## NCSWT attended the 2023 ASEAN GO – NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development

## at Department of Social Development and Welfare, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Bangkok, Thailand

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Maj. Gen. Khunying Asanee Saovapap, President of National Council on Social Welfare of Thailand (NCSWT) has assigned Asst. Prof. Dr. Virajada Buasri, Chair of NCSWT International Affairs Committee, to attend the 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO – NGO Forum on Social welfare and Development. The Forum was organized by Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development of Malaysia (SOMSWD) under the theme "Accelerating the Implementation of ASEAN's Commitment for Gender Equality through Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion". The participants consisting of 134 representatives from the public and private sectors of 10 ASEAN Member States including ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and Partners, such as UN-Women UNESCAP and UNICEF attended the forum via online platform. The Forum was held at the Department of Social Development and Welfare Building, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security in Bangkok, Thailand, on May 22, 2023 during 9:00 am - 4:30 pm in the hybrid platform.

H.E. Ekkaphab Phanthavong, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) presided over the Opening Ceremony together with H.E. Datuk Dr. Maziah binti Che Yusoff, SOMSWD Malaysia, Chair, and Datin PadukaKhatijah binti Suleiman @ Sulaiman, President of National Council of Welfare and Social Development Malaysia (NCSWM), Co-Chair.

Participants took part in the workshop session of 4 group discussion on different topics including: 1. Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls: Rights-based Approach. 2. Gender Mainstreaming through Gender Action Planning and Gender Responsive Budgeting. 3. Gender, Equality and Inclusiveness: Disability and the Aging Society. 4. Rights of Children with a Specific Focus on Issues for the Girl-Child. Each group gave 5-7 minutes to report the findings to the plenary for formulating Recommendations from the 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO-NGO Forum to be presented to the SOMSWD meeting.



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