

Welcome Speech
Mr. Oros Wongsith
Governor of Prachinburi Province
On the Occasion of a Filed Visit of
NARBO 3rd Thematic Workshop on Water
Allocation and Water Rights
29 November 2006
Prachinburi Province City Hall

Distinguished Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the people of Prachinburi , I would like to welcome you to this province of remarkable diversity. Before I give a full clarification of the epithet, I hope that you will enjoy your time with us this half day of the program.

As part of the Bang Pakong , Prachinburi and Tole Sap River Basin, our province is home to the sources of the the Prachinburi river which flows directly into the Bang Pakong river. We have various the national parks along the upstream areas , one of which is the popular Khao Yai National Park , designated as world heritage of UNESCO. Downstream there is a mixture of agriculture and industry. Although 80 percent of the population are in agricultural sector , there are as many as 805 large scale factories in the province.

Enveloped by this vast diversity , there is a great concern over ecological balance and

biodiversity conservation in the upstream areas and fair and equitable uses of water in the downstream. The problem of fighting for water uses seems to be increased each year especially in dry season where sea water infuses into the river longer than 150 kilometer.

I am very pleased to hear that the workshop on Water Allocation and Water Rights is organized to focus on finding proper guideline for water allocation and water rights in this region. I hope that valuable views and experiences from each country participated in the Workshop can be shared and applied to the benefit of this river basin in particular where the water allocation project has been implemented by the Department of Water Resources

Lastly, I would like to thank NARBO for the financial support for this Workshop and to the Department of Water Resources for giving us the opportunity to welcome and accommodate all participants. I wish the Workshop will bring grate success and fruitful outcome that will contribute to actual implementation in water allocation and water rights for every participating country.

Thank you