

Welcome Remarks by  
Mr. Chaturon Chaisang  
Minister of Education, Thailand  
at the Welcome Dinner of the  
of the UNESCO Forum on Global Citizenship Education  
3<sup>rd</sup> December 2013 at 19.00 hours  
Marriott Bangkok Sukhumvit Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

Mr. Tang Qian, (ถัง เฉียน) Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO,

Mr. Gwang-jo Kim, (กวางโจ คิม) Director of UNESCO Bangkok

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honour for me to welcome all of you to this Dinner for the Forum on Global Citizenship Education. I am very pleased to be among distinguished experts and participants who are a powerful force for the implementation of global citizenship education at the country level. At this Dinner, I hope you will take this opportunity to relax from the long day's deliberations and discussions, and enjoy the hospitality of the Thai Ministry of Education.

Global Citizenship Education is one of the three priorities of the UN Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative. Accordingly, Thailand is proud to be able to co-host this forum, which will help countries to prepare to implement Global Citizenship Education at the country level.

As we are well aware, education in a globalized world is increasingly emphasising the importance of values, attitudes and communication skills as a critical complement to cognitive knowledge and skills. The Thai government supports this trend, and is part of it. It is committed to providing quality education so that all Thais will achieve their fullest potential in terms of cognitive, emotional and creative development. The country, therefore, is

already in the process of reforming and integrating the education system to produce learners who can think, analyze, solve problems, and learn independently and continuously throughout their lives. Apart from mathematics, science and technology, the Ministry of Education also focuses on improving the teaching and learning of foreign languages with an emphasis on communication skills in real life situations, careers and further education.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Ministry of Education of Thailand, I am very pleased to welcome all of you once again to Thailand and to this dinner for delegates to the Forum on Global Citizenship Education. I would like to wish you all a very pleasant evening and a productive stay in Bangkok.

Thank you

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