

# Congratulatory message from Finland on the occasion of celebrating the United Nations Day of Vesak 2011

## HELSINKI ZEN CENTER

Kalevankatu 4  
Helsinki, Finland

With the deepest respect and greatest pleasure we congratulate Your Holiness Somdet Phra Buddhachaya, the Most Venerable Dr. Phra Dharmakosarjarn, the Rector of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, all venerable teachers, and friends in Dharma on the thrice-sacred day of Vesak.

Thank you so much for welcoming us to this auspicious gathering. Finland is a small country on the northern edge of Europe and a long way from places where Buddhism has flourished for centuries. Far from being a religion of the many, the Buddhist groups are still relatively small and Buddhism in Finland and also in Scandinavia has a history of only a few decades. Having been invited to a major Buddhist Vesak celebration reminds us that we are a part of a bigger global family. This makes us feel welcome and connected in a heart-warming way.

We thank and congratulate with joy and deep gratitude the lay and monastic sangha, the individuals, committees, organizations, governments and Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University for making this United Nations day of Vesak celebration 2011 possible. We wish the Celebrations will be a great success.

May all beings be free from suffering!

On April the 28th, 2011



Timo Teräväinen

