



Mission Report

The Fourteenth Coordinating Conference on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (The 14th SOC-COM)

14 May 2019, Chiang Mai, Thailand

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A. SEAMEO Official and Staff Member on Mission

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B. Background, Description and Objectives of the Activity

In the spirit of cross-sectoral and cross-pillar collaboration, the socio-cultural pillar of the ASEAN Community (ASCC) had its coordinating conference, namely the 14th Coordinating Conference on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (SOC-COM), which was held on 14th of May 2019 at Chiang Mai, Thailand.

The 14th SOC-COM aims to provide a valuable platform for ASCC's 15 sectoral bodies to coordinate efforts to implement the ASCC Blueprint and to make recommendations to address ongoing and emerging cross-pillar and cross-sector issues in ASEAN.

C. Organizer

1. ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, Indonesia
2. Ministry of Education, Thailand

D. Participants

1. SOCA Leaders,
2. Chairs and Vice-Chairs of ASCC Sectoral Bodies,
3. SOM Chair and Chairs of relevant APSC Sectoral Bodies,
4. SEOM Chair and Chairs of relevant AEC Sectoral Bodies,
5. Regional Entities (SEAMEO, AF, AUN, AIPA, AsiaDHRAA, ACWO, AHA Centre, ASMC, ACB and EIRA)
6. UN Representatives,
7. DSG of ASEAN and Delegates

E. Highlight of the Activity/Summary Points

- H E Mr Kung Phoak, Deputy Secretary General (DSG) for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, as Chair of the meeting delivered his opening remarks. He then presented the provisional agenda and called for the meeting to consider and adopt it.

- The Conference was held in plenary. A total of 13 agenda items were discussed in the meeting. Thailand as ASEAN Chair for 2019 announced business arrangements for the said conference. Further, Thailand briefed the Conference on ASCC priority areas in 2019 under Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship, concrete deliverables including establishment or development of ASCC-Related ASEAN Centres, and outcome documents for submission to the 34th ASEAN Summit.
- The ASEAN Secretariat updated the Conference on the matters arising from the 13th SOC-COM for information and follow up action.
- The Chair of the Working Group on Culture of Prevention will brief the Conference on the outcomes of the 2nd Meeting of Working Group on Culture of Prevention. Such an outcome is ASEAN declaration on culture of prevention for a peaceful, inclusive, resilient, healthy and harmonious society
- Thailand briefed the Conference on implementation of the Enabling Masterplan, and discussed ways forward including cross-pillar collaboration to ensure the realization of the Enabling Masterplan. The Conference invited the delegates to exchange their views.
- The ASEAN Secretariat briefed the Conference on the finalization of the draft ASCC questionnaire and (ii) draft TOR for the fact-finding mission to Timor-Leste. The Conference then discussed the status of Timor Leste's application as ASEAN Member.
- The ASEAN Secretariat briefed the Conference on follow up to the Indicative List of ASEAN Cross-Pillar Issues. The Conference delegates are invited to discuss the draft Term of Reference (ToR) for the lead sectoral body for ASEAN cross-pillar issues.
- Based on the TOR of the SOC-COM which mandates the ASEAN Secretariat to assist AMS in addressing ongoing and emerging cross-cutting issues, the ASEAN Secretariat brought to the attention of the Meeting the following issues: (i) the future of work; (ii) the nexus between humanitarian actions and sustainable development; and (iii) social environmental safeguards.
- The ASEAN Secretariat updated the Conference on the status of endorsement for the Result Framework Indicators of the ASCC Blueprint 2025 and next steps for implementation.
- The ASEAN Secretariat updated the Conference on information collected through Tool 1 and Tool 2 of the ASCC Implementation-Focused Monitoring System.
- The ASEAN Secretariat briefed the Conference on the preparation for a mid-term review as mandated in the ASCC Blueprint for the period of 2016 – 2020. The Conference are invited to discuss.
- The ASEAN Secretariat briefed the Conference on actions to promote complementarities between ASCC Blueprint 2025 and the SDGs, including the upcoming research and symposium on the SDGs.
- During other matters session, the Chair of the meeting invited the observers to briefly present orally on their programme. DDPD presented SEAMEO Secretariat Programme especially on SEA PLM Programme in which both secretariats have mutual collaborations.

- Furthermore, Viet Nam briefed the Conference on the proposed date and venue of the 15th SOC-COM.
- Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community deliver his closing remarks and declared the meeting was officially closed.



Figure 1. Photo Session for Heads of Delegation of the Conference after the official Opening by the Deputy Secretary General for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community

F. Role/Participation of SEAMEO

1. SEAMEO Secretariat along with other 9 Regional entities were invited as observers.
2. DDPD presented SEAMEO Secretariat Programme especially on SEA-PLM Programme in which both secretariats have mutual collaborations with ASEAN during other matter session.

G. Follow-up Actions Needed

SEAMEO Secretariat will follow up ASEAN Secretariat commitment on the SEA PLM programme as it is already adopted as part ASEAN Work Plan.