



**Report of
the ASEAN-Republic of Korea
Eminent Persons Group**

Vision for a Strategic Partnership

“Partnership for Real, Friendship for Good”

September 2009

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REPORT OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMINENT PERSONS GROUP

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ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA COMMEMORATIVE SUMMIT,
1-2 JUNE 2009, JEJU ISLAND, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA



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H.E. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
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H.E. Lee Myung-Bak
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H.E. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen
H.E. Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono
H.E. Bouasone Boupnavanh

ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMINENT PERSONS GROUP



Standing from left to right: H.E. Pengiran Dato Paduka Mustapha
H.E. Ambassador Han Tae Kyu
H.E. Ms. Tuot Panha
Dr. Yoo Jang Hee
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H.E. Mr. Bounkeut Sangsomsak
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H.E. Aung Bwa
H.E. Ambassador Cesar B. Bautista
H.E. Ambassador Michael Chek
H.E. Ambassador Vasin Teeravechyan
H.E. Ambassador Nguyen Hoang An
Mr. Dhannan Sunoto

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMINENT PERSONS GROUP REPORT TO THE TWELFTH ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA SUMMIT, HUA HIN, THAILAND

17 September 2009

Excellencies the Leaders of ASEAN
Excellencies the President of the Republic of Korea,

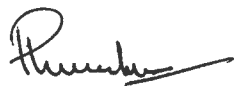
The ASEAN-Republic of Korea Eminent Persons Group (ASEAN-ROK EPG) was established following the decision of the Leaders of ASEAN and the Republic of Korea at the 11th ASEAN-ROK Summit on 21 November 2007 in Singapore.

Since its establishment, the ASEAN-ROK EPG has actively worked together during the past nine months. It has met on four occasions, namely on 12 January 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 28 March 2009 in Seoul, the ROK, 30 July 2009 in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic and 17 September 2009 in Seoul, the ROK to review ASEAN-ROK relations in the past twenty years, and assess and recommend concrete measures and direction for enhancing and deepening future ASEAN-ROK dialogue relations in the next fifteen years and beyond.

The ASEAN-ROK EPG has adopted a forward-looking vision, with the relevant strategies and guiding principles, and identified key elements for advancing the ASEAN-ROK comprehensive cooperation partnership towards a strategic partnership. We believe that such an initiative is in line with the aspirations of the peoples of ASEAN and the ROK.

With the support of our assistant and the ASEAN Secretaries, we, the ASEAN-ROK Eminent Persons have prepared the Report with recommendations and hereby have the honour to submit it for your kind consideration.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurance of our highest consideration.



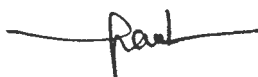
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Toyad ABDULLAH**

Member of Parliament, Former Minister of Tourism
Former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
MALAYSIA



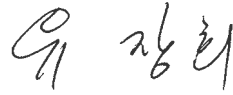
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THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

VISION FOR A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMINENT PERSONS GROUP

INTRODUCTION

1. The ASEAN-Republic of Korea Eminent Person Group (EPG) was established by the Leaders of ASEAN and the Republic of Korea (ROK) at the 11th ASEAN-ROK Summit on 21 November 2007 in Singapore to take stock of the ASEAN-ROK relations over the past twenty years and come up with recommendations to advance their future relations.
2. The ASEAN-ROK EPG was formed and met four times, namely on 12 January 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 28 March 2009 in Seoul, the ROK, 30 July 2009 in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic and 17 September 2009 in Seoul, the ROK, to assess and recommend concrete measures for future direction of the ASEAN-ROK dialogue relations in the next years and beyond.

I. REVIEW AND FUTURE DIRECTION OF ASEAN-ROK RELATIONS

3. The ASEAN-ROK EPG reviewed the significant achievements of the ASEAN-ROK relations over the past twenty years, culminating to the convening of the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit on 1-2 June 2009 in Jeju Island, the ROK. The ASEAN-ROK relations have broadened and deepened to a comprehensive cooperation partnership, covering areas of political, economic and socio-cultural cooperation. To further advance ASEAN-ROK relations, the ASEAN-ROK EPG has looked at ways to elevate the comprehensive cooperation partnership between ASEAN and the ROK to a higher level of strategic partnership.
4. Looking ahead, the ASEAN-ROK relations are expected to be developed to address the challenges of the fast changing regional and global environment. Cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK will continue to be strengthened towards enhancing regional integration and ASEAN Community building process.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

5. To further advance and deepen the relationship between ASEAN and the ROK, the recommendations include the vision envisaged by the EPG to elevate the ASEAN-ROK relations towards strategic partnership in the years to come. In this context, the ASEAN-ROK EPG suggests that Leaders of the ASEAN Member States and the ROK rediscover our shared values symbolised by “FEEL (Fellowship, Education, Environment, Liberalised Trade) Asia”.
6. The ASEAN-ROK EPG has also drawn up strategies and guiding principles, and key elements of partnership as listed in the Report. The key elements are: political and security cooperation, economic cooperation, socio-cultural cooperation, regional architecture, and institutional support and implementation mechanism.

III. CONCLUSION

7. The ASEAN-ROK EPG recommends that ASEAN and the ROK should elevate their comprehensive cooperation partnership to a higher level of strategic partnership for the next fifteen years and beyond. The strategic partnership will further promote peace, stability and prosperity in the region as well as the world at large.
8. The ASEAN-ROK EPG also recommends “FEEL Asia” as a basis for building the regional architecture process in East Asia and a guide for enhancing ties between ASEAN and the ROK. At the same time, the “FEEL Asia” concept would contribute to the building of an ASEAN Community, and an East Asian community as a long-term goal with ASEAN as the driving force.
9. The ASEAN-ROK EPG further recommends bridging the development gap among ASEAN Member States with support from the ROK and encouraging the involvement of the private sector.
10. It is foreseeable that the relationship between ASEAN and the ROK will eventually mature on the basis of a strategic partnership, while maintaining ASEAN’s central role, to capitalise on each other’s competitive advantages. ASEAN and the ROK will collaborate in smart partnerships to offer capacity building and empowerment activities or programmes in third countries, especially the less developed ones.

REPORT OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMINENT PERSONS GROUP

INTRODUCTION

1. At the 11th ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Summit on 21 November 2007 in Singapore, Leaders of ASEAN and the ROK agreed to establish an ASEAN-ROK Eminent Persons Group (EPG) as proposed by H.E. Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of Malaysia, to take stock of their relations over the past twenty years and to come up with recommendations for advancing future ASEAN-ROK relations.
2. Pursuant to the above decision, the ASEAN-ROK EPG was formed and met four times, namely on 12 January 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 28 March 2009 in Seoul, the ROK, 30 July 2009 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, and 17 September 2009 in Seoul, the ROK, to assess and recommend concrete measures and direction for the future of ASEAN-ROK dialogue relations in the next fifteen years and beyond.
3. The EPG affirmed the great importance of enhancing and moving the ASEAN-ROK comprehensive cooperation partnership towards a strategic partnership, which corresponds to the aspirations of the peoples of ASEAN and the ROK, in order to address common challenges and promote peace, stability and prosperity in the region as well as the world at large. The Terms of Reference of the ASEAN-ROK EPG is attached as an ANNEX 1 to this Report.

I. REVIEW OF ASEAN-ROK RELATIONS IN THE PAST TWENTY YEARS

4. ASEAN and the ROK have longstanding ties. The ASEAN Member States and the ROK are bound by geographical, historical, social, cultural and economic linkages. ASEAN and the ROK established their sectoral dialogue relations in November 1989 through Exchange of Letters between H.E. Mr. Ali Alatas, Foreign Minister of Indonesia and Chairman of the 23rd ASEAN Standing Committee (ASC) and H.E. Mr. Choi Ho Joong, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the ROK. The ASEAN-ROK relations were elevated to full Dialogue Partnership status at the 24th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in July 1991 in Kuala Lumpur. The ROK was one of the founding members of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in 1994 as well as the first country to spearhead the East Asia cooperation through the establishment of the East Asia Vision Group (EAVG) and the East Asia Study Group (EASG).
5. The ASEAN-ROK relations have deepened and broadened considerably over the years. Recent milestones include the ROK's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in

Southeast Asia (TAC) in November 2004, the adoption of a comprehensive Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-ROK Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership in December 2005 and the launch of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations with ASEAN in December 2005. In particular, pursuant to the ASEAN-ROK FTA framework, ASEAN and the ROK moved swiftly to sign the Trade in Goods Agreement in August 2006, the Trade in Services Agreement in November 2007 and the Investment Agreement in June 2009. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on establishing an ASEAN-Korea Centre was also signed at the 11th ASEAN-ROK Summit in November 2007, which led to the launching of the Centre on 13 March 2009 in Seoul. Currently, there are 24 mechanisms coordinating the ASEAN-ROK cooperation in areas of political and security, economic and trade, socio-cultural and development cooperation.

6. The total trade volume between ASEAN and the ROK had substantially doubled in the last five years from USD 46.4 billion in 2004 to USD 90.2 billion in 2008. There has been a steady increase in mutual investment between ASEAN and the ROK amounting to USD 6.8 billion in 2008, which is more than five times the amount of USD 1.3 billion in 2004. The number of visitors travelling between ASEAN Member States and the ROK has expanded by more than two-fold in the past five years, averaging four million people per year.
7. The ROK is the second largest non-ASEAN contributor to the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan, having contributed USD 5 million to fund technical assistance programmes under the IAI for 2003-2007, and committed USD 5 million for 2008-2012 and an additional USD 5 million for 2013-2017.
8. To date, the ROK has contributed a total amount of USD 39 million to the ASEAN-ROK Special Cooperation Fund (SCF) and the Future Oriented Cooperation Projects Fund (FOCP), which were established in 1990 and 1997, respectively. The ROK has pledged to increase the annual contribution to the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund from USD 3 million to USD 5 million after 2010 under the framework of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations. The cooperation funds have supported projects, among others, under the ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK signed in 2004. In total, about 24% (one fourth) of the ROK's Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) is directed at ASEAN.
9. The convening of the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit on 1-2 June 2009 in Jeju Island, the ROK, under the theme "Partnership for Real, Friendship for Good" demonstrated the political commitment of the Leaders of ASEAN and the ROK to further deepen and strengthen ASEAN-ROK relations in various areas as reflected in the Joint Statement of the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit 2009.

II. FUTURE OF ASEAN-ROK RELATIONS

10. Looking ahead, the ASEAN-ROK future relations, guided by political commitment, are expected to be developed to address the challenges of the fast changing regional and global environment. Cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK will be further strengthened and characterised by the growing interdependence and integration driven by trade, investment and people-to-people interactions for peace and prosperity.
11. ASEAN will continue to pursue cooperation with the ROK by building upon the achievements attained over the past two decades. The ROK, on its part, has many things to offer to ASEAN towards the implementation of the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for the ASEAN Community (2009-2015) and the Joint Statement of the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit with the "New Asia Initiative", which will help to enhance regional integration and contribute to the ASEAN Community building process and ASEAN-ROK relations.
12. ASEAN and the ROK will join hands in pursuing the eventual goal of building an East Asian community as stated in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the ASEAN Plus Three Summit (2005) and the Second Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation (2007). ASEAN and the ROK will position themselves as a bridge to link Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia together.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

13. Towards further deepening the relationship between ASEAN and the ROK, the ASEAN-ROK EPG came up with concrete measures charting the future directions of ASEAN-ROK relations in the next fifteen years and beyond. The recommendations include the vision envisaged by the EPG, suggested strategies and principles, and key elements for the strengthening of the ASEAN-ROK strategic partnership in the years to come.

A VISION

14. ASEAN and the ROK reaffirm our shared values represented by "FEEL (Fellowship, Education, Environment and Liberalised Trade) Asia". These four values lie at the heart of all of the cooperative endeavours and activities that we partake in. Our shared values include:
15. ASEAN and the ROK emphasise the importance of our fellowship in enhancing people-to-people exchanges, especially youth, which work towards the building of better future for our people. This strong commitment to fellowship will continue to deepen ties between

ASEAN and the ROK built upon mutual trust and cooperation, and consequently support the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and at the same time contribute to the building of an East Asia community as a long-term goal.

16. ASEAN and the ROK will jointly promote education as a vehicle to achieve socio-economic development. In particular, ASEAN and the ROK will share their educational experiences, especially the education policies on good ethics and character building towards supporting ASEAN and the ROK human resource development.
17. ASEAN and the ROK will cooperate closely to preserve the environment and to develop renewable and alternative energy resources for the purpose of promoting sustainable development and curbing global climate change. To this end, policy initiatives such as the Korean Government's "Low-Carbon, Green Growth" need to be coordinated jointly and efficiently enforced.
18. To effectively respond to the challenges of globalisation, ASEAN and the ROK will work towards liberalised trade and mutually beneficial economic cooperation, including an open market economy, resist protectionism and contribute to the development of global economic norms.
19. We envision that in the next fifteen years and beyond, with stronger political will and commitments of the two sides, relations between ASEAN and the ROK will evolve from comprehensive cooperation partnership to a strategic partnership. This strategic partnership will promote efforts to synergise the potential of Southeast Asia and Northeast Asia towards a comprehensive, progressive and dynamic, interconnected and interdependent collaboration.
20. We envisage that ASEAN and the ROK will support each other in the pursuit of their common goals and shared prosperity through broadening and deepening their strategic partnership. Therefore, it is important that ASEAN and the ROK work towards ensuring that the peoples of ASEAN and the ROK shall enjoy their livelihood in a peaceful, stable, harmonious, and prosperous environment.
21. ASEAN will support peace, stability, cooperation and development on the Korean Peninsula. At the same time, the ROK will continue to play a significant role to support the ASEAN community building process and to strengthen regional processes initiated by ASEAN, such as the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation, East Asia Summit (EAS) and the ARF.

B. STRATEGIES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Strategies

22. To attain the Vision, the EPG has taken into account the existing mechanisms (ANNEX 2) and documents signed and adopted by ASEAN and the ROK (ANNEX 3) as well as other relevant documents in drawing up the following strategies:
23. Strengthen common political will to enhance the multifaceted relationship in all its various aspects;
24. Expend their creative energy and resources to find ways and means to refresh, refine, restructure and redirect the present mechanisms and processes so that both sides see merit and advantage in intensifying their engagement with each other;
25. Utilise the existing networks to develop inter-country institutional linkages and establish frameworks on the wide-ranging issues of interest to both sides to bring about collaborative activities among all stakeholders, especially promoting two-way economic and resources cooperation;
26. Focus on the areas of common interest as indicated in the 2004 Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership between ASEAN and the ROK;
27. Map out a system on how to closely cooperate in the areas of human resources development and the efficient development of energy and natural resources for the mutual benefit and economic prosperity of both sides;
28. Expand people-to-people interactions and increase mutual cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the ROK;
29. Contribute to the building of peace, stability and prosperity in the ASEAN region, Korean Peninsula and in the world at large by further strengthening cooperation in the framework of the ASEAN-ROK, ASEAN Plus Three process, EAS, ARF and other regional processes and fora; and
30. Encourage Track II to be more active in promoting the ASEAN-ROK relations by collaborating closely with Track I in various activities.

Guiding Principles

31. In charting and building a shared vision on the future course of the ASEAN-ROK relations, it is important to observe the following guiding principles:
32. ASEAN-ROK relations should be based on the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations, the ASEAN Charter, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia and other relevant regional instruments.
33. ASEAN-ROK cooperation should be based on mutual interest and common approach. As the relationship develops, all work programmes and action plans should be designed with an aim of sharing any benefits of the cooperation between ASEAN Member States and the ROK.
34. ASEAN-ROK cooperation is based on the principle of consensus and consultation as far as possible and moving at a pace that is comfortable to both sides.
35. ASEAN Member States' respective strong bilateral relations with the ROK are good building blocks for strengthening the overall relationship. Therefore, the conduct of our regional relations and our bilateral ties should be complementary and mutually reinforcing.
36. ASEAN and the ROK should continue to build upon the existing ASEAN-ROK mechanisms and in line with ASEAN's existing processes, structures and developments.
37. ASEAN-ROK relations should contribute to the strengthening of relations with other countries and organisations. While ASEAN and the ROK share the common goals of regional peace and security, other major players also have a vital role to play and our goals can only be achieved by engaging them. Regional security initiatives should therefore be open and inclusive and ASEAN-ROK ties should also contribute to community building in East Asia.

C. KEY ELEMENTS OF PARTNERSHIP

38. The key elements of partnership comprise concrete measures recommended by the EPG for strengthening and deepening of the strategic partnership between ASEAN and the ROK. The key elements are: political and security cooperation, economic cooperation, socio-cultural cooperation, regional architecture and institutional support and implementation mechanism.

a) Political and Security Cooperation

39. Towards ASEAN Community building, the ROK will continue to support the implementation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint focussing on the following areas:

Transnational Crime

40. Cooperate and coordinate to effectively prevent, disrupt and combat transnational crime, especially trafficking in persons, arms smuggling and cyber crime through sharing of information, intelligence and best practices, technology transfer, strengthening trainers' networks, technical assistance and capacity building in the area of law enforcement.
41. Strengthen the implementation of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism signed on 27 July 2005 in Vientiane.

Illicit Drugs

42. Explore cooperation in drug detection and forensic tools development, in particular forensic management, which the ROK has much experience and is well established.

Maritime Security Cooperation

43. Promote capacity building, enhance training and technical cooperation, and share best practices and knowledge in the area of maritime security and navigational safety.

Non-proliferation

44. Strengthen cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK at regional and international levels to ensure non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), and achieving a nuclear weapon free world, in line with the provisions of the Treaty on Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ).

b) Economic Cooperation

45. Encouraged by the positive progress in the economic cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK, cooperation could be further intensified based on ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint, ASEAN-ROK Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA) on the following areas:

Trade and Investment Promotion

46. Disseminate information of the ASEAN-ROK Free Trade Agreement to the business community and encourage maximum utility of the Agreement in promoting trade and investment opportunities, through, among others, the ASEAN-Korea Centre.
47. Promote bio-energy trade and investment in technology innovation to ensure long term viability of bio-energy industry.

Sector Participation

48. Regularly hold the ASEAN-Korea CEO Summit in the ROK and ASEAN, among others, with the proposal of active participation by the SMEs, to strengthen business networks and promote trade opportunities following the successful outcome of the inaugural CEO Summit held in Jeju Island in June 2009.
49. Encourage more private companies from the ROK to invest in ASEAN Member States and vice versa.
50. Encourage the establishment of an ASEAN-Korea Business Council to promote their active involvement in the implementation, inter alia, of the AEC Blueprint and AKFTA.

Financial Cooperation

51. Cooperate to effectively implement the Chiang Mai Initiatives Multilateralisation (CMIM) and further explore creative and innovative approach to develop the Asian Bond Markets Initiatives.

Food Security

52. Share each other's expertise to enhance technology on food safety and quality assurance standards, post harvest technique and biotechnology, in line with the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework.

Water Security

53. Cooperate closely to develop a framework on capacity building and transfer of technology in sustainable water resources management to ensure cheaply available potable water to the peoples of ASEAN and the ROK.

Energy Cooperation

54. Actively promote ASEAN-ROK cooperation in research and development of safe and clean renewable and alternative energy, including wind, solar, nuclear and hydro energy to ensure energy security.
55. Encourage the ROK to share its experiences gained from its “Low-Carbon, Green-Growth” initiative.
56. Support the ROK’s proposal on capacity building such as training staff/personnel for civilian nuclear energy for power development and nuclear safety in ASEAN.

Aviation Cooperation

57. Work towards an ASEAN-ROK Regional Air Services Agreement, covering both passenger and cargo air services to support and facilitate their traffic movements to increase trade and economic activities between ASEAN and the ROK.
58. Promote ASEAN-ROK open skies policy and instrument to facilitate economic integration in East Asia region.
59. Deepen cooperation dialogue on aviation in areas including but not limited to, aviation safety and security, airline cooperation, airport development and human resources development.

Sea Transport Cooperation

60. Explore the establishment of a framework for strengthening ASEAN-ROK sea transport cooperation.
61. Promote ASEAN-ROK sea transport cooperation through effective measures to ensure navigation safety, encourage information sharing, enhance port linkages and promote human resource development.
62. Promote ship building manufacture by technological transfer and exchange of know-how.

Infrastructure Development

63. Enhance technical cooperation and promote capacity building in infrastructure, including the planning, design, construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, tunnels, railways, and the development of smart transport systems.

Narrowing the Development Gap and Development Cooperation

64. Enhance the ROK's support to the implementation of the IAI Work Plan.
65. Enhance cooperation in the development process of sub-regions in ASEAN, so as to strengthen its integration efforts in narrowing the development gaps.
66. Expand the ROK's ODA, including economic development cooperation fund for sustainable economic development and poverty alleviation towards narrowing the development gap within ASEAN, especially in the less-developed countries of ASEAN.
67. Strengthen the ASEAN-ROK cooperation in the field of rural development and poverty eradication through sharing of best practices and experiences in order to work towards sustainable development.

c) Social-Cultural Cooperation

68. The eventual goal to develop an ASEAN Community by 2015 towards a Caring and Sharing Community with ASEAN identity will be accelerated through strengthening closer cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK based on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint and other related programmes on the following areas:

Environment Cooperation and Climate Change

69. Work towards the dissemination and pursuit of "Green Growth" strategy.
70. Enhance ASEAN-ROK cooperation in the areas of environmental management, including:
- (a) Integrated water resource management;
 - (b) Environmentally sustainable cities (solid waste management, waste water management and air quality and noise management);

- (c) Environmentally sound technologies and cleaner production;
 - (d) Biodiversity management (rehabilitation of degraded lands and forests);
 - (e) Public awareness and education;
 - (f) Transboundary environmental pollution (transboundary haze pollution, transboundary movement of hazardous waste and land-based marine pollution); and
 - (g) Environmental law enforcement.
71. Share the ROK's expertise, including green technology, with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB).
 72. Strengthen the ASEAN-ROK cooperation on Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) to help reduce Green House Gas emission and promote sustainable development, among others, through establishing an Asian Forest Cooperation Organisation.

Information Technology

73. Work towards establishing a region-wide IT network given the ROK's capacity in IT, including digital media, animation, film production, gaming technology and comics.
74. Cooperate in bridging the digital divide within ASEAN by strengthening capacity building in ICT and also providing relevant assistance on IT infrastructure to contribute to the narrowing of the development gap in ASEAN.

Labour Mobility

75. Strengthen the ASEAN-ROK cooperation in the fields of employment and labour.

Disaster Management

76. Enhance joint effective and timely response to assist the affected countries in the event of major natural disasters.
77. Exchange expertise and experience in enhancing capacities on disaster management and responses.
78. Strengthen community-based disaster preparedness and participation through promotion of indigenous knowledge and practices; public awareness; education; and sharing of best practices and lessons learned to build disaster resilient community.

Health

79. Strengthen collaboration in cancer and infectious disease research activities, which the ROK is both active and strong in, including networking research centres among ASEAN and the ROK, and eventually exploring the setting up of a regional research centre.
80. Cooperate closely in stockpiling of antiviral, other essential medicines and medical equipment to respond effectively to endemic or pandemic outbreaks.

Cultural Cooperation

81. Enhance social development, cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts between ASEAN and the ROK and the region as a whole.
82. Increase cultural heritage and arts exchange through holding of exhibitions and performances in both the ASEAN Member States and the ROK.
83. Increase exchanges of expertise and experience through multimedia resources in promoting inter-cultural awareness and understanding.

Tourism

84. Promote capacity building programmes, including in the areas of language and culture, for tourist services in ASEAN Member States and the ROK so that they can provide tailored services to meet the needs of ASEAN and the ROK tourists.
85. Promote tourism in ASEAN and the ROK through regular tourism exhibitions and other related activities, in close collaboration with the ASEAN-Korea Centre.

Youth

86. Continue to implement and expand the youth exchange programmes between ASEAN and the ROK, including exchanges of young scholars, young business people and young officials.
87. Continue to implement, expand and develop various programmes involving the ASEAN-ROK youth to strengthen closer relations and promote better understanding for the future generations as follows:

- (a) Young parliamentarians, legislators and local community leaders.
- (b) Young good-will ambassadors, community-based adventure activities, ASEAN-ROK young volunteers, young and upcoming new talents including artistes, and young sportsmen.
- (c) Exchange and attachment of the academic staff of the learning institutions, including research centres.
- (d) Study visits or programme for youth and women.
- (e) Exchange programme for civil society organisations.

Education

- 88. Promote Korean Studies in ASEAN and, at the same time, promote ASEAN Studies in the ROK. Encourage student and academic staff exchanges between ASEAN University Network (AUN) and the ROK to contribute to enhancing mutual understanding.
- 89. The ROK will continue to provide scholarships for ASEAN students, considering special quotas to the less developed countries of ASEAN.
- 90. Initiate ICT Education Network in order to promote ICT human resources development.
- 91. The ROK will assist in vocational and technical education by, among others, encouraging the private educational institutions to provide more industrial attachments to young ASEAN technicians to hone their competencies and skills.

Consular

- 92. Strengthen consular cooperation, especially in the protection of our nationals, including tourists, business people, officials who are travelling to ASEAN and the ROK as well as permanent residents, and workers residing in the ASEAN Member States and the ROK.

Science and Technology

- 93. Promote joint research and young generation scientists exchange programmes.
- 94. Promote the transfer of green technologies from the ROK to ASEAN.

Human Resource Development

- 95. Encourage the ROK's continued support to promote human resource development programme in various areas, including setting up networks among the students, experts and researchers,

who graduated from the ROK, to gain work experiences and skills needed for and to contribute to the economic and social development in ASEAN Member States.

Participation of All Stakeholders and Public Awareness Promotion

96. Organise activities in ASEAN and the ROK to promote public awareness on ASEAN-ROK relations, including regular media and information exchanges through the cooperation and assistance of the ASEAN-Korea Centre.
97. Encourage all stakeholders to be involved in the implementation of the ASEAN-ROK EPG recommendations and proposals.

d) Regional Architecture

98. Recognising the evolving regional architecture such as the ASEAN Plus Three and the East Asia Summit, and the common aspiration to promote regional peace, security, stability, prosperity, mutual confidence and trust in East Asia community building, ASEAN and the ROK will deepen coordination and cooperation at regional and multilateral fora as follows:

ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

99. Work towards contributing to the realisation of the goals and objectives as set out in the ARF Vision Statement.
100. Promote concrete cooperation projects within the ARF including cooperation in cyber-security and countering cyber-terrorism.

Economic Integration in East Asia

101. Work closely with other countries in the region towards the establishment of an economic integration area in East Asia.

e) Institutional Support and Implementation Mechanism

102. The institutional support and framework are necessary to closely coordinate, facilitate, monitor, review and allocate resources effectively to support the successful implementation of recommendations, as follows:

103. Establish close networking/linkages and enhance coordination between and among government institutions and agencies, parliamentarians, private sector, academic institutions, youth organisations, media groups, social and cultural foundations of ASEAN and the ROK.
104. Recommend periodic review and streamlining of existing ASEAN-ROK cooperation mechanisms, including elevating the current ASEAN-ROK Dialogue to the Senior Officials level, and the need to develop a new ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action, taking into account the existing ASEAN-ROK Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership (2004), ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action (2005), Joint Statement of ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit (2009), recommendations of the ASEAN-ROK EPG, and the changing regional and global environment.
105. The ASEAN-Korea Centre will complement other ASEAN-ROK mechanisms in the implementation of the activities to be undertaken by ASEAN and the ROK, especially trade, investment, tourism and culture.
106. Contribute to the strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat to assist in coordination and implementation of various ASEAN-ROK cooperation projects and programmes.
107. Hold Track I and II fora, including the ASEAN-ROK Forum, at least once a year, to exchange views on ways to enhance ASEAN-ROK relations.

IV. CONCLUSION

108. Taking into account the past twenty years of achievements between ASEAN and the ROK as well as the fast changing regional and global environment, the ASEAN-ROK EPG has looked at ways to elevate the comprehensive cooperation partnership between ASEAN and the ROK to a higher level of strategic partnership.
109. In pursuit of achieving and strengthening the strategic partnership, the ASEAN-ROK EPG outlined the vision of ASEAN-ROK relations for the next fifteen years and beyond. In this context, the ASEAN-ROK EPG suggests that Leaders of the ASEAN Member States and the ROK rediscover our shared values symbolised by “FEEL (Fellowship, Education, Environment, Liberalised Trade) Asia” as a basis for building the regional architecture process in East Asia and a beacon for us and for others to strive toward.

110. The ASEAN-ROK EPG also recommends “FEEL Asia” as a guide for enhancing ties between ASEAN and the ROK, and become a foundation for continuing to support the realisation of the ASEAN Community and, at the same time, contributing to the building of an East Asian community as a long-term goal with ASEAN as the driving force.
111. The ASEAN-ROK EPG further recommends bridging the development gap among ASEAN Member States with support from the ROK, including through enhancing capacity building, strengthening human resource development of ASEAN and encouraging involvement of private sector and academic institutions, to contribute to the ASEAN integration and community building.
112. Ultimately, it is foreseeable that the relationship between ASEAN and the ROK will eventually mature on the basis of a strategic partnership by working side-by-side, while maintaining ASEAN’s central role, to capitalise on each other’s competitive advantages and collaborate in smart partnerships to offer capacity building and empowerment activities or programmes in third countries, especially the less developed ones.

ANNEXES TO THE REPORT OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA
EMINENT PERSONS GROUP

ANNEX 1**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ASEAN-ROK EMINENT PERSONS GROUP****I. BACKGROUND**

1. At the 11th ASEAN-ROK Summit on 21 November 2007 in Singapore, Leaders of ASEAN and the Republic of Korea agreed to establish an Eminent Persons Group (EPG) as proposed by Malaysian Prime Minister to take stock of ASEAN-ROK relations over the past 19 years and to come up with recommendations for advancing future ASEAN-ROK relations.

II. PURPOSE

2. The EPG will take stock of ASEAN-ROK relations over the past 19 years and explore ways and means to deepen and widen the existing cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK as well as to recommend concrete measures for further deepening ASEAN-ROK relations in the future, taking into account existing mechanisms and documents already adopted by both sides, also taking into account the ASEAN Charter, the three Blueprints of the ASEAN Community (ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)) and other documents to be adopted until the EPG finalises its report.

III. SCOPE OF WORK

3. The functions of the EPG will be as follows:
 - 3.1 Assess ASEAN-ROK dialogue relations over the past 19 years;
 - 3.2 Provide valuable views and opinions and recommend concrete and practical measures to deepen and broaden existing and future ASEAN-ROK strategic partnership into comprehensive cooperation that will enhance mutual benefit, understanding and trust;
 - 3.3 Explore ways and means to strengthen ASEAN-ROK strategic partnership in light of rapidly changing economic and political landscapes in the region in order to ensure that the ASEAN-ROK partnership will remain one of the key pillars in East Asia's evolving regional architecture;
 - 3.4 Study the institutional framework of ASEAN-ROK dialogue relations and recommend measures to enhance and streamline its process;

- 3.5 Recommend strategies for the effective implementation of ASEAN-Republic of Korea Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership; and
- 3.6 Recommend strategies for ASEAN and the ROK to constructively engage within a wider context, including moving forward East Asia cooperation within the ASEAN Plus Three and East Asia Summit processes.

IV. COMPOSITION

4. Each ASEAN Member State will appoint one eminent person from political, academic, cultural, economic or business circle of their respective country to be members of the EPG, and one assistant for each EPG member. ROK will appoint 2 eminent persons from political, academic, economic or business circle of ROK to be members of the EPG, and an assistant for each of them.
5. EPG members will participate in all relevant activities in their individual capacity and not as representatives of their countries.

V. SECRETARIAT OF THE EPG

6. The ASEAN Secretariat will be tasked to be the secretariat of the EPG and shall assist the EPG members in drafting the final report.
7. The ASEAN Secretary-General will assign one of his senior staff members to act as a resource person and one assistant to assist in keeping records of the EPG meetings.

VI. FREQUENCY AND VENUE

8. The EPG will meet at least four times, twice in ASEAN Member States and twice in the ROK, prior to the 13th ASEAN-ROK Summit to be held in 2009. Additional meetings could be convened, if and when necessary, as determined by the Group.
9. The EPG may form ad-hoc working group, as may be deemed necessary, in order to facilitate its work. The composition of the ad-hoc working group shall be the assistants of each EPG member.

VII. DECISIONS

10. All decisions will be based on consultation and consensus.

VIII. CHAIRMANSHIP

11. The meeting shall be co-chaired by the EPG member from country coordinator of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations and one from the ROK.
12. The host country will provide secretariat services and administrative assistance for the meeting such as the arrangement of facilities and documentation.

IX. TIME FRAME

13. The EPG's final report recommending concrete measures for strengthening and advancing ASEAN-ROK strategic partnership based on key ASEAN-ROK documents will be submitted to the Leaders of ASEAN and the ROK at the 13th ASEAN-ROK Summit to be held in 2009.

X. AGENDA

14. The agenda of the meeting will be prepared by the co-chairs in consultation with all members of the Group.

XI. FUNDING

15. Funding support for the participation of EPG members and their assistants as well as the two representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat may come from the ASEAN-ROK FOCP or SCF Funds.

XII. AMENDMENT

16. This Terms of Reference can be amended by mutual agreement of the ASEAN Member Countries and the ROK. The EPG members may also recommend amendments to the TOR through their respective countries.

ANNEX 2

EXISTING ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA MECHANISMS

SECTOR	LEVEL					
	LEADER	MINISTER	SENIOR OFFICIALS	DIRECTOR-GENERAL	WORKING GROUP/ TASK FORCE	TOTAL BODIES BY SECTOR
Political and Security	ASEAN-ROK Summit	ASEAN-ROK Ministerial Meeting / Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) + ROK	– ASEAN-ROK Dialogue – ASEAN Seoul Committee			4
Development Cooperation				ASEAN-ROK Joint Planning Review Committee	ASEAN-ROK Joint Planning Review Committee's Informal Working Level Meeting	2
		ASEAN Economic Ministers-ROK (AEM-ROK)	ASEAN Senior Economic Officials and ROK (SEOM-ROK)	ASEAN Director-General of Customs' Meeting-ROK Consultations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – ASEAN-Korea Sub-Committee on Tariff Rules of Origin (AK-STROO) – ASEAN-ROK Free Trade Area Implementing Committee – ASEAN-Korea Working Group on Services (AKWG-S) – ASEAN-Korea Working group on Investment (AKWG-I) – ASEAN-Korea Working Group on Sanitary & Phyto Sanitary/Technical Barriers to Trade (AKWG-SPS/TBTs) – ASEAN-Korea Working Group on Economic Cooperation (AKWG-EC) – Coordinating Committee on Customs' Meeting-ROK Custom Consultation (CCC-ROK Customs Consultation) – ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Standard and Quality-ROK Dialogue Meeting (ACCSQ-ROK) Dialogue Meeting 	11
ICT		ASEAN+ROK Telecommunications and IT Ministers Meeting (TELMIN+ROK)	ASEAN+ROK Telecommunications and IT Senior Officials Meeting (TELSOM+ROK)		The TELSOM Working Group Meeting with ROK	3
Transnational Crime		ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime plus ROK Consultation (AMMTC+ROK)	ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime Plus ROK (SOMTC+ROK)			2
Transportation		ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transportation plus ROK Consultation (ATM+ROK)	ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transportation (SOMT+ROK)			2
Total Bodies by Level	1	5	6	2	10	24

ANNEX 3

LIST OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED AND ADOPTED BY ASEAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

2009

1. Joint Statement of the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit, Jeju Island, the Republic of Korea, 2 June 2009
2. Agreement on Investment under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Government of Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Jeju Island, the Republic of Korea, 2 June 2009
3. Protocol on the Accession of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Agreement on Trade in Services Under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Governments of the Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Cha-am, Thailand, 27 February 2009
4. Protocol on the Accession of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Agreement on Trade in Goods Under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Governments of the Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Cha-am, Thailand, 27 February 2009

2007

5. Agreement on Trade in Services under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Government of Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Singapore, 21 November 2007
6. Letter of Understanding among the Parties to the Agreement on Trade in Services under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Government of Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Singapore, 21 November 2007

7. Memorandum of Understanding on Establishing the ASEAN-Korea Centre Between the Member of Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Singapore, 21 November 2007

2006

8. Agreement on Trade in Goods under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Government of Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 24 August 2006

2005

9. ASEAN-Republic of Korea Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 13 December 2005
10. Agreement on Dispute Settlement Mechanism under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Government of Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 13 December 2005
11. Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Government of Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 13 December 2005
12. ASEAN-Republic of Korea Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism, Vientiane, Lao PDR, 27 July 2005

2004

13. Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea, Vientiane, Lao PDR, 30 November 2004
14. Instrument of Accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia by the ROK, Vientiane, Lao PDR, 27 November 2004
15. Instrument of Extension of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia by the ROK, Vientiane, Lao PDR, 27 November 2004

1997

16. Joint Statement of the Meeting of Heads of State/Government of the Member States of ASEAN and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea: "ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Towards the 21st Century," Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 16 December 1997

1989

17. Exchanged Letters Establishing Sectoral Dialogue Relations between ASEAN and Republic of Korea, Jakarta, Indonesia, 2 November 1989

OTHER DOCUMENTS

LIST OF ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMINENT PERSONS, RESOURCE PERSON AND ASSISTANTS

No	Country	Eminent Persons	Assistants
1	Brunei Darussalam	H.E. Pengiran Dato MUSTAPHA Former Ambassador to ROK	Ms. Rohayaty YASSIN Second Secretary ASEAN-Brunei Darussalam
2	Cambodia	H.E. Ms. TUOT Panha Under Secretary of State Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	Mr. CHETH Naren Deputy Director-General ASEAN-Cambodia
3	Indonesia	Dr. Hadi SOEASTRO Senior Fellow Centre for Strategic and International Studies	Ms. Nina S. DJAJAPRAWIRA Deputy Director Directorate General of ASEAN Cooperation Department of Foreign Affairs
4	Lao PDR	H.E. Mr. Bounkeut SANGSOMSAK Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs	H.E. Dr. Khiane PHANSOURIVONG Director-General ASEAN-Laos
5	Malaysia	H.E. Dato' Sri Dr. Muhammad Leo Michael Toyad ABDULLAH Member of Parliament Former Minister of Tourism Former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs	Mr. CHUAH Teong Ban Deputy Director-General ASEAN-Malaysia National Secretariat
6	Myanmar	H.E. U Aung BWA Former Director-General ASEAN-Myanmar	Ms. SEIN Nwe Aye Deputy Director ASEAN-Myanmar
7	Philippines	H.E. Ambassador Cesar B. BAUTISTA Co-Chair of the National Competitiveness Council	Mr. Roberto G. MANALO Director ASEAN-Philippines
8	Singapore	H.E. Ambassador Michael CHEOK Former Director-General of ASEAN- Singapore	Ms. Cindy WEE Assistant Director ASEAN-Singapore
9	Thailand	H.E. Ambassador Vasin TEERAVECHYAN Former Ambassador to the ROK	Mr. Arthayudh SRISAMOOT Deputy Director-General ASEAN-Thailand
10	Viet Nam	H.E. Ambassador NGUYEN Hoang An Former Ambassador to Indonesia	Mr. PHAM Quang Anh Director ASEAN-Viet Nam

11	Republic of Korea	H.E. Ambassador HAN Tae Kyu President of Jeju Peace Institute Former Ambassador to Thailand	Mr. CHA Young Cheol Deputy Director-General South Asian and Pacific Affairs Bureau Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
			Ms. PARK, Shin-Ae Third Secretary ASEAN Cooperation Division South Asian and Pacific Affairs Bureau Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
		Dr. YOO Jang Hee Professor Emeritus at Ewha Womans University	Dr. Doo-Bong HAN Professor at Korea University
Resource Person			
12	ASEAN Secretariat	Mr. Dhannan SUNOTO Director Cross-sectoral Cooperation Directorate ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Department	Mr. Thongphane SAVANPHET Assistant Director/Head Political Cooperation Division Political-Security Directorate ASEAN Political-Security Community Department

BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMINENT PERSONS GROUP

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

H.E. Pengiran Dato MUSTAPHA joined the Brunei Government Service in 1962. During his earlier years in service, he has been a teacher, education officer, scholarship officer and a Brunei Administrative Service Officer. In 1976, he was seconded to the Brunei Government Agency in London for three years. It was only in 1985, that Pg Dato Mustapha joined the Foreign Service as Chief of Protocol. Two years later, he was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Philippines (1987-90). In 1990, he was appointed High Commissioner to the Court of St. James', United Kingdom (1990-93), and was concurrently accredited as non-resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to France (1990-91), Germany (1990-91), Belgium (1990-93), European Union (1990-93) and Ireland (1990-93). After serving in Europe, he was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Korea from 1993 to 1998 and was awarded the Order of the Diplomatic Service Merit by the Korean Government. In 1998-2002, he was appointed as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Sultanate of Oman and accredited as a non-resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Qatar. Presently, Pg Dato Mustapha is President of the Brunei-Korea Association for Friendship and a member of the Inquiry Panel for the Law Society of Brunei Darussalam.

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

H.E. Ms. TUOT Panha received her Degree in International Relations at the Diplomatic Academy in Moscow. She started her professional career at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cambodia in 1983, where she has held numerous positions starting from an official of Press Department, Deputy Director of International Organizations Department, Deputy Director of the Foreign Minister's Cabinet in charge of ASEAN affairs, Director of International Cooperation Department and Advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Abroad, she was appointed as Minister Counsellor of the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Bangkok, Thailand and Deputy Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). She is presently Under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia.

REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

Dr. Hadi SOEASTRO is Senior Fellow at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Indonesia, an independent, non-profit organization that focuses on policy-oriented studies on domestic and international issues. He is currently a Member of the National Team for International Trade Negotiations and is the Chairman of the Expert Team to assist the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia on international economic issues. He was a member of the Joint Expert Group on the Feasibility of an East Asian Free Trade Area (EAFTA), and was also a member of the Indonesia-South Korea Eminent Persons Group on Strategic Partnership. He is a member of the ASEAN Plus Three Expert Group. He is a member of the Academic Advisory Council of the newly established Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). He is also Adjunct Professor at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra (Australia) and has lectured at a number of universities, including Columbia University in New York. In addition, he is involved in International Advisory Boards and Committees such as the Asia Society (New York) and the East West Centre (Hawaii), and is Chairman of the International Steering Committee of the Pacific Trade and Development (PAFTAD). Dr. Soesastro has a Ph.D. from the Rand Graduate School in Santa Monica, California and a degree from the Faculty of Aero and Astronautical Engineering at RW-TH Aachen, Germany.

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

H.E. Bounkeut SANGSOMSAK is a Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Laos. His education background includes: 1956-1969: Lycee of Pakse, Champasak Province; 1969-1970: Lycee of Vientiane; 1970-1973: Royal Institute of Law and Administration, University of Sisavangvong, Vientiane, Laos; 1973-1975: International Institute of Public Administration, Paris, France; 1973-1977: Faculty of Law, University of Sorbonne, Paris, France; 2001-2002: Ho Chi Minh Political Academy, Ha Noi, Viet Nam. His responsibilities include: April 1977-December 1977: Deputy Director of the Division for Legal and Political Affairs, Department of International Organisation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; 1977-1978: Director of Division for Legal Affairs, Department of Consular Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs; 1978-1982: Second Secretary to the Lao Permanent Mission to the United Nation, New York, USA; 1982-1987: Charge d' Affairs a.i. of the Embassy of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to United States of America, Washington DC; 1987-1989: Deputy Director-General of the Department of Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; 1989-1990: Director-General of the Department of Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; 1990-1998: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Kingdom of Thailand; Non-Resident Ambassador to Malaysia (1990-1995), to Singapore and Philippines (1990-1997); 1998-2001: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; 19 June 2001-till present: Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; 24 February 2000: Member of the Fifth Legislation of the National Assembly; 24 April 2002-2006: Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Foreign Relations of the National Assembly.

MALAYSIA

Dato' Sri Dr. Muhammad Leo M. Toyad ABDULLAH holds a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery and Master of Public Health from University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. He started his career as a medical officer in the government hospital in 1977, before embarking into politics in 1982 when he elected as a Member of Parliament for Mukah Constituency, Sarawak, Malaysia. He has held the parliamentary seat until today. Shortly after swearing in as Member of Parliament, he was appointed to serve as an Executive Member until 1987 in various parliamentary bodies, such as ASEAN Parliamentary Organisation, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and Asian Forum on Population and Development. From 1987 to 2006, he was promoted to hold several public posts as Deputy Minister of Education, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and finally Minister of Tourism of Malaysia. Currently, he is the Chairman of Sarawak Convention Bureau. At the political party hierarchy, Dato' Sri Dr. Muhammad Leo helmed as the Vice President of the Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu Sarawak since 1987.

UNION OF MYANMAR

H.E. Aung BWA is currently a member of the ASEAN-ROK Eminent Persons' Group. He served as Director-General of ASEAN Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) Myanmar from 2001-2007 after serving as Deputy Director-General from 200-2001. He also served as Director of Consular Division and Deputy Director-General of Political Department from 1995-1999. He was Deputy Chief of Mission at the Myanmar Embassy in Sri Lanka and United Kingdom. During his tenure at the MOFA, he also served as Joint Secretary in the National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA) and later on as Secretary for the Commission. He attended numerous meetings, conferences and seminars on environmental affairs, Asia Pacific Security Workshop, Asia Pacific Round Table, ASEAN Standing Committee Meetings, other various ASEAN meetings, ASEAN Ministerial Meetings and ASEAN Summits. He was a member of the ASEAN High Level Task Force (HLTF) for the ASEAN Charter, and of the Eminent Persons' Group of ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

H.E. Ambassador Cesar B. BAUTISTA assumed many top management positions in the private and public sectors. He was the Chairman and CEO of Unilever (Phils) for 8 years, ascending to that position after 25 years of occupying senior management positions in the company's offices in Europe and Asia. In 1994, he accepted the Philippine government's invitation to serve as Secretary of Trade and Industry and concurrently, as Chair of the Board of Investment and member of the Monetary Board.

In those positions, he steered the country's ambitious trade and investment reform and liberalization agenda, and with the rest of the economic team, oversaw a period of dynamic economic growth including insulating the country from the Asian Financial Contagion in 1997. From the Department of Trade and Industry, Ambassador Bautista moved on to London as Philippine Ambassador to the Court of Saint James' from 1998-2003. He also covered Ireland, Iceland and the United Nation's International Maritime Organisation, and was the President's Special Envoy to Europe in 2001-2003. Now back in the private sector, he co-chairs the National Competitiveness Council and the Task Force on Globally Competitive Services, acts as the Country's Point of Contact with the Millenium Challenge Corporation of the USA. He sits in the Board of the Institute of Corporate Directors, Foundation for Global Concerns, IT Foundation for Education; is an independent Director in a number of companies such as Pilipinas Shell, First Philippine Holdings, Asian Terminals Inc, Maxicare HMO, Bayantel, PhilAm Insurance, PhilRatings/CIBI Information Inc, and is an advisory Director of Unilever (Phils). Ambassador Bautista has been honoured with a number of awards for professional excellence and outstanding public service. Among these are; Order of Sikatuna, Rank of Datu; Presidential Order of Merit; Ohio State University, Distinguished Alumnus Award; University of the Philippines, Most Outstanding Alumnus Award; Most Outstanding Chemical Engineer of the Philippines; UP College of Engineering, 100 Top Engineers of the country. He represents the Philippines in the ASEAN Eminent Persons Group in strengthening relations with partners such as Korea. He chairs the English Speaking Union (Phil), the Asia-Europe Foundation, the European IT Services Foundation, and the Philippine Quality Awards.

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

H.E. Ambassador Michael CHEOK joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) in May 1970. He was Singapore's High Commissioner to India, with concurrent accreditation to Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka from March 1989 to October 1992. From March 1993 to July 1996, he was Singapore's Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, with concurrent accreditation to Greece and the Czech Republic. Ambassador Cheok was appointed as Director of the ASEAN Directorate from 1996 to 1999. He retired from the Foreign Service in 2000. Ambassador Cheok has attended many international conferences, including the United Nations Seabed Committee meetings, several sessions of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, United Nations General Assembly sessions, and Non-Aligned and Commonwealth conferences. He has also attended numerous ASEAN meetings, including ASEAN Summits and Foreign Ministers meetings. Ambassador Cheok is currently Singapore's Non-resident Ambassador to Tunisia and Morocco. He is also Vice Chairman of the International Relations Committee of the Singapore Business Federation and Senior Fellow of Ministry of Foreign Affairs Diplomatic Academy.

KINGDOM OF THAILAND

H.E. Ambassador Vasin TEERAVECHYAN received his Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree in Law from Chulalongkorn University. He served the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand since 1971. He was Deputy Director-General of Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs and Department of East Asian Affairs before becoming Director-General of Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs in 1997, Ambassador of Thailand to the Kingdom of the Netherlands in 2000 and Ambassador of Thailand to the Republic of Korea in 2003. He is retired from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2008 but since then has been appointed the Advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Chairman of High Level Legal Experts Group (HLEG) on Follow-up to the ASEAN Charter and member of the ASEAN-Korea Eminent Persons' Group. In addition, he is also the Chairman of the Thai-Cambodian Joint Boundary Commission (JBC), Chairman of the Thai-Myanmar Joint Boundary Committee (JBC) and Chairman of the Sub-Technical Committee on the Delimitation of Sea Boundary between Thailand and Cambodia. For his services, he is awarded with several decorations and entitled Knight Grand Cordon (Special Class) of the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant in 2007.

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

H.E. Ambassador NGUYEN Hoang An joined Viet Nam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1971 after graduating from the Academy of Diplomacy. Between 1974 and 1978, he was assigned to work in the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in the People's Republic of China. Completing his first posting, he came back to the Foreign Ministry and worked in the Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs until 1982. From 1983 until 1986, he was appointed as Deputy Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to ESCAP and International Organizations in Bangkok. He then followed a Post-Graduate Programme for two years (1988-1989), majoring on Development Planning in the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok. He was Senior Officer at the Department of International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs until 1994 before being transferred to serve, first as Senior Officer, then Deputy Director General of the ASEAN Department. From March 1996 to May 1999, Ambassador Nguyen Hoang An worked as Senior Officer at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta with responsibilities for regional cooperation on health and nutrition, HIV/AIDS control, drug abuse and illicit traffic. He returned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and served Deputy Director General of the ASEAN Department and then as Acting Director General until the year 2002. In 2003, he was appointed as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Republic of Indonesia and concurrently accredited to Timor Leste and Papua New Guinea until May 2007. He held the position as Director General at the Foreign Ministry until he retired from the Foreign Service in February 2009. Ambassador Nguyen Hoang An attended many international and region meetings, seminars and conferences while working in the Foreign Ministry.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

H.E. Ambassador HAN Tae Kyu is president of the Jeju Peace Institute. He graduated from Seoul National University (BA in Law, 1971), studied the Foreign Service course at Oxford University (1972-1973) and started his career as diplomat in 1971. He held positions mainly in foreign and security affairs; chancellor of the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS) (2004-2006), Chairman of Foreign and National Security Affairs Sub-committee of the Presidential Committee on Northeast Asian Cooperation Initiatives as additional post during the period, and Deputy Secretary-General of National Security Council (1999-2001). He served as Secretary of Political Affairs at Korean Embassy in US (1980-1982), Director of Security Affairs Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1985-1987), Counsellor of Korean Embassy in United Kingdom (1987-1989), Advisor to Foreign Minister (1990-1991), Minister of Korean Embassy in Canada (1991-1994), Director-General for European Affairs (1995-1996), Ambassador Advisor for International Relations in Daejeon Metropolitan City (1996-1997) before being appointed as Ambassador to Bangladesh (1997-1999), Greece (2001-2004) and Thailand (2006-2008). His publication is 'The Road to Athens' (2004).

Dr. YOO Jang Hee is the Emeritus Professor of Ewha Womans University. He graduated from Seoul National University (BA in Economics, 1963), University of California at Los Angeles (MA in Economics, 1969) and Texas A&M University (Ph.D. in Economics, 1972). He started his career as Professor of Economics in Universities including Clark University (1972-1976) and Seoul National University (1988-1989), took positions as Special Consultant of Asian Development Bank (1988-1989), President of Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (1992-1997). He was also the Member of APEC Eminent Persons Group (1994-1996). He served as Professor (1997-2006) and Dean (1997-2005) of the Graduate School of International Studies, Ewha Womans University. He was President of Korea International Economic Association (2001-2002), President of Korea Economic Association (2003-2004), President of APEC Studies Association of Korea (1998-2006) and Vice President, External Affairs of Ewha Womans University (2004-2006). He is also Chairman of Policy Evaluation Committee of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2001-Present), Member of National Academy of Sciences of Republic of Korea (2007-Present) and President of East Asian Economic Association of Japan (2008-Present). Some of his publication includes '*The Republic of Privatization*' (2008), '*A New Hope Beyond the Limit*' (2008), '*The Post-Financial Crisis Challenges for Asian Industrialization*' (co-editor) (2002), '*Strategies for Building a Knowledge-based Economy*' (2001) and '*APEC and the New International Order*' (1995).

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMINENT PERSONS GROUP'S PROGRESS REPORT TO THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA COMMEMORATIVE SUMMIT, 1-2 JUNE 2009, JEJU ISLAND, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

1 June 2009

Excellencies the Leaders of ASEAN
Excellencies the President of the Republic of Korea,

The ASEAN-Republic of Korea Eminent Persons Group (AKEPG) was established following the decision of the 11th ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Summit on 21 November 2007 to take stock of ASEAN-ROK relations over the past 20 years and to come up with recommendations for deepening ASEAN-ROK relations in the coming years.

We, the Co-chairs of the AKEPG, have the honour to submit the Progress Report for your kind perusal.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Dato' Sri Dr. Muhd Leo Toyad
Member of Parliament, Former Minister
of Tourism and Former Deputy Foreign
Minister of Malaysia



Ambassador HAN Tae Kyu
President of Jeju Peace Institute and
Former Ambassador of the Republic of
Korea to Thailand

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMINENT PERSONS GROUP TO THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA COMMEMORATIVE SUMMIT, 1-2 JUNE 2009, JEJU ISLAND, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

1. At the 11th ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Summit on 21 November 2007 in Singapore, Leaders of ASEAN and the ROK agreed to establish an ASEAN-ROK Eminent Persons Group (AKEPG) as proposed by the Prime Minister of Malaysia to take stock of ASEAN-ROK relations over the past 20 years and come up with recommendations for advancing future ASEAN-ROK relations.
2. Pursuant to the above decision, the AKEPG was formed and met twice, namely on 12 January 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and 28 March 2009 in Seoul, ROK.
3. The AKEPG had extensive discussions on a wide range of areas of cooperation of mutual interest, taking into consideration the rapidly changing regional and global situation. The AKEPG also reviewed the achievements made under the ASEAN-ROK dialogue framework for the past two decades.
4. The AKEPG is exploring key elements and areas of future cooperation to enhance ASEAN-ROK relations in the next 15 years and beyond with a view to formulating practical and action-oriented measures. In formulating the various measures, the AKEPG has taken into account the documents that have been concluded or adopted under the ASEAN-ROK framework such as ASEAN-ROK Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership, ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership and ASEAN-ROK Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation as well as the ASEAN Charter, the three Blueprints of the ASEAN Community, namely ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), and Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Strategic Framework and IAI Work Plan 2 (2009-2015).
5. The three main areas of cooperation that the AKEPG is focusing on are political and security, economic and socio-cultural fields, which are consistent with the three pillars of ASEAN Community building.

6. The AKEPG affirmed the importance of enhancing and moving forward the ASEAN-ROK comprehensive cooperation partnership to a higher plane. This approach corresponds with aspirations of the peoples of ASEAN and the ROK to enhance mutual benefit and understanding as well as to address challenges in promoting regional peace, stability and prosperity.
7. The AKEPG has scheduled to hold two more meetings to finalise the discussions with a view to concluding a Final Report to be submitted to the Leaders of ASEAN and the ROK at the 13th ASEAN-ROK Summit to be held in October 2009 in Thailand.

