

ASEAN FORESTS:
A WORLD HERITAGE

FIRST ASEAN
ASEAN FORESTRY
CONGRESS

10-15 OCTOBER 1983
MANILA, PHILIPPINES



MANILA DECLARATION
ON
ASEAN TROPICAL FORESTRY
OF THE
FIRST ASEAN FORESTRY CONGRESS

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WE, the undersigned Delegates to the FIRST ASEAN FORESTRY CONGRESS held in Metro Manila, Philippines on 10-15 October 1983;

RECALLING the Jakarta Consensus on ASEAN Tropical Forestry of the Third Meeting of the ASEAN Economic Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry which recognized, among others, the need for evolving an ASEAN common forestry policy and technical cooperation on a) conservation, reforestation and management of forest resources; b) utilization of forest resources: production, processing and marketing; c) research and development; and d) education and training;

CONCERNED in the rapid depletion of ASEAN Forests as against the need to manage our forest resources on a sustained-yield basis;

RECOGNIZING industrial forest plantations as a means of increasing timber production to supplement the necessary wood raw materials from existing natural forests;

REALIZING the need for a more judicious utilization of forest resources and at the same time recognizing problems in marketing;



COGNIZANT of the important role of people in the conservation, reforestation/rehabilitation, management and utilization of forest resources; and the need to reorient peoples' perceptions on the values of the forest;

BEING AWARE of the need to define the concept of a national parks system in the ASEAN context as well as the deleterious effects of environmental degradation; and

PROPELLED by the urgent need to translate the Jakarta Consensus into action and reality,


DO HEREBY DECLARE the following:

1. NATURAL FOREST

The Congress strongly reiterates the need to maintain adequate natural forest in each member country consistent with the biological and environmental requirements of the Region, while at the same time, increasing their productivity thru the application of appropriate silvicultural practices.

2. INDUSTRIAL FOREST PLANTATION

The Congress calls for the accelerated establishment of industrial forest plantations of appropriate species in suitable areas as a supplemental source of raw materials for the wood-based industries.



In relation thereto, incentives may be provided to encourage the participation of the private sector.

3. UTILIZATION OF FOREST RESOURCES

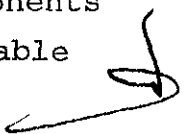
The Congress calls for a) the adoption of appropriate harvesting and processing techniques to increase wood recovery; b) the utilization of more lesser-known species of timber; and c) the formulation and adoption of more effective marketing strategies.

4. SOCIAL FORESTRY

The Congress calls for a) the recognition of the people as effective partners in the conservation and development of forest lands and entitled to the benefits derived therefrom; and b) the harnessing of the forest as a means of developing and stabilizing the rural communities especially those who are directly dependent on the forest for their livelihood.

5. NATIONAL PARKS/WILDLIFE AND OTHER PROTECTED AREAS

The Congress calls for an urgent action to upgrade the management capability of national parks/wildlife to reflect the recognized importance of these national parks/wildlife and other protected areas as integral components within the total scope of forestry as valuable heritage to ASEAN.



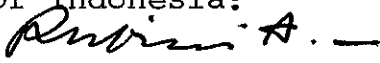
6. FORESTRY EDUCATION AND EXTENSION

The Congress calls for the development of effective education and extension programs to enlighten the population on the benefits of the forest.


The Congress hereby REAFFIRMS the ASEAN spirit of solidarity in fulfilling the foregoing declaration.

DONE in Metro Manila, Philippines, this 15th day of October in the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Three.

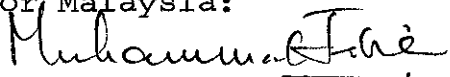
For Indonesia:


RUBINI ATMAWIDJAJA
Director General for
Forest Protection and
Conservation of Nature
Head of Delegation


For the Philippines:


EDMUNDO V. CORTES
Director
Bureau of Forest Development
Head of Delegation

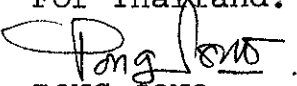
For Malaysia:


DATO' MUHAMMAD JABIL
Director-General
Forestry Department
Head of Delegation


For Singapore:


LEE SING KONG
Deputy Commissioner
Parks and Recreation Department
Ministry of National Development
Head of Delegation

For Thailand:


PONG SONO
Deputy Permanent Secretary to
the Ministry of Agriculture
and Cooperatives
Head of Delegation

ATTESTED:


JESUS B. ALVAREZ, JR.
Secretary-General