

No. 0605.03/ 2658



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4 March B.E. 2564 (2021)

Dear Dr. Sang,

**Subject: Invitation to the World Social Work Day 2021 Virtual Conference
for the Asia and the Pacific Region**

The Department of Social Development and Welfare under the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security is going to host the World Social Work Day 2021 Virtual Conference for the Asia and the Pacific Region on 16 March 2021 at 09.00 – 12.00 hrs. (GMT+7). For your information, the Virtual Conference is a regional event to celebrate the World Social Work Day 2021 under the theme “Ubuntu: I am Because We are – Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness”. The objectives of the Conference are to provide a forum for discussion and sharing of knowledge, experiences and practices on social work and social welfare services, to highlight achievements, and to raise awareness and support for the important role that social workers play amidst a challenging time, especially with the COVID-19 pandemic.

In this connection, it is an honor to extend our most cordial invitation to you to be our speaker in the panel discussion on the topic “***Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness***”, which is scheduled at 10.00 – 12.00 hrs. (GMT+7). The program and registration details are attached herewith.

Your contributions to this event would be greatly appreciated, and we look forward to your favorable response. For more information, please contact us via e-mail at welfarepromote@gmail.com.

Your sincerely,

(Ms. Sara Binyoh)
for Director-General

Dr. Sang Mok Suh
Global President,
International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW)

**Concept Note and Administrative Information
on the World Social Work Day 2021 Virtual Conference
for the Asia and the Pacific Region**

16 March 2021, 09.00 -12.00 hrs. (GMT+7)

BACKGROUND

World Social Work Day is a celebration that aims to highlight the achievements of social work, to raise the visibility of social services for the future of societies, and to defend social justice and human rights. Every year, World Social Work Day is celebrated the third Tuesday of March, it is a celebration that has become a highpoint in the social work calendar with social workers all over the world celebrating and promoting the contributions of the profession to individuals, families, communities and wider society.¹

The World Social Work Day for the Asia and the Pacific Region had been celebrated annually in Thailand since 2016. In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, it will be a challenge to continue to organize an event to celebrate the day in the conventional conference format this year. The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) through the Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW), Government of the Kingdom of Thailand in collaboration with International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW), International Association of School of Social Work (IASSW) and International Council on Social Work (ICSW), therefore, convenes the World Social Work Day 2021 Conference for the Asia and the Pacific Region in a virtual format.

This year, the 2021 World Social Work Day highlights Ubuntu: I am Because We Are. This is the first theme of the 2020 to 2030 Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development.

Ubuntu: I am Because We are – Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness. Ubuntu: ‘I am because we are’ is a concept and philosophy that resonates with the social work perspective of the interconnectedness of all peoples and their environments. It speaks to the need for global solidarity and also highlights indigenous knowledge and wisdom.²

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The Conference will bring together social workers, social work practitioners, academics, social work educators from the Asia and the Pacific and officials from MSDHS and DSDW as well as relevant stakeholders, totally 300 persons.

¹History World Social Work Day – International Federation of Social Workers (ifsw.org)

²World Social Work Day 2021 – International Federation of Social Workers (ifsw.org)

TIME AND DURATION

The Conference will be held for 3 hours on 16 March 2021 from 09.00 to 12.00 hrs. (GMT+7) via Zoom.

REGISTRATION

1. Participants are requested to confirm their participation to the conference by completing the online registration form through the link:

<https://zoom.us/j/91006526686?pwd=Ryt6SjMwTmpjWlVpYWV5R3Z1OGh6dz09>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Conference.

Or you can scan the QR Code below for registration:



2. The event will be held using the Zoom 'webinar' platform, which will be managed and administered by DSDW. To receive the detailed information and link to connect to the webinar for the Conference, please register via the link above.

Meeting/Webinar ID: 910 0652 6686

Passcode: WSWD1603

3. Speakers and panelists are encouraged to connect 30 minutes prior to the Conference and check the connection and devices' audio-visual readiness, as indicated in the Tentative Program.
4. The standard language which will be used for the Conference is English.

Rules of Procedures

5. The Conference is organized via a zoom ‘webinar’, which is designed so that the host, co-hosts and any designated panelists can share their video, audio and screen. Webinars allow view-only attendees. Should participants have questions and feedback, please convey them via the chat-box. Moderator will convey the questions and feedback to the panelists.
6. To ensure that the Conference ends within the allocated time, the Conference will adhere strictly to the program and time allocated time per each session.
7. Please alert the organizers through the chat function or any other means if you are facing technical difficulties.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

08.30 – 09.00 hrs.	Registration/ Dry Run
09.00 – 09.30 hrs.	Opening session - Opening session Opening remarks by Mrs. Patcharee Arayakul, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
09.30 – 10.00 hrs.	Keynote address “Ubuntu: I am Because We are – Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness.” by UN representative
10.00 – 12.00 hrs.	Panel discussion “Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness” Panelists: - Mr. Sriganesh MV, Asia-Pacific Regional Vice-President, International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) - Prof. Tan Ngoh Tiong, Executive Board Member, International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) (TBC) - Dr. Sang Mok Suh, Global President of International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) (TBC) - Ms. Ha Thi Minh Duc, Deputy Head of International Department, Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (TBC) - Mr. Anothai Udomsilp, Director of ASEAN Training Center for Social

As of 4 March 2021

	<p>Work and Social Welfare (ATCSW)</p> <p>- Ms. Yaowaret Kammanad, President of the Thai Medical Social Worker Association</p> <p>Moderator: Asst. Prof. Prapaporn Tivayanond, Dean of the School of Global Studies, Thammasat University</p>
12.00 hrs.	End of program

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