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各位午安。

首先，謝謝大會邀請我今天在此發言。是次邀請來得合時，泰國現正面對接踵而來的改變，當中不少都跟推動青年人和兒童參與文化發展有關。我跟在座各位一樣，知道這些改變會帶來深遠的影響，足以成為泰國文化部制訂計劃時需要考慮的一些重要因素，而且值得我們眾人一起深思。

剛踏入這個世紀，即所謂的「數碼年代」和「全球化時代」，我們的腦袋裏充塞着的，盡是資訊、人力資源和資金的流通等問題。文化現已被包裝成商品或圖利的工具，不少文化傳統亦順應變幻無常的生活而被改造，有時甚至被扭曲。面對社會急劇轉變，泰國勢將失去本身的身分特性，而首當其衝的正是青年人和兒童；但與此同時，他們也是最能接受新機會的一羣，而這些新機會在我們的年代是從未出現過的。

如今，我們切切實實明白到兒童和青年人如何重要，因為他們將帶領我們推動文化繼續發展。生於千禧年代的兒童通常都會吸收很多知識，甚或比我們對事物了解得更深。因此我們要做的，不再只是從旁指導，而是要給予支援，在他們投身社會時，成為他們的後盾。泰國文化部雖然冀盼本土的多元文化能夠得到珍視並傳承下去，但我們不會把這方面的責任強行加諸兒童身上，而是讓他們自行選擇去認識和喜愛自己的文化。唯有如此，兒童才會明白文化有助他們了解自己以至整個世界，進而學懂尊重別人，並明白到和平、多元和創意背後的理念。這樣，他們才會自發參與文化保育和發展工作。

Good afternoon,

Firstly, thank you for inviting me to be your speaker today. The invitation reached me just in time for changes that are waiting in line, many of which involve youth and children and their participation in the development of culture. Like every one of you, I am aware that these changes are impactful enough to be great factors in the plan-making process for Ministry of Culture of Thailand, and for all of us to take them into deepest consideration.

At the turn of this century, the so-called 'digital age' and the 'age of globalisation', our heads spin with flows of information, human resources, and capital. Culture has been transformed into commercial items or something that make profit, and traditions have been adapted, and sometimes twisted, into our life filled with constant changes. While Thailand is at risk of losing its identity due to the swift social changes, youth and children are the most fragile to these changes, and at the same time the most open to new opportunities which have never before existed in our time.

Now that we truly understand the value of children and youth as our torch bearers for the sustainability of culture. Kids of this century tend to know a lot, and perhaps understand more genuinely than we do. Therefore our work is to support them, to back them when they go into the world, rather than simply guide them. Although the Ministry of Culture wishes that the diverse cultures of Thailand would be cherished and continued on, it is not by force that we pass them to children; it is by giving them choices and freedom to know and love their own culture. And by doing so, children do understand that cultures help them learn about themselves and the world, help them respect others, and help them understand the concept of peace, diversity, and creativity. In turn, they will automatically engage themselves in preserving and developing cultures.

為扶助我國的青年人和兒童，文化部先後舉辦了多種活動，藉此鼓勵他們多參與塑造我國文化未來路向的工作，而首先要做的是讓他們了解自己本身的能力。我們曾推行「全民藝術」計劃，希望創造一個大度包容的環境，讓身體狀況各異的兒童同樣可以享有接觸文化藝術的機會，並道出藝術的意義在於與人分享和關懷別人，而這個計劃更得到社會各界的支持。我們鼓勵殘疾兒童多參與藝術和表演活動，例如笙舞這種傳統的泰國表演項目，並透過文化與藝術培養他們對社會的責任感和與人為善的精神。此外，我們亦為兒童和青年人安排不少文化義務工作活動，例如我們最近推出的一項志願計劃，便是安排他們負責照顧那些出席先王普密蓬·阿杜德王室火葬儀式的老弱傷殘人士。

在文化藝術教育方面，我們鼓勵為兒童開辦藝術教育課程，包括傳統藝術課程，讓他們發掘自己本身所具備的天賦與創意。我們亦鼓勵藝術家參與其中，以便協助兒童更天馬行空地發揮創意。由於泰國對各種宗教信仰均採取開放的態度，因此我們透過周日佛學班等宗教教育活動，帶出和平與包容的訊息。此外，為跟上世界的步伐，我們亦乘科技之便，提升全國各地教學中心和博物館的服務，以方便他們學習文化。他們一旦知道自己有能力，甚至已身體力行管理文化事宜，同時清楚文化部會全力給予支持後，他們便會充當一道橋樑，把所有人不分老幼連繫起來，而日後他們所選取的文化政策，也必然會照顧到各代人的寶貴意見。

文化部作為政府機構的另一項職責，是培育兒童和青年人，讓他們有能力透過文化藝術，向全世界發表意見、參與文化藝術事務、貢獻力量和競展所長。在今天這個注重區域合作和人口流動頻繁的年代，政府在這方面的工作會更與日俱增。我們留意到，移民大潮已在東盟各國出現，而泰國現已成為數以百萬計青年人爭相湧至的安居之所。為此，文化部已積極與東盟各國合辦各種文化藝術活動，例如組織東盟青年樂團，這是東盟最新打造的古典音樂平台；另外還有推出東盟青年文化遺產領袖計劃，和為各類創意藝術範疇而設的東盟青年營。我們的文化與未來，均將由青年人去塑造。終有一天，他們會衝出亞洲以至全世界，並憑藉過去留下來的文化傳統，為自己創造價值。文化藝術具有多

To support them, the Ministry of Culture has performed various activities that enhance the youth and children's engagement in shaping the future of our culture by firstly making them see the capability within themselves. With support from various sectors, we have held 'Art for All'—the project that is hoped to create an ecosystem of inclusivity, that arts and culture can be equally accessed by children of every physical ability, and arts are about sharing and caring for others. Children with disabilities were encouraged to do arts and performances, such as Khon, a traditional Thai performance. We also used arts and culture to cultivate the sense of social responsibility and being kind-hearted towards others. Also, we have many voluntary cultural activities that children and youth can join, such as the recent volunteer programme for taking care of elderly and the disabled who participated in the Royal Cremation Ceremony of the late King Bhumibol ADULYADEJ.

For arts and cultural education, we encourage arts, including traditional arts lessons for children that allow them to find within themselves talent and creativity. We encourage artists to participate in art classes to help children think more creatively. As Thailand is open for the diversity of religious beliefs, we also promote religious education for peace and tolerance, such as the Sunday Buddhist Schools. Also, to catch up with the world, we are riding the wave of technology to help with the learning of culture by improving the learning centres and museums throughout the country. Once they know that they are capable and already engaged in managing the cultures while bearing in mind that they have our full support, they will act as a bridge that connects people of all ages, and their choice of cultural policies will be a mixture of valuable ideas across generations.

Another duty as a governmental agency is that we need to be responsible for fostering children and youth with ability to cast their voice, participate, contribute, and compete at the global level through the use of arts and culture, especially in the age of regional cooperation and human mobility. We notice the strong trend of migration throughout ASEAN, and Thailand is now a destination where millions of youths come and call it home. The Ministry of Culture has therefore devoted to participating in art and cultural activities which are held in collaboration with ASEAN, such as ASEAN Youth Ensemble, the project that builds the newest platform of classical music in ASEAN, ASEAN Youth Heritage Leaders, and ASEAN Youth camps for various art and creative fields. The youth define our culture and the future, and they will one day go to Asia and the world, to make value of themselves based on the cultural

種作用，包括啟導青年人的心智，讓其發揮創意、追求創新，以及引導青年人奮發向上、盡展所長，同時協助他們適時適地去展現個人特質，進而貢獻社會，服務人羣。

文化部明白，媒體最能協助青年人和兒童培養創意思維，因此設立了媒體發展基金，以鼓勵媒體企業家經營有益和健康的媒體和報章雜誌，包括以各種形式出現能讓兒童和青少年增廣見識的媒體。然而，最令人關注的是社交媒體和互聯網，因為這些都是兒童和青年人最容易接觸到的媒體。文化部轄下的文化監察局不會單靠進行審查和發出禁令等途徑規管媒體，而是會積極邀請外界重新審視媒體，並反思人們所議論的課題，尤其是有關以年輕觀眾為對象的媒體的情況。文化部亦十分注重年輕一代的閱讀風氣，並支持出版一些迎合青年人口味的書籍，方法包括協助年輕作家在出版界大展拳腳。我們現正向青少年推廣閱讀的風氣，因為我們相信，閱讀能產生極大的作用，不但有助提升一個人的創意和想像力，更可培養我們的思考力和分析力，並能訓練我們如何融會貫通，把所知所學付諸實踐。

也許，今天的兒童和青年人均背負着我們所寄予的厚望，希望他們能使世界變得更美好。我們既然已委以重任，便該投以信任，並尊重和鼓勵他們，讓他們善用文化藝術，使數碼世界更符合人情。為使各個範疇均得到持續發展，我們不應只着眼於經濟效益，文化藝術也同樣重要。倘世界發展穩定，而人與人之間也衝破隔閡，文化藝術便可繼續向前發展。最後，在我結束發言之前，我想重申一句，當我們思考如何為推動文化發展而重新定位時，最根本的方法是必須協助推動青年人參與文化工作。

謝謝各位。

heritage of the past. Arts and culture carry the functions of cultivating the mind of the youths with creativity and innovative traits, bringing out the best in them, helping them put their own individuality in the right place at the right moment so that they can make contribution to others.

Realising that the media is an important tool for cultivating youth and children with creative mind, the Ministry of Culture has established the Media Development Fund to encourage media entrepreneurs to produce constructive and safe media and press, including knowledgeable media for children and teenagers, which are deemed for various formats of media outlets. However, much attention has been put on social media and the Internet, as they can be most conveniently reached by children and youth. Rather than simply relying on censorship and banning, the Cultural Surveillance Bureau under the Ministry of Culture actively engages in inviting people to rethink the media, and reflects what have been debated among people, especially media aimed for younger viewers. The Ministry of Culture is highly concerned with the popularity of reading among the young generations, and it has supported the publishing of books aimed for youth, including young writers to thrive in book industry. We are promoting the reading culture among youths, as we believe that reading has a pivotal role on enhancing creativity and imagination, as well as the ability to think, analyse, and connect various fields of knowledge into implementation.

Children and youths of today may have carried our hope of bringing about positive development in the world. We have left them with many important tasks, and therefore we need to show them trust, respect, and encouragement by using arts and culture as the tool for them to humanise the digital world. Not only should we pay attention to economic values only, arts and culture are also keys to sustainability of all aspects of development. In turn, the world which steadily develops and where all the gaps are bridged will yield sustainability in the growth of arts and culture. I will end this presentation by reaffirming that we need to help push the participation of youth to be the fundamental method when we think of reshaping cultural development.

Thank you very much.