

1982 ASEAN MINISTERIAL UNDERSTANDING ON PLANT QUARANTINE RING

Adopted in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 9 October 1982

WE, the undersigned attending the Fourth Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 8-9 October, 1982 upon the invitation of His Excellency, Dato Abdul Manan bin Othman, Minister of Agriculture, Malaysia.

RECALLING the Declaration of ASEAN Concord signed in Ball, Indonesia on 24th February 1976, which provides that ASEAN member countries shall take cooperative action in their national and regional development programmes;

REALIZING that plant pests do not recognize national boundaries and therefore more effective cooperation is necessary among member countries in controlling plant pests;

REAFFIRMING the principles guiding ASEAN cooperation in the field of food and agriculture to promote a strong, peaceful and resilient ASEAN community;

NOTING the Manila Consensus arising from the First Meeting of ASEAN Agriculture ministers in Manila, August 1979;

RECOGNIZING the ever-increasing threat of having exotic plant pests and diseases introduced into the countries of the ASEAN due to:

- (a) increased movement of people and commodities in international trade;
- (b) expanding agricultural programmes; and
- (c) the urgent need to introduce new or improved plant varieties.

RECALLING that many of the world's most destructive plant pests and diseases still are not known to occur within the ASEAN Region;

NOTING further that the ASEAN Regional Plant Quarantine Centre and Training Institute (PLANTI) has carried out a pest risk analysis of plant pests;

FULLY AWARE of the adverse economic consequences that could result from the introduction of injurious exotic plant pests and pathogens into any ASEAN country.

WE, representing Member Countries in the ASEAN do hereby declare that:

- (i) All member countries shall follow the ASEAN pest risk analysis for excluding dangerous and exotic pests from entry into the ASEAN Plant Quarantine Ring;
- (ii) All member countries shall practise inter and intrastate quarantine;
- (iii) In the event of the report of the presence of a dangerous pest, immediate action should be taken to eradicate the pest from within the ASEAN Quarantine Ring;

- (iv) Member countries which intend to introduce beneficial insects and biological control agents not present the ASEAN Region should inform other member countries.

DONE at Kuala Lumpur on the Ninth day of October, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Two.