CONCEPT NOTE

I. Background

Greater regional integration, the rapid growth of Southeast Asian economies, and the official incorporation of nations into the ASEAN Community on 31 December 2015 has led to a demand for more specialized and intensive training which will help advance regional economic growth and aid the transformation from a labour-intensive to a technologically-intensive industrial sector.

With this in mind, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) has been identified as one of the seven priority areas for educational development in Southeast Asia. This was officially confirmed by Southeast Asian ministers of education at the Strategic Dialogue of Education Ministers (SDEM) meeting held in Lao PDR in September 2014.

To develop regional policy directions to leverage the quality of TVET in Southeast Asian countries and strengthen cooperation on TVET among ministries of education and other related ministries in the Southeast Asian region, the Office of the Vocational Education Commission – under the Ministry of Education Thailand and in cooperation with the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) and the British Council – held the 1st High Officials’ Meeting (HOM) on SEA-TVET (Southeast Asia Technical and Vocational Education and Training) under the theme: “Working Together Towards Harmonisation and Internationalisation”. This event took place 24-26 August 2015 in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

As a result of the 1st HOM on SEA-TVET, the “Chiang Mai Joint Statement on Harmonisation and Internationalisation of TVET in Southeast Asia” – which includes the four priority industry areas of hospitality and tourism; agriculture and fisheries; electronics, mechatronics and manufacturing; and construction – officially announced these areas as key regional policy directions at the conclusion of the TVET High Officials’ Round Table Meeting.

On 12-14 May 2016, the 2nd HOM on SEA-TVET under the theme of “Strengthening Efforts towards Harmonisation and Internationalisation of TVET in Southeast Asia” was hosted by the Ministry of Education and Culture, Republic of Indonesia on 12-14 May 2016 in Bali, Indonesia. According to the agreement from the Round Table Meeting, TVET high officials and policy makers from Southeast Asian countries agreed the following recommendations as one of many regional strategies to improve the quality of teachers and students:

- Improve the global competitiveness of teachers and students through teacher and student exchange programmes;
- Promote TVET innovative practices of teachers and students by organising regional competitions and/or forums for students. The existing competency/skill competitions at the national level should be expanded by inviting other Southeast Asian countries to participate.
In response to the above regional policy directions and recommendations from the high officials’ meetings, the Office of Vocational Education Commission, under the Ministry of Education Thailand, and in cooperation with SEAMEO will organise the 1st Young SEA-TVET Symposium under the theme of “Learning and Sharing towards Internationalisation and Harmonisation” on 29-31 August 2017 in Krabi, Thailand.

II. Objectives
The objectives of the 1st Young SEA-TVET Symposium are as follows:
1. To promote knowledge sharing to improve innovative practices of TVET students in Southeast Asian countries, under the umbrella of the SEA-TVET Consortium;
2. To increase awareness on TVET international standardisation;
3. To promote 21st century knowledge and skills of TVET students through integrated learning practices and STEM education;
4. To promote entrepreneurship and innovative thinking skills in all study areas TVET students are engaged in.

III. Organisers
2. Co-organiser: Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO)

IV. Date and Venue
29-31 August 2016 at Maritime Park & Spa Resort, Krabi Province, Thailand

V. Theme
“Learning and Sharing towards Internationalisation and Harmonisation”

VI. Participants
It is expected that the symposium will involve the participation of approximately 300 TVET students and teachers from the following Southeast Asian countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, Timor Leste, and Vietnam.

1. The symposium will be participated by:
   - 150 Thai TVET students and 100 TVET students from other Southeast Asian countries
   - 50 Teachers

2. Requirements for students who will participate in the Symposium:
   - 17-21 years old
   - Good command in English communication
   - Studying in senior vocational certificate (equivalent to Grade/Year 12) or Diploma level
   - The study areas of vocational certificate and diploma students who will participate in the Symposium are as follows:
     - Hospitality and Tourism
     - Agriculture and Fisheries
     - Electronics, Mechatronics, and Manufacturing
     - IT, Business and Commerce
     - Entrepreneur and other related area.
   - It is recommended for students to bring along their notebook/laptop to the event which may use for the group work and prepare for group presentation.
3. Suggested proportion number of participating students per participating teacher(s)
   • The proportion number of participating students per participating teachers should be 2-5 students per 1 teacher or 6-10 students per 1-2 teachers.

VII. Activities

The 1st Young SEA-TVET Symposium will comprise of the following activities for students and teachers:

1. Exhibition of TVET schools/colleges under the theme of “Innovative Achievements of our College and Students”.
   • To showcase existing innovative achievements of colleges and students, an exhibition space of 2x2m will be provided to schools/colleges that have formally expressed an interest in participation in the exhibition, via the Registration Form.
   • The set-up of the exhibition will be on 28 Aug 2016. Additional details about the exhibition will be provided to all exhibitors after the organizing committee has received the Registration Form.

2. Presentations of student representatives on the topic of “My Innovative Project”
   • The school/college can select a student representative to deliver a presentation of five minutes on the student’s innovative R&D, or a project according to the study area of the student specified on the Registration Form.
   • The session for student presentations is scheduled for 29 August at 13.00-15.00 hrs.

3. Student Group Activity and Student Innovative Competition
   • All students will be grouped and assigned to work together to create an innovative project/prototype. At the end of this activity, students will need to present the concept or prototype to the judging committee.
   • The prizes are as follows:
     o 10 Prizes for the “Outstanding Student Innovative Project”: The awardees will receive a certificate of recognition and a token.
     o Three Prizes for “Popular Vote”: The awardees will receive a certificate of recognition and a token.

4. Special Session for Teachers on STEM Education for TVET
   • Teachers are invited to participate in the special session on “STEM Education for TVET Teachers” which will be concurrently conducted on 29 August at 15.30-17.00 hrs, and on 30 August at 8.30-12.00 hrs.

5. Student Cultural Performance
   • The school/college can present a cultural show performed by students at the dinner on 29 and 30 August. A five minute performance slot will be provided for each school/college.
   • The school/college can express an interest to participate in the cultural performance by including the necessary information on the Registration Form, such as the title, length of the cultural performance, and the number of students involved.

6. Cultural and Study Visit
   • All participating students and teachers are invited to participate in the Cultural and Study Visit at 13.30 – 16.00 hrs on 30 August. The study visit will include the following organisations:
     o Technical Visit to Industry
VIII. Funding Support

OVEC is pleased to support the following expenses to all students and teachers from Southeast Asian countries.

- Accommodation for twin sharing from 28 to 31 August
- Lunch, coffee breaks and dinner on 29 to 31 August
- Transportation for cultural visits
- All programme expenses such as resource persons, venue arrangement, and administrative expenses
- No registration fee for participating in the Symposium.

OVEC would like to request that the airfare ticket of students and teachers, including transportation for airport transfers in their country, and allowance are supported by the school/college or parents.

IX. Contact Details

For additional information and registration, please contact as follows

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