

**Dr Gatot – SEAMES Director,**

**Dr. Valenzuela- Deputy Director of SEAMES,**

**Dr Georg Verweyen of DAAD,**

**Ms. Sarita and Ms. Thidapon of British Council Thailand,**

**Khun Kanokphan Khamasundara of ADB**

**Dr. Chantavit of SEAMEO RIHED,**

**Centre Directors,**

**Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen.**

**Good morning**

**First of all let me extend Dr. Pratap’s regrets for not being able to be with you today. SEAMEO TROPED Network is also co-organizing with SEA-EU NET an Expert Roundtable Meeting on Anti-Microbial Resistance Research and Surveillance in Hanoi. It is scheduled on exactly the same dates. And because of circumstances beyond our control we cannot change dates of both activities.**

**On behalf of Dr. Pratap and the entire SEAMEO TROPED Network,- with the Directors of the three Regional TROPED Centres who are here with us.**

**I would like to welcome each and everyone of you on this second forum of Module 2 of SEAMEO College. This is a follow-up action based on the recommendations of the participants of the first forum. In addition, let me also extend my sincerest thanks to all of you, that inspite of your busy schedule and short notice (am sorry for that) you found time to participate in this forum.**

**The partial results of the Comparative Study done on harmonization efforts on medical and nursing profession will also be presented today by two consultants whom some of you met during the their country visits. Again, the study was undertaken to implement the recommendations you have given last time.**

**Let me also welcome and thank Dr. Chantavit, who is going to share with us what RIHED is currently doing and has done in higher education harmonization. Right after her presentation today Dr. Chantavit will fly to Myanmar to host another regional conference. Again, our thanks Dr. Chantavit.**

**For our partners, British Council, DAAD, ADB welcome and thank you for joining us in an activity that all of us fully believe in.**

**To SEAMES with the able leadership of Dr. Gatot, our thanks for their support in this undertaking.**

**Dr. Gatot and Dr. Pratap share the same goal i.e. for SEAMEO to work with the countries in all possible ways through the expertise available in the organization and in collaboration with development partners to further efforts towards meeting a harmonized health profession education in the region. Most of the countries in this meeting have so much to share in terms of experiences which can serve as models for harmonization in other higher education professions. These efforts will not only contribute to the achievement of one of the priorities of the Ministers of Education of SEA but also complement efforts of ASEAN in ensuring smooth implementation of the MRA signed by all countries represented here.**

**Ladies and gentlemen, the best is yet to come for harmonization.**

**Again welcome, enjoy Bangkok and the forum.**