

SRIPRAPHA PETCHARAMESREE – REPRESENTATIVE OF THAILAND TO THE ASEAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

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Having her first degree in political science from Thammasat University, she furthered her studies in the same discipline and received her D.E.A. and then Ph.D. (Doctorat) in international politics (with distinction) from the University of Paris-X Nanterre, France. Her first formal contact with human rights works started when she served as a social worker at the UNICEF's Emergency Operations for Cambodian Refugees. She joined the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation until 1996 when she accepted an offer from Mahidol University. She officially stepped down from the post of Director of the Office of Human Rights Studies and Social Development in May 2008. Under her directorship, in addition to the existing International Master Program in Human Rights, two more human rights study programs have been established namely Ph.D in Human Rights and Peace Studies, and MA. Program in Human Rights and Development, first of its kind in Southeast Asia.

She has been part of Working Group for an ASEAN human rights mechanism. Active in human rights field both among academic community and human rights activists both at national and regional levels, she works closely with NGOs, grassroots people and some marginalized groups, ethnic minorities, migrant workers, asylum seekers, etc. Her recent works focus mainly on issue of citizenship, economic, social and cultural rights, rights to development, human rights-based to poverty eradication, community rights, and human rights education both within and outside educational system. By mid- 2008 she has completed a research project on "Towards and ASEAN Commission for the protection and promotion of rights of women and children" and preparing a book dealing with the issues of citizenship, statelessness, border and discrimination. She was recently appointed to represent Thailand in the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights.