

3rd Video Conference 2014
‘Governance Charter: The Inspiration for the Year to Come’
at World Bank, Bangkok

Participants

1. Cambodia
2. Laos
3. Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC), Thailand
4. World Bank, Thailand

Discussion Issues

The Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC) presents the objective of this conference that is to learn how to promote good governance in ASEAN.

World Bank representative explains that the definition of governance is different in each country; it depends on what issue that government focuses on. For instance, some countries focus on service delivery; in that case, governance means to provide service with efficiency and transparency to citizens. The main question on this conference is on how an individual country in ASEAN does define good governance? When we get the answer, then we will see the common ground that ASEAN focus on. It will be the key message of good governance in ASEAN.

A) Presentation from Cambodia

Cambodia demonstrates that there are 5 principles to promote Good Governance in Cambodia as follows:

- Quality of Information
- Accessibility
- Hospitality
- Punishment
- Feedback from the clients

Moreover, effectiveness of promoting good governance also depends on the budget; therefore, taxation is important for good governance project in Cambodia.

B) Presentation from Laos

Good Governance in Laos define as 4 pillars which are

- People participation

- Rule of law
- Public improvement
- Finance

Laos also creates many activities to support these 4 pillars. For example, to promote people participation, Laos empowers and finances the local government to set up activities that push people involve with government campaign.

B) Presentation from OPDC, Thailand

OPDC representative mentions that the principle of good governance in the Thai context is similar to Laos and Cambodia. However, this year OPDC focuses on improving service delivery in the area of “Service Level Agreement (SLA)”. The main purpose of this is to deliver the services as citizen’s expectation.

C) How to work together and also to share the knowledge on good governance among ASEAN members

All the delegates raise the issues of the future cooperation on sharing knowledge among ASEAN members and all partners suggest that should create the web portal which provides documents on promoting good governance among ASEAN members. ASEAN will have the one stop shop that includes all documents on governance in ASEAN. This web portal will be divided and been responsible by each country members to upload documents. For the languages constrain, all members only need to translate the title of each document in English and translate the whole document in specific request.

OPDC offer to set up the web portal and will inform other countries to upload the document later. World Bank representative also suggests, it will be benefit for ASEAN members, if members inform ASEAN Secretariat about this collaboration which is also located in ASEAN Blueprint.

As OPDC will host an International Conference in November, this issue will be discussing with all delegates from ASEAN again. Beyond these activities, in the future for the sharing knowledge activities, ASEAN might cooperate in staff exchange program to learn more about each other.
