

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

The Sixth Meeting of ASEAN Drug Experts was held in Singapore from 2nd - 7th December 81. Fifty-four ASEAN Drug Experts met and deliberated on :-

- a Law Enforcement & Legislation;
- b Treatment & Rehabilitation;
- c Preventive Education & Information;
- d Training & Research.

The ASEAN Drug Experts thanked Singapore for hosting this Meeting.

2 The ASEAN Drug Experts recognised illicit drug trafficking and abuse as a threat to national security, stability and resilience and encouraged member countries to initiate legislation which will provide compulsory preventive detention of illicit drug traffickers, manufacturers and financiers.

3 To frustrate the activities of the drug traffickers, ASEAN member countries were called upon to adopt measures to deny the issuance and renewal of travel documents to illicit drug traffickers, manufacturers and financiers.

4 ASEAN member countries were also encouraged to exercise stricter control on the importation, distribution and exportation of chemicals used in the manufacture of heroin and to initiate legislative measures providing stiff penalties for the illicit traffic of these chemicals.

5 On the treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependent persons, the ASEAN Drug Experts recognised that community participation and social re-integration of drug dependent persons and ex-drug dependent persons should be strengthened. Efforts by voluntary organizations should be encouraged and financially assisted by Government.

6 The ASEAN Training Centre for Preventive Education & Information formulated a 3-year action plan for the training of personnel in Preventive Drug Education.

7 There should be maximum use of mass media in mobilising public support in favour of Law Enforcement & Legislation, Treatment & Rehabilitation and Preventive Education & Information to combat the drug problem.

8 The ASEAN Drug Experts thanked the ASEAN Standing Committee for approving the establishment of the ASEAN Narcotics Desk and its support in suppressing illicit drug activities.