



The Conference on ASEAN and Disability
17 -18 January 2011
At the Ubonratchathani Provincial Administrative Office

The ASEAN member countries hope their aspiration to form an ASEAN Community will be realized in 2015. The ASEAN Community which is expected to materialize in 2015 will be based on three pillars, namely: a Security pillar, an Economic pillar and a Socio-Cultural pillar. People with Disabilities are also expected to be a part of the ASEAN Community.

The Conference objectives were to empower people with disabilities and to educate people with disability in ASEAN matters. The conference on ASEAN and Disability in North East Thailand was organized by Disabled Peoples' International Asia-Pacific and The networking of people with Disabilities in North East Thailand. The Department of ASEAN, Ministry of Foreign Affair is an official sponsor. This conference was also supported by Wing 21 of the Royal Thai Air Force, The Ubonratchathani Provincial Administrative Office, The Ubonratchathani Social Development and Human Security Office, The Ubonratchathani National Health Security office, The Ubonratchathani Police station and The Ubonratchathani Council of children and youth.

There was a 2 day program in this conference. The first day's morning activities were Campaigning on "People with Disabilities in North East Thailand marching for making the rights real". The Honorable Mr.Pinchai Pinkaew, Inspector of Ministry of Social Development and Human security presided at the Opening ceremony and he also joined in the marching. The Marching procession involved the ASEAN symbol flag, the 10 member countries of ASEAN flags, the North East Thailand provinces flags and the epigram banner. Those things were held by People with Disabilities in North East Thailand. The marching is expected to create awareness about the rights of people with disabilities. And the following activities were the opening ceremony and the workshop on Strength of People with disabilities, Networking and Health security.



The second day's program included educating the participants on ASEAN matters , ASEAN member countries, Introduction to ASEAN and The ASEAN three pillars. After finishing the conference on ASEAN and Disability in North East Thailand the participants now have knowledge on the rights of people with disabilities in ASEAN .They got to know more about ASEAN and How ASEAN is related to daily life.

There is no doubt this conference was a total success. This conference is the first step towards ensuring that people with disabilities will be a part of ASEAN Community and thus making their rights real.

