

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION
TO PROMOTE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS AND THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
(2016-2020)**

This Comprehensive Plan of Action is aimed at fostering and diversifying mutually beneficial cooperation for the period of 2016-2020 between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Russian Federation as set forth in the Sochi Declaration of the ASEAN-Russian Federation Commemorative Summit to Mark the 20th Anniversary of ASEAN-Russian Federation Dialogue Relations “Moving Towards a Strategic Partnership for Mutual Benefit” adopted on 20 May 2016 in Sochi, the Russian Federation. This Comprehensive Plan of Action will work towards mutually beneficial objectives in the next five years (2016-2020), building upon the strong cooperation between ASEAN and the Russian Federation since 1996.

This Comprehensive Plan of Action lays out priorities and measures to be undertaken by both sides to further deepen and enhance their political-security, economic, socio-cultural and development cooperation as well as to realise the full potential of the ASEAN-Russia partnership in all areas of common interest, taking into account ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together and its Blueprints, as well as the results of the implementation of the Comprehensive Programme of Action to Promote Cooperation between ASEAN and Russia 2005-2015.

This Comprehensive Plan of Action recognises the importance of the promotion and protection of human rights, including through practical steps, exchange of best practices and closer cooperation, particularly in international fora;

In accordance with their respective international obligations and national legislation and policies, ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation shall endeavour to pursue cooperation in the following areas.

I. POLITICAL AND SECURITY COOPERATION

Political and Security

1. Enhance high-level engagement to raise the profile of ASEAN-Russia relations, encourage further constructive dialogue and cooperation activities through the existing regional mechanisms to promote peace, security, and stability in the region;

2. Promote closer ASEAN – Russia cooperation to strengthen and consolidate the East Asia Summit (EAS) as a Leaders-led forum for strategic dialogue on a comprehensive, open, equal and inclusive security architecture in the Asia-Pacific region based on universally recognized rules and principles of international law, mutual trust and respect for each other's interests, principles of settlement of disputes by peaceful means and, refraining from threat or use of force in their relations in order to encourage the development of positive relationships and cooperation in the region;

3. Enhance ASEAN and Russia's role in the regional architecture in accordance with shared values and norms enshrined in the UN Charter, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the EAS Declaration on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles) and international law, including mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, non-

interference in internal affairs, and the non-use of force or the threat to use force, as well as respect for ASEAN processes, principles and norms, including ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture;

4. Deepen ASEAN-Russia consultations and cooperation through the ASEAN-led fora, including by holding regular ASEAN-Russia Summits and the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) + 1 Sessions with the Russian Federation, Senior Officials' Meetings, strengthen ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee and other working mechanisms of ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership, as well as strengthen engagement and dialogue between the Committee of the Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) and the Russian Ambassador to ASEAN;

5. Strengthen coordination within the United Nations (UN) on issues of mutual interest, among others, by convening, when necessary, meetings of Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and the Russian Federation, including at the sidelines of the UN General Assembly Sessions, as well as the Permanent Representatives to the UN;

6. Work closely to strengthen the EAS, with ASEAN as the driving force, as a Leaders-led forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic, political and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity in the region. Continue within the EAS, multilateral consultations on the regional security architecture;

7. Strengthen cooperation in the framework of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) to promote confidence building measures and preventive diplomacy in line with the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement 2020,

including, in the areas of disaster relief, counter-terrorism and transnational crime, maritime security, non-proliferation and disarmament, peacekeeping operations, defence dialogue and support ASEAN's central and active role in the ARF process;

8. Enhance mutually beneficial cooperation within the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) as a useful platform for dialogue and practical cooperation with a view to implementing relevant mutually agreed plans in the areas of maritime security, military medicine, counterterrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, humanitarian mine action and peacekeeping; and also promote cooperation in the above-mentioned spheres between the ASEAN Member States and Russia;

9. Enhance cooperation in other multilateral frameworks and fora, including the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) and the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), on issues of common interest and concern;

10. Continue cooperation between ASEAN and Russia within the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF);

11. Promote cooperation in addressing humanitarian aspects of landmines and other explosive remnants of war issues in the region through the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre, including possible support from the Russian Armed Forces Anti-Mine Centre;

12. Intensify the on-going efforts of States Parties to the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty) and the Nuclear

Weapon States to resolve outstanding issues pertaining to the signing and ratifying of the Protocol to that Treaty;

13. Explore cooperation in strengthening nuclear safety and security, as well as application of nuclear safeguards through capacity building and sharing of experience and best practices. Promote the application of IAEA comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols in a structured, objective, transparent and coordinated manner;

14. Explore cooperation within the framework of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxic Weapons and on their Destruction and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction on matters of mutual interest, particularly, with regard to strengthening their respective regimes;

15. Expand practical cooperation of the military medical services of the ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation within the framework of the ASEAN Centre of Military Medicine in order to establish practical, effective and sustainable cooperation among military medical services of ASEAN Member States and ADMM-Plus Countries; hold joint exercises on providing military-medical assistance in crisis situations under the Experts Working Group on Military Medicine (EWG-MM) Framework;

16. Explore cooperation on migration-related issues in the areas of common interest in accordance with international law and domestic legislation;

Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime

17. Encourage to convene a regular ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials Consultation Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) and the ASEAN-Russia Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (JWG on CTTC) as mutually agreed, and update if necessary, the ASEAN-Russia Work Plan on Countering Terrorism and Transnational Crime as well as support and encourage its implementation;

18. Deepen cooperation in combating international terrorism, including under the framework of the “ASEAN-Russia Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism,” signed in Jakarta, Indonesia on 2 July 2004, and under the ARF Work Plan on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime 2015-2017 adopted at the 22nd ARF in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 6 August 2015;

19. Strengthen and support the capacity building on counter-terrorism and combating transnational crimes including on legal matters, law enforcement, cyber terrorism and terrorist financing on the basis of mutual interest through engagement with training centers in ASEAN and Russia by developing appropriate programmes and activities such as trainings, conferences and workshops;

20. Strengthen the central role of the UN in the consolidation and coordination of international efforts to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the threat of foreign terrorist fighters and to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and supporting factors of terrorism, including through the implementation of relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions;

21. Continue efforts to elaborate and conclude the Comprehensive Convention on Countering International Terrorism by the UN General Assembly;

22. Encourage the early signing and ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism by the States that have not yet done so;

23. Take measures to enhance multilateral and bilateral cooperation in combating terrorism on the basis of international law, including the international and regional frameworks on counter-terrorism such as the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, taking into account the “ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism” and the “ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter-Terrorism”;

24. Enhance cooperation at various levels on counter-terrorism initiatives to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, violent extremism and radicalism, including countering the spread of terrorist and extremist ideology and incitement to commit terrorist acts among others through the participation of the representatives of civil society, religious leaders, academic circles, media and business;

25. Support contribution of moderation in countering the spread of terrorism, violent extremism in all aspects, radicalisation, including through the implementation of the East Asia Summit Declaration on the Global Movement of Moderates;

26. Exchange information on terrorist groups and information on potential attacks and threats including possible acts involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear weapons;

27. Continue to share information on terrorist organizations, their leaders and members, operational methods and support infrastructure;

28. Promote cooperation and capacity building for security personnel involved in high-profile visits and governmental and international events;

29. Exchange information on potential acts of terrorism against their respective Countries and citizens, share best practices, knowledge and experience in the field of prevention, suppression and investigation of such acts of terrorism, as well as on the prosecution of terrorists and their accomplices;

30. Coordinate joint measures to prevent financing of terrorism;

31. Cooperate in research on issues and trends in terrorism;

32. Explore the possibility of cooperation on the detection of communication channels of transnational criminal groups and terrorist organizations;

33. Cooperate to eradicate illicit trafficking in small arms;

34. Exchange information and cooperate with a view to preventing and suppressing illicit drug trafficking;

35. Strengthen ASEAN-Russia cooperation in combating illicit drug production, drug trafficking and drug-related crimes, taking into account, among others, the aspiration of a drug-free ASEAN, through exploring collaboration of Russia with ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Centre (ASEAN-NARCO);

36. Cooperate and render mutual assistance in preventing and suppressing human trafficking and crimes related to it in accordance with relevant agreements;

37. Enhance cooperation in combating money laundering, particularly those that involve channeling of revenues obtained by criminal and/or other means for the goal of financing terrorist activities, and share best practices, promote capacity building and render necessary support to halt such activities;

38. Develop capacity building and provide, as mutually agreed, training services and technical assistance to ASEAN Member States at the Moscow International Training and Methodology Centre for Financial Monitoring;

39. Cooperate in rendering mutual assistance to prevent misuse of non-profit and charitable organizations for the purposes of terrorist financing and money laundering;

40. Exchange information and cooperate in countering the fabrication, distribution and use of false or forged payment instruments and identification documents;

41. Explore cooperation to promote international security in the field of information and telecommunications, including by exchanging views and promoting relevant UN initiatives;

42. Explore cooperation to render mutual assistance in the prevention and suppression of the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) for terrorist purposes, including incitement of hatred, as well as recruitment, facilitation, and the financing of terrorists, and also for criminal purposes, in particular crimes related to the misuse of ICTs;

43. Increase cooperation within ARF on security of and in the use of ICTs aimed at promoting a peaceful, secure and cooperative ICT environment and preventing conflict and crises by developing trust and confidence;

II. ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Trade and Investment

44. Continue regular meetings between the ASEAN Economic Ministers and Russia's Minister of Economic Development and their Senior Officials with a view to deepen the trade and investment linkages thus, increasing ASEAN-Russia trade and investment opportunities;

45. Encourage regular sharing of experience and best practice between relevant ASEAN and Russia Sectoral Bodies on policy and regulatory framework on trade and investment, including the issue of free trade agreements as well as customs tariffs and non-tariffs, technical rules, standards and compliance certification;

46. Further promote ASEAN-Russia economic relations by effectively implementing the ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Roadmap endorsed by ASEAN and Russia in 2012 and regularly update, when mutually agreed, its Work Programme aimed at achieving greater and beneficial trade and investment between ASEAN and Russia;

47. Ensure effective protection of intellectual property rights in accordance with the respective international treaties which ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation are parties to, as well as the relevant national legislations;

48. Strengthen cooperation and create opportunities between business communities of ASEAN and Russia, including by holding business summits, dialogues and investment symposiums in order to increase business communities' awareness of the advantages of doing business in ASEAN and Russia and supporting activities of the Russia-ASEAN Business Council;

49. Organize on a regular basis business missions between ASEAN Member States and Russia with a view to establishing direct business contacts and exchanging information on trade and investment opportunities;

50. Promote Public-Private Partnership (PPP) to mobilize private sector investments for the mutual benefit, as well as develop private sector engagement particularly in the area of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and encourage business-to-business relations, including through the Russia-ASEAN Business Council, ASEAN Business Advisory Council as well as Chambers of Commerce and Industry in order to strengthen business networks and opportunities;

51. Encourage participation of MSMEs of ASEAN Member States and Russia in exhibitions, trade fairs, conferences, seminars, joint business missions and other business-related events, and exchange information about such events;

52. Promote and facilitate flows of foreign direct investment into ASEAN Member States and Russia through cooperation among investment promotion agencies, linkages between investors and local entrepreneurs, and ease of dissemination of information especially on rules, regulations and policies affecting investment;

53. Promote cooperation in trade and investment-related areas of mutual interest, including but not limited to green technology, intellectual property, and electronic commerce;

54. Explore possible cooperation and dialogue on the external sector statistics to improve quality and data comparability;

55. Encourage cooperation within multilateral organizations and fora, including the World Trade Organization (WTO); the International Monetary Fund (IMF); the World Bank (WB); the World Economic Forum (WEF); the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), with the aim to strengthen open, inclusive and rules-based multilateral trading system as well as stable and balanced financial architecture;

56. Strengthen coordination and cooperation on G-20 related matters, including support for the continued participation of the ASEAN Chair in future G-20 Summits, and, where appropriate, its related Meetings;

57. Support regional integration processes within the ASEAN Community and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), including efforts in narrowing the development gap between their member states and contribute to the expansion of contacts between the ASEAN and EAEU;

58. Explore the possibility of mutually beneficial cooperation among ASEAN, EAEU and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO);

Finance

59. Support financial sector development and promote greater financial stability through mutual exchange of knowledge, experience and expertise, cooperation in protection for consumers on financial services, financial literacy and financial inclusion and cooperation on capacity building;

60. Encourage cooperation to improve infrastructure development in the ASEAN Member States and Russia by encouraging long term sustainable infrastructure investment, through Public-Private Partnerships, where appropriate;

61. Support greater financial inclusion to achieve sustainable and inclusive economic growth through the promotion of initiatives to improve individuals' and small and medium enterprises' access to financial services and funding support. This includes areas such as enhancing capacity building and providing technical assistance as well as designing consumer friendly financial regulatory frameworks;

62. Explore collaboration to contribute to reforming the global economic and financial architecture to safeguard the regional and global economies from future crises particularly through initiatives that promote regulatory financial reforms;

Energy

63. Continue regular consultations between ASEAN Senior Officials on Energy and Russia to advance energy cooperation, taking into account, among others, the ASEAN Plan of Action on Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2016-2025;

64. Implement the ASEAN-Russia Energy Cooperation Work Programme 2016-2020 and related documents;

65. Explore cooperation in the area of civilian nuclear energy, and its related applications;

66. Strengthen cooperation to pursue energy security and sustainability through research, development, production and use of renewable and alternative energy sources such as from solar power, wind, tidal surges and waves, geothermal waters and biomass, as well as promotion of clean energy and energy efficient technologies;

67. Encourage implementation of programmes aimed at energy security, smart energy consumption and conservation of energy resources, in particular, by enhancing energy efficiency savings, as well as through institutional capacity building and increasing private sector engagement;

68. Promote the facilitation of trade and investment in energy sector, including energy infrastructure and oil and natural gas related projects as well as identify investment opportunities in major energy infrastructure projects;

69. Develop and strengthen institutional linkages between ASEAN and Russia, including the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), to cooperate on R&D on energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy security, policy and planning, and to establish programmes of cooperation, and to explore cooperation on regulating energy safety;

70. Explore ways to encourage the use of environmentally friendly technologies in relation to the extraction and production of oil and gas;

71. Exchange information and best practices on the exploration, production, transportation and consumption of oil and gas and their refined products;

72. Support rural household electrification programmes, including solar, bio mass, bio gas, micro hydro and off-grid electrification;

Industry and Minerals

73. Promote mutually beneficial mining cooperation through trade and investments, the sharing of information and experiences, capacity building especially on human resources, and promoting a platform for dialogue in which the private sector can more effectively and efficiently collaborate;

74. Encourage participation of engineering companies from ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation in each other's major projects, including the development of joint investment projects;

75. Promote capacity building in the geological and mineral sector to address the current needs and future demands of the minerals industry and economy in ASEAN Member States and Russia;

76. Enhance sectoral cooperation in high technology industries, such as production of composite materials and development of energy efficient and energy saving industrial technologies;

77. Explore cooperation in geosciences research, innovation and application of advanced technologies of the use of rare minerals and rare-earth metals for development of value added products for mutual benefit;

78. Explore cooperation on mining, particularly in capacity building and the sharing of best practices, including those on regulatory aspects of industrial safety at mining facilities, to promote environmentally and socially sustainable development;

Transport

79. Encourage regular consultations and strengthen cooperation in the transportation sector to exchange best practices in the areas of maritime, road and rail transport infrastructure networks and civil aviation as well as road safety;

80. Deepen economic integration through intra- and inter-regional transport arrangements including air, maritime and land transportation;

81. Explore ways to share information on innovations and best practices in the areas of transport infrastructure network;

82. Explore cooperation to implement the ASEAN Strategic Transport Plan (2016-2025) and the Transport Strategy of Russian Federation up to 2030;

Food, Agriculture and Forestry

83. Hold regular ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials' Meetings on Agriculture, promote networking and cooperation between government authorities concerned, together with agriculture and food experts, laboratories, and agriculture and food-related academic institutions, farmers and traders of ASEAN and Russia;

84. Step up cooperation in the implementation of the Work Programme for ASEAN -Russia Cooperation on Agriculture and Food Security, update it regularly, taking into account, among others, the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and the Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security for the period of 2015-2020 in the ASEAN Region (SPA-FS);

85. Promote investment, capacity building, sharing of experience and best practices as well as transfer and adoption of new technologies in agriculture, food and forestry sectors, research and development including technical assistance and funding support related to these activities;

86. Develop human resource in the area of agriculture by providing opportunities for ASEAN and Russian farmers to learn techniques, management and farm working practices through capacity building, training and extension;

87. Hold expert consultations on cooperation in plant and animal production, livestock health, melioration, and recycling of agriculture and food production waste;

88. Exchange experts on farming new aquaculture species, share technologies of fish farming, and hold consultations on various fishery matters;

89. Promote responsible fishing practices and to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, particularly in order to sustain fishery resources, ensure food security, alleviate poverty, and to optimise benefits of the people and economies in the region;

90. Explore possible cooperation on food safety, including by holding expert consultations on the issues of mutual interest and exchanging information on hazardous food products detected on the markets of ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation;

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

91. Enhance cooperation in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) such as sharing of best practices in policy formulation regulatory framework and technology development;

92. Explore possible cooperation on ICT through workshops and training in areas such as distance education, telemedicine, information security, recognition of electronic signature software development, digital content, e-government, e-commerce, spectrum management, satellite technology, as well as mitigation of the impact of climate change and disaster risk management;

93. Encourage knowledge sharing between governments, the private sector and industry groups to facilitate investments in ICT, including in broadband connectivity and broadband applications in ASEAN and Russia;

94. Strengthen cooperation and capacity building in information and cybersecurity, joint research and development activities in the area of interactive digital media;

95. Promote knowledge sharing on the application of information technology in education, IT curriculum development and IT teacher trainings;

Tourism

96. Support continued consultations between ASEAN and Russia including on the sidelines of the ASEAN Tourism Forum to promote tourism cooperation, including in the areas of joint tourism marketing, emergency communications, tourism investment and tourism standards activities with a view to promote national tourism products;

97. Strengthen ASEAN-Russia capacity building programmes in tourism sector and continue collaboration on professional training and advancement in the

field of tourism, including on Russian language courses for tourism stakeholders from ASEAN Member States;

98. Exchange information and develop best practices in ensuring tourists' safety and access to medical and tourist services in ASEAN Member States and Russia, where feasible, as well as considering the development of the relevant guidelines for tourist administrations and other authorities;

99. Encourage the participation of private sectors in tourism promotion activities such as travel marts, exhibitions and tourism festivals, including ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) and the International Tourism Forum in Russia;

Science, Technology and Innovation

100. Hold regular meetings of the ASEAN-Russia Working Group on Science and Technology (ARWGST), and implement and update if necessary the ASEAN-Russia Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation to promote scientific and technological cooperation for mutual benefit;

101. Promote scientific and technological research development and exchanges between ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation for mutual benefit and sharing of scientific and technological information, including but not limited to high potential areas, such as development of advanced materials and life science for development of value-added products;

102. Foster mutual participation in scientific and technology exhibitions, conferences, seminars and other international scientific and technology meeting, in particular, of the young scientists and experts;

103. Explore cooperation and capacity-building in the field of space technologies application;

III. SOCIO-CULTURAL COOPERATION

Culture

104. Promote cultural cooperation through expert consultations on culture in order to develop and implement cultural activities between ASEAN and Russia;

105. Promote exchange and linkages programmes, personnel training and joint seminars in the field of culture and arts, including those with commercial interest where mutually agreed;

106. Promote collaboration among major cultural institutions, including libraries and museums, cultural enterprises and creative industries;

107. Promote greater awareness and appreciation of each other's traditions, heritage and cultures through cultural exchange activities, art exhibitions, film festivals and other cultural events held in ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation including performances of the ASEAN-Russia Youth Symphony Orchestra as mutually agreed;

108. Encourage learning of the Russian language in ASEAN Member States through, among others, welcoming the expanding by Russia of its network of Russian Culture Centers;

Disaster Management and Emergency Response

109. Encourage regular consultations between the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and the Ministry of Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM) of the Russian Federation to facilitate synergy among multilateral cooperation mechanisms on disaster management;

110. Strengthen cooperation on disaster management and humanitarian assistance through among others, sharing of experiences and best practices and capability development programmes;

111. Strengthen cooperation to support the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the work of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre);

112. Explore partnerships of mutual interest between AHA Centre and EMERCOM of Russia, where appropriate, to strengthen humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) efforts that includes civilian and military cooperation;

113. Explore possible cooperation on the use of advanced disaster prevention and response technology;

Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

114. Explore cooperation to support regional and international efforts to address issues on environmental protection, sustainable forest management practices, trans-boundary pollution, biodiversity conservation, coastal and marine protection, and climate change, taking into account the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, with an aim to promote capacity building, exchange of knowledge and experience in natural resource management, and environmental protection particularly on the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of natural resources taking into account the challenges posed by climate change;

115. Explore the ways to undertake programmes/projects to strengthen cooperation in research on climate change and development of appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures, as well as technical and financial assistance and capacity to address climate change;

116. Consider cooperation and assistance in the use of aviation technologies to combat forest and peat land fires in the ASEAN Member States;

117. Promote cooperation in biodiversity through appropriate organizations, including the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) and relevant bodies of the Russian Federation, as may be identified by ASEAN and Russia, in promoting biodiversity cooperation and management which covers policy development, capacity building, information management and sharing, as well as raising public awareness;

Health and Pandemic Preparedness and Response

118. Encourage technical exchanges and information sharing relevant to public health on promoting healthy lifestyle, responding to all hazards and emerging threats, strengthening health systems and access to care, and enhancing food safety;

119. Promote cooperation to provide the peoples of ASEAN access to clean water, clean air, basic healthcare, and other social services, so that they may lead healthy and productive lives and thereby contribute to ASEAN and the global community;

120. Work together to enhance ASEAN's preparedness and capacity in responding to communicable and emerging infectious diseases including pandemics and other potential public health and biological threats. Preparedness planning, prevention and control measures and capacity building would include, among others, the strengthening of areas on surveillance, laboratory networking, human resource capacities and information sharing;

121. Cooperate and coordinate efforts, including with relevant international organizations, to tackle global and regional health challenges posed by infectious diseases with pandemic potential and to improve global health security from a public health perspective, including through establishing consultations between relevant public health agencies of ASEAN Member States and Russia;

122. Encourage cooperation in public health, including technical assistance and capacity building from Russia to ASEAN Member States to address infectious

diseases impeding development and support progress towards health related Sustainable Development Goals;

123. Encourage cooperation in research, development and production of new medicines for prevention, diagnosis and treatment to provide increased access to prevention and treatment of communicable diseases;

Education, Youth and People-to-People Exchange

124. Focus on greater cooperation in educational exchanges and sharing of knowledge amongst youth and students;

125. Promote greater awareness and appreciation of both ASEAN and Russia through the implementation of educational exchanges and people-to-people activities, especially among the youth;

126. Enhance education cooperation by promoting universities' partnerships, joint research and exchange of scholars, teachers/lecturers and students among higher education institutions, in collaboration with the ASEAN University Network (AUN) and other regional higher education networks, as well as through the provision of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET);

127. Support ASEAN capacity building through Russian scholarship programmes and consider opportunities to increase the number of fellowships for ASEAN students to pursue higher education in Russia;

128. Promote closer collaboration to maximize the utilization of the ASEAN Centre in the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO University) as laid down in the Memorandum of Understanding on establishing the ASEAN Centre signed between the ASEAN Secretariat and MGIMO on 23 July 2009, among others, through cooperation between the ASEAN Centre and the ASEAN University Network (AUN) as well as between academic institutions in ASEAN and Russia;

129. Encourage awareness and people-to-people contacts, including through visits to ASEAN and Russia of students, youth, academia, scholars, and diplomats, which help to foster ASEAN-Russia relations at the peoples level;

130. Enhance awareness and understanding of each other's culture including through organizing Youth Summits, cultural showcases, film festivals, youth camps and other forms of youth contacts;

Physical Training and Sports

131. Promote cooperation in sports by facilitating direct contacts between the sports agencies and organizations of ASEAN Member States and Russia;

132. Encourage the participation in sports events held in ASEAN Member States or Russia;

IV. COOPERATION ON NARROWING THE DEVELOPMENT GAP AND CONNECTIVITY

Narrowing the Development Gap

133. Welcome Russia's further support, as appropriate, of ASEAN's efforts in narrowing the development gap within and between ASEAN Member States, including the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), and the promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth as stipulated in the IAI Work Plan II and its successor document;

134. Share the best practices and experience of ASEAN and Russia in narrowing the development gap;

Connectivity

135. Explore ways to cooperate on ASEAN Connectivity in its three key dimensions, namely physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity, including exploring cooperation to promote joint implementation of infrastructure projects under the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) as well as projects aimed at establishing international transport corridors and supply chains covering all modes of transport, including aviation, maritime and land transport to link Southeast Asia and Russia;

136. Explore the possibility of establishing dialogue between ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and the relevant Russian agencies to strengthen connectivity between ASEAN and Russia;

137. Encourage efforts in visa facilitation between ASEAN and Russia specifically promoting a mutually beneficial business visa regime;

138. Promote Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and the sharing of knowledge, technology and experience in infrastructure development as well as explore cooperation on PPP and other modalities to mobilize private sector investment on infrastructure development;

139. Promote air and maritime transport cooperation between ASEAN and Russia, and consider the establishment of an ASEAN-Russia consultative mechanism on air and maritime cooperation to advance connectivity;

V. IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

140. This Comprehensive Plan of Action is to be implemented by the relevant authorities of ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation through the appropriate funding support by the governments of ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation, including the ASEAN-Russian Federation Dialogue Partnership Financial Fund (ARDPFF);

141. Regularly review the progress of implementation of the Plan of Action through the existing mechanisms of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Relations;

142. Submit progress reports on the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan of Action to the annual PMC + 1 Session with the Russian Federation.