

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

1. The Ninth ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters was held in Kuala Lumpur from 9 - 13 September, 1985.
2. The Meeting was attended by senior officials from national drug agencies of ASEAN member countries, as follows:

Delegations

a.	Brunei Darussalam	-	3
b.	Indonesia	-	8
c.	Malaysia	-	16
d.	Philippines	-	10
e.	Singapore	-	4
f.	Thailand	-	9

ASEAN Secretariat - 1

Observers

a.	Hong Kong	-	1
b.	Malaysia	-	38

3. The Meeting was officially opened by the Rt. Honourable Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia.

4. The Meeting chaired by Datuk Abdul Kudus bin Alias, Leader of the Malaysian delegation, was conducted in open plenary, close plenary and workshop sessions.

5. The Meeting expressed deep appreciation to the 17th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in Jakarta, 9-10 July and the 18th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, 8-9 July for recognising the problem of the drug abuse and showing strong political will to combat this problem as reflected in their Joint Communiques.

6. The Meeting also took note with appreciation the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Joint Statement on the International Problem of Drug Abuse and Trafficking, issued in Kuala Lumpur on 9 July 1985 and the Statement by the Chairman of the 18th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting/Post Ministerial Conference, on Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on Narcotic Drugs, on 13 July 1985.

7. The Meeting also discussed the Draft Convention on Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. It was also noted that respective ASEAN countries had submitted their proposals and comments to the UN Secretary General.

8. In reviewing the implementation of recommendations and the project proposals agreed to at the Eighth ASEAN Drug Experts Meeting, the Meeting considered the reports of the four projects that had already been implemented, namely:

- i) ASEAN Study on the Use of Preventive Detention Law in Malaysia and Singapore, 10-15 December 1984,
- ii) ASEAN Feasibility Study on the Use of Compulsory Treatment and Rehabilitation Systems in Singapore and Malaysia 13-22 May 1985,
- iii) ASEAN Workshop on Drug Law Enforcement, Bangkok, 11-14 March 1985.
- iv) The Fifth ASEAN Narcotics Law Enforcement Training Course, Bangkok, 5-16 November 1984.

9. The Meeting also discussed the two projects which are in the process of implementation:

- i) ASEAN Drug Prevention Campaign Week for 1985
- ii) ASEAN Drug Prevention Film, and

the four projects still under consideration for funding by dialogue countries:

- i) ASEAN Training Courses for Drug Rehabilitation Professionals (1986 - 1988)
- ii) ASEAN Narcotics Law Enforcement Training (1986 - 1988) in Thailand.

- iii) ASEAN Study-Observation Programme for Preventive Drug Education and Community Information Personnel, in the Philippines,
- iv) ASEAN Study on Conspiracy Investigation and Confiscation of Illegally Acquired Assets of Drug Traffickers in the Philippines.

10. The Meeting also considered new project proposals and technical papers. The Meeting agreed to submit to the ASEAN Standing Committee three new project proposals for final approval as follows:

- (i) ASEAN Project for Training of Native Dogs for Narcotics Detection and Handlers, to be coordinated by Indonesia.
- (ii) The Development of an ASEAN Parent Movement in Drug Abuse Prevention, to be coordinated by Malaysia in collaboration with the ASEAN Womens Programme.
- (iii) The Development of Training Programme for ASEAN Youth in Drug Abuse Prevention Activities, to be coordinated by the Philippines in collaboration with the ASEAN Youth Forum and the Committee for ASEAN Youth Cooperation.

11. The Meeting also discussed the following technical papers:

- (i) The Detection of Cannabinoids in Biological Fluids.
- (ii) Determination of Standard Heroin Level Among Addicts.
- (iii) Prevention and Control of Inhalant Abuse.
- (iv) Emerging Threat of Cocaine in the ASEAN Region.

12. The Meeting expressed its deep appreciation to the outgoing ASEAN Narcotic Desk Officer Lt. Col. Chakrthep Amesbutr for his valuable services to ASEAN. At the same time the Meeting welcomed the incoming Desk Officer, Police Col. Jeanne Mandagi.

13. The Meeting finally noted with appreciation the offer by the leader of the Philippines delegation to host the Tenth Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting On Drug Matters to be held in Manila, sometime in September 1986.

14. The participants made a field trip to the One-Stop Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre in Tampin on 12 September to observe the drug treatment and rehabilitation programmes in the Centre.

15. The Report of the Ninth ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting in Drug Matters would be submitted to the coming ASEAN Standing Committee for its endorsement, so as to bind respective ASEAN countries to implement the aforesaid recommendations and project proposals.

16. The Meeting was held in the usual ASEAN spirit of solidarity and cordiality. The delegates took active part in the deliberations and unity was experienced among the delegates in facing their mutual enemy, drug abuse.

