

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

1. The Fourth Meeting of ASEAN Drug Experts was held in Kuala Lumpur from 26th to 30th November, 1979.
2. The Meeting was attended by delegates from Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia.
3. The Meeting was officially opened by His Excellency Tan Sri Mohd. Ghazali Shafie, Minister of Home Affairs and Chairman of National Executive Action Committee on Dadah. In this speech, he called the delegates to deliberate for the implementation of concrete and specific ASEAN projects in drug control.
4. Tan Sri Osman S. Cassim, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Malaysia gave a keynote address on the "Current State of International Drug Abuse Control – A Need for Integrated Regional Policies and Strategies."
5. The Meeting reviewed the drug problems in each of the ASEAN member countries and the counter-measures taken.
6. The Meeting of the Drug Experts in the fields of Enforcement and Legislation, Treatment and Rehabilitation, Preventive Education and Information, Research and Manpower Development, resulted in an agreement to initiate four ASEAN projects. They are:
 - i) Setting up of a Training Centre for Drug Enforcement Officers in Thailand;
 - ii) Setting up of a Training Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation personnel in Malaysia;
 - iii) Setting up of Training Centre for Preventive Education and Information personnel in the Philippines;
 - iv) Setting up of an ASEAN Monitoring and Co-ordinating Secretariat in Malaysia to monitor, co-ordinate and disseminate information furnished by the three proposed ASEAN Training Centres on Enforcement, Preventive Education and Treatment and Rehabilitation relative to training requirements, manpower needs and availability of resources, be accepted.
7. The Meeting was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of cordiality and mutual understanding.