



ASEAN Inter - Parliamentary Organization

The 23rd General Assembly

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Res. 23GA/2002/Pol/05

RESOLUTION ON PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE REGION

The Twenty-third General Assembly:

Supporting goals proclaimed in the ASEAN Vision 2020 and the Hanoi Plan of Action to build ASEAN into "a concert of Southeast Asian nations, outward looking, living in peace, stability and prosperity, bonded together in partnership in dynamic development and in a community of caring societies";

Aware that acts of terrorism in all forms and manifestations, anywhere, at any time and committed by anyone represent a serious threat to peace, security, and economic development in the region and the world at large, and **Reiterating** the need to enhance co-operation at all levels to fight against terrorism in a comprehensive manner;

Commending the strong determination of the Governments of ASEAN countries in the fight against terrorism, which is demonstrated by ASEAN Declaration on Joint Action to Counter Terrorism, adopted at its Seventh Summit, and ASEAN countries' efforts in co-operating against terrorism;

Understanding the importance of ensuring security at seas, which is an essential factor for economic development of each country and the whole region, and **Acknowledging** the need to strengthen co-operation at all levels to cope with emerging transnational challenges to maritime security;

Recalling the goals set out in the 1992 ASEAN Declaration on South China Sea and the Hanoi Plan of Action on the establishment of a Code of Conduct for Parties concerned in the South China Sea, considering it an important confidence-building measure to promote peace and stability in the region;

Acknowledging the **great** values of ASEAN's expanded co-operation and deepened partnership with its dialogue partner countries, other nations and friends in the region and the world in ensuring peace, stability, and security in the region;

Noting the contributions of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) as a key Forum for discussions on and co-operation in political-security issues in the Asia-Pacific region to the settlement of common concerns and the promotion of confidence-building, thus helping maintain peace, stability and security in the region;

Hereby Resolves To:

Make greater efforts to enhance ASEAN's role in promoting peace, stability, security and development co-operation in Southeast Asia and Asia-Pacific;

Increase ASEAN's individual and collective efforts to fight against terrorism including consideration of the participation by other ASEAN members in the existing trilateral anti-terrorism agreement. It is necessary for ASEAN to work out concrete and viable measures and co-operation initiatives suitable to specific conditions of each country, focusing on capacity building, legal assistance, co-operation among law enforcement agencies, exchange of specialized information, including the establishment a Center for Information and Co-ordination on anti-terrorist activities and anti-transnational crimes, creating foundations for forming a regional information network;

Intensify ASEAN's efforts in poverty reduction, accelerated economic integration and narrowing of development gap among member countries with a view to rooting out causes of terrorism, which include poverty, inequality, racial and religious discrimination;

Expand co-operation to counter transnational crimes, especially terrorist-related crimes, such as drug trafficking, money laundering, computer crimes, and other economic crimes;

Promote initiatives and measures aimed at enhancing ASEAN's co-operation, information and experience sharing and capacity building to fight against piracy, smuggling of goods and weapons, thus helping ensure maritime security;

Encourage ASEAN and China to soon adopt the Declaration on Conducts of Parties concerned in the South China Sea, considering it a vital step forward to complete the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea in the near future, and **Call for** parties concerned to continue exercising self-restraint and resolving disputes by peaceful means.

Support ASEAN's concerted efforts in deepening the partnership with its dialogue partner countries through organizing new ASEAN plus one Summits, beginning with ASEAN plus India at the up coming ASEAN Summit in Cambodia in November.

Call on Dialogue Partners, regional and international organizations to continue to support and assist ASEAN, especially in priority areas, such as deepening of economic integration, narrowing of the development gap, assistance to newer members, fight against terrorism and anti-transnational crime;

Strengthen efforts to maintain the development of the ASEAN Regional Forum on the right track, responding effectively to emerging challenges in the region, and **Enhance** ASEAN's role as a driving force behind the Forum.

