

## NEW ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Bureau of International Cooperation  
Office of the Permanent Secretary

The present Government of Thailand has adopted a policy of **bureaucratic reform** so as to have in place an efficient administrative system with a lean structure. The new system is suitable to the prevailing situation and responsive to the needs for national economic and social development. Urgent measures have therefore been taken for enactment of the legislations for streamlining the different ministries and agencies to attune to global trends as well as the national economic and social changes. The recent bureaucratic reform focuses on obtaining a **leaner organization** and attaining **higher efficiency**. It allows greater participation of the people as well as the society. New budgeting techniques are availed of, serving as tools for moving forward the bureaucratic reform. The remuneration system which also includes salaries has been improved so as to attract professional civil servants of integrity who are entirely devoted to the common interest.

Such policy has resulted in the restructuring of the different ministries and agencies. With effect from October 1, 2002, the national administration is under the aegis of 20 different ministries as follows:

1. Office of the Prime Minister
2. Ministry of Defence
3. Ministry of Finance
4. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
5. Ministry of Tourism and Sports
6. Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
7. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
8. Ministry of Transport
9. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
10. Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
11. Ministry of Energy
12. Ministry of Commerce
13. Ministry of Interior
14. Ministry of Justice
15. Ministry of Labour
16. Ministry of Culture
17. Ministry of Science and Technology
18. Ministry of Education
19. Ministry of Public Health
20. Ministry of Industry

Regarding the **Ministry of Education**, the 1999 National Education Act and its 2002 Amendment as well as the 2003 Act for Streamlining of Ministries and Governmental Agencies mandate the amalgamation of the 3 ministries and agency responsible for education,

namely, Ministry of Education, Ministry of University Affairs, and Office of the National Education Commission into a single Ministry of Education with a new administrative structure.

The Administrative Organization of the Ministry of Education Act of B.E. 2546(2003) has been approved by the Joint Standing Committee of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the new structure of the Ministry of Education therefore comprises 5 major offices and a unit as follows:

1. **Office of the Permanent Secretary** with the Permanent Secretary (level 11) serving as chief executive; the Office comprises the following bureaus:

- Bureau of General Administration
- Bureau of Policy and Strategy
- Bureau of International Cooperation
- Bureau of Legal Affairs
- Bureau of Inspection and Evaluation
- Office of the Teacher Civil Service and Educational Personnel Commission
- Office of the Private Education Commission
- Office of the Non-Formal Education Commission
- Bureau of Information and Communication Technology
- Bureau of Scout Movement, Red Cross Youth and Student Affairs
- National Institute for Development of Teachers, Faculty Staffs and Educational Personnel

2. **Office of the Education Council** with the Secretary-General of the National Education Council (level 11) serving as chief executive; the Office comprises the following bureaus/units:

- Bureau of General Administration
- Bureau of Education Policy and Planning
- Bureau of Education Standards and Learning Development
- Bureau of Educational Research and Development
- Bureau of Education Administration Evaluation
- Bureau of Education Law Development

3. **Office of the Basic Education Commission** with the Secretary-General of the Basic Education Commission (level 11) serving as chief executive; the Office comprises the following bureaus:

- Bureau of General Administration
- Bureau of Policy and Planning
- Bureau of Academic Affairs and Educational Standards
- Bureau of Monitoring and Evaluation
- Bureau of Special Education
- Bureau of Personnel Administration Development and Legal Affairs
- Bureau of Finance
- Bureau for Innovative Development in Education
- Bureau of Educational Testing
- Bureau of Technology for Teaching and Learning

4. **Office of the Higher Education Commission** with the Secretary-General of the Higher Education Commission (level 11) serving as chief executive; the Office comprises the following bureaus:

- Bureau of General Administration
- Bureau of Policy and Planning

Bureau of International Cooperation Strategy  
Bureau of Standards and Evaluation  
Bureau of Cooperation and Promotion  
Bureau of Student Development  
Bureau of Personnel Administration and Development  
Bureau of Community College Administration  
Bureau of Central Education Testing

5. **Office of the Vocational Education Commission** with the Secretary-General of the Vocational Education Commission (level 11) serving as chief executive; the Office comprises the following bureaus:

Bureau of General Administration  
Bureau of Policy and Planning  
Bureau of Cooperation  
Bureau of Vocational Education Standards and Qualifications  
Bureau of Teachers and Personnel Competency Development  
Bureau of Research and Development  
Bureau of Monitoring and Evaluation

**Office of the Minister** with the chief of the Office of the Minister as chief executive; the Office comprises the following 3 units:

Unit of General Administration  
Unit of Political Relations  
Unit of Academic Support

There are also public organizations under the supervision of the Ministry of Education, namely:

Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment  
International Institute for Trade and Development  
Mahidol Wittayanusorn School  
National Institute of Educational Testing Service  
National Institute of Technologies for Education

There are also, Kurusapa (Teachers' Council of Thailand), Office of the Welfare Promotion Commission for Teachers and Educational Personnel, Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology, Language Institute and universities/autonomous higher education institutions which are under the aegis of the Ministry of Education.

The above 5 major offices emanating from the new administrative structure of the Ministry of Education **report directly to the Minister** without following the previous line of command through the Permanent Secretary.

**The Bureau of International Cooperation** (formerly External Relations Division), **Office of the Permanent Secretary**, assumes major responsibilities for international relations and cooperation. It also continues to serve as **Secretariat of the Thai National Commission for UNESCO** and **Secretariat of the Thai National Commission for SEAMEO**.