

WFB. Golden Jubilee Declaration 2000

Namo Buddhaya

We, the participants of the 21st General Conference of the World Fellowship of Buddhists, marking its Golden Jubilee, do hereby solemnly and ardently declare that we

1) express our veneration and gratitude to the Mahasangha of all participating countries for their spiritual guidance;

2) thank in all sincerity and gratitude His Majesty the King of Thailand for his patronage to the Fellowship and the gracious leadership in the promotion of Buddha Dhamma in the world;

3) offer our grateful thanks, with appreciation, to all previous and present Presidents, Office-bearers, Regional Centre Officials and all others whose devoted efforts have rendered the Fellowship an effective forum for Buddhists the world over;

4) rededicate ourselves on this auspicious occasion to continue to serve the cause of Buddha Dhamma by achieving the aims and objectives of the Fellowship;

5) welcome, and pledge our fullest support to the World Buddhist University whose nerve centre in Thailand was established to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Fellowship;

6) note with admiration the steps taken by the United Nations to recognise the Buddhist holiday of Vesak and endorse the proposal to declare and implement the International Buddhist Year programme, where each year will be dedicated to a theme, event, personage;

7) agree to observe the year Buddha Day (Vesak) 2001 to Buddha Day (Vesak) 2002 as the International Year of Metta (loving kindness);

8) continue to make every effort through the Regional Centres to work towards world peace through the pursuit of preventing or alleviating environmental deterioration, poverty, armed conflict and violence.

9) express our sincerest thanks to His Excellency the Prime Minister, the Government and the People of Thailand for their generous hospitality and to all those who serviced the General Conference for their efficiency and effectiveness with which the sessions were conducted.