao

4-7 December 2013

A. SEAMEO Officials and Staff Member on Mission

Tinsiri Siribodhi

B. Background, Description and Objectives of the Activity

H.E. Prof. Dr. Pham Vu Luan, the Minister of Education and Training, Vietnam is currently the SEAMEO Council President (2013-2015). As part of his role as the SEAMEO Council President, he paid a courtesy visit to Cambodia and Lao from 4-7 December 2013.

C. Participants

The SEAMEC President entourage consisted of nine delegates, eight were officials from the Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam and one is a representative from SEAMEO Secretariat, Tinsiri Siribodhi.

D. Highlight of the Activity/Summary Points

Cambodia:

1. The SEAMEC President informed the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports, (MoYS) Cambodia, H E Dr Hang Chuon Naron, on three SEAMEO activities namely; the Meeting on Post 2015 Agenda, SEAMEO Congress and SEAMEO 50th Anniversary.
2. The SEAMEC President encouraged support from MoYS to send officials to take part in the above mentioned SEAMEO activities.
3. H E Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, the Minister of Education, Youth and Sport acknowledged the three SEAMEO activities and indicated his support to participate.
4. The SEAMEC President also mentioned that if the Ministry of Education in Cambodia considers establishing a new SEAMEO Regional Centre in Cambodia, Vietnam is ready to support.
5. H E Dr. Hang Chuon Naron informed the SEAMEC President about the 5th Year Educational plan of Cambodia as follows:

- a) Promoting quality of education to achieve EFA goals.
- b) Reforming Higher education with focuses on degrees in business administration, technology and engineer.
- c) Strengthening vocational education and training.
- d) Strengthening national exam to meet the quality standard.
- e) Establishing a research center as a think tank for education in Cambodia.
- f) Strengthening sport and physical education
- g) Improving professional development for staff in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.
- h) Strengthening budget for education.

6. Finally, H E Dr. Hang Chuon Naron thanked SEAMEO for providing scholarship for Cambodia officials and students under the SEAMEO framework.

Lao PDR

1. The SEAMEC President informed H E Dr. Khamphan Viphavahn, the Minister of Education Lao and the High Officials from the Ministry of Education, Lao on the following points:
 - a. The acceptance of United Kingdom as a new Associate Member to SEAMEO.
 - b. The revision of guidelines for Associate Membership of SEAMEO to attract new members, such as Russia, China, South Korea and Japan.
 - c. SEAMEO's cooperation with OEI and H E's visit to Argentina to witness the signing of MOU between SEAMEO and OEI.
 - d. The encouragement to establish 2-3 new SEAMEO Regional Centres in Cambodia, Lao and Timor Leste.
 - e. Vietnamese support to the Lao in setting up a new SEAMEO Centre in Lao.
2. The SEAMEC President later requested SEAMEO Secretariat to provide a briefing to the Minister of Education, Laos and the high officials of the Ministry. The information presented was on SEAMEO College, Meeting on Post 2015 Agenda, SEAMEO Congress, and SEAMEO 50th Anniversary.
3. The discussion next was about the plan of the Ministry of Education, Lao in setting up a new SEAMEO Centre in Lao. The Minister of Education, Lao inquired about the process. The Secretariat provided a brief steps on the process. Mr. Tran Ba Viet Dzung, the

Director General of Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam also suggested that the appropriate timeline for Lao to submit the proposal for the establishment of a new centre should be to the HOM 2014 for the SEAMEO Council Conference to approve in March 2015.

4. Dr. Khamphan Viphavahn, the Minister of Education, Lao took note and mentioned that he will further discuss with Dr. Witaya on December 19, 2013.
5. Dr. Khamphan Viphavahn, the Minister of Education, Lao thanked SEAMEO for the support.

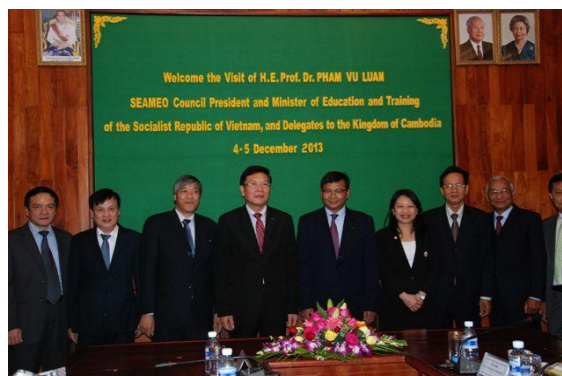
E. Role/Participation of SEAMEO

1. Provided a briefing on SEAMEO activities (talking points to the SEAMEO Council President)
2. Accompanied the SEAMEO Council President to meet with the Minister of Education of Cambodia and Lao.
3. Presented key SEAMEO activities during the visit to the Ministry of Education, Lao to the Minister of Education, Lao and the high officials of the Ministry of Education.

F. Side Meetings

1. With Dr. Chantavong, the Director General of International Affairs, Ministry of Education Lao on the process of setting up a SEAMEO Regional Centre.

G. Appendices/Related Conference Materials and Outputs



SEAMEC President with H E Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports, Cambodia.



SEAMEC President with H E Dr. Khamphan Viphavahn, Minister of Education, Lao

