

Welcome Address
By
Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh
Deputy Secretary-General, NCB
At the Launch of UNODC's World Drug Report 2013
26 June 2013 at 13.00 hrs.
At ONCB Bangkok

Mr. Jeremy Douglas, UNODC representative, Regional
Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific
His Excellency Mr. Denes Tomas, Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Hungarian
Embassy
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honor to deliver a welcome speech to all of you this afternoon. The World Drug Report is annually organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime or UNODC and embargoed on 26 June over the world. At the UNODC headquarter in Vienna, Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha will witness the launch of the report, at the United Nations headquarter in New York, Ambassador Norachit Sinhaseni, Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations, (นายนคร ชิต

สิงหเสนี เอกอัครราชทูต ผู้แทนถาวรไทย ประจำสหประชาชาติ) will co-chair with representative from the Italian Government on the special occasion of the United Nations International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. This year is the first time that the ONCB has been selected as a venue to launch the world drug report. We, therefore, are very delighted and proud to be part of this remarkable event.

It is undeniable that, drug problem have become a global threat. Every country faces the same situation. Our beloved families, our children and our societies are victims of drug abuse. Our nations spent a lot of budget to bring back our people. Youth, a drive of the nations in the future, are targets of drug crimes. UNDOC has declared 26 June as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking to provoke public regarding dangers of drugs and encourage every sector in the society to unite all efforts to protect our offspring from drug perils while general people are also safeguarded from drug related crime.

World Drug Report 2013 will provide us the significant information and up-to-date statistics of world drug situation. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation to the UNDOC for launching this remarkable report which can be useful to our government. I am glad to learn that in this year, besides the report of the findings of new drug trafficking routes, the UNODC will also focus on new psychoactive substances or NPS. At least, the report will supply us different NPS categories being used all over the world in order that each government should take into consideration of any preventive measures.

On behalf of the Royal Thai Government and the ONCB, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the UNODC once again for this notable afternoon.

Remember, drug elimination, together we can.

Thank you