



Mission Report

Going Global 2014: The Conference for Leaders of International Education Theme: Inclusion, Innovation, Impact

29 April to 1 May 2014, Miami Beach Convention Center, Miami Beach, Florida

A. SEAMEO Official and Staff Member on Mission:

1. Dr Witaya Jeradechakul, SEAMEO Secretariat Director
2. Ms Lotus Moreno Postrado, Programme Officer I

B. Background and Objectives of the Activity

1. Going Global is a major international education conference attracting more than 1,000 delegates from 80 countries. It started out as a UK-based conference done every two years but now is now an annual event done every year at international location. [Annex 1](#) presents a short introduction on Going Global.
2. Going Global consists of a series of seminar sessions delivered by world experts in a number of areas related to education. The conference also offers an excellent networking opportunity with policy makers, administrators and academics from around the world.
3. The 2014 theme for Going Global is *Inclusion, Innovation, Impact*; held on 29 April to 1 May 2014 in Miami Beach, Florida, USA. The conference has 250 high profile speakers from around the world, 50+ poster presentations, a large-scale exhibition and a variety of networking events. [Annex 2](#) presents the programme of the Going Global 2014.

C. Organizer

1. Going Global is organized by British Council United Kingdom with a variety of partners such as IELTS, TOEFL, Cambridge English and the Parthenon Group.

D. SEAMEO's Participation

1. SEAMEO Secretariat was invited to discuss on the topic "*Domestically Inclusive, Internationally Exclusive*", specifically on the efforts of Thailand on providing underrepresented groups access to higher education and how the ASEAN region is widening access and improving quality of higher education.
2. With SEAMEO Secretariat's partnership with British Council for the SEAMEO Congress, SEAMEO Secretariat was likewise invited to take part in the networking sessions to promote SEAMEO Congress and to learn from the experience of British Council of holding international conferences.

E. Highlights and Agreements from the Meeting

1. The highlights of the event is its keynote session entitled: *Mind the Gap: From Here to the 22nd Century* by Dr Hans Gosling, academician, statistician and one of *Times Magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World*. Dr Gosling has presented a unique look at population, demography, money and its relationship to education. Famous international broadcaster and journalist, Nick Gowing, moderated the session.
2. The Conference has a number of panel discussions, one of which, done in the first day, focused on the main theme of Going Global 2014, *Inclusion, Innovation, Impact* – reflecting on the implications of tertiary education globally and providing insights and perspectives on questions such as "*Can we really*

bridge the gap to the 22nd century? Governments focus on impact but are their agendas and planning horizons too short-term and their investment too limited? Can current missions and structure of universities survive and wont need to radically re-invent 21st century learning?

3. It was during parallel sessions that related topics on the theme were discussed in-depth, with speakers from across the world, providing their professional perspectives on the topics. It is one of these parallel sessions that SEAMEO Secretariat Director served as one of the speakers. With session topic: Domestically Inclusive, Internationally Exclusive, SEAMEO Secretariat Director provided valuable insights on Thailand's efforts and challenges on providing underrepresented groups access to higher education. Given SEAMEO's work in the region, SEAMEO Secretariat Director discussed on how the region is widening access and improving quality of higher education.
4. Going Global 2014 introduced a new platform, Pecha Kucha, entirely dedicated to presenting cutting-edge PhD research. Pecha Kucha provides PhD students with 20-seconds to present slides highlighting their research studies. Three PhD students presented in Pecha Kucha.
5. The conference also launched nine (9) commissioned research studies during the sessions such as "Dangerous demographics: women and leadership in higher education – trends, challenges and research from Asia"; "English as a medium of instruction: a global survey", "Universities, employability and inclusive development"; and others.
6. During the Conference, a side meeting was also arranged for SEAMEO Secretariat and British Council Thailand to discuss with the Director of Education and Society of British Council, UK, Dr Jo Beall and the International Cooperation Unit of UK Higher Education. The meeting focused on discussions on the present and future cooperative activities between SEAMEO and British Council. British Council, UK through the UK Higher Education will assist in the promotion of SEAMEO Congress as well provide recommendations as to potential UK experts as speakers. In addition, British Council UK expressed its support to the SEAMEO Secretariat and British Council Thailand's Proposed SEAMEO-UK Education and Research Link (Study Tour of UK Education and Research Institutions), initially scheduled to happen in September 2014.

F. Immediate Follow Up Actions from SEAMEO Secretariat

1. To move forward the *Proposed SEAMEO-UK Education and Research Link (Study Tour of UK Education and Research Institutions)*, SEAMEO Secretariat has to submit (within 2nd week of May 2014) to British Council Thailand an estimate of the financial requirements for the proposed initiative and the definite date for the visit.
2. SEAMEO Secretariat to provide the International Cooperation Unit of UK Higher Education relevant information about SEAMEO Congress so it can assist in the promotion of the event to higher education institutions in UK.
3. Learning from the Going Global 2014 experience, the SEAMEO Secretariat to consider the following points in improving the programme of the SEAMEO Congress:
 - Inclusion of gender perspective in some of the key questions for the plenary-panel and parallel sessions;
 - To invite a young entrepreneur or innovator who will speak on how education has played a major part in their career and his/her visions about the future of education and how education can and must do to support future generations of young innovators
 - To require a synthesis or a wrap-up for every plenary-panel and parallel session. The moderator should be able to sum up and extricate from the session innovative recommendations on re-thinking and re-shaping education in the region. A session guidelines has to be developed to serve as guidance for the session moderators;