

2007 ROADMAP TOWARDS AN INTEGRATED AND COMPETITIVE MARITIME TRANSPORT IN ASEAN

Adopted in Singapore on 1 November 2007

INTRODUCTION

1. Working together on the Hanoi Plan of Action (HPA) transport agenda and Successor Plan of Action in Transport 1999-2004, ASEAN Member Countries have further developed what has for some time been a fairly open market for shipping services to, from and within ASEAN. With the exception of cabotage limitations, there are few restrictions on where ASEAN (or non-ASEAN) shipowners may operate, or what cargoes they may carry.
2. This Roadmap articulates a set of principles to develop and progress the shared vision for a single ASEAN voice¹ and a common shipping policy within the ASEAN region, while acknowledging and accepting the diversity of ASEAN Member Countries, which are at different stages in economic development and have differing factor endowments that require tailored approaches to policy and strategy. This Roadmap builds on the sound foundation that has already been laid, extending the trends of recent years in ways which are consistent with the development of a single ASEAN market for goods and services, and has the specific goal of taking advantage of the full potential benefit of seamless integration with the global shipping system. The Roadmap advances diversity as an opportunity and acknowledges the need to complement competition and liberalisation with capacity building measures in the ASEAN maritime transport sector. The Roadmap recognises that transport efficiency is not the only concern in the future of the intra-ASEAN shipping system, but also acknowledges the legitimacy of the desire of ASEAN Member Countries to maintain certain level of maritime capability for security reasons.

OBJECTIVE

3. The objective of this Roadmap is to promote the progressive liberalization of maritime transport services in ASEAN. The liberalisation of transport services is consistent with and supportive of the ASEAN Leaders' commitment in the Bali Concord II of October 2003, to develop ASEAN as a single market and production base. Specifically, it furthers the goals enunciated in the Vientiane Action Programme (VAP) 2004-2010 and ASEAN Transport Action Plan (ATAP) 2005-2010, and the ASEAN Leaders' call to institute new mechanisms and measures to strengthen the implementation of its existing economic initiatives.

POLICY THRUSTS

4. With the special character of shipping as an international activity, ASEAN Member Countries, in cognisance of the shared vision to foster a competitive and efficient intra-shipping service in ASEAN, subscribe to the following policy agenda, among others:
 - a) Foster competition in all shipping markets;
 - b) Adhere to the principle of free competition on a commercial basis for cargo movements to from or between ASEAN Member Countries;

¹ The 21st Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) in Chiang Mai, Thailand, 17-18 May 2006 clarifies that an "single ASEAN voice" means achieving consensus on issues of common interest and of mutual benefits to the ASEAN Member Countries, with the implementation on a case-to-case basis, towards developing of an integrated and competitive regional maritime transport environment.

- c) Promote a set of guidelines for the regulation of liner shipping markets;
 - d) Prevent or minimise the imposition of unjustifiable fees, surcharges or imposts by shipping lines or associations of shipping lines with a dominant position in any trade to from or within ASEAN;
 - e) Ensure that any international shipping operations retained under Government-ownership are corporatised and operated in accordance with commercial principles;
 - f) Refrain from providing preferential access to routes, cargoes or contracts to Government-owned lines, and to adopt a timetable for the removal of such preferences where they currently exist;
 - g) Work collectively and progressively towards the development of a single integrated ASEAN shipping market; and
 - h) Develop guiding-principles for the pricing of port services based on the cost of service and infrastructure provision.
5. In line with ASEAN's commitment to an integrated single market by 2015, the shared vision to move forward hinges on a strong ASEAN maritime sector operating efficiently within a single shipping market and which delivers quality services at a competitive price. ASEAN Member Countries shall strive that its maritime sector will be globally competitive and supported by appropriate infrastructure, regulation and human resources, through the orderly, staged and progressive implementation of the following strategic measures:
- a) Development of a single ASEAN voice, to collectively express a single coherent position on maritime matters of common interest to ASEAN Member Countries;
 - b) Intensified infrastructure development to support the effective and efficient operation of intra-ASEAN shipping services;
 - c) Progressive integration towards the formation of an ASEAN single shipping market;
 - d) Harmonisation of regulatory requirements and commercial practices, to ensure that competition takes place on equitable terms and conditions; and
 - e) Enhancing human resources and capacity development, to strengthen the management capacity and technologies required to manage shipping and port operations safely, efficiently and in an environmentally acceptable manner in the ASEAN region.

SPECIFIC MEASURES AND TIMING

6. The Roadmap provides a time-bound action plan for concrete actions that ASEAN Member Countries shall pursue in order to achieve a more open, efficient and competitive ASEAN maritime transport system. In keeping with the Bali Concord II, the Roadmap includes both cooperation and liberalisation measures.

COVERAGE

7. The specific measures will cover the movement/carriage of both passengers and cargo or freight by maritime transport, and the provisions of the port and related services necessary for the safe, efficient, secure and reliable operation of maritime transport services. Implementation of the specific

measures is subject to conformance with international conventions and/or the relevant national laws and regulations.

The detailed measures are as follows:

No.	MEASURES	IMPLEMENTING BODY	TIMELINE
I. Developing a single ASEAN voice			
1	Adopt the general principles and framework for a common shipping policy.	Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) through the Maritime Transport Working Group (MTWG), in consultation with ASEAN Ports Association (APA), ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA), Federation of ASEAN Shipowners Associations (FASA) and Federation of ASEAN Shippers Councils (FASC).	December 2007
2	Establish mechanism for the consultation, coordination and consensus of ASEAN responses to emerging maritime issues, which may have an impact on the interest of ASEAN Member Countries.		December 2008
II. Infrastructure			
3	Review list of ports ² in the ASEAN transport network to ensure that all ports of regional significance are included.	STOM through the MTWG in coordination with the APA. (For measures 5-8, to be done through seeking technical assistance from external donors institutions)	December 2007
4	Compile a database on ASEAN network ports. This could include inventory of the facilities available, shipping services, port tariffs, and other indicators		December 2008
5	Develop a database of maritime trade movements to and from within ASEAN.		December 2009
6	Develop guidelines for assessing port development priorities, including acceptable performance levels.		December 2009

² Insertion of ASEAN ports of regional significance will be done through the proper channels of MTWG.

7	Identify required improvement areas in ASEAN network port performance and capacity, based among others, on regular forecasts of maritime trade and requirements.		December 2009
8	Develop project priorities, based on the guidelines for assessing port development, to raise performance and capacity levels towards bridging such gaps in ASEAN network ports.		December 2010
9	Explore funding mechanisms, where necessary, to support the implementation of identified projects in the ports of ASEAN Member Countries.	ASEAN Member Countries, with assistance of the ASEAN Secretariat	December 2012
10	Ensure that all ASEAN network ports meet the acceptable performance and capacity levels.	ASEAN Member Countries	December 2015
III. Market Integration			
11	Confirm the principle of open access to the international maritime trade of all ASEAN Member Countries, as per the decisions of the other relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies, such as the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Services (CCS), and ASEAN Maritime Transport Sectoral Negotiation Working Group.	STOM through the MTWG	December 2009
12	Develop the strategies for an ASEAN Single Shipping Market.		December 2009
13	Implement the ASEAN Single Shipping Market.		December 2011
IV. Harmonisation			
14	Develop guidelines on acceptable practices in the provision of fiscal support for shipping operations	STOM through the MTWG	December 2009

15	Harmonise ship registration practices.		
16	Develop guidelines for structure of port tariffs in ASEAN transport network ports.		
V. Human Resources and Capacity Development			
17	Establish centres of logistics excellence at selected tertiary institutions within ASEAN.	STOM through the MTWG	December 2009
18	Develop strategy, including encouraging private sectors, for enhanced shipboard placements.		December 2009
19	Establish regional centres of maritime excellence to provide advanced training in high technology aspects of maritime operations and specialized courses in areas such as port and shipboard security		December 2011
20	Implement single labour market for ASEAN seafarers ³ .		December 2013

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

8. The ASEAN Maritime Transport Working Group (MTWG) shall provide overall technical oversight and coordinate the implementation of this Roadmap. Regular progress of implementation shall be reported to the Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) which shall be responsible for providing the necessary policy guidance, including the determination of priorities, carrying out periodic reviews and assessments and the approval of the necessary cooperative programs and activities. The ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) shall provide the issues and concerns of mutual interest and set the overall policy and program directions for the effective of the Action Plan. The ASEAN Secretariat shall assist and provide technical support to the MTWG/STOM in carrying out these responsibilities.
9. The ASEAN transport-affiliated organisations such as the ASEAN Federation of Forwarders' Associations (AFFA), ASEAN Ports Association (APA), Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations (FASA) and the Federation of ASEAN Shippers' Councils (FASC) shall provide technical and advisory support in the development of the necessary actions, measures or actions for implementation of this Roadmap.

³ In accordance with the decisions of the other relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies, such as the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Services (CCS), and ASEAN Maritime Transport Sectoral Negotiation Working Group.

10. As a general principle, two or more ASEAN Member Countries may proceed first if other Member Countries are not ready to implement the specific measures, in line with Article 1(3) of the Framework Agreement on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Cooperation signed by the ASEAN Leaders at the Fourth ASEAN Summit in Singapore on 28 January 1992. The other ASEAN Member Countries could join in the implementation when they are ready. ASEAN Member Countries shall also be provided the flexibility with regard to the implementation of the proposed timeline for the specific measures. The designation of a country coordinator, among the like-minded ASEAN Member Countries, to lead the consultation/negotiation on specific measures is desirable.