

### **Saisuree Chutikul (Thailand)**

Name: Dr. (Mrs.) Saisuree Chutikul

Date and place of birth: 2 March 1935, Bangkok, Thailand

Working languages: English, Thai

#### **Current position/function**

Chair, National Subcommittee on Combating Trafficking in Children and Women, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (1999-present) • Member, National Commission on Women's Affairs and Family (1997-present) • Member, National Commission on Child and Youth (1995-present) • Advisor, National Education Commission (2005-present) • Chair, Subcommittee on Revision of Laws related to children in compliance with the Constitution and CRC (1998-present) • Member, Committee on Development of the Disadvantaged Persons (2005-present) • Temporary Technical Advisor on Trafficking in Persons, UNIAP (2004, 2005, 2006) • Temporary Consultant, ILO (Bangkok Office) on Monitoring of Prevention Program for Trafficking in Persons in Thailand (2006) • Chair, World Vision Foundation of Thailand.

#### **Main professional activities**

Combating trafficking in women and children which includes: prevention, protection, prosecution, rescue, return/repatriation, recovery/reintegration programmes, capacity-building using rights based and multidisciplinary approaches • Formulation of the national Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to coordinate GO's and NGO's efforts towards combating trafficking • Formulation of detailed regional MOUs (E, NE, N, W and SW) • Implementing plan of action (POA) for bilateral MOU with Cambodia and assist UNIAP for POA for MOU in the 6 countries in the Mekong Subregion • Consultant services on women's rights and children's rights to GOs and NGOs.

#### **Educational background**

B.A. in Music and B. Ed. In Education, Whitworth College, Spokane, Washington (1956)

M.S. in Educational Administration, Indiana University (1957)

Ed.D. in Educational Psychology, Counselling and Guidance, Indiana University (1962)

National Defense College, Ministry of Defense (1983)

#### **Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned**

Assist in training courses for GOs and NGOs related to women's rights and children's rights with special emphasis on combating all forms of exploitation of and discrimination against women and children • Work on the improvement of birth registration and identification of stateless persons and undocumented migrant women and children which would decrease their risks and vulnerability • Scrutinizing domestic laws and regulations to be in compliance with children's and

women's rights and Constitution and proposing them to the relevant ministries and the Cabinet.

#### **List of most recent publications**

*Human Rights and Trafficking in Women and Children*, UNOHCHR (2005)  
 • *Trafficking in Children and Women in Thailand*, Office of the Prime Minister publication (2004) • *The Girl Child*, World Vision International (2003) • *Building Partner's Ships: the case of Thailand*, Forums for Global Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Palermo, Italy (2001) • *The Girl Child*, Japan Global Forum, New York (2000) • *Women's Rights*, in Policy and Plans on Human Rights, Thailand (1999).

#### **Some achievement related to CEDAW**

Increasing the maternity leave from 45 days to 90 days with full pay • Changing the Nationality Law to enable children who were born of Thai mothers and foreign fathers to obtain the Thai citizenship automatically • Adding articles in the Labour Protection Law to prohibit sexual harassment of women, to enforce gender equal employment opportunity, and to include punishment clauses for all offences related to protection of female and child labour • Abolishing the regulation of the Civil Service Commission related to gender discrimination • Extending the retirement age of female flight attendants of Thai International Airlines from 45 years of age to 60 years, equal to that of male flight attendants • Getting the relevant ministries to appoint women in the ranks of Governors and District Officers as well as non-combatant Generals in the armed forces.