



Keynote Speech from VAdm. Charin BOONMOH (DG of HDRTN)

It was my honest honour at my first learn in March from my colleagues returning from the 16th NIOHC CONFERENCE that the DIRECTOR IPTES informed that the First (1st) IHO-NIPPON ALUMNI WORK SHOP is to be inaugurated in the city of BANGKOK, THAILAND.

Since then, we have been preparing and looking forward to welcoming all of you to our beloved country, particularly in the beautiful city of BANGKOK, or the CITY OF ANGLES in THAI meaning.

Director Mustafa IPTES, MR Mitsuyuki UNNO, MR Shinichi Toyama, MR Jeff Bryant, all alumni of the NIPPON FOUNDATION, Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. Now let me formally welcome all of you to THAILAND.

I am glad that the Nippon Foundation conducts an augural Workshop here in Thailand and it is a good opportunity for our department to support this Workshop.

I would like to thank to the Nippon Foundation and the IHO for their initiative beneficial Project; thank the UKHO for providing its experienced instructors; thank you Japan which has initiated the predecessor Project later succeeding by the CHART Project sponsored by the Nippon Foundation today.

We know that, since its official foundation in 1962 as The Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation which renamed in 1995 as Nippon Foundation, even though it has extended its charity to education, social

welfare, public health, and other fields today, Nippon Foundation has been playing an important role and maintaining its goal in influencing the capacity building in maritime and shipping field not only in Japan but around the world.

The Royal Thai Navy Hydrographic Department itself has definitely benefitted from Nippon Innovation in recent years. Both Commander Rittidate and LTJG Uaychai, 2 alumni of the CHART Project in 2010 and in 2013, respectively, who are already representing here, are of the great support to our progress and achievement of our cartographic works, not to mention another two colleagues of ours who have also benefited from the Nippon Foundation Support in Hydrography through the GEBCO Project at University of New Hampshire.

The achievement of the foundation not only provides scholars with knowledge but also enhance the cooperation and relation among them and their countries.

Since the seas and oceans connect the whole world together, to be efficient and effective in hydrography and cartography, the cooperation is essential and seamless like the seas and oceans.

In this occasion, it is a good chance of the Nippon Foundation CHART Project alumni to share and exchange your experience, strengthen our relationship and cooperation. For these purposes, my office and I are glad to support your activities. I wish this workshop will meet its objectives and benefit to us all.

I would like to thank once again the Nippon Foundation, the IHO, the UKHO, Japan, and all Nippon Foundation alumni who are the center of this Workshop. We hope you all have an enjoyable stay in THAILAND. Thank you.