On behalf of Thailand Ministry of Labour, I would like to welcome the Prime Minister, Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva and express my sincere thanks for presiding over as a chairman to the opening ceremony of the ASEM Conference on “Lifelong Learning: E-Learning and Workplace Learning”. Furthermore, I would like to welcome all Excellencies, Ambassadors, honored guests, all participants, and ladies and gentlemen to this conference. It is an honor to have all your presence at the opening ceremony.

Lifelong Learning is one of the cornerstones of sustainable human resources development that will eventually lead to economic growth. Providing learning and training opportunities throughout one’s life would create suitable employment which corresponds to the concept of “Decent Work”.

The significance of this conference is that it serves as a platform for experience sharing as well as strengthening of cooperation between Asian and European organizations in terms of human resources development. Thailand Ministry of Labour is willing to extend its full support and act as the main network in order to promote lifelong learning so Thailand can become the center of human resources development in the Asia region.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to the Government of Denmark for presenting the opportunity for the Department of Skill Development of Thailand Ministry of Labour to partake in the organization of this conference and for extending its support in the future to come.

Thank you.