



Media Release

Dr Robin MacDonald wins Chairman's inaugural Achievement Award

January 19, 2011

The Second Annual Meeting of the South-East Asian Tourism Organisation (SEATO) was held in Singapore from January 17 to 19, 2011 and at the Gala evening, the organisation's Chairman, TS Chew announced the winner of his inaugural Achievement Award was Dr Robin MacDonald.

"Because of the nature of SEATO we are fortunate to have a number of very innovative people involved in our membership and the Board of Management but nobody has quite made the commitment to the organisation that Dr Robin has," the organisation's Chairman, Mr TS Chew said.

"He was with us from the very beginning, this whole concept grew from a brainstorming session a few of us had at a dinner that was part of a regional tourism summit a few years ago," he said.

"Dr Robin took that idea and ran with it, working tirelessly to establish an organisation that could provide regional solutions to the question of poverty alleviation through tourism growth. And because of his work what we see as the reality of SEATO today has blossomed and grown.

"He has had the support of his University, the American University of Kuwait who have given him the flexibility to make his valuable contribution to the organisation," Mr Chew said.

"The future of the organisation is in the hands of members such as Dr Robin as we grow and develop, he has been innovative in his approach to problem solving, he has been committed to the ideals of the organisation and he has been creative in his thinking. Without members like him we cannot move forward," Mr Chew said.

"I look forward to working with him for many years to come as we address the issue of poverty alleviation through innovative approaches to the development of the tourism industry in the region."

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For further information contact Mr Robert Johnston, SEATO Secretariat Director on Robert.johnston@seato.org



