

Ninth International Celebrations
Of the United Nations Day of Vesak
31 May-2 June 2012

**Congratulatory Message by H.E. Jorge Chen,
Ambassador of Mexico to Thailand**

It is a pleasure to participate in the international celebrations of the United Nations Day of Vesak, a date based on the cornerstone principles of the major world organization. When the United Nations was established and its Charter was issued in 1945, after one of the most terrible episodes in modern history, its main goal was to maintain international peace in the world through the practice of tolerance and promoting life together as good neighbors. The Charter reaffirmed the people's faith in fundamental human rights such as the equality of all men and women.

The appreciation, sparked by the United Nations in 1999, of the Day of Vesak confirmed not only the commitments of the organization and its members with the basic and fundamental rights but the message and principles of Buddha such as compassion and devotion to the service of humanity, just as mentioned by the former Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in 1986.

This year's Conference theme: "The Buddha's Enlightenment for the Well-Being of Humanity" matches perfectly with the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter. Peace and Well-Being are closely related concepts for the benefit of the Humankind that must be reminded on a daily basis. Each country by itself and together with the UN, should work towards this end, because the well-being of the people means peace to the world as a whole.

In Thailand, along with the celebrations of the United Nations Day of Vesak, 2012 it has another important significance: the 80th and 60th Birthday anniversaries of HM the Queen and HM the Crown Prince which mark a great moment of happiness for Thais and foreign people living in the Kingdom.

I welcome the Ninth International Conference on the United Nations Day of Vesak and congratulate the organizers, the Government of Thailand and the United Nations Organization on the support for this year celebrations in Bangkok, especially to the International Council for Day of Vesak (ICDV), the International Association of Buddhist Universities and the organizer in Thailand, the Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University.

Sincerely yours,

Amb. Jorge Chen