

2009 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE SECRETARIAT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS AND THE SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF THE COOPERATION COUNCIL FOR THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF

Signed in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain on 30 June 2009

The Secretariat of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, hereinafter referred to as "the ASEAN Secretariat", represented by the Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, of the part one¹

And

The Secretariat General of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, hereinafter referred to as "the GCC Secretariat General", represented by the Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, of the other part

DESIRING to take measures for cooperation and collaboration between the two Secretariats in the various fields;

RESPECTING the purposes and principles of ASEAN and GCC as set out in the ASEAN Charter and the Charter of the GCC;

And

REALIZING the need to enable a more effective and mutually beneficial cooperation between ASEAN and GCC;

RECOGNISING that this Memorandum of Understanding will not be legally binding under the International law;

Have reached the following understanding:

SECTION I AREAS OF COOPERATION

The ASEAN Secretariat and the GCC Secretariat General shall through exchange of information, best practices and experiences initially cooperate in the following areas;

- (a) Trade and Investment;
- (b) Food security;
- (c) Tourism; and
- (d) Energy.

¹ CIL note: Typographical error present in the original text.

The two sides may in the future add any other fields of cooperation that has consulted with the Member States of each organization.

SECTION II METHODS OF COOPERATION

1. The ASEAN Secretariat and the GCC Secretariat General shall draft a Work Plan to implement the above-mentioned areas of cooperation.
2. The Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council agree to undertake yearly consultations, or as and when necessary, at the Secretariats of the two organizations alternately.
3. Any further specific technical and sectoral cooperation shall be accommodated by supplementary Exchange of Letters between the two Secretariats as mutually agreed upon.

SECTION III SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTE

Any difference or dispute arising from the interpretation or implementation of this MOU will be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the ASEAN Secretariat and the GCC Secretariat General.

SECTION IV AMENDMENT

This MOU may be amended by written consent of the ASEAN Secretariat and the GCC Secretariat General.

SECTION V FINAL PROVISIONS

1. This MOU will be regarded as an administrative arrangement between the ASEAN Secretariat and the GCC Secretariat General.
2. The ASEAN Secretariat and the GCC Secretariat General will implement this MOU in conformity with their respective regulations, rules and administrative practices.

SIGNED in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, on the 30th of June 2009, in two original copies in the Arabic and English languages, all texts being equally authentic.

DR. SURIN PITSUWAN

Secretary-General of ASEAN

ABDULRAHMAN H. AL-ATTIYAH

Secretary-General of GCC