



**Unified Vietnamese Buddhist Congregation of Australia – New Zealand
Sakyamuni Buddhist Centre
32 Archibald St, Lyneham ACT 2602 CANBERRA-AUSTRALIA.**

May 7, 2011; BE 2555

Congratulatory Message

Respected Greetings from Australia

to: -ICUNDV Chair & Committee Members

- Senior Leaders, Mahasangha & Academic Members
world-wide**
- all participants of the 2011 UNDV Ceremony &
Conference**

We Sangha and lay delegates from Australia, a great Pacific country, where Buddhism is the fastest growing religion in the world (800% increased between 1981-2006), wish to take the opportunity of UNDV 2011 to express our deep gratitude to the MCU Rector, MCU Sangha and Staffs, many other venerable Thai Sangha, many respected IOC/ ICUNDV/ IABU members, and many many others, who have working so hard for the wonderful success for this most important among all world-Buddhist events, this most solemnised among all large-scale Dhamma mission meeting, the most world-widely-represented among all international Sangha gatherings that the Buddhist history has ever seen. This gathering is a continuation from the very first, true, humble international Buddhist leaders meeting, happen in 1950 in Colombo Sri Lanka, for creating the famous World Fellowship of Buddhists, its permanent Headquarters is now also here in Bangkok. We strongly believe that the Buddhist world ought to be deeply indebted toward all grandeur efforts that Thai Sangha, and Thai as a nation, has been, and is being, with much resourceful and willingness, offered to the highest realm ever of world Dhamma disseminations and

world Sangha meetings. Without much of a noble vision and a leadership in-trusted and embodied onto its history, Thai Buddhists and Thai Sangha could have not be able to do this. Once again, may we Australian Buddhists and Sangha send our deep congratulation to the Thai Buddhists and Thai Sangha for this open, meaningful and constructive forum.

In the spirit of harmony, unity and mutual respect, we Buddhists of the world are coming here in Bangkok to showcase the world our joint efforts, our collaborative brotherhood, our shared duties in preserving, promoting and developing the Dhamma, in exploring and maximising the Sangha blessings and guidance roles on how together we could build this fragile earth, this chaotic humanity a better place to live.

We believe that for the sake of sustainable peace and dignified survival of the whole world, we the humanity will have to slow down its uncontrollable consumption of natural resources and man-made products, we will have to drop all arm-race plans and violence contacts for immediately starting meaningful dialogues, we will have to adopt the mutual respect measures and democratic, free and open process in solving all international, national and regional confrontations and differences.

We believe that all good and visionary governments of the world, some in the Asian continent included, will agree to apply traditional measures in dealing with religious communities for the peace of their respective nations, including respecting the moral conductors and religious practitioners, allowing them with full freedom in exercising their roles of guiding a society without fear and social classes, without discrimination and hatred, a society where fractional and personal interests should be recognised fairly but always put below national and humanity interests.

On this issue, we hereby send our appeal from Australia to the Vietnamese Government for its unconditioning release from custody of our Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam's Acting Patriarch, the Most Venerable Thich Quang Do. He is now 84 year of age, already under administrative detention since last 29 years, and it's time for him to be free then he could exercise his sangha and dhamma duties toward UBCV Sangha and laity, both in Vietnam and abroad.

We believe that even much effort have been done in the immediate past decades, but the world Sangha need to be in meeting each other more closer and more regular, at which lots more need to be learned from each others, and at which practical appreciation and true recognition need to be excercised from each others' traditions and contributions.

We are hopeful that through these United Nations' Day of Vesak gatherings, we could plan more regional and then international scale and collaborative programs, where our younger generation of Sangha and educated laity can come to share and learn from each other, formally in Buddhist univesities and informally in forums, seminars and retreats.

It's timely for us to hope, that more practical gatherings, such as week-long Vinaya or Abhidhamma retreats, month-long Sutra study retreats, or a kind of intercontinental Bikkhu forums on social morality, or Asian-wide bikkhuni seminars on social activities, so on, can be started soon, with much supports from the Elder Sangha and wider laity circles.

May I on behalf of Australian delegation, to pay my homage to the respected mahasangha of the world, and send my trust and hope to all delegates at this UNDV gathering.

To the dear world Sangha and Dhamma brothers and sisters, for the meaningful growth and the real progress of

**world Dhamma and Sangha, we Australian Buddhists
always avail ourselves, are are willing to respond, all at your
calling.**

**Most Venerable THICH QUANG BA
Deputy Chair, Unified Vietnamese Buddhist Congregation
of Australia-New Zealand
Canberra 7 May 2011.**