



**EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
**PASUGUAN NG REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS**  
**LONDON**

LTR-07-AML-2019

17 January 2019

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Summary of Chairmanship Reports of the ASEAN London Committee (ALC) for 2018:

1. Chairmanship of the Embassy of Myanmar for the period of 8 February to 31 July 2018; and
2. Chairmanship of the Embassy of the Philippines for the period of 31 July 2018 to 23 January 2019.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Sincerely,

  
**ANTONIO M. LAGDAMEO**  
Ambassador and Chair, ALC

**H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi**  
Secretary General, ASEAN  
The ASEAN Secretariat  
70A Jalan Sisingamangaraja  
Jakarta 12110, Indonesia

## **Summary of Chairmanship Report**

**I. Name of the ACTC:** The ASEAN London Committee (ALC)

**II. Members of the ACTC:**

1. Brunei Darussalam High Commission
2. Royal Embassy of Cambodia
3. Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia
4. Embassy of Lao People's Democratic Republic
5. Malaysian High Commission
6. Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
7. Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines
8. High Commission of the Republic of Singapore
9. Royal Thai Embassy
10. Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

**III. Period of the Report:** 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018

**IV. Activities:**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN London Committee Meeting, 8 February 2018
2. ALC Working Group reception, 23 February 2018
3. Farewell Dinner for H.E. Dato Haji Aminuddin Ihsan, High Commissioner of Brunei, 27 February 2018
4. ALC visit to De La Rue, 26 April 2018
5. 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN London Committee Meeting and briefing by CABI, 9 May 2018
6. ALC Working Group meeting with London East Asia Film Festival(LEAFF), 22 May 2018
7. Farewell Dinner for H.E. Dato Ahmad Rasidi Hazizi, High Commissioner of Malaysia, 5 June 2018
8. ALC Working Group meeting on ALC practices, ASEAN Film Festival and Food Festival, 11 June 2018
9. ALC Golf Tournament, 26 June 2018
10. ALC Working Group meeting with Battersea Group for Food Festival, 4 July 2018
11. Coffee Morning event for spouses of ASEAN ambassadors, Deputy Chief of Missions and Defence Attachés, 5 July 2018
12. 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN London Committee Meeting and Handover Meeting, 31 July 2018

**V. Outcomes and Action Points:**

1. The visit to De La Rue was very useful as it provided important information on production of identity cards, banknotes, coins and passports as well as past and present business cooperation between the company and ALC member countries.
2. The activities and events contributed to fostering closer relations and promoting understanding between ASEAN Embassies/High Commission, Defence Attachés, UK government officials, organizations and companies based in the UK.
3. The activities also promoted culture and understanding about ASEAN in the host country, U.K in line with the objective of ALC.
4. The spouses from ASEAN Embassies/ High commission cordially met at the Coffee Morning event, giving opportunity to exchange experiences and opinion about cultures and living in the U.K.

5. Presentation by Officials from CABI contributed to closer cooperation with ASEAN Embassies/ High Commission of already member countries as well as provided valuable information to non-members.

#### **VI. Challenges:**

1. Difficult to arrange meetings with UK Government's high ranking officials as UK is at important period for Brexit and most of the Ministers in the U.K usually planned ahead their schedule for the coming year.
2. As UK government is trying to foster closer relationship with ASEAN, especially after Brexit, sincere and equal approach to all ASEAN countries will be necessary. In accordance with the ASEAN motto 'One Vision, One Identity, One Community', ASEAN member countries should resist being applied double standard relations.

#### **VII. Recommendations:**

1. As ACTC members, it would be necessary for ALC to persuade the U.K government to consider and engage relations with all ASEAN member countries equally.
2. With the aim to promote ASEAN Economy, ALC's future plan might need to include the agenda for organizing 'ASEAN Trade Fair in London'.

London, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018  
H.E. Mr. Kyaw Zwar Minn  
Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Chairperson of the ASEAN London Committee

## **Summary of Chairmanship Report**

**I. Name of the ACTC:** The ASEAN London Committee (ALC)

### **II. Members of the ACTC:**

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6. Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
7. Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines
8. High Commission of the Republic of Singapore
9. Royal Thai Embassy
10. Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

**III. Period of the Report:** 31 July 2018 – 23 January 2019

### **IV. Activities:**

1. 3<sup>rd</sup> ALC Meeting (Handover from Myanmar to the Philippines), 31 July 2018
2. ALC Working Group Meeting with Asia House, 10 August 2018
3. ALC Working Group Meeting, 7 September 2018
4. ALC Luncheon with the Lord Mayor of London, 18 September 2018
5. 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN London Committee Meeting, 20 September 2018
6. ALC Working Group Meeting on ASEAN Family Day, 12 October 2018
7. ASEAN Family Day, 27 October 2018
8. 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN London Committee Meeting, 13 November 2018
9. ALC Briefing by Standard Chartered Bank, 13 November 2018
10. ALC Working Group year-end Meeting, 28 November 2018
11. ALC Briefing by Ministry of Defence, 5 December 2018
12. Farewell Dinner for H.E. Sayakane Sisouvong, Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Spouse, 17 January 2019
13. 1<sup>st</sup> ALC Meeting (Handover from the Philippines to Singapore) and Meeting with ASEAN Secretary General Lim Jock Hoi, 23 January 2019

### **V. Outcomes and Action Points:**

1. The United Kingdom, through the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), was very active in engaging ASEAN. FCO Minister of State Mark Field MP embarked on a six-nation tour of Southeast Asia in August. In particular, he visited Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, and Thailand.
2. The FCO also made representations with individual ASEAN Missions in London by expressing their desire to become a Dialogue Partner of ASEAN after it leaves the European Union (EU) on 29 March 2019.
3. The ALC successfully held the ASEAN Family Day, only the second time in the ALC's history, last October. The ALC's decision was to hold this event yearly, as is regularly done by other ACTCs in other countries.

4. The briefing given by Standard Chartered Bank on Brexit and economic developments in Europe, specifically of the UK and Italy contributed to the greater understanding by the ALC on of the broader economic outlook of the UK and Europe.

5. The briefing given by the Ministry of Defence also contributed to the broader understanding by the ALC of the UK's plans to promote its interest in Southeast Asia, particularly in the field of defence and security.

**VI. Challenges:**

1. Coordination with ALC on ALC activities, particularly as the Embassy of the Philippines is short on staff handling ASEAN matters.
2. A couple of activities programmed for the year, such as the ASEAN Food Festival and ASEAN Film Festival, did not push through due to financial constraints of some of the ALC missions.

**VII. Recommendations:**

1. For ALC to plan its activities a year or two ahead in order to prepare for the budget for those activities that need approval from respective capitals.
2. In view of the UK's future plans to engage more with ASEAN, the ALC could consider making a comprehensive study on ASEAN-UK relations.

London, 23 January 2019

H.E. Antonio M. Lagdameo

Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines

Chairperson of the ASEAN London Committee