

Opening Remarks
by
Assoc. Prof. Kamjorn Tatiyakavee
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Education, Thailand
at the Asia-Pacific Meeting on Education 2030
25 November, 2015, Anantara Bangkok Sathorn Hotel

Mr. Daniel Toole (เดเนียล ทูล)

Regional Director, UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office

Dr. Gwang-Jo Kim (กวาง โจ คิม) Director of UNESCO Bangkok,

Distinguished participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is both an honour and a pleasure for me to join you this morning at the opening ceremony of the Asia-Pacific Meeting on Education 2030. On behalf of the Ministry of Education, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warm welcome to Bangkok, and particularly to this regional meeting.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Education lies at the heart of all the sustainable development goals and Thailand reaffirms its desire and commitment to work closely with UNESCO and all partners, to overcome the challenges, particularly those relating to Education 2030 agenda. The current government has placed high priority to education since we believe that education is the key element to achieve security, prosperity, and sustainability. Therefore, Thailand is committed to move towards Education 2030 in a manner that is both consistent and relevant to Thailand's education agenda. We are striving to promote lifelong learning, and, particularly, to develop and improve education quality to enable access by all of its people to diverse sources of learning and knowledge consistent with learners' interests. The country continues to focus on improving education

quality through curriculum reform and reform of the teaching and learning process. We also continue to improve the quality of schools and educational establishments of every type and at every level. Moreover, we are striving to improve vocational education to bring the instructional system more in line with contemporary manpower needs, in terms of both quality and quantity, and to develop individuals with both mid-level and high level skills to meet the needs of the economy.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The global commitment to education encourages enhanced cooperation between countries to coordinate their efforts and pool resources to ensure that all people will achieve inclusive, equitable and lifelong learning education. The Asia-Pacific Regional Education Conference hosted by Thailand last year demonstrated the spirit of the region's commitment to providing equitable and inclusive access to quality learning for all people, and at all education levels, from early childhood to tertiary and adult education, in both formal and non-formal settings. This year, this regional technical meeting will continue to develop a collective regional voice to identify the capacity development needs of member states for the successful implementation of Education 2030. It will also consider indicators for a comprehensive analysis of equity and quality regarding lifelong learning.

On a final note, my sincere thanks and appreciation go to UNESCO Bangkok, the UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office and the Regional Office for South Asia, and to all those who have worked hard together to organizing this important forum. We need to work together, sharing our perspectives, experiences, and expertise, to cope with emerging and anticipated future education challenges in our region. At the same time, we will look ahead to the future. We need to consider how education must further evolve to meet

and match the changing needs and aspirations of the different communities in our region.

On behalf of the Ministry of Education, Thailand, we are pleased and proud to be part of this international effort to achieve Sustainable Development Goal of Education 2030 and its corresponding targets. I hope and trust that we can all work together to achieve the objectives of this meeting. Let's share and achieve our goal together.

Thank you.

=====