

28 March 2004 FSBKK

**Welcoming speech at Hua Hin Writing Workshop (28–31March)
Tara Hotel, 28 March 2004**

Good Morning, Friends, My colleagues and
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In my capacity as Manager of ICT in Education Team at UNESCO Bangkok and Taskforce-Manager of this present Project, **“Training and Professional Development of Teachers and Other Facilitators for Effective Use of ICT in Improving Teaching and Learning,”** implemented by Prof. Dr. Zhou Nan-Zhao, Coordinator of APEID, UNESCO Bangkok, it is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to this **“Writing Workshop for Regional Guideline and Competency-Based Standards for Teachers’ Technology-Pedagogy Integration”** in Bangkok and Hua Hin.

As you know well that this project is one of the projects under the Japanese-Funds-in-Trust ICT in Education

Programme, the official document of which is exchanged and signed in 24 October 2001 between the Government of Japan and UNESCO HQs to implement at UNESCO Bangkok in May 2002.

The goal of this Programme is to contribute to Bridging and Tapping the “digital divide” and promoting “digital inclusion”: namely,

1. By exploring and demonstrating how ICT can be used to reach those excluded from learning and to improve the quality of education for all, and
2. By developing innovative models of ICT use and of ICT-based teacher education, teaching-learning methods, and curriculum/materials development in schools and in other places of learning.

The bridging the digital divide and the capacity building are also pointed out in the draft plan of action in the

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Geneva 2003, 9 December 2003, as you know well.

Right now under this JFIT Programme, ten projects are on-going, five of which are directly related to teacher training, and this present Project is the one focusing on the integration of ICTs into pedagogy from the beginning of the project implementation, gathering experts and specialists from the area of Education, training, and software and hardware companies to carry out collaborative work, which is one of the major issues when we consider the improvement of education and ICTs for learners just before us and in the near future characterized by the rapid progress of two major technologies, microprocessor and electronic network.

At the same time we know well through the education history that education is conservative to be unable to

accelerate its progress, simply because it is education concerning and closely relation to the sound development of individual mind of different learners in principle. What we should change, What we should not change, What should not be changed, What is changing, and What is not changing for both learners and teachers... in this rapid, unstable, untransparent changing environment and society.

In this context, again as Manager of ICT in Education Team, and, to be frank, as an university faculty member offering courses in educational technology, science education and international cooperation in education at universities in Japan, two of which are the ACs under APEID activities, I am sure that the outcomes of the present Project and Workshop is sure to impact on other four projects and others marked as country-specific, sub-regional school networking, indicators and policy

development, and establishment of management and delivery system in technical and vocational education institutions.

I learned that Hua Hin we are leaving for this afternoon is the oldest **beach resort** in Thailand developed in the 1920's, and very famous for foreigners throughout the year due to the mild climate, not famous for the place to sit in the guest rooms in the hotel to write. All visitors except us will go out to beach for swimming. Because of that, inside the rooms it must be very quite for us to concentrate to exchange ideas to complete our mission Writing Workshop. I have to thank you to our secretary Ms. Kraiwan and Prof. Dr. Zhou to select that place.

Last but not at least I wish all of you to enjoy the Workshop to draw fruitful outcomes.

Thank you for your attention.