

Remark
by Mr. Nukul Prachuabmoh
Former Governor, Bank of Thailand
Celebration of 25th Anniversary of
the SEACEN Centre
Bangkok, 29 July 2007

Honorable Governors,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to be part of the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the SEACEN Centre, and especially to see some familiar faces, including Dr. Vinyu Vichit-Vadakan, the SEACEN Executive Director when I was a member of the SEACEN Board of Governors. Indeed, the celebration tonight brought back fond memories when I joined my colleagues in signing the Agreement on the SEACEN Research and Training Centre here in Bangkok in 1982.

This evening provides us a swift and appropriate moment for nostalgia to look back and appreciate the torch that our SEACEN founding fathers lit two and a half decades ago. When the macroeconomic management capabilities of South East Asian central banks were tested by the deepest economic recession since the Great Depression of the 1930s, the greater

need for central banks in the region to better provide capacity building for our staffs became apparent. And, the establishment of the SEACEN Centre then became the first important milestone to achieve further cooperation among central banks within the region.

Now that a quarter of a century has passed, I understand that the SEACEN Centre has become one of the most recognized training institutions for central banks in the region.

Along its stride toward excellence, SEACEN has been supported by the strong spirit of comradeship. SEACEN founding fathers brought together small voices of common interests that, when combined, are capable of achieving something far greater than a single voice could. You have carried on this same spirit and brought about the success of SEACEN that we celebrate tonight.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

New challenges are endless in our fast-changing world. SEACEN is being tested once again by the changing global environment with different needs from its members. Judging from its record of success, while the path traveled may be

bumpy going forward, I trust that your spirit of comradeship will somehow get you to the final destination.

What I hope is that your journey to this new destination will be more than just another success story. I truly hope that the spirit and friendship behind SEACEN's success, nurtured earnestly over decades, will be one of the most valuable inheritance that you will pass on to the younger generation of colleagues. I also hope that some of the current Governors here today will be standing in my place at the Centre's 40th or even Golden Anniversary in 15 and 25 years' time.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to end by congratulating the SEACEN Centre for its past achievements and wish all Governors success in carrying this valuable achievement forward.