MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION (WMO) AND
THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST
ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)





ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)

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THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)

The World Meteorological Organization (herein referred to as WMO) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (herein referred to as ASEAN),

Considering the mutual interest of WMO and ASEAN in cooperative activities in the fields of meteorology, climate, water resources, mitigation of natural disasters, environment monitoring, physical oceanography, human resources development, and research and development in the ASEAN region;

RECALLING that the purposes of WMO are, among others, to coordinate the activities of its Members in the generation, processing and exchange of meteorological, hydrological and related geophysical data according to internationally agreed standards; to promote research and training in these fields at national, regional and global levels; to facilitate the development of services and application of related products that contribute to the improvement of the well-being and safety of communities; preservation of the environment, and to sustainable development of nations and the whole of humankind;

RECALLING also the role of ASEAN as a regional intergovernmental organization, to enhance coordination between ASEAN and its cooperation partners and among ASEAN organs, and to promote efficient and effective implementation of ASEAN projects and activities;

HIGHLIGHTING the valuable collaboration to date between ASEAN and WMO, particularly in the contribution, evaluation and implementation of regional projects and activities of the ASEAN Specialized Meteorological Centre located in Singapore;

RECOGNIZING the common concerns and agreed regional priorities of the ASEAN Member countries in relation to science and technology development and its applications to economic and social well-being;

Noting the establishment of the ASEAN Sub-Committee on Meteorology and Geophysics (ASCMG) to promote the development and application of meteorological and geophysical knowledge, skills, infrastructure, services and networks in areas such as aviation, agriculture, maritime, tourism, environment, and disaster mitigation, in support of ASEAN's broader goal to improve the quality of life in the region through social and economic development;

EMPHASIZING the importance of further strengthening the relationship between WMO and ASEAN to build upon the gains of the existing collaboration;

WMO and ASEAN have agreed to promote closer cooperation through the following activities, inter alia:

 Maintain and strengthen the existing channels of cooperation and communication that permit further the exchange of scientific knowledge on meteorology, geophysics, climate, climate change and climate variability, regional meteorologically-related environmental issues, capacity-building of National Meteorological and Geophysical Services, research and development, and operational hydrology including assessment of water resources;

- Promote scientific research and human resource development, through the promotion of studies and coordination of the exchange of knowledge, skills, materials and publications in areas of weather modification, regional monsoon climatology and prediction, regional climate modelling, regional climate change including sea-level rise and their impacts, El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and its impacts on the region, transboundary marine and air pollution, assessment of water resources, and natural disaster mitigation and management;
- Keep each other informed about programmes of work, projects, activities and publications of mutual interest;
- Make suitable arrangements, on request, for the participation of each Organization in those sessions or meetings of the other Organization which relate to items of common interest; and
- Make suitable arrangements for representatives of the two Organizations to meet, as occasion demands, to review the progress of cooperative work currently under way and to discuss future cooperation plans.

Notwithstanding the above, WMO and ASEAN may seek to strengthen cooperation in other specific areas of mutual interest.

The ASEAN Secretariat and the WMO Secretariat shall periodically monitor and review the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, and raise relevant issues for the consideration of the ASCMG, the ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST), the ASEAN Ministers for Science and Technology, and the relevant constituent bodies of WMO, as appropriate.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon the signature of both parties, and may be amended or terminated by mutual agreement.

For the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) For the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Prof. G. O. P. Obasi Secretary-General

Geneva,2002

Rodolfo C. Severino, Jr.

Jakarta, 18 Ortober 2002