

2553 (2010)
The Twenty-Fifth General Conference
Colombo, Sri Lanka

The 25th General Conference of the WFB was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 13-17 November B.E. 2553 (2010). We came back to Sri Lanka once again to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the WFB where the inaugural conference of The World Fellowship of Buddhists was held in B.E. 1950. The theme of this conference was “Reconciliation through the Teaching of Buddha” to manifest that we, Buddhists, resolved all differences by acts of reconciliation. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka had presided over the Opening of the Conference.

60th Anniversary of the WFB was celebrated in a manner of grandeur at the Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium of which H.E. Mahinda Rajapaksa, the President of Sri Lanka, had graciously honored the WFB in presiding over the celebration. The programme included a cultural programmed depicting the life cycle of the Lord Buddha. Around 3,000 participants including delegates, observers and guests from leading Buddhist countries around the world graced this historic occasion.

60 years anniversary made us acknowledged and realized that the WFB is now reaping the harvest of noble efforts of our founders and those along the way until this day. In addition, it reminded us that we will continue to pursue our course of life according to the Teaching of Buddha in order to enlighten vision and brighten intellect within a world of righteousness.

At this conference there was a significant proposal of establishing a Business Forum as a platform of Buddhist businessmen for sharing view of trade and commerce with likeminded business interests. The Forum was hoped to add value to those emerging economists and entrepreneurs to serve the world, through Dharma principles, with their achievements.

The conference was concluded by Colombo Declaration with detail as followed:

- ❖ Dharma is a source of healing for all human sufferings. One should overcome anger through kindness, wickedness through goodness, selfishness through generosity and falsehood through truthfulness. The teaching of Buddha told us that hatred is never appeased by hatred, but it is appeased by kindness. We appeal to all parties in conflicts to practice restraint, exercise compassion, to forgive and give priority to harmony and social developments,
- ❖ We recognized that good business ethics conducted in accordance with the Buddha’s Dharma will contribute to improvement of the social conditions of human beings,
- ❖ With the ever increasing natural disasters which have inflicted sufferings on all sentient beings, we re-commit ourselves to enhancing our role to continue providing prompt and adequate humanitarian support to affected areas and communities.