

We have gone through the two-day deliberations on one most crucial problem of our time, i.e. Natural Resource Management and Cooperation Mechanism in the Mekong Region. A fairly wide range of topics have been touched upon, starting from the issue of development in general to those concerning energy development and the rights and liberties of the grass-root people and communities. As well comes along the immediate problems arising from the controversial Upper Mekong Navigation Improvement Project (UMNP), providing for a comprehensive dredging and blasting of the hindering rapids and shoals along the way. It is indeed this shared sense of concern and urgency that prompted our gathering here.