



ASEAN-NARCO

The 15th ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network Meeting



The Office of the Narcotics Control Board and ASEAN-NARCO hosted the 15th ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network Meeting on Thursday 3rd August 2023 online via video conference. Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyananta, Deputy Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board presided over the opening of the meeting. The Meeting was attended by ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network representatives from ASEAN Member States, representatives of ASEAN Secretariat as well as Associate Professor Manop Kanato, Chair of Thailand Substance Abuse Academic Network and his team as technical analysts of the ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report 2022 (ADM Report 2022), including relevant departments of the ONCB.



The objective of the meeting is to provide a platform for all ASEAN Member States to share and analyze data and information about drug situations in each ASEAN Member State and the overall situation in the ASEAN Region during January-June 2023, as well as discuss for the further development and formulation of the ADM Report 2022 before official launching at the 8th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters (The 8th AMMD) during 9-12 August 2023 in Lao PDR.



The analyzed data of the draft of ADM Report 2022 found that the drug situation in the ASEAN Region was still a serious threat and had a negative impact on peace and security of the ASEAN Community. The situation showed a trend of the drug epidemic becoming more severe, especially drugs in the Amphetamine-type stimulant (ATS) group such as Methamphetamine, including Designer Drugs such as Happy Water, which has a combination of various types of drugs and psychotropic substances.



Therefore, the cooperation among Thailand, the ASEAN Member States and the Thailand Substance Abuse Academic Network is an important mechanism for analyzing and evaluating data through ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network System (ADMN System) to formulate the ADM Report 2022 that every country can study and take advantage of solving drug problems in their countries. Moreover, Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyanunta, Deputy Secretary-General of the NCB also expressed gratitude to Myanmar for accepting to host the next 16th ADMN meeting, which is scheduled to be held during March 2024.