

Country Report
of
The Thai National Committee
on
Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO

Submitted to
8th MOWCAP General Meeting
Gwangju, Korea
29th May -1st June 2018

Annual Report for 2017
**of the Thai National Committee on Memory of the World Programme
of UNESCO**

1. Name of the National Committee of MOW :

The Thai National Committee on the Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO

2. List of Committee Members, Contact person of the Administration Office of the Committee

Chairperson : Professor Khunying Maenmas Chavalit

Advisors:

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education

- The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Culture
- Professor Dr. Adul Vichiancharoen
- Secretary General of the Thai National Commission for UNESCO

Committee members

- Director-General of the Fine Arts Department, Vice Chair
- Professor Dr. Prasert Na Nagara, Vice Chairman of the National Historical Research Committee and Member of the Royal Institute
- Mrs.Savitri Suwansathit, Advisor, Ministry of Culture, Former Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education
- Dr. M.R. Rujaya Abhakorn ,Historian ,Director ,Office of South East Asian Minister of Education Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SEMEO-SPAFA), Former Director, Chiang Mai University Library
- Director, National Electronics and Computer Technology Centre (NECTEC)
- Miss Kongkaew Weerapajak, Oriental Language Specialist, National Library of Thailand
- Miss Khanitta Vongpanit, Former Director, the National Archives of Thailand
- Director of the National Library of Thailand
- Director of the National Archives of Thailand
- Director of the Literature and History Division, Fine Arts Department, Ministry of Culture
- Director of Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre, Ministry of Culture
- Dr.Prachark Wattananusit, Librarian, Former Deputy Director, National Library of Thailand
- Miss Korapin Thaweeta, Archivist ,the National Archives, Secretary
- Miss Wilasinee Thabuengkarn, Administrative Officer of Southeast Asian Minister of Education Organization Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SEAMEO-SPAFA), Assistant Secretary
- Miss Wassana Ngam-Duang-Jai, Librarian, National Library of Thailand, Assistant Secretary
- Representative of the National Commission for UNESCO, Assistant Secretary

3. Contact information (mail, e-mail ,fax , website etc.)

- 1) The Thai National Committee on Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO
c/o SPAFA Building
81/1 Si- Ayutthaya Road
Semsan, Theves,
Bangkok 10300 THAILAND
Tel. 66 2 2804022-29 ext.106
Fax.66 2 2804030
E-mail: spafa@seameo-spafa.org
Website : <http://mow.thai.net>
- 2) The Thai National Commission for UNESCO
Bureau of International Cooperation
Office of the Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Education
Rachadamnoen Nok Avenue, Dusit
Bangkok 10300 THAILAND
Tel. 66 2 628 5646, 662 281 0565 ext.115-116
Fax.66 2 2810953
E-mail: thainatcom@yahoo.co.th
Website: bic.moe.go.th
- 3) Contact persons
 - Miss Korapin Thaweeta, Secretary (e-mail: korapin@hotmail.com)
 - Miss Wassana Ngam-Duang-Jai, Assistant Secretary (e-mail: vassana@gmail.com)
 - Mrs. Kusuma Nawaphanpimol, Assistant Secretary (e-mail: kusuma_lek@yahoo.com)
 - Dr.Prachark Wattananusit, Committee Member (e-mail: prachwat@hotmail.com)

4. Structure of the Committee and any subsidiary bodies

The Thai National Committee on the Memory of The World Programme of UNESCO was appointed by the Minister of Education on January 30, 2015 upon the approval of the Thai Cabinet on January 30, 2015.

5. Statutes and the terms of reference of the committee

- 5.1. To prepare policy and plan new projects and standards for the preparation of nominations of Thai significance documents;
- 5.2. To collaborate with government offices and private bodies to form a potential network;
- 5.3. To collaborate with government offices and private bodies to select the high value documents according to UNESCO and Thai standards;
- 5.4. To prepare the nominations to UNESCO MOW for consideration
- 5.5. To organize activities to enhance the appreciation, preservation and promotion of important documents;
- 5.6. To cooperate closely with the UNESCO MOW International Advisory Committee and the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme for Asia-Pacific (MOWCAP);
- 5.7. To appoint sub committees as necessary;
- 5.8. To work on other related issues.

6. Fundamental resources for year 2016-2017

- *The Thai National Commission for UNESCO, the Bureau of International Cooperation, and the Ministry of Education*
- *The Fine Arts Department and the Ministry of Culture*

7. Activities and achievement for the year 2016-2017

7.1 Monthly Meetings

From 2016 to 2017 there were 24 monthly Committee meetings. The meetings had addressed many aspects of the MOW programme, not only the programme in Thailand but also MOW and MOWCAP e.g. on

- planning;
- selection and collection of documents;
- identify specific heritage documents that are at a potential or imminent risk and draw it to the attention of competent bodies able to take appropriate preservation measures;
- preservation of Thai memory of the world items and others;
- preparation of nomination forms;
- supporting and strengthening the relevant archive institutions and, where practical and appropriate, encourage research communities and private owners to care for their own documentary heritage in the public interest;
- organizing the celebration of “The Royal Photographic Glass Plate Negative and Original Prints Collection”, the Memory of the World international register.

7.2 The 12th National Seminar on the Memory of the World National Register, December 20- 21, 2016, at Prince’s Palace Hotel in Bangkok.

This seminar was opened by Mrs Chaweerat Kasetsuntorn, Assistant of the Minister of Culture. She handed over the following 9 certificates pertaining to the Local Registers:

- 1) Diary of Prakru Sriviratvachirapanya the Chief Monk of Prayao Province area 1861- 1944
- 2) Diary of Krubanochaitamchindamuni Northern Lampang Province Section, Wat Pongsanug Nue, Lampang Province 1857-1942
- 3) Old photos of Mahavajiravudh School Educational Archives and Museum, Songkhla Province
- 4) Anachaklakkham Law of Muang Nan, Nan Province
- 5) Palm-leaves of Khruba Kanchana Aranyavasi Mahathera, Wat Sungmem Prae Province
- 6) Glass plate file of Luang Anusarasunthorn (Soonhi Chutima) 1897-1927
- 7) Map of Temple Kalpana of Satingphra Pannisula in Ayutthaya period, Songkhla Province
- 8) Documents on Geological Resources of the Western Part of Southern Thailand, Trang Province
- 9) Old photos of Queen Sirikit Chaloemprakiat National Archives, Songkhla Province.

There were 114 persons from related government and private offices such as universities, libraries, archives, museums, cultural centres, researchers, post graduate and Ph.D students as well as Buddhist monks attending the seminar. The speaker shared experiences on the important topics preservation, conservation and management of heritage documents. They also shared principles and guidelines for the preservation of heritage documents and Memory of the World Programme and shared

the best practices on filling out the registration forms. Value of some prominent documents had also been promoted.

7.3 The 13th National Seminar on the Memory of the World National Register, December 21-23, 2017, at the Manee Chan Resort, Chanthaburi Province, Thailand.

This Seminar was reported by Mr. Toorat Srinam, Governor of Chanthaburi Province, and opened by Mr. Khonjorn Mookmeekha, the Inspector General of the Ministry of Culture. There were about 150 participants from government offices, private firms, independent researchers, students. Participants received information on the MOW programme, the preparation of nomination forms, the consideration of high valued documents of Thailand' Eastern provinces, archives on the diary of the head of monk of Rayong province, documents of Saritthidej School, Khodmai Tra Samduang and Tamnan Urangadhadu.

During the Seminar, the translation into Thai of the Action Plan of “UNESCO – ASEAN Member States (AMS) for the Implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage” was developed and adapted by delegates from 10 ASEAN Member States and Timar-Leste at the Consultation for the Implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage on May 9-11, 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia had been distributed with explanation to the audience.

7.4 Attending the International Symposium ; Preservation and Access- Southeast Asia's Documentary Heritage in the Digital Age, May 8, 2017 and the ASEAN+3 Consultation for the Implementation of the UNESCO “Recommendation Concerning the Preservation of, and Access to, Heritage Documents Including in the Digital Form” May 9-11, 2017, Malaysia Tourism Centre (MaTIC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Miss Nanthaka Polchai, Director of the National Archives of Thailand, Miss Korapin Tweeta, Senior Archivist of the National Archives of Thailand and Dr. Prachark Wattananusit, retired Senior Librarian and Committee Member of the Thai National Committee on Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO had participated the International Symposium; Preservation and Access-Southeast Asia's Documentary Heritage in the Digital Age, May 8, 2017 and the ASEAN+3 Consultation for the Implementation of the UNESCO “ Recommendation Concerning the Preservation of, and Access to, Documentary Heritage Including in the Digital Form” May 9-11 2017, Malaysia Tourism Centre (MaTIC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

During the period, the “UNESCO –ASEAN Member States (AMS) Action Plan for the Implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage” was developed and adapted by delegates from 10 ASEAN Member States and Timar- Leste.

7.5 Cooperation with the Bangkok Office of the UNESCO Regional Adviser for Communication and Information Unit,

Upon the request of the Bangkok Office of the UNESCO Regional Adviser for Communication and Information, Bangkok for the reference of the Memory of the World National Committee for its cooperation with Myanmar and the Lao PDR on the establishment of the National MOW Committee in the respective countries. Along with the comment, we sent to UNESCO Bangkok Office, country reports and some results of its work as an example of the establishment of the Thai National Committee on Memory of the World Programme of UNESCO.

8. National Register of MOW

8.1 National Register

- 1) The King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription
- 2) The Epigraphic Archives of Wat Pho
- 3) The Archival Documents of King Chulalongkorn's Transformation of Siam (1868-1910)
- 4) The Nantopanantasutrakhamluang manuscripts
- 5) The Minutes Book of the Council of Siam Society: 100 years of recording international cooperation in research and the dissemination of knowledge in arts and sciences
- 6) Inscription of Wat Phra Yuen
- 7) The Royal Photographic Glass Plate Negative and Original Prints Collection

8.2 Local Register

- 1) Diary of Prakru Sriviratvachirapanya the Chief Monk of Prayao area 1861- 1944
- 2) Diary of Krubanochaithamchindamuni Northern Lampang Province Section, Wat Pongsanug Nue, Lampang Province 1857-1942
- 3) Old photos of Mahavajiravudh School Educational Archives and Museum, Songkhla Province
- 4) Anachaklakkham Law of Muang Nan, Nan Province
- 5) Palm-leaves of Khruba Kanchana Aranyavasi Mahathera Wat Sungmem Prae Province
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- 7) Map of Temple Kalpana of Satingphra Pannisula in Ayutthaya period Songkhla Province
- 8) Documents on Geological Resources of the Western Part of Southern Thailand, Trang Province
- 9) Old photos of Queen Sirikit Chaloemprakiat National Archives, Songkhla Province

9. Working Plan for 2016-2018

- 9.1 To identify and nominate significant document heritage to local, national, regional and international Memory of the World Registers as a means of raising awareness;
- 9.2 To organize an annual national seminar on the MOW Programme in order to raise awareness among stakeholders and all parties;
- 9.3 To preserve significant archival items;
- 9.4 To prepare digitization of archival items;
- 9.5 To plan for digitization the Archival Inscription of Wat Po and others items then input data in the National Library and the National Archives databases;
- 9.6 To produce and disseminate MOW Programme documents;
- 9.7 To develop training and capacity-building schemes as appropriate to ensure the identification, preservation and access to document heritage.

10. Challenges and issues

10.1 The numbers of important documents in archives, museums and libraries are on the waiting list to be considered and classified. Preservation and Conservation planning and budgeting allocation should be urgently recognized by all concern parties.

10.2 To promote and facilitate inclusive access to, and use of, document heritage by empowering archive institutions to provide accurate and up-to-date catalogues and finding aids, equitable person-to-person access services to the original documents;

10.3 To support archive institutions in the development of international standards for access and use, using recognizable standards that support interoperability and

10.4 To improve access to documentary heritage by encouraging the development of new forms and tools of education and research on documentary heritage and their presence in the public domain.

11. Any news or suggestions for the next issue of MOWCAP Bulletin?

Member Country should provide information, news, pictures as well as articles to the MOWCAP Bulletin editor to increase and broaden the variety of content in MOWCAP Bulletin.

12. What actions have been taken to implement the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage?

12.1 Translation and distribution document related to the programme

- Guideline for the Preservation of Digital Heritage
- UNESCO–ASEAN Member States (AMS) Action Plan for the Implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage
- Recommendations concerning the preservation of, and access to, documentary heritage including in digital form

12.2 To develop strategies and policies to preserve document heritage;

12.3 To organize the Annual National Seminar on the Memory of the World Programme and Monthly Meeting of the National Committee;

12.4 To cooperate with relevant organizations and institutions to encourage a legal and practical environment to maximize accessibility of document heritage;

12.5 To raise awareness among policy makers, educational institutions, public, media, local community concerning of the preservation of important document heritage; and

12.6 To promote the preservation and the accessibility of document heritage
