



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION MALAYSIA

## 3<sup>rd</sup> High Officials Meeting on SEA-TVET

*21<sup>st</sup> Century TVET in Southeast Asia: Advancing towards Harmonisation and Internationalisation*  
23-25 May 2017, Swiss-Garden Hotel and Residences, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

### **SESSION GUIDELINES:** **High Officials Round Table Meeting**

**Session:** 5.1, 6.1

**Date:** 24 May 2017

**Time:** 08.30-10.00 hrs: High Officials Round Table Meeting (Session 5.1)  
10.00-10.30 hrs: Coffee Break  
10.00-11.30 hrs: Continue the discussion (Session 6.1)  
11.30-12.00 hrs: Review the agreements  
(Total = 4 hours, excluding coffee break for 30 minutes)

**Venue:** Lotus, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Swiss-Garden Residences

**Purposes:**

- To review the progress of collaboration in TVET among the Southeast Asian countries.
- To identify other initiatives and effective interventions of TVET development and collaboration among the Southeast Asian countries
- To identify other Policy Directions and develop a Regional Action Plan/Road Map for promoting TVET advancement/transformation, internationalisation, and harmonisation for 3-5 years.

**Theme:**

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century TVET in Southeast Asia: Advancing towards Harmonisation and Internationalisation

**Attendees: Approximately 40 participants**

- Permanent Secretaries, Secretary Generals, Director Generals, Directors, and official representatives from TVET Division from Ministries of Education, Higher Education and other related Ministries from 11 Southeast Asian countries
- Representatives from related SEAMEO Regional Centres
- Representatives from ASEAN Secretariat
- Please refer to the provisional list of High Officials and Ministry Coordinators/Representatives who are invited to participate in the High Official Round Table Meeting in **page 4-7**

**Expected Outputs:**

- Regional policy recommendations and initiatives of TVET development and collaboration among the Southeast Asian countries
- A Regional Action Plan/Road Map for promoting TVET advancement, internationalisation, and harmonisation for 3-5 years
- Syndication of plan on TVET development between ASEAN Secretariat and SEAMEO

**Facilitators/Moderators:**

- Dr Gatot Hari Priowirjanto, Director, SEAMEO Secretariat

- Dr Paryono, Deputy Director Professional Affairs/Research Specialist, SEAMEO Regional Centre for Vocational and Technical Education and Training (SEAMEO VOTTECH)
- Representatives from ASEAN Secretariat

**Rapporteurs:**

- Ms Piyapa Su-angavatin, Coordinator, SEAMEO Secretariat
- Ms Aline Almandha, SEAMEO SEAMOLEC
- Representatives from MOE, Malaysia

**Format and Flow of Discussion:**

- This session is conducted as a closed and informal session among heads of delegations and official representatives from Ministries/Departments of Education and related ministries of Southeast Asian countries
- There is no formal agenda. Participants will help determine the points of discussion. Guiding questions, however, will be prepared by facilitators to trigger the discussions.
- The High Officials will be given the opportunity to response to some questions prepared by the facilitators.
- The facilitators will trigger the discussion among the attendees by addressing the issues presented in session 1, 2 and 3 on 23 May.
- The flow of the discussion:
  - Introduction: The facilitators will briefly define the roundtable discussion including the expectation, define the roles and responsibilities of facilitators and participants (15 minutes)
  - Presentations by facilitators of SEAMEO and ASEAN Secretariat (30 minutes)
  - Discussions: The facilitators will facilitate the discussions (120 minutes)
  - Conclusions: Summarise agenda items and critical points, participants share key insights and actions to be taken in the form of joint agreement and a regional action plan (30 minutes)

**Other References:**

- Appendix II: Results from the High Officials Round Table Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> High Officials Meeting on SEA-TVET, 12-14 May 2016, Bali
- Appendix III: Chiang Mai Joint Statement from the results from the High Officials Round Table Meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> High Officials Meeting on SEA-TVET, 24-26 August 2015, Chiangmai

**Guiding Questions:**

- 1. From the country presentations in session 1, what are the anticipated obstacles and what should each country do in response at the national level?**
- 2. From the country presentation in session 1 and presentations of regional initiatives in session 2, what else should we take actions and collaborate more to promote advancement, internationalization, and harmonisation of TVET in the Southeast Asian region?**
- 3. From the regional initiatives, presented in session 2 by SEAMEO, ASEAN Secretariat and other Development Agencies, how can we synthesize and map the regional initiatives/efforts?**
- 4. What other effective interventions should we include in the Regional Road Map or Action Plan to promote advancement, internationalisation, and harmonisation of TVET in the Southeast Asian region for 3-5 years? When should we implement each intervention?**
- 5. What are the mechanisms to drive the Regional Road Map and Action Plan in no 3 to happen and sustain at the regional level? What are the roles of Regional**

**Development Agencies (ASEAN Secretariat, SEAMEO, UNESCO, GIZ and others)?  
What are the funding mechanisms?**

- 6. To learn the advancement of TVET institutions and promote collaboration with countries in other regions, what are the directions/recommendations from the TVET High Officials? What are the strategies to promote collaboration with those countries?**
- 7. Are there other regional issues, concerns, or topics you would like to add in the SEA-TVET Agenda**

**Announcement of the Agreements from HO Round Table Meeting:**

- The final/approved agreements from High Officials Round Table Meeting will be presented at the Closing Ceremony on 24 May 2017 at 15.30-16.00 hrs.

**Contact Details:**

- For additional information of this session, please contact:

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## Appendix I

### List of Attendees for the High Officials Round Table Meeting

- |                   |    |   |
|-------------------|----|---|
| Brunei Darussalam | 1. | <b>Ms. Hajah Mariah Ab. Manaf</b><br>Registrar/Senior Education Officer (Technical)<br>Registrar Office<br><b><i>Institute of Brunei Technical Education</i></b><br>Email: mariah.manaf@moe.gov.bn  |
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### **Agreements from the High Officials Round Table Meeting at the 2<sup>nd</sup> HOM on SEA-TVET, 12-14 May 2016, Bali**

The TVET High Officials' Round Table Meeting was one of the most important sessions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> HOM on SEA-TVET, hosted by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia, scheduled on 12-14 May. This TVET High Officials Round Table Meeting was convened to assess progress of TVET harmonisation and Internationalisation in the region and to identify more effective interventions and policy directions of TVET development and collaboration among Southeast Asian countries. Agreements/recommendations from the High Officials' Round Table Meeting include the followings:

1. **ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQRF) and National Qualifications Framework (NQF):** Regional and national levels of Qualification Reference Frameworks and Quality Assurance Frameworks are very important components in strengthening the harmonisation and internationalisation of TVET in Southeast Asian countries. Consequently, it is important for TVET to consider the following policy recommendations/intervention activities:
  - 1.1 Set-up a regional body/committee that will focus on referencing AQRF to NQF and establish suitable models for TVET Quality Assurance, including a timetable.
  - 1.2 Complete research into harmonising the credit transfer system which includes learning times; and credit hours.
  - 1.3 Development of a SEAMEO working paper into the creation of an organizing body that will look into the use of Regional QRF and the Quality Assurance Framework in a manner similar to the **ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN)**; the identification of personnel-in-charge (PIC) per country that will study issues on NQF/AQRF; and the development of research focused on at least two of the four priority study/industry areas as an initial study in harmonising NQF-related issues.
2. **Staff-Student Exchanges under the SEA-TVET Consortium:** A school-to-school student/staff exchange (bilateral) programme, with additional industrial attachments, is recommended for implementation as this is more applicable and feasible than the multi-partners approach. The setting-up of a standard or minimum requirement for participating institutions is necessary to assure that institutions meet certain requirements such as prescribed in the NQF. Membership of the SEA-TVET Consortium network should also be expanded to interested partners in the industrial sector.
3. **Priority Study Areas:** The meeting agreed continued compliance to four priority study areas or industry sectors as agreed by the 1<sup>st</sup> HOM on SEA-TVET held in Chiang Mai, Thailand in August 2015. These are:
  - 3.1 Hospitality and Tourism;
  - 3.2 Agriculture and Fisheries;
  - 3.3 Electronics, Mechatronics, and Manufacturing;
  - 3.4 Construction.
4. **Sharing of Resources:** To promote the sharing of resources and practices among Southeast Asian countries and TVET institutions, the TVET websites of educational ministries and SEAMEO should also be linked. It was also recommended that a regional award to promote the best practice of resource sharing among TVET institutions be developed.
5. **TVET Occupational Mapping:** Regarding the implementation of TVET occupational mapping, it was suggested that research activities should be scaled up to cover more related areas of TVET and involve more ministries related to TVET education. It is recommended that specific instruments are developed by experts so that these can be utilised by SEAMEO member countries within identified industrial and geographical areas. Additionally, a mechanism to keep member countries informed and updated should be developed.



6. **Other Components to Improve TVET:** In relation to other components to improve quality for TVET as stated in the Chiang Mai Statement, such as Green TVET; ‘Technopreneurs’; Innovative Practices in TVET; Teacher Education and Training; and TVET for ALL – the meeting agreed to align the plan and implementation of the SEA-TVET policy directions with the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on TVET and Higher Education in 2015. It was recommended that the concept of “Sustainable Development in TVET” should be included.

The meeting also suggested a revision of the terminologies of “Green TVET” to “Green Schools” and “TVET for ALL” to “Quality TVET for ALL”.

It was recommended that a regional competition on innovative practices of TVET should be conducted. The existing competency/skill competition at the national level should be expanded by inviting other Southeast Asian countries to participate.

7. **Mobilisation of Stakeholders:** Stakeholders’ involvement should take on a greater role of emphasising and expanding to communities, parents, private companies, multinational manufacturers, and professional associations.
8. **Other Regional TVET Initiatives:** The High Officials’ Round Table Meeting also supported the new SEAMEO Regional Initiatives for TVET, namely SEA-TVET Scholarship Programme, SEAMEO Polytechnic Network, SEA-TVET Future Teacher, and SEA-TVET Knowledge Platform.

In relation to the **SEA-TVET Scholarship Programme**, the meeting supported the concept, and agreed that the scholarships be offered according to the 4 priority study areas as confirmed in number 3. The member countries such as Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia and Thailand expressed interest to participate in the SEA-TVET Scholarship programme. However, the member countries had different commitment on the number and form of scholarships. Other suggestions for implementation were such as mutual agreement between the countries, and scholarships to be offered by private institutions.

### Agreements from the High Officials Round Table Meeting at the 1<sup>st</sup> HOM on SEA-TVET, 24-26 August 2015, Chiangmai



#### **Chiang Mai Joint Statement on Harmonisation and Internationalisation of TVET in Southeast Asia**

#### **PREAMBLE**

1 We, high-level education officials responsible for technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and representing eight SEAMEO Member Countries (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, and Thailand) met in a High Officials Round Table Meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand on 25 August 2015 to determine policy directions of TVET development and collaboration in Southeast Asia, and identify strategic framework and priority areas of development especially on prospects of harmonisation and internationalisation of TVET.

2 The First High Officials Round Table Meeting on TVET in Southeast Asia is in pursuit of the directive of the education ministers of Southeast Asian countries that comprise the SEAMEO Council during the SEAMEO Strategic Dialogue of Education Ministers held in September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR which identified TVET as one of the seven Post-2015 and Post-Education for All priority areas of SEAMEO.

3 Furthermore, the High Officials Round Table Meeting on TVET in Southeast Asia is in support of recent global and regional declarations on the promotion and enhancement of TVET such as the Third International Congress on TVET which focused on “Quality Education and Skills Development for Sustainable Future” and was held in Shanghai, Peoples Republic of China in May 2012; and the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on “Making Skills Development Work for the Future” held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 3-5 August 2015.

4 Cognisant of the increasing integration in the world and in Southeast Asia and the efforts of governments to address labour market demand which will help bring about economic growth and social development, the importance of working together towards harmonisation and internationalisation of TVET is key to ensuring greater mobility and competitiveness, not only of single and individual countries of the region, but the entire Southeast Asia as a unified community.

#### **AFFIRMATIONS**

5 With the foregoing antecedents, we therefore recognise and affirm the following:

1. That TVET plays a fundamental role in preparing the labour force in Southeast Asia, and that the industry is an important driver of economic growth;
2. That by synergising efforts of SEAMEO Member Countries on TVET, Southeast Asia can be more ready for ASEAN integration;
3. That there is a need for continuous and strategic discussion to help direct regional cooperation on TVET in Southeast Asia; and
4. That harmonisation and internationalisation of TVET is vital key to competency development and quality improvement of this sector in Southeast Asia.

## AREAS AND STRATEGIES FOR COOPERATION

6 In support of precursor global and regional declarations on TVET and our foregoing affirmations, we therefore agree to the following:

1. Cooperate in the review and share the development of respective TVET national quality assurance and qualifications framework of SEAMEO Member Countries referring to the ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQRF).
2. Establish SEA-TVET consortium as a mechanism for overseas student and staff exchange, which shall include industrial attachment and internship.
3. Agree that Hospitality and Tourism is the first priority industry sector as a pilot for implementing regional harmonisation. Other priority industry sectors such as 1) Electronics, Mechatronics, and Manufacturing; 2) Agriculture and Fishery; and 3) Construction will be implemented in the later stage.
4. Share knowledge, best practices, and resources, including experts, teaching and learning systems and materials, and equipment for enhancing cooperation to improve the quality TVET in Southeast Asia. Online TVET portal will be used as a platform to enhance information sharing. (<http://seatvet.seameo.org>)
5. Carry out TVET occupational mapping by priority industry sector and by geographical area in cooperation with industry and other agencies to narrow the gap between demand and supply for future labour force in the region.
6. Address several components, such as green TVET, technopreneurs, innovative practices in TVET, teacher education and training, and TVET for all as part of harmonisation and internationalisation of TVET initiatives in Southeast Asian region.
7. Mobilise stakeholders in a concerted effort to create strategies and share responsibilities for harmonisation of TVET.

Adopted on 26 August 2015 in Chiang Mai, Thailand  
at High Officials Meeting on Southeast Asia Technical and  
Vocational Education and Training (SEA-TVET)

organised by the Office of Vocational Education Commission,  
Ministry of Education Thailand; SEAMEO, and British Council