

**ASEAN Work Plan
on Combating Illicit Drug Production, Trafficking and Use
2009 - 2015¹**

I. Background:

ASEAN Foreign Ministers, at the 31st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in July 1998, signed the Joint Declaration for a Drug-Free ASEAN by 2020 that affirmed the Association's commitment to eradicate illicit drug production, processing, trafficking and use by the year 2020 in ASEAN. At the 33rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in July 2000, Governments reiterated their concerns on the threat from drug abuse and drug trafficking on the security and stability of the ASEAN region and agreed to advance the target year for realizing a drug-free ASEAN to 2015.

However, the goal of "Drug-free ASEAN" was not further elaborated, whether it was zero drug-free or what drug-free really means. At the 28th ASOD meeting in Hanoi it was decided that a workshop would be organised in Jakarta, Indonesia to consider the report "Drug – free ASEAN 2015: Status and Recommendations" prepared by UNODC funded by US Government. At this workshop, the goal "drug-free ASEAN" was elaborated into "A vision of a drug-free ASEAN" which later adopted by ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crimes (AMMTC) in Brunei Darussalam, November 6th, 2007.

Following the discussion, the Workshop agreed that the vision of a drug-free ASEAN 2015 is to successfully and effectively control illicit drugs activities and mitigate its negative consequences to society. These include significant and sustainable reductions in:

- i. illicit crop cultivation;
- ii. illicit manufacturing and trafficking of drugs and drug-related crime; and
- iii. the prevalence of illicit drug use.

The Meeting also agreed on the benchmarks for the key elements as follows:

- i) Benchmarks for the significant and sustainable reduction of illicit crop cultivation
 - a. Insignificant opium poppy cultivation by 2015;
 - b. Insignificant cannabis cultivation by 2015; and
 - c. Provision of sustainable livelihood to former illicit crops producing farmers.
- ii) Benchmarks for the significant and sustainable reduction of illicit manufacturing and trafficking of drugs and drug-related crime:
 - a. Elimination of syndicates involved in the clandestine production of illicit drugs;

¹ The Draft ASEAN Work Plan on Combating Illicit Drug Production, Trafficking and Use, 2009 – 2015 was adopted by the ASOD Workshop on the Work Plan on 1 July 2009 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam

- b. Elimination of syndicates involved in trafficking of illicit drugs;
 - c. Elimination of diversion and smuggling of precursor chemicals; and
 - d. Enhance cross-border and transnational law enforcement collaboration and cooperation.
- iii) Benchmarks for the significant and sustainable reduction of the prevalence of illicit drug use:
- a. Reduce the overall prevalence of illicit drug abuse in the general population, in particular students, youth and those in high-risk and vulnerable groups (i.e. street children, sex workers, and employees in labour-intense occupations);
 - b. Increase access to treatment ,rehabilitation and aftercare services to drug abusers with the purpose of ensuring full re-integration into society; and
 - c. Increase and enhance partnerships between the public and private sectors and civil society organizations in response to the abuse of illicit drugs.

Also at the 28th ASOD Meeting, representative from ASEAN recognised that ASEAN so far had no specific work plan to realise this goal of drug-free ASEAN by 2015. Therefore, at the proposal made by Vietnam, the meeting agreed that a “Workshop on ASEAN Work Plan on Combatting Illicit Drugs Manufacturing, Trafficking and Abuse” would be organised in Vietnam to consider a draft of ASEAN Work Plan which at that time was drafted by ASEAN Secretariat and asked ASEAN Secretariat to work with Japan to secure the fund for the workshop.

II. The Preparation for the ASEAN Work Plan

Upon notification of the availability of fund, Standing Office on Drugs Control of Vietnam started drafting the Work Plan. By combining the adopted “vision of ASEAN drug-free” and the ASEAN Secretariat draft work plan, SODC has developed a new draft of ASEAN Work Plan. The Blue Print for the ASEAN socio-cultural community (2008-2015) was also referred to during the process of drafting the Work plan. The work plan is structured to include actions would be taken to achieve each benchmark of the adopted vision. By this way, the ASEAN work plan is different from other action plans under other cooperation frameworks. Given limited time available till 2015, it is necessary that the work plan was short and actionable. The Draft also takes advantage of the “Drug-Free ASEAN 2015: Status and Recommendations” report by UNODC then adopted by ASEAN Member States especially in terms of “expected outcomes” and recommendations.

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To realise the goal of “ASEAN Drug-Free 2015” the ASEAN Work Plan on combating illicit drug production, trafficking and use has been developed and will incorporate the following monitoring and evaluation mechanism:

- To establish a baseline through a standardised Country Report format utilising 2008 statistical data presented at the 30th ASOD meeting. The data shall be in percentage terms as applicable
- To conduct an annual review through Country Report during the ASOD Meeting
- ASOD to conduct a Mid-term Review in 2012
- ASOD to conduct a Final Assessment in 2015 and take stock of activities under the work plan

Part I: actions would be taken to achieve Significant and sustainable education in illicit crops cultivation

1. Insignificant cultivation of opium poppy, cannabis and other illicit crops by 2015.

Actions:

- 1.1 To analyze the root causes, such as socio-economic factors, which motivate farmers to cultivate illicit crops and, through research, determine mechanisms that farmers who ceased cultivation of illicit crops have employed to cope successfully with the change in crop cultivation and by taking action on issues which impact the welfare of farmers who cease illicit crop production and cultivate alternative crops;
- 1.2 To allocate funds from the Government to provide support to farmers and communities that stop illicit opium poppy and cannabis cultivation and policies should be integrated into overall development plans to integrate communities into the economic mainstream;
- 1.3 To continue the implementation, if applicable, of annual opium and cannabis surveys to identify and measure illicit cultivation and production and, at the same time, build capacity by sharing experiences on monitoring and conducting assessments and by developing effective information management systems;

- 1.4 To improve bilateral and regional cooperation among concerned institutions to reduce illicit crops cultivation through alternative development, sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices on alternative development.
- 1.5 To promote partnership with relevant stakeholders, including local communities, non-governmental organisations and private enterprises, and strengthening cooperation with relevant United Nations and international organizations; and
- 1.6 To increase law enforcement to eradicate illicit opium poppy, cannabis and other cultivation used for the production of narcotics drugs and psychotropic substances.

2. Provision of sustainable alternative livelihood development to former illicit crops producing farmers.

Actions:

- 2.1 To provide sustainable alternative livelihood development and income generation to farmers cultivating illicit crops through a combination of regional cooperation among alternative development projects and organizations to promote networking and sharing of innovative practices and by providing for emergency relief, basic needs, and the development of cash crops and export products and sustainable market strategies for the farmers and their families;
- 2.2 To address issues concerning potential poverty and food insecurity, as well as, safety from exploitation of farmers who have ceased cultivating illicit crops and issues concerning the shifting of illicit crop cultivation from eradicated areas to other areas;
- 2.3 To promote wider access for alternative development products to the markets within the region consistent with national and international obligations and applicable multilateral trade rules; and
- 2.4 To develop technical assistance that would help each other in identifying alternative crops as substitute to illicit drug crops and institute sustainable policy reforms by applying sustainable alternative development programmes.

Part II: Actions would be taken to achieve Significant and sustainable reduction in illicit manufacturing and trafficking of drugs and drug-related crime

- 1. Elimination of diversion and smuggling of precursor chemicals and syndicates involved in the clandestine production of illicit drugs:**

Actions:

- 1.1 To support special initiatives under Project Prism and Project Cohesion and seek to contribute towards the standardization of precursor control methodologies for the ASEAN Region;
- 1.2 To collaborate with the customs authorities to integrate notification modalities into the free trade agreements and transport facilitation agreements under the ASEAN Single Window initiative;
- 1.3 To strengthen national capacity building for law enforcement and regulatory agency personnel in the field of precursor control;
- 1.4 To enhance scientific laboratory capacity in precursors identification, drug profiling and analysis for enforcement operation and intelligence;
- 1.5 To develop partnership with chemical and pharmaceutical industries and other stakeholders to prevent diversion of precursor chemicals;
- 1.6 To share experiences and best practices, exchange information and take joint actions at the operational level on chemical diversion, backtracking investigation, and illicit drug manufacture;
- 1.7 To conduct exchange of experiences and knowledge and expertise about the disposal of chemical and toxic drug by-products of clandestine laboratories;
- 1.8 To ensure all ASEAN Member States to fully implement the pre-export notification (PEN) procedure; and
- 1.9 To develop and strengthen national legislation, operating procedures and compliance mechanisms to prevent diversion of precursor chemicals from licit trade.

2. Elimination of syndicates involved in trafficking of illicit drugs:

Actions:

- 2.1 To implement or strengthen preventive, enforcement, and legislative measures such as asset forfeiture, anti-money laundering, and controlled delivery to combat all forms of drug-related crimes;
- 2.2 To provide adequate and targeted training to law enforcement, customs and border control authorities in combating trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
- 2.3 To increase information-sharing among law enforcement authorities and judicial cooperation in order to identify and investigate criminal organizations

- involved in trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their possible links with other criminal activities;
- 2.4 To enable law enforcement agencies adapt and adequately address the changing nature of the drug trafficking problems, particularly with regards to newly emerging technologies, routes and concealment methods used by traffickers;
 - 2.5 To continue to give attention to the development of methods for gathering and using hard-to-reach intelligence and evidence, including judicially sanctioned evidence-gathering techniques such as electronic surveillance, structured informant programmes and controlled delivery;
 - 2.6 To monitor, in collaboration with the international community, the nature, use, extent and impact of cybertechnology on trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as well as online pharmacies operating or delivering pharmaceutical preparations containing internationally controlled narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances within their respective jurisdictions and give consideration to the development and implementation of legislation and training opportunities in order to respond effectively to the emerging problem;
 - 2.7 To expedite information and intelligence exchange on the profile of drug syndicate groups as well as watch list of their drug activities;
 - 2.8 To strengthen the capacity of the pillars of the criminal justice system on drug control particularly judges, prosecutors, and law enforcement officials; and
 - 2.9 To make use of ASEAN Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty and other existing bilateral Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties to provide assistance in investigations.

3. Enhance cross-border law enforcement collaboration and cooperation

Actions:

- 3.1 To consolidate, expand/establish drug control cross-border liaison structures and concerted operational cooperation at the local, national and regional levels, where applicable;
- 3.2 To intensify concerted drug control cross-border cooperation and joint investigation operations at local, national, and regional levels; and
- 3.3 To explore possibilities for increase joint cooperation to combat drug trafficking via waterways and air routes through a regional expert working group meeting and to establish direct communication among countries between concerned authorities at the international entry ports.

Part III. Significant and sustainable reduction of the prevalence of illicit drug use

1. Reduce the prevalence of illicit drug use:

Actions:

- 1.1 To intensify and strategise effective awareness and preventive education campaign against illicit drug use;
- 1.2 To develop, intensify, and effectively implement family, school, workplace and community-based drug prevention and drug abuse control programmes;
- 1.3 To develop and implement specific programmes for high-risk groups;
- 1.4 To enlist and foster public support in combating illicit drug use;
- 1.5 To intensify preventive education programmes on the relationship between illicit drug use and spread of HIV/AIDS among both the general population (especially young people) and illicit drug users;
- 1.6 To develop or make use of relevant existing training manuals for programme planners and implementers;
- 1.7 To document knowledge, experience, and expertise on demand and supply reduction and circulate the publication among the ASEAN Member States
- 1.8 To establish partnerships between the public and private sectors, including the media, non-governmental and community-based organizations, academic and research institutions, and religious-based organizations to plan, execute, and monitor civic awareness initiatives and to advocate drug abuse prevention programmes
- 1.9 To generate the sharing of experiences and lessons learnt on demand reduction; and
- 1.10 To develop a pool of trainers and experts in the field of drug demand reduction and drug control programmes

2. Increase access to treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare services to drug abusers with the purpose of ensuring full re-integration into society:

Actions:

- 2.1 To provide and/or support a range of treatment modalities, for different categories of drug abuse to drug treatment services;
- 2.2 To expand community-based supervision and aftercare programmes;

- 2.3 To ensure strong family and community support and involvement in the recovery process;
- 2.4 To develop an effective management information systems for monitoring treatment progress, discharge status, and follow-up evaluation as a mechanism to refine programme operations and improve treatment service delivery effectiveness;
- 2.5 To scale up treatment coverage and widen the social net for drug dependence in order to facilitate accessibility to treatment services;
- 2.6 To establish treatment sites in accessible locations;
- 2.7 To provide capacity building and skills development of service providers with the possible cooperation with external partners; and
- 2.8 To provide assistance to the establishment and maintenance of treatment and rehabilitation centres.

3. Increase and enhance partnerships between the public and private sectors and civil society organisations in response to the abuse of illicit drug use:

Actions:

- 3.1 To synergise collaboration between Governments and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the planning, execution and monitoring of civic awareness initiatives on local and/or national levels and in providing health and several rehabilitation, employment training and placement;
- 3.2 To establish partnerships with academic and research institutions for the development of effective and research-based communication campaigns;
- 3.3 To actively engage the support of religious-based organisations, Community-based Organisations (CBOs), and the private sector to implement civic awareness activities for specific target groups;
- 3.4 To establish workplace prevention programmes that provides information to employees and their families, and skills training to supervisors;
- 3.5 To develop national guidelines for the participation of the private sector, NGOs, and CBOs in civic awareness initiatives; and
- 3.6 To engage NGOs in formulating policies, planning, and implementing prevention and education programmes.
