

## ASEAN-JAPAN PLAN OF ACTION 2011-2015

On 18 November 2011, at the occasion of the 14<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Japan Summit in Bali, Indonesia, the Heads of State/ Government of the Member States of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Japan adopted the Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration for Enhancing ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership for Prospering Together endorsing, *inter alia*, the following five strategies in view of the changing environment in the region and the huge potential that it presents for ASEAN and Japan:

- Strategy 1: strengthening political-security cooperation in the region;
- Strategy 2: intensifying cooperation towards ASEAN community building;
- Strategy 3: enhancing ASEAN-Japan connectivity for consolidating ties between ASEAN and Japan;
- Strategy 4: creating together a more disaster-resilient society; and
- Strategy 5: addressing together common regional and global challenges.

Since the signing of the Tokyo Declaration for the Dynamic and Enduring ASEAN-Japan Partnership in the New Millennium in 2003 by the Leaders of ASEAN and Japan, significant progress has been recorded in ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership cooperation. Since the signing, ASEAN has undergone significant transformation through the entry into force of the ASEAN Charter, the adoption of the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on the Roadmap of the implementation of the ASEAN Community Blueprints, the establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representative to ASEAN and the appointment of the Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN.

ASEAN appreciates the continued strong commitment of the government and the people of Japan to deepen and expand the strategic partnership adopted during the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Japan Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2005. The Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) has played an important role to deepen and expand strategic partnership cooperation and to strengthen ASEAN's effort to establish the ASEAN Community by 2015.

Building on the successful implementation of the previous ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action and within the framework of the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action to implement the Declaration for widening and expanding ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership (2011-2015), ASEAN and Japan have developed programmes and activities covering many areas of cooperation on political-security, economic and socio-cultural cooperation aimed at establishing the ASEAN Community by 2015 and strengthening the strategic partnership cooperation between ASEAN and Japan. Cooperation will also be implemented in the framework of the other ASEAN's mechanisms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Plus Three (APT), East Asia Summit (EAS) and ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meetings Plus (ADMM Plus).

In order to continue deepening and expanding the ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership and to mutually support the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and the recovery of Japan, ASEAN and Japan will pursue the following joint actions and cooperation, in conformity with their respective

obligations under international law and in accordance with domestic laws and policies:

## **1. Political-Security Cooperation**

### **1.1. Frameworks and channels for regional peace, security and stability**

- 1.1.1. Implement the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) to maintain regional peace and security and to promote mutual confidence and trust as well as regional prosperity;
- 1.1.2. Work closely to further strengthen the role of the ARF to achieve its purposes and objectives, particularly in maintaining regional peace and stability;
- 1.1.3. Develop concrete recommendations, initiatives and measures to further strengthen political and security cooperation within the framework of the EAS, the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conferences (PMC) Plus One with Japan, and the ADMM Plus;
- 1.1.4. Carry out closer consultations and promote cooperation among senior officials, including defense and security officials on matters of mutual interests in terms of political and security issues in the region and enhance the exchange of programmes, capacity building, and technical cooperation;
- 1.1.5. Work closely on the multilateral frameworks, including APT, EAS, ARF and ADMM Plus, to further strengthen political and security cooperation on regional issues of common concern; and
- 1.1.6. Continue to utilise the ASEAN-Japan Forum as a strategic dialogue platform for political and security issues.

### **1.2. Promoting cooperation on disarmament and non-proliferation**

- 1.2.1. Cooperate closely through various action-oriented measures, to promote disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including within the framework of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty, Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), ARF, UNSC Resolution 1540 (2004), and through the relevant organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);
- 1.2.2. Cooperate to strengthen non-proliferation efforts including export control capacity of ASEAN Member States through seminars such as Asian Senior-level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP), Asian Export Control Seminar, and technical cooperation;
- 1.2.3. Enhance joint endeavor to respond to the humanitarian problems caused by anti-personnel landmines and cluster munitions; and

- 1.2.4. Promote the ongoing efforts within the UN regarding the elaboration of an Arms Trade Treaty (ATT);

### **1.3. Combating transnational crimes and counter terrorism**

- 1.3.1 Enhance cooperation in combating transnational crimes through existing cooperation mechanisms, such as ASEAN Senior Officials on Transnational Crime Plus Japan, ASEAN Senior Officials on Transnational Crime Plus Three, and ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime Plus Three;
- 1.3.2 Strengthen cooperation to combat transnational crimes especially illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, arms smuggling, sea piracy, armed robbery against ships, cyber crimes, economic crimes and money laundering within the frameworks of the ASEAN-Japan dialogue partnership cooperation, ARF, APT, EAS, the United Nations, and authorities concerned, through among others, capacity building, technical cooperation, developing more effective information sharing arrangements for and among relevant law enforcement agencies and to carry out cooperation to address their root causes;
- 1.3.3. Enhance the development of human and institutional capacities in the ASEAN Member States through training, joint exercise and exchanges of lessons-learned and best practices by utilising existing centres in ASEAN;
- 1.3.4 Intensify cooperation on counter-terrorism including in the field of technical cooperation and exchange and sharing of information;
- 1.3.5 Promote cooperation to support the early accession, ratification and acceptance of all of the internationally agreed counter-terrorism conventions and protocols by ASEAN Member States; and
- 1.3.6. Continue to convene the ASEAN-Japan Counter Terrorism Dialogue, and to provide capacity building and technical cooperation in order to enhance counter terrorism capability and to implement identified projects on countering terrorism as well as to support the implementation of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism.

### **1.4. Maritime Cooperation**

- 1.4.1 Promote cooperation on maritime safety and maritime security, in particular to ensure freedom of navigation, safety of navigation, unimpeded commerce, and peaceful settlement of disputes in the region in accordance with relevant international law including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);
- 1.4.2 Support the outcome of the ASEAN Maritime Forum, ASEAN-Japan Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM+Japan); ASEAN-Japan Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM+Japan), ASEAN-Japan STOM

LeadersqConference, and other relevant forum and foster cooperation through the use of these mechanisms; and

- 1.4.3 Promote cooperation among maritime agencies, coast guards and relevant authorities, through, among others, conducting training exercises, information sharing, technical cooperation and capacity building.

## **1.5. Human Rights**

- 1.5.1 Collaborate on human rights and support the work of ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), and where appropriate, ASEAN sectoral bodies dealing with human rights, through training, capacity-building and technical cooperation aimed at enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- 1.5.2. Support the implementation of the five-year work plan of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children;

- 1.5.3. Conduct women studies to address issues such as human trafficking and mail-order brides;

- 1.5.4. Promote democratic values and empowerment of people in the region by supporting the realisation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community and, in this regard, seek cooperation through seminars and other joint projects and within the framework of the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint and the Bali Democracy Forum; and

- 1.5.5 Continue to promote capacity building in the law and justice sector to strengthen the rule of law, judicial systems and the legal infrastructure.

## **1.6. Peacekeeping Operations**

- 1.6.1 Promote cooperation among peacekeeping training centers in the region, including exchange of instructors, so as to build up the capacity of aspiring UN contributors.

## **1.7. Defence Cooperation and Exchange**

- 1.7.1. Enhance defence exchanges and cooperation through dialogues at different levels, mutual visit, information sharing, seminar, training, capacity building and other practical cooperation;

- 1.7.2. Hold annual ASEAN-Japan Defence Vice-Ministerial-level Meeting on the Common Security Challenges; and

- 1.7.3. Enhance cooperation to build capacity in ASEAN Member States, particularly through the ADMM-Plus framework and the five ADMM-Plus Experts Working Groups in the areas of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), maritime security, counter-terrorism, military medicine and peacekeeping operations.

## **2. Economic Cooperation**

### **2.1. Economic and Trade Facilitation Cooperation**

- 2.1.1. Enhance the implementation of measures as outlined in the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement, which was signed on 14 April 2008 and entered into force on 1 December 2008 and conduct economic cooperation under the AJCEP;
- 2.1.2. Strive for conclusion of the negotiations on trade in services and investment of the AJCEP by 2012;
- 2.1.3. Enhance cooperation and activities within the framework of the ASEAN-Japan Centre, particularly in the field of seminars/ workshops, trade, investment and tourism exhibition and continue to conduct surveys to explore opportunities to further increase ASEAN's export to Japan and to promote investment and tourism in both sides; and
- 2.1.4. Continue exchanges of visits and interaction between Japanese economic organizations, including Nippon Keidanren (Japan Business Federation), the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Keizai Doyukai (Japan Association of Corporate Executives), Federation of Japanese Chambers of Commerce Industry in ASEAN, and their counterparts in ASEAN Member States, and work together to improve the business environment in ASEAN and Japan.

### **2.2 Customs Cooperation and Customs Procedures**

- 2.2.1. Enhance ASEAN-Japan customs cooperation towards the realisation of the Asia Cargo Highway (ACH) Initiative by 2020 to create seamless flows of goods among ASEAN and Japan, by expanding the network of mutual recognition arrangements of AEO programs as well as promoting international interoperability of NSWs among ASEAN and Japan, as decided by ASEAN-Japan Customs Directors-General/ Commissioners Meeting on Trade Facilitation in April 2011; and
- 2.2.2. Encourage ASEAN-Japan customs administrations to implement cooperative projects in trade facilitation towards the realisation of the ACH, in close consultation with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the World Customs Organisation (WCO).
- 2.2.3. Enhance customs cooperation in facilitating trade by promoting simplification and, where possible, harmonization of customs

procedures, and making use of information and communications technologies, taking into consideration international standards and best practices of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and other relevant international organisations;

2.2.4 Intensify cooperation in the field of capacity building and technical assistance with ASEAN Member States on areas such as establishing a National Single Window system (NSW) in each ASEAN Member State by 2012 and an ASEAN Single Window (ASW) by 2015; and

2.2.5 Continue cooperation in minimising smuggling through technical assistance and capacity building.

### **2.3 Financial and Monetary Cooperation**

2.3.1 Continue information exchanges, networking, and cooperation in trade financing between Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) and ASEAN export credit agencies;

2.3.2 Support other financial mechanisms for infrastructure development in the region such as the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF); and

2.3.3 Enhance the macroeconomic and financial stability of regional economies by: 1) further promoting the Asian Bond Markets Initiatives to develop local-currency-denominated bond markets, which includes promoting the issuance of and facilitating the demand for local currency-denominated bonds, as well as improving the regulatory framework and related infrastructure for the bond markets in the region and 2) collaborating with the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO), an independent regional surveillance unit that will monitor and analyse regional economies, which contributes to the early detection of risks, swift implementation of remedial actions and effective CMIM decision-making.

### **2.4 Foreign Direct Investment Promotion**

2.4.1 Promote foreign direct investment by both sides with the objectives of increasing the competitiveness of both economies, increasing production capacity and expanding intra-regional trade;

2.4.2 Promote Japanese enterprises' investment activities in ASEAN Member States through providing overseas investment loans by JBIC; and

2.4.3 Promote professional training to improve business environment and competitiveness of ASEAN through the Professional Education Service Network for the ASEAN Region, in cooperation with private companies.

## **2.5 Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity**

- 2.5.1 Support the implementation of the ASEAN Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and promote close cooperation and coordination between the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity and Japan's Task Force on ASEAN Connectivity;
- 2.5.2 Mobilize resources to support the implementation of the MPAC, that would benefit ASEAN and Japan through enhanced trade, investment, tourism, and people-to-people exchanges and the establishment of ASEAN Community by 2015;
- 2.5.3 Conduct feasibility studies to materialize projects identified in the MPAC, in close cooperation with various regional and international institutions;
- 2.5.4 Conduct feasibility studies and concrete projects to realise the shared visions of the "Formation of the Vital Artery for East-West and Southern Economic Corridor" and the "Maritime ASEAN Economic Corridor";
- 2.5.5 Intensify cooperation in the field of maritime connectivity and development of ports facilities in the ASEAN Member States, among others but not limited to, Roll-on/ Roll-off (RoRo) Network and Short Sea Shipping (SSS) and Port Electronic Data Interchange (EDI);
- 2.5.6 Promote enhanced air transport cooperation between ASEAN and Japan to increase air transport connectivity between ASEAN and Japan;
- 2.5.7 Promote the development of the Public-Private Partnership scheme to finance the implementation of the MPAC;
- 2.5.8 Implement cooperation and activities within the framework of relevant ASEAN-Japan meetings; and
- 2.5.9 Support the consideration for ASEAN Connectivity Plus in the future which would expand connectivity beyond ASEAN with appropriate reference to the Comprehensive Asia Development Plan (CADP).

## **2.7 Information and Communications Technology**

- 2.7.1 Intensify cooperation in information and communication technology (ICT) by drawing up medium and long-term plans for ASEAN to develop and upgrade its ICT capacity;
- 2.7.2 Continue to support ASEAN in ICT infrastructure development notably on the infrastructure backbone, initiatives on bridging the digital divide, to promote greater adoption of ICT and to make ICT services available to all communities in ASEAN;

- 2.7.3 Create a business environment conducive to attracting and promoting trade, investment and entrepreneurship in the ICT sector, including people empowerment, promotion of professional exchange, capacity building and Human Resource Development programmes to upgrade the skills and knowledge of ASEAN ICT professionals and technicians particularly in the areas of new and advanced ICT technologies and creative multimedia, innovation, and green ICT;
- 2.7.4 Promote cooperation and public-private partnership on information security and e-services, including in the field of ICT for disaster management, information security standards, and legal infrastructures for e-learning and e-Commerce;
- 2.7.5 Help developing an accessible ASEAN Smart Network through using a new generation high speed, robust and secure ICT network;
- 2.7.6 Assist ASEAN to implement key actions embodied in the ASEAN ICT Master Plan 2015; and
- 2.7.7 Continue to support Asia Knowledge Economy Initiatives which includes promotion of green ICT, assuring information security in business activities and ICT professional training.

## **2.8 Mineral Cooperation**

- 2.8.1 Further enhance mineral cooperation through the ASEAN-Japan and ASEAN Plus Three platforms by embarking on mutually beneficial cooperation programmes, particularly in support of the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan 2011-2015 such as information exchange and development of the ASEAN Mineral Database, promotion and facilitation of trade and investment, promotion of scientific and technological research and development in the geosciences, promotion of the sustainable development of mineral resources, capacity building and technology transfer and exchange of technical information, experience, and best practices.

## **2.9 Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Cooperation**

- 2.9.1 Carry out concrete activities within the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement under the ASEAN Plus Three Agriculture and Forestry Ministers Meeting and the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) project to ensure food security in the region;
- 2.9.2 Further enhance cooperation and activities through the Senior Officials Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM-AMAF) and its subsidiary bodies, through, *inter alia*, capacity building and human resources development, information and knowledge networking and exchange, sharing of experience and best practices, research and development, technology transfer, training

courses, seminars, workshops, conferences, as well as demonstration programmes;

- 2.9.3 Further promote cooperation in the fields of agriculture, forestry and fishery in order to enhance food security, particularly through the use of new and suitable technologies and promotion of sustainable growth in these areas, capacity building for ASEAN Member States harmonizing standards and certification on food hygiene and safety of agriculture, forestry and fishery products, as well as cooperation on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM);
- 2.9.4 Develop human resources in the area of agriculture by providing opportunities for ASEAN young farmers to learn techniques, management and farm working ethics by working and hands-on-learning with Japanese farm families;
- 2.9.5 Promote networking and cooperation between government authorities concerned, together with agriculture and food experts, laboratories, agriculture and food-related academic institutions and farmer institutions;
- 2.9.6 Promote responsible investment in agriculture, agribusiness, agro-based industries and infrastructure development in agriculture;
- 2.9.7 Enhance cooperation in fishery, including continuing to implement cooperative activities in this area through SEAFDEC;
- 2.9.8 Promote cooperation in bio-energy development;
- 2.9.9 Enhance cooperation in biosecurity in food and agriculture; and
- 2.9.10 Enhance cooperation in mitigation and adaptation to climate change on agricultural sector and food production, for example, carbon capture and storage development.

## **2.10 Food Safety and Security Cooperation**

- 2.10.1 Promote cooperation in food security particularly in supporting the implementation of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework (AIFS Framework) and the Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security in the ASEAN Region (SPA-FS) to achieve goals and objectives of the ASEAN Statement on Food Security in the ASEAN Region;
- 2.10.2 Enhance cooperation in the field of food safety through, *inter alia*, ASEAN Experts Group on Food Safety, which include quality standard, assurance, accreditation and certification, through *inter alia*, capacity building activities and technical cooperation; and
- 2.10.3 Enhance cooperation, in this context, in Japan's continued provision of necessary information such as the current radioactivity level in the affected area in a timely manner so that restrictions on imports from

Japan imposed after the nuclear accident could be appropriately reviewed and relaxed.

## **2.11 Energy Cooperation**

- 2.11.1 Enhance cooperation in developing energy infrastructure, notably on the implementation of the ASEAN Plan of Action on Energy Cooperation (2010-2015), which includes but is not limited to measures on energy trade and facilitation and development of energy facilities such as power stations, electricity and gas pipeline networks, through technical and financial assistance while encouraging public-private partnership and other financing schemes;
- 2.11.2 Strengthen cooperation through policy dialogues on energy and support ongoing capacity building programmes under ASEAN-Japan cooperation such as the Energy Supply Security Planning in ASEAN (ESSPA) and the Promotion of Energy Efficiency and Conservation (PROMEEC) to enhance greater energy security and sustainability, and encourage joint efforts to address the challenges of climate change in East Asia;
- 2.11.3 Promote cooperation in enhancing energy safety and ensuring nuclear energy safety based on the safety standards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), by promoting transparency, sharing know-how, experiences, and best practices, as well as training human resources of ASEAN in the area of nuclear energy including cooperation, on a voluntary and non-binding basis, technical assistance, public information programs and networking; and
- 2.11.4 Enhance cooperation and activities to promote energy security through the development of renewable and alternative energy, and promote energy efficiency within the framework of ASEAN-Japan, APT and EAS.

## **2.12 Chemical Safety Management**

- 2.12.1 Strengthen risk-based chemical safety management systems cooperation in order to achieve the WSSD 2020 goal through Japan's initiative, the Asian Sustainable Chemical Safety Plan+, by providing the technical cooperation such as personnel training and sharing hazard information, where appropriate, and promote discussion on establishing ASEAN Chemical Data Center+, which may be a common database between ASEAN and Japan.

## **2.13 ASEAN-Japan Transport Cooperation**

- 2.13.1 Implement cooperation and activities as decided within the framework of ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnerships;

2.13.2 Promote cooperation to develop environmentally-friendly transport through exchange of experiences and technical assistance.

## **2.14 Initiative for ASEAN Integration**

2.14.1 Provide macroeconomic policy support for socio-economic development in ASEAN Member States to narrow the development gap;

2.14.2 Strengthen support for the realisation of Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and other regional and sub-regional endeavors to narrow the development gaps in ASEAN to expedite regional integration;

2.14.3 Continue support for the implementation of HRD projects and other IAI projects in areas such as hardware and software infrastructure development, and ICT and regional economic integration, in addition to the support by the ASEAN-Japan Solidarity Fund for IAI projects on HRD;

2.14.4 Utilize the technical cooperation schemes of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), particularly the third country training programmes, to assist Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam;

2.14.5 Continue support by holding seminars and other activities on the enhancement of an HRD system for the CLMV countries in collaboration with other ASEAN Member States;

2.14.6 Extend support to ASEAN for programmes on labour management relations;

2.14.7 Support ASEAN's initiative to hold ASEAN Governors Conferences to provide platforms for less developed provinces and cities of ASEAN to share their best practices on poverty alleviation and mobilization of resources for the implementation of poverty alleviation programmes; and

2.14.8 Enhance cooperation and activities within the framework of the ASEAN-Japan Centre, particularly through the promotion of trade, investment and tourism to narrow the development gaps.

## **2.15 Mekong Sub-Regional Cooperation**

2.15.1 Foster and enhance cooperation among countries to promote economic development of the Mekong region, including support for existing projects, such as the 11 flagship programmes under the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) Programme;

2.15.2 Continue to enhance Mekong-Japan cooperation by implementing the Tokyo Declaration of the First Meeting between the Heads of the Government of Japan and the Mekong Region Countries and

Mekong-Japan Action Plan 63 in 2009, particularly with the focus on the implementation of Action Plan of the Decade toward the Green Mekong+ Initiative and that of Mekong-Japan Economic and Industrial Cooperation Initiative (MJ-CI). Intensify cooperation and support for ASEAN's Mekong Cooperation mechanism and initiatives, in particular the ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC);

2.15.3 Strengthen coordination with the Mekong River Commission in order to promote the sustainable development, utilisation, conservation and management of water and related resources of the Mekong River Basin in the spirit of the 1995 Mekong Agreement and Hua Hin Declaration in the First Mekong River Commission Summit in April 2010, Hua Hin, Thailand;

2.15.4 Promote further public and private cooperation in the Mekong region based on recognition of the necessity to utilize public and private cooperation to ensure economic prosperity in the region to increase the flow of trade and investment to the regions. Also support the efforts of CLMV countries on economic integration, and assist them in facilitating the movement of goods and persons, with emphasis on the positive synergy of the Mekong-Japan cooperation and enhancing ASEAN Connectivity;

2.15.5 Enhance cooperation in supporting ASEAN Member States' initiatives such as the IAI and the Economic Cooperation Strategy. Also strengthen coordination with the Asian Development Bank and its Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) Programme, as well as such organizations as the Mekong River Commission, UNESCAP, the World Bank, and non-governmental organizations; and

2.15.6 Enhance further cooperation under other Sub-regional mechanisms such as the Cambodia-Laos-Viet Nam Development Triangle, the CLV-Japan framework and the East West Economic Corridor (EWEC).

## **2.16 Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA)**

2.16.1 Forge cooperation under the BIMP-EAGA initiatives to develop the East ASEAN Growth Area, in cooperation with other parties, as a part of efforts for regional integration, by jointly promoting and enhancing the Growth Area's connectivity, tourism, transportation and logistics, energy, information and communication technologies, small and medium enterprises and agro-industry and fisheries sectors particularly in the areas of HRD and physical infrastructure and trade and investment promotion;

2.16.2 Reaffirm commitment to work together in promoting the development of land, air and sea connectivity in the BIMP-EAGA sub-region to

encourage people-to-people contacts and the flow of goods and services; and

- 2.16.3 Promote people-to-people exchange, especially young leaders, between Japan and BIMP-EAGA countries in order to further develop networks and strengthen the ties in various fields.

## **2.17 Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT)**

- 2.17.1 Intensify support for partnership cooperation within the framework of the IMT-GT in order to promote economic cooperation between Japan and the IMT-GT Member States; and

- 2.17.2 Carry out mutually beneficial cooperation between IMT-GT and Japan to promote connectivity, trade, investment, tourism and other areas of mutually beneficial cooperation.

## **2.18 Cooperation in Intellectual Property Rights**

- 2.18.1 Promote cooperation to develop human resources capacity in the field of intellectual property rights (IPR) in order to enable the ASEAN Member States to improve and enhance their capabilities and to promote accession to IPR-related international agreements; and

- 2.18.2 Enhance cooperation in combating counterfeiting and piracy activities and other infringements on intellectual property rights, acknowledging the recently adopted Anti-counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) as a potentially useful tool.

## **2.19 Competition Policy**

- 2.19.1 Promote the exchange of views and sharing of experiences, information and best practices to identify the needs and build the capacity of the ASEAN Member States on competition policy through, among others, technical cooperation projects.

## **2.20 Small and Medium Enterprises**

- 2.20.1 Reinforce efforts to develop long-term capacity building and to improve the management of SMEs in ASEAN member states through management consultancy, training in entrepreneurship development, fostering enterprise clustering and networking among SMEs, increasing SME capabilities in new information and communications technologies and e-commerce potential and promoting the strategic alliances between SMEs and large enterprises; and

- 2.20.2 Help build the financial foundation for SMEs in the region.

## **2.21 Automobile and Auto Parts Industry**

- 2.21.1 Cooperate in the field of automobile and auto parts industries aiming at enhancing the competitiveness of ASEAN automobile industries and promoting the integration of ASEAN automobile markets; and
- 2.21.2 Support the development and the operationalisation of Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) and the establishment of Common Rules for Standards and Conformity Assessment Procedures for Automotives toward ASEAN Integration in 2015.

## **3. Socio-Cultural Cooperation**

### **3.1 Human Resource Development**

- 3.1.1 Promote and build, for the longer-term, a partnership in developing ASEAN's human resources in the health and social welfare services sectors, by holding regular meetings to exchange views, information, experiences, and best practices;
- 3.1.2 Cooperate in developing highly-skilled and semi-skilled human resources in areas such as occupational safety and health, ICT, automobile, electrical appliances and electronics fields, and others through technical cooperation and other schemes;
- 3.1.3. Formulate and implement joint projects such as the organisation of training courses, including Japanese language courses for ASEAN Member States;
- 3.1.4 Implement model projects to enhance traceability of distributed goods and hold seminars to disseminate know-how and information from the model projects to local organizations in ASEAN;
- 3.1.5 Cooperate in developing infrastructure, including transportation networks for efficient logistics distribution;
- 3.1.6 Enhance development of human resources in the area of science and technology by, among other measures, holding joint seminars and encouraging joint researches and exchange of views, information, experiences and best practices;
- 3.1.7 Promote information-sharing on labour market trends in support of the effective matching of labour demand and supply between ASEAN and Japan; and
- 3.1.8 Explore possible capacity-building programmes for ASEAN government officials to enhance technical knowledge for industrial development and to promote safety in the workplace.

## **3.2 Cooperation on Attainment of the MDGs**

- 3.2.1 Further cooperate towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015 by developing concrete activities to support the efforts of ASEAN Member States, taking into account the ASEAN Roadmap for the Attainment of the MDGs, and also cooperate in the discussion of international agenda beyond 2015 and enhancing human security;

## **3.3 Sustainable Development, Environmental Protection and Environmental Cooperation**

- 3.3.1. Continue cooperation for activities in biodiversity conservation and sustainability, including through the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity;
- 3.3.2 Promote protection of coastal and marine environment by providing capacity building assistance, assisting in raising public awareness and initiating concrete projects on the protection of coastal and marine resources threatened by both human and natural causes including land-based sources of pollution and sedimentation, excessive harvesting and its associated consequences, while ensuring social safety nets and alternative livelihood for vulnerable groups;
- 3.3.3 Enhance cooperation and activities to implement ASEAN Member States' National Climate Change Action Plan including readiness activities under REDD+ and development of activities to promote green technology initiatives;
- 3.3.4 Enhance cooperation on activities to promote environmental protection and pollution control by providing capacity building assistance, promoting public awareness and initiating concrete projects, particularly on transboundary pollution, area-based pollution control and pollution rehabilitation;
- 3.3.5 Enhance cooperation to promote environmental awareness and public participation through environmental and capacity programme;
- 3.3.6 Develop activities to promote sustainable development initiatives, which include green economy taking into consideration the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in June 2012, sustainable consumption and production, 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), capacity building and technical cooperation;
- 3.3.7 Continue to cooperate in the global effort to control and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through cooperation in the international negotiations for the establishment of a fair and effective international framework with the participation of all major economies;
- 3.3.8 Promote ASEAN-Japan cooperation, and where appropriate, through bilateral mechanisms, for establishing low carbon society, including

through knowledge sharing and technology transfer, taking into account Japan's initiatives on Smart Community and the Forum on East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership to be held in the first half of 2012 in Japan; and

- 3.3.9 Promote cooperation for developing environmentally sustainable cities in ASEAN Member States by sharing information, capacity building, training and other methods through the promotion of environmentally sustainable cities in ASEAN Member States of ASEAN cooperation project and collaborate to contribute to the promotion of environmentally sustainable cities activity in the region under East Asia Summit Environmental Ministers Meeting.

### **3.4 Cooperation on Health-related Matters**

- 3.4.1 Continue collaboration in initiatives to prevent communicable diseases including emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, such as support for stockpiling of anti-infectives, and strengthening laboratory networks; prevention and control of non-communicable diseases by promoting healthy lifestyles; enhancing the healthcare delivery systems; and continuing support for the ASEAN Plus Three health initiatives.

### **3.5 Cooperation on Education-related Matters**

- 3.5.1 Cooperate in expanding access to basic education and improving the quality of education, as well as ensuring equity in line with the Millennium Development Goals and targets;
- 3.5.2 Promote the active participation and engagement of children and young people in the ASEAN Community-building processes through the ASEAN Children's Forum;
- 3.5.3 Promote human resource development in science and technology, engineering and business management through the ASEAN University Network/ Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/ SEED-NET); and
- 3.5.4 Promote professional education and training to supply middle-management level staff through the Professional Education Service Network for the ASEAN region.

### **3.6 Cooperation for Recovery and Reconstruction of Japan**

- 3.6.1 Support Japan's efforts on the open reconstruction process to overcome the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake by increasing trade, investment, tourism and people-to-people contacts from ASEAN Member States.

### **3.7 People-to-People Connectivity**

- 3.7.1 Continue to support ASEAN students to study in Japan through fellowships/ scholarships and also encourage Japanese students to study in ASEAN Member States;
- 3.7.2 Promote Southeast Asian and Japanese studies, including the languages, in various universities and other educational institutions in Japan and ASEAN; establish networking among the universities in the region dedicated to Southeast Asian and Japanese studies;
- 3.7.3 Promote training and exchange programmes for ASEAN and Japan civil service officers including foreign service officers;
- 3.7.4 Encourage collaborations between higher educational institutions, involving quality assurance and credit transfers, including initiatives under the ASEAN University Network (AUN);
- 3.7.5 Promote higher education of technology for sustainable growth and human development that is modeled on the Japanese academic curriculum, as exemplified by Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIT) and enhance exchange of academic staff and students, industrial-academic collaboration, sharing knowledge and joint research among Japan and ASEAN Member States;
- 3.7.6 Continue the implementation of Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) and Ship for Southeast Asian Youth Programme (SSEAYP) as means to promote cultural understanding and people-to-people connectivity as well as a platform for future partnership;
- 3.7.7 Promote exchanges among villages, municipalities, and cities; and strengthen people-to-people contacts, utilizing the schemes of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) and the Japan Foundation;
- 3.7.8 Promote exchange programmes for academics in all areas of studies such as politics and international law, and post graduate students in arts and science and promote cooperation between research institutes and think tanks between ASEAN and Japan;
- 3.7.9 Promote research cooperation through various scientific exchange programs including joint research projects and exchanges of researchers supported by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science; and
- 3.7.10 Continue to promote cooperation in information dissemination and public relations communication, including the exchange of journalists and capacity building for media professionals, to enhance mutual understanding and strengthening of the ASEAN-Japan relations.

### **3.8 Cooperation in Culture and the Arts**

- 3.8.1 Enhance regional cooperation in cultural heritage through the establishment of a network of experts in the field of conservation of arts, artefacts and cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible;
- 3.8.2 Enhance a sense of regional identity through the promotion of cultural affinity among East Asia countries;
- 3.8.3 Identify and address common concerns in cultural heritage management and to further develop professional human resources in cultural heritage management and in the development of small and medium-sized culture enterprises and industry (SMCE); and
- 3.8.4 Enhance joint endeavor to create film, music, mode and other sub-cultural contents by various talents of different countries in the region.

### **3.9 Cooperation on Information and Media**

- 3.9.1 Enhance regional cooperation on information and media through the promotion of mutually-beneficial information and media partnerships, exchanges and other person-to-person activities; and
- 3.9.2 Enhance cooperation in the development of human resources particularly in capacity building in new media or information technology and their convergent applicants for mobile, internet, digital broadcasting and development of new content.

### **3.10 Cooperation on Social Justice**

- 3.10.1 Cooperate on programs that will assist migrant workers and their families in achieving financial stability through training, investment promotion, savings assistance and entrepreneurship development programs; and
- 3.10.2 Promote dialogues on the adoption of arrangements for the portability of social security benefits for migrant workers and for the harmonization of remittance charges.

### **3.11 Disaster-Resilient Society**

- 3.11.1 Carry out concrete activities to implement the Chairman's Statement on the Special ASEAN-Japan Ministerial Meeting held in Jakarta, on 9 April 2011;
- 3.11.2 Hold seminars to share experiences and lessons learned on disaster-resilient societies, including those of the Great East Japan Earthquake;
- 3.11.3 Carry out activities and cooperation to support the implementation of programmes and activities under the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for

Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre), including dispatch of experts, upon request or with the consent of the affected party;

- 3.11.4 Jointly monitor and share information and establish early warning systems, as well as participate in responding to disaster situations;
- 3.11.5 Explore effective use of science and technology as well as jointly develop the regional network for disaster preparedness and disaster relief with AHA Centre in the hub through the Disaster Management Network for the ASEAN Region and the Smart Community Initiative;
- 3.11.6 Enhance cooperation on the implementation of the Work Programme for the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), through activities such as risk identification and monitoring, regional standby arrangements, joint disaster relief and emergency response, to support enhanced interconnectivity and interoperability between AHA Centre's ICT system with those of the National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs) in the ASEAN Member States, as well as support for the ASEAN's disaster emergency logistic and stockpiling system;
- 3.11.7 Take an integrated approach to disaster management cooperation, including conducting studies and exploring the risk areas, promoting public awareness and education on environmental protection and conservation, and strengthening community participation;
- 3.11.8 Further strengthen cooperation on emergency response and disaster management, including rehabilitation and reconstruction under various regional mechanisms, such as the regular holding of Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx);
- 3.11.9 Utilize Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) as a hub for regional cooperation in disaster management;
- 3.11.10 Conduct training and capacity building for disaster relief teams of ASEAN Member States; and collaborate in ensuring social protection and developing new strategies and practices to protect vulnerable groups; and
- 3.11.11 Continue to promote disaster-resilient society, as set forth in the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015.

#### **4. Addressing Common Regional and Global Challenges**

- 4.1 Intensify, where appropriate, policy dialogue and networking between ASEAN and Japan government officials in various fora in addressing regional and global issues of mutual concern;
- 4.2 Enhance the role of APT as a main vehicle to achieve the long-term objective of establishing an East Asian community, with ASEAN as

the driving force. Reaffirm support for ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture and recognise the mutually reinforcing and complementary roles of the ASEAN Plus Three process and such regional fora as ASEAN Plus One, EAS, and ARF in the East Asian community building process. Continue to cooperate in all areas identified under its framework and effectively utilize the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund;

- 4.3 Strengthen cooperation and activities within the framework of EAS, as a Leaders-led forum, in the existing five priority areas, economic and development issues of common interest and concern, connectivity, as well as in the political and security areas, in accordance with its established principles, objectives and modalities;
- 4.4 Enhance capacity and performance of ERIA as an essential economic research institute for East Asia;
- 4.5 Promote cooperation, where appropriate, within the United Nations framework, including the continuing process of UN Reform;
- 4.6 Support the maintenance of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, including through efforts on denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner, creation of the necessary conditions for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks, full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council, and addressing the issue of humanitarian concerns of the international community such as the abduction issue;
- 4.7 Facilitate regional and global effort towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation while promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy;
- 4.8 Continue to cooperate for the attainment of the MDGs and enhancing human security;
- 4.9 Support enhancing cooperation among EAS participating countries in tackling global warming, recognizing the crucial role of EAS countries in this field;
- 4.10 Promote cooperation within the framework of United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) toward the achievement of sustainable development at national and international level;
- 4.11 Support the ASEAN-led process of using the ASEAN Plus One free trade agreements (FTAs) as bases to move towards a regional comprehensive economic partnership, mindful of the studies on the East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA) and the Comprehensive Economic Partnership for East Asia (CEPEA); and
- 4.12 Continue to maintain close coordination and cooperation in the WTO, APEC, ASEM, ARF, ACD, FEALAC and other relevant international

and regional cooperation schemes to advance issues of mutual interest.

**5. Institutional and Financial Arrangements for the Implementation of the Plan of Action**

- 5.1 Draw up specific work programmes to implement the various actions and measures outlined in this Plan of Action;
- 5.2 Continue to mobilise resources to support the ASEAN integration through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF);
- 5.3 Support the work of the JAIF Management Team (JMT) at the ASEAN Secretariat and to encourage cooperation with the ASEAN Sub-Committee on Development Cooperation (SCDC);
- 5.4 Provide requisite resources in accordance with their respective capacities and promote innovative resource mobilization to accomplish the various strategies and measures outlined in the Plan of Action;
- 5.5 Conduct regular review on the implementation of this Plan of Action through existing mechanisms such as the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference plus One with Japan, the ASEAN-Japan Forum and ASEAN-Japan Joint Cooperation Committee Meeting to ensure consistency with the priorities of the ASEAN-Japan cooperation and to expedite the effective implementation of ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action;
- 5.6 Submit a progress report of the implementation of the Plan of Action to the annual ASEAN-Japan Summit through the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and Japan; and
- 5.7 Upon completion of this Plan of Action, the ASEAN-Japan JCC will prepare a new five-year Plan of Action for consideration and adoption by the ASEAN-Japan Summit through the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conferences Plus One with Japan.

