

# **2010-2015 PLAN OF ACTION TO IMPLEMENT THE ASEAN-INDIA PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE, PROGRESS AND SHARED PROSPERITY**

*Adopted in Ha Noi, Viet Nam on 30 October 2010*

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Taking into account the recent developments in ASEAN, in particular the entering into force of the ASEAN Charter, the adoption of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community by 2015 and the issuance of ASEAN Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Connectivity 2009;

Aiming at deepening and intensifying the partnership and cooperation between ASEAN and India for the period of 2010-2015 in a more comprehensive manner and in response to new and future regional and global challenges over the next five years;

Following five years of successful implementation of the Plan of Action, ASEAN and India agreed to implement the following activities, in conformity with their obligations under international law and in accordance with their respective domestic law, regulations and policies, with a view to supporting ASEAN integration and the Community building efforts and deepening of ASEAN-India Dialogue Partnership:

### **POLITICAL AND SECURITY COOPERATION**

1. Convene the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in 2012 to mark 20 years of ASEAN-India Dialogue Partnership in India;
2. Foster collaboration and consultations between ASEAN and India on the issues of common interests in the international arena, including the United Nations, international financial institutions, WTO and G20, among others, so as to articulate the aspirations of the developing countries for equitable treatment and representation of their views;
3. Establish an ASEAN-India Eminent Persons Group (EPG) to chart a vision statement towards the long-term strategic partnership between ASEAN and India in addressing regional and global issues;
4. Establish an ASEAN-India round table comprising think tanks, policy makers, parliamentarians scholars, media, business and youth representatives to provide policy inputs on future areas of cooperation;
5. Enhance cooperation in the framework of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) to promote confidence building and preventive diplomacy, particularly in cooperation to implement the ARF Vision Statement and its Plan of Action in support of strengthening the ARF;
6. Promote the ADMM-Plus as a useful platform for dialogue and security cooperation, in particular for forging practical cooperation to address the security challenges facing the region;
7. Support the implementation of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANFWZ) Treaty as an effective instrument towards the promotion of international peace and security;

8. Deepen cooperation in combating international terrorism, including under the framework of the “ASEAN-India Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism,” signed in Bali, Indonesia on 8 October 2003, and under the ARF Work Plan on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime adopted at the 16th ASEAN Regional Forum in Phuket, Thailand on 23 July 2009;
9. Support the implementation of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism signed on 13 January 2007 in Cebu, Philippines and the ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter Terrorism endorsed at the 7th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) in Siem Reap, Cambodia, 17 November 2009;
10. Strengthen capacity-building efforts in the area of combating international terrorism through training and consultations between officials, analysts, field operators, seminars, conferences and operations, as appropriate; Strengthen counter-terrorism capacity building cooperation for transport, customs, immigration and quarantine inspections;
11. Enhance cooperation to improve border and customs controls, in order to prevent and detect the cross-border movement of terrorists and to prevent goods as well as materials that may be used in terrorist acts;
12. Convene the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) + India Consultations, as required;
13. Take into consideration the importance of holding the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD) + India Consultations on a regular basis;
14. Building institutional linkages for information sharing, and cooperation on legal assistance for law enforcement in criminal matters in accordance with their national laws and on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty, equality, and mutual benefit;
15. Promote effective cooperation in maritime safety, search and rescue operation (SAR) through activities such as experience sharing, technology cooperation and exchange of visits of authorities concerned;
16. Intensify dialogue between ASEAN and India through exchanges amongst officials, think-tanks and relevant stakeholders with the aim to promote human rights, strengthen the rule of law and promote principle of democracy;
17. Promote capacity building for good governance, the strengthening of the rule of law and judiciary systems;
18. Support the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights;

### **ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

19. Enhance ASEAN-India capacity building programme and economic development cooperation to support the ASEAN effort in enhancing regional integration, realizing the ASEAN Community by 2015, and narrowing development gap among ASEAN Member States;
20. Encourage the ASEAN-India FTA negotiations, particularly on Trade in Services and Investment to conclude at an early opportunity in order to establish the ASEAN-India Regional Trade and Investment Area as outlined under the Framework Agreement for Comprehensive Economic Cooperation while taking into account the different level of development and

capacity of the individual ASEAN Member States, especially Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Viet Nam (CLMV);

21. Undertake capacity building programmes, workshops and seminars that support ASEAN-India FTA negotiations, Rules of Origin (ROO), services liberalization, regulatory aspects of E-Commerce, elimination of non-tariff barriers, Competition Policy and Intellectual Property Rights;
22. Encourage the re-activation of the ASEAN-India Business Council and the ASEAN-India Business Summit in order to strengthen business networks and opportunities;
23. Promote and facilitate flows of foreign direct investment into ASEAN countries and India through cooperation among investment promotion agencies, linkages between investors and local entrepreneurs, and dissemination of information on investment rules, regulations and policies of general application that pertain or affect investments in its territory by investors of the other Party;
24. Hold an ASEAN Trade and Industrial Exhibition in India in early 2011 and an India Trade and Industrial Exhibition in ASEAN Member States;
25. Deepen cooperation in the area of aviation under the ASEAN-India Aviation Cooperation Framework adopted at the 14th ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting in Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines on 6 November 2008, including the convening of air services consultations by the ASEAN-India Working Group on Regional Air Services Arrangements to work towards concluding an Air Transport Agreement between ASEAN and India based on 'open skies' principles covering both air freight and passenger services.
26. Forge closer cooperation to enhance transportation infrastructure, networks and operations, including air, maritime, road, rail, and multi-modal transport, in accordance with the ASEAN Leaders Statement on ASEAN Connectivity adopted at the 15th ASEAN Summit in Cha-am Hua Hin, Thailand on 24 October 2009;
27. Promote capacity building and sharing of technology in the field of Infrastructure and policy planning and regulations of transportation and logistics between ASEAN and India;
28. Work closely to promote connectivity in the region by completing the missing links between South and Southeast Asia, including expediting the completion of India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway and extension to Laos and Cambodia; developing a new India-Myanmar-Laos-Vietnam-Cambodia highway; and encouraging private sector participation in the development of roads and railways in ASEAN Member States, particularly in CLMV;
29. Support continued consultations between ASEAN and India to promote tourism cooperation, including in the areas of joint marketing, crisis communications, tourism investment and tourism standards activities;
30. Support the continued participation of ASEAN Chair at G20 Summits;
31. Support the accession of Lao PDR to the World Trade Organization (WTO);
32. Foster collaboration and contribute to reforming the global economic and financial architecture to safeguard the regional and global economies from future crises particularly through initiatives that promote regulatory financial reforms;

33. Further develop capital market infrastructure in areas of legal and regulatory and supervisory framework and cross-border trading clearance settlement; and assist ASEAN Member States, particularly CLMV in the development of their capital markets;
34. Undertake joint activities, including exchanges and study visits to enhance the development and capacities of the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Government officials who are responsible for SME development in India and ASEAN Member States;
35. Provide experts in the field of Entrepreneurship Development and Small and Medium Enterprise to support Entrepreneurship Development Centres (EDC) in CLMV and establish additional EDCs;
36. Strengthen the interaction between the Ministries related to Agriculture including Aquaculture, Livestock, Horticulture and Commodities in the ASEAN Member States and India;
37. Enhance cooperation in the agriculture sector with a view to meeting the challenges of food security; and endeavour to launch cooperation projects to exchange information and technology, and to develop joint research projects in the fields of agricultural machinery, agricultural products marketing and improvement of agricultural infrastructure, including the development of irrigation system;
38. Encourage the progress of agriculture-related industries such as agricultural technologies and crop varieties development and breeding technologies through the conduct of exhibitions, expositions and seminars;
39. Develop Human Resources in Forestry and Fisheries sub-sector by providing opportunities for ASEAN young generation to learn Management and Conservation of natural resources and build capacity in Forestry and Fisheries Information System and Space Technology (Remote Sensing and GIS);
40. Develop human resources in the area of agriculture by providing opportunities for ASEAN young farmers to learn techniques, management and farm working practices;
41. Enhance cooperation in Standards and conformance, including technical infrastructure and competency in laboratory testing, post market surveillance, and sectoral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) on Conformity Assessment in order to reduce technical barriers to trade;
42. Establish linkages between national standards and conformity assessment bodies and technical regulators for mutual recognition of conformity assessment procedures and results and capacity building; and promote technical assistance in the area of standards and conformance to CLMV;
43. Support the implementation of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2010-2015, which will serve as a guideline for the ASEAN energy cooperation to support the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community 2015, particularly on programme areas ASEAN Power Grid, Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline, Coal and Clean Coal Technology, Regional Energy Policy and Planning, and Energy Efficiency and Conservation and Renewable Energy;
44. Promote the facilitation of trade and investment in energy sector, including energy infrastructure and oil and natural gas related projects, pursue an integrated and coordinated development programme to establish compatibility of electricity grids, and work towards liberalization of power trade among ASEAN Member States and India; strengthen cooperation

in energy efficiency and conservation through institutional capacity building and increasing private sector engagement; cooperate in the development and utilisation of renewable and alternative energy sources;

45. Develop and strengthen institutional linkages between ASEAN and India, including the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), to cooperate on R&D into energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy security, policy and planning, and to establish programmes of cooperation;
46. Support rural household electrification programmes of CLMV, including solar, bio mass, bio gas, micro hydro and off-grid electrification;
47. Convene meeting between ASEAN Ministers on Energy and Minister of New and Renewable Energy of India to advance energy cooperation;
48. Facilitate and enhance trade and investments through the better understanding of mineral polices, incentives, taxation, mineral resource information as well as exchange of resource and trade information, geothermal energy data, groundwater and availability of geological maps; and promote a platform for dialogue in which the private sector can more effectively and efficiently collaborate in mutually beneficial mining cooperation;
49. Develop policy guidelines and standards for ASEAN-India Best Mining Practices to promote environmentally and socially sustainable mineral development;
50. Develop institutional and human capacity building in the geological and mineral sector to ensure and adequately address the current needs and future demands of the minerals industry and economy in ASEAN Member States and India;
51. Promote scientific and technological research and development of minerals and geosciences for development of value added products for mutual benefits;
52. Enhance cooperation on Information and communication technology (ICT) such as sharing of best practices in policy, regulation and technological development, including through existing high level meeting between ASEAN and India on ICT;
53. Promote and facilitate ASEAN-India ICT workshops and training of ICT capacity building; such as in the areas of software development; e-governance, e-commerce, satellite and spectrum technology, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), and ICT to mitigate impacts of climate change;
54. Conduct consultations between governments, private sector and industry group to facilitate investments in ICT, focusing on broadband connectivity and broadband applications in ASEAN;
55. Strengthen cooperation and capacity building in information security and cyber-security, cyber laws and regulations; joint research and development activities in the area of interactive digital media;

#### **SOCIO-CULTURAL COOPERATION**

56. Intensify ASEAN-India development cooperation in support of ASEAN efforts in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and enhancing regional integration and realizing an ASEAN Community by 2015;

57. Support the establishment and operationalisation of the ASEAN Co-ordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) and support ASEAN in achieving goals related to Disaster Risk, Assessment, Early Warning and Monitoring, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Disaster Preparedness and Response as reflected in the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2010-2015;
58. Enhance capacity building on Occupational Safety and Health Management System (OSHMS);
59. Continue to support the Centres for English Language Training and to establish additional Centres in ASEAN Member States;
60. Undertake activities and develop programmes/projects under the ASEAN-India Science and Technology Development Fund;
61. Promote policy dialogue in the area of science and technology; support joint industrial, R&D projects in mutually identified areas, promote public outreach programmes, including participation of children in Science Congresses and internship programmes for ASEAN and Indian young scientists;
62. Establish IT Training Centres in CLMV and other interested ASEAN Member States; set up software development and training centres in CLMV and consider appropriate accreditation to these training centres;
63. Provide assistance in information technology curriculum development and IT teacher trainings to CLMV;
64. Enhance the IT skills of the workforce in ASEAN through provision of scholarships for ASEAN students, joint training programmes and courses, e-Learning, seminars, workshops as well as exchange of visits of IT experts;
65. Promote cooperation in space technologies including capacity building, sharing of satellite data for management of natural disaster and launching of small satellites and scientific instruments and payloads for experiments in remote sensing and communications;
66. Work towards developing low cost drugs and traditional medicines to make medicines more affordable to people, and to explore a framework as appropriate for cooperation in these areas;
67. Enhance consultations, including on stockpiling of antiviral and other essential medicines and medical equipment to jointly prevent and control the HIV/AIDS, influenza A(H1N1) and other pandemic diseases; and provide technical and financial assistance for capacity building to cope with emerging infectious disease;
68. Promote sharing of information and exchange of experts in the field of public health, medicine, physical and health education;
69. Undertake programmes/projects under the ASEAN-India Green Fund to strengthen cooperation in both research on climate change and development of appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures; provide technical and financial assistance and capacity building for ASEAN Member States to address climate change;

70. Promote dialogue between government officials and civil societies of ASEAN and India in the areas of rural development, poverty eradication, women empowerment, and protection of children against exploitation, empowerment for persons with disabilities, gender equality and old age care that will help provide additional income to rural households and improve the quality of lives, through among others:
  - i. Training programmes on good practices in rural development and poverty eradication;
  - ii. Establish Rural Development Research Institute (RDRI) in CLMV to promote training and sharing experiences on poverty eradication; and
  - iii. Study tours to the poverty reduction projects in ASEAN Member States and India
71. Promote cooperation in biotechnology through capacity building and joint researches for mutual benefit;
72. Promote scientific and technological research and development of advanced materials for development of value-added products;
73. Enhance cooperation in education in line with the Cha-Am Hua Hin Declaration on Strengthening Cooperation on Education to Achieve an ASEAN Caring and Sharing Community adopted on 24 October 2009;
74. Further increase the number of fellowships for ASEAN students, especially to those from CLMV to pursue higher education in India and provide scholarships in the area of performing and visual arts;
75. Promote academic curriculum benchmarking to enhance comparability of educational systems, and develop academic credit transfer schemes between ASEAN and Indian academic institutions; and further promote closer collaborations between universities in ASEAN and India through the ASEAN University Network;
76. Continue to promote people-to-people contacts, including through visits to ASEAN and India of students, youth, academia, scholars, librarians and diplomats, which help to foster ASEAN-India relations at the peoples level; as well as organise regular mass-media exchange programmes to ASEAN and India;
77. Strengthen parliamentary contacts, including through the framework of ASEAN Interparliamentary Assembly (AIPA);
78. Promote dialogue, networking and exchange of visits among government authorities responsible for cultural affairs, cultural institutions, museums, archives and libraries, artists, experts, music, acrobatics, dance, art, animation and cinematography;
79. Facilitate exchange and linkage programmes in the areas of creative and performing arts, cultural education, conservation and management of cultural and archaeological heritage, protection of traditional knowledge and folklore, cultural enterprises and creative industries;
80. Promote greater awareness and appreciation of each other's traditions, heritage and cultures, including through regularly held cultural festivals, art exhibitions, film festivals and other cultural events; discuss and exchange experiences on preserving traditional cultural values and work together to prevent theft, illicit and illegal trade and trafficking, and transfer of cultural properties;



### **FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM**

81. Regularly review the progress of implementation of the Plan of Action through the existing mechanisms of the ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations; and
82. Submit progress reports on the implementation of the Plan of Action to the annual ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) + 1 session with India and the annual ASEAN-India Summit.