"VECONAC FOREVER, FOREVER VECONAC" VECONAC 21st GENERAL ASSEMBLY JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

1. INTRODUCTION

The President and Vice Presidents of the Veterans Confederation of ASEAN Countries (VECONAC) met at the 34th Executive Board Meeting (EBM) and the 21st General Assembly (GA) which was convened during 21st - 25th November 2022 at Centara Grand at Central Plaza Ladprao Bangkok Hotel, Thailand. The list of participants is at Annex "A".

2. VECONAC 34th EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The 34th Executive Board Meeting was held on 22nd November 2022 at Vibhavadee Ballroom C Centara Grand at Central Plaza Ladprao Bangkok Hotel, Thailand. The opening remarks were given by GENERAL SANTASANA NANTIBHAKHIRUND, WVO Director – General/ VECONAC President. The 34th EBM had endorsed 8 Resolutions and discussed 2 proposed Draft Resolutions which will be completely approved to be further endorsement in the 21st General Assembly on 23rd November 2022. The 34th Executive Board Meeting report is at Annex "B".

3. VECONAC 21st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Opening ceremony

- 3.1 The opening ceremony of 21st General Assembly was held on 23rd November 2022 at Vibhavadee Ballroom B Centara Grand at Central Plaza Ladprao Bangkok Hotel, Thailand and had been honorably presided over by H.E. GENERAL PRAYUT CHAN-O-CHA, Prime Minister/ Minister of Defence/Chairman of the Veterans Council.
 - 3.2 At the opening ceremony, commencing with the video to present "VECONAC Unity"
- 3.3 GENERAL SANTASANA NANTIBHAKHIRUND, WVO Director General/ VECONAC President profoundly expressed his thanks to H.E. GENERAL PRAYUT CHAN-O-CHA for joining as guests of honor and also mentioned the purpose of arranging the 34th Executive Board Meeting and 21st General Assembly with great pride that the War Veterans Organization of Thailand had been able to firmly maintain the objectives of VECONAC. Speech at the opening ceremony is at Annex "C"
- **4**. H.E. GENERAL PRAYUT CHAN-O-CHA, Prime Minister/Minister of Defense/Chairman of the Veterans Council expressed his sincere appreciation to all VECONAC member countries. He also stated that he was delighted and proud of the 21st General Assembly, which WVO hosted as the rotated ASEAN Veterans Confederation chair, and gained valuable experiences, good relationship and cooperation in the field of veteran's affairs.

- **5**. H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister/Minister of Defense/Chairman of the Veterans Council presented the investiture of the Honorary Presidency to
- 5.1 H.E. General Kun Kim, Senior Minister Responsible for Veterans and Disabled Affairs, Vice President and Secretary General of the Cambodia Veterans Association (CVA)/Former VECONAC President of 2019
- 5.2 General Tosarot Muang-um (Posthumously), former Director General of the War Veterans Organization of Thailand (WVO)/Former VECONAC President of 2006 2007

The Medal of Honor was also presented to

- 5.3 H.E. General Meas Savan, Director General of Defense Service General Department and Permanent Deputy Secretary General of the Cambodia Veterans Association (CVA)/Former VECONAC Secretary General of 2019
- 5.4 Major General (Retired) Narong Saengbamroong, Former Assistant Director General of the War Veterans Organization of Thailand (WVO)/Former VECONAC Secretary General of 2006
- 5.5 Major (Retired) Haji Ismail Bin Haji Othman, Former VECONAC Secretary General/ Former Secretary General of Veterans Association of Royal Brunei Armed Forces (VARBAF) of 1999 – 2001

6. 21st GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

The meeting was organized after the opening ceremony at Vibhavadee Ballroom A and the agenda of 21st General Assembly which was adopted is at Annex "D"

7. COUNTRY REPORT

The VECONAC member countries took turn reporting the latest development of each organization.

8. SECRETARY GENERAL REPORT

The Secretary General briefed the meeting on the activities that took place from 1st January 2022 to the period of organizing 34th Executive Board Meeting and 21st General Assembly. The detailed report is at Annex "E"

9. TREASURER GENERAL REPORT

The Treasurer General summarized the financial position of VECONAC for the year 2022. The detailed report is at Annex "F"

10. RESOLUTIONS

Following the recommendations, draft resolutions, proposals and resolutions that were raised, reviewed, agreed and approved, the 21st General Assembly has endorsed 8 resolutions and has discussed in 2 proposed draft resolutions which are elaborated to this Joint Communiqué. They are:

RESOLUTION 21-1: SAFEGUARDING AND PRESERVATION OF MILITARY HISTORICAL EVENTS.

RESOLUTION 21-2: AMENDMENT THE VISION, MISSION, MOTTO AND CORE VALUE TO VECONAC CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS.

RESOLUTION 21-3: RESOLUTION ON ADDING THE MEANING OF VECONAC FLAG TO THE VECONAC CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS.

RESOLUTION 21-4: RESOLUTION ON POSTPONEMENT OF THE VECONAC MEETING DUE TO FORCE MAJEURE CIRUMSTANCES.

RESOLUTION 21-5: RESOLUTION TO EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE SHARING, VETERANS COLLABORATIVE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES THAT MAY BE USEFUL AND BENENFICIAL TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONFEDERATION.

RESOLUTION 21-6: RESOLUTION ON CONFERRING VECONAC PRESIDENCY TITLE ON SENIOR LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RETIRED) NGUYEN VAN DUOC, PRESIDENT OF VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF VIETNAM AND AWARDING VECONAC MEDAL OF HONOUR TO MAJOR GENERAL (RETIRED) LE VAN CAU, DIRECTOR FOR DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUCCESS THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE 33rd EXECUTIVE BORD MEETING AND 20th GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

RESOLUTION 21-7: AWARDING THE VECONAC HONORARY PRESIDENCY (POSTHUMOUSLY)
TITLE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RETIRED) RAIS ABIN, HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE VETERANS
LEGION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA, AND PRESIDENT OF VECONAC 2010-2012

RESOLUTION 21-8: APPRECIATION TO THE WAR VETERANS ORGANIZATION OF THAILAND FOR HOSTING THE $3^{\rm rd}$ WORKING COMMITEE MEETING, $34^{\rm th}$ EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AND $21^{\rm st}$ GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROPOSED DRAFT RESOLUTION 1: AN ORGANISED VISIT TO THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT IN JAKARTA

PROPOSED DRAFT RESOLUTION 2: COMMEMORATING THE VECONAC FOUNDING DAY ANNUALLY

ON DECEMBER 19th

The detailed Resolutions are at Annex "G"

11. OFFICE BEARERS FOR YEAR 2023

The 21st GA endorsed the following members for the year 2023:

- 11.1 President: COLONEL (RET) CESAR P. POBRE PA
- 11.2 Secretary General: BRIGADIER GENERAL (RET) RAMON G SANTOS
- 11.3 Treasurer General: COLONEL (RET) MARIA CAROLINA C DREO
- 11.4 Vice Presidents:
- 11.4.1 MAJOR GENERAL (RET) PEHIN DATU PADUKARAJA DATO PADUKA SERI HAJI SHARI AHMAD - President of VARBAF
 - 11.4.2 H.E. GENERAL KUN KIM Vice President and Secretary General of CVA
- 11.4.3 LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RET) HERMAN BERNHARD LEOPOLD MANTIRI –
 President of LVRI
 - 11.4.4 LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RET) SENGNOUANE SAYALAT President of LVF
 - 11.4.5 CAPTAIN (RET) DATUK SHARUDDIN BIN HJ OMAR President of VAMAF
 - 11.4.6 LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RET) SEIN WIN President of MWVO
 - 11.4.7 MAJOR GENERAL (RET) ROMEO D ALAMILLO Executive Vice President of VFP
 - 11.4.8 BRIGADIER GENERAL (RET) WINSTON TOH BEE CHEW President of SAFVL
 - 11.4.9 GENERAL SANTASANA NANTIBHAKHIRUND Director General of WVO
 - 11.4.10 SENIOR LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RET) NGUYEN VAN DUOC President of VAVN

12. ADOPTION OF MEETING VENUE IN 2023

VETERANS FEDERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (VFP) has confirmed to host the 4th Working Committee, the 35th Executive Board Meeting and the 22nd General Assembly in the Republic of the Philippines in 2023.

13. CHAIRMANSHIP HANDING - TAKING OVER

GENERAL SANTASANA NANTIBHAKHIRUND, VECONAC President handed over VECONAC Presidency to MAJOR GENERAL (RET) ROMEO D ALAMILLO, Executive Vice President of VFP as the Representative of COLONEL (RET) CESAR P. POBRE PA, President of VFP.

14. ACCEPTANCE REMARKS

In the acceptance remarks, MAJOR GENERAL (RET) ROMEO D ALAMILLO, Executive Vice President of VFP as the Representative of COLONEL (RET) CESAR P. POBRE PA, President of VFV as the incoming President of VECONAC thanked WVO for a successful execution of the 34th Executive Board Meeting and 21st General Assembly.

15. CLOSING REMARKS

General Santasana Nantibhakhirund thanked to all delegates for their active contribution and sharing of ideas that enabled the 34th Executive Board Meeting and 21st General Assembly to be conducted successfully under a constructive and friendly atmosphere with success.

16. JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

The Joint Communiqué was adopted by the 21st General Assembly of VECONAC on 23rd November in the Year 2022 in Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand.

"VECONAC FOREVER, FOREVER VECONAC"

GENERAL SANTASANA NANTIBHAKHIRUND (WVO)

PEHIN DATU PADUKARAJA MAJOR GENERAL (RET) DATO PADUKA SERI HAJI SHARI BIN AHMAD

(VARBAF)

GENERAL KUN KIM (CVA)

LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RET) HERMAN BERNHARD LEOPOLD MANTIRI (LVRI)

| Later |
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| LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RET) SENGNOUANE SAYALAT (LVF) |
| CAPTAIN (RET) DATUK SHARUDDIN BIN HJ OMAR (VAMAF) |
| MAJOR GENERAL (RET) NGWE THEIN (MWVO) |
| MAJOR GENERAL (RET) ROMEO D ALAMILLO (VFP) |
| BRIGADIER GENERAL (RET) WINSTON TOH BEE CHEW (SAFVL) |
| LIEUTENANT GENERAL CHITIPHAT BOONCHUAI (WVO) |

SENIOR LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RET) NGUYEN VAN DUOC (VAVN)