

**OEC speeds up the creativity of the body of knowledge
to develop education quality in cooperation with the neighboring countries**



Office of the Education Council (OEC) organized the Consultative Meeting for First Secretaries of Education representing 4 countries from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, the People's Republic of China and the People's Republic of Laos, the purpose of which is to draft the mutual cooperation and knowledge exchange in order to further develop the quality and increase opportunities for education which will be finalized in accordance with the MOU within 3 months to expedite education reform in the second decades in the most efficient way.

Ms. Sudhasinee Vajrabul, Deputy Secretary-General, revealed that the Office of Education Council by the Center for International Education Development has organized the Consultative Meeting to seek cooperation from neighboring countries in ASEAN Block and negotiating country such as Australia which has been in collaboration in education for long times with Thailand. They offered to help on Risk Management. The experts on this issue will be sent to train staff from the Office of Education Council to the most efficiency in control management, monitoring policy and education reform in the second decades. The cooperation also includes Civic Education and Early Childhood Education as well as other learning and teaching means.

The representative from Brunei Darussalam said that at present, University of Brunei Darussalam has granted 2 scholarships for Thai students each year since 2010. The University also sent 16 students to teach English and Malay languages at Islamic language Colleges, Songkla University at Pattani and Yala. There will be consideration at the ministry level to increase the numbers of expedition after the bilateral cooperation agreement was signed between the Ministries of Education.

During the meeting, it was suggested that the research seminar should be held to exchange the body of knowledge and also exchange officers from both countries to cross work at the Ministry of Education's level as well as student exchange by transferring their credits to prepare for the readiness towards an ASEAN Community.

As for China, the invitation was conveyed to Thai counterparts for a study tour concerning the management for small sized boarding schools. Chinese authorities have successfully solved the problems of students living far away and decreasing numbers of students in many schools and then can save the resource consumption. In the same way Thailand is also trying to solve problems of small sized schools and to set up each Tambol good school. Australia as well, raised the same suggestions. As far as the People's Republic of Laos is concerned, the country emphasized on ASEAN Community and is ready to share its experiences with Thailand in the form of research works why Lao has successfully created the people's awareness and knowledge towards ASEAN and was consequently awarded first ranking in ASEAN countries. Ms. Sudhasinee stated that the Office of the Education Council will accelerate to draft all proposals and the MOU to be signed within 3 months to develop the quality and increase opportunities for education. This issue will be submitted to the Executive Meeting of the Ministry of Education accordingly.