

## OVERVIEW ON ASEAN

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on August 8, 1967 on the basis of the Bangkok Declaration, with its original five members, Indonesia, Singapore, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. After 40 years of existence and development with many ups and downs, ASEAN has now become a regional intergovernmental organization covering 10 Southeast Asian countries (5 countries namely Brunei, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar). and Vietnam), is an important political-economic entity in Asia-Pacific and an indispensable partner in regional policy of major countries and important centers in the world. At present, ASEAN is moving to a new development stage with the overarching goal of forming the ASEAN Community by 2015 and acting on the legal basis of the ASEAN Charter. This document is intended to provide some general information on ASEAN cooperation in the past 40 years.

### I. OVERVIEW OF ASEAN IN 40 YEARS

**1. Nature:** ASEAN was established with the goal of openly economic and cultural-social cooperation, but was essentially a political set to deal with the impact of the war in Vietnam at that time and prevented Prevent the threat of communism (both from outside and inside).

After 40 years, ASEAN has fundamentally changed its substance, membership, form and content of cooperation; To this end, it is an indispensable gathering of small and medium-sized countries, in order to maintain regional peace and security, and to facilitate ASEAN's relations with external partners. Member countries expand foreign relations and international integration.

**2. Characteristics:** ASEAN has two sides: both success and limited, opportunities and challenges, "centripetal" and "centrifugal", ..., but overall is a quite active organization and flexible, always adjust to adapt to the situation has changed, confirmed the value of existence and international position.

ASEAN has always ensured "unity in diversity" on the basis of common interests as well as basic objectives and principles of the Association, especially "consensus" and "non-interference"; to take advantage of geo-political, geo-strategic and geo-economic advantages, to play a balanced role and to regulate the interests of the major countries in the region.

ASEAN is an open, multi-faceted regional organization; So far, intra-regional cooperation has not been the highest priority of the member countries, only to a certain degree and effectiveness.

### **3. The achievements and limitations of ASEAN in the last 40 years**

#### **3.1. Achievement:**

a. The most important and outstanding achievement of the Association is the completion of the idea of an ASEAN consisting of 10 Southeast Asian nations, leading to fundamental changes in the Association as well as to the regional situation.

ASEAN-10 helped end the divisions and confrontations between Southeast Asian countries; building new relationships of substance among member countries, on the basis of friendship, mutual understanding and trust, comprehensive cooperation and increasingly close both bilaterally and multilaterally. ASEAN solidarity and cooperation have been strengthened and strengthened in line with the guideline of ensuring the "unity in diversity", based on the basic objectives and principles of the Association, especially the principle of consensus and Do not interfere in each other's internal affairs.

ASEAN-10 has made the Association a truly global, more inclusive and dynamic regional cooperative organization; It is an important factor in ensuring peace, security, cooperation and development in Southeast Asia and Asia-Pacific. ASEAN has also established its own approach and approach to addressing regional and international issues, namely the "ASEAN Way," which focuses on dialogue and cooperation, dynamic and flexible. to find a common voice and consensus.

b. Inter - regional cooperation has been strengthened in both depth and breadth; and achieved great results. The formation of the ASEAN-10 together with the results of intra-regional cooperation over the last 40 years has positively contributed to the socio-economic development of member countries and created important material conditions for ASEAN. Increase regional links further in the next phase.

+ ***On politics and security:*** This is an area where there are many outstanding cooperative activities and an important factor for ensuring peace and stability in the region. First of all, mutual understanding and trust among ASEAN members is increasing through a variety of activities, including maintaining regular contact at all levels, especially among leaders at high level.

ASEAN proactively promotes and actively promotes the effectiveness of various regional peace and security mechanisms, such as the Southeast Asian Declaration of

Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN) in 1971; The Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) was signed in 1976 and has now become a Code of Conduct that directs relations not only between Southeast Asian countries but also between ASEAN countries and the United States. external work; Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Treaty (SEANWFZ) in 1995; 2002 Declaration of Conduct for Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), an important step towards the Code of Conduct for the South China Sea (COC) to maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea.

ASEAN initiated the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) to provide an appropriate framework for ASEAN and its external partners to engage in dialogue and cooperation on political-security issues in Asia-Pacific. ASEAN has also actively promoted cooperation with each other and with external partners through a variety of frameworks, forms and measures to address traditional and non-traditional security challenges such as terrorism transnational crimes, natural disasters, epidemics,...

+ ***Economic***: It is an area where significant progress has been made and is currently the driving force behind regional integration. To date, ASEAN has basically fulfilled its commitment to the formation of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), with most tariff lines being reduced to 0-5%. Following this, ASEAN identified 12 priority areas for further integration to further promote intra-regional trade. Interregional trade is estimated at \$ 300 billion and accounts for about 25% of ASEAN's total trade...

The implementation of the ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) agreements has made significant progress. ASEAN cooperation has also been strengthened and expanded in many economic sectors such as industry, agriculture, finance, transportation, customs, telecommunication, standards of measurement and quality. Promote the goal of narrowing the development gap within ASEAN, especially through the implementation of the ASEAN Integration Initiative (IAI) to support new member countries (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar). -ma and Vietnam).

On the other hand, ASEAN actively promotes economic and trade cooperation with external partners, especially the negotiation of the establishment of free trade areas (FTAs) with most of the ASEAN Dialogue Partners. China, Japan, South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand...

+ ***Socio-cultural activities***: The activities of specialized cooperation have been expanded with a number of programs / projects in the areas of culture, education and

training, science and technology, and the environment. school, health, drug prevention, trafficking of women and children, HIV / AIDS, epidemic ...

These cooperative activities have assisted member countries to improve their ability to address related issues while helping to create the habit of regional cooperation, raising awareness and awareness of the ASEAN community.

c/. On external relations, ASEAN has established multifaceted cooperation with many important partners in the world, successfully launching and playing a leading role in some regional cooperation frameworks in Asia- TBD. ASEAN cooperation is diverse and complex, not limited to South East Asia and the 10 ASEAN Member Countries, but also ASEAN external relations through ASEAN regional cooperation frameworks. Formed and played the leading role, such as ASEAN + 1, ASEAN +3, East Asia Summit (EAS) and ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). In addition, ASEAN is an important element of regional and inter-regional cooperation frameworks such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) East Asia-Latin America (FEALAC).

Through its external relations, ASEAN has enlisted practical cooperation and support from external partners, serving the security and development objectives of the Association; It also contributes significantly to promoting and connecting regional links with different levels in the Asia-Pacific region.

### **3.2. Limit**

Up to now, ASEAN is still a loose association with low regional connectivity; The diversity is still great, especially in terms of socio-political regime and development level among member countries.

ASEAN has set up many cooperation programs and plans but the results are limited; The organizational apparatus and methods of operation are cumbersome and inefficient, especially the organization and supervision of the implementation of commitments.

Maintaining unity and unification of ASEAN as well as the leading role of the association in the region are common difficulties and challenges, due to the impact of various factors.

The internal situation of some countries as well as relations among member countries often arise complicated issues that affect the unity, cooperation and prestige of ASEAN.

## **II. THE GOALS OF THE ASEAN COMMUNITY**

## **1. Formation process**

1.1. In December 1997, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the founding of ASEAN, and after the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) signed the ASEAN Vision 2020, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations In general, the Association became "a harmonious group of Southeast Asian peoples, engaging in a community of mutual societies". In order to implement the Vision 2020, the ASEAN Summit 6 (Hanoi, December 1998) adopted the Hanoi Plan of Action (HPA) for the period 1999-2004, which envisages measures / activities to promote ASEAN cooperation in the fields of politics, security, economy, culture and society and external relations. Due to the severe impact of the 1997-1998 regional financial crisis, the ASEAN cooperation in general and the implementation of projects under the HPA in this phase mainly focused on rehabilitation and development. promote economic growth in the region as well as overcome the social consequences of the crisis for member countries.

1.2. In October 2003, the leaders of ASEAN countries signed the ASEAN Declaration of Assumption II, which agreed to set the goal of forming the ASEAN Community by 2020 with three main pillars. The Security Community (ASC), the Economic Community (AEC) and the Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC); He also affirmed that ASEAN will continue to promote and expand relations with external partners, for the common goal of peace, stability and cooperation in the region. In order to implement and implement the Plan of Action (HPA), ASEAN has set up the VAP Program for the period 2004-2010 and the Action Plans to build the three pillars. The political, security, economic and socio-cultural community, including the important component of the ASEAN Connectivity Initiative (IAI), is to help narrow the development gap within ASEAN with the plan. and specific projects.

1.3. To adapt to the rapid and complex changes of the international and regional situation as well as on the achievements of ASEAN in the last 40 years, especially the results of implementation of the VAP Program, , The ASEAN leaders in January 2007 determined to accelerate the process of intra-ASEAN integration based on the ASEAN Charter, agreeing to establish the ASEAN Community by 2015 (instead of 2020) as previously

agreed).

Accordingly, ASEAN has actively promoted the development of the Blueprint for the building of the Political Security Community (APSC), the Economic Community (AEC) and the Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC). ), which sets goals and deadlines for each specific measure / activity.

At the ASEAN-13 Summit (November 2007), the leaders of the countries signed the ASEAN Charter to provide a legal basis and institutional framework for increased regional connectivity, Formation of the ASEAN Community by 2015. The charter officially came into force on December 15, 2008.

1.4. The ASEAN-14 Summit (February 2009) adopted the Roadmap for Building the ASEAN Community, which was accompanied by three ASEAN Community Building Plans and IAI Work Plan Phase 2 (2008). - 2015), this is an important document as a comprehensive program of action that sets out the framework and specific steps for ASEAN to continue efforts to realize the ASEAN Community by 2015. , the successor to Vespas Action Program (VAP).

## **2. Main contents of the ASEAN Community**

2.1. The overall goal of the ASEAN Community is to build the Association into a more cohesive and cohesive intergovernmental organization, based on the ASEAN Charter; It is not a supranational organization and it is not self-contained but it is open to cooperation with the outside world.

The ASEAN community will be formed on three pillars: the Political-Security Community, the Economic Community and the Cultural-Social Community. ASEAN's external relations as well as the goal of narrowing the development gap within ASEAN (especially the IAI) are integrated into each of the pillars of the ASEAN Community.

2.2. The ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) aims to create a peaceful and secure environment for development in South East Asia by elevating ASEAN political-security cooperation to new heights. participation and contribution of external partners; not intended to create a common defense.

The APSC Action Plan (adopted at the ASEAN-10 Summit, November 2004) reaffirmed the Association's basic objectives and principles and outlined six areas of

cooperation These include: (i) Political co-operation; (ii) develop and share behavioral standards; (iii) prevention of conflict; (iv) conflict resolution; (v) Peace after conflict; and (vi) implementation mechanism. Enclosed is a list of 75 specific activities for developing the APSC. However, the APSC Action Plan as well as the VAPP does not specify the specific objectives and roadmap for the activities of the six components mentioned above. The APSC Master Plan, which ASEAN is drafting, will focus on this aspect, concretizing the political-security cooperation activities.

The implementation of the VAP and the Action Plan on APSC has made positive progress. Most measures / activities have been completed and are being implemented in the first three areas (Political Cooperation, Formation and Sharing of Standards and Prevention of Conflict), in which new developments are worth noting. The idea is to complete the ASEAN Charter, form the mechanism of the ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting, sign the ASEAN Convention on Combating Terrorism, etc. However, for the remaining two areas (Conflict Resolution and peace-building after conflicts. Almost no activities have been carried out mainly due to reservations by countries, as these are new and somewhat complex and sensitive areas.

On the basis of the continuation of the Action Plan on the APSC and the Vientiane Action Program (ASC Component) and in line with the determination to shorten the ASEAN Community, ASEAN adopted the APSC Master Plan, Building the ASEAN Community in 2015 adopted at the ASEAN-14 Summit (February 2009). Collaborative content in the Master Plan is based on the content of the ASC Action Plan, which adds external co-ordination and re-alignment, towards the development of the Socio- Security has three main characteristics: a community operating according to the law with common values and norms; a cohesive, peaceful and self-reliant region with shared responsibility for ensuring comprehensive security; and a dynamic, open space with outside in an increasingly cohesive and interdependent world.

To implement the Master Plan, APSC Council held its second meeting in July 2009 in Phuket, Thailand, agreed to focus on 13 priority areas, including DOC implementation and implementation of SEANWFZ.

2.3. The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) aims to create a single common market and a unified production base, including free movement of goods, services, investment, capital and labor. workmanship; thereby enhancing the competitiveness and promoting common prosperity

for the region; Create attractive with investment - business from the outside.

Based on the results of the implementation of the VAP (AEC component), in particular, the completion of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), ASEAN unanimously adopted the AEC Master Plan with internal and external characteristics. stand behind :

By 2015, ASEAN will become: (i) a single market and a unified production base, including free movement of goods, services, investment, capital and labor occupation; (ii) a highly competitive economic sector; (iii) a region of equal economic development, especially effective implementation of the ASEAN Connectivity Initiative (IAI); (iv) An ASEAN region fully integrates into the global economy. At the same time, ASEAN unanimously proposed the implementation mechanism and strategic roadmap for the implementation of the Master Plan.

ASEAN also agreed to identify 12 priority sectors linked to the roadmap completed by 2010, namely: agricultural commodities; Car; Electronic; Fishery; Rubber products; Textile; Wood products; Air transport; E-commerce in ASEAN; Health care; Travel; and Logistics.

In order to promote the efforts to form the Economic Community (AEC), ASEAN adopted the Master Plan for the Building of the Pillars, which is part of the Roadmap for ASEAN Community Building adopted in the ASEAN-14 (February 2009), with detailed regulations on the definition, scale, mechanism and roadmap for implementing the AEC.

2.4. The Society of Culture and Society (ASCC) aims at serving and enhancing the quality of life of the people of ASEAN, focusing on issues related to equality and social justice and identity. environment, the impact of globalization and the revolution in science and technology.

The Vientiane Action Program (VAP) and Action Plan on ASCC identified four main areas of cooperation: (i) creating a community of volunteer societies; (ii) address the social implications of economic integration; (iii) sustainable development; (iv) Raising Awareness and ASEAN Identity. A number of specific measures / activities have been proposed in each of these areas.

Accordingly, ASEAN cooperation has been promoted in many fields such as culture, education and training, science and technology, environment, health, drug prevention and trafficking. and children, HIV / AIDS, epidemics, etc. The biggest



difficulty in implementing the ASCC Action Plan is the lack of resources. This is a matter for ASEAN to focus on in the coming time. The process of developing the ASCC Master Plan should also take into account the mobilization of resources.

Similar to the pillars of the Political-Security and Economic Community, the Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Master Plan, part of the ASEAN Community Roadmap, is being pushed by ASEAN. Strengthen and focus on a number of priority areas such as human resources development, welfare and social protection, social rights and equality, sustainable environment, building ASEAN identity.

Council for Socio-Cultural Community will meet for the first time in August 2009 to coordinate the implementation of this Master Plan as well as to strengthen the coordination among the agencies participating in the ASCC.

### **3. ASEAN prospects to 2020**

Based on the analysis of factors affecting the prospects of ASEAN in the next 10-15 years, the most realistic forecast is that ASEAN will gradually shift from a rather loose association into a major inter- The government has a higher degree of legal binding and more extensive links but does not become a supranational organization; will become a more cohesive political-economic entity, a community of "unity in diversity"; continues to be an open, regional and cooperative organization in the Asia-Pacific region.

ASEAN links will be broader, but the level of alignment will be uneven in the three areas of politics, security, economics and socio-cultural, due to the large diversity among member countries, especially the development gap, the socio-political regime as well as the strategic and national interests.

## **III. ASEAN CHARTER**

### **1. The process of forming the ASEAN Charter**

The ASEAN Charter was endorsed by the ASEAN Leaders at the 10th ASEAN Summit in October 2004. The 11th ASEAN Summit (2005) set out the guiding principles for the development of the Charter and decided to set up the Celebrity Group (EPG) to advise on the elaboration of the Charter. This group includes the former ASEAN leaders (former Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam) who was active throughout 2006 and proposed many specific recommendations. drafting of the Charter.

The ASEAN-12 Summit (January 2007) has decided to assign the High Level Task Force (HLTF) to draft the ASEAN Charter, based on the guidance of the 11th

ASEAN Summit and the recommendations of the EPG Group on the Constitution. ASEAN; and to finalize the Draft to the ASEAN-13 Summit. Accordingly, the drafting of the Charter was carried out expeditiously throughout 2007 with 13 rounds of negotiations by the HLTF; and 3 meetings of the foreign ministers to give guidance on how to deal with major issues.

At the ASEAN-13 Summit (November 2007), the ASEAN Leaders signed the ASEAN Charter and issued a Joint Declaration confirming the determination to finalize the Charter within a year.

On December 15, 2008, after being ratified by all ten member states, the Charter officially came into force.

## **2. Main contents of the ASEAN Charter**

The ASEAN Charter is the most important legal document of ASEAN, including the Preamble and 13 Chapters, 55 Articles, with the following contents: Purpose - Principles of operation; Legal status; Membership; Organizational structure; Institutions related to ASEAN; Privileges and immunities; Make decision; Dispute resolution; Finance-budget; Administrative-procedural issues; Logos and Symbols; Foreign relations and general terms.

### ***2.1. The content of the Charter has some noteworthy points***

- *Purpose - Principle (Chapter I):* Reaffirming the basic purposes and principles of ASEAN, especially for the purpose of peace, security, stability and regional cooperation, as well as the principle of respect for independence, , sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs; At the same time, it has added a number of new goals and principles to suit the situation, including the objectives of ASEAN integration, narrowing the development gap, people orientation and the central role of ASEAN in the region. It is a principle of non-participating countries and does not allow any country or persons to use the territory of a Member State against another Member State.

- *Nature (Chapter II):* ASEAN is a regional intergovernmental organization and has legal status.

- *Organizational Structure (Chapter IV):* The main apparatus will consist of the High Level Conference (the highest decision-making body, meeting twice a year); 4 Council of Ministers, in which 3 Councils on each pillars of the ASEAN Community (Political-Security, Economic, Socio-

Cultural) and 1 Joint Coordination Council (including Foreign Ministers); the Ministerial Conference; Committee of Permanent Representatives of ASEAN Countries (CPR), residing in Jakarta, Indonesia; The ASEAN Secretariat and the Secretary-General of ASEAN; ASEAN Secretariat. In addition, ASEAN will also establish the ASEAN Human Rights Body and stipulate that it will operate in accordance with the Terms of Reference (TOR) decided by the foreign ministers, which clearly define the nature and functions. , duties and principles of this Agency.

- *Methods of decision-making (Chapter VII)*: the guiding principle is consensus; When not reaching consensus, the senior will decide on how to make the right decision. Regarding the implementation of economic decisions, ASEAN-X flexible formulas can be applied, which would allow countries with conditions to undertake economic and market opening. The establishment agrees on the application of that method.

- *Settlement of Disputes and Disagreements (Chapter VIII)*: the implementation of the principle of peaceful resolution, through the negotiation of disputes and disagreements among member countries and on the basis of existing agreements of ASEAN. In case of disagreement or serious breach of the Charter, the issue will be submitted to the High Level.

- *Regulation on signature, ratification, entry into force and implementation (Chapter XIII)*: The ASEAN Charter shall be signed by the Heads of State or Government on behalf of the Member States; The charter will be subject to ratification and will enter into force 30 days after all ASEAN Member States have ratified it. The Charter will be reviewed, supplemented and amended to fit the practical situation once every five years.

## 2.2. General comment on the contents of the Charter

Basically, the content of the Charter is the conclusion and systematization of ASEAN's existing objectives, principles and agreements in a legal document, supplemented and updated to suit the new situation. base of consensus.

It is of paramount importance that the Charter reaffirms the character of ASEAN as a regional intergovernmental organization and the principle of sovereign equality of member states (not supra-national organizations such as the Union

Europe). ASEAN's intergovernmental character is fundamental and will determine many of ASEAN's fundamental issues

The Charter does not mention some of the EPG's radical ideas or recommendations, such as the ASEAN Union, the ASEAN National Assembly, the ASEAN Courts, punish or suspend membership in violation. Decide by vote.

In general, the content of the Charter is the result of serious and thorough discussion, which has been fairly balanced and compromises the views of member states, reflecting the degree of "unity in diversity". Asean at present, in line with the common objectives and interests of the ASEAN countries

### **3. The importance of the Charter**

The ASEAN Charter will provide the legal basis and institutional framework for the Association for Regional Integration, first of all to achieve the goal of forming the ASEAN Community by 2015.

The ASEAN Charter is an indispensable and objective necessity and a major step forward for the Association after 40 years of existence and development, reflecting the maturity of ASEAN. The ASEAN Charter will make ASEAN a legal entity and bring about major changes in the organizational structure and mode of operation of ASEAN.

The elaboration and signing of the Charter expresses the strong political vision and determination of the ASEAN countries, especially the Leaders, on the objective of building a stronger and stronger ASEAN on the basis of Legal framework is the Charter, to support the goal of peace and development of the region as well as each member.

### **4. Impact of the Charter on ASEAN**

The ASEAN Charter and the process of building the ASEAN Community will have a multifaceted impact, both positive and challenging for the future development of the Association as well as the participation of individual member countries, copy.

Legislative ties with ASEAN's organizational and operational modalities will help to make deals more serious and timely, improve the quality and efficiency of cooperation. A more and more cohesive ASEAN based on the principle that the Charter will help maintain a peaceful and stable environment in the region, effectively support each member country for socio-economic development. as well as regional and international integration, increasing international standing in relation to external partners.

On the other hand, with the ASEAN Charter, each member country must be more serious in negotiating and implementing ASEAN co-operative decisions and agreements, paying more attention to the common objectives of ASEAN. Link and harmonize national priorities/programs with regional cooperation priorities/ programs, adjust the organizational structure of the country as well as invest more resources and human resources. , to participate in ASEAN cooperation in an active and effective way.

These impacts will always be intertwined and may change depending on the outcome of cooperation within ASEAN; and prosperity is fundamental and will gradually increase in the process of ASEAN integration.

### **5. Activities to bring the Charter to life**

On December 15, 2008, the Charter officially came into force. At present, Asean is actively implementing the Charter, mainly focusing on building and perfecting the new organizational structure as stipulated in the Charter as well as legal documents. The legal status and the dispute settlement mechanism complement the Charter. So far, the new ASEAN organizational structure has come into operation with the formation of the Council of Community-level Councils, which oversees the three pillars, the Coordination Council and the Committee of Permanent Representatives in Jakarta. The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights was announced by the ASEAN leaders at the ASEAN-15 Summit (October 2009).

On the legal side, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers have signed the ASEAN Free Trade Area Agreement to concretize aspects relating to the legal status of ASEAN as set out in the Charter, Completion of the remaining draft documents, including the Protocol on the Dispute Settlement Mechanism under Article 25 of the Charter.

## **IV. ASEAN FOREIGN RELATIONS**

### **1. Overview**

ASEAN external relations are a major part of the Association's activities; Formed in 1973 and has flourished over the last 40 years, it reflects the open nature of the Association and has greatly assisted ASEAN's security and development objectives. In confirming the importance of external relations, the ASEAN Charter has a separate chapter addressing the Association's external relations, which defines the objectives, principles, directions, mechanisms and Other issues related to promoting ASEAN external relations.

External partners generally value and embrace the relationship with ASEAN as well as its impact on both multilateral and bilateral partnerships in order to support their policies and interests in the region. The partners are committed to supporting and supporting the ASEAN Community, narrowing development gaps and promoting ASEAN's central role in ASEAN-initiated regional processes such as ASEAN +3, EAS. and ARF; Significant financial support to varying degrees. Recently, these partners are increasingly interested in integrating bilateral and multilateral policies in their relations with ASEAN as the Association is increasingly becoming a more cohesive political-economic entity. So far, 27 countries have been nominated for ASEAN ambassadors.

ASEAN external relations include the ASEAN + 1 framework, the ASEAN + 3, the East Asia Summit (EAS) and the ASEAN Regional Forum.

**1. ASEAN + 1 framework** (with each partner outside). ASEAN has a dialogue and cooperation relationship with 10 countries (China, Japan, South Korea, India, Pakistan, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, USA and Canada), a regional organization The European Union (EU) and one international organization, the United Nations. ASEAN is currently a UN observer and has relations with many other regional organizations around the world.

On the mechanism of cooperation, has formed at various levels ranging from officials to ministers and senior leaders. At present, ASEAN has high level annual meetings with China, Japan, Korea and India (on the occasion of the annual ASEAN Summit); held its first High Level Meetings with Australia and New Zealand in November 2004, with Russia (December 2005), with the EU (November 2007), with the UN (2000 and 2005) ), with Korea (June 2009). Now ASEAN is arranging for the 2nd ASEAN-Russia Summit, the ASEAN-US Summit and ASEAN-New Zealand Congress in 2010.

Up to now, ASEAN and most of these partners have agreed to formulate long-term strategic or strategic partnership frameworks, with specific programs and action plans to implement. Action programs / action plans are being actively implemented with a variety of measures / actions, including the establishment of Free Trade Areas (FTA / CEP) between ASEAN and many key partners. China, Japan, South Korea, EU, India, Australia and New Zealand. ASEAN has set up ASEAN-ROK and ASEAN-Japan Centers to promote investment, trade and tourism and is currently negotiating a draft MOU for the ASEAN-China Center.

**2. *The ASEAN + 3 process*** (with three Northeast Asian countries, China, Japan and Korea). This framework was formed in 1997 with the first Informal High Level Meeting between ASEAN and China, Japan and South Korea, and was formalized in 1999 with the adoption of the Joint Declaration on East Asian Co-operation . ASEAN + 3 originated from the need for regional cooperation in response to the impact of the 1997 regional financial crisis.

After 10 years, ASEAN Plus Three cooperation has grown rapidly in both breadth and depth, with the formation of 52 cooperative mechanisms at various levels, including the annual summit (on the occasion of the ASEAN Summit). Areas of cooperation are broadened including security-politics, economics, finance-monetary, agriculture, science and technology, transport, energy, the environment, tourism, public information technology, health, labor, culture, transnational crime and social security.

In January 2007, the leaders of the concerned countries issued the Joint Declaration on East Asia Cooperation (2nd) and the Action Plan together with a view to setting out directions and measures to increase cooperation towards Long term is building the East Asian community; and ASEAN + 3 is considered the main framework for this goal. The ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers have adopted the Orientation for Implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Work Program to implement the Joint Declaration and Action Plan.

Economic cooperation, finance and money ASEAN + 3 is the field of positive results, especially in cooperation to effectively deal with the impact of the global financial crisis. ASEAN +3 has agreed to multilateralisation of the Chiang Mai Initiative (proposed in 2000), raising capital from \$ 80 billion to \$ 120 billion and components of CMIM; CMIM is expected to be implemented in 2009. ASEAN + 3 also agreed to establish the Credit Insurance and Investment Facility in the Asian Bond Market Initiative (proposed 2003) with initial funding of \$ 500 million. . In addition, ASEAN + 3 is actively promoting the possibility of establishing the East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA). EAFTA feasibility study for Channel II completed and is expected to be submitted to the 12 th ASEAN + 3 Summit in October 2009.

ASEAN + 3 is also committed to promoting cooperation in addressing global challenges such as food and energy crises, environmental degradation, climate change, communicable diseases, Cooperate in finding alternative sources of clean energy, reduce emissions, increase adaptability to climate change, transfer

technologies for cheap vaccines and vaccines, and increase vaccines. Prevention of communicable diseases, sharing and updating information on influenza ...

ASEAN + 3 has set up the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund (APTCF) with an initial capital of USD 3 million, of which +3 will contribute USD 900,000 to each country and USD 300,000 to ASEAN (extracted from the ASEAN Development Fund). resources for implementation of measures under the ASEAN Plus Three Work Plan (2007-2017) and funding for other cooperation projects under ASEAN +3.

**3. *East Asia Summit (EAS)*.** EAS was launched in December 2005 with the participation of 16 members including 10 ASEAN countries, China, Japan, Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand. At the first EAS meeting, the leaders of the countries signed the Joint Declaration on East Asia Summit, which sets out the objectives, principles, areas and major modalities for the operation of the EAS. Accordingly, the EAS will be a forum for dialogue leaders on strategic issues to support the goal of building communities in East Asia; is an open and inclusive process in which ASEAN takes a leading role; supplement and support existing regional forums, annual meetings hosted by ASEAN on the occasion of the ASEAN Summit.

The leaders agreed to identify five priority cooperation areas (out of nearly 20 areas mentioned in the discussion), including energy, finance, education, natural disasters and epidemics. Up to now, the East Asia Summit has met four times; No official support mechanism has been set up, but some unofficial meetings have been held in the diplomatic channel (Foreign Minister and Senior Officials) and other channels in priority areas such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs EAS Environmental Manager.

ASEAN has not yet decided on EAS extension as well as EAS observers regulations. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (April 2005) set out three criteria for participation in the EAS: (i) full ASEAN dialogue; (ii) join the TAC; (iii) effective cooperation with ASEAN.

#### **4. ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)**

This forum was established in 1994 to provide an appropriate framework for ASEAN and its external partners to engage in dialogue and cooperation on political-security issues in Asia-Pacific at the level of officials and ministry. Foreign Minister. With the original 17 members, the ARF has 27 members, and many other countries are joining. ARF is expected to undergo three stages of development: sequential



development (CBM); Preventive Medicine (PD); and Consider how conflicts are resolved. To date, the ARF is transitioning from CBM to PD while continuing to implement CBM. Fields of dialogue and cooperation include both traditional and non-traditional security issues. With the involvement of foreign officials, the involvement of defense officials in the ARF process has become deeper and more gradual (currently under the rank of Deputy Secretary of Defense).

The 16th ARF Ministerial Conference (July 2009) adopted the ARF Vision Statement, the ARF Development Orientation Document until 2020. The content of this document contains basic principles of the ARF, orientation and some concrete steps to build the Forum.

## **II. Specific relations with the Dialogue Partners**

### ***1. ASEAN-Australia and New Zealand Relations:***

ASEAN has established dialogue with Australia since 1974 and with New Zealand since 1975 with the Director General's dialogue mechanism. So far the dialogue and cooperation has been growing rapidly and positively. In November 2004 Vientiane, ASEAN held the 30th anniversary of relations with Australia and New Zealand, signed the Joint Declaration, affirmed political will and determined to promote more partnerships. Face, thereby creating momentum to promote further relations in the future. New Zealand also proposed the ASEAN-New Zealand Summit to mark the 35th anniversary of the establishment of relations in 2010 in Vietnam.

In 2005, Australia and New Zealand joined the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC). In 2007, ASEAN and Australia signed the Joint Statement on Comprehensive Partnership and the Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration. Australia and New Zealand are strongly committed to supporting ASEAN building communities, narrowing the development gap.

ASEAN maintains its annual Foreign Ministerial Meetings with Australia and New Zealand exchanges on political-security issues in the region. Fast-growing economic cooperation; ASEAN and Australia and New Zealand have established consultative mechanisms between the ASEAN Economic Ministers and the CER since 1995. In 2000, ASEAN-Australia + New Zealand Economic Ministers decided to establish a Framework for The AFTA-CER CEP is closely related to the main objective of doubling bilateral trade and investment by 2010. The two sides signed the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia + New Zealand Free Trade Area

(AANZFTA) on the sidelines of the ASEAN-14 Summit (Thailand, 27 February 2009).

The second ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program (AADCP II, 2008-2015) aims to assist ASEAN in promoting community building, economic linkage, narrowing the gap and implementing the ASEAN Charter. through February 2008, of which AusAID committed \$ 57 million in contributions. In July 2009, ASEAN and Australia signed the MOU to implement AADCP II. Australia also contributed A \$ 13 million to the Mekong River Commission and A \$ 1.2 million to promote trade along the main transportation corridors in the Greater Mekong Subregion. With New Zealand, the two sides agreed to develop a draft ASEAN-New Zealand Cooperation Framework for the period 2010-2015 to assist ASEAN in building the community.

## ***2. ASEAN-Canada relations:***

The ASEAN-Canada Dialogue was established in 1977. In 1981, ASEAN and Canada signed the ASEAN-Canada Economic Cooperation Agreement (ACECA), laying the foundations for commercial and industrial cooperation between the two sides, and in 1993 established a Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) mechanism to promote cooperative activities.

After a long period of stagnation since 1997 (mainly due to a problem related to Canada's policy towards Myanmar), the ASEAN-Canada relationship is currently undergoing positive progress. The two sides set up the ASEAN-Canada Regular Dialogue Meeting to discuss measures to strengthen the bilateral dialogue. The two countries have successfully implemented the ASEAN-Canada Joint Plan of Work (2005-2007), including 17 areas of political-security cooperation, economic cooperation and development cooperation. In July 2007, the Ministers adopted the 2nd ASEAN-Canada Joint Plan of Action for the period 2007-2010. The two sides are also negotiating to sign the ASEAN-Canada Trade-Investment Framework (TIFA) framework agreement to create a legal framework to enhance trade and investment cooperation between the two countries. the two sides.

In July 2009, ASEAN and Canada adopted a Declaration on Enhanced Partnership to streamline cooperation for the new phase. The two sides will develop an Action Plan 2010-2015 to implement this Declaration, which is expected to be adopted at the PMC 2010. Canada also expressed its willingness to join the TAC soon.

## ***3. ASEAN-China Relations:***

The ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations were established in 1991 and are developing rapidly and comprehensively in the fields of politics, security, economics and specialized cooperation. In 2003, ASEAN and China adopted the Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity, bringing the dialogue and cooperation to a new height and actively implementing the Joint Declaration through specific Action Programs.

ASEAN and China identified 11 priority cooperation areas (including agriculture, information and communication technology, resource development, two-way investment, development of the Mekong River Basin, transport, culture, tourism, public health and the environment) and have achieved positive results in implementation, especially in economics and trade.

On political-security issues, ASEAN and China signed a series of cooperation agreements, including the ASEAN-China Joint Statement on Non-Traditional Security Cooperation and the Joint Declaration on the Conduct of Parties party in the South China Sea (DOC). China was the first Dialogue Partner to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) in October 2003; He also expressed his willingness to join the SEANWFZ Protocol on South-East Asia without nuclear weapons. At the same time, China is also actively involved in ASEAN-led and collaborative processes such as ARF, ASEAN + 3 and EAS. Many initiatives initiated by China have become common practice such as organizing annual Security Policy Meetings, developing standards for disaster prevention in the ARF.

In economic and trade terms, ASEAN and China are now the fourth largest trading partners with two-way trade increasing from \$ 59.6 billion in 2003 to \$ 171.1 billion in 2007 and reaching \$ 230.1 billion. USD in 2008; direct investment from China to ASEAN reached \$ 3.6 billion in 2007; Two-way trade increased to \$ 60 billion in 2008. In November 2002, the two sides signed a Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation to establish the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA) in 2010. with Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, and by 2015 for the four new ASEAN members Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam. Under the ACFTA roadmap, ASEAN and China signed the Agreement on Trade in Goods and the Agreement on Dispute Settlement Mechanism (November 2004) and in early 2005 implemented the "Early Harvest Program" ACFTA. At the ASEAN-China Summit (January 2007), the two sides signed the Trade in Services Agreement and are expected to sign the Investment Agreement in

August. The two sides also actively promote trade-investment promotion activities such as the organization of the annual ASEAN-China EXPO; Both sides are negotiating the MOU to establish the ASEAN-China Center in Beijing to promote trade, investment and tourism.

On development cooperation, ASEAN and China actively promote agricultural cooperation, information technology, infrastructure construction, transport, human resources development, socio-cultural and health. community, people exchange, etc. The two sides have signed MOUs and developed collaborative programs / strategies in each specific area. China has set up the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund, which has contributed more than \$ 10.7 million to the Fund and pledged to continue contributing in the coming years.

#### ***4. ASEAN-Japan Relations:***

The ASEAN-Japan Dialogue and Cooperation was established in 1973 and officially established in 1977 with the first ASEAN-Japan Forum. The ASEAN-Japan partnership is generally rapid, comprehensive and substantial. In December 2003 in Tokyo, ASEAN and Japan held the 30th Anniversary of the Summit and signed the "Tokyo Joint Statement on the ASEAN-Japan Dynamic and Sustainable Partnership in the Millennium. together with the accompanying Action Plan, marking a new development in the partnership and creating a prerequisite for the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Partnership.

On political-security issues, the two sides signed the Joint Declaration on International Counterterrorism Cooperation (November 2004) and launched many cooperative activities in the field of non-traditional security. Japan joined the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC); actively participate in ASEAN + 3 cooperation framework, EAS and ARF.

ASEAN-Japan economic cooperation is growing strongly. Japan is now the largest trading partner and one of the largest investors in ASEAN. In October 2003, the ASEAN Leaders and Japan signed the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Framework (CEP), which aims to strengthen economic linkages between ASEAN and Japan, promote liberalization, facilitate Exchange of goods and services between ASEAN and Japan as well as the creation of a transparent and more liberal investment framework. The framework also includes the establishment of a free trade area (FTA) between ASEAN and Japan, with a target to be completed by 2012, with the CLMV retreating for five more years (2017). On that basis, ASEAN and Japan

negotiated and signed the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Framework Agreement (AJCEP) on 14 April 2008.

In terms of development cooperation, Japan is one of the largest dialogue supporters for ASEAN in building the community and narrowing the development gap through the ASEAN Connectivity Initiative (IAI) and the Vientiane Action Plan (VAP) as well as subregional development initiatives and development cooperation programs such as the ASEAN-Japan Exchange Program (JAEP), ASEAN-Japan Exchange Fund, Japan-ASEAN FTA (JAIF)

### **5. ASEAN-Republic of Korea Relations (ROK):**

ASEAN and South Korea have established sectoral dialogues since 1989 and have formally established dialogue relations since 1991. The ASEAN-ROK Dialogue and Cooperation is rapidly expanding both in breadth and depth. In depth, with many specific programs and projects are effective. ASEAN and South Korea signed the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership (Vientiane, November 2004) to strengthen cooperation in the fields of politics, security, economics and trade as well as help ASEAN narrow the development gap. The two sides held a high-level commemoration of the 20-year relationship (June 2009), pledged to promote a more progressive dialogue.

ASEAN-ROK cooperation on political-security advances, focusing on cooperation on non-traditional security issues with many capacity-building projects, information sharing and public cooperation. Technology. ASEAN and South Korea signed the Joint Declaration on International Counterterrorism Cooperation (July 2005). Korea joined the TAC in 2004.

In terms of trade and investment, Korea is currently the fourth largest trade partner of ASEAN and one of the top 10 largest investors in ASEAN. ASEAN is Korea's fifth largest trading partner. At the ASEAN-ROK Summit (December 2005), the two sides agreed to establish an ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area (FTA) with a detailed roadmap for 2010 to establish an FTA between Korea and Korea. China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand; 2016 with Vietnam; and 2018 with Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar. In August 2006, Economic Ministers signed the Framework Agreement on ASEAN-Korea Comprehensive Economic Cooperation. The two sides signed the Agreement on Trade in Goods (2006), Trade in Services (2007), and Investment (June 2009). The ASEAN-Korea Center (AKC) has also been officially

established since March 2009 to further promote bilateral investment, trade and tourism.

Development cooperation between ASEAN and Korea focuses on the areas of transport, tourism, agriculture, science and technology, environment, health, human resources development, culture, people exchange and narrow distance. To date, South Korea has provided \$ 39 million in funding for cooperation projects with ASEAN.

## **6. ASEAN-US relations:**

The ASEAN-US dialogue relations officially began in 1977; This has been maintained mainly through the Deputy Foreign Ministerial Dialogue meetings. Beginning in 2009, the two sides set up a new Joint Cooperation Committee (General Director). US Secretary of State attends PMC / ARF meetings annually; However, there has been no mechanism for the ASEAN-US summit meeting (apart from the meeting between the US President and the seven ASEAN members being APEC members on the sidelines of APEC summits since 2002).

The ASEAN-US dialogue relations are generally progressing positively. On November 17, 2005, the Leaders of ASEAN countries and the United States adopted the Joint Statement on Enhanced Partnerships, with a comprehensive and positive content, to create a framework for partnership. long between ASEAN and the United States; It also adopted a Plan of Action with a number of specific measures to implement the Declaration. The two sides also signed many important cooperation agreements, such as the Joint Declaration on International Counterterrorism Cooperation, the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA)...

The United States also proactively proposed the ASEAN Economic Community (EAI) Initiative on Economic-Trade and the ASEAN Cooperation Plan (ACP) on development cooperation. The two sides are also building a US \$ 20 million Program for Technical Assistance and Training (TATF) to support Asean community building by 2015; To implement the ASEAN \$ 150 million ADVANCE cooperation program to support ASEAN's regional and bilateral programs as well as to support the efforts to link economic and community building. of ASEAN. Both sides are negotiating to finalize the ASEAN-US Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement.

In order to improve the effectiveness of cooperation, the United States has adjusted eight priority cooperation areas to align with the ASEAN Community building priorities; Priority areas include: counterterrorism, transnational crime; capacity

building; economic and financial; science, disaster management, environment and education.

The new Obama administration has a number of positive moves in foreign policy, with a focus on East Asia and with ASEAN; US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton visited four Asian countries, including Indonesia and the ASEAN Secretariat; Participating in the TAC Treaty and the first meeting of the Secretary of State of the United States of America (CLTV) on the occasion of the PMC / ARF-16 meeting in July 2009 in Thailand. The United States also pledged to set up a permanent US delegation to ASEAN as well as to consider the possibility of a high-level ASEAN-US commemorative meeting and to maintain the tradition of meetings between the US President and the seven APEC member economies. High level APEC annual.

### **7. ASEAN-Russia relations:**

ASEAN-Russia relations were formally established in July 1996 and established regular dialogue mechanisms at the level of officials and ministers. ASEAN and Russia signed the Joint Declaration on the Partnership for Peace, Security, Prosperity and Development in the Asia-Pacific Region (June 2003), laying the framework for enhanced cooperation between the two sides. in the fields of politics, security, economics and specialization. At the first ASEAN-Russia Summit (Malaysia, December 2005), ASEAN and Russia signed the Joint Declaration defining the direction and measures to promote comprehensive cooperation between the two sides. through the Action Plan to implement the Joint Declaration.

The ASEAN-Russia political relationship has developed fairly well. Russia officially joined the TAC (2004). The two sides agreed to hold the 2nd ASEAN-Russia Summit in the near future to further promote the dialogue. Russia is currently lobbying for the EAS. However, the ASEAN-Russia cooperation on economic, trade and development cooperation is generally not as expected of ASEAN. Russia contributed \$ 1.750 million to the ASEAN-Russia Financial Partnership Fund; Both sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of the ASEAN-Russia Center at the Moscow Institute of International Relations (MGIMO) in July 2009 and are negotiating the completion of the ASEAN-Russia Cultural Cooperation Agreement. Strengthen cooperation in the field of tourism, cultural exchanges, research..

### **8. ASEAN-India relations:**

India became a full dialogue partner of ASEAN in December 1995. The two sides have cooperative mechanisms at various levels, including the annual High Level Meeting. The ASEAN-India dialogue relationship is developing rapidly in all three aspects of politics, security, economy and culture. India has always expressed its appreciation for ASEAN's role in the region and actively promoted relations with ASEAN.

At the ASEAN-India Summit (November 2004), the two sides signed the "ASEAN-India Declaration on Partnership for Peace, Development and Prosperity" and approved the attached Action Plan. India has also signed the Joint Declaration on Counter Terrorism, the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Co-operation for Goods, Services and Investment (RITA).

On economic cooperation, ASEAN and India have completed negotiations on the Agreement on Trade in Goods, which is expected to sign the ASEAN-India Summit (10/2009) and actively negotiate the conclusion of Trade Agreements Services and Investment. India also actively supports the new ASEAN Member Countries under the ASEAN Integration Initiative (IAI), particularly in terms of human resource development. The two sides are considering further areas of cooperation to promote cohesion. ASEAN-India co-operation, however, is generally slow to develop, largely due to the limited capacity of the two sides.

#### **9. ASEAN-European Union (EU) Relations:**

ASEAN-EU relations were formalized in 1977; So far, there have been positive results in all aspects: economic, political and development cooperation. The two sides have established mechanisms for dialogue and cooperation at various levels, including the annual foreign ministerial meeting. In November 2007, the two sides held a high-level commemoration of 30 years of relations (first high-level meeting). ASEAN-EU relations were also strengthened by the Asia-Europe Cooperation Process (ASEM).

The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation in the fight against terrorism and transnational crime, and adopted the ASEAN-EU Joint Declaration on Counterterrorism Cooperation (2003). However, the ASEAN-EU political relationship has also encountered many obstacles, even stagnation, mainly due to the issue of Myanmar.

Recently, in the face of new developments in the region, the EU is increasingly interested in ASEAN, want to promote cooperation with ASEAN. The EU has proposed a new Partnership Strategy for Southeast Asia, promoting the



implementation of many initiatives and programs such as the ASEAN Integration Program (APRIS), the Interregional Trade Initiative (TREATI) - in the area of trade) and the ASEAN-EU Dialogue Instrument (READI - in other fields). At the 16th ASEAN-EU Foreign Ministers Meeting (2007), the two sides adopted the Nuremberg Declaration on Enhanced Partnership, and the ASEAN-EU Summit adopted the Action Plan of Action Nuremberg Declaration. At the 17th ASEAN-EU Foreign Ministerial Meeting (May 2009), Ministers approved the Phnom Penh Agenda for Implementation of the Action Plan for 2009-2010, with priority given to supporting ASEAN. making the Charter, building the community and narrowing the development gap, promoting economic and trade cooperation; The EU has also formally proposed joining the TAC; and expressed their willingness to participate in the East Asia Summit in appropriate form.

In terms of economy and trade, the EU is one of the largest trading partners of ASEAN countries. Negotiations on the ASEAN-EU Free Trade Agreement (AEFTA) have been launched since May 2007, but are currently facing many difficulties. Both sides are considering flexibly the conditional ASEAN countries can conduct simultaneous bilateral FTA negotiations with the EU.

Socio-cultural cooperation has also been strengthened, particularly in the field of employment, social policy and civil society.

#### **10.ASEAN-United Nations relations:**

The cooperation between ASEAN and the United Nations was established early, through partnerships and technical assistance programs between ASEAN and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) since 1977. UNDP is the only UN agency to receive the Special Dialogue of ASEAN. ASEAN and the United Nations held their first summit on February 12, 2000 in Bangkok, on the sidelines of the 10th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). In 2005 in New York, on the occasion of the General Meeting of the United Nations, the two sides also held the 2nd Summit.

ASEAN-United Nations relations are progressing favorably. In November 2002, the General Assembly of the 56th Session of the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution that encouraged ASEAN to increase its exposure and promote cooperation with the United Nations in relevant areas. On this basis, a number of programs and agreements between ASEAN and UN agencies have been developed, providing a framework and orientation for cooperation activities between the two sides. UN

organizations have also assisted ASEAN in implementing a number of important programs and activities, including the ASEAN Summit on HIV / AIDS (2001), regional action programs on HIV / AIDS, child care and health care, etc. The UN also supports the implementation of a number of projects in the Vientiane Action Program and the ASEAN Community Action Plans.

In December 2006, the UN General Assembly adopted an Observatory Rule for ASEAN, whereby ASEAN participated in meetings of the General Assembly as an Observer. In February 2007, ASEAN Foreign Ministers agreed to upgrade ASEAN-United Nations relations to full dialogue. Accordingly, on the sidelines of the General Assembly in New York (27 September 2007), the two sides signed the ASEAN-United Nations Framework Agreement on the ASEAN-United Nations political, security and economic partnership. , cultural-social areas.

### **11.ASEAN-Pakistan relations:**

The relationship is not substantial because Pakistan is not a full-fledged ASEAN dialogue partner as other partners, but rather a dialogue partner in the field (ie at a lower level). Accordingly, ASEAN-Pakistan cooperation has limited scope, mainly in economic and social-cultural fields. Cooperation mechanisms have also been formed at the level of officials, not at ministerial or high level.

In the ASEAN-Pakistan relations, there are 11 areas of cooperation, of which the eight priority sectors are trade, industry, investment, science and technology, drugs and narcotic substances, environment and tourism. and human resources development.

Pakistan has been actively lobbying for full dialogue, but ASEAN has not made the final decision.

### ***12. ASEAN Relations and Regional Organizations:***

Expanding the relationship, enhancing dialogue and developing cooperation with the outside to maximize both political support and funding for new cooperation programs is one of ASEAN's top priorities. International organizations, forums, and processes of regional and world importance are therefore important for ASEAN to promote relations.

#### **12.1. ASEAN-MERCOSUR:**

The first ASEAN-MERCOSUR Foreign Ministerial Meeting took place on November 24, 2008 in Braxilia, Brazil, marking a significant milestone in the relations between ASEAN and MERCOSUR before 2008. Official exchange of

information through FEALAC East Asia-Latin America Forum. The conference provided the basis for and facilitated the process of cooperation between the two groups for the mutual benefit of both sides as well as to contribute to the promotion of South-South cooperation. Ministers have assigned officials to work out the Plan of Action to implement priority cooperation areas such as economic, trade, energy, agriculture, transport, tourism and people's exchanges. and transnational challenges.

### **12.2. ASEAN-GCC:**

ASEAN-GCC relations began in 1990 and were implemented through two Secretariats; In 2000, ASEAN established the ASEAN Commission in Riyadh; Ministers also met on the sidelines of the General Meeting of the United Nations (troika) but not often. The first ASEAN-GCC Ministerial Meeting was held for the first time on June 29-30, 2009 in Manama, Bahrain; through the "ASEAN-GCC Common Vision" to build new partnerships, identify areas of common interest (trade, investment, finance, energy, food security, agriculture, tourism, exchange of people and consulates), cooperation mechanisms and measures. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the two Secretariats on cooperation between the two Secretariats.

### **12.3. ASEAN-other regional organizations:**

ASEAN has consulted with regional organizations, such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), the South Asian Cooperation Organization (SAARC), the RIO and the ASEAN Group, through its Secretariats. In addition, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers met with the Foreign Ministers of these Groups (irregular) on the occasion of the New York City Annual Meeting.

- ASEAN-SAARC: Relationship established in 1992. So far, the two sides have had 8 meetings between the Foreign Ministers of the United Nations in New York. Both sides have adopted the Rules of Partnership between the ASEAN Secretariat and SAARC. Develop the 2008-2009 Work Plan for the ASEAN Secretariat and the GCC, including Trade, Investment, Energy, Health (HIV / AIDS), Tourism, Agriculture, Drugs and Drug Addiction. Transnational Crime, Poverty Alleviation.

- ASEAN-SCO: On April 21, 2005, in Jakarta, the two sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the ASEAN Secretariat and the SCO, in which the priority areas of cooperation were transnational crimes (anti-terrorism, drug and narcotics management, arms smuggling, money laundering, human trafficking), and other areas of cooperation such as economic, financial,

tourism, environmental and resource management. nature, social development, energy cooperation, especially hydropower and bioenergy.

In addition, ASEAN has relations with the Arab League, the South African Development Community (SADC).

### **13. The Beibu Bay Cooperation Initiative (A two-wing axis)**

China raised the idea of the China-ASEAN TA Strategy, or "Two Axes", at the Pan-Beibu Gulf Economic Cooperation Forum in July 2006. The Pan-Beibu Gulf Cooperation has been the focus of the "One Two-Winged" Initiative, which has been strongly promoted by Guangxi in the past three years, and is directly related to our territorial sovereignty in the South China Sea. .

Basically, the Pan-Beibu Gulf Economic Cooperation area can be divided into three economic belts: (i) The Tonkin Gulf economic belt covers the coastal areas of Guangxi, Hainan, Guangdong Province of China and the provinces along the Tonkin Gulf of Vietnam; (ii) Neighboring economic belt is the economic belt of the central area including the South China Economic Zone and the whole of Vietnam; and (iii) the wider belt or the large economic belt of most provinces in southern China and most of the ASEAN countries.

Major areas of cooperation include: tourism, infrastructure and transport, commodity circulation, trade, agro-fishery, energy and marine economy, finance and the environment. The expansion of the Tonkin Gulf is motivated by the following principles: 1) Mutual benefit, voluntary and consistent with the adaptability of the parties; 2) Practical, progressive, from easy to hard, from low to high; 3) Open and transparent, attracting partners outside the area.

Second TCB / VBB Forum held in Nanning in July 2007. The first meeting of the Forum was held in Yunnan province in Kunming in June 2008. The 3rd TCB / VBB Forum was held in Bac Hai, Quang Tay in July 2008. The Fourth Forum was held in Nanning, Guangxi on 6/8/2009.

China hosted two sessions of the Pan-Beibu Gulf Cooperation Working Group (July 2008 and October 2008), through the work plan of the Expert Group. Draft Feasibility Study Report on Pan-Beibu Gulf Cooperation is being commented by the countries prior to the ASEAN-China Summit in late 2009.

## **V. THE PARTICIPATION OF VIETNAM IN THE FIELD OF COOPERATION IN THE ASEAN FRAMEWORK**

### **1. On political-security cooperation**

On July 28, 1995, Vietnam officially became the 7th member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). During 16 years of ASEAN membership, we have participated fully and extensively in all aspects of ASEAN cooperation, from politics - security, economy, culture - society and external relations of the Association. and have made important contributions to ASEAN's maturity and growth, from identifying major goals and resolutions to strengthening ASEAN solidarity and association, promoting external relations and enhancing roles and position of the Association.

Through this, we have achieved great results and practical; To support effectively the security, development and enhancement of the international position of our country, to create an image of a dynamically developing Vietnam, an active, active and responsible member of the Vietnamese Communist Party. It is a trusted partner in ASEAN and in the international community.

Practices and results of joining ASEAN in the past 16 years affirmed the policy of joining ASEAN is a right policy, timely, significant historical and strategic significance of our Party and State. Participation in ASEAN is in line with major world trends in the current period as well as the openness, diversification and multilateralisation of international relations of the Party and State in the new period. .

The biggest result is the important contribution to the good implementation of the Party's and State's foreign policy of independence, self-reliance and diversification of multilateralisation and international and regional integration. To create and maintain a peaceful, stable, cooperative and developed environment in the region, to strongly support the security and development as well as to enhance the country's international role and position.

In terms of politics and security, overall, we have contributed to the creation of a peaceful, stable, cooperative, and developed environment in Southeast Asia, particularly through the promotion of the ASEAN-10; To build a new relationship of quality among Southeast Asian countries in the direction of friendship, stability and long-term cooperation and comprehensive cooperation in both multilateral and bilateral relations as well as in relations between the major the National Assembly, the ruling party, socio-political organizations and the people.

Vietnam has directly participated and made important contributions in identifying the direction of development and major decisions of ASEAN as well as upholding the basic principles of the Association in accordance with our requirements and interests;

Establishing the important role and prestige of Vietnam in ASEAN cooperation, contributing to maintaining ASEAN's leading role in peace and development in Southeast Asia, limiting the interference and domination of ASEAN. outside countries. We also have the opportunity to identify our appropriate position and coordinate our position with ASEAN countries in addressing complex international and regional issues. The unification of ASEAN stances, though of a certain degree, also provides substantial support for dealing with complex issues, particularly in protecting our sovereignty and interests in the South China Sea, Mekong...

Specifically, in 1995, Vietnam joined ASEAN, paving the way for other countries in the region of Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar joined in the following years. This event marked the beginning of a new ASEAN that encompasses East Asian countries in a new era of friendship, cooperation and development.

Only three years after joining ASEAN and in the context of the regional financial and monetary crisis, Vietnam successfully organized the 6th ASEAN Summit in Hanoi (December 1998). This event not only marks the great growth of Vietnam, but also the substantial contribution of a new member to the stability of the whole Association. Decisions by the 6 th ASEAN Summit have paved the way for ASEAN to overcome the financial crisis, strengthen intra-regional cooperation and introduce new approaches for regional integration. The Hanoi Plan of Action adopted at the 6 th ASEAN Summit has made important contributions to strengthening solidarity, enhancing cooperation and restoration of ASEAN image, especially orienting for the development and cooperation of the Association in Next year to implement Vision 2020.

As Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee (ASC) in the first year of the 21st century, Vietnam strives to fulfill its mission. The success of the 34th AMM 34 and Related Summits has shifted to a new development that has accelerated progress in the implementation of planning programs adopted over the years. before.

In the context of ASEAN towards community building, Viet Nam plays an active role with ASEAN countries in developing and adopting the ASEAN Declaration of Conjunction in Bali, Indonesia (10/2003), set out the main orientations for the development of ASEAN, towards building the ASEAN Community in 2020 (later ASEAN decided to shorten this process by 2015) with three main pillars are ASEAN Security Community, Public ASEAN Economic Community and Socio-Cultural Community.

Moving to the new phase of the ASEAN Charter to create a legal framework and institutional framework to support ASEAN in realizing its goal of community building, Vietnam has actively and actively participated in the formation process from the beginning. ideas, followed by drafting, signing, ratifying and implementing the Charter. After Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung and the ASEAN Leaders signed the Charter (November 2007), Vietnam was one of the early adopters of the Charter (6 March 2008) and actively participated. into the common activities of ASEAN to bring the Charter into life; At the same time, we actively contribute to the process of building and implementing the ASEAN Community Roadmap, including the ASEAN Three Kingdoms Master Plan and the ASEAN Connectivity Initiative Work Plan. 2 (2009-2015), adopted at the 14th ASEAN Summit (September 2009).

In addition to enhancing intra-regional cooperation and cooperation, Viet Nam is also actively promoting cooperation between ASEAN and its external partners in various fields, contributing to its role and role. ASEAN leaders at regional cooperation processes. As the country that coordinates dialogue relations between ASEAN and many important partners such as China, Japan, Russia, USA, Australia and Canada (now EU), Vietnam has promoted The role is a bridge to actively strengthen relations between ASEAN and these partners. At the same time, Viet Nam also actively contributes to maintaining the leading role of ASEAN in ASEAN-initiated regional cooperation processes such as ASEAN + 1, ASEAN + 3, EAS, and East Asia Summit. contributing to enhancing the international role and position of the Association.

In 2010, under the chairmanship of the rotating ASEAN in 2010, under the theme of Towards the ASEAN Community: From Vision to Action and with the motto 'active, active and responsible, Vietnam has completed As the ASEAN Chair in 2010, achieving the maximum objectives set out, creating a concrete transformation and concretizing an important step towards the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015; Progress has been made on the implementation of the ASEAN Charter and the Roadmap for ASEAN Community Building on all three pillars of politics, security, economics and socio-cultural as well as other important plans. is about ASEAN Connectivity.

At the same time, the external relations and the central role of ASEAN in the region have been strengthened and enhanced, as evidenced by the new and significant progress of ASEAN-led regional cooperation frameworks. such as ASEAN + 1,

ASEAN +3, East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). Many important decisions have contributed to shaping a dynamic regional structure that has been realized in Vietnam, such as the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting with ADMM Plus and invited the United States and Russia to join. high East Asia.

The results of the ASEAN 2010 Presidency in particular and the process of 19 years of ASEAN membership have once again affirmed the strategic importance and long-term interests of Vietnam in joining ASEAN. Vietnam's great efforts and important contribution to ASEAN once again affirmed our consistent policy of respecting ASEAN both in terms of multilateral cooperation and bilateral relations. ASEAN is stronger, stronger and closer together.

In general, during the 19 years since becoming the 7th member of ASEAN and in particular, as ASEAN Chair in 2010, Vietnam has been doing its best, joining hands, contributing ASEAN countries aim to successfully build a strong ASEAN Community that is bound and developed in 2015 for peace, stability, cooperation and prosperity in Southeast Asia and in Asia Pacific.

## **2. On economic cooperation**

After 19 years of joining ASEAN, the economic and trade relations of Vietnam and ASEAN have developed remarkably, both in breadth and depth. Regarding trade, the trade turnover between Vietnam and ASEAN is currently about US \$ 22 billion / year, accounting for about one fifth of total import and export turnover and nearly two times the total trade value of Vietnam with the outside at the time. before 1995. Vietnam's trade with ASEAN has averaged 15-16% per annum during the past 15 years. Many consumer goods and industrial strength of Vietnam have become familiar in many ASEAN countries. On investment, ASEAN is consistently among the large foreign investors in Vietnam. Up to the end of June 2010, Vietnam has granted investment licenses to 1449 ASEAN member countries with registered capital of approximately 44 trillion USD, of which the implemented capital is over 12 trillion USD. Vietnam's investment in ASEAN countries, though modest, is on the rise in the coming years, especially in Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar.

Despite being a new member, with a high level of economic development compared to other countries in the Association, but with determination and a sense of responsibility, Vietnam has actively participated. to most of ASEAN economic cooperation programs in the areas of trade, investment, services, finance-monetary, agro-forestry, industry, transportation and telecommunication. tourism, customs, etc.



Under CEPT / AFTA, Vietnam has reduced tariffs on more than 10 thousand tariff lines to 0-5% by January 1, accounting for 97.8% of the tariff lines in the tariff, with 5488 lines tax rate at 0%. In the context of the difference in economic development between Vietnam and most of ASEAN member countries, the efforts made to implement AFTA commitments in Vietnam are very good. welcome. In parallel with the tariff reduction program, Vietnam also coordinates with ASEAN countries to implement work programs to identify, classify and move forward to remove tariff barriers. Vietnam has also completed eight service packages with ASEAN countries. Commitments are currently being implemented in seven priority sectors: finance, telecommunications, maritime transport, aviation, tourism, business services and construction services.

Vietnam's initiatives in ASEAN economic cooperation:

*a. Initiative for ASEAN Integration (2000):*

Vietnam hosted the ASEAN Integration Initiative (IAI) adopted by the ASEAN Leaders in 2000 with the aim of promoting ASEAN economic integration through ASEAN-6 countries supporting the CLMV countries. enter the area and narrow the development gap. To date, the first phase of the IAI Initiative (2002-2008) has been completed with 134 projects / programs implemented, attracting US \$ 191 million from ASEAN-6 and US \$ 20 million from dialogue partners, development organizations and other partners. The projects / programs focus on four priority areas: human resource development, regional integration, information technology and infrastructure. Currently, the parties are implementing the Strategic Framework (KKCL) and the IAI Work Plan (ICD) Phase II (2009-2015).

*b. Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (2010):*

Viet Nam is the host country for the development of the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity. The Master Plan adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 17th ASEAN Summit (Hanoi, October 2010). The Master Plan was developed on the basis of harmonization of development strategies / plans for each sector concerned and on the basis of subregional linkages, particularly the Mekong sub-region. The NTO is also being developed in an open way, linking ASEAN with its regional counterparts on the basis of ensuring that ASEAN is at the center of future linkages in East Asia.

*c. Declaration of the ASEAN Leaders on Sustainable Recovery and Development (2010):*

Towards ASEAN economic integration in the future, Vietnam has proposed the 16th ASEAN Summit (Ha Noi, April 2010) to the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Sustainable Recovery and Development. Accordingly, ASEAN economic integration will pay more attention to sustainability with stable and long-term economic growth policies, ensuring the balance of opportunities and interests for nations and economic sectors. ; promote education and training cooperation; enhance the role of the private sector; ensure social security; and link growth with environmental issues.

### **3. On social-cultural cooperation**

#### ***3.1. Labor cooperation, women, welfare and social development***

The Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs is the agency in charge of the Council for Social and Cultural Communities. On the ASEAN Ministerial Bodies, the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs is currently the national focal point of Vietnam at the three major ASEAN forums: the ASEAN Ministerial Labor Conference (ALMM); The ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD) and the ASEAN Focal Point (ACW).

a) In the field of labor and employment:

- ASEAN Cooperation: Vietnam successfully hosted the 21st Ministerial Meeting in May 2010 and has launched and implemented three initiatives including the Labor Law Comparative Study among the ASEAN countries, a forum for sharing experiences on labor inspection in ASEAN; Organized the ASEAN Human Resource Conference; organized the 5th Regional Conference on Industrial Relations in ASEAN with the theme "Labor Dialogue and Revision of the Labor Code on the Legal Framework and Rules Relating to Employment Relations" (2013); and the Seminar on Social Security and Maternity for Women (2013).

On sending workers to work abroad and protecting the rights and interests of migrant workers: This is considered one of the important activities, but also issues related to the management of water work. in other countries. Viet Nam has actively participated in the Working Group on the Implementation of the Declaration of ASEAN Leaders on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers (ACMW-DT). year 2014.

Human resource development: Through the cooperation with ASEAN in human resource development, Vietnam has formulated and legislated the assessment and granting of national vocational skills certificates to laborers in Vietnam. Vocational Training Law. Towards the recognition of mutual skills and qualifications in the

ASEAN region, the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) has been working closely with the Ministry of Education and Training to develop the National Curriculum Framework family.

In 2014, Vietnam will host the 10th ASEAN Professional Skill Competition (10/2014). The event organizer has a strong impact not only on vocational training but also on the great benefits. to increase labor productivity for Vietnam and contribute to strengthening national competitiveness.

- Cooperation within ASEAN with partners: Collaborative activities in the field of labor - employment within this framework are implemented in human resource development issues; occupational health and safety, migrant workers, skill development; social insurance, labor statistics and studies on the impact of ASEAN integration on the labor market.

ASEAN cooperation with partners focused on the specific contents:

+ With Japan: occupational safety and health; Encourage healthy labor relations; Strengthening human resource development.

+ For South Korea: training staff in the field of human resource development;

+ For China: Social Security; Human resources development; Migrant workers;

b) In the area of welfare and social development:

In 2007, Vietnam successfully organized the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development in Hanoi. In addition, we have actively participated in intra-regional programs / projects / activities in the fields such as the establishment of a group of educators, the practice of social work in ASEAN; Community Strategy on Domestic Violence Prevention; Production of orthopedic and rehabilitation equipment in CLMV countries; and strengthen the capacity of government officials in charge of people with disabilities.

At annual conferences of ASEAN, Vietnam always participates and actively contributes to the appreciation of the country. In particular, at the 8th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD), Vietnam took the lead in building the ASEAN Declaration on Enhancing Social Security and the Declaration on Violence Against Women and Violence Against Children in ASEAN was passed to the senior leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) at the 23rd ASEAN Summit.

ASEAN + cooperation: ASEAN + cooperation in the field of social welfare has been implemented through two main activities: the 6 th ASEAN-Japan Summit on

Social Welfare with the participation of the major The Ministry of Labor and Health Affairs discusses policy issues on maternal and newborn health care, street children, trafficked children and child labor; and the ASEAN-Korea Program on Home Care for the Elderly.

c) ASEAN Women Committee:

In 1997, although Vietnam was a new member, Vietnam joined the ASEAN cooperation project on "ASEAN Skills Network". Throughout the project, we have established a network of skills training for Vietnamese women, contributing significantly to the enhancement of employment opportunities for women. In addition, we actively and actively cooperate with the ASEAN Secretariat and other national focal points on the progress of the programs and projects, submit reports, contribute to many documents. quality comments and on time.

Since 2007, the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs has been assigned the state management of gender equality, the Gender Equality Department has been established under the Ministry and the National Committee for the Advancement of Women has been strengthened (Minister MOLISA is also the NCFAW chairman). It can be said that 2008 was a prominent year for Vietnam in this field of cooperation. Vietnam hosted the ACW's 7th Annual Meeting and took over the chairmanship of the ACW from 2008 to 2009. Prior to the meeting, we also organized the ASEAN Regional Forum on Violence Prevention This is a strong commitment to the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women adopted by ASEAN Leaders in 2004.

In 2010, the Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children was established in Vietnam.

In 2013, Vietnam has been active and active in the implementation and implementation of projects under the ACW Committee's work plan for 2011-2015; Publications on good practices in maternity care and protection in ASEAN Member Countries. At the same time, jointly set up the ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network project, which was approved by the ASEAN countries and confirmed by the mechanism of READI Facility of the European Union to support the launch of the Network in Vietnam. , expected around April 2014.

d) ASEAN Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)

Viet Nam has actively participated in regional activities of the ACWC Committee. In line with regional activities, ACWC activities in the country were also undertaken to strengthen dialogue and stakeholder consultation, promote ACWC publicity and strengthen the ACW network. Specifically, Vietnam has coordinated with the United Nations Women's Agency, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees on the organization of domestic consultations; Focused on sharing information on ACWC activities at the regional level, experiences in the implementation and promotion of human rights; Contribute to the development of the ACWC's plan in ASEAN as well as networking, linking agencies, organizations, individuals and donors in the area of women's rights protection. Children through the Seminar on "Promoting the Right to Citizenship for Women and Children in the Implementation of CRC and CEDAW in ASEAN: The ACWC - UNHCR Potential Partnership" and Workshop on "Promoting Rights ASEAN Women and Children through the effective implementation of common issues in CRC Committee Recommendations and CEDAW's focus on girls' issues "; A consultative workshop on capacity building for ACWC Viet Nam in the North was held on 17-18 June 2013 in Quang Ninh and the Consultative and Expanding Conference on ACWC Network in the South.

e) Chair of the Council for Social and Cultural Communities:

As the Coordinating Body for the Executive Council of the Social and Cultural Community in Viet Nam, the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) plans to implement action plans in its joint statement. A forum of ASEAN whose Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs is the focal point. In 2010, the Ministry has successfully hosted the 3rd Cultural and Social Community Conference (April 2010) and plans to organize the 4th Social Cultural Community Conference in August 2010. In general, activities within the framework of the Social and Cultural Community, especially the implementation of the Master Plan of the Social and Cultural Community, have made certain progress and at the Cultural and Social Community Conference Fourth, the ministry is the lead agency and coordinates with the relevant agencies in the community to issue two high-level declarations: the ASEAN Declaration on Welfare and Development for Women and Children and the Declaration ASEAN Leaders on Human Resource Development and Skills for Economic Recovery and Development.

The ministry has actively prepared for the organization of the 4th Council for Social and Cultural Community held in Da Nang in August 2010, especially through

the two High Level Leaders' Declarations, contributing to the Promote and build the ASEAN Community by 2015.

In 2012 and 2013, the Ministry of Labor in collaboration with other ministries and agencies has completed and completed the Mid-term Review Report on the Implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (AIS) Master Plan. Submitted to the ASEAN Secretariat for synthesis. Mid-term review of the implementation of the Socio-Cultural Community Master Plan in Viet Nam has received active participation from Ministries and branches of the Socio-Cultural Community through evaluation meetings, consultative meetings with the host institution of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community in Vietnam and 12 community participation agencies as well as self-assessment reports from ministries and sectors.

### ***3.2. Educational cooperation:***

a) Promote rapport and actively participate in the activities of the ASEAN Education Ministerial Council (ASEC) Conference and activities launched by the SEAMEO Secretariat:

- Cooperation within the ASEAN framework for education and training is mainly through the implementation of resolutions of the ASEAN Education Ministers Council Meeting (ASEC) held annually in conjunction with the Council of Ministers Meeting South East Asian Nations (SEAMEC) and some activities proposed by the SEAMEO Secretariat.

- In the early 1990s, with the permission of the Vietnamese Prime Minister, the Ministry of Education and Training actively implemented the plan to join the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO). On February 10, 1992, at the 27th meeting of the Council of Ministers of Education of Southeast Asian Nations held in Brunei, the Ministry of Education and Training of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam became a full member of the this organization.

- With the responsibility of being one of the members of the ASEAN Education Commission, from the very first days of its inception, the Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam hosted and successfully organized the sixth annual conference of the Committee for Education Vietnam and Vietnam have launched initiatives to foster talented students, contributing to the provision of talent to member countries. On that basis, the Olympic ASEAN Mathematics and Science Sub-disciplinary Competition was held annually at the ASEAN countries.

- In particular, in 2005, with the approval of the Prime Minister, MoET successfully hosted and organized the 40th SEA Conference (SEAMEC 40), leaving an impression. Good for ASEAN member countries.

- In addition to participating and demonstrating its active role in ASED activities, Vietnam has also actively participated in projects launched by the SEAMEO Secretariat, namely: (1) Quality and Equity Project in Education started implementation in 2003; (2) Value-based Water and Sanitation Education Project in SEAMEO and UN HABITAT schools in Southeast Asia. (3) Project "Use mother tongue as the language of instruction in Southeast Asian countries: Policy, Strategy and Implementation Guidelines" coordinated by the SEAMEO Secretariat and the World Bank. , started deployment in 2007.

- Cooperation with SEAMEO has provided practical benefits not only for education but also for other sectors such as agriculture, culture and health. Only from 1992 through 2009, SEAMEO has used a special fund to fund more than 2,000 Vietnamese staff to attend conferences, workshops, short-term and long-term training courses in the regional centers. area. The main subjects are managers, research staff, general teachers, lecturers in universities of Education and Training, Health, Culture and Information, Agriculture and Forestry. among them 28 are trained as Ph.Ds and 50 are masters (in Agriculture and Health). In addition, SEAMEO and SEAMEO centers have helped Vietnam hold several scientific conferences and short courses in Vietnam (for Vietnam and Indochina only).

- For its part, the Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam is trying to show more positively its role in SEAMEO activities. In October 1996, the SEAMEO Regional Training Center (SEAMEO RETRAC) was established in Ho Chi Minh City and officially came into operation with the immediate mission of SEAMEO RETRAC. The center is organizing training courses on management of education, foreign languages, informatics, technical education and vocational training, etc. for Indochina and other countries in the region. At the 34th Conference of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education (7-9 February 1999), SEAMEO Regional Training Center (SEAMEO) was authorized to provide content management services. It is for the professional activities of the Center.

- b) Promote cooperation, exchange of scholars, lecturers, students and scholarship programs in ASEAN:

- Over the past 15 years, MoET has welcomed hundreds of delegations from governments, education ministry and universities and educational organizations from ASEAN. Through the workshops, the Ministry of Education and Training has implemented a series of cooperation programs, exchanges of lecturers and students. Since 2000, the key universities in Vietnam have received about 650 turns of lecturers, scientists to teach, exchange of scholars and more than 300 turns of students, students from member countries. cultural exchanges. In particular, Vietnam has received a number of scholarships from ASEAN countries for the implementation of high quality human resource training programs..

- Scholarship program for high school students: Since 1996, the Government of Singapore has annually provided scholarships for high school students from Singapore to study in Singapore. The number of scholarships has increased over the years and by 2009, 256 Vietnamese high school students have been awarded scholarships. Along with the scholarship program, the Government of Singapore also provides scholarships for Vietnamese students to study in Singapore.

- In addition to long-term courses, Vietnamese students have received many scholarships to attend short courses, student forums and academic exchange activities. A number of scholarships have been established between the Vietnamese universities and regional organizations such as: i) The Singapore International Scholarship Program (SIF-ASEAN), in the period 2000 - 2009 had 22 students participating in the program; ii) AUN-ROK Fellowship Program - AUN-Korean Student Exchange Program..

c) Development of cooperation programs on research and training of high-level human resources in the region - Cooperation in the ASEAN Cultural and Social Community:

- In 2010, as a member of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), the Ministry of Education and Training has instructed its member universities to prepare and propose collaborative initiatives among countries. ASEAN, focusing on climate change with two main tasks is training and research as follows:

+ Developing the Master of Climate Change curriculum for Vietnam and other countries in the region;

+ Develop a scientific research program to evaluate, forecast and exploit the impacts of global climate change for sustainable development of ASEAN. The program aims to improve research capacity, develop and formulate policies, and



develop a smart response strategy for climate change. As a key member of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, MoET has actively participated in drafting and contributing comments on the draft Declaration on ASEAN Human Resource Development, the draft Declaration on the welfare of children and women.

d / Participation in cultural and sport exchange activities of ASEAN pupils and students:

In addition to participating in scientific competitions, Vietnamese students and students are also actively involved in physical education, sports and arts activities such as: ASEAN, held in Southeast Asian member states. In addition to the delegation attending and winning high prizes at the congresses, in 2006, Vietnam hosted and successfully organized the 13th Southeast Asian Student Athletes' Congress, leaving a deep impression on Friends of the country.

- Besides, in the context of Asean activities, Vietnamese students also actively participate in activities, annual forums of ASEAN youth and students such as: AUN Education Forum, Forum A young ASEAN youth culture, Younger Speech Contest, Seminar on the role and participation of students in university governance organized by AUN, ASEAN's Today World Conference. Participated in summer camps organized by ASEAN countries.

e) Regional cooperation in quality assurance of tertiary education:

One of the core activities of MOET and one of the successful cooperation activities of Vietnam with the ASEAN region, which is directly the ASEAN University Network (AUN) That is the quality assurance (KDCL). This is one of the first units in Vietnam to research and implement quality assurance and quality assurance testing. Many Vietnamese universities have been active in organizing and implementing collaborative activities in the ICE sector with partner universities and educational institutions (AUN) such as: 1) "Quality Assurance Handbook" by AUN (since 2006); 2) Vietnam has participated in the external assessment by AUN accreditation program at the University of Malaya - Malaysia, Bandung University of Technology - Indonesia, University Universitas Indonesia, Yogyakarta University Indonesia, De La Salle University - Philippines. 3) In 2008-2009, VNU and Hanoi National University. Ho Chi Minh City has organized the translation of AUN and AUN accreditation standards, which have supported the training and certification of AUN accredited laboratory assessors for Vietnamese officials.

f) Other activities: Viet Nam responds to ASEAN's activities focusing on external cooperation with the following specific programs:

- Institutionalize the ASEAN + 3 cooperation mechanism to commit to financial resources for the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Program 2011-2017, including more than 40 projects approved in Hanoi. First ASEAN + 3 Educator (Indonesia, 7/2012). Currently, Vietnam is taking charge of the ASEAN + 3 Lifelong Learning Network (Thailand). Korea through KOICA has supported ODA for Vietnam to implement the project to set up the ASEAN University via cyber (Cyber University), training human resources for CLMV countries through online learning with server, medium The source is located in Vietnam.

- Implementing cooperation projects within the framework of East Asia (EAS), Australia has actively proposed 13 development cooperation projects and mobilized ASEAN member countries to participate in leading and implementing these projects. VN participated in three projects: feasibility study of quality assurance framework in professional education; Study of equivalent degree systems among countries in the region; The program develops leadership skills for the region.

- Within the framework of ASEAN + 3, Vietnam has attended Hanoi on Higher Education in Japan (11/2013), focusing on assuring the quality of higher education and promoting the exchange of education. mobility of higher education in ASEAN + 3.

- Can Tho University has been approved to become a member of the Southeast Asian University Network (AUN). This is the third university of Vietnam to join this network after the National University of Hanoi and the National University of Ho Chi Minh City

### ***3.3. Information-Communication Cooperation:***

Since Vietnam became an official member of ASEAN (in 1995), cooperation between Vietnam and ASEAN countries in the field of Posts and Telecommunications has been established through participation in forums and programs. Specialized cooperation of ASEAN and investment projects to build information network in the region. Cooperation on the management and exploitation of telecommunication services, post and delivery services between Vietnam and ASEAN countries has been continuously expanded to meet the needs of information exchange and communication and development. Socio-economic and cultural relations between Vietnam and other countries.

Immediately after officially becoming an ASEAN member, active and active participation of Vietnam, with many concrete initiatives, has contributed to strengthening the linkage and enhancing the efficiency, making the cooperation programs ASEAN is more and more intrinsic. One of the important milestones for cooperation in ASEAN in the field of information technology and telecommunication is the fact that member countries have adopted the Hanoi Agenda to provide a framework for the development and implementation of activities. Collaborate in the field of VT and IT in a comprehensive and systematic manner. This is the Vietnamese initiative adopted at the 5th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministerial Meeting (TELMIN) held in Hanoi, chaired by the Minister of Posts and Telematics Do Trung Ta. At present, the Hanoi Agenda is the basis for organizing the implementation of the existing cooperation programs and considering new cooperation initiatives in ASEAN.

a) In the field of post and telecommunications and information technology (PT and IT):

- Most ASEAN countries have undergone a transition from a monopoly to a competitive one and created a policy environment for the development of new services in the convergence of telecom technologies and services. communications, electronics, informatics and broadcasting. Policy consultation, sharing of information and experience in state management are outstanding issues in the past. The coordination and mutual support of development strategies and plans not only promotes the development of each member country but also contributes significantly to the establishment of a common electronic space within ASEAN (e- ASEAN, towards the development of e-business, e-business and e-government. These are the concrete actions to achieve the important goals embodied in the e-ASEAN Framework Agreement signed in 2004 by the Heads of State.

- Along with the strong development of network services and applications, ASEAN countries have implemented many coordination activities on issues related to network security and safety, building a legal environment for transactions. enhancing connectivity and interoperability of information networks among countries, cooperating to narrow the digital divide and promote the application of information technology in society, particularly in rural and remote areas. . For its part, Vietnam has actively and actively participated in and led a number of programs and projects

such as capacity building, promoting trade in goods and ICT services within the framework of ICT cooperation in ASEAN. ...

- Apart from the above-mentioned professional cooperation programs, actual conditions and capabilities have allowed us to expand our cooperation with ASEAN countries in both commodity and investment markets.

b) Trade:

- In the past time, Vietnam has focused on promoting the development of IT and telecommunication industry, enterprises have been invested to modernize and upgrade production capacity. Products such as telecommunication terminals, transmission and switching systems, copper cables, fiber optic cables, postal equipments ... have been of high quality and of international standards. export to some countries in the region.

Recently, some enterprises in Vietnam such as VNPT and Viettel have deployed investment projects abroad (some countries in the region such as Cambodia , Laos, Myanmar ...). The MIC encourages Vietnamese enterprises to continue optimizing their investment efficiency and exploiting the potential markets of ASEAN countries.

c) ICT:

One of the milestones to the ICT cooperation activities in the region on the roadmap towards a common ASEAN Community is that ASEAN countries jointly develop a Comprehensive Plan for ICT Development towards 2015. After the 2004 ASEAN e-ASEAN Framework Agreement, the ASEAN ICT Master Plan 2015 can be said to be a major and directional instrument for development and cooperation in the field. The ICT sector contributes to the development of the ASEAN Community. The master plan was approved by the Ministers at the end of 2010.

In the 2012-2013 cooperation phase, Vietnam has five new projects approved and financed by the ASEAN ICT Fund. In addition, Vietnam is still effectively implementing 04 projects approved in the 2011-2012 period. In addition to concrete contributions to the roadmap for realization of AIM 2015 through project proposals, Vietnam It also actively participates in the regional work program as well as presides over a number of important ICT cooperation activities, such as the Chair of the Frequency Working Group within the framework of the Board of Supervisors ASEAN Telecommunications (ATRC); Presiding over the ASEAN Policy Forum; Co-ordinator of ASEAN-Japan ICT cooperation activities.

d) Information

- Participating in the coordination of activities within the framework of the ASEAN Information Sub-Committee, including continuing to participate in regular activities (projects implemented in ASEAN and dialogue with China, Japan, India, etc .; attended in the 48th ASEAN Culture and Information Commission Conference in Brunei, ASEAN Media Ethics Seminar in Thailand) Vietnamese units actively participate in these propaganda activities.

In 2012, three proactive proposals were proposed (two projects have been approved in 2013) and by 2013 the number of proposed projects has increased to 8 and 7 projects have been approved. In 2013, Vietnam is also actively involved in the implementation of nine projects in the ASEAN Information Subcommittee and nine projects with dialogue partners.

### ***3.4. Health Collaboration:***

Since joining the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Vietnam has actively engaged in cooperation and integration activities with ASEAN in areas such as preventive medicine, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics, health services food hygiene, traditional medicine and pharmacy ... and achieved some results in the following main activities:

#### **a) Prophylactic medicine sector:**

##### **- Prevention of human influenza pandemic:**

Participating in international meetings sharing experiences on influenza A in humans;

+ To stockpile Tamiflu, epidemic prevention;

+ Conducting pandemic prevention exercises in the area;

+ Sharing information through ASEAN website.

##### **- Prevention of communicable disease:**

+ Participate in workshops sharing experience on disease prevention in countries;

+ Participate in study tours, share experiences in work, manage the implementation of disease control measures;

Participation in training courses on communicable disease reporting and surveillance, project evaluation, staff training on public health;

+ Organize training courses on short-term and long-term field epidemiology, exchanging trainees and lecturers.

##### **- Border medical quarantine:**

Participation in meetings / seminars / conferences on cross-border disease prevention;

- + Sharing lessons and experiences on the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005);

- + Participating in the prevention and control of communicable diseases: influenza A (H5N1) and influenza A (H1N1) at the border gate;

- + Organizing study tours, sharing experiences on border medical quarantine in the prevention of communicable diseases spread through border gates.

b) Pharmaceuticals and cosmetics:

- Pharmaceutical Working Group:

- + Within the framework of the work of the Pharmaceutical Working Group of the ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ-PPWG), the largest cooperation with ASEAN is the participation of Vietnam in the harmony group. of ASEAN for ACTD drug registration dossiers and relevant ASEAN technical guidelines in this field. Since Circular No. 22/2009 / TT-BYT dated November 24, 2009 regulating drug registration effective on May 24, 2010, Vietnam is considered to have fully implemented its commitment to implementation. ACTD with ASEAN.

- + Through the cooperation mechanism of ASEAN, many officials of the Drug Administration of Vietnam have participated in ASEAN training courses on capacity building for pharmacy administrators as well as international conferences and forums. to exchange and share management experiences with non-regional countries (eg United States, EU, etc.).

- Working Group on Monitoring and Exchange of Information on PMS - ASEAN: Information exchange in the PMS system of the ASEAN bloc began in 2006, but this work was actually implemented from in 2007 and Vietnam since 2008.

- Cosmetic Working Group:

On September 2, 2003, the Minister of Trade, on behalf of the Government of Viet Nam, signed the ASEAN Cosmetic Harmonization Agreement, in which the provisions of the Agreement are fully implemented from 01/01/2008, unified manner of cosmetics management in ASEAN countries, create favorable conditions for cosmetics business enterprises, towards a common market of ASEAN, strengthen cooperation between the countries into In order to ensure the safety, quality and beneficial effects of all cosmetic products on the ASEAN market, to eliminate

restrictions on cosmetic business among member countries through harmonization, Comply with technical regulations.

+ In the integration of cosmetics, Vietnam has participated in meetings of the ASEAN Cosmetic Board (ACC), ASEAN Scientific and Technical Committee (ACSB) twice a year, Implement the conclusions of the ASEAN Cosmetic Council in Vietnam.

c) Traditional Medicine:

- Vietnam has participated in ASEAN harmonious activities on traditional medicine (TM), participated in meetings and conferences on traditional medicine of ASEAN, especially the ASEAN Traditional Medicine Conference the first time.

- At this Conference, ASEAN countries discussed possible cooperation areas in the future. From October 31st to November 2nd, 2010, Vietnam presided over the 2nd ASEAN Traditional Medicine Conference in Hanoi.

d) Food Safety and Hygiene:

Viet Nam has actively participated in the drafting of ASEAN documents and dispatched officials to attend the meetings of the ASEAN Food Safety Working Group.

f / Signed Agreements, treaties:

The Mutual Recognition Arrangements for Nursing Services, Medical Practitioners and Dental Practitioners create favorable conditions for Vietnam to participate in the regional services market, to improve the level of human resources. nurses, medical practitioners and dental practitioners, attracting excellent physicians to work in Vietnam and providing opportunities to bring Vietnamese workers to work in countries in the region.

Mutual Recognition Arrangement in the Good Manufacturing Practice Auditing Manufacturing of drugs for pharmaceutical establishments in the ASEAN region facilitates the elimination of technical barriers as well as the promotion and facilitation of trade. and facilitate the circulation of pharmaceutical products in the ASEAN region.

In order to achieve the above results, the Ministry of Health has actively dispatched officials to attend the meetings of the ASEAN Coordination Committee and the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Working Group to discuss and comment on the drafts. The above agreement and report to the Prime Minister.

***3.5. Cooperation on natural resources and environment***

### 3.5.1. Collaboration results

In February 1996, ASOEN Vietnam was established and ASOEN Vietnam working groups were formed. Right after its establishment, ASOEN Vietnam has been integrated and actively involved in all activities and environmental forums in ASEAN.

In February 1998, the 4th ASEAN Informal Environment Ministerial Meeting was successfully held. At this meeting, Vietnam proposed the creation of an ASEAN Environment Forum to exchange experiences. and practical lessons in environmental issues.

In 1999, Vietnam successfully organized the ASEAN Environment Forum with a total of 750 participants, including 6 environmental science conferences and 1 international exhibition on environmental science achievements.

Received and performed well ASOEN Chairman role since late 2002. Currently, Vietnam is still in the second year holding the position of ASOEN Chairman for a term of 3 years. As the ASOEN Chair, Vietnam successfully hosted the 14th and 15th ASOEN meetings.

In 2008, Vietnam successfully organized the 11th ASEAN Environment Ministers' Meeting, the 7th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers Meeting and the First EAS Environment Ministers' Meeting (initiative of the Prime Minister).

In 2013, Vietnam hosted many important events such as the East Asia Summit on Environment Sustainable Cities, which was co-organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment with the Ministry of Environment. The event will be held in Hanoi from March 21st to March 23rd, 2013 in the framework of the East Asia Summit on Sustainable Cities. The 17th ASEAN Working Group Meeting on Multilateral Environmental Conventions was held in Hanoi on 4 and 5 July 2013; Successfully organizing the U Minh Thuong National Park Certification Ceremony is the ASEAN Heritage Garden, bringing the total to five ASEAN Heritage Parks of Vietnam; The International Conference on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing (ABS) was organized successfully by the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and the ASEAN Biodiversity Center (ACB) on November 21-22 in Hanoi.

In addition, Viet Nam has also actively participated in important ASEAN conferences such as the 24th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Environment and the 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment, Participating in training



courses / capacity building workshops on solid waste management, green growth, biodiversity, urban environmental management, climate change under ASEAN +3.

### ***3.6. Public service***

Since joining ACCSM, we have fully engaged in ACCSM activities and made significant contributions. In particular, Vietnam successfully hosted ACCSM 11 in Vietnam for the 2001-2002 term, entitled "ASEAN Publications for Dynamic and Sustainable Development". The conference adopted the initiatives on enhancing ASEAN cooperation on civil affairs issues, namely: (i) strengthening the mechanism for cooperation, sharing and exchange of information and experience among member countries; (ii) facilitate and promote exchanges of experiences and practices on civil service reform in each member country.

Vietnam is currently chairing the ASEAN-Vietnam Resource Center on human resource management with the following objectives: (i) conducting in-country studies on staffing management, salary regimes and remuneration with officials, (ii) implementing a regular exchange of information between ASEAN civil service agencies in this area and (iii) analyzing the information received and organizing workshops to increase Strengthening the capacity of civil servants in the process of administrative reform and ASEAN integration of Vietnam.

In 2013, Vietnam continues to fulfill its obligations to participate in ASEAN cooperation in the field of civil servants and public servants as assigned by the Government. In particular, attend and actively contribute to the two official events of the 17th ASEAN Conference on Civil Affairs (ACCSM) in Myanmar (including the Preparatory Meeting and the Senior Officials Meeting (In addition, the ministry has also sent representatives to attend a number of workshops and short training courses on civil servants held in Thailand.

In addition, the Ministry of Home Affairs, as a direct participant in this field, has made efforts to continue to achieve the goal of ASEAN cooperation in the field of civil service in Vietnam, contributing to the strengthening of the position. of Vietnam in ASEAN; to give members the right view on the administrative apparatus, civil servants, administrative reforms that we are conducting; learn and apply research and apply some models, modes of effective management of member states; Enlist cooperation, support in various forms to develop human resources in the civil service.

### ***3.7. Cultural cooperation***

After more than 15 years of joining ASEAN (until 2010), the culture and information sector of Vietnam has grown up, we participate in more than 100 projects on ASEAN media, we also actively coordinated a number of projects and achieved high quality. In 1995, Vietnam participated in 18 ASEAN projects. In 1997, we participated in 34 projects, of which 12 were implemented in Vietnam. From 1997 to 2000, ASEAN implemented programs for the development of the ASEAN Web system, ASEAN satellite TV channels, ASEAN art festivals, ASEAN youth friendship programs, and World Expo 2000. , Information Subcommittee meeting in Hanoi, ASEAN has developed many joint projects on information.

In the field of sport, the Leaders adopted the proposal to set up the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sport (AMMS) at the 18th Summit (Jakarta, 7-8 May 2011). In addition to the AMMS, the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Sports was also established to assist and report to AMMS. The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, namely the General Department of Sports and Physical Training, is the governing body of the Association of Sports and Physical Training in ASEAN.

In recent years, Vietnam has actively participated in many activities to enhance relations and understanding between Vietnam and other countries through activities such as: introducing Vietnamese culture and art abroad; participating in regional and international physical training and sport activities; Exchange activities are held on the occasion of major holidays and important foreign affairs of Vietnam. For example: Participation in the ASEAN-ROK Culture Ministerial Meeting (Korea from 03 - 07/9/2013); The Museum of Vietnamese Folk Culture hosted the 4th ASEAN Traditional Textile Exhibition and Display Workshop in Thai Nguyen province from 15th to 18th March 2013; Organizing the construction of the exhibition space "Vietnam - ASEAN Culture" at the 5th Heritage Festival of Quang Nam, from 22-26 / 6/2013; Participating in the Workshop on "Sharing Experiences in the Preservation of National Cultural Heritages" in Thailand (This is one of the cooperative projects of the ASEAN Committee for Culture and Information); Participated in the 8th ASEAN + 3 Culture Development Cooperation and the 2nd ASEAN + 3 Cultural Cooperation Conference in China from May 12-21, 2013; Participating in and actively contributing to the Special Session of Senior Officials on Culture and Arts (SOMCA) and the 14th Conference of the Subcommittee on Culture (SCC) - ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information (ASEAN- COCI) in Myanmar from 16-21 June 2013; attend the "ASEAN Festival" held in Purwakarta, Indonesia on June 29, 2013, and the "Young China-ASEAN Young Artist Exchange" from June 23 to July 12, and attended the

48th ASEAN Culture and Information Committee (ASEAN-COCI) in Brunei Darussalam from 18 to 22 November 2013 ...

In April 2014, Vietnam will host the 6th ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Arts and Culture (AMCA) and related conferences in Hue city, Thua Thien Hue province.

### ***3.8. Scientific and technological cooperation***

Vietnam began cooperation on science and technology with ASEAN in 1995, joining the COST's 31st Session in Brunei, March 20-24, as an observer and the 32nd Session in Bangkok. , Thailand, from 23-25 August 1995 as an official member. Assigned by the Government as the national focal point for this field of cooperation, MOSTE established the ASEAN Science and Technology Committee, chaired by a Vice Minister, with the participation of many Ministries ( The National Center for Natural Sciences and Technology, the Ministry of Education and Training, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the General Department of Meteorology and Hydrology) and the Institute for Scientific Research.

Vietnam has actively participated in and has contributed to ASEAN's most important scientific and technological programs and activities such as the Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology, the Science and Technology Committee ASEAN (COST), sub-committees and working groups, as well as the ASEAN Science and Technology Week, participate in a number of ASEAN science-technology and cooperative environment projects with dialogue partners such as Canada, Australia , New Zealand, the EU, India, South Korea, UNDP, etc., to contribute to the ASEAN Science Foundation, etc.

Vietnam chaired the Executive Committee of the ASEAN Sub-Committee on Meteorology and Geophysics for the 1996-1999 term, the ASEAN Sub-Committee on Sea Science and Technology for the 1999-2002 term, the ASEAN Subcommittee on Infrastructure and Technological Resources (2002-2005), Sub-committee on Biotechnology (2005-2008). I have taken over the chairmanship of the ASEAN COST in 2003. This not only facilitates the understanding of the reality of the ASEAN S & T cooperation, but also facilitates the exploration of opportunities and opportunities. and contribute to the common cause of the whole ASEAN region. I have hosted many large-scale conferences and exhibitions: ASEAN Science and Technology Week, chaired the activities of some ASEAN organizations, proposed and implemented many projects and initiatives on ASEAN scientific and technological cooperation.

Over the past years, ASEAN cooperation has been mainly focused on areas such as standards of quality measurement, intellectual property and S & T cooperation in ASEAN COST.

ASEAN cooperation in the field of standards and conformity assessment is mainly through the Advisory Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ). In joining this committee, several important agreements and agreements have been signed, such as the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Mutual Recognition Arrangements; ASEAN Mutual Recognition Agreement for Electrical and Electronic Equipment; Harmonized Agreement on the Regulation on the Management of Electric and Electronic Equipment of ASEAN; Agreement on ASEAN Harmonized System in Cosmetics Management; Agreement on GMP inspection for pharmaceutical manufacturers...

In the field of intellectual property, Vietnam actively cooperates with ASEAN countries to gradually implement the plan to implement the ASEAN Action Plan on Intellectual Property in 2011-2015 towards the implementation of the objectives of the Plan The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), actively implementing initiatives that Vietnam chaired and co-chaired with other ASEAN countries, joined the ASEAN Intellectual Property Cooperation Working Group (AWGIPC) as well as Dialogue meetings between AWGIPC and ASEAN counterparts on intellectual property.

Vietnam is also an active member of the ASEAN Committee for Science and Technology Cooperation (COST), fully participating and actively contributing to the meetings of the Committee such as discussing how and when to develop a science and technology action plan. and ASEAN renewal 2015-2020 (APASTI); chaired the cluster on green technology, water management and food security

We also participated in the ASEAN-India Science Dialogue, ASEAN-Russia, ASEAN-Japan, ASEAN-ROK, ASEAN + 3 Dialogue meetings with orientations and content. active and specific cooperation...

### ***3.9. External relations of the Party and people's external relations:***

During 15 years of ASEAN cooperation, Vietnam has affirmed its position and prestige. Participation in ASEAN has made a significant contribution to the strengthening of the peace and security environment for the cause of national development, facilitating the implementation of an independent, autonomous, multilateral foreign policy. , diversification of our Party.

a. On the Party's external relations:

Maintain, consolidate and expand the relationship between our Party and the political parties of the ASEAN countries, especially with the ruling parties and major political parties in the political arena of other countries. Be active in the multilateral forums of the political parties in the region.

In addition to the special relationship between our Party and the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the Cambodian People's Party, we continue to strengthen and expand our relationship with some ruling parties: the People's Action Party of Singapore (PAP) (establish official relations in October 1993); Democratic Party of Thailand (DP) (1993); National Organization for the Unification of Ethiopia (UMNO) (March 1994); Golkar Party of Indonesia (June 1996); In addition, we have contacts with other parties such as the Democratic Party of Indonesia; Philippine Muslim Democratic and Party (Lakas-CMD).

In addition, we have actively participated in the Asian Political Parties International Conference (ICAPP) since 2000 with the aim of promoting unity, cooperation and development in the region. So far we have participated in 10 years of ICAPP activities with 12 conferences, attracting more and more of the political parties involved.

b. On the people's external relations:

To attach importance to maintaining and developing the work of people's diplomacy, promoting the people's external relations; Encouraging the participation of all walks of life in ASEAN cooperation, constantly expanding with regional partners.

To date, our unions and people organizations have developed a broad network of regional partners in all areas (friendship, poverty reduction, and religious democracy. to establish a cooperative relationship with many organizations and institutions in ASEAN, expand relations with regional multilateral mechanisms and organizations.

Vietnam joined, became a member and actively contributed to the ASEAN community, particularly the Vietnam Women's Union, joining the ASEAN Women's Union (ACWO), the Vietnam General Confederation of Labor joined the ASEAN Union of Trade Unions (ATUC), Vietnam War Veterans Association joined the Association of Veterans of ASEAN (VECONAC), Vietnam Journalists Association joined the ASEAN Journalists Federation (CAJ), Vietnam Bankers Association Nam joined the ASEAN Intellectual Property Association, Vietnam Lawyers Association joined the ASEAN Lawyers Association (ALA) ... In the process of regional integration, mass organizations and people have confirmed their role. and its position

in the multilateral mechanisms in the region, from the hosting of the congress, taking on the role of rotating presidency, coordinators ... of regional organizations to organize large forums in parallel with official forums (the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations hosted the 6th ASEAN People's Forum)...

Diversification of cooperation: The Fatherland Front, mass organizations and people's organizations have strengthened their external relations in the fields of friendship, development cooperation and social security. to raise awareness of hunger elimination and poverty reduction, environmental protection, from fields, traditional issues to new fields and issues such as anti-arms race, proliferation of nuclear weapons, assist dioxin victims to combat human trafficking, protect women and children, sensitive issues such as democracy, religion, human rights.

### ***3.10. Inspection cooperation:***

Since 1995, the Government Inspectorate has conducted bilateral cooperation on inspection, settlement of complaints and denunciations and anti-corruption with some ASEAN countries, and subsequently multilateral activities in international and regional forums.

#### **a) Bilateral cooperation:**

- The Government Inspectorate has signed cooperation agreements with the inspection and anti-corruption agencies of five countries in the region, including the Lao State Inspectorate (1995), the Ministry of Relations with the National Assembly - The Cambodian Chamber of Commerce and Inspection (2003), the Indonesian Anti-Corruption Commission (2007), the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (2010) and the Singapore Corruption Perceptions Survey (2010). Signing of cooperation agreements with relevant agencies of Thailand and other ASEAN countries.

- The content of bilateral cooperation mainly focuses on cooperation on training, professional training; to share experiences, information on inspection, settlement of complaints and denunciations and corruption prevention and fighting; Provide technical support as much as possible. The mechanism for organizing the implementation of these commitments is mainly through the annual exchange of delegations - including visiting, working and professional training delegations. In fact, in recent years, the Government Inspectorate has provided training in the inspection profession for many Lao and Cambodian inspectors, highly appreciated by the Government and the inspectors of Laos and Cambodia.

#### **b) Multilateral cooperation:**

- After a period of time as an observer, the Government Inspectorate became a full member of the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement on Corruption Prevention in Southeast Asia from September 2007. It is noteworthy that this multilateral cooperation was initiated by the anti-corruption agencies of Southeast Asian countries, which were all members of ASEAN, since 2004, Official in the framework of ASEAN. The agreement has eight members (four founding members from 2004 are the Brunei Anti-Corruption Agency, the Indonesian Anti-Corruption Commission, the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Agency, the Singapore Anti-Corruption Agency and four Member of the Cambodian Anti- Corruption Commission, the Philippine Inspection Service, the National Anti-Corruption Commission of Thailand, the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam). The agreement is open for the remaining two member countries of ASEAN, Laos and Myanmar to join in the coming time.

- The main contents of the cooperation include: (i) exchanging, sharing information and coordinating anti-corruption activities; (ii) cooperation in training, professional training; exchange of experts; (iii) technical assistance when needed; (iv) host and participate in regional forums, workshops and conferences on corruption prevention. The Secretariat of the Agreement is composed of representatives of each member country established to support and promote cooperative activities. The General Conference (SEA-PAC) and the Secretariat meeting are held once a year, hosted by member countries. The Government has successfully hosted the 5th SEA-PAC Conference (2009) and the 6th SEA-PAC Secretariat Meeting (June 2010) in Hanoi.

### ***3.11. Youth co-operation:***

The highest level of operational cooperation within the framework of ASEAN Youth Co-operation is the ASEAN Youth Ministerial Meeting (AMMY) held every two years and rotated in ASEAN countries. Vietnam participates in this mechanism through the National Committee for Youth in Vietnam

#### **a. On Vietnam's participation:**

In the field of youth work, within ASEAN, Vietnam has actively participated, contributed many:

Vietnam holds the chairmanship of the ASEAN Youth Subcommittee (now renamed ASEAN Top Level ASEAN-SOMY Senior Officials Meeting) for the 1996-1998 term. Viet Nam hosted the ASEAN Youth Sub-Committee 14th (1996); 7th ASEAN Youth Day (8/1998). In particular, as a coordinator of vocational training for

young people outside of schools in ASEAN, Vietnam has hosted and implemented many practical activities such as: Workshop on vocational training for Youth outside school (12/1997); Workshop on vocational training for youth outside the school for the second time (October 1998); Regional training on self-employment skills for young people outside school (5/2002); Establishing the Directory of vocational training centers for young people in ASEAN, progressing to networking of centers. In response to the initiative of the ten ASEAN Youth Associations (ASEAN TAYO), the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth League is one of 10 organizations awarded this award. I also nominated four outstanding Vietnamese youths to be featured in the book on ASEAN Youth Heroes.

In 2011, Vietnam successfully organized the Seventh ASEAN Youth Summit (AMMY VII), AMMY + 3 and Senior Officials Meeting (SOMY, SOMY + 1, SOMY + 3). The conference set out many initiatives, highlighting the Hanoi initiative proposed by Vietnam, highly appreciated by the ASEAN countries. The conference issued a Joint Declaration which stated that the Hanoi Initiative would contribute to furthering comprehensive cooperation in the youth field, enhancing cohesion and understanding among young people and youth leaders in area. On the sidelines of the Conference, there were also many impressive events such as ASEAN Cultural Night, Youth Activity Exhibition, ASEAN + 3 Youth Festival

b) Within the framework of ASEAN youth cooperation with partners:

- ASEAN + Japan: Southeast Asian Youth Shipbuilding Program (started in 1974) and the Youth Involvement Program (Launched in 1984 with the invitation of thousands of young people from Southeast Asian countries to Japan. annually through bilateral exchanges with Japan and multilateral Japan - ASEAN), now renamed to the Young Leaders Training Program. Vietnam has been involved in these two programs since 1995. Since 2008, The exchange of Japanese-East Asian students (referred to as CT JENESYS) was conducted by inviting teachers and students to Japan to visit and exchange. From 2010, we also organize a group of Japanese teachers and students to exchange in Vietnam under this program, to send representatives of youth to participate in ASEAN-Japan youth exchange programs at a number of cities in ASEAN..

- ASEAN + China: The First ASEAN-China Youth Ministers Meeting (Beijing, 29-30 September 2004) adopted the Beijing Declaration on ASEAN-China Youth Cooperation and Planning joint action to implement the Beijing Declaration.



Accordingly, China hosts annual conferences, forums and exchanges with ASEAN youth in priority areas / sectors including young leaders, young entrepreneurs and civil servants. We have regularly sent delegations to participate in programs such as the ASEAN-China Youth Camp, ASEAN-China Youth Exchange, ASEAN-China Young People Program; In 2010, Vietnam hosted the 3rd ASEAN-China Young Entrepreneurs Forum in Hanoi.

- ASEAN + South Korea: In recent years, South Korea has initiated and presided over a number of youth cooperation activities with ASEAN, particularly the ASEAN-ROK Youth Exchange Program. Since 1994, South Korea has been organizing annual conferences of youth delegates from Korea and South Korea. Meet with the youth of ASEAN countries. Vietnam delegation joined this program since 1998 and welcomed the delegation from 2001 until now.