

Welcoming Address
The ASEAN Executive Governance Program
August 26th – 31st, 2013

Greeting

- Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.
- First of all, I am honored and delighted to welcome all of you to the opening session of the ASEAN Executive Governance Program 2013.
- On behalf of Thai Government and the Office of Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC), I wish to thank all of you to come to Bangkok for this workshop and the World Bank for helping us to prepare this program.

Introduction

- Frankly speaking, public services all over the world are largely criticized as having poor performance, lacking of transparency and accountability as well as failing to listen to or respond to the needs of the people. In many countries, citizens have continually expressed their dissatisfaction with public sector's performance.
- Undoubtedly, we would like to reform our public sector in order to restore public confidence and trust. Based on the concept of good governance, we have to build a public service that is citizen-centered and to make our public service becoming more transparent, efficient, and effective as well as being responsive and accountable to the public and serve the citizen in the more better way.
- I believe each country in our ASEAN Community has our own blueprint for promoting good governance, and has been trying to reform public sector in several unique ways to fit each nation's context. However, another challenge

and more importantly, is to align each country's efforts with the roadmap of the ASEAN Community.

- The main objectives of this program are to create common understanding about the concept of governance and good governance within the context of ASEAN Community. Through our sharing of experiences and best practices, perhaps we can identify common issues and possible collective actions for further implementation.
- This workshop aims to provide the methodology for professional leaders to discuss, debate, and learn from selected governance-related topics.
- During the next four days, all participants will have the opportunity to share ideas, challenges as well as to gain the new experiences from the two site visit cases.
- My colleagues from World Bank and OPDC will go through program details with you shortly.

Conclusion

- I am certain that over the next four days we will work together to achieve our common goals and building up our further cooperative activities in order to improve governance harmonization for ASEAN Community integration in 2015.
- Finally, I wish you all a very pleasant stay here in Bangkok and a successful and insightful workshop.
- Thank you very much.
