Excellencies

Ministers

Distinguished guests...

Ladies and gentlemen

Good afternoon.

We have now arrived at the end of our conference.

It has been a very long, but productive 3 days of discussions, presentations and debates. Thank you all for your hard work and active participation.

I’ve said this before, but let me say it again.

EFA began in this region and will conclude if you may, or continue in a more expanded form, in this region, with the important events to come in Nagoya, Japan and Incheon, Republic of Korea.
The Asia-Pacific region is rich with experience and we should take advantage this, as we, as part of the international community, move towards finalizing the post-2015 development agenda.

The formulation of the post-2015 sustainable development goals is a work in progress and we should join hands to work together to ensure that our voices are heard at the highest level.

Our role in influencing the new education agenda is critical.

And we should be confident, that our collective efforts will be well featured in the future agenda of education.

Let us congratulate ourselves for our hard work and solidarity, not only during these past 3 days, but more important, over the past 25 years.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We have come a long way indeed.

Thank you to Thailand, the Ministry of Education and the Thai National Commission for UNESCO for hosting this important conference. We sincerely appreciate your generosity and hospitality. Thank you.

Once again, thank you to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan, the Ministry of Education, Republic of Korea, and UNICEF for their continued support.

Thank you, participants of this Conference - ministers, high-level government officials and representatives of civil society organizations, teachers’ organizations, UN agencies, development partners, academia and the private sector.

Thank you to Mr. Qian Tang, Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO for his leadership.
Thank you to the Chairs, facilitators, rapporteurs, resource persons, note takers, MCs, and UNESCO staff and Thailand’s Ministry of Education and National Commission staff for your hard work.

Thank you to the Secretariat, both from Thailand and UNESCO Bangkok. These people have been working hard behind the scenes, day and night, to make this Conference happen. Thank you.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I look forward to our continued collaboration over the next 12 months and beyond. I look forward to seeing you at the ESD Conference in Nagoya and at the World Education Forum 2015 in Incheon.

I hope you enjoyed your time here in Thailand and I wish to you safe travels back to your countries.

Thank you.