**Dear colleagues,**

The Association of Universities of Asia and the Pacific (AUAP) in cooperation with the Master Institute Development Academy and Seminary (MIDAS) Bangkok, Thailand is pleased to announce the 1st AUAP Student English Debate Competition(SEDC), to be held in Bangkok, Thailand on October 15-20, 2018. The participating teams must prepare to compete on either the affirmative or negative side based on all the topics listed below:

1. ASEAN should be integrated as one community like the European Union.

2. ASEAN should implement its own English Proficiency Requirements for College Students.

3. Corporal punishments are good to instill discipline among children.

4. ASEAN should adopt a common currency system.

5. Arranged marriages are good for our society

The purpose of hosting this competition is to prepare our students in sharpening their English speaking skills and in developing their critical thinking and reasoning skills. It will provide them the opportunity to discuss complicated topics calmly, clearly and competently. Persuasion skills are involved as well as understanding the breadth of the topics. Creativity is encouraged by offering a broad range of alternatives. It will also highlight the benefits of cooperation and teamwork, comradeship and cultural interconnection in their daily lives.

On behalf of the association, I am pleased to invite your institution to nominate a debating team consisting of three (3) students and one (1) tutor to participate in the 1st AUAP Students Debate Competition. We will only consider the first 32 Teams to participate and it will be on a first come first serve basis. Please find the enclosed registration form, rules and guideline. For more information, please contact the Executive Secretary Office at email auapheadquarters@aunap.org

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