Speech of His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and Minister of Defence/
Chairman of Veterans Council

on the Opening Ceremony of the VECONAC 21<sup>st</sup> General Assembly at Vibhavadee Ballroom B, Centara Grand at Central Plaza Ladprao Bangkok

It is my honor and pleasure to be the chairman of the Opening Ceremony of the VECONAC 21<sup>st</sup> General Assembly which is hosted by the War Veterans Organization of Thailand as principal organization in Thailand that provides assistance mainly to veterans and their families.

Veterans Confederation of ASEAN Countries (VECONAC) was founded to promote cooperation among veteran organizations in ASEAN Countries to exchange knowledge and experience aiming at improving the quality of life and evaluating fully the influence of aging and the effects of war on the health and social conditions of war victims (disabled by war) as well as to promote better understanding among peoples in order to intensify cooperation in the endeavours to attain prosperity and peace.

I really hope that this meeting would be a great opportunity for all of us to promote various activities that may be useful and beneficial to the members of the Confederation in compliance with the objectives of VECONAC and to be a part in developing ASEAN community, culture and economy towards stability, prosperity and sustainability.

To this end, I would like to extend to you all my deepest appreciation to attend the VECONAC 21<sup>st</sup> General Assembly in Thailand. I wish that this meeting achieves an enormous success and wish all members of the whole General Assembly good health, prosperity, and happiness during your stay here in Thailand.