

### **Overcoming Crisis of Injustice for the Wellbeing of Thai Society Together**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> National Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on overcoming crisis of injustice for the wellbeing of Thai society Together,

*Aware* that it is necessary for all sectors in the Thai society to create a common vision that will determine the direction of the country's development which takes into consideration a reduction of inequality and a creation of justice in the society;

*Acknowledging* that there are five dimensions of injustice in the Thai society; namely, capitalism, unfair resource management, vertical society, substandard political and bureaucratic systems, and an education system that fails to relate to existing social problems, thus making it necessary for every sector in society to help create justice in all dimensions;

*Concerned* that injustice creates social divisiveness and that the protests against injustice are made worse by certain threats made by the bureaucracy and some interest groups, which will result in more stress and more divisiveness while the public's adherence to the ethics of co-existence has been declining ;

*Acknowledging* the participatory reform process proposed by the Reform Commission and the National Reform Assembly to transform conflicts that may lead to violence into a true force for the resolution of problems at various levels,

Hereby issues the following resolutions:

1. The Reform Commission and the National Reform Assembly is to use a country reform movement aimed at reducing inequality and increasing justice in order to lead the society into a state of wellbeing in the following issues:
  - 1.1 Economic reform – by reforming the systems of land tax, property tax, inheritance tax, environmental tax, capital gain tax and by resolving tax evasion problems to make it more effective; focusing at comprehensive and fair income distribution and sustainable solutions of the debt problem; advocating and promoting the alternative economy; distributing the budget

with a focus on rural and regional development and reducing income inequality by increasing the minimum wage so that the poor will have adequate income.

- 1.2 Natural resource management reform – by restricting rights to land ownership; focusing at proper land use which is compatible to the land and geo-ecological capacity; as for the management of water and other production factor, by allowing communities and community organizations to participate in natural resource management in a more integrated and fairer manner; and establishing a process to review and revoke unfair forestry laws and land laws while pushing for the enactment of laws protecting farm lands and restricting the expansion of industrial areas.
- 1.3 Social and wellbeing reform – by strengthening the religious, community and family institutions; creating a welfare system, universal and sustainable health security; reducing inequality in service provision and in rights and privileges offered under the three health security systems; namely, the universal healthcare security system, the government official welfare system and the social security system; promoting creative social activities on the basis of kindness, self-reliance and the sufficiency way of life; and living in an environment which is favorable to live and friendly to other human beings and to the environment.
- 1.4 Democratic and political reform to cultivate integrity and morality – by focusing at a true political participation by every sector at all levels and through the formulation of policy from the bottom up; by promoting direct democracy and increasing bargaining power for people in the local communities so that they can manage themselves through the reform of bureaucracy, reduction of centralization, reform of the judicial process by making it easily accessible to the public and by subjecting it to a system governed by society including by promoting the community justice system.
- 1.5 Education reform to enhance quality on the basis of social fairness by supporting every institution to become a community of learning; promoting the culture in which knowledge and wisdom is exercised; allowing everyone to have an opportunity to learn to their full potential; recognizing religious and cultural diversity; appreciating an equal dignity of human beings and creating a public mind.

- 1.6 Reforming all kinds of media at all levels to create a force of wisdom, creativity and responsibility to the society through the participation mechanisms when individual and group stakeholders are allowed a comprehensive public access to the information.
  
2. The government is to speed up implementation under Article 87 (1) of the Constitution of Thailand, B.E 2550 (2007), that is, to reform the public policy process to create justice and reduce inequality in the society through the following urgent actions:
  - 2.1 Encouraging the formation of alliances of people's networks and of relevant organizations to jointly work together to create a fair public policy process that takes into consideration a value of co-existence and recognition of those peacefully fighting for justice.
  - 2.2 Encouraging formulation of common framework and rules to determine a public policy and to establish the national economic and social development plan that gives importance to the reform issues under Clause 1.1 to Clause 1.6 above through the process of people participation where a system which will be responsible for results and risks from policy implementation will also be established.
  - 2.3 Developing a mechanism to reform the national research system and a public wisdom creation system that allows communities or areas to participate in the formulation of strategies, technical directions and standards and an evaluation system where research is evaluated on the basis of social and local responsibility and where research is conducted and public knowledge is accessed in order to further expand the body of knowledge and to turn local wisdom into actual implementation. This also includes advocating the government and local administrative organizations to give budgetary support to enhance research capacity and local wisdom especially with regard to the establishment and development of a center of local information and local knowledge base.
  - 2.4 Supporting and promoting the development of social capacity and levels of participation in the monitoring and expression of opinions under existing multilateral mechanism and tools to manage conflicts that results from government policies by focusing on a process that listens to the plight of those involved so as to understand the real causes and problems for realistic and prompt solutions. If necessary, Section 67, paragraph 2 of the Constitution of Thailand, B.E 2550 (2007) shall apply.

2.5 Establishing a mechanism to manage injustice at the national, regional, provincial and local levels that have representations from both community and local administrative zones as well as from issues-based and ecological-based areas. These mechanisms are tasked with determining directions, operation plans, procedures and tools to resolve injustice in both the issues dimension and the spatial dimension.

3. The National Health Commission shall do the following:

3.1 Submit the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Health Assembly resolution on overcoming crisis of injustice for the wellbeing of Thai society together to the cabinet and coordinate with the Reform Commission, the National Reform Assembly, the Political Development Council and the Community Organization Council to consider giving support to the reform of Thai society agenda aimed at seriously creating justice and reducing inequality.

3.2 Communicate to the public and report the progress of what has been done according to this resolution to the network members.

3.2 Encourage the area-based health assembly and the issue-based health assembly to support this resolution.

4. Members of the National Health Assembly shall cooperate in the operations to seriously support, monitor and advocate this resolution as well as support and participate in the work of the Reform Commission and the National Reform Assembly so as to stimulate the process of developing a just public policy.