



Opening Remark

Distinguished speakers and honorable delegates from ASEAN Member States, ASEAN Secretariat, UNICEF, World Bank, my colleagues from the Department of Health, ladies and gentlemen.

Sawadee Krub and a very pleasant good morning to you all.

First, please allow me to express our sincerest thanks and gratitude to you all for accepting Thailand's invitation to participate in this important Regional Workshop on Experience Sharing of Nutrition Surveillance System in ASEAN. The workshop, one of the activities under the work plan of ASEAN Health Cluster 1, Health Priority 7, Promotion of Good Nutrition and Healthy Diet, is being organized by the Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand.

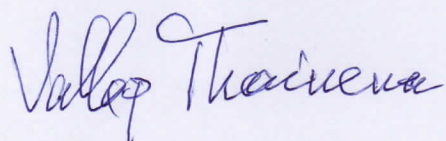
All our undertakings, both at the national and regional levels, recognize that each of the ASEAN Member States exhibits good practices, but also faces some unique challenges. Therefore our combined experiences and competencies should be properly harnessed to eventually generate valuable inputs for this workshop. For instance, the Government of the Thailand faces the continuing challenge of the double burden of malnutrition, a scenario which is not different from other ASEAN Member States. Through the Bureau of Nutrition, the Department of Health, we pursue our commitments towards the eventual achievement of the 2025 Global Nutrition Targets for Improved Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition, Rome Declaration and its Framework for Action during the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), Sustainable Development Goal 2 and other Sustainable Development Goals related to nutrition, in line with the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Ending All Forms of Malnutrition, which was adopted at the 31st ASEAN Summit held in the Republic of Philippines in 2017. We believe integrating

nutrition into all relevant ASEAN sectorial framework, and supporting and sustaining multi-sectoral regional cooperation and collaboration across ASEAN pillars and ASEAN Member States are critical to ending all forms of malnutrition, particularly among the most vulnerable, poor and disadvantaged groups.

Now I would like to take this opportunity to say that we, as host country, are very pleased to provide you with a unique platform through which our distinguished delegates will be able to share their experiences about National or Community Nutrition Surveillance Systems in their respective countries. Not only that, the participants will also have an opportunity to visit some areas in Thailand to see our success and achievements in relation to Nutrition Surveillance System.

Finally, this is an opportune time for me to declare the official opening of the "Workshop on Experience Sharing of Nutrition Surveillance System in ASEAN" and I wish all three fruitful days of interesting and beneficial program, and also that you have a pleasant stay in Bangkok.

I once again welcome you all.



Dr. Vallop Thaineua

Former Deputy Minister of Ministry of Public Health,

Thailand&Former Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Health Thailand