

## 2009 SINGAPORE RESOLUTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

*Adopted in Singapore on 29 October 2009*

1. **Recalling** the ASEAN Heads of State/Government Declaration on Environmental Sustainability at the 13th ASEAN Summit in Singapore; and their Joint Statement on Climate Change to the 15th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework on Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) and the 5th Session of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol at the 15th ASEAN Summit in Thailand;
2. **Recalling** the adoption of the ASEAN Charter and the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015);
3. **Noting** the strategic objectives and actions of the 11 priority areas under the section on “ensuring environmental sustainability” of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint;
4. **Cognisant** of the ongoing global economic instability and hence the need to balance economic driven policies, social development and the protection of environment;
5. **Recognising** the need to address ASEAN’s environmental issues, in particular environmental sustainability and climate change in order to enhance the environment and prosperity of our people;
6. **Acknowledging** the efforts of ASEAN Member States to ratify and operationalise the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, signed on 10 June 2002, and the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, signed on 27 September 2005;
7. **Further noting with concern**, the adverse impacts of climate change caused by global emissions of greenhouse gases, particularly to the ASEAN region, such as the loss of biodiversity, degradation of coastal and marine environment, and extreme weather events which result in severe social, health and economic consequences;

We, the Ministers of ASEAN Member States responsible for the environment, hereby resolve to:

### Regional Environmental Protection and Management

1. Fulfill the purposes of the ASEAN Charter and implement the strategies and actions of the ASCC Blueprint, with the aim of enhancing environmental sustainability in the region and the common goal towards a clean and green ASEAN;
2. Intensify efforts to address global and regional environmental issues by implementing our obligations to the various multilateral and regional environmental agreements through regional cooperation and collaboration with the international community;
3. Enhance regional cooperation and collaboration with international community to combat transboundary haze pollution through preventive, monitoring and mitigation efforts to tackle land and forest fires and to mobilise resources; and also to address other transboundary environmental pollution
4. Support the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution and the Technical Working Group in the Mekong Sub-Region in implementing activities to tackle land and forest fires within the ASEAN region;

5. Promote sustainable environmental practices and use of indicators under the ASEAN Initiative on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) to achieve Clean Air, Clean Land and Clean Water, and to continue the ASEAN ESC Awards as recognition to cities for their environmental achievements;
6. Launch the Fourth State of the Environment Report 2009 which showcases the environmental achievements of the region, and highlights the challenges faced and measures to address them;
7. Intensify cooperation on regional environmental issues with all relevant stakeholders so as to build ASEAN as an environmentally responsible community;
8. Enhance collaboration and policy dialogues with our dialogue partners and other international partners, in areas of common interest between the relevant parties;

#### Biodiversity and Natural Resources Conservation

9. Protect and conserve our rich biodiversity, taking into account the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to conserve and sustainably use biological diversity, and to ensure fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources; and to work together to achieve a successful outcome of the 10th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010;
10. Support the biodiversity conservation and management initiatives and programmes under the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB);
11. Encourage ASEAN Member States to identify and establish more ASEAN Heritage Parks and to maintain the current parks through a comprehensive, effectively-managed, and ecologically representative system of protected areas to significantly reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss;
12. Welcome the commencement of the project on the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Use of Peatland Forests in Southeast Asia which seeks to promote sustainable management and use of the fire-prone peatlands through capacity building, creating alternative livelihood activities, rehabilitation and conservation of important peatland sites;
13. Call upon the regional and international community to participate in and contribute to forest conservation, afforestation and reforestation, and to reduce deforestation, forest degradation, and forest fires, including by promoting sustainable forest management and development, and combating illegal logging and its associated trade;
14. Support collective efforts towards achieving our aspirational goal of significantly increasing the cumulative forest cover in the ASEAN region by at least 10 million hectares by 2020, so as to conserve the region's biodiversity and carbon sink;
15. Implement programmes under the ASEAN Strategic Plan on Water Resources Management and put in place measures for sustainable use of water and enhance water quality;
16. Focus efforts on biodiversity conservation as one of the key measures in the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change;

#### Climate Change

17. Emphasise cooperation with our international partners and the global community in understanding and adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change;

18. Commit to engage constructively in the negotiating process under UNFCCC to ensure an agreed and fair outcome in Copenhagen on the basis of the ASEAN Leaders Joint Statement to COP-15 and CMP-5;

19. Enhance our close cooperation towards the cleaner use of fossil fuels through active collaboration in the research, development and deployment of clean technologies, recognising that fossil fuels are a major component of our energy mix;

20. Intensify efforts in the use of renewable and alternative sources of energy such as solar, hydro, wind, tide, biomass, biofuels, geothermal energy, civilian nuclear power, as appropriate, with emphasis in ensuring safety and safeguards that adhere to current international standards, and environmental sustainability throughout the full life cycle of production and use;

21. Promote and improve energy efficiency in our energy generation and usage through capacity building and information sharing of best practices in managing energy use and the adoption and development of appropriate technologies and practices;

22. Focus on efforts to foster greater cooperation in responding to climate change in ASEAN, such as the formation of the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change, as well as plans to develop an ASEAN Climate Change Initiative and studies to assess the impacts of climate change on our region.

DONE in Singapore, this Twenty Ninth Day of October in the Year Two Thousand and Nine.