



**DECLARATION OF
THE ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON YOUTH
JAKARTA, 8 AUGUST 1992**

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS OF NEGARA BRUNEI DARUSSALAM; THE STATE MINISTER FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA, THE MINISTER FOR YOUTH AND SPORTS OF MALAYSIA; THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES; MINISTER OF STATE FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE; AND THE MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND;

MINDFUL OF THE EXISTENCE OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND COMMON PROBLEMS AMONG ASEAN YOUTH; CONVINCED OF THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE COOPERATION AND COMMUNICATION FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT ON YOUTH TOWARD ASEAN SOLIDARITY;

DESIRING TO ESTABLISH A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR COMMON ACTION TO PROMOTE ASEAN YOUTH COOPERATION IN THE SPIRIT TO ENHANCE ASEAN AWARENESS AND PERCEPTIONS OF EQUALITY AND PARTNERSHIP AND THEREBY CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS PEACE, PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY IN THE REGION;



CONSCIOUS THAT THE ASEAN YOUTH AWARENESS AND PERCEPTIONS IN AN INCREASINGLY INTERDEPENDENT WORLD, CHERISHED IDEALS OF PEACE, FREEDOM, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING ARE BEST ATTAINED BY AMONG OTHERS, THE YOUTH IN FOSTERING GOOD UNDERSTANDING, GOOD NEIGHBOURLINESS AND MEANINGFUL COOPERATION AMONG THE ASEAN YOUTH WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN BOUND TOGETHER BY ASEAN TIES;

CONSIDERING THAT THE ASEAN YOUTH SHARE RESPONSIBILITY FOR IDENTIFYING THE ASEAN YOUTH PROBLEMS OF UNDERSTANDING, COOPERATION, DIRECTION, INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, UNEMPLOYMENT, LOW INCOME AND POVERTY, LACK OF AWARENESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, PERCEPTIONS OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUTH, AND PARTICIPATION OF ASEAN YOUTH IN THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FORUM;

CONSIDERING FURTHER THE TRILATERAL MEETING OF INDONESIA - MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE MINISTERS ON YOUTH IN BATAM, DECEMBER 1990; THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES TO STRENGTHENING ASEAN COLLABORATION ON YOUTH, BANGKOK, JUNE 1983; AND THE FOURTH ASEAN SUMMIT OF 1992;



AFFIRMING THAT GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND CHANGES ARE DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY ALTERING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INTERDEPENDENCIES, WHICH THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN GENERAL INCLUDING ASEAN YOUTH ARE TO FACE AND TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM;

TAKING NOTE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF ASEAN YOUTH MEETING, JAKARTA, 7 AUGUST 1992;

DO HEREBY DECLARE :

FIRST, THE EIGHTH OF AUGUST AS THE ASEAN YOUTH DAY.

SECOND, THE PAPER ENTITLED "ASEAN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY TOWARDS THE YEAR 2000 AND BEYOND" AS THE FRAMEWORK OF ASEAN YOUTH POLICY.

THIRD, THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR ASEAN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AS THE BLUEPRINT FOR ACTION AT THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS.



DONE, IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA ON THE EIGHTH DAY OF AUGUST
IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY-TWO.

FOR NEGARA BRUNEI DARUSSALAM :

H.E. PEHIN JAWATAN LUAR PEKERMA
RAJA DATO SERI PADUKA HAJI
AWANG HUSSAIN BIN PEHIN ORANG
KAYA DI-GADONG SERI DIRAJA DATO
LAILA UTAMA HAJI AWANG MOHAMED
YUSOF

MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND
SPORTS

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF THE
PHILIPPINES:

H.E. MR. MARCIAL SALVATIERRA

FOR THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
CULTURE AND SPORTS

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA :

H.E. MR. AKBAR TANDJUNG
STATE MINISTER FOR YOUTH
AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE :

H.E. MR. LIM HNG KIANG
MINISTER OF STATE FOR NATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

FOR MALAYSIA :

H.E. SENATOR ANNUAR
HAJI MUSA
MINISTER OF YOUTH AND
SPORTS

FOR THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND :

H.E. MR. ALAI INGAWANI

FOR THE MINISTER TO THE PRIME
MINISTER'S OFFICE RESPONSIBLE
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS

**PLAN OF ACTION
FOR ASEAN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

1. Effective implementation of this Plan of Action will require concerted national action and regional cooperation. As affirmed in the Declaration, such action and cooperation must be guided by the principle of "a A Youth Future Leaders of ASEAN", a principle that the essential needs of youth should be given high priority in the allocation of resources.

2. It is particularly important that the actions proposed must be pursued with the view to achieving broader national development objectives namely to enhance the quality of education, to increase employment opportunities and reduce youth dissocialization as well as to foster strengthen physical and mental health of youth in facing the challenges and opportunities resulting from global modernization. With these broad objectives in mind, we commit ourselves and our Governments to the following actions :

Action at the national level

- (i) All Governments are urged to prepare national programmes of action to implement the commitments undertaken in the First ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth and this Plan of Action. National Governments should encourage and assist provincial and local governments as well as NGOs, the private sector and civic groups to prepare their own programmes of action to help implement the goals and objectives included in the Declaration and this Plan of Action;

- (ii) To strengthen the relationship between governments and non-government youth organizations for a healthy and open dialogue between youth NGO representatives and the government. It is suggested that ASEAN member countries should have a national youth forum.
- (iii) To encourage ASEAN member countries to have their own national youth policies as a guideline for the development of youth with the purpose of enhancing their active participation in national and regional development;
- (iv) Each country is urged to re-examine in the context of its particular national situation, its current national budgets and other resources, to ascertain that programmes of youth development will have a priority. Every effort should be made to ensure that such programmes are well protected in times of economic austerity and structural adjustments :
- (v) Families, communities, local governments, NGOs, social, cultural, religious, business, other institutions, and the youth community are encouraged to play an active role in support of the goals enunciated in this Plan of Action. All forms of social mobilization, including the use of information and communication system should be employed to enhance active participation of youth in the promotion and achievement of national and regional development;
- (vi) Each country should establish appropriate mechanisms for the regular and timely collection, analysis and publication of data required to monitor relevant social indicators relating to youth development. It is particularly important that an appropriate mechanism be established to alert policy makers quickly to any adverse trends to

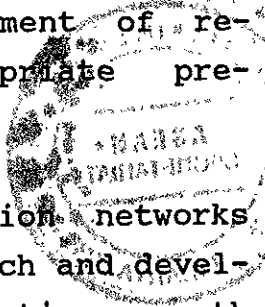
enable timely corrective action. Indicators of youth development should be periodically reviewed by national leaders and decision makers, as currently done with indicators of economic development;

- (vii) Each country is urged to re-examine its current programmes for responding to natural disasters, transboundary pollution, communicable diseases and other man-made calamities which may adversely affect youth development and thereby call for appropriate response from youth;
- (viii) Progress towards the goals endorsed in the First ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth this Plan of Action could be further accelerated, and solutions to many other major problems confronting youth will be greatly facilitated, through further research and development. For this purpose, intra governmental as well as cross-sectoral coordination is of utmost importance;

Action at the ASEAN Level

To further implement the policy and strategy on youth development which have been set out at the Declaration, several important steps need to be pursued :

- Existing mechanisms should be improved to review and further develop the implementation of ASEAN youth cooperation programmes;
- Establishing an Annual Meeting of ASEAN Youth which shall be rotated and referred to as the ASEAN Youth Day. The Meeting of the ASEAN Youth Ministers may be convened regularly, if possible annually;

- An ASEAN Youth Desk should be set up within the ASEAN Secretariat as an instrument for the development of regional cooperative programmes through appropriate prescribed channels.
 - There shall be information and communication networks among ASEAN youth supported by a solid research and development efforts with a view to accelerating youth collaboration;
 - Further enhance the role and active involvement of non governmental youth organizations in the society;
 - Enhancing and promoting cooperative network with the CAYC;
 - Further encourage ASEAN youth exchange programmes with the purpose of strengthening ASEAN awareness and solidarity.
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**ASEAN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
TOWARDS THE YEAR 2000 AND BEYOND**

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The Framework of ASEAN Youth Policy

I. Background :

The global developments toward the year 2000 and beyond will pose as challenges and prospects for the youth today and the next generations, and thus the need to be prepared for a better future.

The economies of ASEAN countries have shown steady progress. Their growth and industrial prospects have made Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand as newly emerging industrialized countries.

ASEAN is in a favourable position in terms of geography. Its geopolitical and human resources development have placed them in a comparative advantage vis-a-vis global competition. There is therefore the need for ASEAN geostrategies to be further developed, particularly human resources as potentials for future development.

The strategy of promoting ASEAN Youth as an integral part of social, economic and technological advancement will have to be drawn up to enhance their awareness and concern for the future.

The globalization process has been manifested in an easier access to communication transcending national boundaries. It means that world horizons have become wider, providing more opportunities and better methods of solving global problems.

ASEAN as a part of the international community is concerned with such global problems, and their solution depends on the readiness of ASEAN. Changes in social structure and value system have resulted in juvenile delinquency, drug abuse and negative attitude towards social life.

Based on the above facts, a number of considerations have developed in ASEAN member countries which have led among others to the ASEAN Declaration of 1967, ASEAN Concord of 1976 and the Declaration of Principles to Strengthening ASEAN Collaboration on Youth, 1983.

The ten Principles have become our common concern and commitment to strengthen ASEAN collaboration on youth, either individually or collectively among ASEAN nations. They cover a number of strategies in promoting youth as an integral part of social and economic development, comprising among others, the creation of access to education and job opportunities, enhancement of solidarity, exchange of information on youth, promotion of youth as human resources and the participation of youth in non-government organizations. In general those are the solid base for

ASEAN youth development at present and for the future.

A series of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Youth meetings have discussed and addressed some issues which signify similar interests and responsibilities in order to enhance youth development. The implementation of ASEAN supported projects such as Youth Entrepreneurship, Youth Leadership Training, Young Workers Forum, Out of School Youth and Youth Cooperative Workshops has manifested part of the plans of actions for youth development.

The Fourth ASEAN Summit and the Singapore Declaration of 1992 on functional cooperation called for the enhancement of awareness of ASEAN among the people in the region, the development of a regional identity and solidarity, and the promotion of human resources development.

For the new direction of regional youth development, ASEAN should upgrade the involvement of both government agencies as well as youth NGOs.

At the government level, the ASEAN Sub-Committee on Youth can play an important role, whereas the youth NGO, it is the Committee for ASEAN Youth Cooperation (CAYC), should be given more recognition by ASEAN to play a dynamic and constructive role in the region. Both sides have to complement each other in a very active

participation for the overall regional youth development.

In view of this, there is an urgent need to set a new direction, policy and strategy for ASEAN youth development towards the year 2000 and beyond.

II. Aims and Objectives

Aims

ASEAN was established on the basis of common perceptions and interests. In the light of the globalization process approaching the year 2000 and beyond and considering the development factors in the coming years with respect to the responsibility and commitment of the present youth, there is a need to enhance the ASEAN youth to be able to manage sustainable development with the following purposes:

1. to help foster ASEAN awareness, identity, solidarity, stability and prosperity among youth;
2. to promote policies and programmes relating to youth as an integral part of social and cultural values among ASEAN nations;
3. to realise the youth potential as human resources in regional development.

Objectives

The main objectives of ASEAN youth cooperation are :

1. to enhance the quality of education among ASEAN youth.
2. to increase employment opportunities and reduce youth dissocialization.
3. to foster positive and constructive attitudes for youth in facing global changes and challenges of modernization.
4. to prepare youth in the region for future ASEAN leadership.

III. Areas of Concern

1. Population

Trends of population growth and life expectancy require that youth be further aware of social pressures and increasing human needs.

2. Education/Training

The development of education should aim at providing adequate opportunities for youth to obtain higher education and specialization, supporting social and economic development of the region and enhancing the awareness of ASEAN.

3. Unemployment

The concentration of manpower in agricultural sector is attributed to the low level of education among youth, while the surplus of manpower in the industrial and services sectors have pushed the youth to the informal sector i.e. self-employed labour, street vendors and home industry.

4. Housing

The gap between urbanisation and employment opportunities in many cities of ASEAN has caused many people including youth to stay in slum areas which consequently creates environmental problems.

5. Environment

The process of industrialization in most ASEAN countries has increased environmental problems. In the meantime the overly exploited natural resources in the rural areas have damaged the environment. In view of this, there is a need to enhance environmental awareness among ASEAN youth and involve them in the decision making process for a sustainable development.

6. Social security

Changes in values and behaviors brought about by modernization and globalization have undermined social life and practices of mutual help in the society.

Social institutions such as family and community organizations should be strengthened to provide social support for the youth.

7. Crime and Drug Abuse

There should be concerted efforts in overcoming the growing problem of crime and drug abuse.

8. AIDS

Most of the victims of AIDS are the youth and this situation has become increasingly alarming worldwide. Therefore efforts to curb this danger must be strengthened.

9. Youth Participation

Youth should be given wider opportunities to participate in community and national development as well as a stronger role in bringing peace in the region. Non-government youth organizations can play an important part in bringing about such opportunities.

IV. National Policy

1. The promotion of interest of ASEAN youth depends largely on the national policy of each government. For this purpose intra-government coordination and cross sectoral institutions need to be considered.

2. In achieving the goals of youth development, there should be policies and strategies for the year 2000 and beyond :

- a. Education : to enhance expertise in science and technology.
- b. Dissemination of information : to promote awareness of ASEAN youth solidarity.
- c. To enhance the management of youth development : to provide youth with the necessary means to play a dynamic role of development motivator.

V. Regional Support

1. Direct bilateral cooperation

Based on the Declaration of ASEAN Principles to Strengthening ASEAN Collaboration on Youth 1983 and Singapore Declaration of 1992, regional support for youth activities should be explored and extended based on bilateral cooperation.

2. Regional Cooperation

Based on the spirit of cooperation among ASEAN countries the role and function of regional cooperation are :

- a. To formulate an ASEAN youth policy guideline for youth development;
- b. To establish an ASEAN youth desk in the ASEAN Secretariat as an instrument to monitor the development of regional cooperation programme;
- c. To support the implementation of bilateral and regional cooperation including the involvement of CAYC;

3. International cooperation

Cooperation between ASEAN and dialogue partners and international organizations including the United Nations should be strengthened to further regional development.

VI. Conclusion

It is clear that today's youth will be responsible for the survival and progress of their countries, as such, they are the main target for any national development plans. Therefore, their tremendous potential must be nurtured and channelled towards maximum utilisation for national well-being.

The future dimension tends to be more challenging. In view of this, there is a need for a dynamic, disciplined and knowledgeable young generation and capable ASEAN youth leadership to continue upbringing peaceful, stable, cohesive and prosperous nations.

Furthermore, the ASEAN member countries should strengthen the governmental and non-governmental machinery to meet the needs and aspirations of youth. Besides, there is a need to have a comprehensive and clear direction, policy and long-term strategy for ASEAN youth development towards the year 2000 and beyond.