

2nd ASEAN-Canada Joint Cooperation Work Plan (2007-10)

Cooperation between ASEAN and Canada is guided by the *ASEAN-Canada Joint Cooperation Work Plan*, a framework for cooperation developed and initiated in 2005, under the auspices of the ASEAN-Canada Dialogue.

Objectives:

Through the *ASEAN-Canada Joint Cooperation Work Plan*, ASEAN and Canada seek to:

- *To enhance ASEAN-Canada relations through comprehensive dialogue and cooperation agenda over the next three years on a range of areas of mutual interest such as political-security, economic, socio-cultural and development areas as resources permit.*
- *To support ASEAN's regional integration efforts, including through the implementation of the Vientiane Action Programme (VAP), the ASEAN Millennium Development Compact initiative, and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and other sub-regional growth arrangements in ASEAN designed to narrow the development gaps in ASEAN.*

In 2007-10, ASEAN and Canada cooperation initiatives will build on the progress achieved under the 1st ASEAN-Canada Joint Cooperation Work Plan (2005-07), including in thematic areas such as: health security, counter-terrorism and transnational crime, good governance, inter-faith/inter-cultural dialogue, sustainable development/environment, disaster risk management/ preparedness, gender equality, trade and investment and other areas.

ASEAN and Canada also seek to strengthen cooperation in the context of enhanced collaboration in international fora, such as the ASEAN Regional Forum, APEC and within the United Nations. Furthermore, Canada and ASEAN encourage efforts to foster increased people-to-people and institutional linkages and to engage civil society in developing a people-centered ASEAN Community.

Priorities for ASEAN-Canada cooperation in 2007-08 include:

- **Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime:** Implement a workshop on preventing bioterrorism and a workshop on forging cooperation among anti-terror agencies.
- **Economic Cooperation:** Reach agreement on ASEAN-Canada Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement.
- **Health Security:** Cooperate in the implementation of Canada-Asia Regional Emerging Infectious Diseases such as avian influenza and pandemic influenza.
- **Interfaith Dialogue:** Organize an event to explore potential areas for ASEAN-Canada cooperation on matters related to interfaith dialogue.
- **Technical assistance and capacity building with the ASEAN Secretariat:** Identify a process for initiating short-term technical assistance and capacity building (ie. short-term experts) for the ASEAN Secretariat.

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A. Under the Framework of the ASEAN-Canada Dialogue

AREAS OF COOPERATION / INTEREST	PROPOSED ACTION / INITIATIVE
1. Official dialogue	
1.1 Enhanced senior-official-level dialogue with ASEAN on a broad range of political, security, development cooperation and economic issues.	1.1.1 Hold annual ASEAN-Canada Dialogues.
1.2 Follow-up mechanism	1.2.1 Hold annual meetings of the ASEAN-Canada Informal Coordinating Mechanism (ICM) to monitor, coordinate and review the implementation of the Work Plan, including a time frame for implementation of the Work Plan. The ICM will be at the level of Director-General/Director comprising the ASEAN Country Coordinator, Canada and the ASEAN Secretariat. The ICM will be open to participation of other ASEAN Member Countries. The ICM will report to the ASEAN-Canada Dialogue.

2. Thematic Issues	
2.1 Health security	<p>2.1.1 Collaborate on health security issues with ASEAN, through the Canada-Asia Regional Emergency Infectious Diseases (CAREID) project, being implemented by the World Health Organization's regional offices and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), with funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).</p> <p>2.1.2 Exchange information on infectious diseases and emergent public health incidents as appropriate.</p> <p>2.1.3 Work together on health security capacity building projects in ASEAN, including on Avian Influenza, HIV/AIDS prevention and education, and impact alleviation responses by addressing relevant priorities of the Vientiane Action Programme and the Third ASEAN Work Programme on HIV and AIDS (2006-2010)s, while exploring ways to enhance cooperation with ASEAN on health-related issues and initiatives.</p>
2.2 Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime	<p>2.2.1 Implement, in a systematic and comprehensive manner, the ASEAN-Canada Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism.</p> <p>2.2.2 Continue to strengthen and deepen cooperation with ASEAN Member Countries in support of international counter-terrorism through signing, ratification or accession to, and implementation of relevant UN conventions, protocols, resolutions related to terrorism.</p> <p>2.2.3 Strengthen and deepen cooperation with ASEAN Member Countries against other transnational crimes inter alia, through encouraging signature, ratification or accession to, and implementation of the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime.</p> <p>2.2.4 Cooperate and support ASEAN's efforts in implementing the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism, signed in January 2007.</p> <p>2.2.5 Strengthen cooperation among law enforcement agencies and relevant authorities, in accordance with applicable treaties and domestic legislation, with respect to extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, including the confiscation of proceeds of crime and, where appropriate, the repatriation / sharing of confiscated proceeds of crimes.</p> <p>2.2.6 Explore the possibility for cooperation, especially in capacity building and professional development in various areas related to transnational crime, such as illicit drug trafficking, money laundering, international economic crime and cybercrime.</p> <p>2.2.7 Cooperate with ASEAN Member Countries in the prevention and fight against trafficking in persons, inter alia, through encouraging the accession, ratification and effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention</p>

	<p>against Transnational Organized Crime.</p> <p>2.2.8 Identify areas for regional and international cooperation in combating trafficking in persons as envisioned in the Work Programme to Implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime, and explore possibilities for capacity building as well as to provide safe and human treatment to victims of trafficking in persons such as through enhancing existing capabilities, developing mechanisms for information exchange and enhancing public awareness.</p> <p>2.2.9 Explore the possibility of cooperation, rendering mutual assistance, and enhancing capacity building for preventing and suppressing illegal proliferation, smuggling, and trade of small arms and light weapons (SALW).</p> <p>2.2.10 Strengthen regional capacity, as appropriate, to prevent and respond to terrorism, which includes terrorist financing and weapons of mass destruction, including chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials as agents.</p> <p>2.2.11 Strengthen efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction by promoting implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), including through the sharing of best practices.</p> <p>2.2.12 Expand Canada's engagement in the region on counter-terrorism through bilateral and multilateral fora which will include counter-terrorism capacity building program. These include support for training activities related to bio-terrorism and enhancing cooperation between national counter-terrorism units in the region. CTCBP Programming will also focus on current and possible future engagement with existing centres such as the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Bangkok, the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT) in Kuala Lumpur, and the Jakarta Center for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC).</p>
<p>2.3 Good Governance</p>	<p>2.3.1 In the framework of applicable national and international law, intensify cooperation to combat corruption, including denying a safe haven to those guilty of public corruption and cooperate in the recovery and return of the proceeds of corruption, as well as cooperate in the extradition and prosecution of those engaged in bribery, including in international business transactions.</p> <p>2.3.2 Promote and develop capacity building programmes on best practices in civil/public service management to create a professional and modern bureaucracy mechanism in ASEAN countries.</p> <p>2.3.3 Advocate for and support the enhancement of women's leadership role and participation in all levels of decision making and in the promotion of good governance.</p>
<p>2.4 Sustainable Development / Environment</p>	<p>2.4.1 [Enhance cooperation in capacity building for ASEAN through the exchange of knowledge and experience between government authorities and experts.</p> <p>2.4.2 Examine scope for exchange of information on climate change, including land use, land use change and forestry</p>

	<p>aspects, noting the link between emissions reduction and poverty reduction.</p> <p>2.4.3 Undertake consultations on a regular basis and forge closer cooperation on environmental and related matters as well as to explore the opportunity to cooperate in joint research and development in protecting the environment and in promoting the efficient and sustainable use of natural resources.</p> <p>2.4.4 Enhance cooperation in capacity building for ASEAN in mitigating global environmental problems such as climate change and long-range transport of air pollutants.</p> <p>2.4.5 Promote and develop cooperation multilaterally, regionally and bilaterally, as appropriate, in areas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Transboundary environmental pollution reduction, particularly transboundary haze pollution; b. Biological diversity and natural heritage conservation, including implementation of obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity; c. Application of advance and environmentally- friendly technologies and best practices; d. Sustainable water resource management, including groundwater; e. Coastal and marine resource management/environment; f. Sustainable forest management; g. Urban environmental management and governance, including the ASEAN Initiative on Environmentally Sustainable Cities. h. Responsible mining and minerals development; i. Public awareness and environmental education; j. Multilateral environmental agreements, in particular climate change, chemicals and chemical waste related conventions and partnerships, and k. Air quality management; l. Solid waste management. <p>2.4.6 Promote cooperation towards achieving sustainable development and energy security goals, where applicable in research, development, production and use of alternative, renewable and other low emitting energy sources that could possibly include solar, wind, tides and waves, hydro, geothermal, biofuel, biomass, marsh gas etc. as well as in areas such as energy conservation, energy efficiency, clean energy and related capacity building.</p> <p>2.4.7 Strengthen the knowledge and information database on environmental matters.</p>
<p>2.5 Disaster Risk Management/preparedness</p>	<p>2.5.1 Strengthen existing national capabilities, build capacity and raise public awareness on disaster risk-management and emergency response as envisaged in the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER).</p> <p>2.5.2 Support cooperation on emergency relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction process in the aftermath of natural disasters, such as typhoons, tsunamis and earthquakes.</p>

	<p>2.5.3 Promote disaster risk reduction as a cross-cutting priority into development programming and institutional capacity building, at all levels of governance.</p> <p>2.5.4 Cooperate with ASEAN Member Countries on the development and maintenance of early warning systems taking into consideration existing systems to ensure sustainability.</p> <p>2.5.5 Share experience and best practices in the field of advance technologies in relation to public warning during natural, man-made and technological disasters or other major incident.</p> <p>2.5.6 Initiate training and capacity building for personnel involved in emergency and disaster response and management of major incidents.</p> <p>2.5.7 Encourage efforts to implement, as appropriate, the 2005 United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW) Resolution on “Integrating a Gender Perspective in Post-disaster Relief, Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Efforts, Including in the Aftermath of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Disaster.”</p> <p>2.5.8 Share public health experiences and expertise in disaster risk reduction.</p> <p>2.5.9 Conduct joint training programmes and exchange information on new techniques on disaster risk management and emergency response, to enhance capacity of government authorities concerned.</p>
2.6 Gender Equality	<p>2.6.1 Assist the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW)’s efforts to promote the full implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and to accelerate the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), as well as the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the ASEAN Region.</p> <p>2.6.2 Explore opportunities to assist with regional priority projects as outlined in the 3rd Report on the Advancement of Women in ASEAN.</p>
2.7 People-to-people and institutional linkages	<p>2.7.1 Explore opportunities for Canada and other interested ASEAN partners to offer professional training to Government officials in public policy areas of mutual interest.</p> <p>2.7.2 Explore the opportunity for university linkages between ASEAN Member Countries and Canada and to cooperate in joint research, including through the ASEAN University Network (AUN).</p> <p>2.7.3 Work together with the ASEAN Senior Officials on Youth in addressing priorities for youth leadership development and greater involvement of youth in national and regional development processes.</p> <p>2.7.4 Support the ASEAN Millennium Development Compact initiative, and develop joint activities to sustain partnership for regional integration.</p>

	<p>2.7.5 Promote interaction and networking between government authorities involving culture, cultural institutions, museums, archives and libraries as well as artist and experts.</p> <p>2.7.6 Share Information on preservation and restoration of cultural and historical heritage, both tangible and intangible.</p> <p>2.7.7 Strengthen and deepen cooperation with ASEAN Member Countries in support of cultural relations, inter alia, through encouraging signing, ratification or accession to, and implementation of relevant UN conventions, protocols, resolutions.</p> <p>2.7.8 Establish an ASEAN-Canada fellowship programme similar to the SEAMEO-Jasper Research Award in 2007 to commemorate 30th anniversary of Canada-ASEAN relations. (The Jasper Award was established in 1990 with the support of the Government of Canada as a way of recognizing exemplary research conducted by Southeast Asian Nationals in the region. The yearly award seeks to encourage young scholars to conduct research on a relevant theme on social development in Southeast Asia and to stimulate continued interaction and knowledge-sharing among Southeast Asian and Canadian researchers.)</p> <p>2.7.9 Support efforts to establish a network among existing human rights mechanisms in response to ASEAN's Vientiane Action Programme.</p> <p>2.7.10 Encourage efforts to promote and protect the rights of women and children, persons with disabilities and older persons in line with the Vientiane Action Programme.</p> <p>2.7.11 Encourage efforts to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers in Southeast Asia in compliance with the Cebu Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers adopted at the 12th ASEAN Summit in Cebu, Philippines.</p> <p>2.7.12 Exchange best practices on investigation of international crimes relating to women and children.</p> <p>2.7.13 Assist and support efforts to increase effective participation of civil society and private sector in tackling poverty and social welfare issues.</p> <p>2.7.14 Exchange information about mutual recognition of skills and qualifications between ASEAN Member Countries and Canada.</p> <p>2.7.15 Collaborate as appropriate with the ASEAN Foundation in strengthening cooperation between Canada and ASEAN especially in promoting people-to-people interaction and awareness between the two sides.</p>
<p>2.8 Interfaith/Inter cultural Dialogue</p>	<p>2.8.1 Explore potential areas for ASEAN-Canada cooperation on matters related to interfaith dialogue to further promote peace, understanding and tolerance.</p> <p>2.8.2 Encourage international/multilateral efforts promoting and advocating interfaith dialogue such as the Tripartite Forum on</p>

	Interfaith Cooperation for Peace (TFICP) in New York.
2.9 Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI)	<p>2.9.1 Encourage ASEAN's regional integration efforts, including through the implementation of the Vientiane Action Programme (VAP), the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and sub-regional growth areas, which are designed to narrow the development gaps in ASEAN, including Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV), and to expedite regional integration.</p> <p>2.9.2 Enhance the ASEAN Secretariat's capacity in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Narrowing the Development Gap (NDG) projects, and in other areas where appropriate, such as through the provision of short-term technical assistance.</p>
2.10 Expanded education, science and technology (S&T) cooperation	<p>2.10.1 Seek ways to engage in the development of human infrastructure and resources through educational exchange, joint research and training programmes, including through the ASEAN University Network.</p> <p>2.10.2 Identify and promote S&T cooperative activities such as ASEAN-Canada virtual academic networks in key mutual sectors including alternative and clean energy; health and life sciences, pandemic diseases; environment; agriculture and bio-agriculture; marine science; biotechnology; food science; microelectronics and information technology; materials science; earth science; technology transfer and management in collaboration and with the participation of the private sector.</p> <p>2.10.3 Engage with ASEAN in joint research activities, organization of scientific seminars, conferences, symposia and workshops; facilitate visits and exchange of experts and scientists; and, encourage awareness and advocacy strategies to popularize science and technology.</p> <p>2.10.4 Design and implement training design and implement training programmes to address the needs of high value-added industries that enhance ASEAN global competitiveness.</p>
2.11 Food, Agriculture and Forestry	2.11.1 Promote networking between government authorities concerned, together with agriculture and food experts, laboratories, and agriculture and food-related academic institutions of ASEAN and Canada.

B. Under the Framework of the ASEAN-Canada Senior Economic Officials' Meeting (SEOM)

1 Enhanced senior-official-level dialogue with ASEAN on trade and investment issues	1.1 To engage ASEAN Economic Ministers and Canadian Trade Ministers, where appropriate, to enhance trade and investment linkages.
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	<p>1.2 Hold annual ASEAN-Canada Senior Economic Officials' Meetings (SEOM), with the 3rd ASEAN-Canada SEOM scheduled for fall 2007 in Canada.</p> <p>1.3 Explore convening SEOM-Canada meetings back-to-back with Canada-ASEAN trade/investment missions, where possible, as a strategy to generate increased involvement of the business community towards achieving a more robust ASEAN-Canada economic partnership.</p>
<p>2 Expanded collaboration in international fora on trade and investment issues</p>	<p>2.1 Strengthen cooperation in multilateral trading system, especially the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and support the early accession of Lao PDR to the WTO.</p> <p>2.2 Determine ways in which Canada can work with ASEAN Member Countries in sharing information and advancing common WTO and Doha Round objectives (e.g. progressing the Doha Development Agenda, collaboration on Agriculture issues in the Cairns Group etc.).</p> <p>2.3 Support ASEAN's efforts towards a strengthened rules-based multilateral trading system by taking full account of the special needs and concerns of developing countries to better integrate development dimensions into the multilateral trading system. ASEAN notes the importance of WTO capacity building as a means to permit developing countries to reap the full benefits of their membership in the WTO.</p>
<p>3 Trade and investment capacity building</p>	<p>3.1 Share Canadian expertise in customs and border control practices (e.g. training and information sessions via video-conferencing or appropriate working-level visits including the possibility of appropriate working-level visits of ASEAN's customs and border control agencies to Canada, as resources permit).</p> <p>3.2 Promote trade and investment promotion best practices with ASEAN Member Countries through possible Canadian participation in international and regional meetings/seminars held on this subject.</p> <p>3.3 Consider ASEAN requests to share information and provide assistance on the technical aspects of trade and investment arrangements operating under the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) including: (a) the treatment of rules of origin; (b) the treatment of services; (c) dispute settlement/resolution mechanisms; and (d) Canadian standards in food safety.</p> <p>3.4 Support capacity-building on investment protection and promotion with ASEAN Member Countries.</p>

	<p>3.5 Cooperate to overcome existing trade and investment obstacles.</p>
<p>4 Increased business community involvement in promoting two-way trade and investment relations</p>	<p>4.1 Encourage greater participation and interest from small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in ASEAN-Canada trade promotion events.</p> <p>4.2 Collaborate as appropriate on outreach organized by Canadian or ASEAN foreign missions (embassies/high commissions), with private sector participation, both in Canada and ASEAN Member Countries to expand the breadth of two-way commercial engagement.</p> <p>4.3 Liaise as appropriate with the various Southeast Asia-focused bilateral business associations in ASEAN and Canada to brainstorm on future initiatives that could be undertaken collectively to promote two-way trade and investment relations.</p> <p>4.4 Work with business organizations such as the Canadian Commercial Corporation; Export Development Canada; the Canadian-Council of Chief Executives, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce; and Canadian Manufactures and Exporters, to identify and track opportunities to increase business community involvement.</p> <p>4.5 Promote practical measures to encourage greater private sector interaction in order to promote two-way trade and investment flows.</p> <p>4.6 Continue efforts to organize Trade Missions as part of efforts to strengthen ASEAN-Canada business alliances.</p> <p>4.7 Encourage greater private sector interaction with ASEAN-Canada SEOM.</p>
<p>5 Increased cooperation on trade and investment policy</p>	<p>5.1 Engage in preliminary discussions with individual ASEAN Member Countries on investment protection provisions as appropriate.</p> <p>5.2 Consider opportunities for further cooperation on trade and investment policy, including through a proposed ASEAN-Canada Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA).</p> <p>5.3 Encourage cooperation between ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Investment (CCI) and Canadian business organizations.</p>

C. Broader International Collaboration

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<p>1 Expanded collaboration in international fora.</p>	<p>1.1 Strengthen cooperation with ASEAN Member Countries in the context of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and develop joint activities, as appropriate, in support of shared objectives in promoting peace and security in the region. [For example, Canada and Brunei intend to co-host the ARF ISG process during the 2007-2008 ARF Intersessional year.]</p> <p>1.2 Expand and deepen interaction and coordination within multilateral frameworks, including the United Nations system, the WTO, and when deemed appropriate, carry out consultations between ASEAN and Canada at the margins of those fora.</p> <p>1.3 Working through our respective constituency offices to the Asian Development Bank to support the ADB's efforts at refocusing its regional cooperation and integration strategy on four key pillars: regional infrastructure and interconnectivity; the provision of regional public goods; and support for regional trade and financial integration issues, with inclusive growth as an over-arching goal.</p> <p>1.4 Enhance the information-sharing process with ASEAN members regarding the G8 Summit agenda and related policies and initiatives prior to and/or after key G8 events (e.g. briefing Ottawa-based ASEAN officials and/or ASEAN officials attending the ASEAN-Canada SOM.)</p>
<p>2 Track II / civil society engagement</p>	<p>2.1 Support efforts to engage civil society in developing a people-centered ASEAN Community.</p>