

ANNEX 2
STANDARD TEMPLATE
QUARTERLY UPDATES

Contract reference no.: ASE/B7-301/1997/0178/21
Project Title: ASEAN-EU LEMLIFE: A Collaborative International Training Programme in Law, Ethics and Management in the Life Sciences
Name of Beneficiary: Chulalongkorn University
Period covered by this Quarterly Update: 1 July to 30 September, 2005
Due date of this Quarterly Update: 30 September, 2005

I. Introduction

- *This is seventh update of the ASEAN-EU LEMLIFE Project. During the previous three months, the Project has accomplished the objectives set out in the proposal and the contract. Please see details below.*

II. Description of Activities

- Preparing of the Course Material and the Fourth Workshop of the Project
- *The participants met for the last time at the Pathumwan Princess Hotel in Bangkok from September 16 to 18, 2005. This was the last workshop of the LEMLIFE project. The agendum again was preparation of the course material, and much progress was made in that the participants all understood that all material needed to be complete before December 31, 2005, which is the last day of the project. During the three-day meeting the participants discussed the syllabi that had been submitted earlier and made a number of suggestions and revisions. They also discussed the future collaboration plans after the conclusion of LEMLIFE and most agreed to join hands to submit another proposal to the Asia Link project, whose deadline is early next year. However, two existing LEMLIFE partners, namely Friedrich-Schiller-University and Lancaster University, declined to participate in the Asia Link. The meeting on future collaboration was also attended by representatives from the Tamil Nadu MGR Medical University and University of Madras. There was also an agreement to invite another partner from a university from the new EU member state, such as Estonia, to join the Asia Link project.*
- Public Forum on Biobanking Law in EU and ASEAN: Lessons and Prospects
- *On September 16, 2005, there was a public forum on Biobanking Law in EU and ASEAN: Lessons and Prospects, which was held in conjunction with the final LEMLIFE workshop at the Pathumwan Princess Hotel. The forum was led by Prof. Jürgen Simon and Dr. Brigitte Jansen. The idea behind the form was to delineate some salient ideas toward legal and regulatory mechanisms regarding collection of human tissues and genetic material so as to safeguard privacy and rights of individuals while not compromising the need for research and social security. The forum was attended by fifteen people, some coming from the Ministry of Public Health, Thailand and Mahidol University. The outcome of the public forum will be summarized and published in the newsletter of the LEMLIFE project. It will also be made available in English and posted on the project website.*
- The First UNESCO Roundtable on Bioethics
- *Many participants of the LEMLIFE project attended the First UNESCO Roundtable on Bioethics, organized by the Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in the Asia and Pacific (RUSHSAP) from September 11 to 15, 2005. The event was scheduled purposely to coincide with the final LEMLIFE workshop so that participants could attend both events. More than one hundred participants from many countries in Asia came to this particular event in order to present their views and research findings on various topics in bioethics. Among the LEMLIFE participants who presented their papers were Prof. Leonardo de Castro, Dr. Minakshi Bhardwaj, Prof. Le Dinh Luong, Prof. Chan Chee Khoon, Dr. Brigitte Jansen, Prof. Jürgen Simon and Dr. Somporn Promta. The Roundtable was a good opportunity for bioethicists to meet and to deliberate on future activities and networking.*

- AUNP Grant Holders' Meeting and the Third AUNP Roundtable
- From August 26 to 31, 2005 Dr. Soraj Hongladarom, Dr. Brigitte Jansen and Prof. Jürgen Simon went to Manila, the Philippines to participate in the AUNP Grant Holders' Meeting and the Third Roundtable on "Regional Cooperation in a Globalizing World: Enhancing University and Private Sector Co-operation, Partnerships and Institutional Linkages". The two events were organized by the AUNP office, in collaboration with University of Philippines and De La Salle University. Dr. Soraj presented the LEMLIFE project to other AUNP grant holders and there were many opportunities for the grant holders to learn from one another's experiences. There was a call for a continuation of the AUNP in some form after its expiration early next year. As for the Roundtable meeting, Dr. Soraj presented another paper on "University-Industry Partnership and Governance of Higher Education Institutions: How should universities in ASEAN be transformed?" which will be published in the proceedings prepared by the AUNP Programme Management Office.
- Public Lecture on Informed Decision Making and Biobanking, University of Philippines
- In order to respond to the comments made by the team of evaluators of the project who made a site visit last year, the Project organized a public lecture series on informed decision making and biobanking at the campus of University of Philippines, Diliman on August 27, 2005. Dr. Soraj Hongladarom gave a talk on informed consent and Dr. Brigitte Jansen and Prof. Jürgen Simon both presented their findings on biobanking issues. The forum was attended by some twenty people, many of whom were students in the bioethics diploma program at UP. There was a lively discussion sessions afterwards.
- Newsletters
- The fourth newsletter of the Project is now in the making. This will be a special issue in that it will contain the text of the MA degree program that is being deliberated by the administration of Chulalongkorn University. The public will be invited to voice their opinions and suggestions as to the content, structure and overall management of the program, and among the degree programs at Chulalongkorn University, this will be among the first programs to actively seek after public participation and input to the content and structure of the program. Other material will include articles and news on the developments in health care, biotechnology, medical sciences and other related areas.
- The Center for Science, Technology and Society
- As of this writing the proposal for the Center for Science, Technology and Society has passed the first evaluative meeting by the university and is now being closely examined by outside reviewers. It is expected that the Center, which will function as a research unit within the university, will become fully operational before the end of 2005. The Center will function as a focal point, together with the MA Program in bioethics, for the continuation of the activities initiated by the LEMLIFE project.
- Training Session on Research Ethics
- There will be a training session on research ethics to coincide with the CU Academic Festival from November 23 to 25, 2005 at Room 210, Maha Chulalongkorn Building. A number of well known medical scientists and scholars will take part in the session. Furthermore, there will also be a discussion forum on how to manage ethical review committees in the university, chaired by Prof. Soottiporn Chitmittrapap, Vice President for Research Affairs.

Soraj Hongladarom

Signature

(Dr. Soraj Hongladarom)

Date October 4, 2005