



**Message from
H.E. Mr. Sermsak Pongpanit
Deputy Minister of Education, Thailand**

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As Deputy Minister of Education and a Buddhist myself, I am personally very pleased to see Thai people adopt and practice the ethical and moral values of Buddhism.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of you to the 10th Anniversary Celebration of United Nations Day of Vesak to be held on 21st and 22nd May, 2013 at the UN Conference Centre Bangkok. The theme of this year's conference, which is Education and Global Citizenship: A Buddhist Perspective, could not be more timely and appropriate.

I greatly appreciate the essential role of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University in guiding Buddhists in today's modern and globalized world. I also would like to offer my congratulations to Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University for hosting this very important Buddhist Conference. I am certain that the university, under the leadership of the Most Ven. Prof. Dr. Phra Brahmaphundit, will make this conference a great success.

My appreciation is also extended to all the organizations, institutions, agencies and individuals for their contribution to this conference. I hope that this conference will be successful in all its deliberations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Pongpanit'.

Mr. Sermsak Pongpanit
Deputy Minister of Education, Thailand