



SEAMEO News Clipping

Headline: Vietnam pledges all-out effort to reduce disparity in education

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***The Hanoitimes* - Vietnam will do its utmost to increase the quality of education to a level available to people from other Southeast Asian nations.**

Minister of Education and Training Pham Vu Luan made the announcement at a March 21 meeting to conclude the 47th Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) conference in

Hanoi.

Vietnam will work together with other SEAMEO member countries to agree upon regional standards for training methods, qualification levels, teacher capacity and educational programmes.

In addition, we will discuss foreign language standards at school level and how to tailor pupils' practical skills to both local requirements and global integration, Luan said.

As the host country of SEAMEO 47 and SEAMEO Council President for 2013-2015, Vietnam will join regional efforts to build a knowledge society among Southeast Asian nations and contribute to the ASEAN community building process from 2015 onwards.

Ministers from member countries will also discuss ways to raise SEAMEO's position on a par with other global educational organisations, he noted.

SEAMEO 47 delegates agreed that SEAMEO will be held biennially in future, with Thailand, the Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam, Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia to rotate the hosting of the event.

Other member countries can also put forward proposals to host the conference on an ad hoc basis.