

**WELCOME STATEMENT OF DR. TRAN THI GIANG HUONG,
DIRECTOR GENERAL, INT'L COOPERATION DEPARTMENT
MOH OF VIETNAM, CHAIR OF THE 47TH SEAMEO TROPMED
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AT THE BUSINESS SESSION.**

Dear Prof. Dr. Pratap Singhasivanon,
Secretary General/Coordinator, SEAMEO TROPMED Network,
Data' Dr. Ahamad bin Sipon, Director of SEAMEO TROPMED
Secretariat
Governing Board Members and Representative of Member Countries,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Governing Board of SEAMEO TROPMED Network, it is my honor and privilege to welcome distinguished participants to the 48th SEAMEO Governing Board Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia,

I would like to express the Network's gratitude to the Government of Malaysia through the Ministry of Health of Malaysia for hosting the 48th SEAMEO TROPMED Governing Board meeting and to H.E. Minister of Health of Malaysia for presiding over the opening Ceremony.

As usual, the 48th SEAMEO TROPMED Network Governing Board Meeting is an opportunity for the Network to review and revise its visions and missions in order to meet the challenges and responses to Education for Sustainable Development.

SEAMEO TROPMED Network always considers human resource development in health as a key strategy to improve the healthcare services and healthcare system. Over the past year, the Network has organized and provided financial support to health professionals at different levels to participate in different training courses to strengthen their capacity.

From September 2008 to August 2009, the Network activities were focused on strengthening Public Health and Epidemiology in Medical University, Advanced Epidemiology, Risk Communication in Health Emergencies, Border Health etc. Beside that, the Network coordinated with German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to provide scholarship for candidates from member countries such as Master of Science in Tropical Medicine, Doctor of Philosophy in Tropical Medicine or Master of Science in Epidemiology, Master of Science in Community Nutrition and Doctorate in Nutrition. Details of activities and accomplishments of the Network will be presented in the Business Session.

As a regional organization with a mandate on human resource development, I hope that in 2 day meeting, all participants will have a productive discussion and will reflect on how we can contribute best to education for sustainable development.

Once again, I wish to express our sincere thanks to the host country for your warm hospitality extended to all participants and wish our meeting a great success and best wishes to all participants.

Thank you very much for your attention.