

Remarks
By
General Kasemsak PLOOKSAWAT
At the 2nd Executive Committee of FASPPED
Seoul, Republic of Korea
On 24 May 2010

Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Parliamentarians,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honor and pleasure for me to represent the Thai delegation at the second Executive Committee Meeting of FASPPED in Seoul. May I take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to Honorable Kim Young Jin and the Secretariat for their very warm welcome and excellent preparation of this event.

Mr. Chairperson,

Thailand has fully supported international cooperation in education. In 1990 Thailand hosted the first World Conference on Education for All in Jomtien which was the outset of substantially global endeavors in promoting equitable education

and the World Declaration on Education For All. Since then many relevant events were arranged by Thailand. Last year, Thailand hosted the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization or SEAMEO meetings.

At national level, the Thai government has set the building of a learning society as a national agenda. The educational reform from 2009 to 2018 focuses on providing education for everyone without discrimination. .

Up to the present, Thailand has made a significant progress in achieving Education for All or EfA.

Thanks to close and efficient partnership of regional agencies such as SEAMEO and ASEAN with UNESCO, the educational projects to reach the unreached in Southeast Asia have a significant advancement which accelerates attainment of the Education for All.

The policy of fifteen years cost-free schooling from kindergarten to the end of upper secondary level since 2009 applies equally to the disadvantaged and disabled and to Thai as well as

migrant and ethnic minority citizens. This provision has also accelerated education for all in the country.

In addition, Thailand has made substantial investments in ICTs as a means to narrow the urban rural divide and improve the quality of learning. A number of projects for distance learning making better use of television through satellite TV of the Tutor TV channel, radio and online learning have been launched.

Thailand has also made the advancement of community-based learning centers or CLCs in rural areas.

Mr. Chairperson,

In Thailand, the Thai National Assembly has an active role in promoting education and development of educational legislations. The Standing Committee on Education of the House of Representatives and the Senate are established. Several legislations are initiated by the Standing Committees. Recently, the House of Representatives has passed the new National Education Bill. The Thai National Assembly also

supports cooperation at international level. In this connection, I realize the importance of FASPPED as a significant forum to strengthen the role of parliamentarians in ensuring Education for All. In this regard, I would like to make some recommendations.

In promoting activities of member countries, the FASSPED Secretariat may consider to be a coordinator in arranging visits between members in order to providing opportunities for member countries to learn experiences from each other.

The role of national focal point of FASPPED should be promoted. In this respect, the FASPPED and member parliament may cooperate in facilitating national focal points to join the international meetings of governments on education and report to the FASPPED Executive Committee and Assembly.

In regard to the organizational matter of FASPPED, I would like to suggest that in order to facilitate interaction between member countries, the email addresses and mailing addresses of national focal points of FASPPED should be provided on FASPPED website.

**Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Parliamentarians,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I have a strong confidence that with our dedication and cooperation, this Executive Committee Meeting will be able to complete our missions. Let me, on behalf of the Thai National Assembly, affirm my commitment and support to FASPPED in attaining Education for All in Asia-Pacific.

Thank you.