

**PLAN OF ACTION
TO IMPLEMENT THE
ASEAN – U.S. ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP
FOR ENDURING PEACE AND PROSPERITY
(2011-2015)**

This Plan of Action (PoA) is aimed at implementing the goals and objectives of the Joint Statements of the First and Second ASEAN-U.S. Leaders Meetings to Strengthen ASEAN-U.S. Enhanced Partnership for Enduring Peace and Prosperity, and the continued implementation of the Joint Vision Statement of ASEAN-U.S. Enhanced Partnership. To enhance and elevate the ASEAN-U.S. partnership to a strategic level in a broad-based and mutually beneficial manner, the PoA also aims to address emerging regional and global challenges over the next five years. Negotiation of a 2016-2020 PoA is scheduled to begin in 2015.

This PoA builds upon the strong cooperation between ASEAN and the United States that began in 1977, and promotes the establishment of a peaceful, stable, integrated, prosperous, and caring ASEAN Community by 2015.

As some programmes and projects from the 2006-2010 Plan of Action are on-going or pending, these are hereby annexed as part of this current Plan of Action (2011-2015) for purposes of continuity.

ASEAN and U.S. hereby endeavor to pursue cooperation in conformity with their obligations under international law and in accordance with their respective domestic laws, regulations, and policies.

I. Political and Security Cooperation

Support the realization of the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint by promoting democracy, good governance and human rights and strengthening ASEAN unity and initiative to address traditional and non-traditional security challenges in Southeast Asia, and enhancing technical assistance and capacity-building in support of such efforts.

1. Transnational Crime, including Counter Terrorism:

1.1 Deepen and broaden cooperation against international terrorism under the framework of the ASEAN-U.S. Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism, ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter-Terrorism, and the ARF Work Plan on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime.

1.2 Enhance cooperation and capacity building in preventing and combating transnational crimes such as illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, money

laundering, arms smuggling, sea piracy, terrorism and financing of terrorism, cybercrime, international economic crimes, and when possible, utilise existing regional and international institutions and agreements.

1.3 Explore cooperation and capacity building in preventing and combating trafficking in wildlife and trafficking in counterfeit and pirated goods.

1.4 Enhance technical assistance and encourage greater exchange of views, expertise, experiences and information on non-traditional security challenges.

1.5 Support the implementation of the ASEAN Work Plan for Combating Illicit Drug Production, Trafficking and Use.

1.6 Convene the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) – U.S. Consultations on a case-by-case basis.

1.7 Strengthen information exchange, law enforcement cooperation, training and institutional capacity building to facilitate the apprehension, investigation, prosecution, extradition and proper disposition of cases, persons and victims of transnational crimes.

1.8 Strengthen counter terrorism capacity building for transport, customs, immigration and quarantine inspections as well as other key infrastructure.

1.9 Intensify counter-terrorism training and transnational crime cooperation especially in the areas of law enforcement, intelligence, financial intelligence and post-terrorism incidents investigation and consequence management.

1.10 Enhance technical assistance to ASEAN Member States in improving scientific laboratory capacity in identification and drugs signature analysis for drug enforcement operation and intelligence.

1.11 Intensify information sharing on terrorist and transnational criminal organizations, including operational methods, movement, and illicit activities such as smuggling of explosives, CBRN materials, and terror financing.

1.12 Support public and media awareness campaigns on transnational crimes, particularly on but not limited to terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, and trafficking in persons.

1.13 Support the implementation of the ASEAN Declaration and the ASEAN Leaders' Joint Statement in Enhancing Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons in Southeast Asia through capacity building and information sharing.

1.14 Explore the possibility for cooperation to prevent the spread of illegal drugs.

1.15 Strengthen regional capacities in the detection, monitoring of money laundering and terrorist financing.

2. Good Governance, the Rule of Law and Judiciary Systems, and Human Rights Promotion

2.1 Share experiences and best practices through workshops and seminars on leadership concepts and principles with emphasis on good governance, and on developing norms on improving good governance.

2.2 Support the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and enhance capacity building for the promotion of human rights and its priority areas.

2.3 Enhance cooperation to strengthen the rule of law and judiciary systems and legal infrastructure, good governance in public and private sectors and effective and efficient civil services.

2.4 Explore future areas of cooperation such as interfaith dialogues.

2.5 Encourage greater engagement between ASEAN and civil society organizations (CSOs), particularly its accredited CSOs, through established ASEAN mechanisms.

2.6 Support capacity building and technical assistance in the application of Information Communication Technology (ICT)-enabled services to improve public service delivery.

2.7 Intensify cooperation, in the framework of the applicable national and international laws, to combat corruption in the area of asset recovery and in denying safe haven to those found guilty of public corruption.

2.8 Promote cooperation to combat corruption through, inter alia, encouraging the ratification or accession to, and implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.

2.9 Promote Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) among ASEAN and U.S. companies and encourage collaborative initiatives between the public and private sectors.

3. Other Political and Security Cooperation

3.1 Sustain ASEAN-U.S. dialogue at the highest level through the convening of the ASEAN- U.S. Leaders Meeting on a regular basis.

3.2 Deepen ASEAN-U.S. consultations through the following ASEAN-led fora: the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN-U.S. Leaders Meeting, ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with the U.S. (PMC+1), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting-Plus (ADMM Plus), the ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue, ASEAN-U.S. Joint

Cooperation Committee (JCC) Meeting, and the ASEAN-U.S. Working Group meeting, taking into account the complementarities of these fora.

3.3 Launch the ASEAN-U.S. Eminent Persons Group to chart the long-term strategic partnership between ASEAN and the U.S. in addressing regional and global issues.

3.4 Promote dialogue and strengthen practical cooperation to address the security challenges facing the region through ASEAN-U.S. mechanisms such as the PMC+1 and the ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue and ASEAN-centred arrangements such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) the ADMM-Plus framework, and EAS.

3.5 Work and consult closely in responding to regional challenges, and in supporting a central role of ASEAN in a regional architecture which is open and inclusive, and promotes shared values and norms, while respecting the diversity within the region.

3.6 Support the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty as an effective instrument for promoting global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. ASEAN and the U.S. should pursue consultations with a view to reaching agreement that would allow Nuclear Weapons States' (P5) signatures of the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty.

3.7 Deepen ASEAN-US maritime cooperation in accordance with relevant universally agreed principles of international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and other agreed international maritime law.

3.8 Promote cooperation on maritime issues, including maritime security, search and rescue and safety of navigation in the region through the promotion of capacity-building, information sharing, and technology cooperation projects and working through such venues as the ASEAN Maritime Forum.

3.9 Strengthen cooperation on maritime law enforcement through workshops and seminars to discuss best practices in preventing piracy and armed robbery against ships, transnational crime, and trafficking of illicit materials at sea.

3.10 Cooperate on the implementation of the ARF Vision statement, in support of strengthening the ARF.

3.11 Forge closer cooperation on nuclear disarmament, peaceful uses of nuclear energy and nuclear non-proliferation: encouraging fulfillment of international obligations including implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the 2010 NPT Review Conference action plan.

3.12 Cooperate not only to stem the spread of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), but also to seek a world free of all WMD.

3.13 Enhance cooperation at the United Nations and multilateral organizations on issues of mutual interest and common concern, including, inter alia, UN reform, matters affecting international peace and security, terrorism, and development.

3.14 Foster exchange of military officers, defense officials, and coastguard officers between ASEAN Member States and the U.S.

3.15 Cooperate with ASEAN on the capacity of ASEAN Member States to participate in peacekeeping operations, taking into account the readiness of each ASEAN Member State.

II. Economic Cooperation

Support the realization of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint by promoting ASEAN economic integration and connectivity, supporting the creation of a single market and production base, facilitating the enhancement of regional competitiveness, promoting investment in sources of clean energy and improving energy efficiency, facilitating infrastructure development, and promoting equitable economic growth and development.

4. Trade and Investment

4.1 Further enhance economic cooperation and partnership through agreed initiatives under the ASEAN-U.S. Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (ASEAN-U.S. TIFA), and regular ASEAN-U.S. consultations to enhance trade and investment flows between ASEAN and the U.S.

4.2 Continue development cooperation in support of Lao PDR's accession to the WTO.

4.3 Encourage a constructive role by ASEAN in multilateral fora, including through contributions to the G-20 process.

4.4 Continue to promote ASEAN as a trade and investment partner to increase visibility of ASEAN in the U.S. business community.

4.5 Enhance cooperation and support aimed at improving national and regional capacity in Standards, conformity assessment procedures, and technical regulations as they relate to industrial, agricultural and consumer goods.

4.6 Support the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for the Integration of Logistics Services.

4.7 Provide technical assistance on infrastructure, transport and communication technology aspects of ASEAN Connectivity.

4.8 Enhance cooperation in multilateral frameworks on regional and international trade and economic issues.

4.9 Support further trade liberalization while reaffirming support for a successful conclusion of the Doha Development Agenda.

4.10 Promote public-private engagement on ASEAN priority integration sectors and investment opportunities in ASEAN connectivity.

4.11 Continue support for customs integration, particularly the creation of the ASEAN Single Window.

4.12 Continue support for the implementation of the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) according to HS2012.

4.13 Support the development of ASEAN Trade Repository.

4.14 Continue support for other initiatives under the ASEAN Trade Facilitation Work Programme such as the conduct of the survey for the ASEAN Trade Facilitation Assessment.

4.15 Promote strong corporate governance and legal and policy transparency to facilitate and expand trade and investment flows.

4.16 Promote capacity building and dialogue in the areas of competition law and policy, taking into account the different levels of economic development of ASEAN Member States.

4.17 Provide technical support for the implementation of existing ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs).

4.18 Support capacity-building in the implementation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA), including in international best practices in investment.

5. Finance Cooperation

5.1 Contribute to reforms in the global financial architecture to safeguard the global economy from future crises, and establish a durable foundation for strong, sustainable, and balanced growth.

5.2 Strengthen cooperation in capacity-building and human resources development, such as joint projects in technical training, workshops, seminars and conferences to strengthen the competitiveness of ASEAN and U.S. financial institutions.

5.3 Provide capacity building support for capital market development and integration in accordance with the international agreements to which ASEAN Member States and the U.S. are parties.

6. Intellectual Property Rights

6.1 Encourage activities and capacity-building efforts and training programmes as resources are available to increase the level of knowledge among a broader segment of government and stakeholders so that they may use IP to contribute to economic growth and development and have the skills to combat IP crime effectively and efficiently.

6.2 Continue technical assistance and promote public awareness to strengthen IPR regimes, protection and enforcement, increase transparency in IP laws and systems and facilitate effective and efficient IP management and commercialization to benefit SMEs through IP policies and practices.

6.3 Promote cooperative activities through national intellectual property focal points in ASEAN to assist ASEAN Member States achieve effective IP protection and enforcement consistent with agreed international standards and international agreements to which ASEAN Member States are parties.

7. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

7.1 Collaborate to support the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in ASEAN Member States, in accordance with the ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for SME Development (2010-2015).

7.2 Provide technical assistance to develop ASEAN entrepreneurs to be able to compete regionally and globally.

8. Information Communication Technology (ICT)

8.1 Support the ASEAN ICT Master Plan and promote and enhance human resources development, joint activities and capacity building programs, such as but not limited to, on the areas of ICT high-skilled professional, bridging the digital divide, e-government, e-commerce, physical infrastructures, information technology (IT) services, IT enabled services, satellite and spectrum technology, RFID and ICT applications to mitigate impacts of climate change.

9. Transport

9.1 Support the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and the ASEAN Strategic Transport Plan 2011-2015, also known as the Brunei Action Plan 2011-2015, and forge closer cooperation to enhance transport infrastructure, networks and operations, including air, maritime, inland waterways, road, rail, and multi-modal transport, for fast,

efficient, safe, and secure movement of people and goods, as well as for clean urban transport.

9.2 Assist and promote the use of clean fuels and new vehicle technologies, with a particular focus on lowering the sulfur content in fuels and completing the phase out of leaded gasoline in ASEAN Member States.

9.3 Enhance cooperation in observing international rules on safety in air, land, and maritime transport according to international laws, and enhance capacity in transportation safety.

9.4 Support the operationalisation of ASEAN Agreements on transport facilitation.

10. Energy Security and Clean Energy

10.1 Support ASEAN institutional capacity building in implementing the ASEAN Plan of Action on Energy Cooperation 2010-2015 and enhance cooperation to promote clean energy technologies and energy efficiency measures with a view to support ASEAN in achieving its targets by 2015 and explore with ASEAN on Energy Efficiency Standards and Labeling (EES&L) and other initiatives of mutual benefit].

10.2 Conduct senior-officials and ministerial level consultations to further strengthen ASEAN-US cooperation in the area of energy.

10.3 Support regional capacity building in civilian nuclear energy power generation for regulators, operators, relevant technical support organisations, and relevant educational institutions, including but not limited to exchange of information, technical cooperation and use of available technologies, best practices, and assistance on sustainable civilian nuclear power programmes, in accordance with International Atomic Energy Agency norms and guidelines for nuclear safety, security, and nonproliferation safeguards.

10.4 Develop programmes on green industries and transition to low-carbon technologies.

III. Socio-Cultural Cooperation

Support the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint, with a focus on science and technology, disaster management, environmental management, climate change, food security, and education.

11. Science and Technology

11.1 Conclude memoranda of understanding between ASEAN and U.S. on specific topics to broaden and expand relations between the scientific and technological communities in ASEAN Member States and the U.S. and hold consultations between ASEAN and U.S. science and technology authorities.

11.2 Foster science and technology exchange and understanding through enhanced cooperation in capacity-building for ASEAN's science and technology authorities.

11.3 Enhance cooperation between ASEAN and U.S. universities, research institutions in scientific research and development (R&D) and promoting use of available technologies.

11.4 Facilitate the exchange and mobility of scientists and researchers according to the respective laws, rules, regulation, and national policies.

12. Disaster Management

12.1 Improve ASEAN capacity to prevent, respond to, and recover from disasters and humanitarian crises.

12.2 Support ASEAN efforts to improve its capacity in disaster management, disaster risk reduction, and emergency response through real time information sharing and public awareness campaigns.

12.3 Support the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme and the (ASEAN) work of the ASEAN Humanitarian assistance (AHA) Center, in accordance with its Terms of Reference and the Conference of the Parties.

12.4 Support ASEAN efforts to enhance its Multi-Hazard Early Warning System and the development of an ASEAN incident command system.

12.5 Promote community resilience to disasters by enhancing cooperation on public awareness and education programmes related to disaster risk reduction, emergency response, and climate change adaptation through information sharing, including indigenous knowledge and best practices.

13. Public Health

13.1 Promote sharing and exchange of information, know-how, experiences, and best practices in the area of public health as well as support for information sharing infrastructure for early warning on outbreaks of infectious and zoonotic diseases and other incidents of public health importance through One Health Preparedness at the human-animal environment ecosystem interface.

13.2 Promote research and development of antibiotic and antiviral drugs, vaccines, and diagnostics for emerging and other infectious diseases with human pandemic potential, particularly avian influenza, and establish a network of pharmaceutical drug stockpiles.

13.3 Enhance cooperation on preparedness for epidemic disease and other public health emergencies, and support implementation of the AADMER operating procedures on such emergencies.

13.4 Enhance cooperation and technical assistance at the global and regional levels to prevent, control, and reduce the impact of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS, SARS and influenza, particularly avian influenza as well as other emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases.

13.5 Promote research and development and human resources development in the areas related to public health, including joint research and development, seminars, workshops and training courses both in scientific and management aspects of public health, exchange of visits and scholarships for officials and experts.

13.6 Support strategies to strengthen integrated risk management, promotion of healthy lifestyle and behavioral change to reduce the incidence of and burden from morbidity of chronic, non-communicable diseases and diseases of urbanized society, and degenerative diseases.

13.7 Support implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development 2010-2015 and strengthen cooperation in capacity building for government authorities and members of the private sector, institutions, laboratories, and experts in the area of public health.

14. Environment, Biodiversity and Climate Change

14.1 Support the ASEAN Climate Change Initiative (ACCI) and strengthen cooperation on addressing climate change issues, in accordance with the UNFCCC including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities

14.2 Promote international cooperation and use of available technologies in ASEAN biodiversity conservation and management and support the research, capacity building, and outreach programmes of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB).

14.3 Continue to enhance cooperation in the U.S.-Lower Mekong Initiative to promote cooperation in the areas of environment, health, education and human resources development, and infrastructure development among others.

14.4 Support technical assistance to ASEAN Member States in the areas of severe weather and climate focus, including capacity-building through the attachment of personnel.

14.5 Strengthen cooperation and contribute towards growing the ASEAN's knowledge and expertise in sustainable water management in, inter alia, the areas of integrated water resources management, water quality management, and groundwater vulnerability mapping.

14.6 Support capacity building and joint research integrated marine ecosystem management of coastal, wetland, and inland freshwater ecosystems through inter alia, the rehabilitation of coral reefs, mangrove, and seagrass areas and the protection of the ocean and marine reserves.

14.7 Support cooperation to develop climate resilient cities through exchanges on mitigation and adaptation, and urban planning issues such as urban emissions monitoring, waste management, water management and access to funding for climate change activities.

14.8 Develop an ASEAN urban air quality management network to share best practices in air quality improvement in the ASEAN region.

14.9 Provide technical assistance, training and scholarships on environmental management and climate change.

14.10 Promote advanced academic studies and, exchange programmes in agriculture for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

15. Food Security

15.1 Strengthen long-term food security and support the implementation of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security (SPA-FS) in the ASEAN region (2009-2013).

15.2 Continue technical assistance on sustainable fisheries to support the ASEAN - Southeast Asia's Fisheries Development Center's (SEAFDEC) Strategic Partnership.

15.3 Support capacity development of ASEAN Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and agricultural measures for agricultural, food and forestry products to enhance ASEAN competitiveness.

15.4 Support exchange platforms for ASEAN and the U.S food research institutes/universities.

15.5 Promote agricultural innovation, including research and development, on improving productivity and agricultural production.

15.6 Strengthen and promote use of efficient and accurate food market information systems.

15.7 Sustain private sector engagement on food security, food safety, and investment.

15.8 Promote public-private networking opportunities and capacity building among and for relevant government institutions, agricultural cooperatives, SMEs, and rural women's empowerment organizations.

15.9 Promote investment in agro-industry, trade policy, and regulatory reforms consistent with the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) which are conducive to long term food security in ASEAN.

15.10 Provide training on the implementation of food safety systems and risk analysis.

16. Education and Human Resources

16.1 Support ASEAN's efforts to implement the ASEAN 5-year Education Work plan, in strengthening, deepening and widening education cooperation within ASEAN and outside the region.

16.2 Promote educational exchanges and capacity building in the area of education, and explore opportunities for students from ASEAN to study in the U.S.

16.3 Increase opportunities for English language learning and public administration education for ASEAN civil servants.

16.4 Strengthen the ASEAN University Network, including its programmes on AUN Actual Quality Assessment (AQA) and the ASEAN Credit Transfer System (ACTS) and facilitate academic credit transfer schemes between ASEAN and U.S. universities.

16.5 Promote human resources development, particularly on vocational training, through the use of information communications technology (ICT).

16.6 Support region-wide adoption of a common curriculum framework on ASEAN, including development of ASEAN-related content, to enhance awareness of ASEAN and to enhance ASEAN community building aimed at youth and student populations.

16.7 Strengthen U.S.-ASEAN youth exchange programmes, such as the Southeast Asian Youth Leadership Program.

16.8 Promote ASEAN Studies programmes/courses in universities and academic institutions in the U.S.

16.9 Support efforts to carry out the activities proposed in the ASEAN Labor Ministers' Work Programme, 2010-2015.

16.10 Encourage cooperation to promote basic education and achieve universal access to primary education across the region by 2015.

16.11 Improve the quality and adaptability of education, including technical and vocational, and skills training in the region by developing technical assistance programmes at all education levels.

16.12 Encourage Life-Long Learning (LLL) including exchange programmes for staff of all community learning centres including museums and libraries.

17. Culture and People to People Exchange

17.1 Promote training and exchanges involving the academe, youth, media, cultural experts, sports authorities, and athletes.

17.2 Promote the ASEAN Congressional Fellows program.

17.3 Support the implementation of the ASEAN Communication Master Plan to build ASEAN community awareness and identity.

17.4 Support exchanges and sharing of best practices on the use of new media, including social media.

17.5 Support the continued development of the “ASEAN Volunteers” program.

18. Social Justice and Rights

18.1 Support the work of the ASEAN Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and its priority areas.

19. Social Welfare and Family Development

19.1. Promote exchange of visits, information and best practices as well as technical cooperation and capacity building in social development, productive welfare and women empowerment.

IV. Cross-Sectoral and Development Cooperation

20. Partnership for Development

20.1 Intensify ASEAN-U.S. development cooperation in support of ASEAN efforts in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), narrowing development gap among ASEAN Member States, and enhancing regional integration and realising an ASEAN Community by 2015.

20.2 Support the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and other sub-regional endeavors (The Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), The Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), The Indonesia-Malaysia-Singapore Growth Triangle (IMS-GT), The Cambodia-Laos-Vietnam

Development Triangle (CLV-DT), the Cambodia, Lao PDR and Thailand (CLT) Emerald Triangle and Heart of Borneo) to narrow the development gaps in ASEAN in order to expedite regional economic integration.

20.3 Enhance the effectiveness of ASEAN-U.S. development cooperation.

21. Cross-Sectoral Cooperation

21.1 Improve the ASEAN Secretariat ICT system and Resource Centre.

21.2 Promote cooperation in the exchange of best practices and lessons learned on peaceful settlement of disputes including through workshops and seminars.

21.3 Support capacity building for the ASEAN Secretariat.

21.4 Increase consultations between relevant U.S. Cabinet Secretaries and their ASEAN counterparts to develop areas of mutual cooperation.

Follow-up Mechanisms

- Regularly review the progress of implementation of the Plan of Action through the existing mechanisms of the ASEAN-U.S. dialogue relations.
- Submit progress reports on the implementation of the Plan of Action to the annual ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) + 1 session with the United States.