



**FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
AND
THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as "ASEAN") and the United Nations Children's Fund (hereinafter referred to as "UNICEF"), each herein referred to singularly as "a Party", and collectively as "the Parties".

CONSISTENT with the goal of ASEAN to realising an ASEAN Community by 2015 comprising of three pillars, namely political and security cooperation, economic cooperation and socio-cultural cooperation that are closely intertwined and mutually reinforcing;

INSPIRED by the purposes of ASEAN as reflected in Article 1 of the ASEAN Charter which entered into force on 15 December 2008 to, among others, enhance the well-being and livelihood of the peoples of ASEAN by providing them with equitable access to opportunities for human development, social welfare and justice;

INSPIRED also by the aspiration of ASEAN to lift the quality of life of its peoples through cooperative activities that are people-oriented as stipulated in all the ASEAN Blueprints and Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II (2009-2015), which were adopted as part of the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for the ASEAN Community (2009-2015) at the 14th ASEAN Summit in 2009;

RECOGNISING the mandate and role of UNICEF as the United Nations organisation designated to advance children's rights to survival, protection and development as guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child whereby UNICEF, working in partnership with national governments, promotes the principles of child-focused development with equity in line with the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the post-2015 development agenda;

ACKNOWLEDGING the commonality of aims, goals and concerns between ASEAN and UNICEF in ensuring sustainable survival, growth, full development and participation of children in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child which all ASEAN Member States have ratified and are parties to, and with the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs and post-2015 development agenda;

CONVINCED that an enhanced partnership between ASEAN and UNICEF will contribute to the attainment of the objectives of the Parties and will complement the existing bilateral cooperation frameworks and projects between UNICEF and individual ASEAN Member States;

HEREBY AGREE to establish an 'ASEAN-UNICEF Framework Agreement for Cooperation' (hereinafter referred to as the "Framework Agreement for Cooperation").

II. AREAS OF COOPERATION

1. The Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall focus on the following areas of cooperation:
 - a) Support for the realisation of the MDGs and

post-2015 development agenda, with equity, with a particular focus on:

- Achieving universal access to primary education (MDG-2);
- Reducing child mortality (MDG-4);
- Improving maternal health (MDG-5); and
- Reversing the spread of HIV and AIDS (MDG-6), particularly elimination of mother-to-child transmission and reduction of effect of HIV and AIDS on children.

b) Promotion of information sharing and technical cooperation in the areas of health, social welfare and development, particularly on:

- Equity focused situation analysis on children;
- Equitable access to secondary education;
- A multi-sectoral system approach to child protection and child welfare;
- Child participation, including support for the ASEAN Children's Forum;
- Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD), and nutrition surveillance;
- Community and family support, including the establishment of an ASEAN network for family development;
- Gender sensitive capacity building of social workers, including support to the ASEAN Social Work Consortium (ASWC) and other childcare workers and organisations working on children's issues;
- Gender-sensitive school curriculum and equal access to education for girls, as well as education on children rights;
- Child protection network;

- Prevention of child rights abuse, child pornography, violence against children, and exploitation of children, including trafficking of children and elimination of child labor;
 - Children who are poor and marginalised, including children with disability, children living under disadvantaged and vulnerable conditions (including living in slums, street children or children of ethnic and/or indigenous groups and children living in remote areas);
 - Advocacy on de-mining Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and victim assistance, especially assistance to child victims; and
 - Regional Workshop on MDGs.
- c) Development of standards and guidelines to improve quality of child-related social policies and services for vulnerable groups through:
- Assisting in documentation of the existing national frameworks on registration, licensing, accreditation and regulation of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) working on children and their best practices in accordance with respective internal processes;
 - Benchmarking social protection legislation/policies with other countries outside ASEAN;
 - Prevention and elimination of violence against children in schools; and
 - Human rights education for children.
- d) Strengthening the capacity and supporting the work of ASEAN in promoting and protecting the rights of children in the region.

- e) Addressing the impacts of emerging issues in the region, such as climate change and issues arising out of urbanisation, as they relate to children's welfare and strengthening resilience especially through child-centered community-based risk reduction in full consultation with relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies.
 - f) Pursuing collaboration in the area of social protection, including development of coordinated national support systems for children and their families that assure that families receive resources and support that will maximise their children's growth and development with respect to the diversity of families and communities.
2. The Parties agree that for the above-mentioned areas of cooperation, specific objectives and implementing actions for the next five (5) years shall be elaborated in a plan of action which shall be jointly developed by UNICEF and ASEAN. This plan of action may be updated from time to time upon mutual consent of the Parties without the need to amend this Framework Agreement for Cooperation. The Parties may agree to invite other UN agencies or international organisations to collaborate in, or support the implementation of the plan of action.
3. The Parties shall pursue the broadest possible scope of cooperation, including within the context of South-South cooperation for child rights and encompassing the full range of activities and priorities relevant to children and common to the Parties, including:
- a) Consultations, exchange and dissemination of information on children's issues;
 - b) Conferences, seminars, trainings and workshops

- being jointly organised and/or co-sponsored;
- c) Technical assistance;
- d) Joint research and studies as well as joint production of publications that document good practices, share knowledge and promote dialogue on child rights;
- e) Advocacy and awareness-raising; and
- f) Reciprocal invitations, where feasible and relevant to the identified areas of cooperation, to attend each other's meetings, conferences, seminars and workshops.

III. MODALITIES OF COOPERATION AND COORDINATION

4. In consideration of the UNICEF's operations in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam under the oversight of the UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO), UNICEF-EAPRO and the ASEAN Secretariat shall be designated as the primary counterparts for the cooperation of the Parties set out herein.
5. The Parties agree to designate focal points for the implementation of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation, as follows:
 - a) For ASEAN: Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Political Security Community (APSC); and
 - b) For UNICEF: Regional Director for East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO).
6. The focal points at the regional level shall be responsible for establishing effective communication and liaison between ASEAN and UNICEF and facilitating, monitoring

and reviewing the implementation of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation.

7. The joint activities to implement this Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall be guided by the relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies and UNICEF and endorsed through the respective processes.
8. The implementation of any specific activity, programme or project under this Framework Agreement for Cooperation will be subject to the written agreement of the Parties in accordance with the respective established procedures.

Each Party shall bear its own costs arising out of or related to the collaboration contemplated in this Framework Agreement for Cooperation, unless otherwise agreed in writing on a case-by-case basis. Where there is a transfer of funds from one party to the other so as to support implementation of the agreed activities, this will be documented in accordance with the established procedures described in paragraph 8.

IV. ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION AND REVIEW

9. This Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall be effective for a period of five (5) years from the date of signature by the Parties. Thereafter, it may be extended for further periods of five (5) years, by mutual written consent between the Parties, based on a joint review and a new five-year plan of action to operationalise this Framework Agreement for Cooperation.
10. This Framework Agreement for Cooperation may be terminated at any time by either Party, by giving the other Party six (6) months written notice in advance. The

termination of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall not prejudice the completion of ongoing programmes and projects as agreed by the Parties under this Framework Agreement for Cooperation and documented in accordance with the established procedures referred to in paragraph 8 above.

11. Any amendment in this Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall be made upon mutual written consent of the Parties in accordance with their respective rules and procedures. Such amendment shall enter into force following notification of consent by the Parties.
12. A joint review of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation may be convened by the Parties thirty six (36) months after this Framework Agreement for Cooperation becomes effective, and again during the final year of the term, to assess the achievements and challenges in implementation and the need for expansion or adjustments in the areas of cooperation. Additional interim meetings to review the joint activities under this Framework Agreement for Cooperation may be convened as agreed upon by the Parties.

V. PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

13. Neither Party shall use the name, acronym or official logo of the other Party, without the prior written approval of the other Party in accordance with its guidelines.
14. Ownership of intellectual property rights arising out of the implementation of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall be determined and agreed upon by the Parties on a case-by-case basis and documented in

accordance with the established procedures referred to in Paragraph 8 above.

15. ASEAN and UNICEF shall not make statements to the media on behalf of each other unless otherwise agreed to in writing on a case-by-case basis. All publicity materials such as press releases and statements related to the Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall be jointly agreed and approved by each Party prior to their release to the media or the public.
16. Neither Party shall disclose or distribute any confidential information, document/data received or supplied to the other Party in the course of the implementation of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation or any other agreements entered into pursuant to this Framework Agreement for Cooperation, to any third party except to the extent as authorised in writing to do so by the other Party.
17. ASEAN and UNICEF agree that the provisions of this section shall continue to be binding between the Parties notwithstanding the termination of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation.

VI. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

18. Any difference or dispute or problem over the interpretation or implementation of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall be resolved amicably through consultation and negotiations between ASEAN and UNICEF, in accordance with the relevant articles expressly provided for in the ASEAN Charter and the UN Charter.

VII. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

19. Nothing in or relating to this Framework Agreement for Cooperation, or any subsidiary document entered into with regard to a specific collaboration arising out of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall be interpreted or construed as a waiver or modification, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities which the Parties enjoy by virtue of their respective constituent treaties/charters or any other legal instruments of the United Nations and its subsidiary organs, including UNICEF, whether under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations (1946) or otherwise, and no provision of this Framework Agreement for Cooperation shall be interpreted or applied in a manner, or to an extent, inconsistent with such privileges and immunities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Parties, have signed this Framework Agreement for Cooperation.

Done at Jakarta, Indonesia, this Third Day of December in the Year of Two Thousand and Fourteen, in two original copies in the English Language.

For ASEAN:



LE LUONG MINH
Secretary-General of ASEAN

For UNICEF:



DANIEL TOOLE
Regional Director for
East Asia and the
Pacific, UNICEF