



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

48th SEAMEO Council Conference

The SEAMEO Council Conference

www.seameo.org

Date: 6-9 May 2015
Venue: Royal Cliff Hotels Group, Jomtien-Pattaya, Chonburi, Thailand
Hosted by: The Ministry of Education, Thailand co-organized with the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO)

The SEAMEO Council Conference is the annual meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization consisting of education ministers of the 11 SEAMEO Member Countries, namely, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

The SEAMEO Council Conference convened biennially or once in two years. The Conference is hosted by the Member Countries on a rotation basis (Thailand, Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Singapore, Indonesia, and Malaysia). Other Member Countries could also offer to host the Conference.

The Conference is attended by the Ministers of Education of SEAMEO Member Countries, representatives of SEAMEO Associate Member Countries, Affiliate Members, SEAMEO Regional Centre Directors, SEAMEO Secretariat; and officials and observers from development partners and international organizations.

The Objectives of the Conference

1. To serve as a forum for discussion of policy and regional initiatives on education, science and culture
2. To set directions of programmes and projects of SEAMEO and its Units
3. To review programmes and activities of the Organization

Sessions at the 48th SEAMEO Council Conference

The In-Camera Session

This is a closed meeting attended by Head of Delegations and designated High Officials. The Session discusses critical and confidential issues.

Plenary Sessions

These are open sessions attended by Heads of Delegations, High Officials, Affiliate Members, Regional Centre Directors, key personnel of SEAMEO Units, and observers.

Policy Forum

This is a themed session that aims to engage the SEAMEO Council in a discussion on common concerns and interests. The theme for this Conference is “**Digital Learning for Creating Future Global Citizens**”.

Ministerial Round Table Meeting

This is a closed free flowing discussion for heads of delegations of Member Countries. The dialogue is expected to conclude with some directives from the Education Ministers on Agenda SEAMEO to pursue. The theme for this Conference is “**SEAMEO in the Next Decade**”.

Bilateral Meetings

Bilateral meetings between delegations are organized upon request by SEAMEO Member Countries during the Conference. Non-country delegations can also request for side meetings with a country or another organization.

Participants of the 48th SEAMEO Council Conference

Approximately 200 participants attend the 48th SEAMEO Council Conference:

1. **Ministers of Education and High Officials of SEAMEO Member Countries:** Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam
2. **High Officials and representatives from SEAMEO Associate Member Countries:** Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, and United Kingdom
3. **Presidents or Directors of SEAMEO Affiliate Members:** International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE), University of Tsukuba, and British Council
4. **SEAMEO Partners:** Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)- Japan, Ministry of Education, , ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN-China Centre , ASEAN University Network (AUN), China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) , Asian Development Bank (ADB), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ), UNESCO, Asian-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education
5. **SEAMEO Centre Directors** from 21 SEAMEO Regional Centres and Network
6. SEAMEO Secretariat
7. Observer Delegations
8. Media representatives
9. Other invited participants

For additional information of the 48th SEAMEO Council Conference, photos and press release, you can access the information by:

1) Website: www.seameo.org

(Please click on the right square banner of the 48th SEAMEO Council Conference – then go to “Information for Media”)

2) Contacting Ms Piyapa Su-angavatin

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