



**On April 9-11, 2015** the first Asian Conference of Christian Business Leaders was held in Bangkok, Thailand, thanks to the organization and support of the **Catholic Business Executives Group (CBEG) Thailand, the only Asian member of Uniapac**, and the Catholic Young Executives Society (C-YES) Thailand.

Uniapac was represented by his former President Pierre Lecocq, by Ambassador Anthon Smitsendonk, Commissioner for Thailand and Indonesia in the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and previously Ambassador of the Netherlands to China, and by Giovanni Facchini Martini, UCID representative in Uniapac, who has several business interests in Asia.

Card. Peter K.A. Turkson, President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, was the keynote speaker, presenting the J&P publication “The Vocation of the business leader”, which was translated in Thai for the occasion.

The program included also some important contribution from Cardinal Francis Xavier Kriengsak Kovithavanij, Archbishop of Bangkok, Rev. Robert A. Sirico, President of Acton Institute, USA, Dr. Suthad Setboonsarng, Former Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN, Dr. Jesus P Estanislao, Chairman of Institute of Corporate Directors, Philippines, and Rev. Fr. Neil Dias Karunaratne, Founder of Business Catholic Group in Sri Lanka.

200 Delegates from 10 Asian countries were present, and in particular it was very interesting the sharing of experiences of the other Christian business organizations operating in Asia: the BCBP (Brotherhood of Christian Business People) in the Philippines, the Catholic Business and Professional Group in Sri Lanka, the Pukat (Professional Catholic Association) in Indonesia, and of course the CBEG in Thailand, chaired by Dr. Virachai Techavijit, Founder of The Regent’s School of Thailand, and by the former CBEG President Khun Prachuab Trinikorn.

Pierre Lecocq explained the role of Uniapac, and highlighted the importance for the local organizations to be part of the wider network, and Giovanni Facchini Martini put an emphasis on the role of the regional Uniapac of Europe, Africa and Latin America to support the activities of the national associations.

In the Final Declaration, we are happy to see a specific goal for all the “groups to be coached on a common Asian Catholic Business Group, with representatives from every Asian country”.

The next meeting will be in Colombo, Sri Lanka, thanks to the organization of the local association.

**More information on:**        [www.cureourworld.com](http://www.cureourworld.com)



Pierre Lecocq in discussion on the role of Uniapac with Father Neil Dias (Sri Lanka), Ambassador Anthon Smitsendonk (Holland), and Khun Prachuab of CBEG (Thailand)



Giovanni Facchini Martini gives some highlight about the next Uniapac Board Meeting in Milan in June 2015



Group foto of the speakers with Card. Peter Turkson