

## Issues Raised by the Thai Parliamentary Delegation At the 8<sup>th</sup> WSPU General Assembly

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### 1. Safe Environment for Children

Hon. Dr. Thamrong Dasananjali, Member of the NLA *qua* Head of the Thai NLA Delegation to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> WSPU General Assembly, encouraged parliamentarians to improve weak legislation concerning child and youth protection as well as allocate sufficient budget for the said protection. Having recognized that young people are most vulnerable to be affected by unsafe conditions (such as conflict and crime), violence, poverty, discrimination and environmental degradation, he emphasized that scout activities could arm children and young citizens against those environments. Empowered children and young citizens of today, he argued, would become the productive citizens of tomorrow.

### 2. Young and Valued-Based Leadership

Hon. Gen. Teeradej Meepien, Member of the NLA *qua* Thai NLA delegate to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> WSPU General Assembly, shared the Thai experience and legislation related to the building of young and value-based leadership. As one of the country's top priorities, consolidation of young leadership had been promoted through the implementation of the National Child and Youth Development Plan 2012-2016 in accordance with the National Child and Youth Development Promotion Act 2007. The said plan provides a framework for the development of programs and activities for children and the youth. Also, the Children and Youth Councils had been established nationwide, at both the district and the provincial levels, to perform as the learning centres and serve as the platforms for constructive activities, which would contribute to the child and youth development.

### 3. Employability

Hon. ADM Jakchai Poocharoenyos, Member of the NLA *qua* Thai NLA delegate to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> WSPU General Assembly, opined that scouting could play an important role in the development of employability among the youth since it could serve as a common ground for training and preparing young people to become responsible persons. In addition, public-private partnership was required to channel such development into the directions that could meet the needs of the labor market. He also took this opportunity to inform the Assembly that the NLA had revived the Thai Scout Parliamentary Association (TSPA) with an aim to develop leadership qualification and enhance cooperation with other scout associations.

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