

Plan of Action

To Implement the Joint Declaration for ASEAN - New Zealand Comprehensive Partnership

2010 – 2015

This Plan of Action will implement, over the next five years (2010-2015), the Joint Declaration for ASEAN - New Zealand Comprehensive Partnership, adopted in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, on 22 July 2010. In implementing this Plan of Action, ASEAN Member States and New Zealand commit to

- a. supporting ASEAN integration under the three blueprints and the IAI Work Plan II of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009-2015, including assisting efforts to enhance ASEAN Connectivity; and
 - b. enhancing New Zealand's engagement with the region.
2. The Plan of Action shall be implemented taking into account ASEAN's and New Zealand's obligations under international law and in accordance with their respective domestic laws, regulations and policies.

A. POLITICAL AND SECURITY COOPERATION

3. The ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint envisages the development of a rules-based Community of shared values and norms; a cohesive, peaceful, stable and resilient region with shared responsibility for comprehensive security; and a dynamic and outward-looking region in an increasingly integrated and interdependent world.
4. To support the realisation of these political and security objectives, ASEAN and New Zealand will cooperate to:

a. Political and Security Dialogue

- i. Promote regular two-way Ministerial visits to raise the profile of the close and long-standing relationship and inject political momentum for co-operation;
- ii. Promote inter-Parliamentary exchanges and two-way visits by Speakers' delegations;
- iii. Promote regular dialogue and visits by senior officials to advance shared interests and to identify cooperative activities to help ASEAN realise its Political-Security Blueprint;
- iv. Promote dialogue and strengthen practical defence cooperation to address the challenges facing the region through the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) framework;

- v. Enhance dialogue on cooperation to combat terrorism and transnational crime through consultation with mechanisms such as the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) and dialogue with ASEANAPOL; and
- vi. Deepen dialogue in EAS particularly in the five priority areas of environment, energy, education, finance and natural disaster management and risk mitigation.

b. Strengthening Peace and Stability

- i. Collaborate in the implementation of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism and ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter Terrorism;
- ii. Convene the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) – New Zealand Consultations, as necessary;
- iii. Deepen cooperation in counter-terrorism and transnational crime through the framework of the ASEAN-New Zealand Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism, focusing on the areas of border control, law enforcement, legislation, policy and prevention;
- iv. Support regional security institutions such as the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Co-operation (JCLEC); the South-East Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT); and the International Law Enforcement Agency (ILEA);
- v. Build on existing defence and military cooperation with ASEAN Member States, including through information sharing and professional development exchanges and through common membership of regional initiatives;
- vi. Continue cooperation on interfaith and counter-radicalisation initiatives, including as part of the Work Programme for Cooperation Between ASEAN and New Zealand in Combating International Terrorism and Transnational Crime;
- vii. Intensify engagement on conflict prevention and peace-building, and use regional fora to share best practice;
- viii. Build on past initiatives to strengthen confidence-building and preventive diplomacy in the region through active engagement in ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) meetings and exercises;
- ix. Contribute to the development and implementation of an ARF work plan on maritime security and a work plan on preventive diplomacy;

- x. Cooperate through the Bali Process and other regional fora, to combat people smuggling and trafficking in persons;
- xi. Enhance cooperation between ASEAN Member States and New Zealand on disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation through the United Nations, EAS and ARF; and
- xii. Support joint initiatives aimed at halting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and related materials as required by UN Security Council Resolution 1540.

c. Good Governance and Human Rights Promotion

- i. Collaborate with ASEAN on good governance and human rights promotion through regional dialogue, education and awareness raising activities, and exchange of best practices;
- ii. Support the development and evolution of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and cooperate in multilateral organisations including the Bali Democracy Forum and the UN Human Rights Council; and
- iii. Encourage communication and information sharing between AICHR and the New Zealand Human Rights Commission.

d. Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat

- i. Cooperate to strengthen the capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat in areas relevant to the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community.

B. ECONOMIC COOPERATION

- 5. The ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint envisages: a single ASEAN market and production base; a highly competitive economic region; a region of equitable economic development; and a region fully integrated into the global economy.
- 6. To support the realisation of these economic objectives, ASEAN and New Zealand will cooperate to:

a. Effective AANZFTA Implementation

- i. Implement the AANZFTA Economic Cooperation Support Programme (AECSP) to enhance the capacity of member state institutions to implement AANZFTA and ensure the full benefits of the Agreement are realised for all parties to the agreement;
- ii. Help to build technical capacity in ASEAN Member States to implement the various chapters of the AANZFTA and maximise commercial benefits;

- iii. Promote further cooperation and linkages between businesses including Small and Medium Enterprises in ASEAN and New Zealand through seminars, workshops and outreach activities, to share information, knowledge, and best practices to facilitate AANZFTA implementation;
- iv. Strengthen links between the private sectors of New Zealand and ASEAN Member States to promote and facilitate trade and investment activities; and
- v. Strengthen cooperation in areas of mutual interest to reduce the costs of doing business and improve the regulatory and legal environment, including:
 - harmonisation of rules of origin;
 - simplification and harmonisation of customs procedures;
 - addressing non-tariff barriers to trade;
 - treatment of services;
 - harmonisation of tariff nomenclature;
 - dispute settlement;
 - e-certification and sanitary and phytosanitary issues;
 - standards, conformity assessment procedures and technical regulations on industrial and agricultural products; toward establishing Mutual Recognition Agreement on any mutually agreed sectors;
 - intellectual Property Rights and Competition policy; and
 - enhanced contact between New Zealand and ASEAN regulators.

b. Regional Economic Integration

- i. Cooperate with ASEAN in its efforts to meet its objective of establishing an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015;
- ii. Launch the “Initiative for Enterprise”, an New Zealand/ASEAN Young Business Leaders Exchange Programme; and
- iii. Intensify collaboration with the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) especially in its “Deepening Economic Integration” project.

c. Building Economic Resilience and Influence

- i. Co-operate in relevant regional and multilateral economic organisations, to advance the prosperity of ASEAN and New Zealand and to focus the work of those organisations on relevant, contemporary, priority issues for ASEAN and New Zealand, including trade and investment liberalisation and structural reform;

- ii. Encourage cooperation and interaction between the ASEAN-New Zealand Combined Business Council and ASEAN business communities including Small and Medium Enterprises through regular meetings and activities such as trade and investment missions, seminars, business linkages and other initiatives which will create and strengthen potential business partnerships and opportunities;
- iii. Identify opportunities for Asia-New Zealand Foundation's Young Leaders Network (YLN) to engage further with ASEAN counterparts; and
- iv. Support the early accession of the Lao PDR to the World Trade Organisation.

d. Infrastructure Development

- i. Explore opportunities for New Zealand to provide scholarships to ASEAN Member States to develop expertise in geothermal energy generation; and
- ii. Explore opportunities for New Zealand to provide technical assistance/advice to assist ASEAN's efforts to meet its objective of implementing an ASEAN Single Aviation Market by 2015.

e. Agriculture

- i. Enhance cooperation in the field of agriculture through dialogue, exchange of know-how, expertise and best practices on enhancing agricultural productivity.

f. ASEAN Connectivity

- i. Assist ASEAN's efforts to meet its objective to enhance ASEAN Connectivity within the region and with ASEAN's immediate neighbours, including New Zealand.

C. SOCIO-CULTURAL COOPERATION

- 7. The primary goal of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint is to contribute to realising an ASEAN Community that is people-centred and socially responsible with a view to achieving enduring solidarity and unity among the nations and peoples of ASEAN by forging a common identity and building a caring and sharing society which is inclusive and harmonious where the well-being, livelihood, and welfare of the peoples are enhanced.
- 8. To support the realisation of these socio-cultural objectives, ASEAN and New Zealand will cooperate to:

a. United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

- i. Strengthen cooperation in the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

b. Disaster Risk Management

- i. Deepen cooperation on disaster risk management and the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and strengthen our respective capabilities in risk mitigation, disaster response and preparedness, disaster prevention, and rehabilitation; and
- ii. Assist the ASEAN Secretariat in the operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for the Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre).

c. Health

- i. Strengthen cooperation in the health sector including in pandemic preparedness and response by fostering exchange of information and inviting ASEAN officials to participate in New Zealand pandemic preparedness exercises; and
- ii. Support the ASEAN Risk Communication Resource Centre (RCRC).

d. Environment and Climate Change

- i. Strengthen links between New Zealand and ASEAN in relation to opportunities for environmental policy, science and business cooperation in areas of mutual interest such as biodiversity conservation, natural resources management, green technology development, environmental governance, sustainable development, chemicals and hazardous wastes, sustainable forest management, and climate change; and
- ii. Cooperate to support the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Joint Response to Climate Change through regular dialogue and information sharing at officials' level.

e. Education and Awareness-Building

- i. Encourage consultation, cooperation and networking between relevant institutions in ASEAN and New Zealand, through the ASEAN University Network;
- ii. Promote cooperation in education by encouraging regional student and academic mobility and exchange including through, where appropriate:

- Ensuring the English Language Training for Officials (ELTO) programme continues to meet priorities of ASEAN Member States and New Zealand;
 - Taking into account ASEAN's development priorities, aligning the provision of New Zealand Development Scholarships to ASEAN Member States;
 - Developing common recognition of technical skills across the region in order to meet the overall skills needs of the economic base of the region; and
- iii. Encourage the teaching of ASEAN languages as optional foreign language subject in schools in New Zealand.

f. Culture

- i. Further enhance cultural cooperation in the area of culture, arts and heritage, including through cultural festivals, arts and crafts exhibitions, film festivals, entertainment exchanges, and the promotion and preservation of cultural heritage;
- ii. Undertake activities to build awareness and promote cultural diversity, understanding and tolerance through community events, publication of information, research, visits and professional development exchanges; and
- iii. Foster continued Track II dialogue on economic, political and security and socio-cultural issues.

g. Social Justice and Rights

- i. Support ASEAN, through collaboration with relevant agencies, to support the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers and ASEAN Commission for the Protection and Promotion of Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), as well as strengthen ASEAN's capacity to comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Form of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

D. Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI)

9. The objective of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II is to narrow the development gap among ASEAN Member States and between ASEAN and the rest of the world.
10. To support the realisation of this objective, ASEAN and New Zealand will cooperate to:

- i. Reconfigure, by New Zealand, its programme of assistance targeting the IAI, through both sub-regional and bilateral activities; and
- ii. Identify specific activities in which New Zealand can provide niche expertise.

E. FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM

11. The two sides shall mutually develop a schedule of activities for the implementation of this Plan of Action. This schedule will list current and future possible activities and will be a 'living' document that tracks the status, implementation and evaluation of each project and how it aligns with the Plan of Action.
12. This Plan of Action and associated schedule will be reviewed through existing mechanisms, including at the annual ASEAN-New Zealand Joint Management Committee and ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue meetings.
13. Annual progress reports on the implementation of the Plan of Action shall be submitted to the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) + 1 with New Zealand.

oooOOOooo