



ASEAN 50th Anniversary  
MALAYSIA 2015

# 26th ASEAN SUMMIT RETREAT SESSION

Langkawi, Malaysia 27 April 2015



# Our People Our Community Our Vision

**Annual Report 2014-2015**  
Association of Southeast Asian Nations



one vision  
one identity  
one community





# **Our People, Our Community, Our Vision**

Annual Report  
2014-2015

The ASEAN Secretariat  
Jakarta

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States of the Association are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

For inquiries, contact:  
The ASEAN Secretariat  
Public Outreach and Civil Society Division  
70A Jalan Sisingamangaraja  
Jakarta 12110  
Indonesia  
Phone : (62 21) 724-3372, 726-2991  
Fax : (62 21) 739-8234, 724-3504  
E-mail : public@asean.org

#### Catalogue-in-Publication Data

ASEAN Annual Report 2014-2015 – Our People, Our Community, Our Vision  
Jakarta: ASEAN Secretariat, July 2015

352.1159

1. ASEAN – Association – Southeast Asia
2. Regional Organization – Annual Report

ISBN 978-602-0980-32-4

General information on ASEAN appears online at the ASEAN Website: [www.asean.org](http://www.asean.org)

The text of this publication may be freely quoted or reprinted, provided proper acknowledgement is given and a copy containing the reprinted material is sent to Public Outreach and Civil Society Division of the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta

Copyright Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) 2015.  
All rights reserved

#### Photo credits:

Page (s)	Credit
Cover	Bernamea of Malaysia, ASEAN Secretariat, National Tourism Organisation (NTO) of Myanmar
1, 2, 12, 13, 18, 22, 26, 27, 28, 32, 34, 39, 45, 51, 57, 60, 66, 85, 86, 89	ASEAN Secretariat
3	Bernamea of Malaysia
46	National Tourism Organisation (NTO) of Thailand
55	National Tourism Organisation (NTO) of Indonesia
63	National Tourism Organisation (NTO) of Malaysia
69, 70	ASEAN COCI





# Contents

---

1

Foreword by  
the Secretary-General

2

25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summits

3

ASEAN's Year  
in External Relations

---

## ASEAN Cross-Communities

---

18

ASEAN Connectivity

19

ASEAN Coordinating  
Council (ACC)

20

ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating  
Committee (ACCC)

21

Committee of Permanent  
Representatives to ASEAN (CPR)

22

Initiative for ASEAN Integration  
(IAI)

---

## ASEAN Secretariat's Outreach Activities

---

26

Getting the People Ready for ASEAN Community

---

## ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC)

---

30

Introduction

31

ASEAN Political-Security  
Community (APSC) Council

32

ASEAN Foreign Ministers'  
Meeting (AMM)

33

Commission on the  
Southeast Asia Nuclear  
Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ  
Commission)

34

ASEAN Defence Ministers'  
Meeting (ADMM)

35

ASEAN Law Ministers' Meeting  
(ALAWMM)

36

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on  
Transnational Crime (AMMTC)

37

ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

38

ASEAN Intergovernmental  
Commission on Human Rights  
(AICHR)

---

## ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)

---

42

Introduction

43

ASEAN Economic  
Community (AEC)  
Council

44

ASEAN Economic  
Ministers (AEM)

50

ASEAN Free Trade Area  
(AFTA) Council

---

**54**

ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council

**55**

ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting (AFMM) and ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (AFMGM)

**56**

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF)

**58**

ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM)

**59**

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (AMMST)

**60**

ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Ministers Meeting (TELMIN)

**61**

ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM)

**63**

ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC)

**62**

Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM)

---

## ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)

**66**

Introduction

**67**

ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council

**68**

ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (AMRI)

**70**

ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA)

**71**

ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASED)

**71**

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)

**73**

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (AMME)

**75**

Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution

**76**

ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting (AHMM)

**77**

ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM)

**78**

ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (AMRDPE)

**80**

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting for Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD)

**81**

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY)

**82**

ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM)

**83**

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW)

**84**

ASEAN Commission on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)

**85**

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports (AMMS)

---

## Other Inclusion

**90**

List of Major Meetings from June 2014-May 2015



# Foreword



This past year, ASEAN continued implementing the remaining measures of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community while strengthening ASEAN institutions and mechanisms, further intensifying ASEAN awareness and understanding as well as reinforcing the Association's cohesive engagement with the rest of the international community.

Overall, approximately 92.5% of all the measures and action lines stipulated in the three ASEAN Community Blueprints have been implemented while continuous efforts are being made to pursue the Initiative for ASEAN Integration Work Plan II and the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity.

Building a strong foundation for dialogue and cooperation to maintain and enhance peace and security in the region continues to be of paramount concern for the ASEAN Political-Security Community, while maintaining ASEAN's central and proactive role in the regional architecture. ASEAN continues to deepen its partnerships and collaboration with Dialogue Partners, international and regional organisations and other external parties through policy dialogues and implementation of various cooperation activities.

Further progress has been made towards the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community with notable achievements in trade facilitation, standards and conformance, investment, financial services, tourism, competition law and policy, infrastructure, and small and medium enterprises.

Anchored by strong macroeconomic fundamentals and the implementation of economic integration measures, the combined GDP of ASEAN economies grew by 4.6% in 2014, against the global growth of 3.4%. With greater regional market prospects as well as rising investor confidence thanks to the vast opportunities and the relative peace and stability of the region, ASEAN remains an attractive investment destination, receiving USD136.2 billion of global FDI flows in 2014, reflecting a 15.7% increase year-on-year.

Pursuing the realisation of a people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN Community, the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community has focused on strengthening multi-sectoral coordination and responses to disaster management and disaster risk reduction, facilitating the operationalisation of protection of migrant workers, developing the framework on social protection and enhancing ASEAN awareness and connectivity through the ASEAN Virtual Learning Resource Centre. ASEAN also continues to strengthen cooperation in climate change, pandemics and natural disasters as well as other existing and emerging challenges, further institutionalising the resilience of the ASEAN region, our communities and our peoples.

To chart ASEAN's future beyond 2015, the ASEAN Community's Post 2015 Vision is being developed through consultations among the three Community pillars and relevant stakeholders, while continuous efforts have been undertaken to strengthen the ASEAN Secretariat and to improve coordination mechanisms especially on cross-pillar and cross-cutting issues.

With this year's Malaysian Chairmanship theme of "Our People, Our Community, Our Vision", the imminent realization of the ASEAN Community - will mark the consolidation of all the Community building efforts for the past five decades, highlighting ASEAN's integral contributions to the maintenance of peace and stability as well as the sustained and equitable economic growth of the region, ushering a new era for ASEAN to fully realise the opportunities and benefits for all our peoples by 2015 and beyond.

**LE LUONG MINH**  
Secretary-General of ASEAN

# 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit

During the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit on 12-13 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, the ASEAN Leaders adopted the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision together with the Central Elements of the Post-2015 Vision for 2016-2025. As community building is an evolving process, ASEAN will continue to work towards a region that is internally and externally strong, resilient to regional and global challenges and truly representative of the peoples of the region.

In the political-security pillar, the Leaders stressed the importance of maintaining peace and stability in a shifting geo-strategic landscape in the region. The Leaders highlighted the need to develop a rules-based regional architecture in keeping with the fundamental principles in ASEAN's key instruments such as the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) and the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC). The Leaders also underscored the need to enhance ASEAN's capacity and preparedness in addressing non-traditional security challenges, especially trafficking in persons, counter-terrorism and extremism, drugs, and pandemics.

In the economic pillar, the Leaders noted that the ASEAN region's economic performance remains robust despite an uncertain global economic environment. The Leaders agreed to fast-track the implementation of the prioritised AEC deliverables, communicate the AEC to stakeholders, and finalise the AEC's post-2015 agenda for deeper regional economic integration. The Leaders also reiterated the importance of maintaining ASEAN centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture, and urged all parties to expedite negotiations towards concluding the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership by the end of 2015.

In the socio-cultural front, the Leaders reiterated their commitment to build an ASEAN Community that is people-oriented, people-centred, vibrant and socially responsible. They urged all sectoral

bodies, relevant stakeholders including the private sector, the academia, parliamentarians, women, youth and civil society groups to engage constructively to this end. The Leaders also welcomed the launching of the ASEAN Institute for Green Economy in Myanmar to spur collaboration in sustainable development and greening the regional economy.

In external relations, the Leaders reiterated the importance of maintaining ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture and in ASEAN engagement with external parties. They reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to work closely with all Dialogue Partners and other external parties through a proactive, outward-looking, and synergised approach across all ASEAN-led mechanisms to contribute to peace, stability, security and prosperity in the region and beyond.

To strengthen ASEAN institutions to meet the increasing demands and challenges of regional integration, the Leaders adopted the Declaration on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing ASEAN Organs which aims to improve coordination among ASEAN Organs, enhance the capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat, and streamline and enhance the conduct of ASEAN's external relations. The Recommendations of the High-Level Task Force on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs is currently being followed-up and implemented.



# 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit

In line with the theme 'Our People, Our Community, Our Vision', the 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015 in Kuala Lumpur & Langkawi under Malaysia's Chairmanship adopted the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on a People-Oriented, People-Centred ASEAN. The Declaration sets forth the over-arching principle of creating a truly people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN comprising all areas of political and security cooperation, economic growth and socio-cultural development. The Leaders also had interface meetings with the representatives of ASEAN youth and civil society organisations to encourage their continued constructive engagement in the process of building a people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN Community.

The Leaders expressed their commitment to redoubling efforts towards realising the ASEAN Community at the end of 2015, noting that the remaining measures are of a more difficult nature and require a higher level of integration. It was acknowledged that community building is a work in progress that needs to be constantly nurtured, with the ultimate goal of enabling the ASEAN peoples to fully enjoy its benefits.

The Leaders welcomed the progress made in the formulation of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015

Vision and the attendant documents of the three community pillars for 2016-2025. Recognising that narrowing the development gap and enhancing ASEAN Connectivity are priorities in building the ASEAN Community, the Leaders also welcomed the formulation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan III (2016-2020) and a post-2015 ASEAN Connectivity agenda.

The Leaders had an extensive exchange of views on regional and international issues of common interest and concern, especially the South China Sea, the rise of radicalism and violent extremism, and the situation in the Middle East, among others. The Leaders expressed concern over recent developments in the South China Sea, and agreed to pursue the full and effective implementation of the DOC and intensify consultations with China to expedite the establishment of an effective Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC). The Leaders adopted the Langkawi Declaration on the Global Movement of Moderates which highlights moderation as an all-encompassing approach to promote regional peace and security.

In the economic pillar, while the ASEAN economy grew by 4.4% in 2014 and is projected to grow by 4.9% this year, the Leaders expressed their concern that external factors, especially the international economic slowdown, could adversely impact regional economic development. In this regard, the Leaders emphasised that ASEAN needs to maintain the momentum of regional economic integration and work towards realising an ASEAN Economic Community as a single market and production base which is inclusive, dynamic and resilient to external shocks.



In the socio-cultural pillar, the Leaders placed emphasis on strengthening ASEAN cooperation on key issues confronting the region such as disaster management, climate change, transboundary haze pollution, and the rights of migrant workers. In this regard, the Leaders adopted the Declaration on Institutionalising the Resilience of ASEAN and its Communities and Peoples to Disasters and Climate Change which underscores the importance of building up ASEAN's resilience to disasters and climate change, and improving synergies between the different platforms involved in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

On ASEAN's external relations, the Leaders acknowledged the need to promote strategic trust through dialogue, transparent behaviour and rule of law and create robust mechanisms towards deepening regional integration and maintaining peace, stability and prosperity in the region. In this regard, the Leaders called for the strengthening of ASEAN-led mechanisms, including the East Asia Summit, and promote synergies among them.

# ASEAN's Year in External Relations

ASEAN's relations with Dialogue Partners and external partners continue to be strengthened, deepened and expanded in the past one year. Following the adoption of the Guidelines for ASEAN's External Relations in 2014, there has been an increase in request to establish formal partnerships with ASEAN by external parties which are sovereign states, regional groupings or international entities. To date, 83 sovereign states and one regional organisation, including 10 ASEAN Dialogue Partners, have accredited their Ambassadors to ASEAN. ASEAN has also established 47 ASEAN Committees in Third Countries (ACTC) to assist in coordinating and facilitating ASEAN matters with their respective host countries.

## ASEAN-Australia

- ASEAN and Australia convened their Commemorative Summit to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia dialogue relations in November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. At the Summit, the Leaders adopted the ASEAN-Australia Leaders' Statement on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations Towards a Strategic Partnership for Mutual Benefit. The Commemorative Summit elevated ASEAN-Australia comprehensive partnership to a strategic partnership.
- ASEAN and Australia are working to ensure the effective implementation of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand (AANZFTA) Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) Agreement which

is scheduled to be reviewed at the end of 2016.

- Australia has extended the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme Phase II (AADCP II), which was signed in July 2009, to the end of December 2019. Australia has also announced an additional contribution of AUD\$ 1 million to support the AHA Centre for the period of June 2015-December 2016.
- Australia will be establishing an ASEAN-Australia Council this year. The New Colombo Plan of Australia with a funding commitment of A\$100 million over five years will provide support to around 2,250 Australian graduate students to study and intern in ASEAN Member States to further promote education exchanges and people-to-people linkages between Australia and countries in the Indo-Pacific region, including ASEAN.

## ASEAN-Canada

- Canada continues to provide support and capacity-building to ASEAN in the areas of transnational crimes and counter-terrorism, human rights, migrant workers, education, and disaster management, among others. A number of projects and activities are being explored to tap Canada's additional funding commitment to support ASEAN in addressing non-traditional security threats and enhancing regional connectivity that was announced at the ASEAN PMC Plus One

Session with Canada in August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

- Canada has contributed CAN\$10 million to the Integrated Disaster Risk Management Fund to support the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Responses (AADMER) Work Programme. A new Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership (2016-2020) is also being finalised for adoption at the ASEAN PMC Plus One Session with Canada in August 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.

## ASEAN-China

- ASEAN and China continue to focus on strengthening their strategic partnership as reiterated by the Leaders of ASEAN and China at their 17<sup>th</sup> Summit in November 2014 where they expressed commitment to promoting strategic relations and maintaining high-level exchange and continuing to deepen mutual trust and confidence.
- Following the decision of the Leaders to upgrade the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA), the Economic Ministers of ASEAN and China, in their 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting on 26 August 2014, endorsed the Elements Paper for the ACFTA upgrade, which laid out key areas that will focus on the upgrade. Subsequently, the ACFTA Upgrading Work Programme was adopted. Negotiations for upgrading the ACFTA by the ACFTA Joint Committee are on-going.
- On socio-cultural cooperation, ASEAN and China designated 2014 as the “ASEAN-China Cultural Exchange Year”. Throughout the year, various activities were conducted which served to enhance mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of

ASEAN and China. The Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Disaster Management between ASEAN and China was signed in October 2014. Closer cooperation in areas such as public health, science and technology and environment has been forged through the implementation of the current Plan of Action 2011-2015.

- ASEAN and China are preparing a new Plan of Action for the period 2016-2020 which is scheduled for adoption at the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Summit in November this year.
- On the issue of South China Sea, at the 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Summit, the Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the full and effective implementation of the DOC in its entirety as well as to work towards the early conclusion of a COC based on consensus. They supported the implementation of early harvest measures, including the adoption of the first list of commonalities on COC consultation, the establishment of a hotline platform among search and rescue agencies, a hotline among foreign ministries on maritime emergencies, and a table-top exercise on search and rescue to promote and enhance trust and confidence in the region.

## ASEAN-European Union (EU)

- The ASEAN-EU dialogue relations have witnessed a number of important achievements in 2014, including the agreement to work towards the upgrading of the partnership to a strategic one, the resumption of the ASEAN-EU Senior Officials’ Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC-EU), the convening of the Inaugural ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC)-EU Meeting in September 2014, and the convening of the

ASEAN-EU Informal Leaders' Meeting on 16 October 2014 in Milan, Italy.

- Good progress has been made in the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to Strengthen ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership (2013-2017). In particular, implementation of cooperation programmes such as the ASEAN-Regional Integration Support by the EU (ARISE), the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI) Facility, the ASEAN Project on the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (ECAP III), the EU Support to Higher Education in ASEAN Region (EU SHARE), and the EU-ASEAN Migration and Border Management Programme II, is progressing well. The EU is committed to double its dedicated support to ASEAN community building and institution building in the amount of €170 million for the period of 2014-2020. This commitment would further boost development cooperation between the two sides. The commitment will be focused on: (i) connectivity, through sustainable and inclusive economic integration and trade; (ii) climate change, environment and disaster management; and (iii) comprehensive dialogue facility

## ASEAN-India

- ASEAN-India partnership is gradually expanding following the elevation of the relations to a Strategic Partnership in 2012. The Agreements on ASEAN-India Trade in Services and Investment have been signed by all ASEAN Member States and India, and are scheduled to enter into force in July 2015. ASEAN and India are now working on the establishment of the ASEAN-India Centre and the ASEAN-India Trade and Investment Centre, both located in New Delhi, to promote trade, investment, tourism

and cultural exchanges between the two sides.

- Cooperation between ASEAN and India continues to grow as reflected in the increasing number of implemented projects and activities under the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2010-2015). A new Plan of Action (2016-2020) is being finalised for adoption at the ASEAN PMC Plus One Session with India in August 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.
- India's strong commitment to enhance relations with ASEAN is reflected with the appointment of India's first resident Ambassador to ASEAN, H.E. Suresh K. Reddy. Ambassador Reddy presented his Letter of Credence to the Secretary-General of ASEAN on January 15, 2015. The External Affairs Minister of India inaugurated the Indian Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta on 23 April 2015.

## ASEAN-Japan

- ASEAN-Japan dialogue relations continue to be strengthened through the implementation of the Vision of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation and its Implementation Plan adopted at the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in December 2013 as well as the remaining measures in the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action 2011-2015. An Executive Report on the Progress of Implementation of the two Plans will be submitted to the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Japan Summit in November 2015.
- ASEAN and Japan adopted a Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime at the 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Japan Summit in November

2014. The two sides also upgraded and transformed the ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism Dialogues into an ASEAN-Japan Dialogue on Countering Terrorism and Transnational Crime to meet and address the evolving challenges in the security landscape of the region and beyond.

- ASEAN and Japan are making good progress in the implementation of their 10-Year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap. The Roadmap has been improved to incorporate the recommendations of the ASEAN-Japan Economic Forum, which include, among others, support for the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015, timely completion of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations, increased business partnership between ASEAN and Japan, closer cooperation in intellectual property, as well as increased transfer of technology from Japan to ASEAN.
- On the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP), both sides agreed to conclude the negotiations of the Trade in Services and Investment Chapters by end of this year.
- ASEAN and Japan continue to place emphasis on people-to-people contacts and cultural exchanges. The Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) 2.0, which was launched in early 2013, is ongoing. The programme would bring a total of 30,000 young people from ASEAN and other Asian Countries to Japan. Japan has proposed to establish JENESYS 2015 to succeed JENESYS 2.0. The Government of Japan will contribute JPY 1.1 billion (USD 9 million) to fund this project for a one-year period.

## ASEAN-Republic of Korea

- ASEAN and the ROK celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their Dialogue Relations in 2014 through various commemorative activities. The ASEAN-Korea Commemorative Summit was held in December 2014 in Busan, the ROK. The Joint Statement of the Commemorative Summit renewed the commitment of ASEAN and the ROK to elevate the ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership to new heights.
- ASEAN and the ROK agreed to strengthen political-security cooperation through existing mechanisms. At the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ROK Dialogue in June 2014 in Busan, ROK, the two sides exchanged views on various security-related issues of common interest and concern. The ROK hosted the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group (EWG) on Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) Workshop on Sustainable and Practical Cooperation in September 2014 in Seoul. The ROK and Cambodia also co-chaired the subsequent ADMM-Plus EWG on PKO Workshop on Strengthening Cooperation through Exchanging Capabilities in Humanitarian Demining in March 2015 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.
- Both sides are working to maximize the benefit of the ASEAN-ROK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and to expand two-way trade volume to USD 200 billion by 2020. The Joint Impact Assessment of the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Services (AKTIS) Agreement had been concluded in 2014. The Study recommended scopes for possible enhancement of the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Services Agreement, additional sectors for further liberalisation and other possible areas of economic cooperation. The ASEAN-Korea Working Group on Services agreed to use the Study as a reference in undertaking



the review of the AKTIS Agreement. Other notable developments include the launch of the ASEAN-Korea Business Council (AKBC) and the convening of the First ASEAN-ROK CEO Summit in December 2014 in Busan, ROK.

- Progress has also been made in other areas of cooperation under the ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action 2011-2015, including in promoting cooperation in food, agriculture, forestry, infrastructure, culture, arts, and people-to-people exchanges. ASEAN and the ROK are developing a new Plan of Action (2016-2020) which will be ready for adoption at the ASEAN PMC+1 Session with the ROK in August 2015.
- ASEAN and the ROK also agreed to strengthen cooperation to address transboundary and emerging challenges, particularly climate change and disaster management. Joint activities have been conducted to implement the Memorandum of Cooperation between the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) and the ASEAN-Korea Environmental Cooperation Project (AKECOP). The Agreement between ASEAN and the ROK on Forest Cooperation (AFoCo) was extended for another 2 years (until August 2016) to strengthen cooperation in this area.

## ASEAN-New Zealand

- Following the appointment of the first resident Ambassador of New Zealand to ASEAN in November 2014, New Zealand is in the process of establishing its dedicated Mission to ASEAN.
- A commemorative summit to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue Relations will be convened back-to-back with the 27<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit and Related Meetings in Malaysia in November 2015. A series of commemorative activities are being implemented this year, including the Official Visit of the Secretary-General of ASEAN to New Zealand in February 2015.
- A new Plan of Action (2016-2020) is being finalised for adoption at the ASEAN PMC Plus One Session with New Zealand in August 2015 in Kuala Lumpur. ASEAN and New Zealand are also working to develop new initiatives for the post-2015 period, including capacity building programmes for ASEAN in the areas of agricultural trade, leadership, scholarship and education.

## ASEAN-Russian Federation

- Implementation of the ASEAN-Russia Comprehensive Programme of Action (CPA) to Promote Cooperation between ASEAN and Russia 2005-2015 is progressing well. A new Comprehensive Programme of Action (CPA) for 2016-2020 is being developed for adoption at the ASEAN PMC Plus One Session with Russia in August 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.
- The ASEAN Senior Officials on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) have agreed to explore practical cooperation with Russia in the area of anti-money laundering/counter-financing of terrorism (AML/CFT). The Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) is working on enriching the ASEAN-Russia Work Plan on Countering Terrorism and Transnational Crime to better handle the scourge of terrorism.
- ASEAN and Russia are working together to initiate activities to implement the Agreement

on Cultural Cooperation following the entry into force of the pact in January 2015.

- In order to promote greater people-to-people exchanges, particularly among the youth, the Second ASEAN-Russia Youth Summit was held in October 2014 in Kuala Lumpur under the theme of “Young Russia – Young ASEAN: Contributors to Greater Connectivity.” ASEAN and Russia have also been organising the ASEAN-Russia Youth Symposium Orchestra in conjunction with the ASEAN Summits in November since 2011 in the respective ASEAN Chair countries.

## ASEAN-United States (US)

- The Second ASEAN-US Summit in November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, expressed strong commitment to give further impetus to the partnership.
- In the economic field, both sides are working to ensure the effective implementation of the ASEAN-US Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA) and the US-ASEAN Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) initiative.
- Development cooperation continues to be strengthened through the two five-year support programmes, i.e. the ASEAN Connectivity through Trade and Investment project (ACTI) and the ASEAN-US Partnership for Good Governance, Equitable and Sustainable Development and Security (ASEAN-US PROGRESS). Both ACTI and PROGRESS programmes will be implemented until June 2018 and August 2018, respectively.
- Other new initiatives such as the Fulbright US-ASEAN Initiative, the Young Southeast Asian Leader Initiative (YSEALI), and

the ASEAN-US Science and Technology Fellows Programme, have contributed to the deepening the ASEAN-U.S. people-to-people linkages. Cooperation on climate change has gained momentum with the adoption of the ASEAN-US Joint Statement on Climate Change at the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-US Summit. The ASEAN-US Plan of Action for the period of 2016-2020 is being developed for adoption at the ASEAN PMC Plus One Session with the US in August 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.

## ASEAN Plus Three (APT)

- The APT countries are continuing to implement measures under the APT Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017 which was adopted by the 16<sup>th</sup> APT Summit in October 2013. A number of projects and activities have been completed, ongoing, or at various stages of consideration for implementation. A progress report of the Implementation of the Work Plan will be submitted to the 18<sup>th</sup> APT Summit in November 2015.
- At the 17<sup>th</sup> APT Summit held in November 2014, the Leaders emphasised that political and security cooperation was the key to strengthening peace and stability in the East Asia region. The Leaders expressed commitment to deepen cooperation to address the emerging challenges of both traditional and non-traditional security matters including cyber security, maritime security, terrorism, extremism, narcotic drugs, trafficking in persons, arms smuggling and disaster management.
- In finance and monetary cooperation, notable progress has been made to improving the readiness of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM). This includes the

amended CMIM Agreement that took effect in July 2014; the revision of its operational guidelines; the completion of the Economic Review and Policy Dialogue (ERPD) matrix for discussion on the macroeconomic development in the region; and the signing of the Agreement Establishing ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) on 10 October 2014 to transform AMRO into an international organisation.

- The APT cooperation on energy witnessed good progress. At the 11<sup>th</sup> APT Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM+3) in September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao DPR, the Ministers confirmed that realising ASEAN Connectivity would bring the region closer to its goal of achieving greater energy security. The Ministers noted that capacity building, information sharing and exchange amongst the countries are key elements of deepening cooperation and promoting sustainable development and low-carbon growth economies.
- On agriculture and forestry, progress has been made in the implementation of various ongoing activities under the APT Cooperation Strategy Framework, especially in the areas of food security and bio-energy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable forest management, agricultural research and development, and human resource development.
- The APT countries are also following-up on the recommendations of the East Asian Vision Group (EAVG) II which aims to strengthen East Asian integration. APT countries have conducted a review and assessment of the recommendations. The final report including action plans for the selected recommendations for implementation will be submitted to the 18<sup>th</sup> APT Summit for consideration.

## East Asia Summit (EAS)

- The EAS continues to evolve as a Leaders-led forum to promote dialogue and cooperation on strategic, political, security and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim to promote peace, stability and prosperity in East Asia. EAS cooperation is progressing well in the six priority areas, namely environment and energy, education, finance, global health issues and pandemic diseases, natural disaster management, and ASEAN Connectivity.
- Under the EAS Energy Cooperation Task Force (ECTF) Work Plan 2013-2014, progress has been made in the work streams of Energy Efficiency and Conservation, Biofuels for Transport and Other Purposes, and Renewable and Alternative Power Generation. The 3<sup>rd</sup> East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue held in October 2014 in Japan discussed ways to promote the distribution of leading low carbon technologies.
- Under the EAS Education Plan 2011-2015, cooperation projects were implemented to improve the quality and mobility of qualifications across the region. Programmes aimed at enhancing people-to-people linkages in East Asia are ongoing, such as Brunei Darussalam's Scholarship Programme, Australia's New Colombo Initiative and Japan's East-Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS 2.0). The Nalanda University was inaugurated in September 2014 in India.
- The EAS underscored the importance of enhancing cooperation in finance acknowledging the rapid growth of Asia's inter-regional trade and financial integration. The 4<sup>th</sup> Informal EAS Finance Ministers' Meeting is expected to be convened in 2015



to further discuss EAS cooperation in this area.

- Progress has been made in the implementation of the Declaration of the 7<sup>th</sup> EAS Summit on Regional Responses to Malaria Control and Addressing Resistance to Anti-malaria Medicines with the goal of a Malaria-free Asia-Pacific by 2030. Following the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance (APLMA) in October 2013, the APLMA Task Force was set up to promote cooperation in this area.
- EAS cooperation on disaster management has been enhanced through various mechanisms, including enhanced cooperation between the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and disaster management authorities of non-ASEAN EAS Participating Countries. The 3<sup>rd</sup> ACDM Session on EAS Cooperation in Disaster Management was held in October 2014 in Brunei Darussalam. Other developments include the adoption of the Statement on EAS Guidelines for Rapid Disaster Response at the 9<sup>th</sup> EAS Summit

in November 2014; the establishment of the Virtual Knowledge Portal for EAS Participating Countries in December 2014 in New Delhi, India; and the convening of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan.

- The 4<sup>th</sup> EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in August 2014 adopted a Plan of Action to Implement the Phnom Penh Declaration on the EAS Development Initiative which focuses on measures to promote EAS cooperation in the six priority areas.
- The EAS recognised the need to enhance cooperation in addressing emerging regional and global challenges, such as maritime security and cooperation, food security, and other non-traditional security issues. The EAS Track II Study Group on Enhancing Food Security through Sustainable Fisheries Management and Marine Environmental Conservation met three times in 2013-2014 and submitted its recommendations on expanding regional fisheries management cooperation to the 9<sup>th</sup> EAS Summit in November 2014. The 9<sup>th</sup> EAS Summit also adopted a number of documents, including

the Declaration on Combatting Wildlife Trafficking and the Statement on the Rise of Violence and Brutality Committed by Terrorist/ Extremist Organisations in Iraq and Syria.

- The EAS Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to enhance regional security cooperation in East Asia. A series of EAS Workshops on Regional Security Architecture is ongoing, with three Workshops held so far and the 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop is scheduled for 2015.
- In preparation for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the EAS in 2015, the Leaders agreed on the need to take stock of past achievements and chart the future direction of the EAS. Discussion is ongoing to further strengthen and consolidate the EAS process and cooperation.

## ASEAN-United Nations (UN)

- ASEAN and the UN are accelerating the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Work Plan for 2015, adopted at the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-UN Summit in November 2014, to implement the Joint Declaration on the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership between the ASEAN and the UN. Preparations are being made for a formal review of the implementation of ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership in 2015 and the work on post-2015 priorities of ASEAN-UN cooperation.
- ASEAN and the UN have been convening a series of track 1.5 workshops on peace-building, conflict prevention and preventive diplomacy. The second and third workshops were convened in Kuala Lumpur in June 2014 and in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in February 2015. The fourth workshop is scheduled to be held in June this year in Kuala Lumpur.

- Following the signing of the Framework Agreement for Cooperation between ASEAN and UNESCO in December 2013, both sides are working to ensure the full and effective implementation of its 2014-2018 Work Plan, focusing on seven main areas of cooperation: (i) education, (ii) science, technology & innovation; (iii) disaster risk reduction; (iv) environmental sustainability; (v) social and human sciences; (vi) culture; and (vii) communication & information.
- The Framework Agreement for Cooperation (FAC) between ASEAN and UNICEF was signed in December 2014. The relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and the UNICEF Regional Office in Bangkok are working together to develop a five-year work plan to implement the FAC.

## ASEAN-Germany

- Germany has provided valuable contribution to ASEAN community building efforts, including in the areas of forestry, climate change, port development, energy efficiency, quality infrastructure, competition policy and law as well as capacity building for the ASEAN



Secretary-General of ASEAN with German Foreign Affairs Minister H.E. Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier, 3 November 2014.

Secretariat. The 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Germany Joint Cooperation Review Meeting was held in February 2015, with the participation of the European Union, to identify focus areas for cooperation for the next two years.

## ASEAN-Norway

- ASEAN and Norway adopted a Joint Statement on ASEAN-Norway Partnership in August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Joint Statement serves as a roadmap for both sides to further strengthen their partnership. As a follow up, ASEAN and Norway are now exploring possible cooperation activities in areas of mutual interests. ASEAN is now considering Norway's application to establish formal partnership with ASEAN.

## ASEAN Cooperation with other Regional Organisations

- ASEAN-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC): Following the successful convening of the Third ASEAN-GCC Ministerial Meeting in November 2013 in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, an ASEAN-GCC workshop was held in Singapore in June 2014 to identify ways to strengthen ASEAN-GCC cooperation and promote relations between the two regions. The outcomes of the workshop are expected to be reported to the next ASEAN-GCC Ministerial Meeting. The ASEAN-GCC Plan of Action is also expected to be adopted at the next ASEAN-GCC Ministerial Meeting.
- ASEAN-Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO): The 14<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ECO Ministerial Meeting in September 2014 at the sidelines of the 69<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), reviewed the status of ASEAN-ECO cooperation and

encouraged both sides to look into the possibility of promoting cooperation in areas of mutual interest such as trade and investment, SMEs development, private sector engagement, drugs and narcotics control, tourism, and people-to-people contacts. The Meeting also encouraged the two Secretariats to maintain contacts and continue collaboration in areas agreed under the MOU between the two Secretariats signed in 2006 in promoting concrete cooperation of various fields which is mutually beneficial for both ASEAN and ECO.

- ASEAN-Pacific Alliance (PA): An ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meeting was held in New York in September 2014 at the sidelines of the 69<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNGA. The Meeting agreed that both sides should work together to explore cooperation in potential areas such as trade and investment, connectivity, and business engagement, tourism, and people-to-people contacts, among others. As tasked by the Foreign Ministers, the Committee of Permanent Representatives of ASEAN (CPR) met with the Ambassadors of the PA countries who are based in Jakarta on 25 May 2015 and discussed possible cooperation between the two organisations.
- ASEAN-Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC): ASEAN has started its first official engagement with the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), a regional grouping established in 2011 to replace the Rio Group. The first ASEAN-CELAC Ministerial Meeting held in September 2014 in New York noted CELAC's interest in exploring cooperation with ASEAN in areas such as agriculture and fisheries, nano technology, and disaster management, as well as promoting exchange of information and experiences in human rights promotion,

education, poverty reduction and statistical system development.

- Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM): ASEAN also participated in the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), which promotes cooperation between the two regions. ASEAN Member States and the Secretary-General of ASEAN attend the ASEM Summit in November 2014 in Milan, Italy.





# **ASEAN Cross-Communities**



## ASEAN Connectivity

In October 2010, ASEAN Leaders adopted the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity with a view of creating a well-connected ASEAN that will promote economic growth, narrow development gaps, enhance regional competitiveness, and promote deeper ties among ASEAN peoples and between ASEAN and the rest of the world.

### The Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and its Implementation

The Master Plan serves both as a strategic document and a plan of action to connect

ASEAN through the three dimensions of physical connectivity, institutional connectivity and people-to-people connectivity.

To date, significant and timely progress has been achieved in the three dimensions of ASEAN Connectivity:

- (a) Physical Connectivity: The ASEAN Highway Network (AHN) is progressing well although there remain sections which are still being upgraded to “Class III” roads within ASEAN’s designated Transit Transport Routes (TTRs) in Lao PDR and Myanmar. The implementation of Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL) sections from Singapore to



The Launching of ASEAN Connectivity Video, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 9 August 2014

Phnom Penh are on schedule. The operation of the Bitung – General Santos – Davao Roll-On/Roll-Off route started in early August 2014. The West Kalimantan-Sarawak power interconnection project is expected to be commercially operational in 2015.

- (b) Institutional Connectivity: Efforts to operationalise the three transport facilitation agreements of ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT), ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation on Inter-State Transport (AFAFIST) and ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multimodal Transport (AFAMT) are currently proceeding well. Trade facilitative measures are being undertaken to achieve free flow of goods and services. The ASEAN Trade Repository/ National Trade Repositories (NTRs) are expected to be in place by 2015.
- (c) People-to-People Connectivity: The ASEAN Curriculum Sourcebook (for primary and secondary schools) was developed in 2012, and ASEAN is now working on ways to promote utilisation of the Sourcebook, in addition to the existing supplementary materials on ASEAN studies in schools. The development of the ASEAN Virtual Learning Resources Centre (AVLRC) is progressing well with the first phase, focusing on ASEAN's peoples, culture, history, places of interest, education, youth and ICT, expected to be completed by 2015.

Notwithstanding these accomplishments, three main challenges remain: resource mobilisation, multi-sectoral coordination, and translation of regional initiatives into national action, including ratification of signed agreements.

ASEAN is working on developing a conducive environment for public private partnerships (PPP) to effectively mobilise necessary

resources in realising ASEAN Connectivity. It is also strengthening cooperation with Dialogue Partners to identify, finance and implement flagship projects.

Effective communication to the relevant stakeholders is also an important aspect of connectivity. Several promotion and awareness raising initiatives have been conducted through symposia and the development of communications products.

ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC)	
Established	2008, meets at least twice a year
Last Meeting	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ACC, 26 April 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Senior Officials	Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR)

The 15<sup>th</sup> ACC Meeting on 11 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw discussed cross-cutting issues spanning across the three pillars, including the progress of implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015), the work of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR), implementation of the IAI Work Plan II and the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), central elements of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision, as well as the HLTF's Recommendations on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs.

Acknowledging the important role of the CPR in coordinating the work among the three pillars on cross-cutting issues, the ACC stressed the need to strengthen the Permanent Missions to ASEAN with adequate mandate and manpower.

The Meeting also tasked the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee to undertake a comprehensive review of the implementation of the MPAC and formulate the post-2015 agenda for ASEAN Connectivity.

The 16<sup>th</sup> ACC Meeting, under the chairmanship of Malaysia, held on 26 April 2015 in Kuala Lumpur reiterated the importance of intensifying coordination among the three pillars to address cross-cutting issues, enhancing the CPR's capacity as a cross-cutting mechanism and strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat to meet the needs and challenges of ASEAN beyond 2015. The Meeting also highlighted the need to enhance ASEAN institutional capacity, including through the implementation of the HLTF's Recommendations on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs.

As the process of formulating ASEAN's post-2015 vision is underway, the ACC emphasised that the IAI Work Plan III as well as the ASEAN Connectivity post-2015 agenda would be aligned with the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision. The ACC further stressed the importance of sustaining the momentum of integration efforts beyond the establishment of the ASEAN Community at the end of 2015.

The ACC also adopted the ASEAN Communication Master Plan (ACMP) which provides the framework to communicate messages about the character, structure and overall vision of ASEAN and the ASEAN Community to key local and global audiences.

### ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC)

Established	2011, meets at least two times a year with additional meetings as appropriate
Last Meeting	1/2015 ACCC Meeting, 5-6 March 2015, Jakarta, Indonesia

Pursuant to the adoption of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity by ASEAN Leaders at the 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in October 2010, the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) was established to coordinate and oversee the implementation of the Master Plan and report to the ASEAN Coordinating Council Ministers and the ASEAN Leaders the progress of its implementation.

The ACCC has met 14 times since its establishment in April 2011. It has developed and maintains an ASEAN Connectivity Scorecard that serves as a monitoring and evaluation tool for the implementation of MPAC. The ACCC has engaged the World Bank to improve the ASEAN Connectivity M&E framework through establishing indicators and undertaking impact assessments to gauge MPAC implementation.

On efforts to mobilise private sector resources, the ACCC has convened an ASEAN Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Networking Forum in Manila, Philippines in December 2014 which gathered senior PPP and infrastructure officials to share PPP policy environments and priority pipeline projects. In the same Forum, ERIA launched its publication on ASEAN PPP Guidelines that provides recommendations in structuring PPPs in ASEAN. The ACCC and World Bank are currently developing the ASEAN PPP Programme which aims to establish a priority short list of PPP-ready connectivity projects for

market testing towards actual implementation. The ACCC and OECD are also presently working on the Risk Mitigation Instruments project to analyse insurance and guarantee products to secure PPP project revenue streams against political and commercial risks.

For its Dialogue Partner engagements in 2014, the ACCC convened two meetings with Japan, as well as one meeting with European Union (EU), India and Republic of Korea (ROK), respectively. The inaugural ACCC-EU meeting signaled the strong interests of both ASEAN and EU in supporting the ASEAN Connectivity agenda. The 3<sup>rd</sup> ACCC-National Coordinators Meeting was also held to discuss ways to enhance the implementation of MPAC by creating greater synergies between regional initiatives and national actions.

To raise awareness of the benefits and opportunities of a well-connected ASEAN, the ASEAN Connectivity video series was launched at the sidelines of the 47<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting in August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The ACCC also conducted the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual ASEAN Connectivity Symposium with the theme "Catalysing Public-Private Partnerships to Finance ASEAN Connectivity" in September 2015 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

The ACCC has also embarked on developing a Post-2015 agenda for ASEAN Connectivity by 2016. The Post-2015 agenda for ASEAN Connectivity will be aligned with the ASEAN Post-2015 Vision, given that Connectivity represents a key enabling role in the realisation of greater regional integration.

Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR)	
Established	2009, meets regularly each month
Last Meeting	8/2015 Meeting, 11 May 2015, Jakarta, Indonesia

The CPR continues to carry out its duties and responsibilities in accordance with the mandate stipulated in the ASEAN Charter and the TOR of the CPR, namely: supporting the work of the ACC and ASEAN Community Councils; coordinating with the Secretary-General of ASEAN and the ASEAN Secretariat concerning the work of ASEAN and the operations of the ASEAN Secretariat; engaging Dialogue Partners and other external parties; and performing other functions as tasked by the ACC.

In 2014, the CPR completed a number of important deliverables including the Rules of Procedure and Criteria for Engagement for Entities Associated with ASEAN, the Central Elements of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision adopted by the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit, and the ASEAN Communication Master Plan adopted by the ACC in 2014. Moving forward in 2015, the CPR is overseeing the implementation of commemorative activities to celebrate the ASEAN Community 2015 as well as initiatives under the ASEAN Communication Master Plan.

The CPR is also implementing relevant recommendations of the HLTF on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs, focusing on delineation and strengthening of the CPR's roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis other relevant bodies so as to avoid duplication and promote the CPR's coordinating role in supporting ASEAN community building efforts.



Committee of Permanent Representatives of ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ambassadors' Meeting, Jakarta, Indonesia, 25 May 2015

The CPR continues to enhance its engagement with ASEAN Dialogue Partners and external parties to promote meaningful and substantive external relations in support of ASEAN community building. The CPR convenes regular Joint Cooperation Committee meetings with Dialogue Partners as well as informal meetings with Ambassadors to ASEAN from other external partners, including from the Pacific Alliance. This year, the CPR will complete Plans of Action for the period of 2016-2020 with Canada, India, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States. The CPR conducted a stock-taking of the EAS in 2014 and has been tasked to engage with Ambassadors of the EAS Participating Countries in Jakarta to facilitate the process of strengthening and consolidation of the EAS in the evolving regional architecture.

#### Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI)

Established	2001, meets twice a year
Last Meeting	46 <sup>th</sup> IAI Task Force, 1 April 2015, Jakarta, Indonesia
Senior Officials	IAI Task Force Working Group

The IAI serves as an important platform in narrowing the development gap among ASEAN Member States and achieving equitable economic development, which is significant to the ASEAN integration process and successful implementation of the ASEAN Community Blueprints.

As of 1 April 2015, 68 out of the 182 action lines representing 37.4% of the IAI Work Plan II have been implemented. A total of 319 projects amounting to USD 36.1 million were carried out with the support of ASEAN-6, Dialogue Partners and External Parties. The projects covered a wide range of areas, which include trade facilitation, tourism, climate change, tax administration, SME development, ICT, capital market, education, capacity building for civil service,

human resource management and leadership strategies, English language, negotiation skills and ASEAN Community awareness raising. The IAI Task Force recognised that despite the low implementation rate, many other initiatives at the sub-regional, bilateral and national level are supporting the goals of IAI. For the remaining period of the IAI Work Plan II, which would expire at the end of 2015, implementation would focus on priority action lines.

Consultations between the IAI Task Force and Dialogue Partners/External Parties were held back-to-back with the IAI Task Force meetings, demonstrating the valuable support of the Dialogue Partners and External Parties in implementing the IAI Work Plan II. The consultation served as a platform to share information on the IAI initiatives being undertaken by the Dialogue Partners and External Parties as well as identify potential areas of cooperation.

The ASEAN Secretariat, with the continued support of the Government of Japan, hosted four CLMV officials under the 13<sup>th</sup> batch of the *IAI Attachment Programme at the ASEAN Secretariat for Junior Diplomats of CLMV*, and eight CLMV officials under the 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of *Attachment Officers from CLMV for ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Involvement*. The attachment programmes were aimed at enhancing understanding of junior officials from CLMV countries on regional issues as well as ASEAN's processes and relations with non-Member States.





# **ASEAN Secretariat's Outreach Activities**

# Getting the People Ready for ASEAN Community

As ASEAN gears up for the targeted regional integration by end of 2015, the Secretariat's outreach activities focused on communicating the establishment of ASEAN Community and the opportunities in store for its peoples. With anticipation and interest building up among ASEAN citizens and those outside the region, the reach of ASEAN Secretariat's multi-dimensional communication platforms has increased exponentially.

## Celebrating the Establishment of ASEAN Community

The Secretariat provided support to the Member States in putting together a set of activities that will be implemented at both national and regional levels to herald the birth of ASEAN Community. This includes the inaugural ASEAN People's Awards which PM Najib Tun Razak announced at the 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Malaysia. The Award will recognise outstanding contributions of ASEAN individuals and institutions to ASEAN Community building. Other key events promoting the launch of ASEAN Community are slated throughout 2015 and the Secretariat is providing support to several regional level activities such as the Grand Reception on ASEAN Day 2015, visibility support to ASEAN sectoral bodies, and Newspaper Supplement.

## Launch of the ASEAN Communication Master Plan (ACMP)

In accordance with the Leaders' call for a robust implementation of the ASEAN Communication Master Plan (ACMP) in November 2014, the Secretariat has implemented a number of initiatives supporting the plan's priorities. The ASEAN Resource Kit is now available on the website for those who need information and materials about ASEAN. Photos and video footages from 10 AMS are being compiled to illustrate how ASEAN is building a stable, prosperous and caring community. A training of spokespersons from AMS and the Secretariat has begun in the second quarter of 2015 to develop a pool of trained speakers on ASEAN Community.



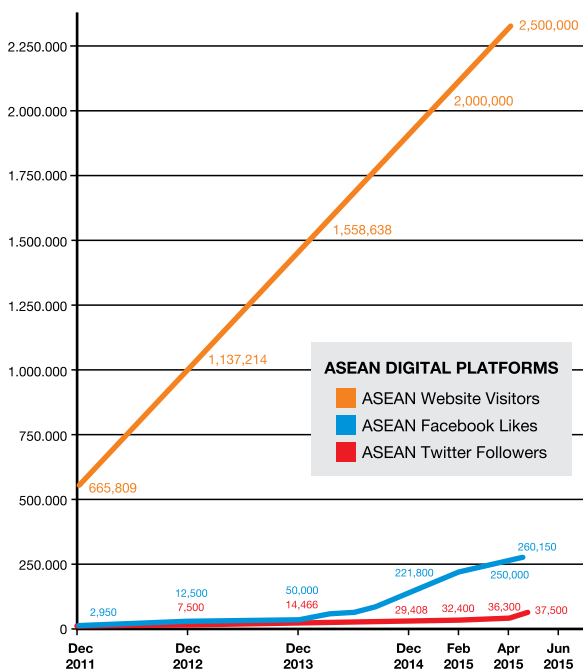
2014 CPR Chair, H.E. Ambassador Min Lwin, handing over a copy of ACMP to Myanmar Foreign Minister, H.E. U Wunna Maung Lwin.

With the launch of ACMP, the Secretariat’s outreach functions and its materials have started to amplify the overarching message of ACMP which is “ASEAN: A Community of Opportunities.”

## Digital and Traditional Media

Currently, our flagship communication platform – the ASEAN website, receives an average of 8,400 unique visitors per day. If this trend continues, we expect over 3 million visitors throughout 2015. ASEAN’s presence in the social media world is growing and its Facebook page now has more than 260,000 followers reaching 2 million each month. All 10 ASEAN countries are amongst the top 12 countries frequenting the ASEAN digital platforms.

In excess of 37,000 people are now following ASEAN on Twitter and their combined re-tweets and mentions reach an average of above 10 million per month. During the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summits, ASEC’s digital platforms alone reached 24 million and 27 million people



Secretary-General of ASEAN, H.E. Le Luong Minh, in one of the media interviews.

respectively. The content of the Secretariat’s social media have deliberately focused on the various dimensions of ASEAN Community.

With 90% of population in ASEAN depending on TV as main source of information, ASEC is about to roll out “The ASEAN Spotlight,” a 30-minute weekly TV programme in national languages to be aired throughout the ASEAN Member States in 2015. Public Service Announcements on ASEAN Community targeting various audiences are to be developed and aired as well in 2015.

## Publications

At the end of 2014, 56 publications have been produced and distributed to ASEAN Member States, international organizations, and other institutions. For wider reach, these publications are also available online. As of May 2015, an additional six publications were printed and disseminated. Meanwhile, AMS, schools, NGOs, and international libraries have requested selected volumes from our collection of ASEAN publications in the last four years to furnish the ASEAN corner in their premises.



School kids viewing displays at the ASEAN Gallery

## Public Outreach

With its sight focused on a people-centered and people-oriented ASEAN Community, the Secretariat's outreach activities from June 2014 to May 2015 reached various stakeholders through the following:

- Celebrated ASEAN Day 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw at a public event organised by Myanmar, 2014 ASEAN Chair.
- Welcomed over 5,000 visitors to ASEC comprising students, government officials, civil society representatives, diplomats, and parliamentarians from AMS and other regions.
- Facilitated 50 media interviews resulting in more than 1,500 media reports highlighting key issues around ASEAN Community.
- Spoke to a gathering of the ASEAN Public Relations Network.
- Collaborated with an Indonesian private media company to produce "ASEAN Today," a monthly TV program broadcast in selected countries in the region; worked with a UK publisher in the publication of the annual "Investing in ASEAN".
- Participated in outreach events of Dialogue Partners (Republic of Korea, Japan) to contribute ASEAN perspectives into those countries.
- Continued implementation of the visibility projects (i.e. promotional and multi-media projects).



Students of Raffles Institute of Singapore on a briefing on ASEAN.

# **ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC)**



# Introduction

The ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) continues to provide a strong foundation for dialogue and cooperation to maintain and enhance peace, stability and security in the region and to pursue mutually beneficial relations with Dialogue Partners and other external parties, while maintaining ASEAN Centrality in the regional architecture.

Considerable progress has been made across various areas and sectors under the APSC for the period under review. Around 89% of 145 action lines of the APSC Blueprint have been implemented and it is expected that all action lines will be achieved by the end-2015, cementing the foundation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community. Concrete and practical steps have been undertaken to enhance coordination and synergy between relevant ASEAN bodies and mechanisms on cross-cutting issues such as maritime security, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief and human rights.

The Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) will remain the key code of conduct governing inter-State relations in the region and a foundation for regional peace and stability in the face of uncertainties and new challenges in the region. ASEAN continues with efforts to implement the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and its Plan of Action to realise a Southeast Asia free of

nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights has stepped up efforts to disseminate and implement the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, and continues to engage relevant sectoral bodies and stakeholders to strengthen ASEAN cooperation on human rights.

The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) remains an important mechanism to promote security cooperation. ARF participants continue to launch new initiatives such as workshops on approaches to preventive diplomacy while continuing with activities to promote confidence building. ARF participants have focused attention on existing and emerging non-traditional security threats in particular trafficking of illicit drugs, radicalism and violent extremism, cyber security, bio-security, space security, maritime safety, protection of the marine environment, international migration and wildlife trafficking. Cooperation between ASEAN Defence establishments continue to evolve. There has been progress in building trust and confidence through dialogue and practical cooperation among the defence establishments. Recognising the need to address the challenges of responding rapidly, effectively and collectively to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) challenges, two new initiatives have been endorsed, namely the *ASEAN Militaries Ready Group on HADR* and the *ASEAN Center*

of *Military Medicine*. Under the ADMM-Plus framework, practical cooperation and strategic dialogue remain significant in the areas of HADR, maritime security, peacekeeping operations, military medicine, counter-terrorism, and humanitarian mine action to include mine clearing and victim assistance.

ASEAN continues to strengthen relations and cooperation with Dialogue Partners and other external partners to promote peace, stability, prosperity and development of the region. These partners continue to support the central role of ASEAN in regional mechanisms. ASEAN is also exploring the possibility of establishing collaboration with a number of countries and organisations that have shown keen interest in pursuing cooperative ties with the Association. In addition, several countries have applied to establish formal partnership with ASEAN.

The future direction of the APSC beyond 2015 is being charted through the development of a new vision together with relevant action lines covering all APSC areas as an integral part of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision. APSC's aspiration for the ten years beyond 2015 is to realise a consolidated and even closer integrated rules-based and inclusive community in which all ASEAN nationals enjoy human rights, fundamental freedoms and social justice and live in a safe and secure environment. The post-2015 ASEAN will have an enhanced capacity to respond effectively to emerging challenges and maintains its centrality in the evolving regional security architecture and plays a constructive role globally.

**ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Council**

Established	2009, meets at least twice a year
Last Meeting	12 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the APSC Council, 26 April 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the APSC Council on 26 April 2015 in Kuala Lumpur noted the encouraging progress made in the implementation of the APSC Blueprint with approximately 89% of the action lines having been implemented. ASEAN Member States have taken initiatives to implement the remaining action lines to ensure the completion of the APSC Blueprint by end-2015.

The APSC Council welcomed the achievements made by ASEAN sectoral bodies under its purview, including the conclusion of the drafting of the ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons and Regional Plan of Action on Combatting Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP and RPA); the agreement to establish the ASEAN Center of Military Medicine and ASEAN Militaries Ready Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR); and increasing practical cooperation under the ADMM-Plus framework in six priority areas, namely, HADR, maritime security, peacekeeping operations, military medicine, counter-terrorism, and humanitarian mine action, to include mine clearance and victim assistance. In addition, to provide political impetus and strengthen institutional set-up for ASEAN cooperation on drug matters, the Council agreed to recommend the establishment of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters to the 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit for authorisation.

The APSC Council reiterated the urgent need to enhance coordination and synergy on cross-cutting issues so as to avoid duplication of efforts and resources. In this regard, the Council welcomed the work of the Joint Task Force to promote synergy on HADR between relevant ASEAN bodies and mechanisms such as the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management, the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting, the ASEAN Defense Senior Officials Meeting, the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development, the ASEAN Secretariat and the AHA Centre.

With regard to the on-going formulation of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision, the Council stressed the following key elements for the post-2015 APSC: continuing adherence to ASEAN fundamental principles and shared values and norms; enhancing the rule of law, democracy, good governance, and the promotion and protection of human rights; embracing the principle of comprehensive security to enhance ASEAN capacity in addressing both traditional and non-traditional security challenges; strengthening coordination and synergy among relevant ASEAN bodies and mechanisms on political and security issues; and strengthening ASEAN Centrality in ASEAN external relations and in the evolving regional architecture.

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM)	
Established	1967, meets annually, with informal meetings and retreats in between
Last Meeting	AMM, 26 April 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Senior Officials	ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (ASEAN SOM)

Four AMMs were convened during the period in review, namely the annual 47<sup>th</sup> AMM in August 2014, the IAMM in September 2014, the Foreign Ministers' Retreat in January 2015, and the AMM on the side-lines of the 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in April 2015.

Noting that 2015 is a historic milestone for ASEAN as it will mark the culmination of several decades of regional integration efforts in the establishment of the ASEAN Community, the Ministers agreed to speed up the full implementation of the APSC Blueprint by 31 December 2015. The Ministers encouraged the support, participation and a sense of ownership among the ASEAN peoples in the community building process. The Ministers also underlined the importance of strengthening ASEAN institutional capacity and streamlining ASEAN meetings in order to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of ASEAN work processes.

The Ministers further highlighted the importance of maintaining and enhancing ASEAN Centrality in face of the complex and fast changing regional strategic landscape. To realise this, the Ministers agreed that internally, ASEAN must uphold its unity, cohesiveness and neutrality to be a credible





organisation, while externally, the proactive role of ASEAN must be strengthened. ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ARF, ADMM Plus and EAS, among others, must also be made more effective and efficient. The Ministers emphasised that ASEAN Centrality must remain at the core when considering the various regional architecture proposals, and in this regard, they attached paramount importance to the consolidation and strengthening of the EAS.

The Ministers expressed their concerns over the growing threat of terrorism, radicalism and violent extremism in the world and the danger it poses to the ASEAN region. In denouncing acts of terror, the Ministers, in two statements on the rise of violence and brutality committed by terrorist/extremist organisations in Iraq and Syria in September 2014 and January 2015, renewed their commitment to work together with the international community on this issue. The Meeting also highlighted the initiative on the Global Movement of Moderates as an ASEAN contribution to global efforts in tackling these threats.

The Ministers remain concerned over the ongoing developments in the South China Sea, noting that there is a widening gap between the diplomatic track and the situation on the ground. During their meetings, the Ministers consistently stressed the importance of maintaining peace, stability, maritime security and freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea. In this regard, they urged the full and effective implementation of the DOC, in particular Article 5 and called for the exercise of self-restraint from actions which could undermine peace and stability in the South China Sea. The Ministers also reiterated the need to intensify substantive consultations with China with a clear timeline towards early conclusion of the COC.

<b>Commission on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ Commission)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	1999, meets annually
<b>Last Meeting</b>	8 August 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
<b>Senior Officials</b>	Executive Committee for the Commission on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ ExCom)

The SEANWFZ Commission meeting in Nay Pyi Taw on 8 August 2014 took note of the progress in the implementation of the SEANWFZ Plan of Action (2013-2017), especially accessions by ASEAN Member States to multilateral conventions and agreements related to nuclear safeguards, safety and security. The Commission also welcomed the activities of the ASEAN Nuclear Energy Cooperation Sub-Sector Network (NEC-SSN) on the use of nuclear energy for power generation and the role of the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) in sharing best practices on safety, security, and safeguards in the use of nuclear energy with nuclear regulatory bodies in the region.

ASEAN Member States have sustained efforts to promote the profile of the Treaty of Bangkok in multilateral fora and international organisations to manifest the importance of SEANWFZ in strengthening the security of States in the region and in contributing to international peace and security. A key activity in this regard is the biennial tabling and adoption of the ASEAN Resolution on the Treaty of Bangkok in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, starting from 2007.

The most recent Resolution was adopted by the 68<sup>th</sup> UNGA on 5 December 2013 and ASEAN will table a resolution on the SEANWFZ Treaty at the 70<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations this year.

In April 2015, the ASEAN submitted a Memorandum of Activities Relating to the SEANWFZ Treaty to the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The Memorandum elaborates the steps taken by ASEAN to implement the SEANWFZ Treaty, thereby contributing to the global non-proliferation efforts and peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

ASEAN has reiterated its call on the Nuclear Weapon States to consider signing the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty to further promote Southeast Asia as a region free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.

ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)	
Established	2006, meets annually with a retreat session in between
Last Meeting	9 <sup>th</sup> ADMM, 16 March 2015, Langkawi, Malaysia
Senior Officials	ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM)

For the period under review, the ASEAN Defence Ministers convened the ADMM Retreat in Bagan in November 2014 and the 9<sup>th</sup> ADMM in Langkawi in March 2015. Almost a decade after its establishment, the ADMM continues to make significant advances in building trust and



confidence as well as in promoting practical cooperation among the ASEAN defence establishments.

At the 9<sup>th</sup> ADMM, new initiatives related to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) were agreed upon, namely the *ASEAN Militaries Ready Group on HADR* and the *ASEAN Center of Military Medicine*. The former aims to prepare for an ASEAN military team for quick deployment to areas of crises in a coordinated manner while the latter is to coordinate the military medical services of the ADMM-Plus countries in responding to common challenges, such as HADR situations in the region. The 9<sup>th</sup> ADMM also endorsed the *Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Utilisation of Military Assets for HADR under the Framework of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER)* as the ASEAN defence and militaries' contribution to the existing ASEAN SOP for Regional Standby Arrangements and Coordination of Joint Disaster Relief and Emergency Response Operations (SASOP).

In terms of its external engagement, the ADMM agreed on the Guidelines to Respond to Requests for Informal Engagements or Meetings by the ADMM-Plus Countries, which will provide the modality for informal engagements with individual ADMM-Plus countries.

ASEAN Member States also continue to show strong commitment to implement previously agreed initiatives such as the *ASEAN Defence Interaction Programme*, the *Establishment of a Direct Communication Link in the ADMM Process*, the *Logistics Support Framework*, the *ASEAN Defence Industry Collaboration*, and the *ASEAN Peacekeeping Centres Network*.

Under the ADMM-Plus framework, practical cooperation and strategic dialogue remain the main thrusts of cooperation. Cooperation undertaken by the six Experts' Working Groups in the areas of HADR, maritime security, peacekeeping operations, military medicine, counter-terrorism, and humanitarian mine action has shown steady progress. Work is now underway in the preparation towards a series of exercises to be conducted in 2016, namely (i) the ADMM-Plus Maritime Security and Counter-Terrorism Exercise in Brunei Darussalam and Singapore, scheduled on 2-12 May 2016, and (ii) the ADMM-Plus HADR/Military Medicine Field Training (FTX) and Command Post Exercises (CPX) in September 2016.

**ASEAN Law Ministers' Meeting (ALAWMM)**

Established	1986, meets once in every three years
Last Meeting	8 <sup>th</sup> ALAWMM, 4-5 November 2011, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Senior Officials	ASEAN Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM)

The ALAWMM with its last Meeting held in November 2011 considered various law and legal cooperation issues to support ASEAN community building and integration efforts. Working towards a rules-based ASEAN is also high on the agenda of the ALAWMM.

With the support of ASLOM which conducts its meetings once in every 12 to 18 months, the ALAWMM has developed the ASEAN Government Law Directory and ASEAN Legal Information Authorities (ALIA), as well as Exchange of Study Visits among legal officers of ASEAN Member States. The initiatives have benefited ASEAN Member States significantly in promoting awareness and understanding each other's legal systems.

Progress is also being made in other fields of legal cooperation, such as a Model ASEAN Extradition Treaty, mutual judicial assistance in civil and commercial matters among ASEAN Member States, including work towards a Treaty on the Abolishment of the requirement for Legalisation of Foreign Public Documents, examining modalities for harmonisation of ASEAN trade laws, the progressive liberalisation of trade in legal services in ASEAN, and proposals for a model law on maritime security, uniform laws on legalisation of documents and an ASEAN

agreement on the conservation of coastal and marine environment.

Under ALAWMM's initiative to strengthen legal professional networks, a workshop was organised for legal officers, legal professionals, and judges from ASEAN Member States to exchange views and ideas on various legal issues of common concern and interest. As a follow-up, judges (judicial bodies) of ASEAN Member States have met in a number of occasions to share their best practices and experiences in court administration and management as well as possible judicial cooperation. The judiciaries among ASEAN Member States are committed to continue working together in contributing to ASEAN's community building and integration agenda.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ALAWMM will be held on 30-31 July 2015 in Indonesia. The ALAWMM is expected to review the progress of its work in the area of law and legal cooperation, and discuss future directions in contributing to the post-2015 ASEAN Community.

### ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)

Established	1997, meets biennially
Last Meeting	9 <sup>th</sup> AMMTC, 17 September 2013, Vientiane, Lao PDR
Senior Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC)</li> <li>• Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Division of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM)</li> </ul>

The ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) is ASEAN's highest policy making body on ASEAN cooperation in combating transnational crime. The Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), established in 2001, supports the work of the AMMTC.

To implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime, the SOMTC has a Work Programme, which spells out the activities on cooperation in combating the eight areas of transnational crime namely Terrorism; Illicit Drug Trafficking; Trafficking in Persons; Money Laundering; Sea Piracy; Arms Smuggling; International Economic Crime and Cybercrime. The Work Programme for 2013-2015 is currently being implemented.

In the area of cybercrime, SOMTC has intensified its work by establishing a dedicated SOMTC Working Group on Cybercrime which convened its inaugural meeting in Singapore in May 2014. The Meeting focused on restructuring and enhancing the cybercrime component of the SOMTC Work Programme, recognizing that

the fight against cybercrime is a collaborative effort between different agencies in the public sector and private industry, and that public-private partnership is part of the restructured Work Programme.

In addressing the menace of trafficking in persons in the region, drafting of the ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) and the Regional Plan of Action on Combating Trafficking in Persons (RPA) was concluded in December 2014. The draft will now be submitted to the SOMTC and the AMMTC in June and September 2015 for endorsement and adoption.

Visa-free facility is expected to stimulate greater economic and trade incentives, facilitate movement of genuine travellers and human capital within the region. To date, seven ASEAN Member States have ratified the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Visa Exemption.

SOMTC continues to enhance cooperation in combating transnational crime with Dialogue Partners through the adoption and development of cooperation documents. In the year under review, the *'SOMTC-EU Work Plan to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime'* was adopted. Work is currently underway to develop the new *'Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ASEAN and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in the Field of Non-Traditional Security Issues'* and is expected to be adopted at the 4<sup>th</sup> AMMTC+ China Consultation in 2015.

In conclusion, the emergence of new forms of non-traditional security threats highlights the need for AMMTC to maintain its relevance as well as respond to the various challenges posed by transnational crime.

**ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)**

Established	1994, meets annually
Last Meeting	21 <sup>st</sup> ARF, 10 August 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Senior Officials	ARF Senior Officials Meeting (ARF SOM)

As a reflection of the ARF's determination to develop preventive diplomacy mechanisms, there have been more initiatives by the ARF participants to implement the ARF Preventive Diplomacy Work Plan since August 2014. These initiatives, among others, highlighted the necessity for the ARF to conduct further preventive diplomacy trainings that are tailored to the Asia Pacific region and to tap into existing experience and expertise from countries in the region.

Concurrently, the ARF continues to maintain the momentum on confidence building measures. In the past one year, ARF participants discussed a wide range of existing and emerging non-traditional security threats including trafficking of illicit drugs, radicalism and violent extremism, cyber security, biosecurity, space security, maritime safety, protection of the marine environment, international migration and wildlife trafficking.

In continuing efforts to improve inter-agency coordination through practical cooperation, the third ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (ARF DiREx), conducted in Kedah and Perlis, Malaysia from 25-28 May 2015, tested civil-military coordination and synchronization of efforts towards supporting the effective implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) as the common platform for disaster management of the region.

In the spirit of promoting synergy, the ARF continues to invite relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies to attend and brief the relevant ARF meetings and activities. The ARF also continues to give importance to the Track II institutions such as the ASEAN Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS) and the Council for Security Cooperation in Asia Pacific (CSCAP).

As a long-standing ASEAN-led regional mechanism, the ARF continues to prove its value and contributions to the ever-evolving regional security architecture. However, the growing number of related mechanisms and activities in the region highlight the need for the Forum to maintain its relevance as well as reinforce its unique role in promoting dialogue and maintaining peace and security in the region as envisioned by its founding participants.

<b>ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	2009, meets at least three times a year with additional meetings when necessary
<b>Last Meeting</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AICHR, 6-9 May 2015, Jakarta, Indonesia

The Representative of Malaysia, H.E Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah is the current Chair of the AICHR for 2015. The AICHR is currently focused on developing the second Five Year Work Plan 2016-2020 to ensure continuity and advancement of AICHR's work. Under Malaysia's Chairmanship, the AICHR ventures to unexplored areas of human rights such as the role of judiciary in promoting human rights in ASEAN.

As a continuation of its effort to establish an enabling environment for meaningful and constructive engagement with other entities, the AICHR has adopted the Guidelines on Developing Alignment between AICHR with ASEAN Sectoral Bodies dealing with Human Rights and the Guidelines on the AICHR's relations with Civil Society Organisations. These guidelines will facilitate the interaction between the AICHR and other entities as well as to enhance their cooperation, synergy and coherence in promotion and protection of human rights in ASEAN.

The Chair of AICHR held a consultation meeting with the Chair of the High Level Task Force (HLTF) on 25 February 2015 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The AICHR and HLTF mainly discussed the submission of collective AICHR's inputs to the ASEAN Community Vision Post-2015. The AICHR agreed to submit its inputs in line with its commitment to mainstream human rights into the Three Pillars of ASEAN.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) of AICHR provides that the TOR shall be initially reviewed five years after its entry into force. In this regard, the AICHR has submitted their Assessment and Recommendations on the Review of the TOR to the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM) last year. These recommendations were developed following several regional consultations between the AICHR and various stakeholders. The AMM is responsible for the review of the TOR of AICHR and may consider these recommendations.

At their 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting, the AICHR met with several external parties and held its annual meeting with the Secretary General of ASEAN and the ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives. During



the annual meeting, both parties exchanged views and drew up recommendations on how to enhance further coordination and cooperation. Activities of the AICHR, both regional and national levels, are regularly communicated to the public through their regional website ([www.aichr.org](http://www.aichr.org)).





# ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)

# Introduction

The combined GDP of the ASEAN economies grew by 4.6% in 2014, compared with 5.2 percent in 2013 and with the global growth of 3.4 percent. At USD136.2 billion in 2014, inflows of investment to the region have been robust, reflecting a 15.7 percent increase year-on-year. ASEAN's total trade was stable in 2014 at USD2.53 trillion.

Progress continued to be made in the implementation of AEC measures. As we are in the final year of the Blueprint's implementation, ASEAN is exerting maximum efforts on implementing the high-priority measures required to set the foundations for the AEC.

Concerted efforts to develop a comprehensive action plan on trade facilitation have started with the reactivation of the ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee. To deal with non-tariff barriers, the ASEAN Consultation to Solve Trade and Investment Issues is being revamped. The Protocol on the Legal Framework to Implement the ASEAN Single Window (ASW), which will govern the legal aspects of the implementation of the ASW, has been finalised and is expected to be signed by all AMS in 2015. Deeper integration in services is being pursued through the final packages of commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS).

The Protocol to amend the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA), signed in August 2014, will contribute

to greater certainty and transparency of ACIA implementation.

The Protocol to Implement the Sixth Package of Financial Services Liberalisation under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services has been signed. Mutual Recognition Arrangements have been formalised among AMS in 8 professional sectors, with the latest one for accounting services signed in November 2014. Cooperation on food, agriculture and forestry is also being pursued through the establishment of common standards, guidelines and systems of ASEAN's products such as the ASEAN Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).

Seven Member States have competition laws in place, as targeted for 2015, while nine Member States have consumer protection laws. Measures have been implemented to develop capacities on intellectual property rights. These efforts are complemented by regional infrastructure development and transport facilitation agreements to enhance the region's competitiveness.

The ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development Monitor, launched at the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2014, provides a common basis for understanding development trends and suggests appropriate regional policy measures. Various initiatives to support SME development are also underway, including the promotion of SMEs' innovation and

competitiveness through the ASEAN Business Incubation Network (ABINET) and establishment of the ASEAN SME Service Centre Web Portal.

Negotiations on the upgrading of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area are ongoing, while the signing of the Protocol to incorporate the Trade in Services and Investment Chapters under the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement has been identified as among the priorities for 2015. There has been good progress in the ASEAN-Hong Kong Free Trade Agreement negotiations that were commenced in July 2014. Negotiations for a Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement among ASEAN, Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea and New Zealand are proceeding with the aim of concluding by end-2015.

The AEC 2015 does not mark the end of ASEAN integration efforts. Following up from the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration in 2013, the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision and its central elements were adopted at the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2014. Envisioned in the Declaration is the AEC 2025, which aims to build a highly integrated and cohesive economy, a competitive, innovative and dynamic ASEAN, a resilient, inclusive and people-oriented, people-centered ASEAN, enhanced sectoral integration and cooperation, and a global ASEAN. The AEC post-2015 agenda is aimed to be finalised in time for the 27<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2015.

### ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council

Established	2009, meets at least twice a year
Last Meeting	13 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEC Council, 26 April 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Senior Officials	Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM)

With the AEC Blueprint in its final year of implementation, the AEC Council's focus in its last two meetings has been on ensuring that the fundamentals of the AEC are in place in time for its formal establishment by end-2015. The AEC Council focused on further prioritising the unimplemented AEC measures that could be achieved by the end of 2015 and identifying implementation bottlenecks. It is in this context that Sectoral Bodies undertook a candid assessment of the pending measures of the AEC Scorecard, the outcomes of which were discussed at the 12<sup>th</sup> AEC Council Meeting.

At its most recent meeting, the AEC Council considered the ASEAN Economic Ministers' identification of high-priority measures at its 21<sup>st</sup> Retreat in March 2015. These 54 high-priority measures are unimplemented prioritised key deliverables with the highest trade impact that can be implemented within the year.

In the context of the fully implemented measures and the identified high-priority measures, implementation rate of the AEC as of April 2015 stood at 90.5 percent, or 458 out of 506 measures, including 6 high-priority measures. The Council called for Member States' maximum commitment and redoubling of efforts to implement the remaining 48 high-priority measures as well as other key AEC measures.

The AEC Council took note of the progress of the development of the AEC Post-2015 document and stressed the importance of drawing up strategic measures for AEC for the next 10 years. The AEC Council will be involved in reviewing and endorsing the final draft of the AEC 2025 Attendant Document, which will be in line with the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision and its central elements as adopted at the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2014.

The AEC Council also reiterated the need for enhanced institutional arrangements, and tasked the ASEAN Secretariat to come up with suggestions on how to address concerns in improving coordination across various Sectoral Bodies to facilitate optimal implementation of AEC measures, and monitoring of realistic and implementable AEC activities for the post-2015 economic agenda.

<b>ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM)</b>	
Established	1975, meets annually with informal and/or retreat in between
Last Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 46<sup>th</sup> AEM, 25 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar</li> <li>• 21<sup>st</sup> AEM Retreat, 28 February-1 March 2015, Kota Bharu, Malaysia</li> </ul>
Senior Officials	Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM)

The AEM expressed optimism for ASEAN's economic growth prospects and reiterated their determination to enhance efforts at sustaining an environment of macroeconomic and price stability to support the realisation of the goals of

ASEAN integration. They also commit to continue advancing ASEAN's trade and investment facilitation and liberalisation agenda, including ensuring expeditious implementation of the pending measures in the key deliverables and the ASEAN Blueprint, so as to continue to bring prosperity and narrow the development gap in ASEAN.

Steady progress has been made in implementing the AEC Blueprint, in particular, the key measures prioritised by Member States. Benefits are already flowing to ASEAN businesses and consumers, from significant tariff liberalisation, progress in trade facilitation measures such as self-certification, simplification of customs procedures, and the Mutual Recognition Arrangements on skilled professionals in the region. ASEAN has also put in place legal structures on competition, consumer protection and intellectual property contributing to an improved environment for business. The AEM highlighted that the focus for the remainder of 2015 would be on further simplification of customs procedures, harmonisation of standards, further liberalisation of services, and enhanced trade facilitation.

The formal establishment of the AEC by end-2015 marks a major milestone in ASEAN's effort to fulfill the goal of an integrated region. The implementation of the AEC measures sends a strong signal that positive measures have been put in place towards a more liberalised and integrated economic region.

### **Trade in Services**

ASEAN continues to progressively liberalise trade in services and achieve free flow of services by 2015. The 9<sup>th</sup> Package of Commitments under the *ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS)* is nearly completed, and work has begun on the 10<sup>th</sup> Package.



The signing of the Protocol to Implement the 8<sup>th</sup> Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under AFAS had been completed in November 2014. Meanwhile, the 6<sup>th</sup> Package of Financial Services commitments under AFAS, which include elements of ASEAN Banking Integration Framework will be signed ad referendum.

The on-going works to enhance AFAS through the negotiation of *ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA)* continue to intensify through various consultations among related ASEAN bodies. ATISA will become an important deliverable for Post-2015 AEC.

Noting the importance of facilitating movement of services professionals, continued efforts are being undertaken to implement the existing Mutual Recognition Arrangements. The Framework MRA on Accountancy Services signed in 2009 has now been developed into an ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Accountancy Services, and was signed in November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

The *ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQRF)* is yet another milestone for ASEAN which aims to function as a device to enable comparisons of qualifications of skilled labour across ASEAN Member States. AQRF was endorsed by the ASEAN Economic Ministers and ASEAN Education Ministers and the ASEAN Labour Ministers in August and September 2014 and May 2015 respectively. The framework supports recognition of qualification, promotes quality of education and learning, facilitates labour mobility, and addresses all education and training, including formal, non-formal and informal learning.

### **Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)**

ASEAN cooperation in SMEs is being given higher profile because of the importance put on SMEs in the integration process. Greater inclusiveness of SMEs in ASEAN integration was seen to be an issue of priority for the private sector. The ASEAN SME Agencies Working Group (SMEWG) implemented SME-related measures under the current ASEAN Strategic

Action Plan for SME Development (2010-2015). Among the recent measures are:

- *Developing an ASEAN Benchmark for SME Credit Rating Methodology.* The Benchmark has been developed and socialised among the key stakeholders from the Central Banks, Ministry of Finance, Credit Rating Agencies, SMEWG and the private sector from all ASEAN member states (AMS). With this SME Credit Rating Methodology, it is hoped that there will be better take-up of such methodologies by funding institutions to address SME issues relating to asymmetric credit information and SMEs' access to financial facilities.
- *ASEAN SME Online Academy.* This aims to be an online learning portal providing curriculum to enhance capacity of SMEs in the areas of entrepreneurship, finance, marketing as well as business development services (BDS). The Academy will be officially launched at the sideline of 47<sup>th</sup> AEM Meeting in August 2015.
- *ASEAN SME Service Web Portal.* A web-based SME service referral system and search engine is the aim of the project "Establish a Comprehensive SME Service Centre with regional and sub-regional linkages in ASEAN Member States". The aim is to have a web portal with AEC information and SME-friendly features.
- *Directory of Outstanding SMEs in ASEAN 2015.* This is a listing of over 800 SMEs based on the criteria such as revenue/sales growth, innovation, export and corporate social responsibilities.
- *ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for SME Development (2016-2025) or Post-2015 SAP SMED* is at its final stage. The draft will be



SMEs are considered important in ASEAN integration process.

submitted for endorsement by the ASEAN Economic Ministers at the 47<sup>th</sup> AEM Meeting in August 2015.

## Consumer Protection

Consumer protection is an essential tool in building a people-oriented ASEAN Economic Community. At present, 9 out of 10 AMS have Consumer Protection Legislation in place, with Myanmar being the latest AMS to enact its Consumer Protection legislation in 2014. Cambodia is expected to have its legislation approved by mid-2015.

In 2014/2015, the ASEAN Committee on Consumer Protection (ACCP) has implemented a number of activities. A new resource database section has been added into the ACCP website and the list of recalled/banned products and voluntary recalled products are uploaded onto the ACCP website and are updated regularly.

A Handbook entitled "Consumer Protection Digests and Case Studies: A Policy Guide (Volume 1)" was published in 2014, with 12 policy digests and 2 case-studies. This will assist in

the development and strengthening of consumer protection systems by highlighting the key issues and emerging concerns as well as raising awareness and stimulating dialogue among all stakeholders.

Public Awareness Models for Consumer Protection, awareness and education models for consumer protection and Guidelines for Selecting Models are being developed.

The 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Consumer Protection Conference (1<sup>st</sup> ACPC) was convened from 8-9 December 2014 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, with the theme “*Supporting Research and Dialogue in Consumer Protection.*”

The post-2015 consumer protection action plan is currently being developed to chart the future work of the ACCP as well as to strengthen the development and enforcement of consumer protection policies to meet the challenges of an integrated market.

## **Competition Policy and Law**

Seven AMS have enacted competition laws, with Brunei Darussalam and Myanmar being the latest to enact competition laws, joining Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. Efforts to enact and introduce nationwide competition laws in the remaining AMS continues, while strengthening the enforcement capacities of those with laws remains an important priority initiative of the ASEAN Experts Group on Competition (AEGC).

In strengthening the competencies of competition-related agencies, both national and regional capacity building activities were conducted during 2014-2015. These include: (i) in-country workshops in Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar, (ii) regional workshops on a various

topics ranging from drafting CPL, institutional aspects of core competencies, sector studies, investigation skills, and business compliance; (iii) study visit of AMS to Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), and (iv) secondment programme of ACCC experts to ASEAN competition-related agencies.

As part of advocacy efforts, the 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Competition Conference (ACC) was held from 16-17 July 2014 in Manila, the Philippines with the theme “*Effective Enforcement: Appropriate Penalties/Remedies in CPL Implementation.*” The ACCs have been held annually since 2011 as a platform for competition stakeholders to share best practices and discuss emerging issues on CPL in the ASEAN region.

The ASEAN Competition Action Plan (2016-2025) has been finalised, with focus on: (i) establishing a national competition law in all AMS; (ii) strengthening enforcement capabilities; (iii) enhancing regional cooperation arrangements; (iv) fostering a competition-aware region; and (v) promoting a higher level of harmonisation in laws and processes.

## **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)**

Regional cooperation on IPR has been guided by the ASEAN IPR Action Plan 2011-2015. Implementation of the Action Plan has progressed continuously through the collaborative efforts of the ASEAN Working on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC) and support from its dialogue partners. Among the initiatives completed are:

- *ASEAN List of Goods and Services* is a database of terms that serves as a useful tool to ensure correct classification of goods and services consistent with international

classification. The list has been accepted by AMS and is being shared with the business community through the ASEAN IP Portal. The list will lead to further improvement in the quality of services provided by the trademark offices in ASEAN.

- *Common Guidelines for the Substantive Examination of Trademarks* is a reference document that seeks to enhance the quality and transparency in the substantive examination of trademark applications. It contains principles and standards that could be applied regardless of the manner in which the individual AMS IP Offices carry out the examination process according to domestic laws. Usage of the Common Guidelines is intended to focus the practices of the AMS IP Offices to enable a higher level of consistency in the decisions of examiners. This will offer the potential to reduce average turnaround time for the registration of trademarks and to expedite examination of trademark applications filed by businesses seeking protection of their brands in the region.
- *ASEAN TM View* is an online platform that provides users with a practical tool to obtain data on trademarks in the ASEAN region. The ASEAN TM View will guide businesses in their product launches and provide them with informed decisions on averting disputes with competitors over brands.
- An *Issues Paper on the Protection of Traditional Knowledge (TK), Genetic Resources (GR) and Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCE)* has been completed to increase knowledge of the potential role of IP principles and systems in the protection of GRTKTCE. It will assist AMS in developing policy responses to prevent misappropriation and to ensure any benefits

from commercialisation are appropriately shared.

The *ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC)* is a regional patent work-sharing program that provides a platform to share search and examination results among 9 participating AMS (except Myanmar) to allow applicants to obtain corresponding patents faster and more efficiently. ASPEC enables search and examination work done on a corresponding application to serve as a useful reference in producing quality reports, potentially reducing duplication of work and saving time and effort. Its utilisation is currently being improved.

A number of copyright-related initiatives are being carried on to promote and raise awareness about the importance of copyright and related rights in the creative industry. Competitions had been organised and will be organised to recognise the creative talent in ASEAN. Seminars and workshops on collective management of copyrighted works will be convened in 2015.

The *ASEAN IPR Strategic Action Plan 2016-2025* is about to be finalised based on four strategic goals: (1) IP Offices are strengthened and IP infrastructure built; (2) Regional IP platforms are built; (3) ASEAN IP ecosystem is expanded; and (4) Regional mechanisms to promote asset creation and commercialisation, particularly geographical indications and traditional knowledge, are enhanced.

## **Statistical Cooperation**

The *ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS)* aims to deliver relevant, timely and comparable ASEAN statistics to support evidence-based policy making. The work on the ACSS involves enhancing the statistical capacity of ASEANstats and the Member States.



Launched in June 2014, the *EU-ASEAN Capacity Building for Monitoring Integration Progress and Statistics (EU-ASEAN COMPASS)* Programme covers institutional strengthening and harmonisation of key statistical domains. The project will include focused support to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam (CLMV).

Concurrently, a pilot survey on statistics of international trade in services in Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam is in progress under ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area Economic Cooperation Work Programme, to address ASEAN data requirements on international negotiations in trade in services.

Notable progress on capacity building in dissemination and communication of ASEAN statistics were carried out separately with support from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

In 2015, work will continue on supporting the monitoring of ASEAN integration. The ACSS Committee endorsed the proposal on “*Establishing the Mechanism to Enhance National Data Collection, Compilation and Dissemination*” for the ASEAN Community Progress Monitoring System (ACPMS) to promote the ACPMS as an integration monitoring tool to complement existing and future mechanisms. Support is provided through the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program Phase II (AADCP II).

### **Public-Private Sector Engagement**

Strengthening of private-public sector engagement remains a key consideration of ASEAN in facilitating the achievement of the AEC 2015. The AEM reaffirmed the value of

regular stakeholder consultations and requested the review of the recommendations of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) and other private sector organisations, with a view to further fostering and facilitating trade and investment opportunities in the region and beyond.

A number of high-level engagement activities continue to be undertaken. In addition to the regular consultations between the AEM and ASEAN-BAC, these also include the 7<sup>th</sup> Dialogue with Federation of Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in ASEAN (FJCCIA) held on 24 June 2014; the 2<sup>nd</sup> US-ASEAN Business Summit held in August 2014, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> AEC Symposium held in October 2014.

The concept of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) is also gaining traction given that ASEAN needs an estimated USD 60 billion each year in infrastructure financing. ASEAN welcomed the support of the OECD in developing the ASEAN Principles for the PPP Framework, which will help to create a predictable and efficient PPP environment, and to address cross-border projects that take into account jurisdictional and dispute resolution issues.

### **External Economic Relations**

ASEAN also continues to improve and ensure effective implementation of the existing ASEAN Plus One FTAs with the aim to make them remaining modern, comprehensive, of high-quality and more responsive to the needs of businesses operating in the production networks in ASEAN. Efforts have also been made to further enhance ASEAN's economic partnerships with other Non-FTA Dialogue Partners, including Canada, the EU, Russia and the U.S by upgrading and strengthening

the implementation of Trade and Investment Work Programmes/Plans.

As the result, the First Protocol to Amend the Agreement establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area was signed on 26 August 2014. ASEAN and India also completed their negotiations and signing of their Trade in Services and Investment Agreements in November 2014. Other milestones of ASEAN's external economic relations include: (i) endorsement of the Elements Paper for Upgrading the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA) (ii) approval of the improvements of the ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Roadmap; (iii) endorsement of the ASEAN-EU Trade and Investment Work Programme for 2015-2016 and organisation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> US-ASEAN Business Summit with the theme "SMEs and the Global Supply Chain"; and (iv) commencement of the negotiations for the ASEAN-Hong Kong, China (HKC) Free Trade Agreement (AHKFTA).

At the moment, ASEAN and its respective FTA partners are doubling their efforts to complete pending works, including (i) signing the Protocol to incorporate of Chapters on Trade in Services, Investment and Movement of Natural Persons into the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement; (ii) signing the Third Protocol to amend the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Goods Agreement; (iv) conclusion of negotiations on Upgrading of ACFTA and (v) progressing AHKFTA and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations.

Since July 2014, three rounds of negotiations for AHKFTA have been conducted, with the latest round in Hong Kong on 10-12 March 2015. Good progress has been made in the negotiations on modality for tariff reduction/elimination under AHKFTA, and texts of

different Chapters/Articles for AHKFTA Agreement.

Following the launch of RCEP negotiations in November 2012, efforts have been intensified to advance the process, including the establishment of working groups and sub-working groups for agreed negotiating areas. Good progress has been made on several fronts, including on trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical cooperation, intellectual property, competition and legal and institutional issues. The 16 RCEP Participating Countries, which include the 10 ASEAN Member States and ASEAN FTA Partners (i.e. Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand), aim to complete negotiations by end-2015.

<b>ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council</b>	
Established	1992, meets annually
Last Meeting	Joint AEM- 28 <sup>th</sup> AFTA Council Meeting, 25 August 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Senior Officials	Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM)

Several follow-on activities and initiatives have been accomplished by ASEAN Member States since the entry into force of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) in May 2010. Various committees and subcommittees that cover the work on trade in goods, customs including the ASEAN Single Window, standards and conformance, and sanitary and phyto-sanitary have been intensifying efforts in improving transparency in the implementation of the AEC measures and enhancing trade facilitation for a business friendly environment.

## Tariff Commitments

Significant progress have been made by ASEAN Member States on tariff liberalization as per the agreed timeline, i.e. tariff elimination for ASEAN-6: Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand by 2010 and for CLMV: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam by 2015, with flexibility up to 2018 on certain products that shall not exceed 7 per cent of all products. To date, import duties for 99.20% and 90.86% of committed tariff lines have been eliminated by ASEAN-6 and CLMV, respectively, or 95.99% across all ten (10) ASEAN Member States (AMS).

Following the revision of the Harmonised System (HS) of the World Customs Organisation version 2007 to version 2012 to reflect the changing patterns of international trade and technology, the ATIGA tariff reduction schedules in AHTN 2012 are available on the ASEAN Secretariat Website at the following URL: <http://www.asean.org/news/item/annex-2-tariff-schedules>.

## Rules of Origin

ASEAN has completed the transposition work on the ATIGA Product Specific Rules (PSRs) and the textile single list from HS 2007 into HS 2012 which are available on the ASEAN Secretariat website at <http://www.asean.org/communities/asean-economic-community/category/asean-trade-in-goods-agreement>. Work is ongoing for the transposition of the ITA products in HS 2012.

Two Self-certification Pilot Projects are being implemented by ASEAN Member States in moving towards the realisation of the ASEAN-wide Self-certification system by 2015. Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand are members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Pilot Project, while Indonesia, Lao PDR, the



2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Train-the-Trainers on Origin Determination Workshop, Jakarta, Indonesia, 24 February 2015.

Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam are members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pilot Project. Cambodia and Myanmar are in the process of joining the 1<sup>st</sup> Self-certification Pilot Project.

To enhance business development in the region and ensure that the ATIGA ROOs applied are trade-facilitative by taking into account dynamic changes in global production processes, the discussion on the removal of the FOB value from the CO Form D in cases where Regional Value Content (RVC) 40% rule is applied, the most appropriate ROO for the automotive and iron and steel industries, the amendment of the ATIGA OCP to allow acceptance of electronic ATIGA CO Form D under the ASEAN Single Window (ASW) system is being discussed by the Subcommittee on ATIGA Rules of Origin (SC-AROO).

## Non-Tariff Measures

Focus is now being given to address the NTMs that may have barrier effects. In view of ASEAN's continued effort to eliminate the barrier components of NTMs, ASEAN has embarked on several initiatives, such as (i) notification

of the newly introduced NTMs as mandated by the AFTA Council; (ii) implementation of the work programmes on NTMs for national and regional levels endorsed by the 27<sup>th</sup> AFTA Council to identify, verify and address NTMs (iii) update/reclassification of the ASEAN NTMs database to align with the UNCTAD 2012 NTM Classification system; (iv) discussion to resolve NTM cases faced by businesses as lodged in the “Matrix of Actual cases on NTM/NTBs; and (v) establishment of an interagency body at the national level in each Member State to strengthen coordination of domestic efforts to address NTM/NTBs.

### **Trade Facilitation**

The ATIGA requires that an ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR) which contains the trade and customs laws and procedures of all AMSs and trade-related information be established by 2015. ASEAN Member States are in various stages to establish their respective National Trade Repositories (NTRs) which are precursors to the ATR to provide a single point of access to all the trade-related information of ASEAN Member States. Once established, the ATR will serve as a regional interface to link through the national interfaces of with each ASEAN Member States’ NTR.

As mandated by the 21<sup>st</sup> AEM Retreat, the ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee (ATF-JCC) was reconvened on 11 May 2015 to follow up on the work on trade facilitation and address non-tariff barriers or barrier effects of non-tariff measures.

### **ASEAN Consultation to Solve Trade and Investment Issues (ACT)**

ASEAN is working towards the revamp of the ACT which is an internet-based, non-legal and non-binding problem-solving mechanism, linking a network of ASEAN government focal points, where private sector complaints can be channelled and operational problems and cross-border issues encountered in the implementation of ASEAN agreements can be resolved using a low-cost approach for re-launching by the end of 2015.

### **Customs Integration**

All Member States have completed their ratification process of the new ASEAN Agreement on Customs signed in 2012, which helps operationalize the Customs Chapter of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) and form a comprehensive legal framework and ensures the predictability, consistency and transparency in the application of customs law of all ASEAN Member States. ASEAN Customs Working Groups are now reviewing the implementation of the Strategic Plan of Customs Development (SPCDs) for 2011-2015 for the establishment of the new SPCDs for 2016-2020.

On the review of ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) 2012 for the establishment of AHTN 2017, the AHTN Task Force has convened five (5) meetings thus far to incorporate a new set of amendments to the Harmonised System (HS) of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) into AHTN and to cater for new requirements of AMS into the AHTN.

For the implementation of the ASEAN Customs Transit System, the text of Protocol

2 of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT) is largely finalised. All Member States have also signed the Protocol 7 (Customs Transit System), including its Technical Appendix.

### **ASEAN Single Window**

ASEAN is developing the ASEAN Single Window (ASW) to enhance trade facilitation by providing an integrated platform of partnership among government agencies and end users such as the economic operators, transport and logistics operators in the movement of goods. National Single Window (NSW), which enables a single submission of data and information, is a prerequisite of the ASW National Single Window.

The implementation of the full-fledged ASW Pilot Project Component 2 has already commenced in April 2015 and is scheduled to end in December 2016. The Protocol on the Legal Framework to implement the ASW (PLF), which will govern the legal aspects of the eventual implementation of the ASW across Member States has been finalised and signed by 6 AMS on 21 March 2015. The signing by the other four (4) Member States would be undertaken ad referendum.

### **Standards and Conformance**

The ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality (ACCSQ) in its capacity as the focal point in ASEAN for issues related to standards and conformance has been mandated to address the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) in ASEAN in support of establishing a single market and production base. The standards and conformance activities in ASEAN continue to focus on the facilitation of Priority Integration Sectors (PIS) which include agro-based products

(prepared foodstuff), automotive, electrical and electronic products, healthcare (cosmetics, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, traditional medicine and health supplements), rubber and wood-based products.

The ASEAN guidelines on standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures (AG-STRACAP) and its related documents such as the ASEAN guidelines on harmonisation of standards, ASEAN guidelines on mutual recognition arrangement (MRA), and ASEAN guidelines on accreditation and conformity assessment have been developed and updated to make them more relevant and attuned with the regional and global developments.

### **Harmonisation of standards and technical requirements**

Progress has also been made on harmonisation of standards and technical requirements focusing on the relevant sectors and subsectors of automotive, cosmetics, electrical and electronic equipment, prepared foodstuff, medical devices, pharmaceuticals and rubber-based products. Harmonisation of 10 technical requirements in combined areas of traditional medicines and health supplement sectors have been completed. ASEAN common procedures on legal metrology weighing instruments have also been completed in addition to the ASEAN common requirements for pre-packaged products.

### **Development and Implementation of Mutual Recognition Arrangement**

Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) for recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results have been developed

and implemented for the following PIS which include the Electrical, Electronic Equipment and the Pharmaceutical sectors. There are 16 Testing Laboratories and six Certification Bodies listed under the ASEAN EE MRA, and four Inspection Services listed under the ASEAN Pharmaceuticals GMP MRA. Three MRAs are currently under development namely: MRA for Automotive Products, Prepared Foodstuffs and Building and Construction Materials.

### **Development and Implementation of Harmonised Technical Regulations**

Harmonisation on technical regulations have been concluded in three areas, namely Agreement on the ASEAN Harmonised Cosmetics Regulatory Scheme; the ASEAN Medical Device Directive; and the ASEAN Harmonised Electrical and Electronic Regulatory regime, while discussions are ongoing for the ASEAN Agreements on Traditional Medicines and Health Supplements.

<b>ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council</b>	
Established	1998, meets annually
Last Meeting	AEM - 17 <sup>th</sup> AIA Council, 25 August 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Senior Officials	Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM)

ASEAN Member States (AMS) continue to undertake further liberalisation and greater transparency measures in line with the mandate of the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA) to create an investment climate conducive to business.

In order to provide a mechanism to better facilitate AMS in modifying or amending their investment reservations in the Schedule of ACIA, the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) signed the Protocol to Amend the ACIA on 26 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Protocol lays out a step-by-step process, with prescribed timelines, for the modification and amendment to investment reservations and its approval, which would contribute to greater certainty and transparency of ACIA implementation. Upon the Protocol's entry into force, AMS will be able to amend their respective reservation lists in an expedient manner, hence contributing to the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) agenda of free flow of investment.

Individual AMS also continue to undertake reviews and reforms of their investment and related policies to facilitate investment and to ease doing business, such as streamlining of investment processes and procedures, establishing one-start-one-stop centres, and increasing the use of information technology in the investment establishment process.

Region-wide initiatives are moving forward as well in creating a competitive single investment destination, such as projects focused on improving investment promotion and facilitation in the region. The ACIA Socialisation Forum and the Seminar on ACIA for Investment Promotion Agencies were recently held in Jakarta, Indonesia in April 2015 and in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam in May 2015. These activities are part of the series of events to promote and create awareness on ACIA, in particular its benefits to investors and to ASEAN. Publications are also being disseminated in such events including the "ACIA Guidebook for Businessmen and Investors", the ACIA Introductory Booklet, the "ACIA Handbook for Investment Promotion Officials" and the Annual ASEAN Investment Report.

During the 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Investment Forum (AIF) held on 10 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, ASEAN and UNCTAD also jointly launched the ASEAN Investment Report 2013-2014. This Report was prepared under technical cooperation arrangement between ASEAN Secretariat and UNCTAD with financial support from the Australian Government through the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program Phase II (AADCP II).

This latest ASEAN Investment Report is entitled “*FDI Development and Regional Value Chains*”. It highlights the continuing rise of foreign direct investment (FDI) flows into ASEAN, which performed well among the developing regions. It also provides analysis on the increasing regional value chains (RVCs) in ASEAN contributed by rising FDI. RVCs in ASEAN now involve more companies, more ASEAN countries, and wider range of products and industries.



The implementation of ASEAN Economic Community integration measures has contributed to rapid growth of the regional economy.

#### ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (AFMM)

Established	1997, meets annually
Last Meeting	19 <sup>th</sup> AFMM, 21 March 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Senior Officials	ASEAN Finance Deputies' Meeting (AFDM)

#### ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (AFMGM)

Established	2015, meets annually
Last Meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> AFMGM, 21 March 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Senior Officials	ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies' Meeting (AFCDM)

Financial services liberalisation advanced further with the approval of the ASEAN Banking Integration Framework (ABIF) by the ASEAN Central Bank Governors in December 2014. Under ABIF, any 2 ASEAN countries may enter into reciprocal bilateral agreements to provide Qualified ASEAN Banks with greater market access, and operational flexibilities consistent with those of domestic banks in the respective host countries. The subsequent signing of the Protocol to Implement the 6<sup>th</sup> Package of Financial Services Liberalisation under AFAS by the ASEAN Finance Ministers facilitates ABIF's operationalisation.

AMS continued to track capital account liberalisation (CAL) through the monitoring tool for the implementation of individual CAL milestones blueprints and assess capital account regimes through the CAL Heat Maps. Policy dialogues on

capital flows and safeguard mechanisms for CAL were conducted in November 2014 and January 2015.

On capital market development and integration, refinements to the Bond Market Development Scorecard were made to better monitor and address market gaps. The ASEAN Collective Investment Schemes (CIS) Framework was launched in August 2014 and is operational in Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. As of March 2015, at least 5 funds have received authorisation as Qualifying CIS. The Memorandum of Understanding to establish the Streamlined Review Framework for the ASEAN Common Prospectus was signed by Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand in March 2015. The *ASEAN Corporate Governance Scorecard Country Report and Assessments 2013-2014* was released in June 2014.

On ASEAN finance cooperation, all AMS and ADB have made their equity contributions to the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF) as Myanmar has become a full member of AIF. The initial project on Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance will commence this year with funding from the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF). AMS continue to observe the core principles of the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) to enhance regulation and supervision. AMS are also working to complete a network of bilateral tax treaties, enhance Exchange of Information, and collaborate in areas such as excise taxation and addressing harmful tax practices.

On ASEAN+3 finance cooperation, the amended Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) Agreement took effect in July 2014, doubling CMIM's size to USD240 billion and introducing the CMIM Precautionary Line. As of March 2015, around 5 test runs on CMIM's operability have been conducted. Member countries are

currently ratifying the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) Agreement signed in October 2014, which would elevate AMRO's status to international organisation. The Secondary Rules of the AMRO Agreement, which govern the transition, were finalised and endorsed by the ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Deputies in April 2015. On the Asian Bond Markets Initiative, 6 guarantees are targeted to be issued in 2015 under the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF), which is also expected to guarantee the issuance of infrastructure bonds to support infrastructure financing.

## ASEAN Integration Monitoring Office (AIMO)

AIMO has continued to track and provide regular internal updates on the AEC Scorecard, and AEC implementation more generally. In addition, AIMO has also produced periodic regional surveillance reports on economic outlook, trade, investment, insurance, and financial integration for internal reporting purposes.

Under the AEC Integration Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity Building Programme (AECMEP), the ASEAN Services Integration Report is being prepared for launching within the year. AIMO also collaborates with other external parties on relevant work related to regional economic integration and surveillance, such as with the OECD Development Centre for the Economic Outlook for Southeast Asia, China and India.

AIMO has been supporting and coordinating the work on developing the AEC post-2015 agenda by the High Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration Working Group on Post-2015 (HLTF-EI WG).



Work is also underway on developing an enhanced monitoring framework in the context of the AEC Post-2015 agenda to track the progress of regional economic integration as well as its outcomes and impacts on the stakeholders. The proposed framework is set up to enable systematic tracking and analysis of progress of implementation of the integration initiatives and their impacts by drawing upon a set of output and outcome indicators.

<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF)</b>	
Established	1979, meets annually
Last Meeting	36 <sup>th</sup> AMAF, 23 September 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Senior Officials	ASEAN Senior Official Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM-AMAF)

Over the period of 2014-2015, under the chairmanship of Myanmar, ASEAN Member States made concerted efforts to promote sustainable agricultural development so as to meet the United Nation’s Millennium Development Goals. Cooperation in the food, agriculture and forestry sector has been further enhanced through the endorsement of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security 2015-2020, which incorporated nutrition as a new priority area in cooperation on food security.

In order to ensure the realization of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by 2015, AMAF requested all related ASEAN Sectoral Working Group (ASWGs) to timely implement the key deliverables and come up with Key Performance Indicator (KPIs) for their respective sector to

facilitate the monitoring and implementation of the related activities. In 2014, AMAF endorsed some important documents, which include, among others, ASEAN Guidelines on the Regulation, Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents (BCA); ASEAN Standard on Organic Agriculture and the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) for Cooperation in Organic Agriculture (2014-2017); ASEAN Guidelines on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) for Animal Vaccines; ASEAN Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP) Strategic Plan; ASEAN Guidelines for Good Aquaculture Practices (ASEAN GAqP) on Food Fish; and ASEAN Standards for some commodities such as Cocoa beans, Oyster mushroom and Peanut. These documents are considered as regional policies to improve quality of agricultural sectors in the next period.

AMAF also supported various activities related to Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) carried out by the different existing ASEAN mechanisms, including the working groups under AMAF, the ASEAN Committee on SPS (AC-SPS) under AEM, and the Sub-Committees on SPS (SC-SPS) under various ASEAN Dialogue Partners Free Trade Agreements (ASEAN-DP FTAs).



AMAF commended the continuous works under the ASEAN Cooperation on Forestry, which include the successful conclusion of the cooperation activities on Sustainable Forest Management, Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG), legality timber and timber certification.

Work on the development of the Vision and Strategic Plan for ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry 2016-2025 is underway. AMAF agreed with the Vision for ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry toward 2025: *“A competitive, inclusive, resilient and sustainable food, agriculture and forestry sector integrated with the global economy, based on a single market and production base contributing to food and nutrition security and prosperity in the ASEAN Community”*.

<b>ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM)</b>	
Established	1980, meets annually
Last Meeting	32 <sup>nd</sup> AMEM, 23 September 2014, Vientiane, Lao PDR
Senior Officials	ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME)

As an effort to speed up the implementation of the ASEAN energy interconnections projects including the ASEAN Power Grid (APG), ASEAN Member States agreed to conduct sub-region multilateral electricity trading by 2018 and complete the Sarawak-West Kalimantan interconnection, one of the priority interconnection projects, by 2015. A pilot project to explore cross border power trade from Lao PDR to Singapore has also been initiated, which could serve as a pathfinder to further

enhance multilateral electricity trading beyond neighboring borders to support the realisation of APG.

Under the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP) Project, the new TAGP Map was developed to include additional information on LNG terminals in ASEAN Member States and the commencement of several Regasification Terminal (RGT), including (a) Map Ta Phut LNG Receiving Terminal, Thailand; (b) Floating Storage Regasification Unit, West Java, Indonesia; (c) Singapore LNG Terminal; and (d) RGT Sungai Udang, Melaka, Malaysia. The new TAGP Map is aimed to support the new strategic focus of the TAGP which includes liquefied natural gas (LNG) as an option for gas supply in the region, especially for countries that physical pipelines may not be economically viable.

The programmes on capacity building and technology/knowledge transfers continued over the past year, including a significant number of activities to implement the Energy Efficiency and Conservation programme in collaboration with Dialogue Partners/International Organisations such as ASEAN Standards Harmonisation Initiative for Energy Efficiency (ASEAN-SHINE) project, ASEAN Green Building Awards, ASEAN-Japan Pilot Project on Energy-Efficiency Market Transformation with Information Provision Scheme (EMTIPS), and ASEAN Long Term Energy Intensity Reduction Target.

To promote further development of renewable energy (RE), ASEAN Member States agreed to have a broader definition of RE to include all capacities of hydro sources, on grid and off grid RE sources but excluding traditional sources of biomass. The ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and the ASEAN Renewable Energy Support Programme (RESP) were tasked to develop

concrete recommendations on enhancing the development and integration of RE into power systems.

Some 57 entities and individuals were awarded with the ASEAN Energy Awards 2014 under 5 categories: (i) ASEAN Best Practices for Energy Efficient Building Awards; (ii) ASEAN Best Practices Energy Management for Building and Industries Award; (iii) ASEAN Green Building Awards; (iv) ASEAN Best Practices Renewable Energy Project Award; and (v) ASEAN Excellence in Energy Management by Individual Awards. Successful conclusion of the ASEAN Energy Awards 2014 has helped enhance private sector participation in the promotion and development of renewable energy and energy efficiency and conservation in the region.

<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (AMMST)</b>	
Established	1980, meets annually (including informal ministerial meeting)
Last Meeting	8 <sup>th</sup> Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (IAMMST-8), 25 August 2014, Bogor, Indonesia
Senior Officials	Committee on Science and Technology (COST)

The 8<sup>th</sup> Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology held on 25 August 2014 noted the recommendation of the High-level Task Force (HLTF) on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and review of the operation of ASEAN Organs. The Ministers agreed that the ASEAN COST and the operation of its subsidiary bodies should be streamlined. The Ministers also noted the recommendations of the HLTF on Economic

Integration relating to the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Post-2015 vision and goals.

The Ministers adopted the proposed vision and goals of the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2015-2020. The APASTI shall serve as the new reference to contribute to establishing “A Science, Technology and Innovation-enabled ASEAN which is innovative, competitive, vibrant, sustainable and economically integrated”. The APASTI shall also provide recommendations on how COST can be appropriately restructured. The Ministers also approved the proposed amendments to the ASEAN Science Fund (ASF) Guidelines so that innovation-focused initiatives could be funded. The ASF shall, henceforth, be rebranded as the ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Trust Fund (ASTIF).

The Ministers noted the recipients of the various ASEAN S&T Awards given during the celebration of the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Science and Technology Week in August 2014. The Awards comprise of ASEAN Young Scientist and Technologist Award; ASEAN Outstanding Scientist and Technologist Award; ASEAN Meritorious Service Award and the ASEAN-US Prize for Women in Science.

The Ministers agreed that the finalization and/or signing of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with China and India on STI cooperation shall be deferred until the APASTI is completed and approved by the Ministers. With regard to cooperation with Dialogue Partners, the Ministers appreciated the support of Japan in the conduct of various initiatives such as the S&T component of the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange of Students and Youths (JENESYS 2.0); the participation of ASEAN and Japan scientists at conferences and exhibition during the celebration of the 9<sup>th</sup> ASTW. The Ministers also appreciated the support of the Underwriters Laboratories



One of the initiatives under Science and Technology in ASEAN

(UL) in granting a special prize for ASEAN-US Prize for Women in Science in the field of water quality research.

The Ministers looked forward to the outcome and recommendations of various events to be conducted such as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum on China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation to be hosted by China in September 2014; the 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on ASEAN Talent Mobility (ATM) in November 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand; ASEAN-ROK STI Forum to be held in Daejeon, ROK in December 2014; the launching of year 2 implementation of the ASEAN-US S&T Fellows Program; and Workshop on ASEAN Talent Mobility (ATM) in May 2015; and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Science and Technology Committee and the ASEAN-OECD Ministerial Meeting to be hosted by ROK in October 2015.

#### ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Ministers Meeting (TELMIN)

Established	2001, meets annually
Last Meeting	14 <sup>th</sup> TELMIN, 22-23 January 2015, Bangkok, Thailand
Senior Officials	ASEAN Telecommunications & Information Technology Senior Officials Meeting (TELSOM) and ASEAN Telecommunication Regulators' Council (ATRC)

The ASEAN continued to explore technical options to improve Information and Communications Technology (ICT) connectivity, including the use of dynamic spectrum allocation technology to better utilise scarce radio frequencies, strengthening the submarine cable protection regimes to ensure reliability of international communication links, and harmonising digital dividend spectrum allocation

to improve the compatibility of telecommunication equipment.

In the effort to promote digital economy in the region, ASEAN has successfully organised ASEAN ICT Award 2014 to encourage innovation in the creation of online public and commercial services; produced recommendations for the establishment of enabling policies for online services platforms; and proposed a common secure cross-border transaction framework.

As a follow-up action to the ATRC's Record of Intent (ROI) to Lower International Mobile Roaming Charge across ASEAN in 2011, a bilateral agreement between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore on the reduction of mobile telecommunication roaming rate has been implemented starting 1 January 2015.

ASEAN ICT cooperation with China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, India, the European Union and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has been productive. Numerous activities have been completed over the year to support ASEAN's ICT human and institutional capacity development efforts through exchange of best practices and joint research activities. Cooperation with Japan under the ASEAN-Japan Information Security Cooperation Framework, in particular, has produced the initial version of ASEAN-Japan Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (CIIP) Guidelines.

**ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM)**

Established	1996, meets annually
Last Meeting	20 <sup>th</sup> ATM, 27 November 2014, Mandalay, Myanmar
Senior Officials	ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM)

Progressive achievements have been made in ASEAN transport cooperation. In maritime transport, the Implementation Framework of the ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM) was endorsed by the ASEAN Transport Ministers. The Framework provides strategic guidance to coordinate policy and harmonise rules and regulations for the implementation of ASSM. To address environmental issues in the maritime sector, the ASEAN Transport Ministers signed the MOU on ASEAN Cooperation Mechanism for Joint Oil Spill Preparedness and Response. The MOU puts in place a regional collaborative mechanism to build capacities and capabilities and promote mutual assistance in preparing for, controlling and combating oil spill incidents in the ASEAN region.

On the implementation of the ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM), several measures on air traffic management under air transport technical cooperation were completed, i.e. identification of key regional initiatives and required enabling technologies, capacity building framework on air traffic management, and the ASEAN Regional Contingency Plan. Currently, ASEAN is also in the process of negotiating for the establishment of air transport agreements with EU, Japan and ROK.

In transport facilitation, with the view to increasing skills and building capacity for Logistics Service Providers (LSPs), the Train-

for-Trainer Manuals which form the Core Curriculum for Logistics and Supply Chain Management have been developed. The action plans to realise the vision on Green Logistics in ASEAN have also been adopted for the post-2015 implementation. Efforts were also intensified to support the operationalisation of ASEAN Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT) through the automated ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS). An assessment to the draft text of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Cross-Border Transport of Passengers by Road Vehicles (CBTP) has been undertaken, which aims to support ASEAN Member States to conclude the Agreement for timely implementation.

Transport cooperation with Dialogue Partners has also made significant progress. With China, the Protocol 2 of the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement covering limited 5<sup>th</sup> freedom traffic rights was concluded. Several important initiatives under the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership have been completed, including the Guidelines for Introduction of Port Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) System on Port-related Procedures, the ASEAN-Japan Cruise Promotion Strategy (AJCPS), Survey on the Eco-Airports in ASEAN Countries, and Preliminary Study on ASEAN Land Bridge Transport. With the Republic of Korea, the revised ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation Roadmap was adopted by the ASEAN and ROK Transport Ministers. The Roadmap includes the implementation plan of projects/activities for the period of 2014-2017.

### Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM)

Established	1996, meets annually
Last Meeting	18 <sup>th</sup> M-ATM, 25 January 2015, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Senior Officials	Meeting of the ASEAN National Tourism Organisations (ASEAN NTOs)

The ASEAN welcomed a large number of tourists in 2014, with a preliminary figure of 105.2 million of international arrivals, a 5.4% growth from 2013, with 55.3 per cent share of intra-ASEAN travel.

The ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2011-2015 has been progressively implemented, where 82.5% measures for 2014 have been duly completed. Since the current ATSP is expiring, the new ATSP 2016-2025 is being drafted with this vision: “By 2025, ASEAN will be a quality tourism destination offering a unique, diverse ASEAN experience, and will be committed to responsible, sustainable, balanced and inclusive tourism development, so as to contribute significantly to the socioeconomic wellbeing of ASEAN people.”

In preparing for the implementation of the MRA on Tourism Professionals, trainings for Master Trainers (MTs) and Master Assessors (MAs) for Food Production, Front Office, and Food and Beverage (F&B) Services Divisions have been successfully concluded in December 2014. At the regional level, the Agreement on the Establishment of the Regional Secretariat for the Implementation of the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Tourism Professionals in Jakarta has been finalised and

endorsed by the ASEAN Tourism Ministers, and its signing is expected to be completed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2015.

In ensuring quality of experience, the ASEAN tourism standards and their certification process for green hotel, homestay, spa services, public toilet, clean tourist city and community-based tourism standards have been adopted together with the launching of the ASEAN Tourism Security and Safety Guidelines and Online Resource Centre Website ([www.aseantsrc.org](http://www.aseantsrc.org)).

Good progress was made in promoting and marketing ASEAN tourism through a website ([www.aseantourism.travel](http://www.aseantourism.travel)), social media marketing, public relations and partnerships with private sector and ASEAN centre. Malaysia proposed initiatives to develop an ASEAN-focused TV travel channel – “GOASEAN” to be complemented by the development of ASEAN Tourism Packages.

In developing cruise tourism products, several activities were conducted, including the study on River-Based Tourism Development supported by UNWTO and the creation of a monthly online cruise e-newsletter titled “ASEAN Cruise News”.

As China, Japan and Korea are the key source markets, collaboration with ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre were conducted to further promote ASEAN tourism through production of advertorials and familiarisation tours by Chinese media, participation in travel marts in Japan, and ASEAN Culture and Tourism Fair in Korea, respectively.

The ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2015 held on 22-29 January 2015 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, with the theme, “*ASEAN-Tourism Towards Peace, Prosperity and Partnership*”, was attended by 300 buyers and 905 sellers with 527 booths as well as 67 international and 57 local media.



One of the tourism destinations in Kedah, Malaysia.

### **ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC)**

Established	1996, meets annually
Last Meeting	16 <sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the AMBDC, 28 August 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Senior Officials	AMBDC Steering Committee Meeting

The AMBDC is a cooperation framework among ASEAN Member States and China in promoting the development of the Mekong sub-region. Projects initiated under the ambit of AMBDC include transportation, power, telecommunications, environment, agriculture, forestry and minerals, science and technology, human resource development, health, tourism and trade facilitation.

The Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL) is a flagship project of the AMBDC, providing an alternative mode of transportation that connects China and at least 7 ASEAN Member States. The 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Special Working Group on SKRL held on 15 October 2014 in Aranyaprathet, Thailand, discussed the progress, challenges as well as technical and financial assistance required to complete the missing links.



# **ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)**

# Introduction

As one of the pillars of the ASEAN Community, the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community's (ASCC) primary goal is to contribute to realising an ASEAN Community that is people-centred and socially responsible with a view to achieving enduring solidarity and unity among the peoples and Member States of ASEAN. It seeks to forge a common identity and build a caring and sharing society which is inclusive and where the wellbeing, livelihood, and welfare of the peoples are enhanced.

ASCC is focused on nurturing the human, cultural and natural resources for sustained development in a harmonious and people-oriented ASEAN. The ASCC's direction and priorities are guided by the ASCC Blueprint 2009-2015 which represents the human dimension of ASEAN cooperation and upholds ASEAN commitment to address the region's aspiration to lift the quality of life of

its peoples. The commitments in the Blueprint are translated into actions that promote human development, social welfare and protection, social justice and rights, environmental sustainability, building the ASEAN identity, and narrowing the development gap. Now on the last year of implementing its Blueprint, the ASCC is proud to have been able to address almost all of the action lines it has set out for itself through the cooperation and support of the 10 member states through 16 sectoral bodies with varied and wide areas of concern from environment and climate change, disaster management, science and technology, health, education, youth, sports, culture, information, social welfare, women, labor, civil service and migrant workers.

For 2014 under the Chairmanship of Myanmar, the ASCC has placed high priority on multisectoral responses to Disaster Management and Disaster



Participants of the 10<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Coordinating Conference on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (SOC-COM) at the ASEAN Hall.

Risk Reduction, continuing development of the instrument on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, Development of the Framework on Social Protection as well as the ASEAN Virtual Learning Resource Center.

As the ASEAN Community 2015 is ushered in, the ASCC envisions an ASEAN socio-cultural community that engages and benefits the people and is inclusive, sustainable, resilient and dynamic. Its post-2015 development agenda are inspired by the goals of (a) enhancing commitment, participation and social responsibility of ASEAN peoples through an accountable and engaging mechanism for the benefit of all; (b) promoting equitable access to opportunities for ASEAN peoples, as well as promoting and protecting human rights; (c) promoting balanced social development and sustainable environment that meet the current and future needs of the people; (d) enhancing capacity to collectively respond and adapt to current challenges and emerging trends; and (e) strengthening the ability to continuously innovate and be a proactive member of the global community.

These will be the overarching context upon which key ASCC activities and milestones will revolve around in 2015, where efforts will be accelerated to deliver the remaining commitments for the community building process, develop its post-2015 strategic agenda and concretise ASEAN response to global and regional concerns on climate change, health pandemics, disasters and terrorism.

The ASCC also affords priority to actions that will strengthen its capacity in coordinating cross-cutting concerns involving other community pillars and sectoral bodies and effectively communicating the impacts and benefits of the ASEAN community building and integration.

**ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council**

Established	2009, meets at least twice a year
Last Meeting	13 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASCC Council, 26 March 2015, Melaka, Malaysia
Senior Officials	Senior Officials Committee of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (SOCA)

The Ministers of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council met on 26 March 2015 in Melaka, Malaysia under the chairmanship of Malaysia. Achievements noted efforts in strengthening multisectoral responses to Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction, particularly in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) with the formation of the following: Joint Task Force on Promoting Synergy with Other ASEAN bodies on HADR, which engages the military and defence sectors, health, and social welfare; and the Operational Procedures of the TOR of SG as AHAC.

Achievements also include the implementation of ASEAN’s strategic assistance for the recovery of Typhoon Haiyan-affected areas through the conduct of the High-Level Conference on the Assistance for the Recovery of Yolanda-affected Areas (ARYA) in August 2014. The AHA Centre was strengthened through the launch of the AHA Centre Executive Programme to build the capacity of officials from ASEAN Member States’ National Disaster Management Offices in ASEAN’s disaster management systems and practices. There were lessons learnt from responses to Typhoon Haiyan through the publication of *“Weathering the Perfect Storm”*; and adoption of the initial strategy on *“One ASEAN, One Response 2020 and Beyond”*:

*ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One*” by the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management and the 3<sup>rd</sup> AADMER Conference of the Parties in October 2014. The Leaders also adopted the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change 2014 – during the 25<sup>th</sup> Summit held on November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

The ASCC Community also continued with drafting the ASEAN Instrument on the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers; strengthening the ASEAN Framework on Social Protection, which saw Cambodia hosting an Inter-Sectoral Consultation on the Development of the Plan of Action for the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection on 8-9 December 2014 in Siem Reap.

The development of the ASEAN Virtual Learning Resource Centre (AVLRC) website started in October 2014 and was soft launched at the 13<sup>th</sup> SOMRI on 25-26 March 2015 in Myanmar.

In reviewing the status of implementation of the ASCC Blueprint - including various ongoing and pending actions - attention focused on completing the remaining ASCC Blueprint actions for 2015, including the selection of priority actions designed to complement and further enhance community building work. Specifically, the ASCC Council asserted that priority will focus on the Declaration on Institutionalising the Resilience of ASEAN and its Communities and Peoples to Disasters and Climate Change; the ASEAN Declaration on “One ASEAN, One Response 2020 and Beyond: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One”; ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change 2015; ASEAN Declaration on Post-2015 Priorities on Civil Service; ASEAN Declaration on Ageing: Empowering Older Persons on ASEAN; Regional Framework and Action Plan to Implement the ASEAN

Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection; and Regional Plan of Actions on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Regional Plan of Actions on the Elimination of Violence Against Children. Also a priority will be the finalisation of the draft ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers.

The ASCC Council took note of the follow-up actions recommended by SOCA to address the relevant recommendations of the HLTF on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs. Several of these recommendations have been incorporated in the course of drafting the ASCC Attendant Document’s results framework and strategic measures.

The ASCC Council also welcomed the development of the draft TOR of ASEAN Institute of Green Economy (AIGE) following its launch at the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw.

<b>ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (AMRI)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	1989, meets once in two years
<b>Last Meeting</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> Conference of the AMRI (12 <sup>th</sup> AMRI), 12 June 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
<b>Senior Officials</b>	Senior Officials’ Meeting Responsible for Information (SOMRI)

ASEAN cooperation in the area of information, media and broadcasting continues to focus on promoting ASEAN awareness and communicating to the people the benefits of regional integration and ASEAN community

building process through the use of different types of media including traditional, mainstream and new media.

Recurring and long-standing projects aiming to promote ASEAN awareness and mutual understanding are still being implemented by the AMS, such as television and radio news exchanges (ASEAN Television News and ASEAN-in-Action). The ASEAN Quiz series (regional and national levels) has been held for over 10 years now. It is participated in by secondary students and broadcast on TV to raise awareness on ASEAN culture, history, politics and economy.

Other projects under the information sector to further disseminate information on ASEAN through cooperation with other sectors include: Towards Regional Integration (TV Documentaries on ASEAN Programmes and Projects of the ASCC), Proudly ASEAN (TV Documentaries on ASEAN Small and Medium-sized Cultural Enterprises), Editors Dialogue, Voice of ASEAN Beyond Boundaries, Journalism in Cultural Events, Enhancing Multistakeholder Participation in Crowdsourcing Digital Content Development for ASEAN Branding, and Public Service Advertising for the 2015 ASEAN Integration, etc.

The use of new media to promote the knowledge on ASEAN has been addressed with the development of the ASEAN Virtual Learning Resources Centre (AVLRC), which is one of the 15 priorities of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity. The AVLRC (<http://learning.asean.org>) aims to become a reference tool for those studying and gathering information about ASEAN countries or ASEAN as a Community. It will provide relevant information on, and links to, ASEAN news, culture, heritage, statistics, education and travel. The AVLRC was soft launched at the sidelines of the 13<sup>th</sup> SOMRI on 26 March 2015 in Myanmar.



Following the establishment of the three Working Groups (WGs) under SOMRI; namely: WG on ASEAN Digital Broadcasting (ADB), WG on Content and Production (WGCP), and WG on Information, Media, and Training; the 1<sup>st</sup> SOMRI WGCP was held on 1-2 October 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The WGCP agreed to work together and develop the content and creative industry of ASEAN Member States.

The cooperation with the Dialogue Partners in information and media has been intensified through the implementation of the ASEAN-China Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN-China Cooperation through Information and Media (2010-2015), and the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation through Information and Media (2012-2017). Visits of ASEAN media people to India, Japan and the Republic of Korea were organised throughout 2014 and 2015. In addition, several new initiatives are being discussed to further enhance cooperation between ASEAN and Dialogue Partners.

## ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA)

Established	2003, meets once in two years
Last Meeting	6 <sup>th</sup> AMCA Meeting, 19-20 April 2014, Hue City, Viet Nam
Senior Officials	Senior Officials Meeting for Culture and Arts

The ASEAN continues to enhance cooperation in the areas of culture and the arts through various initiatives to promote and celebrate the rich and diverse cultures of the peoples of ASEAN towards building an ASEAN identity and a sense of belonging.

The culture sector has advanced collaboration in long-running activities such as the ASEAN City of Culture and Best of ASEAN Performing Arts series which were excellent examples of promoting and inculcating appreciation for the rich cultural heritage of the ASEAN Community. A new stream of projects and activities were undertaken in 2014 and beyond, such as the ASEAN Performing Arts Festivals, ASEAN Ancient Cities Network, ASEAN Youth Heritage Leaders, and Conference on the Future of Preservation.



Handover ceremony of the ASEAN COCI's support for the restoration of the schools of living traditions affected by typhoon Haiyan and the earthquake in the Visayas Islands, Philippines.

To further strengthen culture and arts cooperation and to ensure its relevance to the ongoing efforts in promoting sustainable development, the Ministers agreed to promote culture as a pillar of sustainable development and to enhance the Hue Declaration on Culture for ASEAN Community's Sustainable Development.

In connection with this, the ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information (COCI) has provided support for the restoration of the historic Pan-ay Church and help the schools of living traditions of indigenous groups affected by typhoon Haiyan and the earthquake in the Visayas region. This was ASEAN COCI's first initiative on post-disaster recovery efforts, and was being implemented jointly with the Philippines National Commission for Culture and the Arts to bring ASEAN closer to local communities.

Capacity building programs for art managers and administrators were carried out through the ASEAN Arts Management Series in the Creative Industries. The talents of ASEAN performance artists were promoted through the activities of the ASEAN Performing Arts Market.

The Symposium on the Role of ASEAN Youth in the Preservation and Promotion of Intangible Cultural Heritage will also be conducted in 2015 to empower and encourage the ASEAN youth to actively engage in the preservation and promotion of intangible cultural heritage.

The mini festival of the flagship project "Festival of ASEAN Cultural Expressions 2013-2015" was successfully organised in Brunei Darussalam. This was one of milestones for the realisation of the Declaration on ASEAN Unity in Cultural Diversity: Towards Strengthening ASEAN Community 2015. The culminating festival will be organised in conjunction with the 27<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Malaysia.

Viet Nam, as the Chair of AMCA, launched Hue City as the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN City of Culture for 2014-2015. A series of activities, performances, exhibitions and people-to-people exchanges will be implemented in Hue City to strengthen awareness of ASEAN and build ASEAN identity.

<b>ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASED)</b>	
Established	2006, meets biennially
Last Meeting	8 <sup>th</sup> ASED, 4 July 2012, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Senior Officials	Senior Officials Meeting on Education (SOM-ED)

2014 marks the fourth year of the implementation of the ASEAN 5-Year Work Plan on Education 2011-2015 with a number of significant milestones and deliverables, including the official launch of the inaugural ASEAN State of Education Report (ASOER) 2013 at the 8<sup>th</sup> ASED, the completion of the cycle for hosting the ASEAN Student Exchange Programme, the continuation of ASEAN in Today's World in its seventh year, and the spread of the establishment of the ASEAN Studies Centres in the region. In light of the conclusion of the ASEAN 5-Year Work Plan 2011-2015 and guided by the overarching elements of the ASEAN Post-2015 Vision, the education sector has endorsed the formulation of an ASEAN 5-Year Work Plan on Education for 2016-2020. The new Work Plan is intended to deepen the scope of education cooperation towards development of a more coordinated, cohesive and coherent ASEAN position and its contribution to global education issues.

With regard to joint-initiative programmes with Dialogue Partners, the education sector has established an agreement on a 5-Year

European Union Support to Higher Education in ASEAN (SHARE) to support institutions in ASEAN to develop regional higher education frameworks of quality assurance, qualification frameworks and credit transfer. The Programme aims at contributing to the harmonisation of higher educations in ASEAN and enhancing their quality, regional competitiveness and internationalisation which would eventually contribute to the realisation of the ASEAN Community. The programme will come into operation by second half of 2015, with the British Council in Jakarta finalizing the work plan for 2015.

In connection to this, the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (8<sup>th</sup> ASED) held in Vientiane in September 2014 endorsed the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF), which is a cross-pillar initiative fronted by the ASEAN Economic Community and involves the Education, Labour and the Services sectors.

<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)</b>	
Established	2004, meets once a year
Last Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> AMMDM, 16 October 2014, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
Senior Officials	ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM)

The AMMDM is responsible for providing the vision and strategic guidance that would facilitate regional cooperation on disaster management towards realising the goals of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER). ASEAN's collective action in responding to disasters

and establishing resilient communities have been facilitated by the remarkable progress of implementing the AADMER Work Programme led by the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM).

Regional cooperation on disaster management has also been enhanced through the operationalisation of the AHA Centre, particularly the implementation of key programmes, such as the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme, the ASEAN-Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT), and the Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN (DELSA), among others. AMMDM recognises the imperative of enriching the AHA Centre's role to better serve and complement the work of ASEAN Member States. As such, AMMDM envisions enhancing the role of AHA Centre to position itself as a world-class disaster coordination centre and capacity building hub.

AMMDM recognises the strategic role of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC), as demonstrated during the ASEAN High-Level Conference on Assistance for the Recovery of Yolanda-Affected Areas (ARYA) on 14 August 2014, which was co-convened with the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Presidential Assistant for Rehabilitation and Recovery of the Philippines.

Learning from ASEAN's experience in responding to Typhoon Haiyan, ASEAN has ventured in embedding the principles of resilience in the recovery stage to address the aftermath of a large-scale disaster. Through the ASEAN's Adopt-a-Municipality for Resilient Recovery, technical assistance is provided to select areas still living with the effects of Typhoon Haiyan by enhancing the systems, infrastructures, and capacities of the communities through the integration of the concept of building-back better, safer, and

smarter. The ASEAN directly engages and reaches out to the local government units in the Philippines. As such, the ASEAN is establishing a model for resilient recovery that can serve as a formula for future recovery efforts in the region and in the world.

Recognising the need for ASEAN to closely work together, AMMDM adopted the initial strategy on "One ASEAN, One Response 2020 and Beyond: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One". The strategy foresees faster response, bigger resources, and greater coordination when ASEAN responds to a disaster together. The strategy reaches out to stakeholders within and outside the region who share the vision of ASEAN. Through this strategy, ASEAN may also collectively respond to disasters outside the region in the near future.

A remarkable achievement is the deepening and broadening of partnership with civil society organisations (CSOs) through the AADMER Partnership Group and the ACDM-CSO Partnership Framework (ACPF) Network, which is a network of ASEAN home-grown CSOs. APG and ACPF have consistently supported the implementation of the AADMER Work Programme and the AHA Centre by sharing capacities, resources, and innovative approaches.

To ensure cohesion within ASEAN and consistency with AADMER, the AMMDM agreed to promote AADMER's agenda on disaster resilience to other ministerial bodies and mainstream disaster risk reduction in the programmes of other sectors, such as Social Welfare, Environment, Health, Education and Women as well as other pillars. AMMDM agreed to engage other ASEAN ministerial bodies and various ASEAN-related mechanisms in a dialogue as well as convene joint sessions. AMMDM also agreed to leverage the position of the Secretary-General of ASEAN to advocate the centrality of



AADMER and synergise efforts and coordination in relevant ASEAN ministerial meetings.

Significant progress in the Joint Task Force to Promote Synergy with Other Relevant ASEAN Bodies on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) facilitated the enhancement of civil-military coordination, particularly through close coordination with the Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) and the ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM). Similarly, the Joint Task Force on HADR has become a platform to strengthen ASEAN medical response to disasters by ensuring coordination with the Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (SOMHD), as well as enhance cooperation on social protection issues by working with the Senior Officials' Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD) on HADR, particularly in identifying areas of cooperation to implement the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection.

AMMDM has seized the opportunity to highlight ASEAN's commitment to disaster risk reduction through the Joint Statement of ASEAN for the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction on 14-18 March 2015 in Sendai, Japan. The Joint Statement showcased the achievements of ASEAN in implementing the Hyogo Framework of Action and highlights ASEAN's commitment to continue strengthening the resilience of ASEAN communities and peoples.

Moving forward, the Leaders adopted the ASEAN Declaration on Institutionalising the Resilience of ASEAN and its Communities and Peoples to Disasters and Climate Change during the 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in April 2015. The declaration puts into concrete action ASEAN's commitment to build the resilience of the region by providing a cohesive framework for developing and coordinating the

implementation of measures, through cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder inclusive approaches that would reduce disaster and climate-related risks and address underlying drivers of risks such as climate change. It aims to facilitate policy coherence and alignment. The ACDM is assigned as the focal point for cross-sectoral cooperation on resilience building at the regional level, with the support of other relevant sectoral bodies. Significantly, the declaration contributes to the realisation of a resilient and sustainable ASEAN Community post-2015 and affirms ASEAN's commitments to the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. The policy coherence and concrete actions that would institutionalise resilience would support the attainment of the Sendai Framework's goal in the next 15 years.

<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (AMME)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	1981, meets once every three years, annual informal meetings in between
<b>Last Meeting</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (AMME), 25 September 2013, Surabaya, Indonesia
<b>Senior Officials</b>	ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN)

The Statement by the Environment Ministers for the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 12) was endorsed by the ASEAN Environment Ministers and conveyed at the High-level Segment of the CBD COP 12 on 15-17 October 2014 in Pyeongchang, Republic

of Korea, to reaffirm ASEAN's commitment to biodiversity conservation.

Mt Hamiguitan Range Wildlife Sanctuary (Philippines) and Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park (Philippines) were approved to be the 34<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Heritage Park (AHP) respectively by the ASEAN Environment Ministers at their 15<sup>th</sup> informal meeting on 31 October 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

The Presentation Ceremony of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN ESC Award and 2<sup>nd</sup> Certificates of Recognition were held on 30 October 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on the occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment (IAMME). ASEAN Environment Ministers, represented by H.E. Noulinh Sinbandhit, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Lao PDR, presented ASEAN ESC Award to 10 selected cities from ASEAN Member States to recognize their exemplary efforts and best indigenous practices to keep cities, clean, green and liveable. The Ministers also presented Certificates of Recognition to six cities in ASEAN Member States selected on a competitive basis, recognizing notable efforts made by small cities (20,000 – 750,000 people) and big cities (750,000 – 1.5 million people) in ASEAN in the categories of "Clean Air", "Clean Land", and "Clean Water".

**Table 1. Recipients of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN ESC Award 2014**

No	Country	Recipients of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> ASEAN ESC Award 2014
1.	Brunei Darussalam	Bandar Seri Begawan
2.	Cambodia	Battambang Municipality
3.	Indonesia	Balikpapan
4.	Lao PDR	Luang Prabang
5.	Malaysia	Melaka
6.	Myanmar	Yangon
7.	Philippines	San Carlos
8.	Singapore	North West District
9.	Thailand	Chiang Rai City
10.	Viet Nam	Hue City

**Table 2. Recipients of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Certificates of Recognition 2014**

CATEGORY	INDICATORS		
	Clean Air	Clean Water	Clean Land
<b>Big Cities</b>	Tangerang (Indonesia)	Phnom Penh (Cambodia)	Davao City (Philippines)
<b>Small Cities</b>	Da Lat City (Viet Nam)	Nakhon Sawan (Thailand)	Roi-et (Thailand)

The ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change was adopted by the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit on 11-13 November 2014 and conveyed at the High-level Segment of the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 10<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties

serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (Lima Climate Change Conference) on 9-14 December 2014 in Lima, Peru, to articulate ASEAN's commitment towards the development of a global climate change agreement under the framework of UNFCCC.

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) continues to support AMS in achieving international targets for biodiversity conservation and management through various programmes and initiatives. Biodiversity and Climate Change Project (BCCP) (2010-2015), one of the activities implemented by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) in coordination with AMS with support from GIZ, was completed in February 2015. The Project, which was divided into two (2) key components: (1) Ecosystem Management and (2) Biodiversity and Economy, has supported the conduct of capacity development events and regional fora, and implemented pilot projects and regional studies on identified priority topics.

<b>Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution</b>	
<b>Established</b>	2003, meets at least once every year
<b>Last Meeting</b>	COP-10, 30 October 2014, Vientiane, Lao PDR
<b>Senior Officials</b>	Committee under COP to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution

In the second half of 2014, rainfall was below average to average for most parts of the ASEAN region. Towards the end of 2014 and extending into the first quarter of 2015, neutral conditions (neither El Niño nor La Niña) prevailed in the equatorial Pacific Ocean. During this period,

the northern ASEAN region experienced its traditional dry season, and extended drier weather conditions on some occasions led to escalations of hotspot activities. Meanwhile, the southern ASEAN region was in its traditional rainy season, and hotspot activities were generally subdued.

The ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) has received full ratification following the ratification of the Agreement by Indonesia in September 2014.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COP10 to AATHP) held on 30 October 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, adopted the alert levels, trigger points and actions on fire suppression to improve ASEAN's coordination mechanism and procedure in fire suppression and transboundary haze pollution prevention. COP10 also endorsed the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Task Force on Peatlands, which will be responsible for design, implementation, and monitoring of relevant programs/projects under the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy.

The ASEAN Project on Rehabilitation and Sustainable Use of Peatland Forests in Southeast Asia (ASEAN Peatland Forests Project (APFP)) (2009-2014) was completed in December 2014 with highly satisfactory results based on the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Terminal Evaluation. The Project supported the implementation of ASEAN Peatland Management Initiative (APMI) by providing best management practice examples towards its long-term goal of promoting sustainable management of peatlands in Southeast Asia to sustain local livelihoods to reduce poverty, reduce risk of fire and associated haze, and contribute to global environmental management, particularly biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation.

The ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems (2014-2020) endorsed by COP-9 to AATHP in 2013 is being formulated to build upon the success of the APFP Project.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sub-regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution in the Mekong Sub-region held on 30 October 2014 agreed to work towards achieving a renewed sub-regional target of hotspot reduction, i.e. reducing cumulative hotspot count not exceeding 75,000 hotspots (based on 2008 data) to be achieved by 2017, with a goal of returning to a cumulative hotspot count of 50,000 (based on 2006 data) by 2020.

<b>ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting (AHMM)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	1980, meets every two years
<b>Last Meeting</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> AHMM, 15-19 September 2014, Ha Noi, Viet Nam
<b>Senior Officials</b>	Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (SOMHD)

The 12<sup>th</sup> AHMM was conducted on 18 September 2014 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. This was followed by the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting (APTHMM) and 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN China Health Ministers Meeting (ACHMM) on 19 September 2014. The theme was Better Health for ASEAN Beyond 2015.

The collective agreements of the AHMM with the Plus Three included strategic priorities relevant to the following:

- Strengthening Primary Health Care Towards Universal Health Coverage

- Promoting Primary Health Care for Non-Communicable Diseases
- Multisectoral Collaboration in the Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases

### **Progress in ASEAN Health Cooperation**

The progress of the ASEAN Health Cooperation, as tasked by the 9<sup>th</sup> SOMHD in June 2014, the Preparatory Meetings of the SOMHD and the Meetings of the Health Ministers in September 2014, include the following:

- Endorsement of the ASEAN Post 2015 Health Development Agenda which included the vision, mission, goals and the health priority areas from 2016 to 2025 with health cluster categories on promoting health lifestyles, responding to all hazards and emerging threats, strengthening health systems and access to care, and ensuring food safety.
- Completion of the Rapid Assessment of the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development 2010-2015 which served as a reference in the Post 2015 planning.
- Launching of endorsed guidelines, regional reports, policy recommendations and regional centres and strategies for further advocacy and programme development in Post 2015, such as the:
  - ASEAN Regional Guideline for Minimum Requirement for Training and Accreditation of Skilled Birth Attendants (SBA)
  - ASEAN Joint Regional Report on Nutrition Security
  - ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre for Food Safety (ARAC)
  - ASEAN Rabies Elimination Strategy
  - ASEAN Common Guideline on Research of Traditional Medicine Products (Herbal Medicines)

- Herbal Medicines Used in Primary Health Care in ASEAN
  - Policy Brief on Mental Health
  - ASEAN Food Inspection and Certification Model Courses
  - Good Practices and New Initiatives on HIV and AIDS in ASEAN
  - ASEAN Tobacco Control Report for 2014
  - Recommendations on Tobacco Control Initiatives by the ASEAN Focal Points on Tobacco Control (AFPTC) for consideration in formulating relevant policies and developing effective measures
- Strengthening the collaboration with Development Partners that include, among others, the signing of the ASEAN-WHO Memorandum of Understanding by the Regional Directors of WHO Western Pacific and South East Asia Regional Offices and by the ASEAN Secretary General.

**Special Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers on Ebola Preparedness and Response, 15 December 2014, Bangkok, Thailand**

This resulted in a collective agreement on strategic preparedness and response measures on policy, programme interventions, capacity building, advocacy and resource mobilisation at the national, regional and global levels. These measures were related to surveillance, risk communication, laboratory strengthening and networking, joint regional investigation, exchanges in information and technical expertise, and collaboration with other relevant stakeholders such as those in the animal health sector.

Relevant regional activities are currently being implemented through the ASEAN Expert Group on Communicable Diseases, ASEAN Working Group on Pandemic Preparedness and Response.

<b>ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	1975, meets once in two years
<b>Last Meeting</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM), 22 May 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
<b>Senior Officials</b>	ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting (SLOM)

As a platform for ASEAN Member States to exchange views and good practices, the biennial Human Resource Conference was convened for the fourth time on 21 May 2014 in Myanmar. It carried the theme of “Enhancing Competitive Labour Force for a Harmonious, Progressive and Prosperous Workplace” with emphasis on recognition of relevant international standards in training and skills and competency certification.

The 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Skills Competition (ASC) was successfully held on 19-29 October 2014 in Viet Nam covering 25 skills areas. It was participated by 283 competitors, 192 experts, 950 delegates and observers. SLOM continued to participate in the ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQRF) Task Force, together with their counterparts from the ministries of education and trade, to facilitate the development of a governing mechanism of the AQRF’s voluntary implementation in the future. Complementing the work of this Task Force, an ASEAN Guiding Principles for Quality Assurance and Recognition of Competency Certification Systems among ASEAN Member States was being developed with the support of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) and IOM. A Strategic Meeting was convened on 10-11 November 2014 to develop the outline.

ASEAN Member States continued to put the efforts toward social security of workers, evidenced through the conduct of the Workshop on Strengthening Employment Services on 16-17 July 2014 in Lao PDR; and the Workshop on Good Practices in Implementation of Employment Injury Insurance and Health Insurance Schemes on 17-18 September 2014 in Cambodia. In collaboration with the ASEAN Services Employees Trade Union Council, the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Tripartite Social Dialogue for Growth, Employment and Sound Industrial Relations in the Services Sectors in ASEAN was convened on 13-14 January 2015 in Myanmar with the theme of “Enhancing Welfare of Peoples of ASEAN by Strengthening Decent Work Policy for Woman Workers.”

The 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Labour Inspector Conference was held on 3-4 July 2014 in the Philippines. The Conference recommended, among all, the continuation of the regional platforms for sharing of knowledge and good practices and capacity development of labour inspectorate; and the support to the development of guidelines for labour inspection in migrant reliant sectors.

The 7<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML) was held on 20-21 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar with the theme, “Towards the ASEAN Community by 2015 with Enhanced Measures to Protect and Promote the Rights of Migrant Workers”. This annual Forum provides a platform for governments, workers’ and employers’ organisations and civil society organisations to have a dialogue and exchange of views on the promotion and protection of the rights of migrant workers. The drafting process of an ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers is ongoing. Around 85 percent of its content has been completed by the end of 2014.

ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health Network (ASEAN-OSHNET) continues to raise its profile through the convening of the Second ASEAN-OSHNET Conference on 23 April 2015 in Thailand. Efforts to benchmark OSH performance in ASEAN continues through data collection and update of ASEAN-OSHNET Scorecard which covers five topic areas, notably national policy and strategy, national programme, national OSH system, occupational accidents and occupational and work-related illnesses.

The First Meeting of ASEAN-Business Coalition on HIV and AIDS (ASEAN-BCA) was convened on 10-11 November 2014 in Indonesia to enhance the role of the business community in the prevention and control of HIV and AIDS in the workplace. Compilation of ASEAN Good Practices on the Implementation of Policies and Programmes on the Prevention and Management of HIV&AIDS in the Workplace was published and will serve as reference to efforts toward HIV and AIDS prevention and control.

**ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (AMRDPE)**

Established	1997, meets once in two years
Last Meeting	8 <sup>th</sup> AMRDPE, 4 July 2013, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Senior Officials	ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDPE)

Projects and activities under the current Framework Action Plan on Social Welfare and Development 2011 2015 continued to be implemented. In conjunction with the 11<sup>th</sup> SOMRDPE on 17-19 June 2014 in Bohol,

the Philippines, the Third Forum on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication was convened on 16 June 2014. Government officials and NGOs exchanged views on programmes to enable enterprises for economic inclusion of the poor and challenges encountered in the implementation.

Several platforms of information sharing on poverty reduction programmes were convened. The China-ASEAN Forum on Social Development and Poverty Reduction was convened for the eighth time on 7-8 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The ASEAN Forum on ICT for Sustainable Rural Development and Knowledge Cross-Fertilization 2015 was held on 24-27 May 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Policy makers, researchers, and other stakeholders discussed strategies and challenges in using ICT as a tool to sustain rural development including disaster management, education and promotion of entrepreneurship.

ASEAN Member States continued to share their respective good practices with one another. The ASEAN Forum to Promote Best Practices in Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Development which was convened on 24-27 August 2014 in Kuala Lumpur provided an opportunity for ASEAN Member States to learn from Malaysia's best practices on rural infrastructure development. The ASEAN Forum on Social Entrepreneurship was convened on 30 October 2014 in Singapore as a platform of information sharing on the development of social entrepreneurship in ASEAN Member States. The Workshop on Secure Housing Baan Mankong Project was held on 19-21 January 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. The good practice of Thailand in delivering the project of securing housing for the urban poor through a self-help approach was shared with other ASEAN Member States.

The ASEAN Regional Assessment Workshop of the MDG Achievement and Post-2015 Development Priorities was held on 14-15 April 2015 in Quezon City, the Philippines. The preliminary findings of the regional assessment of ASEAN Member States' attainment of the MDGs by 2015 and initial recommendations of post-2015 areas of regional cooperation to support sustainable development were discussed with relevant line ministries in charge of poverty reduction, social welfare, gender, labour, health, disaster management, statistics, and development planning.

SOMRDPE, represented by its Chair, has been participating in the ASEAN Ad-hoc Steering Committee on Climate Change and Food Security (SC-CCFS) led by SOM-AMAF from the AEC pillar. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Meetings were held on 1-2 July 2014 in Jakarta and 23-24 March 2015 in Bogor, respectively.

Forward looking, the SOMRDPE convened its Special Meeting on 16-17 April 2015 in Quezon City, the Philippines, to develop the Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication for 2016-2020. The Framework development took into account the achievements and lessons learnt from the 2011-2015 Framework, ASEAN Community's post-2015 vision and central elements, as well as current issues and challenges in reducing poverty and developing rural areas in the region. The draft Framework continues to be refined by ASEAN Member States for adoption by the AMRDPE in October 2015.

<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting for Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	1979, meets once every three years
<b>Last Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> AMMSWD, 6 September 2013, Siem Reap, Cambodia
<b>Senior Officials</b>	ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSVD)

The SOMMSVD continued to implement projects and activities planned in the Strategic Framework on Social Welfare and Development (2011-2015) which are focusing on children, older people, and persons with disabilities. Acting upon the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection adopted at the 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Summit, a Regional Framework and Action Plan was developed by SOMMSVD and other relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies at the Workshop in December 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia, and is currently being finalised for adoption at the 27<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit.

In the area of cooperation for children's welfare and development, the Third ASEAN Children's Forum was held on 2-5 June 2014 in Chonburi, Thailand, on the theme "Voices of ASEAN Children and Youth". Part of the programme was the VDO competition among children and youth. VDOs produced by a child from Singapore and a youth from Brunei Darussalam won the competition. The Regional Conference on Child Online Protection was hosted by Malaysia on 24-25 March 2015 in Putrajaya. The Work Plan to Support the Implementation of CRC (2014-2016) was endorsed by SOMMSVD in May 2014 following its development at the Regional Planning Workshop for Child Rights Practitioners on the Implementation of CRC in 2013 in Bangkok.

In the area of cooperation for older persons, the Regional Workshop on "ASEAN+3: Are We Ready for Our Ageing Society?" was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand on 3-5 March 2015. The workshop provided an opportunity for sharing knowledge and experiences in advancing social welfare services for the older persons. Representatives of SOMMSVD, together with SOMHMD and SLOM, participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies that was hosted by Japan on 21-23 October 2014 in Tokyo with the theme "Resilient Communities for Active Ageing".

In the area of cooperation for persons with disabilities, the Regional Workshop on Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Towards Sustainable Social Protection was convened on 1-5 February 2015 in Pattaya, Thailand. Subsequently, the Training Workshop on "Initiators of Self help Groups of Persons with Disabilities towards Rights-based and Sustainable Community Development" was convened on 10-23 May 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Acknowledging the importance of enhancing capacity of social workers, the ASEAN Social Work Consortium (ASWC) continued its work. The Third ASWC Conference was held on 13-16 August 2014 in Bangkok to develop the ASWC Work Plan for 2014-2015. Projects to take stock the existing social work curriculum standards and rights-based training manuals for social workers, among others, were planned.

The SOMMSVD, represented by its Chair, participated in the Joint Task Force to Promote Synergy with Other Relevant ASEAN Bodies on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) led by the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM). The 3<sup>rd</sup> HARD Meeting was held on 23 April 2015 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.



The SOMSWD continued its engagement with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) at the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO-NGO forum on Social Welfare and Development which was held on 24 November 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. Under the theme “Social Welfare Services for Sustainable Development in ASEAN Beyond 2015”, government officials and NGOs dialogued on issues concerning social protection, quality of life and wellbeing of vulnerable groups in ASEAN.

<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	1992, meets once in two years
<b>Last Meeting</b>	AMMY VIII, 22 May 2013, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
<b>Senior Officials</b>	ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth (SOMY)

The ASEAN Youth sector continues to promote a Community that recognizes the importance of youth as the future of ASEAN, and one with an enhanced awareness of ASEAN as a region. The focus on youth development in the region remains, with emphasis on youth leadership, volunteerism and addressing youth unemployment through mutually beneficial exchange programmes between Member States and with Dialogue Partners, as well as robust capacity building programmes. Continuing its tradition, the ASEAN Youth Day Meeting (AYDM) was convened to enhance ASEAN awareness and to strengthen mutual understanding and regional solidarity. For 2014, the 20<sup>th</sup> AYDM was held in Bandar Seri Begawan from 8-11 October 2014.

The ASEAN Youth Volunteers Programme (AYVP) has been established since 2012 as a dedicated platform to create opportunities in volunteerism, support the exchange of learning experiences, develop capacity, enhance cross-cultural understanding and forge a sense of regional identity, while making a sustainable difference to communities across ASEAN. Both AYVP and the Brunei-led ASEAN Young Professional Volunteer Corps (AYPVC) continued projects in 2014 that enhance cross-cultural understanding among ASEAN youths through volunteerism.

Following the conclusion of the ASCC Blueprint 2009-2015 and guided by the overarching ASEAN Post-2015 Vision, the SOMY VII in Brunei Darussalam in October 2014 endorsed the formulation of an ASEAN Youth Work Plan for 2016-2020. The new Work Plan would serve as the base reference in strengthening, deepening and widening youth cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners (e.g. under the ASEAN Plus Three framework) as well.

With regard to Dialogue Partners, activities include those organised by China, Japan, and ROK. China continued to organise the China-ASEAN Youth Camp, Lancang-Mekong Youth Friendship Program, and ASEAN Young Leaders Training Programme, to further improve the regional youth development and cooperation. Japan, under the umbrella of the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) version 2.0, implemented various activities since middle 2013 through early 2015 to further promote interest in Japan among ASEAN youths, to raise awareness and understanding of ASEAN youths about Japan’s strength, its attractions, values, etc. The National Council of Youth Organizations in Korea (NCYOK) organised the 16<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Korea Future-Oriented Youth Exchange Project in January 2015 to promote cross-cultural understanding and trust between

ASEAN and ROK youths. This year's programme was held with the theme: 'ASEAN-Korea Youths, United as One through Sports Activities'. In addition, the 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Korea Frontier Forum was held in November 2015, in Busan, ROK. The 5-day programme facilitated the discussions by having a Model ASEAN-ROK Summit, where it provided the youth participants with some practical and hands-on experience on how a formal meeting like the ASEAN-ROK Summit are being held and arranged, but also a simulation forum where the youth participants can voice out their opinion and debate responsibly and practice diplomacy as well as public speaking. Another concluded activity is the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Young Entrepreneurs Forum 2014 which was conducted in Yangon in September 2014. The Forum brought together around 300 young entrepreneurs from all ASEAN Member States to meet, share and learn business experiences, and build the network.

<b>ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	1980, former name: ASEAN Conference on Reform in the Civil Service (ACRCS), meets every two years
<b>Last Meeting</b>	ASEAN Head of Civil Service Meeting, 26 September 2014, Yangon, Myanmar
<b>Senior Officials</b>	Senior Officials Meeting of the ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters

The ACCSM continues to support the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015 through the implementation of the ACCSM Work Plan (2008-2015) that aims to promote

effective, capable, accountable and responsive civil services in ASEAN. Several activities were undertaken since last year, including the Workshop on Work Procedure Manual on 5-7 May 2014 in Brunei Darussalam; ASEAN New Wave Leadership Programmes on 1-9 September 2014 and 23 March-2 April 2015 in Thailand; Attachment Programme for ACCSM Member States on Public and Human Resource Management on 16-22 November 2014 in Malaysia; Conference Workshop on Examination and Testing in the ASEAN Civil Service on 24-28 November 2014 in the Philippines; and Workshop on Local Government Management on 24-27 February 2015 in Indonesia.

Since 1995, the ACCSM's ASEAN Resource Centres (ARCs) have continued to play an important role in building human and institutional capacity of civil service among ASEAN Member States through activities in their respective areas of expertise, notably managing new technologies, capacity development, information exchange, performance management, case study, training of trainers, testing, management innovation, leadership development and personal management. As the result of self-evaluation of the ARCs after 20 years in service, ASEAN Member States agreed to change the themes of several ARCs in order to be relevant to current context and enhance capacity of civil service in meeting the demand of the people.

The biennial Forum on Good Governance was convened for the fourth time on 25 September 2014 in Yangon, Myanmar under the theme of "Promoting Civil Service Ethics and Performance". The Forum served as a platform for government officials and stakeholders of ASEAN Member States and the Plus Three Countries to share good practices and experiences in promoting good governance and public accountability.

Under the ACCSM cooperation with the Plus Three Countries (ACCSM+3), 6 out of the 9 pilot projects have been implemented. The Study Visit on Public Sector Productivity and Innovative Focusing on Performance Management took place on 9-15 November 2014 in Republic of Korea (ROK) and provided practice knowledge and experience on performance management in ROK to 21 officials from ASEAN Member States. In addition, the Training on Mainstreaming Gender in Human Resource Policies, Processes and System was convened on 20-24 April 2015 in the Philippines.

<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	AMMW: 2011, meets once every three years ACW: 1975, meets annually
<b>Last Meeting</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> AMMW, 19 October 2012, Vientiane, Lao PDR
<b>Senior Officials</b>	ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW)

Guided by the directives of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW), joint actions to promote women’s empowerment and gender equality in the region continued to be implemented by the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW). To date, most of the projects and activities planned in the ACW Work Plan 2011-2015 have been implemented.

The Regional Workshop on Gender Mainstreaming into Labour Policies to Promote Decent Work for All was held on 27 April 2014 in Da Lat, Viet Nam. Government officials, employers’ and workers’ representatives exchanged views on gender-based issues

in employment, as well as strategies and challenges in promoting gender mainstreaming in the fulfillment of decent work for all.

With the objectives of enhancing capacity in designing and implementing gender-responsive planning and budgeting of social protection schemes, the Regional Training on Social Protection and Gender Budget Analysis was held on 27-29 August 2014 in Jakarta, Indonesia, with the support of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES). The Training was attended by officials from ministries of finance, development planning agencies, and ministries in charge of women’s issues.

In line with the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection, the ASEAN Regional Conference of Senior Officials on Sharing of Good Practices in Social Protection for Women in Enterprise Development was held on 4-5 December 2014 in the Philippines with the support of the EU-READI Facility. The Conference provided a platform for exchange of views among ASEAN Member States which led to policy recommendations highlighting the social protection needs of women in micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises.

In early 2015, the regional synthesis report on advancing and monitoring women’s political participation in the ASEAN region was completed and published under the coordination of Cambodia and with the support of UN Women. Carried out through systematic data collection methods, the Report elaborated the current situation of women’s political participation at national and sub-national levels and identified underlying causes and challenges that prevent women’s fully participation in the public decision making.

Following its establishment on 23 April 2014 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, the ASEAN Women

Entrepreneurs' Network (AWEN) convened a Forum on 6-7 March 2015 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. With the theme, "ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs in ASEAN Economic Community (AEC): Transforming Opportunities into Realities", the Forum discussed the opportunities and challenges for AWEN in the ASEAN economic community, women entrepreneurs and business leadership, technology and innovation for a more equal world.

<b>ASEAN Commission on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)</b>	
<b>Established</b>	2010, meets at least twice a year
<b>Last Meeting</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> ACWC Meeting, 25-27 February 2015, Jakarta, Indonesia

Projects and activities planned in the ACWC Work Plan 2012-2016 continued to be implemented by ACWC. The work to establish the ASEAN Network of Social Service Agencies (NOSSA) led by Singapore continued. Thirty-three nominated social service agencies involved in preventing, protecting and helping victims of violence against women and violence against children from 10 ASEAN Member States have been appointed as the initial members of NOSSA. A series of in-country consultations were conducted in January-February 2015 to solicit feedback from social service agencies and other relevant stakeholders on the future programmes and possible structures of the Network.

The Gender Responsive Guideline for Handling Women Victims of Trafficking was adopted by ACWC at its 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting on 25-27 February 2015 in Jakarta. Complementing this, the baseline

assessment report is being developed with the support of the EU READI and ASEAN-US PROGRESS Facilities. The report would contain comprehensive review and analysis of existing practices on addressing the needs, including rescue, recovery, repatriation, rehabilitation, reintegration, referral system, and assistance for victims of trafficking in persons, particularly women and children survivors, in the ASEAN region.

The ACWC continued to collaborate and coordinate with other sectoral bodies in promoting and protecting the rights of women and children. Consultation meetings with ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) and Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSVD) took place in October and November 2014, respectively. Two Regional Plans of Actions are being developed to implement the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (EVAW) and the Elimination of Violence Against Children (EVAC) that was adopted at the 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Summit in 2014. Coordinated by Thailand, the Regional Plan of Actions on EVAW was developed in cooperation with ACW and the Regional Plan of Actions on EVAC in cooperation with SOMSD.

The ASEAN Regional Conference on Social Impact of Climate Change on Women and Children was convened on 25-26 March 2015 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, with the involvement of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Environment (ASOEN). The ASEAN Regional Conference of Senior Officials on Strengthening the Protection and Empowerment of Women Migrant Workers was convened on 13-14 November 2014 in Manila, the Philippines, as a joint activity of ACWC and the ASEAN Committee on the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers (ACMW) with the



Women of ASEAN performing traditional musical instrument - angklung.

support of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The ACWC Chair also participated in several activities of AICHR in the areas of human rights, environment and climate change, rights of workers, and human rights treaty obligations last year.

The ASEAN Consultation on Cultural and Religious Practices Impacting the Rights of Children was convened on 18-20 November 2014 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The ACWC Representatives, government officials, religious leaders, national human rights institutions, civil society organisations, and academia shared good practices on how religious and cultural practices support children to enjoy their rights.

The ACWC had a meeting with Madam Marta Pais, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for the Elimination of Violence Against Children, on 27 February 2015 to exchange views on current children issues such as the use of technology and cyber pornography, social protection for children, and bullying.

### ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports (AMMS)

Established	2011, (to be) held once every two years
Last Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports (AMMS), 14 December 2013, Vientiane, Lao PDR
Senior Officials	Senior Officials Meeting on Sports (SOMS)

The Second ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports (2<sup>nd</sup> AMMS), held on 5 December 2013 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, laid a firm foundation for the development of the sports sector in ASEAN in the last 2 years. The Meeting provided a strategic platform for the Ministers to reiterate commitment in promoting sports as one of many instruments to especially realise the vision of an ASEAN Community by December 2015. The Vientiane Declaration on Sports, which



Football - one of the most popular sports in ASEAN.

was adopted in the Meeting, gives recognition to ASEAN common values and identities, wide promotion of healthy lifestyles, active networking and youth engagement programs, and sports science as a discipline dynamically growing in the years to come.

Moving forward, the 4<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting on Sports (SOMS) was held on 24 October 2014 in Hanoi, Viet Nam as an annual forum where Country Coordinators presented reports on their sports initiative programs involving ASEAN Member States and beyond. 2014 saw a dynamic year where a number of initiatives had been introduced and sports programmes were successfully delivered. Exchange programmes on sports with youth participation dominated the year which involved a combination of students

and young athletes in ASEAN and Dialogue Partner Countries; from ASEAN Youth Sports Camp, to ASEAN-Korea Future-Oriented Youth Exchange program, to JENESYS 2.0 programme. Joint initiatives with private sector have been continuously enforced by ASEAN Member States to expand the sports industry as well as a strategy to promote healthy lifestyles across Southeast Asia communities. The conduct of conference on sports science and several initiatives on anti-doping movement were also introduced during the Meeting which set an important reminder about the need to address the aforementioned issues in the future.

ASEAN cooperation on sports has entered a new level where discussions to develop infrastructure and to further engage ecosystem

in the sector were brought on the table. One of strategic outputs in the 4<sup>th</sup> SOMS 2014 was the endorsement of Vision Statement and Central Elements of AMMS/SOMS Post 2015. In guiding future actions, the sports sector will be utilized as a tool to raise public awareness of ASEAN and to build resilience through regional sports activities and events. With rich culture and diversity of ASEAN, the sector is keen to develop collaborative efforts to promote ASEAN awareness through the promotion of traditional sports and game (TSG) across ASEAN societies and beyond. The sector looks forward to initiating more sports exchange programmes both for professional sports team development as well as volunteer-based activities which benefit the communities at large.

---





# ASEAN Calendar of Meetings



<b>ASEAN SUMMIT</b>		
12-13 November 2014	25 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit and Related Summits (12 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Summit, 17 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Japan Summit, 6 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-United Nations Summit, ASEAN -Australia 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Summit and 6 <sup>th</sup> Mekong-Japan Summit, 9 <sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit, 2 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-United States of America Summit, 17 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Summit and 17 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Summit)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014	ASEAN Leaders' Meeting with ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
27 April 2015	26 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit and Related Meetings (ASEAN Leaders' Interface with Representatives of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, ASEAN Youth and Civil Society Organisations)	Kuala Lumpur and Langkawi, Malaysia
28 April 2015	Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) Summit and Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) Summit	Langkawi, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN COORDINATING COUNCIL (ACC)</b>		
11 November 2014	15 <sup>th</sup> ACC Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
26 April 2015	16 <sup>th</sup> ACC Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group (ACCWG) on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision</b>		
11 October 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> ACCWG Meeting on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
11 November 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> ACCWG Meeting on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
27 January 2015	4 <sup>th</sup> ACCWG Meeting on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision	Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
25 April 2015	5 <sup>th</sup> ACCWG Meeting on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>High Level Task Force (HLTF) on ASEAN Community's Post 2015 Vision</b>		
5-8 February 2015	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the HLTF on ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
16-19 March 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the HLTF on ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision	Bangkok, Thailand
6-10 April 2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the HLTF on ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision	Jakarta, Indonesia
11-14 May 2015	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the HLTF on ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision	Ha Noi, Viet Nam
<b>Joint Preparatory Meeting (JPM)</b>		
11 October 2014	JPM	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
11 March 2015	JPM	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR)</b>		
13 June 2014	10/2014 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
30 June 2014	11/2014 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
8 July 2014	12/2014 CPR Meeting CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
21 July 2014	13/2014 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
5 August 2014	14/2014 CPR Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
26 August 2014	15/2014 CPR Meeting	Bali, Indonesia
17 September 2014	16/2014 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
30 September 2014	17/2014 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
8 October 2014	18/2014 CPR Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

29 October 2014	19/2014 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
9 November 2014	20/2014 CPR Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
1 December 2014	21/2014 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
8 December 2014	22/2014 CPR Meeting and Handover of Chairmanship of the CPR	Jakarta, Indonesia
15 January 2015	1/2015 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
26 January 2015	2/2015 CPR Meeting	Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
11 February 2015	3/2015 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
3 March 2015	4/2015 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
8 March 2015	5/2015 CPR Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
31 March 2015	6/2015 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
24 April 2015	7/2015 CPR Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
11 May 2015	8/2015 CPR Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY</b>		
<b>ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Council</b>		
26 April 2015	12 <sup>th</sup> APSC Council Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM)</b>		
23 July 2014	20 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting (AEMM)	Brussels, Belgium
3-8 August 2014	47 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting/Post Ministerial Conference/ Ministerial Conference Plus One Sessions (with Australia, Canada, China, European Union, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russia Federation, the United States)/ 21 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum/15 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers Meeting/ 4 <sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers Meeting (47 <sup>th</sup> AMM/PMC/21 <sup>st</sup> ARF/APTFM/4 <sup>th</sup> EASFM)	Nay Pyi Taw, Malaysia
26 September 2014	Informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (IAMM)	New York, US
26 September 2014	ASEAN FMs Meeting with UNSG/UNGA President	New York, US
27 September 2014	ASEAN-US Informal Ministerial Meeting	New York, US
28 January 2015	ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Retreat (AMM Retreat)	Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
26 April 2015	Prep AMM / AEM Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (ASEAN SOM)</b>		
7 June 2014	ASEAN SOM	Yangon, Myanmar
27-28 June 2014	Special ASEAN SOM on ASEAN Centrality	Ha Noi, Viet Nam
6 August 2014	ASEAN SOM	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
9 October 2014	ASEAN SOM	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
10 November 2014	ASEAN Senior Officials' Preparatory Meeting (ASEAN Prep-SOM)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
20 November 2014	Special ASEAN SOM on ASEAN Centrality	Bangkok, Thailand
27 January 2015	ASEAN SOM	Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
9 March 2015	Special ASEAN SOM on ASEAN Centrality	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

10 March 2015	ASEAN SOM	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
25 April 2015	ASEAN Prep-SOM	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>Commission on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ Commission)</b>		
18 July 2014	SEANWFZ Working Group Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
8 August 2014	SEANWFZ Commission Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
19 November 2014	SEANWFZ Working Group Meeting	Bangkok, Thailand
<b>ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM)</b>		
16-20 June 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Military Medicine	St Petersburg, Russia
17-20 June 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Humanitarian Mine Action	Ha Noi, Viet Nam
23-26 June 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Maritime Security and Workshop on Counterterrorism Operations	Auckland, New Zealand
2-5 July 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief	Tokyo, Japan
24-26 September 2014	ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations Workshop on Sustainable and Practical Cooperation	Seoul, ROK
13-14 October 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Counterterrorism	Singapore
20-24 October 2014	First Ad Hoc Working Group on Establishing a Direct Communications Link in the ADMM Process	Brunei Darussalam
27-29 October 2014	ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Counterterrorism G-20 Observer Activity	Brisbane, Australia
27-31 October 2014	9 <sup>th</sup> ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Maritime Security and Table-Top Exercise	Brunei Darussalam
18-19 October 2014	ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Retreat	Bagan, Myanmar
3-5 December 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Humanitarian Mine Action	New Delhi, India
10-12 December 2014	5 <sup>th</sup> ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief	Vientiane, Lao PDR
21-22 January 2015	ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting Working Group	Johor Bahru, Malaysia
23-24 January 2015	ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting-Plus Working Group	Johor Bahru, Malaysia
11-13 February 2015	ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
13-14 February 2015	ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting Plus	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
15-16 March 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting	Langkawi, Malaysia
17-21 March 2015	ASEAN Defence Industry Collaboration Networking Programme	Langkawi, Malaysia
25-27 March 2015	ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations Workshop on Strengthening Cooperation through Exchanging Capabilities in Humanitarian Demining	Siem Reap, Cambodia
29-30 April 2015	ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Humanitarian Mine Action Workshop on Demining Operations	Nanjing, China
25-28 May 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ad Hoc Working Group on Establishing a Direct Communications Link in the ADMM Process	Brunei Darussalam
25-28 May 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Military Medicine	St. Petersburg, Russia

ASEAN Law Ministers Meeting (ALAWMM)		
31 July-1 August 2014	5 <sup>th</sup> ASLOM Working Group on Model ASEAN Extradition Treaty	Bangkok, Thailand
17-18 September 2014	15 <sup>th</sup> Task Force on ASEAN Dispute Settlement Mechanism	Jakarta, Indonesia
19-20 January 2015	16 <sup>th</sup> Task Force on ASEAN Dispute Settlement Mechanism	Jakarta, Indonesia
20-21 April 2015	17 <sup>th</sup> Task Force Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism	Manila, Philippines
ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)		
3-6 June 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> Expert Working Group on ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) and Regional Plan of Action (RPA)	Yangon, Myanmar
22-27 June 2014	14 <sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) and Its Related Meetings	Brunei Darussalam
2-3 September 2014	18 <sup>th</sup> Directors-General of Immigration Department and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM)	Brunei Darussalam
17-19 September 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> Expert Working Group on ACTIP and RPA	Manila, Philippines
21-23 October 2015	8 <sup>th</sup> Expert Working Group on ACTIP and RPA	Bali, Indonesia
9-12 December 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> Expert Working Group on ACTIP and RPA	Manila, Philippines
24-26 February 2015	<i>Ad Hoc</i> Meeting (Legal Scrubbing) on the Draft ACTIP and RPA	Bogor, Indonesia
3-5 March 2015	DGICM-Australia: ASEAN-Australia Building Secure Foundations for Regional Frameworks Workshop	Manila, Philippines
22-23 April 2015	28 <sup>th</sup> Heads of Specialist Anti-trafficking Units	Brunei Darussalam
30 April 2015	10 <sup>th</sup> Coordinated Mekong Ministerial on Trafficking in Person Senior Officials (COMMIT-SOM) and 4 <sup>th</sup> Inter-Ministerial Meeting (IMM)	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters (AMMDM)		
1-2 July 2014	35 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters	Manila, Philippines
2-3 December 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters	Jakarta, Indonesia
5-6 February 2015	Regional Review Meeting on the Regional Survey on the Implementation of ASEAN Drug-Free 2015	Bangkok, Thailand
17 March 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> Inter-sessional Working Group Meeting on Law Enforcement	Manila, Philippines
13-14 May 2015	5 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force	Singapore
ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)		
7-9 June 2014	ARF Defence Officials' Dialogue/ 11 <sup>th</sup> ARF Security Policy Conference/ ARF Senior Officials' Meeting	Yangon, Myanmar
8-9 July 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament	Tokyo, Japan
10 August 2014	21 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
22-25 September 2014	18 <sup>th</sup> ARF Heads of Defence Universities, Colleges and Institutions Meeting	Seoul, ROK
30 November-3 December 2014	ARF Defence Officials' Dialogue / ARF Inter-Sessional Support Group Meeting on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy	Melaka, Malaysia
12-13 February 2015	14 <sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief	Tokyo, Japan
11-13 March 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> ARF Experts' and Eminent Persons Meeting	Helsinki, Finland
30 March-2 April 2015	7 <sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security	Honolulu, USA

6-8 May 2015	ARF Defence Officials' Dialogue / ARF Inter-Sessional Group Meeting on Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy	Tokyo, Japan
14-15 May 2015	13 <sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime	Nanning, China
<b>ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF)</b>		
27 August 2014	5 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Maritime Forum	Da Nang, Viet Nam
28 August 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum	Da Nang, Viet Nam
<b>ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)</b>		
29 June 2014	Special Meeting of the AICHR	Bangkok, Thailand
10-11 July 2014	Special Meeting of the AICHR	Singapore
6-9 August 2014	Special Meeting of the AICHR	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
3-5 October 2014	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AICHR	Yangon, Myanmar
11-14 February 2015	17 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AICHR	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
21-24 March 2015	Special Meeting of the AICHR	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
6-9 May 2015	18 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AICHR	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY</b>		
<b>ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council</b>		
23-29 August 2014	12 <sup>th</sup> AEC Council Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
10 October 2014	Meeting of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
15 February 2015	27 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
27-28 February 2015	8 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI) Working Group on Post-2015 Economic Vision	Kota Bharu, Kelantan
24 April 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> HLTF EI WG on Post-2015 Economic Vision	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
26 April 2015	13 <sup>th</sup> AEC Council Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM)</b>		
2-5 June 2014	AEM Roadshow Canada	Toronto, Canada
19 July 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> CLMV SEOM	Yangon, Myanmar
19-23 July 2014	SEOM 3/45 and Related Meetings (SEOM, China, Japan, RoK, India, Australia and New Zealand, US, Russia, EAS, EU and Canada)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
23-29 August 2014	46 <sup>th</sup> AEM and related meetings: Prep-SEOM for the 46 <sup>th</sup> AEM; 46 <sup>th</sup> AEM; 6 <sup>th</sup> CLMV-AEM; 2 <sup>nd</sup> RCEP Ministerial Meeting; ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Rice Cooperation; 46 <sup>th</sup> AEM + DPs Consultations; 2 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-US Business Summit	Nay Pyi Tw, Myanmar
22-27 September 2014	79 <sup>th</sup> Coordinating Committee on Services (CCS) & WG Meetings; Healthcare Services Sectoral Working Group; ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Nursing MRA; ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Medical Practitioners MRA; ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Dental Practitioners MRA; Business Services Sectoral WG; ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineering Coordinating Committee; ASEAN Architect Council; MRA on Surveying Qualifications; MRA on Accountancy Logistics and Transport Services Sectoral Working Group; Telecommunication and IT Services Sectoral Working Group; ASEAN Architect Education Committee	Bali, Indonesia

7-10 October 2014	5 <sup>th</sup> TF-AQRF Meeting	Manila, Philippines
10 October 2014	Prep-SEOM for JPM	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
15-17 December 2014	Special CCS on ATISA	Bangkok, Thailand
12-16 January 2015	80 <sup>th</sup> CCS and related WGs; Healthcare Services Sectoral Working Group; ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Nursing MRA ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Medical Practitioners MRA ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Dental Practitioners MRA Business Services Sectoral WG; ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineering Coordinating Committee; ASEAN Architect Council; MRA on Surveying Qualifications; MRA on Accountancy; Logistics and Transport Services Sectoral Working Group; Telecommunication and IT Services Sectoral Working Group; ASEAN Architect Education Committee	Siem Reap, Cambodia
21 January 2015	7 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI) Working Group on Post-2015 Economic Vision	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
22-24 January 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee of the Whole (COW), 1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials' for the 46 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting (SEOM 1/46), 8 <sup>th</sup> CLMV SEOM	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
28 February 2015	Prep-SEOM for the 21 <sup>st</sup> AEM Retreat and AEM Working Dinner	Kota Bharu, Kelantan
1 March 2015	21 <sup>st</sup> AEM Retreat	Kota Bharu, Kelantan
3-5 March 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> TF-AQRF	Hai Noi, Viet Nam
25 April 2015	Prep-SEOM	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
4-8 May 2015	Coordinating Committee on Services (CCS) Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
5-8 May 2015	81 <sup>st</sup> CCS and related WGs; Healthcare Services Sectoral Working Group Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Group ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Nursing MRA; ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Medical Practitioners MRA; ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Dental Practitioners MRA; Business Services Sectoral WG; ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineering Coordinating Committee; ASEAN Architect Council; MRA on Surveying Qualifications; MRA on Accountancy; Logistics and Transport Services Sectoral Working Group; Telecommunication and IT Services Sectoral Working Group; ASEAN Architect Education Committee	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
28-30 May 2015	SEOM 2/46	Manila, Philippines
<b>ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council</b>		
3-5 June 2014	23 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Directors-General of Customs	Da Lat, Viet Nam
16-20 June 2014	21 <sup>st</sup> Pharmaceutical Product Working Group and its related Meetings	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
23-27 June 2014	5 <sup>th</sup> Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Meetings-RCEP	Singapore
7-12 July 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) Task Force	Singapore
4-5 August 2015	15 <sup>th</sup> AMEICC Working Group on Automotive Industry	Bali, Indonesia
6-8 August 2014	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group (16 <sup>th</sup> CECWG Meeting)	Ha Noi, Viet Nam
12-15 August 2014	28 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on Technical Matters for the ASEAN Single Window (TWG)	Yogyakarta, Indonesia
15 August 2014	Joint-meeting between the Sub-committee on ATIGA Rules of Origin and the Technical Working Group on ASEAN Single Window (ASW) to discuss the amendments to the ATIGA OCP to allow acceptance of electronic ATIGA CO Form D on 15 August 2014	Yogyakarta, Indonesia

19-21 August 2014	19 <sup>th</sup> Rubber-Based Product Working Group Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
20-22 August 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sub-Working Group on ASEAN Customs Transit System (7 <sup>th</sup> SWG-ACTS Meeting)	Bangkok, Thailand
23-29 August 2014	AEM-28 <sup>th</sup> AFTA Council	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
1-4 September 2014	19 <sup>th</sup> Prepared Foodstuff Product Working Group and its related Meeting	Yangon, Myanmar
8-9 September 2014	Intercessional ASEAN Caucus RCEP SWG-ROO Meeting	Manila, Philippines
9-11 September 2014	24 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group on Legal and Regulatory Matters for the ASEAN Single Window (LWG)	Jakarta, Indonesia
10-11 September 2014	ASEAN Caucus Meeting of the RCEP Sub-Working Group on Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation (RCEP SWG CPTF)	Pasig, Philippines
16-18 September 2014	13 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Single Window Steering Committee (ASWSC)	Singapore
15-17 September 2014	RCEP Trade in Goods, Services, Investment Meetings	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
22-27 September 2014	42 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality and its related meeting	Yangon, Myanmar
6-11 October 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature Task Force (3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of AHTN Task Force)	Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
14-16 October 2014	17 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CPTFWG, 14-16 October 2014	Chiang Mai, Thailand
14-16 October 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> Session of ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
20-21 October 2014	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sub-Committee on ATIGA Rules of Origin (16 <sup>th</sup> SC-AROO)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
21 October 2014	Meeting of the Legal Experts on the ATIGA (MLE)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
22-24 October 2014	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Coordinating Committee on the Implementation of the ATIGA (16 <sup>th</sup> CCA)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
3-5 November 2014	15 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Customs Capacity Building Working Group (15 <sup>th</sup> CCBWG Meeting)	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
4-7 November 2014	29 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Groups on Technical Matters (TWG) for the ASEAN Single Window	Nha Trang, Viet Nam
10-12 November 2014	27 <sup>th</sup> Working Group 2 on Conformity Assessment	Siem Reap, Cambodia
10-13 November 2014	33 <sup>rd</sup> Working Group 1 (on Standards and MRA) and its related meetings	Brunei Darussalam
25-27 November 2014	21 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Coordinating Committee on Customs (CCC)	Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
25-28 November 2014	21 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN Cosmetic Committee Meeting its Related Meetings	Manila, Philippines
1-5 December 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Meeting (RCEP)	Greater Noida, India
8-9 December 2014	19 <sup>th</sup> Medical Device Product Working Group Meeting	Brunei Darussalam
9-15 December 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) Task Force	Bandung, Indonesia
13-15 January 2015	8 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sub-Working Group on ASEAN Customs Transit System (8 <sup>th</sup> SWG-ACTS Meeting)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
17-18 January 2015	17 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sub-Committee on ATIGA Rules of Origin (17 <sup>th</sup> SC-AROO)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
18-19 January 2015	Meeting of the Legal Experts on the ATIGA (MLE)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
19-21 January 2015	17 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Coordinating Committee on the Implementation of the ATIGA (17 <sup>th</sup> CCA)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



20-23 January 2015	30 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on Technical Matters for the ASEAN Single Window (TWG)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
9-13 February 2015	7 <sup>th</sup> Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) TNC and Related Meetings	Bangkok, Thailand
16-21 February 2015	5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) Task Force	Yangon, Myanmar
22 February-1 March 2015	20 <sup>th</sup> Prepared Foodstuff Product Working Group and its related Meeting	Bangkok, Thailand
9-13 March 2015	22 <sup>nd</sup> Pharmaceutical Product Working Group and its related Meetings	Vientiane, Lao PDR
3-5 March 2015	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Customs Capacity Building Working Group (16 <sup>th</sup> CCBWG Meeting)	Solo, Indonesia
4-6 March 2015	14 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Single Window Steering Committee (ASW-SC)	Yangon, Myanmar
17-19 March 2015	20 <sup>th</sup> Rubber-Based Product Working Group Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
17-19 March 2015	17 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group (17 <sup>th</sup> CECWG Meeting)	Manila, Philippines
31 March-3 April 2014	31 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on Technical Matters for the ASEAN Single Window (TWG)	Bangkok, Thailand
13-16 April 2015	28 <sup>th</sup> Working Group 2 on Conformity Assessment	Brunei Darussalam
14-16 April 2015	18 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CPTFWG	Singapore
20-24 April 2015	43 <sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality and its Related Meetings	Manila, Philippines
27-28 April 2015	9 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sub-Working Group on ASEAN Customs Transit System (9 <sup>th</sup> SWG-ACTS Meeting)	Ha Noi, Viet Nam
5-7 May 2015	22 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Coordinating Committee on Customs (CCC)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
11-12 May 2015	5 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee (ATF-JCC) Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
11-16 May 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) Task Force	Melaka, Malaysia
18-22 May 2015	Meeting of the Coordinating Committee on the Implementation of the ATIGA (CCA 18), the Meeting of the Sub-Committee on ATIGA Rules of Origin (SC-AROO 18), Meeting of the Legal Experts on the ATIGA (MLE)	Siem Reap, Cambodia
20-22 May 2015	24 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Customs	Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
26-29 May 2015	22 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Cosmetic Committee Meeting and its related meetings	Singapore
<b>ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council</b>		
5-7 August 2014	64 <sup>th</sup> CCI Meeting	Yangon, Myanmar
25 August 2014	AEM-17 <sup>th</sup> AIA Council	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
10 November 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Investment Forum (AIF)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
19-21 January 2015	65 <sup>th</sup> Coordinating Committee on Investment (CCI)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (AFMM) ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (AFMGM)</b>		
5-7 August 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> Working Group of ASEAN Forum on Taxation (WG-AFT)	Manila, Philippines

5 September 2014	21 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN Capital Markets Forum (ACMF) Meeting ASEAN Working Committee on Capital Market Development (WC-CMD) Meeting	Singapore
24-25 September 2014	41 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN Working Committee on Financial Services Liberalisation (WC-FSL) Meeting	Bali, Indonesia
23-25 November 2014	28 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Working Committee on Capital Account Liberalisation (WC-CAL) Meeting; 7 <sup>th</sup> Steering Committee for Capacity Building (SCCB) Meeting; and 8 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senior Level Committee on ASEAN Financial Integration (SLC)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
24-26 November 2014	17 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Insurance Regulators' Meeting (AIRM) Meeting Council of Bureaux (CoB) Meeting	Bandar Seri Begawan
25-26 January 2015	42 <sup>nd</sup> WC-FSL Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
27 January 2015	WC-CMD Meeting; 29 <sup>th</sup> WC-CAL Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
28 January 2015	ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies' Working Group (AFDM-WG) Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
22-23 February 2015	8 <sup>th</sup> SCCB Meeting; 9 <sup>th</sup> SLC Meeting	Bangkok, Thailand
3 March 2015	22 <sup>nd</sup> ACMF Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
19 March 2015	ASEAN Finance Deputies' Meeting (AFDM) ASEAN Central Bank Deputies' Meeting (ACDM) ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies' Joint Meeting (AFCDM)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
20 March 2015	ASEAN Finance Ministers' Retreat	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
21 March 2015	19 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (19 <sup>th</sup> AFMM); 11 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Central Bank Governors' Meeting (11 <sup>th</sup> ACGM); US-ASEAN Business Council Luncheon Meeting; 1 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (1 <sup>st</sup> AFMGM)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
21-22 April 2015	AFT Preliminary Meeting	Denpasar, Indonesia
27-28 April 2015	43 <sup>rd</sup> WC-FSL Meeting	Bacolod City, Philippines
<b>ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF)</b>		
20-22 September 2014	Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting of the 36 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (Prep SOM 36 <sup>th</sup> AMAF) The Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting of the 14 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Plus Three (Prep SOM 14 <sup>th</sup> AMAF+3)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
23 September 2014	36 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (36 <sup>th</sup> AMAF)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
<b>ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM)</b>		
26-30 May 2015	33 <sup>rd</sup> Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME)	Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (AMMST)</b>		
21-28 August 2014	68 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST); 8 <sup>th</sup> Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on S&T (IAMMST-8); Dialogue Partners Meeting (China, EU and Japan)	Bogor, Indonesia
21-28 August 2014	9 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Science and Technology Week (ASTW)	Bogor, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers Meeting (TELMIN)</b>		
12-14 August 2014	20 <sup>th</sup> ATRC and Its Related Meetings with Dialogue Partners	Pakse, Lao PDR
15-16 September 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> TELSOM-ATRC Leaders Retreat of 2014	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

19-23 January 2015	15 <sup>th</sup> TELSOM, 14 <sup>th</sup> TELMIN and Its Related Meetings with Dialogue Partners and ITU	Bangkok, Thailand
10-12 March 2015	TELSOM JWG and WGs Meetings	Yangon, Myanmar
28-29 April 2015	ATRC JWG and WGs Meetings	Siem Reap, Cambodia
26-27 May 2015	1 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN TELSOM-ATRC Leaders Retreat of 2015	Bangkok, Thailand
<b>ASEAN Transports Ministers Meeting (ATM)</b>		
2-6 June 2014	37 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Transport Senior Official Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
18-19 March 2015	ASEAN Aviation Summit	Langkawi, Malaysia
11-14 May 2015	4 <sup>th</sup> Task Force Meeting on the Development of Successor ASEAN Strategic Transport Plan & 39 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM)	Malaka, Malaysia
<b>Meeting of the ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM)</b>		
7 September 2014	Workshop on ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2020	Manila, Philippines
9-11 September 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Tourism Product Development Working Group; 8 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Tourism Marketing and Communication Working Group Meeting; 8 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Quality Tourism Working Group Meeting; 8 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Tourism Integration and Budget Committee Meeting; 12 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Tourism Professionals Monitoring Committee Meeting	Manila, Philippines
9-10 January 2015	Task Force Meeting on the Successor of the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2011-2015	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
22-25 January 2015	41 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of ASEAN NTOs	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
6-10 April 2015	ASEAN Tourism Working Group Meetings: 9 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Tourism Product Development Working Group Meeting; 9 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Tourism Marketing and Communication Working Group Meeting; 9 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Quality Tourism Working Group Meeting; 9 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Tourism Integration and Budget Committee Meeting; 13 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Tourism Professionals Monitoring Committee Meeting	Singapore
<b>Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force Meeting</b>		
3 October 2014	45 <sup>th</sup> IAI Task Force Meeting; 4 <sup>th</sup> Consultation Meeting of the IAI Task Force – Dialogue Partners and External Parties	Jakarta, Indonesia
1 April 2015	46 <sup>th</sup> IAI Task Force Meeting; 5 <sup>th</sup> Consultation Meeting of the IAI Task Force – Dialogue Partners and External Parties	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC)</b>		
22 July 2014	16 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation Steering Committee Meeting	Yangon, Myanmar
28 August 2014	16 <sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
15-16 October 2014	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Special Working Group on SKRL	Aranyaprathet, Thailand
<b>ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY</b>		
<b>ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council</b>		
29 September 2014	17 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Committee for ASCC Council Meeting (SOCA)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
30 September 2014	12 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Socio- Cultural Community (ASCC) Council Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

9 February 2015	4 <sup>th</sup> ASCC Work Group Meeting to Follow-Up on the Recommendations of the ASCC Blueprint MTR and Coordinate Post-2015 Vision	Penang, Malaysia
10 February 2015	Special SOCA Meeting	Penang, Malaysia
23 March 2015	5 <sup>th</sup> ASCC Work Group Meeting to Follow-Up on the Recommendations of the ASCC Blueprint MTR and Coordinate Post-2015 Vision	Malacca, Malaysia
24-25 March 2015	18 <sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting for the ASCC (SOCA) and 13 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council	Malacca, Malaysia
25 April 2015	Prep-SOCA	Kuala Lumpur and Langkawi, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (AMRI)</b>		
12 June 2014	12 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
<b>ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASED)</b>		
11 Sept 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting	Vientiane, Lao PDR
<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)</b>		
22 September 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Working Group on Recovery, back-to-back with ASEAN Workshop on Recovery Planning	Inne Lake, Myanmar
30 September 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ACDM Working Group on Preparedness and Response	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2-3 October 2014	Post-2015 AADMER Visioning and Monitoring & Evaluation Planning	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
12-17 October 2014	2014 ASEAN Day for Disaster Management (ADDM); 25 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ACDM; 1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Governing Board for the AHA Centre; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Joint Task Force on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR); ACDM Session on EAS Cooperation; 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Conference of Parties to AADMER (COP to AADMER), 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)	Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
3 December 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of ACDM Working Group Risk Assessment, Early Warning and Monitoring (RAEWM)	Jakarta, Indonesia
10-12 February 2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Disaster Management Training Institutes Network (ADTRAIN) Core Group, back-to-back with Training Needs Analysis (TNA) Workshop on Damage and Loss Assessment and Disaster Recovery	Jakarta, Indonesia
13 March 2015	Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)	Sendai, Japan
7 April 2015	1 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN Technical Working Group Meeting on Civil Military Coordination (TWG CIMIC)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
8 April 2015	8 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of ACDM Working Group on Preparedness and Response	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
21-23 April 2015	26 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ACDM; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Governing Board for the AHA Centre; 3 <sup>rd</sup> Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR); ACDM Session on EAS Cooperation on Disaster Management	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (AMME)</b>		
16-17 June 2014	14 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources Management (AWGWRM)	Siem Reap, Cambodia
19-20 June 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Environmental Education (AWGEE)	Yangon, Myanmar

25-26 June 2014	18 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Working Group on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (AWGMEA)	Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
26-28 August 2014	25 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
27-31 October 2014	15 <sup>th</sup> Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (IAMME)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
12-13 May 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change (AWGCC)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
19-20 May 2015	7 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Environmental Education (AWGEE)	Manila, Philippines
<b>Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution</b>		
11-12 June 2014	Meeting of ASEAN Task Force to Review Alert Level and Trigger Points on Fire and Haze Assessment and Coordination	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
27 October 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the MSC Technical Task Force (MTTF); 10 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical Working Group on Transboundary Haze Pollution in the Mekong Sub-region (TWG Mekong)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
28 October 2014	10 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee under the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COM)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
30 October 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution in the Mekong Sub-region (MSC Mekong); 10 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COP-10)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
13 February 2015	5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the MSC Technical Task Force (MTTF)	Singapore
<b>ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting (AHMM)</b>		
5-6 June 2014	SOMHD Working Group Meeting for ASEAN Health Cooperation Evaluation & Post-2015 Agenda	Bangkok, Thailand
9-11 June 2014	9 <sup>th</sup> SOMHD Meeting	Chiang Rai, Thailand
23 June 2014	Special ATFOA Meeting with UNAIDS	Mandalay, Myanmar
24-26 June 2014	22 <sup>nd</sup> ATFOA Meeting	Mandalay, Myanmar
5-6 August 2014	SOMHD Work Group Meeting for the ASEAN Health Cooperation Evaluation and Post-2015 Health Development Agenda	Bangkok, Thailand
8-13 August 2014	5 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Traditional Medicine Conference; 5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Task Force on Traditional Medicine	Yangon, Myanmar
11-20 September 2014	12 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting (AHMM)	Ha Noi, Viet Nam
6-9 October 2014	11 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Expert Group on Food Safety Meeting (AEGFS)	Siem Reap, Cambodia
11-13 November 2014	9 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Expert Group on Communicable Diseases Meeting (AEGCD)	Bangkok, Thailand
13-14 Nov 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Task Force on Non Communicable Diseases (ATFNCD)	Singapore
11-12 December 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Task Force on Maternal & Child Health Meeting (ATFMCH)	Ubonratchathani, Thailand
30 March 2015	ASEAN Task Force on Traditional Medicine (ATFTM) Planning Meeting for Post 2015	Bangkok, Thailand
30-31 March 2015	AEGCD-ASWGL Joint Consultative Meeting for Operationalisation of ASEAN Rabies Elimination Strategy	Chiang Mai, Thailand

7-8 April 2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> SOMHD Work Group Meeting on ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda	Bangkok, Thailand
23 April 2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Joint Task Force to Promote Synergy with Other Relevant ASEAN Bodies on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
4-6 May 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Focal Points on Tobacco Control (AFPTC)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
6-8 May 2015	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Mental Health Task Force (AMT)	Yogyakarta, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM)</b>		
3-4 November 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senior Labour Officials Meeting's Working Group on Progressive Labour Practices to Enhance the Competitiveness	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
20-21 November 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
21-22 April 2015	16 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health Network (ASEAN-OSHNET) Coordinating Board Meeting	Bangkok, Thailand
23 April 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health Network (ASEAN-OSHNET) Conference	Bangkok, Thailand
6-7 May 2015	11 <sup>th</sup> Senior Labour Officials Meeting	Manila, Philippines
<b>ASEAN Ministers on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (AMRDPE)</b>		
16 June 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Forum on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication	Bohol, Philippines
17 and 19 June 2014	11 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDPE)	Bohol, Philippines
<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD)</b>		
24 November 2014	9 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO-NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development	Vientiane, Lao PDR
25-26 November 2014	10 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development	Vientiane, Lao PDR
<b>ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)</b>		
13-14 October 2014	9 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children	Yangon, Myanmar
15 October 2014	Consultation Meeting between the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children and the ASEAN Committee on Women	Yangon, Myanmar
25-27 February 2015	10 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY)</b>		
8 October 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth	Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
<b>ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM)</b>		
26 September 2014	Heads of Civil Service Meeting of the 17 <sup>th</sup> ACCSM	Yangon, Myanmar
28-29 April 2015	Preparatory Meeting of the 18 <sup>th</sup> ACCSM	Tagaytay, Philippines
<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW)</b>		
15-16 October 2014	13 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women	Yangon, Myanmar
<b>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports (AMMS)</b>		
25 October 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Sports	Ha Noi, Viet Nam

14-15 May 2015	Expert Group Meeting on ASEAN 5-Year Work Plan on Sports	Vientiane, Lao PDR
<b>ASEAN CONNECTIVITY</b>		
<b>ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC)</b>		
10-11 June 2014	2/2014 ACCC Meeting (10 June 2014), 1/2014 ACCC-Japan Meeting (11 June 2014)	Surabaya, Indonesia
8-11 September 2014	3/2014 ACCC Meeting (8-9 September 2014), 2 <sup>nd</sup> ACCC-India Meeting (8 September 2014), 2 <sup>nd</sup> ACCC-NCs Meeting (9 September 2014), 5 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Connectivity Symposium (10 September 2014), 1 <sup>st</sup> ACCC-EU Meeting (11 September 2014)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
22 October 2014	2/2014 ACCC-Japan Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
23 October 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> ACCC-ROK Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
5-6 March 2015	1/2015 ACCC Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>EXTERNAL RELATIONS</b>		
<b>ASEAN-Australia</b>		
25 September 2015	4 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Australia Joint Cooperation Committee Meeting (JCC)	Jakarta, Indonesia
25-26 March 2015	27 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Australia Forum	Manila, Philippines
<b>ASEAN-Canada</b>		
10 April 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-Canada Joint Coordination Committee Meeting (JCC)	Jakarta, Indonesia
2 July 2014	11 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Meeting	Singapore
20 April 2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> ASEAN-Canada Joint Coordination Committee Meeting (JCC)	Jakarta, Indonesia
11 May 2015	12 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Meeting	Vancouver, Canada
<b>ASEAN-China</b>		
25 June 2014	11 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Joint Working Group on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (ASEAN-China JWG on DOC)	Bali, Indonesia
11-20 September 2014	5 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting	Ha Noi, Viet Nam
13-14 September 2014	Special ASEAN-China SOM	Guilin, China
26-27 October 2014	12 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China JWG on DOC	Bangkok, Thailand
28-29 October 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China SOM on DOC	Bangkok, Thailand
30-31 March 2015	13 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Joint Working Group on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea	Yangon, Myanmar
8 April 2015	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN-China Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) Working Group	Jakarta, Indonesia
10 April 2015	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN-China Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC)	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN-European Union</b>		
17 October 2014	Informal ASEAN-EU Leaders' Meeting	Milan, Italy
5 February 2015	22 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-EU Joint Cooperation Committee Meeting (JCC)	Jakarta, Indonesia
7-8 May 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-EU High Level Dialogue on Maritime Security Cooperation	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN-India</b>		
23-24 June 2014	16 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)	Bandar Seri Begawan Brunei Darussalam

28 August 2014	ASEAN-India Dialogue on Environmental Cooperation	Vientiane, Lao PDR
22-25 January 2015	13 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Tourism Working Group	Nay Py Taw, Myanmar
11-12 March 2015	Delhi Dialogue VII	New Delhi, India
14 March 2015	17 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)	New Delhi, India
<b>ASEAN-Japan</b>		
23 July 2014	Meeting of the ASEAN-Japan Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC)	Jakarta, Indonesia
28 August 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Japan Dialogue on Environmental Cooperation (AJDEC)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
3-4 September 2014	29 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Japan Forum	Tokyo, Japan
17 October 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN-Japan JCC Working Group	Jakarta, Indonesia
22 October 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN-Japan JCC	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK)</b>		
4-6 June 2014	ASEAN-Korea FTA Implementing Committee Meeting and Related Meetings	Mandalay, Myanmar
18-19 June 2014	18 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ROK Dialogue	Busan, the ROK
23 March 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) Working Group	Jakarta, Indonesia
24 March 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN-ROK JCC	Jakarta, Indonesia
28-29 May 2015	19 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ROK Dialogue	Bali, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN-New Zealand</b>		
13 February 2014	21 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN- New Zealand Dialogue	Vientiane, Lao PDR
1 December 2014	ASEAN-New Zealand Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
25-27 February 2015	22 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue	Auckland, New Zealand
<b>ASEAN-Russian Federation</b>		
25 April 2014	12 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
23-24 October 2014	11 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials' Meeting (ARSOM)	Moscow, Russia
29 April 2015	13 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
19-20 May 2015	12 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials' Meeting (ARSOM)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN-United States</b>		
9-10 June 2014	27 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-US Dialogue Meeting (AUSSOM)	Yangon, Myanmar
27 September 2014	ASEAN-US Informal Ministerial Meeting	New York, US
8 May 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-US Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
14-15 May 2015	28 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue Meeting (AUSSOM)	Washington D.C., US
<b>ASEAN Plus Three</b>		
8 May 2015	13 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Senior Labour Officials Meeting	Manila, Philippines
8 June 2014	ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials' Meeting	Yangon, Myanmar
19 June 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on RDPE	Bohol, Philippines
19-20 June 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> National Laboratories Contact Points in ASEAN Plus Three Countries	Singapore
3 July 2014	9 <sup>th</sup> SOMTC+3 Working Group Meeting on Narcotics	Manila, Philippines



7 August 2014	ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials' Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
29 August 2014	11 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Environment (SOME)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
11-20 September 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting	Ha Noi, Viet Nam
12 September 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting	Vientiane, Lao PDR
24 September 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> ACCSM+3 Joint Technical Working Group Meeting	Yangon, Myanmar
24 September 2014	14 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Plus Three (14 <sup>th</sup> AMAF+3)	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
26 September 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three Heads of Civil Service Matters	Yangon, Myanmar
29-30 September 2014	ASEAN+3 Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation Task Force (CMIM-TF) Meeting	Tokyo, Japan
9 October 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth	Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
10 October 2014	ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials' Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
17 October 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three Committee on Women	Yangon, Myanmar
31 October 2014	13 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers Meeting (13 <sup>th</sup> EMM+3)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
3-5 November 2014	ASEAN+3 Task Force Meeting	Seoul, Korea
4 November 2014	CPR Plus Three Working Group Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
27 November 2014	9 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development	Vientiane, Lao PDR
4-5 December 2014	ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Deputies' Meeting (AFCDM+3)	Tokyo, Japan
8 December 2014	CPR Plus Three Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
22-25 January 2015	26 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN NTOs+3 , China, Japan and Korea	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
29-31 January 2015	ASEAN+3 CMIM-TF Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
4-6 March 2015	ASEAN+3 Task Force Meeting	Seoul, Korea
26-27 March 2015	Working Group Meeting to Develop Exercise Materials and Scenarios for the ASEAN+3 FETN Ebola Simulation Exercise	Bangkok, Thailand
6-7 April 2015	AFCDM+3	Seoul, Korea
22-24 April 2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Working Group Meeting on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education	Bangkok, Thailand
2-3 May 2015	AFCDM+3; ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (AFMGM+3)	Baku, Azerbaijan
21-22 May 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three FETN Steering Committee Meeting Back-to-back with Table-Top Exercise Workshop on Ebola Virus Disease Preparedness in ASEAN Plus Three countries	Halong Bay, Viet Nam
26-30 May 2015	SOME+3	Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
<b>East Asia Summit (EAS)</b>		
8 June 2014	EAS Senior Officials' Meeting	Yangon, Myanmar
7 August 2014	EAS Senior Officials' Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
29 August 2014	EAS Officials Meeting (EAS-OM) for the Preparation of the 4 <sup>th</sup> EAS Environment Ministers Meeting (EAS EMM)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
12 September 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting	Vientiane, Lao PDR

10 October 2014	EAS Senior Officials' Meeting	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
31 October 2014	4 <sup>th</sup> EAS Environment Ministers Meeting (EAS EMM)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
26-30 May 2015	EAS Energy Taskforce	Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
<b>ASEAN-United Nations</b>		
22 September 2014	ASEAN-UN Secretariat-Secretariat Meeting	New York, US
24 September 2014	ASEAN-UN Senior Officials' Preparatory Meeting	New York, US
26 September 2014	ASEAN FMs Meeting with UNSG/UNGA President	New York, US
<b>CELAC</b>		
27 September 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN-CELAC Ministerial Meeting	New York, US
<b>Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO)</b>		
27 September 2014	14 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ECO Ministerial Meeting	New York, US
<b>Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)</b>		
16-17 October 2014	10 <sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit (ASEM10)	Milan, Italy
9-12 March 2015	ASEM Forum on Lifelong Learning-Renewing the Agenda for Lifelong Learning	Bali, Indonesia
31 Mar-1 Apr 2015	1/2015 ASEM Senior Officials' Meeting	Bangkok, Thailand
<b>Pacific Alliance</b>		
25 September 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meeting	New York, US
25 May 2015	1 <sup>st</sup> CPR-Ambassadors of Pacific Alliance Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN Audit Committee Meeting</b>		
3-6 June 2014	39 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Audit Committee Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia
13-15 October 2014	Special ASEAN Audit Committee Meeting on IPSAS	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>ASEAN Budget Committee Meeting</b>		
23-25 September 2014	ASEAN Sub Committee on Budget (2015 Financial Year)	Jakarta, Indonesia
<b>Other Related Meetings</b>		
25 September 2014	Bilateral Meeting between ASEAN SG and SG of OSCE	New York, US
26 September 2014	Breakfast Meeting of the Groups of Friends of Meditation	New York, US
29 November 2014	54 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN-BAC Meeting UMFCCI Office Tower	Yangon, Myanmar
29 November 2014	2014 ASEAN-BAC Chairmanship Handover Ceremony	Yangon, Myanmar
10-11 March	ASEAN-OECD Good Regulatory Practices (GRP) Conference 2015	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
11-12 March 2015	13 <sup>th</sup> Fund Advisory Group	Jakarta, Indonesia



The ASEAN Emblem represents a stable, peaceful, united and dynamic ASEAN. The colours of the Emblem - blue, red, white and yellow - represent the main colours of the crests of all the ASEAN Member States.

Blue represents peace and stability. Red depicts courage and dynamism. White shows purity and yellow symbolises prosperity.

The ten stalks of padi represent the dream of ASEAN's Founding Fathers for an ASEAN comprising all the ten countries in Southeast Asia bound together in friendship and solidarity. The circle represents the unity of ASEAN.

The specification of Pantone Colour adopted for the colours of the ASEAN Emblem are:

Blue : Pantone 286  
Red : Pantone Red 032  
Yellow : Pantone Process Yellow

For four-colour printing process, the specifications of colours will be:

Blue : 100C 60M 0Y 6K (100C 60M 0Y 10K)  
Red : 0C 91M 87Y 0K (0C 90M 90Y 0K)  
Yellow : 0C 0M 100Y 0K

Specifications in brackets are to be used when an arbitrary measurement of process colours is not possible.

In Pantone Process Colour Simulator, the specifications equal to:

Blue : Pantone 204-1  
Red : Pantone 60-1  
Yellow : Pantone 1-3

The font used for the word "ASEAN" in the Emblem is lower-case Helvetica in bold.



The ASEAN Flag represents a stable, peaceful, united and dynamic ASEAN. The colours of the Flag - blue, red, white and yellow - represent the main colours of the flags of all the ASEAN Member States.

Blue represents peace and stability. Red depicts courage and dynamism. White shows purity and yellow symbolises prosperity.

The ten stalks of padi represent the dream of ASEAN's Founding Fathers for an ASEAN comprising all the ten countries in Southeast Asia bound together in friendship and solidarity. The circle represents the unity of ASEAN.

The specification of Pantone Colour adopted for the colours of the ASEAN Flag are:

Blue : Pantone 19-4053 TC  
Red : Pantone 18-1655 TC  
White : Pantone 11-4202 TC  
Yellow : Pantone 13-0758 TC

For the printed version, the specifications of colours (except white) will follow those for the colours of the ASEAN Emblem, i.e.:

Blue : Pantone 286 or Process Colour 100C 60M 0Y 6K  
Red : Pantone Red 032 Process Colour 0C 91M 87Y 0K  
Yellow : Pantone Process Yellow Process Colour 0C 0M 100Y 0K

The ratio of the width to the length of the Flag is two to three and the size specifications for the official flags are:

Table Flag : 10 cm x 15 cm  
Room Flag : 100 cm x 150 cm  
Car Flag : 10 cm x 30 cm  
Field Flag : 200 cm x 300 cm

Soprano

# ASEAN Anthem The ASEAN WAY

Lyricist : Payom Valaiphatchra

Music: Kittikhun Sodprasert  
& Sampao Triudom  
Arr.: Kittikhun Sodprasert

**Allegretto Maestoso** ♩=100

**A**

Raise our flag high, sky high Em-brace the pride in our heart A-SEAN we are bonded as one Look-in out to the world. For peace, our goal from the ve-ry start And pros-pe ri ty to last. We dare to dream we care to share. To-ge-ther for A-SEAN we dare to dream we care to share for it's the way of A-SEAN

*mp* *mf* *f* *rit.* *ff*

Copyright © ASEAN 2551



ASEAN: A Community of Opportunities



[www.asean.org](http://www.asean.org)



ASEAN



@ASEAN



ASEAN