

# Concept Paper of the Bali Concord III Plan of Action 2012-2022

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## I. Background

1. At the 19<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit on 17 November 2011 in Bali, the ASEAN Leaders signed the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations, also known as the Bali Concord III.
2. This is a response to the new reality that ASEAN today is confronted by complex and dynamic 21st century global challenges, which defy a single national solution and instead demand cooperation among nations at all level, i.e. bilateral, regional, and global, simultaneously in order to respond more effectively.
3. The Bali Concord III is a manifestation of ASEAN's global outreach to contribute further in a more coordinated, cohesive, and coherent manner. It reflects ASEAN's commitment to take an increasing role in addressing global challenges.
4. For the above purposes, the ASEAN Leaders have tasked the concerned Ministers to follow-up and implement this Bali Concord III, as well as have the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC) report to the ASEAN Summits.
5. Building upon the momentum, it is necessary to immediately formulate the Bali Concord III Plan of Action 2012-2022 to translate the elements contained in the Bali Concord III into action lines. The following measures are designed to enhance ASEAN's capacity in order to ensure the effective implementation of the Bali Concord III for the next decade.

## II. Strategic Objectives

6. Ensure the *effective implementation* of the Bali Concord III in order to advance ASEAN's common interests and concerns at the global level; have a greater role as part of the solutions to global challenges; and establish ASEAN as a reliable regional player in the global community of nations.
7. Strengthen the capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat to provide effective support in projecting ASEAN's enhanced collective undertakings at the global level.

## III. Scope

### Areas of Engagement

8. The Plan of Action will consist of *feasible actions* in areas of cooperation identified in the Bali Concord III. It will elaborate each element in the Bali Concord III into implementable activities. Nevertheless, as the Bali Concord III has never been meant to be an exhaustive list, other issues of common interest and relevance can still be extrapolated and elaborated.

9. Identification and prioritization of activities based on achievability, *i.e.* “low-hanging fruits”, may be considered during the early years of implementation. These may include cooperation in poverty alleviation, food security, energy security, disaster management, and peacekeeping operations.

#### Channels for Engagement

10. **Internally**, ASEAN will continue to develop its coordination, cohesiveness, and coherence through all existing ASEAN mechanisms, such as through the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR), Senior Officials’ Meeting (SOM), Senior Economic Officials’ Meeting (SEOM), Senior Officials’ Committee for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (SOCA), Ministerial-level Meetings, and Summits, to solidify its position.
11. **Externally**, through existing mechanisms with Dialogue Partners and diplomatic channels, including accredited Ambassadors to ASEAN as well as ASEAN Committee in Third Countries (ACTCs). ASEAN will also in due course establish a specific diplomatic representation in various regional and multilateral organizations.

#### Focus of Engagement

12. **Regional level**, ASEAN’s existing cooperation with other regional and international organizations shall be enhanced, such as Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Common Southern Market (MERCOSUR), Rio Group, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), and African Union (AU).
13. **Multilateral level**, ASEAN shall also enhance engagement in the framework of the United Nations’ main bodies, namely UNSC, UNGA, and UN specialized agencies such as UNESCO, WIPO, UNOCHA, WHO, ILO, UNEP, UNHCR, UNODC, and others.
14. **International organization**, ASEAN shall continue to substantiate its representation in the G-20 as well as other international bodies and processes, including ICRC, ADB, APEC, G-8, IMF, World Bank, and WTO.

#### **IV. Modalities**

15. The initial draft of the Bali Concord III Plan of Action 2012-2022 will provided by Indonesia and circulated through the CPR to other the ASEAN Member States.
16. Discussion on the Plan of Action will be conducted through the CPR and approved by the Senior Officials to be submitted to the Ministers for their endorsement. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers will then recommend the Plan of Action to the ASEAN Leaders for its adoption.

#### **V. Time Frame**

17. Initial draft of the Plan of Action would be circulated to ASEAN Member States by **February 2012**.

18. Discussion by the CPR could commence in ***March 2012***.
19. The ASEAN Leaders could adopt the Plan of Action at either the 20<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in ***April 2012*** or the 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit in ***October 2012*** in Cambodia.
20. Bi-annual reports of the Plan of Action would be submitted by the ACC to the ASEAN Leaders as mandated in the Bali Concord III.
21. A mid-term review of the Plan of Action could be conducted in 2017 to take into account the changing dynamics of the region and the global environment at large.
22. The year 2022 is set as the target in which the optimal level of ASEAN's global engagement would be attained.

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