

On the 11th-12th December 2016, we have the honor of hosting the 4th AECOM, in a joint partnership with AECOM foundation, the Lao Ministry of Health for the 9th Lao Ophthalmologist conference, and the 5th Indochina Ocular Inflammation Study Group for an eventful weekend in Vientiane.

The purpose of this convention is exchanging as improving knowledge and academic ability of ophthalmic health care, there are many famous lecturers from ASEAN countries and other countries. Also, there is such a diversity topics with many topics interesting and applicable to clinical practice. This convention is not only to support academic knowledge, but it is a center of opportunities to meet other ophthalmologists from different organizations in ASEAN countries. Also, we hope that they can all develop deep friendships and contributions in mutual development.

In the past when AECOM first emerged as an organization, members of AECOM have helped each other improve the ophthalmic health of people in the region. For example, the Faculty of Medicine at Thammasat University of Thailand has supported the scholarship in training Ophthalmology residents and nurses from neighboring countries. Additionally, Ho Chi Minh Hospital of Vietnam has supported a 3 month training course in Phacoemulsification for 15 Lao Ophthalmologists. These monumental successes are few of many great achievements we have made and will continue to accomplish for our region.

Once more, I, the representative host to our combined events in Vientiane would like to take this occasion to express my sincerest gratitude to the faculty of Medicine of Thammasat University for supporting the Lao Ophthalmological Society to make this meeting happen today. And my thanks to all the Ophthalmologists from all represented ASEAN countries and beyond for devoting time to be here and sharing your knowledge and culture with us. Particularly, I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to the Minister of the Ministry of Health, Lao PDR for devoting your time to be with us here for the opening ceremony this day. I wish all of the attending delegates success and happiness during your time here.

Thank you

Prof. Vithoune Visonnavong

President of Lao Ophthalmological Society

