The 2nd China-SEA Partnership Workshop Successfully Held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Singapore, Singapore May 14, 2025 (Issuewire.com) - On May 13, 2025, the 2nd China-SEA Partnership Workshop, hosted by the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Technical Education Development (SEAMEO TED) and supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of Cambodia (MoEYS), was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Nearly 150 participants, including government officials, representatives of education institutions, industry experts, and business leaders from China and nine Southeast Asian countries, attended the workshop to jointly explore collaborative pathways for integrating regional vocational education with Industry 4.0 technologies.

At the opening ceremony, Dr. Songheang Ai, Director of SEAMEO Regional Centre for Technical Education Development, delivered a welcome address, stressing the importance of technical education for the region's sustainable economic development. Dr. ZHANG Xufeng, Deputy Director-General, Department of Education of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, P.R. China, stated that Guangxi will continue to deepen vocational education cooperation with ASEAN countries and jointly build a cross-border industry-education integration ecosystem in the era of intelligence. Dr. Riam Chau Mai, Director of the Community and Industry Collaboration Division, Department of Polytechnic and Community College Education, Ministry of Higher Education, emphasized the need to jointly promote the innovative

development and internationalization of Southeast Asia's technical and vocational education and training (TVET) through regional cooperation and digital transformation. H.E.Dr.Kopheng Vathana, Under Secretary of State, MoEYS, delivered a speech calling on all countries to jointly advance digital vocational education cooperation between ASEAN and China, and collaboratively cultivate technical personnel.

The workshop featured multiple topic sharing sessions where representatives from 13 education institutions across Brunei, China, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam, and Russia engaged in in-depth exchanges on three key themes: "Collaboration Between Industry and TVET Providers for Digital Skills Development," "Adopting Industry 4.0 Technologies in TVET Training," and "Utilizing Industry 4.0 Technologies in TVET Training." Through case studies, they shared their innovative practices in technical education, offering diverse solutions for regional digital skills talent cultivation and demonstrating the vitality and potential of regional technical education cooperation.

During the discussion and exchange part, participants engaged in an in-depth discussion on the future directions for TVET and proposed multiple cooperative initiatives. Subsequently, 12 higher education institutions and educational institutions signed Memoranda of Understanding on-site, covering areas such as faculty and student exchanges, joint curriculum development, and technology transfer, to further advance regional TVET collaboration.

Mr. Laksasak Yangsaman, Director of International Strategy and External Relations Division, Bureau of Policy and Planning, Office of Vocational Education Commission, emphasized in the closing remarks the need for countries to establish long-term mechanisms to ensure the implementation of workshop outcomes. Dr. Songheang Ai concluded that the workshop had built an efficient platform for regional vocational education cooperation and would bring about more practical projects in the future.



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