

MANILA PLAN OF ACTION TO ADVANCE THE PHNOM PENH DECLARATION ON THE EAST ASIA SUMMIT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (2018-2022)

This Plan of Action (POA) is intended to ensure practical coordination, cooperation and implementation of the East Asia Summit (EAS) Leaders' decisions and proposals consistent with the principles of the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the East Asia Summit, the Leaders' agreed priority areas of cooperation at the 2nd EAS East Asia Summit in Cebu, Philippines in 2007, the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration on the Commemoration of the 5th Anniversary of the East Asia Summit, the 2011 Declaration of the 6th EAS East Asia Summit on ASEAN Connectivity in Bali, Indonesia, the 2012 Phnom Penh Declaration on the EAS Development Initiative, and the 2015 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the 10th Anniversary of the EAS.

This POA replaces the Plan of Action to Implement the Phnom Penh Declaration on the EAS Development Initiative (2015-2017).

The EAS will continue to be a Leaders-led forum for dialogue on broad strategic, political, and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability, and economic prosperity in East Asia. The EAS will continue to pursue areas of cooperation as identified by Leaders and Ministers that include, but are not limited to, the following: environment and energy, education, finance, global health issues and pandemic diseases, natural disaster management, ASEAN connectivity, trade and economic, food security and maritime cooperation.

Given that the EAS is an integral component of the evolving regional architecture with ASEAN as a driving force, the EAS will continue these discussions among EAS Ambassadors in Jakarta with optional participation of similarly-ranked officials from capitals as noted in the 12th EAS Chairman's Statement.

The following cooperation in EAS streams of work should be carried out in conformity with the EAS participating countries' obligations under international law and in accordance with their respective domestic laws, regulations, and policies:

1. ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COOPERATION

1.1 Work toward further mainstreaming sustainable development, and promoting balanced, inclusive, and sustainable approaches:

1.1.1 Seek to develop activities linked to the implementation of regionally relevant outcomes, building on existing ASEAN programs, other relevant regional activities of the United Nations (UN) Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20);

1.2 Increase the policy dialogue and communication and forge greater collaboration through mechanisms, including the EAS Environment Ministers' Meeting and EAS Energy Ministers' Meeting;

1.3 Recognize the Cebu Declaration on East Asian Energy Security and the Singapore Declaration on Climate Change, Energy and the Environment;

1.4 Support the implementation of the activities, action plans, and research studies on energy cooperation being carried out under the ASEAN framework and between ASEAN and Dialogue Partners, including:

1.4.1 ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2016-2025 Phase I: 2016-2020;

1.4.2 EAS Energy Cooperation Task Force (EAS ECTF) work plan;

1.4.3 East Asia Low Carbon-Growth Partnership Initiatives;

1.4.4 Research Studies consistent with the EAS Mid-Term Energy Policy Research Roadmap;

1.4.5 Research Studies by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) for EAS Energy Cooperation following to EAS Mid Term Energy Policy Research Roadmap, but not limited to:

(i) Sharing EAS energy supply/demand outlook;

- EAS energy outlooks for the medium-to-long-term

(ii) Enhancement of security of energy supply;

- Study on social benefit brought by high standard emission regulations in ASEAN
- Enhancing energy supply chain resilience
- Study on sustainable development of natural gas market in the EAS region
- Assessing the potential small-scale LNG distribution and pipeline

(iii) Climate change mitigation and environment protection;

- Promotion of energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emission mitigation in the transport sector
- Assessment of electricity storage technology for Solar/PV

(iv) Building basic information and knowledge;

- Capacity building training on preparation of energy statistics for Lao PDR and Myanmar

1.5 Conduct joint research and development (R&D) and investment on renewable and alternative energy, which may include, as appropriate:

1.5.1 Encouraging the active role of the Biofuels for Transport and Other Purposes Work Stream and the Renewable and Alternative Power Generation Work Stream;

1.5.2 Continuing to support the EAS Clean Energy Forum;

1.5.3 Encourage interested EAS participating countries to consider supporting, where applicable and on a voluntary basis, the work of the International Solar Alliance, among others;

1.6 Stimulate discourse analyzing the barriers to renewable energy policies and of investment in renewable energy:

1.6.1 Promote dialogue on reform of fuel subsidies which encourage wasteful consumption, while recognizing the importance of providing those in need with essential energy services;

1.6.2 Encourage renewable energy investments and balanced financing in the renewable energy sector;

1.7 Promote the deployment of advanced technologies on energy efficiency and conservation:

1.7.1 Encourage the active role of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Work Stream and support the research study on smart and eco-friendly cities by ERIA;

1.8 Enhance research and cooperation on sustainable urban development and smart solutions as well as raise the environmental awareness of the general public:

1.8.1 Encourage support for programs on sustainable and smart cities, and continue holding the High-Level Seminar on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (HLS-ESC);

1.9 Bring to a higher level the work on EAS cooperation in climate change adaptation and mitigation:

1.9.1 Continue cooperation through the East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership in order to build awareness of climate change mitigation;

1.9.2 Continue to hold the EAS Seminar on Climate Change Adaptation Capacity Building bearing in mind that adaptation and mitigation are both important in addressing the short and long-term effects of climate change in the EAS region;

- 1.9.3 Encourage cooperation with the Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) under the auspices of the Global Adaptation Network (GAN);
- 1.9.4 Encourage the establishment of the East Asia Center for Climate Change Research and International Cooperation;
- 1.9.5 Promote dialogue and cooperation in the field of advanced energy technologies, including carbon capture and storage, energy storage, and energy efficiency and clean and renewable energy technologies in electrical power generation and transport;
- 1.9.6 Continue to promote the usage of renewable energy resources, such as wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, biomass, and ocean energy;
- 1.10 Encourage support to the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), a regional organization and center of excellence dedicated to the promotion of regional collaboration on biodiversity conservation;
- 1.11 Continue to promote the conservation, protection and preservation of the marine environment through responsible and sustainable use of marine resources, building on initiatives of various ASEAN-led mechanisms;

2. EDUCATION COOPERATION

- 2.1 Increase communication and dialogue in educational policies through the EAS Education Ministers' Meeting and other mechanisms;
- 2.2 Foster long-term and mutually beneficial educational cooperation through alignment of future EAS Cooperation on Education and ensuring its complementarity with the ASEAN Work Plan on Education 2016-2020;
- 2.3 Implement relevant programmes/projects/activities with an emphasis on inclusive and quality primary, secondary and higher education including technical and vocational education and training (TVET);
- 2.4 Develop and promote school programmes in history, culture, geography, languages and social studies to enhance mutual understanding among EAS participating countries;
- 2.5 Encourage the exchange of educational materials, where appropriate and on a voluntary basis;
- 2.6 Promote student, youth and people-to-people exchanges among EAS participating countries through such means as the continued conduct of study and scholarship programmes;

- 2.7 Encourage the development of Nalanda University's networks with universities of EAS participating countries to promote academic cooperation and research;
- 2.8 Strengthen competency of teachers and educators in ICT and 21st Century skills and encourage promotion of a life-long learning society;
- 2.9 Promote Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in the region and encourage promotion of a life-long learning society;
- 2.10 Promote academic and training programs/projects/activities that incorporated competencies of the fourth industrial revolution and 21st century skills;
- 2.11 Support educational programs that implement blended learning and digital platforms to improve access to quality education for all;
- 2.12 Promote the initiative of the common educational space and recognition of qualifications and diplomas within the region;
- 2.13 Encourage qualifications, diplomas and learning pathways that provide opportunities to broaden graduate skills;
- 2.14 Encourage cooperation to promote learning pathways for broadening graduates' skills;

3. FINANCE COOPERATION

- 3.1 Work closely to strengthen the global economic recovery and regional financial cooperation through exchanges of views on macro-economic and financial developments, and enhance the communication of monetary policies and improve collaboration to manage and mitigate regional financial risks and achieve strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth;
- 3.2 Develop finance as a priority area of EAS cooperation through the exchange of views on regional and international finance developments;
- 3.3 Strengthen human resources development and capacity-building in finance to narrow development gaps in the region;

4. COOPERATION ON GLOBAL HEALTH ISSUES AND PANDEMIC DISEASES

- 4.1 Enhance regional preparedness and capacity through comprehensive and integrated approaches to (i) prevention; (ii) control; (iii) care; (iv) management; (v) surveillance; and (vi) timely response to communicable diseases such as HIV and AIDS, dengue, tuberculosis: other emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases such as drug-resistant malaria and impacts of pandemics. Specific relevant activities may include, but are not limited to the following:

- 4.1.1 Support the implementation of the Declaration of the EAS on Regional Responses to Malaria Control, and Addressing Resistance to Antimalarial Medicine;
 - 4.1.2 Support the work of the Asia-Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance (APLMA) to enhance East Asia cooperation in dealing with malaria issues in the region through Leaders-led dialogue;
 - 4.1.3 Support the full implementation of the International Health Regulations across all EAS Participating Countries to strengthen health security in the region, including to improve public health emergency preparedness and response;
 - 4.1.4 Promote collaborative research and development on relevant health intervention and technologies for the prevention, treatment, care, and management of emerging infectious and communicable diseases;
 - 4.1.5 Support the implementation of the One Health Approach across all EAS participating countries to strengthen prevention, detection and response capacities to efficiently address the interconnectedness of the health of humans with the health of animals and the environment;
- 4.2 Encourage cooperation, based on the aspirations of Universal Health Coverage, to increase access to quality primary health care services for all people of the region especially in maternal, newborn, child and elderly health, focusing on:
- (i) Equitable access to health care services;
 - (ii) Affordable health care services;
 - (iii) Quality primary health care, in particular in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV);
 - (iv) Regional coordination and cooperation on public health policies and regulations;
 - (v) Establishing and sustaining networks of health care services;
 - (vi) Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - (vii) Fostering elderly health services in the area of community-based integrated care, functional recovery care, including human resource-development, promotion of necessary healthcare services, and active aging and improvement of access to medicines in close cooperation with relevant organizations including ERIA;
- 4.3 Strengthen regional cooperation to enhance access to affordable and essential healthcare services, and safe, high-quality and affordable medicines, as well as to promote a healthy lifestyle;
- 4.4 Enhance coordination and cooperation on public health;

4.5 Enhance capacity building of EAS participating countries in the area of public health which may include, but is not limited to the following:

4.5.1 Improve management of human resources for health and conduct training courses for public health workers;

4.5.2 Explore ways to promote regional cooperation in enhancing national health system response and resilience to all hazards such as natural disasters, pandemics or emerging infectious diseases, which may include among others emergency and disaster medicines;

4.5.3 Provide timely notification to WHO of events that may constitute a public health emergency of international concern, as required by the International Health Regulations, and to early sharing of surveillance data so as to limit the loss of life and economic damage;

4.5.4 Strengthen cooperation in responding to the threats on the spread of communicable diseases through discussions among public health senior officials of the EAS participating countries and consider the possibility of organising regular meetings of heads of services responsible for combating infectious diseases;

4.6 Promote sharing of best practices and information exchange on health-related technologies;

4.7 Improve the health status of the people of the region towards achieving the targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5. COOPERATION ON NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

5.1 Implement decisions and measures outlined in the Cha-am Hua Hin Statement on EAS Disaster Management and continue to discuss the linkage between the EAS Paper on a Practical Approach to Enhance Regional Cooperation on Disaster Rapid Response and the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response Work Programme 2016-2020;

5.2 Support the operation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre), and encourage all EAS participating countries to provide funding and technical support;

5.3 Build on the linkage between the EAS Paper and other disaster management activities under the EAS and ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2016-2020 as well as promote information-sharing, rapid response, and coordinated action;

5.4 Deepen engagement between the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and national disaster management authorities of non-ASEAN EAS participating countries to guide cooperation in disaster management and disaster risk reduction (AU):

5.4.1 Support the ACDM Session on EAS Cooperation on Disaster Management;

5.4.2 Consider continued participation of National Disaster Response Agencies of EAS participating countries in the 24x7 Points of Contact Network Meetings, and in providing updated inputs for the Virtual Knowledge Portal;

5.5 Conduct disaster response and recovery exercises, in coordination with other regional forums, keeping in mind the importance of avoiding unnecessary duplication to strengthen the capacity of regional countries to cope with natural disasters:

5.5.1 Support the EAS Earthquake Response and Relief Joint Exercise;

5.5.2 Continue to support the implementation of 2011 Indonesian-Australian Paper on Practical Approach to Enhance Regional Cooperation on Disaster Rapid Response and 2014 EAS Statement on Rapid Disaster Response, including in support of the implementation of the One ASEAN One Response Declaration;

5.6 Conduct capacity-building, exchange of experiences, and sound practices in disaster management:

5.6.1 Conduct capacity-building activities on disaster risk reduction and response including preparedness reporting in accordance with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction;

5.6.2 Promote exchange of knowledge and experience on medical rehabilitation treatment, both mental and physical health under the framework of the World Health Organization (WHO);

6. COOPERATION ON ASEAN CONNECTIVITY

6.1 Support the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 and encourage EAS participating countries to provide funding and technical support on the following areas of cooperation:

6.1.1 Strengthen connectivity through support in the five strategic areas, namely sustainable infrastructure, digital innovation, seamless logistics, regulatory excellence, and people mobility;

6.1.2 Implement the outcomes of the EAS Regulatory Roundtable;

6.1.3 Strengthen cooperation to implement the Vientiane Declaration on Promoting Infrastructure Development Cooperation in East Asia;

6.1.4 Encourage efficient and sustainable infrastructure development in ASEAN and the development of quality infrastructure that ensures, economic efficiency in view of life cycle cost, safety, resilience against natural disaster, job creation, capacity building and transfer of expertise and know-how, and alignment with local economic and development strategies;

6.1.5 Encourage deeper engagement between the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity (ACCC) and non-ASEAN EAS participating countries;

6.1.6 Strengthen transport infrastructure connectivity including by facilitating the establishment of a green, safe, secure and efficient transportation network, for the promotion of economic prosperity and sustainable development, recognizing the importance of competent human capital in creating this network as well as encouraging collaboration by the EAS participating countries in developing joint personnel training;

6.1.7 Enhance the development of infrastructure, services and institutional connectivity;

6.1.8 Welcome and support the efforts to develop synergies amongst the various connectivity strategies in the region with a view to encouraging the development of sustainable, quality, and resilient regional connectivity initiatives and synergizing common priorities identified in the MPAC 2025;

6.2 Encourage public and private sectors to actively participate in the priority projects of the MPAC 2025 to enhance connectivity and encourage business enterprises to directly engage in the investment, construction and operation of the projects;

6.3 Encourage the ACCC to also engage with other external partners, including ERIA, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), and World Bank in implementing the MPAC 2025 and Declaration of the 6th EAS on ASEAN Connectivity;

6.4 Enhance people-to-people connectivity through the promotion of tourism, education and cultural cooperation, including through North-South cooperation, South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation;

6.5 Encourage the EAS participating countries to play active roles in ASEAN Connectivity through multi-layered regional frameworks and sharing best practices;

7. ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND TRADE

7.1 Strengthen economic cooperation and dialogue in trade through the EAS Economic Ministers' Meeting, EAS Senior Economic Officials' Meeting, and other mechanisms, including business forums;

7.2 Support regional economic integration efforts and strengthen and promote trade and investment among the EAS participating countries by:

7.2.1 Supporting the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint 2025;

7.2.2 Reaffirm the commitment to further strengthen regional economic integration in the East Asia region and note developments in ongoing trade negotiations;

8. FOOD SECURITY COOPERATION

8.1 Support the implementation of the EAS Declaration on Food Security and strengthen EAS cooperation in the field of food security;

8.2 Participate in activities of the EAS Track II Study Group on Enhancing Food Security through Sustainable Fisheries Management and Marine Environmental Conservation on a voluntary basis;

8.3 Promote responsible and sustainable fishing;

9. MARITIME COOPERATION

9.1 Promote sustainable and responsible fisheries management and fishery development including long-term conservation and sustainable use and management of fish stocks as well as encourage the assessment and implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM);

9.2 Promote cooperation on combating marine plastic pollution to effectively establish and implement a coherent and coordinated regional approach, focused on prevention and management of waste and litter and promotion of investments in waste management infrastructure also through cooperation with the private sector;

9.3 Promote technical and scientific cooperation as well as capacity building based on EAS participating countries' common needs and interest in order to foster the sustainable coastal and marine environment and economic cooperation and address transboundary marine and coastal pollution damage resulting from land-based and sea-based sources of marine debris in the region;

- 9.4 Enhance cooperation in building coastal resilience for disaster risk reduction as mandated in AADMER through relevant ASEAN-led mechanisms such as AHA Centre;
- 9.5 Promote economic development cooperation and sustainable marine resources management, through encouraging maritime and marine investment, sustainable marine-tourism; and marine and fisheries industry development including port and logistics management, and safe and environmentally-sound ship building, ship repairing and ship breaking;
- 9.6 Ensure that all countries enjoy and exercise freedom of navigation and overflight in accordance with international law, as reflected in the 1982 UNCLOS;
- 9.7 Promote maritime security and safety through dialogue and cooperation in accordance with the relevant international legal instruments and guidelines;
- 9.8 Promote maritime security and safety through confidence building and preventive measures, such as promoting international efforts in the fight against piracy on the high seas and armed robbery against ships, and strengthening by the involved countries of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), North Pacific Coast Guard Forum (NPCGF), Western Pacific Naval Symposium (WPNS), Head of Asian Coast Guard Agency Meeting (HACGAM), Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) Exercise, Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the ASEAN Defence Minister's Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus);
- 9.9 Prevent and manage accidents and incidents at sea by, among others, developing the region's capacity to conduct Search and Rescue operations for people and vessels in distress at sea; enhancing hotline communications between relevant focal points, in consultation with the relevant Search and Rescue Authorities, national maritime agencies and authorities; enhancing coordination through the establishment of contact groups, sharing of information and sharing of best practice, dialogue and joint exercises on maritime safety, including Search and Rescue as appropriate; in accordance with current established IMO conventions;
- 9.10 Promote confidence building measures and enhancing cooperation to promote peace, stability and regional security through other relevant ASEAN-led mechanisms, including ADMM-Plus, and ARF by convening regional maritime workshops and exercises that promote practical cooperation, transparency and common understanding of the rule of law at sea;
- 9.11 Promote cooperation and coordination between maritime law enforcement agencies such as among Coast Guards and other relevant agencies;
- 9.12 Strengthen cooperation in addressing transboundary challenges;

- 9.13 Increase efforts to develop maritime connectivity in line with and in support of the vision and goals of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and its successor documents, and develop sustainable and resilient infrastructure, logistics and port management, navigation cooperation to promote economic growth that will not only contribute to narrowing development gaps but also promote regional integration and the community building process, as well as better mobility of people, skilled labour, goods and services;
- 9.14 Promote cooperation between research institutions on maritime issues, including through capacity-building, joint research, exchange of expertise and best practices, collaborative activities/programs;
- 9.15 Promote cooperation to improve the management of transboundary fishing and traceability of fishery products;
- 9.16 Explore or undertake relevant cooperative activities, including taking action against cases of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and illegal activities, in accordance with existing international and national law, and instruments, noting the pending comprehensive and durable settlement of territorial and jurisdictional disputes;
- 9.17 Facilitate sharing, exchange and compilation of statistics and information on fisheries among interested countries;
- 9.18 Improve food security and nutrition through diversifying food sources from fisheries and strengthening the quality and variety of food fish production and improving the food value chains;
- 9.19 Promote good aquaculture practices to minimize the negative effects on natural resources and reduce greenhouse gases;
- 9.20 Utilise the role of the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) as an effective platform to constructively engage in open and substantive dialogue;

INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PLAN OF ACTION

The initiatives mentioned in this Plan of Action are intended to be implemented through existing regional frameworks and mechanisms of ASEAN, in close consultation with and support from EAS participating countries, and with appropriate support and from relevant regional and international organizations, including Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), World Bank, and ERIA;

The relevant EAS ministerial meetings and senior officials' meetings are in-charge of reviewing their respective work streams and assessing the progress at regular intervals; and

Progress reports on the implementation of the Plan of Action will be submitted to the annual EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting.