Development of Mechanisms to Enhance Participation for the Well-being of Children, Youth and the Family

The Second National Health Assembly,

Having reviewed the report on "Development of mechanisms to enhance participation for the well-being of children, youth and the family",

Aware that the well-being of children, youths, and families affects the future of the nation as it relies on the capacity of families and the society to care for their children and youths, including normal children and children in need of special protection – namely orphans, abandoned, assaulted, sexually harassed, children involved with drugs, homeless children, trafficked children, disabled children, those used as child labor, children undergoing the judicial process, refugees, tribal children, those living in slums, stateless children, children of construction workers, children affected by disasters or hazardous substances, children living in poverty, as well as groups of children with congenital diseases and health problems, children of drug addicts, children obsessed with computer games – allowing them to grow and reach their full potentials for mental, social and spiritual development;

Acknowledged that despite the fact that a number of Thai children and youths have made various achievements and brought prides to the nation, many Thai children and youths are still growing and developing without proper guidance, faced with malnutrition - both over-nutrition and under-nutrition - and involved in social misbehaviors, including depression and rising suicide rate, as well as drug abuses. Adolescents are also found to face greater risks from sexual impropriety. These problems are caused by shortcomings in children's and youth's living capitals, including the powers in self, families, wisdom, friends and activities, and their communities:

Noted that the National Family Assembly BE 2552 (2009) provides recommendations and guidance to support families;

Concerned that while the state has promulgated laws, policies and Acts, while agencies from various sectors have participated in mobilizing working mechanisms, and while certain strengths exist in efforts concerning children, youths, and families, different problems facing children, youths, and families are persistent and growing in terms of severity;

Confident that the cultural capitals within the Thai society will support the development and address complex issues related to children, youths and families, provided

that there are mechanisms developed to create innovations that drive integrated strategies children, youths, and families based on conscience and knowledge, and to provide an efficient process to bring together all members of the society to jointly learn and develop in a continuous and sustainable manner for the wellness of Thai children, youths, and families;

Hereby adopts the following resolutions:

- 1. Requesting the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security to accelerate the drafting of the bill for the Family Promotion Act
- 2. Asking the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security to be the core constituent in appointing a committee that consists of the Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Education, Department of Local Administration, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Tourism and Sports, the Royal Thai Police, organizations engaging in child, youth, and family issues, experts, academics, and representatives of children and youths from the Children and Youth Council of Thailand, to carry out the following tasks:
 - 2.1 Conduct quantitative and qualitative researches on mechanisms and models at national and provincial levels to determine strengths and weaknesses of the mechanisms for well being in children, youths, and families.
 - 2.2 Develop efficient innovative driving mechanisms for children, youth, and family networks
 - 2.3 Formulate policy and strategy proposals on efficient development of well being in children, youths, and families while taking into account the comments and recommendations from the Second National Health Assembly, and submit them for inclusion in the agenda of the Third National Health Assembly
 - 2.4 The efforts in 2.1-2.3 will broadly open for comments and suggestions from all stakeholders in the society.
- 3. Agreeing with recommendations for the Family Assembly 2009 and requesting the government to take actions based on such recommendations and provide supports on the process to form the Family Assembly as a public policy mechanism to mobilize prevention and solution to problems, as well as promotion of wellness in children, youths and families.