



Mission Report

5TH ANNUAL FORUM FOR HIGH OFFICIALS OF BASIC EDUCATION OF SEAMEO MEMBER COUNTRIES AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

THEME: QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK FOR BASIC EDUCATION

**ANGKOR PARADISE HOTEL, SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA
11-12 JUNE 2015**

A. SEAMEO Secretariat (SEAMES) Officials on Mission

Dr Gatot Hari Priowirjanto, Director; Dr Tinsiri Siribodhi, Deputy Director; and Dr Asmah Ahmad, Programme Officer II.

B. Background

The concept of an annual forum for High Officials of Basic Education of SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members was proposed by the SEAMEO Secretariat and approved by the SEAMEO Council at the 45th SEAMEO Council Conference in Cebu, Philippines in 26 January 2010. The forum aims to facilitate the exchange of best practices and experiences on various areas and issues on basic education. It is intended to serve as platform to reflect on ways to further enhance the provision of basic education and gain insights from each other by sharing and exchanging ideas. Moreover, the forum intends to foster regular and active fellowship among High Officials responsible for Basic Education in SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members.

The first forum was hosted by the Ministry of Education, Malaysia on 8-11 November 2010 in Genting Highlands, Malaysia, with the theme "Basic Education: Pathway to 21st Century Human Development". The second forum then was hosted by the Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam, on 18-20 October 2011 in Danang, Vietnam, with the theme "Sharing and Embracing the Development of Inclusive Education in Southeast Asian Countries".

The 3rd Annual Forum for High Officials of Basic Education of SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members was hosted by the Ministry of Education, Thailand on 12-14 February 2013, in Nonthaburi, Thailand, with the theme "Quality and Equity of Basic Education for Sustainable Future: Building Capacity for Every Learner". It follows that the 4th Annual Forum for High Officials of Basic Education of SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members was hosted by the Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam on 11-12 June 2014 in Gadong, Brunei Darussalam, with the theme

“Promoting Entrepreneurship Education and Culture Within the Basic Education System”.

C. Objectives of the Forum

1. To keep abreast with the current regional and global trends, issues and challenges concerning quality assurance in basic education.
2. To share knowledge of best practices relating to quality assurance in basic education.
3. To explore potential areas for collaboration on quality assurance in basic education among SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members.

D. Expected Results

1. Enhance knowledge and the implementation of programmes, projects, initiatives, policies and national curriculum, in providing quality education to the primary and secondary school students.
2. Strengthen cooperation among SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members with the aim of achieving quality basic education.

E. Participants

The participants consisted of High Officials of Basic Education from the Ministries of Education of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The participants also consisted of Centre Directors and focal person from SEAMEO QITEP in Mathematics, SEAMEO QITEP in Science and SEAMEO RECSAM respectively.

F. Organizer

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MOEYS), Cambodia

G. Summary Points

1. Dr Tinsiri Siribodhi, SEAMES Deputy Director presented on the synthesis of the presentations from the SEAMEO Member Countries and the key points were as follows:
 1. A Journey to quality: 1) To groom the children; 2) To prepare the children to be capable, competent and competitive “Global Citizen” with values and ethics; and 3) For economic growth of the Country and Region.
 2. Pathways: 1) Country’s priority (National goals); 2) Country’s context (law, culture, system, needs); 3) More Countries moving towards Holistic education; and 4) More Countries provide multiple pathways.
 3. Similarities: 1) Utilization of Internal Assessment & External Assessment; 2) Implementing inspection system; 3) Having Quality Assurance Units; and 4) Areas of quality.
 4. Areas of Quality: 1) Leadership; 2) Governance (example, management and budget); 3) Curriculum; 4) Teaching and learning; 5) Resources (example, facilities and environment); 6) Learners; and 7) Community participation.
 5. Uniqueness: 1) Tool to diagnose and not to measure (Singapore case); 2) Quantity vs. quality (Indonesia case); 3) Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) (Brunei case); and 4) Teacher development (Philippines case).
 6. Challenges and Observation: 1) Process vs. reflection; 2) Teachers quality; 3) Students with special needs; and 4) ECCE.

Note: The powerpoint presentations from the SEAMEO Member Countries is

documented in the final report of the 5th Annual Forum for High Officials of Basic Education of SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members.

2. Role/Participation of SEAMES

Dr Gatot Hari Priowirjanto, the SEAMES Director delivered the welcome remarks at the beginning of the forum and provided inputs in the discussion during the forum. SEAMES also explored the possibilities of future collaboration between the SEAMEO Centres and Member Countries. Dr Tinsiri Siribodhi made synthesis of the SEAMEO Member Countries' presentations and presented to the forum's participants as the conclusion for the forum. Dr Asmah Ahmad assisted Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia in the reporting of the forum.

3. Follow-up Actions Needed

SEAMES is to submit the final report of the 5th Annual Forum for High Officials of Basic Education of SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members to SEAMEO Member Countries, Associate Members, and the above-mentioned SEAMEO Centres. SEAMES is to request to SEAMEO Member Countries for 1 primary school and 1 secondary school to participate in the school networking programme that will be conducted by the above-mentioned SEAMEO Centres and additionally, SEAMOLEC.

4. Related Forum Materials

1. The powerpoint on "Synthesis of Country Presentations" as attached.
2. The final report of the 5th Annual Forum for High Officials of Basic Education of SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members as attached.



(The 5th Annual Forum for High Officials of Basic Education of SEAMEO Member Countries and Associate Members, Theme: Quality Assurance Framework for Basic Education, Angkor Paradise Hotel, Siem Reap, Cambodia, 11-12 June 2015)



(The participants of the forum: High Officials and officials of SEAMEO Member Countries, SEAMES and SEAMEO Centres)



(The opening ceremony by H E Dr Im Koch, Secretary of State, MOEYS, Cambodia; Mr Puth Samith, Acting Director General of Education, MOEYS; and Dr Gatot Hari Priowirjanto, SEAMES Director)



(Discussion session during the Forum)



(“The Synthesis of Country Presentations” by Dr Tinsiri Siribodhi, SEAMES Deputy Director)