

2012 ASEAN LEADERS' DECLARATION ON DRUG-FREE ASEAN 2015

Adopted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 4 April 2012

WE, the Heads of State/Government of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member States of ASEAN, gathered at the 20th ASEAN Summit, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 3-4 April 2012;

RECOGNISING that the international drug problem remains one of the main security concerns to all ASEAN Member States. Apart from the suffering caused to individuals, particularly the young, illicit drug abuse and trafficking weaken the social fabric of nations, represent direct and indirect economic costs to governments and entail criminal activities which could threaten the stability of states;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the illicit drug trafficking, which is inextricably linked to other transnational crimes, including money laundering and arms smuggling, could escalate to such a level where perpetrators can pose serious political and security threats to the region;

RECALLING the Joint Declaration for a Drug-Free ASEAN signed by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers in Manila, on 25 July 1998; the agreement of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers at their 33rd AMM in Bangkok, in July 2000 to speed up the realization of Drug-Free ASEAN from 2020 to 2015; the Bangkok Political Declaration in Pursuit of a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 in October 2000; the ASEAN Work Plan on Combating Illicit Drug Production, Trafficking and Use 2009-2015; the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III); and the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint for which ASEAN will work towards a drug-free ASEAN by 2015;

ENCOURAGED by the increasing ASEAN efforts in addressing the menace of narcotic drugs which will directly complement regional efforts in halting and reversing the spread of communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS;

WELCOMING the efforts of the ASEAN Sectoral Bodies under the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Council, ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council, and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council in implementing ASEAN initiatives, especially the objectives in the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) on Drug-Free ASEAN, especially in the priority areas of drug education, drug information, prevention within the community, treatment, rehabilitation and law enforcement;

NOTING the growing resolve of ASEAN that the realisation of a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 can be achieved by successfully and effectively controlling illicit drug activities and mitigating their negative consequences to society, primarily on significant and sustainable reduction;

EMPHASISING the importance of strengthening institutional linkages and coordination between the various ASEAN mechanisms involved in the fight against illicit drug trafficking and other transnational crimes, particularly the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), the ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (AFMM), the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD), the ASEAN Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM), the ASEAN Directors-General of Customs, the ASEAN Directors-General for Immigration Department and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs Meeting (DGICM), and the ASEANAPOL;

WELCOMING also the efforts undertaken by the international community to succeed over the deleterious nature of illicit drugs in light of the United Nations Decade on Drug Abuse (1991- 2000), as well as the continuous commitment of ASEAN Dialogue Partners in providing assistance to the ASEAN Member States in solving this menace;

REAFFIRMING our commitment to realising an ASEAN Community by 2015, in accordance with the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint, to be free from the threat of illicit drug abuse, use and trafficking;

DO HEREBY declare to:

1. Intensify concerted efforts to realize the vision and goal of a drug-free ASEAN Community by 2015 as a high-priority agenda of ASEAN by tasking relevant Ministers to speed up the implementation of the ASEAN Work Plan on Combating Illicit Drug Production, Trafficking, and Use 2009-2015 and the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) on drug-free ASEAN by 2015.
2. Task relevant Ministers of the ASEAN Sectoral Bodies through the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC) to make annual reports to the ASEAN Leaders on the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint in the area of drugfree ASEAN.
3. Deepen our cooperation and coordination measures through the sharing of information and best practices in order to enhance more effective enforcement of illicit drug control in the region.
4. Further enhance cooperation and coordination in a comprehensive manner with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners and external parties to eradicate illicit drug production, processing, trafficking and use in the ASEAN region by 2015.

Adopted in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, this Fourth Day of April in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve