## **Preface**

Between 26-29 May 2007/2550, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, in conjunction with the Sangha Supreme Council, the Royal Thai Government and the International Organizing Committee, organizes the 4<sup>th</sup> International Buddhist Conference on the United Nations Day of Vesak and on the Auspicious Occasion of His Majesty the King's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary at Buddhamonthon Auditorium, Nakhon Pathom and at the United Nations Convention Center, Bangkok.

The topics for the conference comprise six symposiums: (1) "Buddhism and Good Governance", (2) "Dissemination of Buddhism through Modern Technology", (3) Preservation and Promotion of Buddhist Arts", (4) Buddhist Meditation and Human Development", (5) "Symposium of Buddhist University", and (6) "Buddhist Electronic Library". We can see from the symposium headings that there is a strong need for society to protect and foster cultural treasures, so that our younger people heading to universities can carry the wisdom of the previous generations forward through proper mental development, along with the technologies necessary to disseminate the information. As humanity develops towards common, peaceful interests – 'Buddhist Good Governance' becomes an important concept to bind these symposium topics together.

Last, I wish to offer my sincere thanks to the leaders of the Sangha, scholars, artists, performers and all participants from the 61 countries and regions for making the 2007/2550 celebrations a great success. It is my earnest wish that we build on this success for the better of the whole world.

(Most Ven. Prof. Dr. Phra Dharmakosajarn)

P.D. Kosajam

Rector, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University

Chairman, the International Organizing Committee