



# FEALAC

## Official Meeting Documents Book



**FEALAC**

Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation



# FEALAC

## Official Meeting Documents Book



FEALAC

Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation







The Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) is an inter-regional multilateral organization launched in 1999 with the aim to increase inter-regional cooperation and understanding between East Asia and Latin America.

The 36 member countries are Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam. (16 East Asian Countries, 20 Latin American Countries)

The FEALAC Cyber Secretariat was established in 2011 in order to increase cooperation and facilitate communication among member countries. It supports FEALAC member countries and the Forum in managing official FEALAC website, hosting annual workshop, strengthening overall mechanism, enhancing visibility of FEALAC, working with the Working Group co-chairs for compiling and updating projects database and assisting host countries of FEALAC meetings, among others.

## Abbreviation

---

<b>FEALAC</b>	Forum for <b>E</b> ast <b>A</b> sia and <b>L</b> atin <b>A</b> merica <b>C</b> ooperation
---------------	---

---

<b>FMM</b>	Foreign <b>M</b> inisters' <b>M</b> eeting
------------	--

---

<b>SOM</b>	<b>S</b> enior <b>O</b> fficials' <b>M</b> eeting
------------	---

---

<b>WG</b>	<b>W</b> orking <b>G</b> roup
-----------	-------------------------------

---

---

## List of Contents

### 1999

#### Inaugural Meeting of Officials from East Asia and Latin America \_ 1-3 September 1999, Singapore

- Overview 10
- Final Report 11

### 2000

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> SOM \_ 16-18 August 2000, Santiago, Chile

- Overview 14
- Final Report 15

### 2001

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> SOM \_ 28 March 2001, Santiago, Chile

- Overview 19
- Final Report 20

#### 1<sup>st</sup> FMM \_ 29-30 March 2001, Santiago, Chile

- Overview 22
- Co-Chairs' Statement 23

### 2002

#### 4<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 26-28 November 2002, Bogota, Colombia

- Overview 28
- Final Report 29

## 2003

### 5<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 13-14 August 2003. San Jose, Costa Rica

- Overview 34
- Final Report 35

## 2004

### 6<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 28-29 January 2004. Manila, Philippines

- Overview 39
- Final Report 40

### 2<sup>nd</sup> FMM \_ 30-31 January 2004. Manila, Philippines

- Overview 43
- Co-Chairs' Statement 44
- Manila Plan of Action 46

## 2005

### 7<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 27-28 October 2005. Seoul, Korea

- Overview 52
- Final Report 53

## 2007

### 8<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 20-21 August 2007. Brasilia, Brazil

- Overview 58
- Final Report 59

### 3<sup>rd</sup> FMM \_ 23 August 2007. Brasilia, Brazil

- Overview 64
- Ministerial Declaration 65
  - Statement of Solidarity with the People of Peru 72
  - Statement on Hostage Situation in Afghanistan 73

## 2009

### 9<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 7-8 April 2009. Buenos Aires, Argentina

- Overview 74
- Final Report 75

## 2010

### **10<sup>th</sup> SOM** \_ 14-15 January 2010. Tokyo, Japan

- Overview 87
- Final Report 88

### **4<sup>th</sup> FMM** \_ 17 January 2010. Tokyo, Japan

- Overview 91
- Ministerial Declaration 92
  - Statement on the situation in Haiti 100

### **II<sup>th</sup> SOM** \_ 3 November 2010. Bali, Indonesia

- Overview 101
- Final Report 102

## 2011

### **12<sup>th</sup> SOM** \_ 24 August 2011. Buenos Aires, Argentina

- Overview 106
- Final Report 107

### **5<sup>th</sup> FMM** \_ 25 August 2011. Buenos Aires, Argentina

- Overview 109
- Ministerial Declaration 110

## 2012

### **13<sup>th</sup> SOM** \_ 17 October 2012. Bogota, Colombia

- Overview 123
- Final Report 124

## 2013

### **14<sup>th</sup> SOM** \_ 12 June 2013. Bali, Indonesia

- Overview 129
- Final Report 130

### **6<sup>th</sup> FMM** \_ 13-14 June 2013. Bali, Indonesia

- Overview 136
- Ministerial Declaration 137

## 2014

### I5<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 22 August 2014. Bangkok, Thailand

- Overview 146
- Final Report 147

## 2015

### I6<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 20 August 2015. San Jose, Costa Rica

- Overview 154
- Final Report 155

### 7<sup>th</sup> FMM \_ 21 August 2015. San Jose, Costa Rica

- Overview 162
- Ministerial Declaration 163
- Joint Statement on the Ratchaprasong Intersection  
– Bangkok Bombing 174

## 2016

### I7<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 26 August 2016. Guatemala City, Guatemala

- Overview 175
- Final Report 176

### Ad-hoc SOM \_ 1 December 2016. Seoul, Korea

- Overview 180
- Final Report 181

## 2017

### I8<sup>th</sup> SOM \_ 30 August 2017. Busan, Korea

- Overview 185
- Final Report 186

### 8<sup>th</sup> FMM \_ 31 August 2017. Busan, Korea

- Overview 191
- Ministerial Declaration 192

## 2018

**19<sup>th</sup> SOM** \_ 21 November 2018. Vientiane, Lao PDR

- Overview 203
- Final Report 205

## 2019

**20<sup>th</sup> SOM** \_ 8 November 2019. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

- Overview 214
- Final Report 215

**9<sup>th</sup> FMM** \_ 9 November 2019. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

- Overview 222
- Ministerial Declaration 223

## 2020

**Extraordinary SOM: Covid-19** \_ 26 November 2020. Video Conference

- Overview 232
- Final Report 233

## 2021

**21<sup>st</sup> SOM** \_ 30 November 2021. Virtual Meeting

- Overview 239
- Final Report 240

## Inaugural Meeting of Officials from East Asia and Latin America (1<sup>st</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting)

I-3 September 1999. Singapore, Singapore

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Chile & Singapore**
- Participated **27 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (12)

### Main Results

- Agreed on EALAF(East Asia-Latin America Forum)'s principles and modalities
  - Decision-making by consensus based on sovereignty
  - Pursue unofficial, gradual cooperation and avoid excessive systematization
- Reviewed a range of cooperation areas and specific cooperation projects
  - Seek comprehensive cooperation in all areas including politics, economy, society, education, sports, and culture
- Discussed issues regarding admission policy of new member countries and selection of Regional Coordinators
  - Designated participants to launch a meeting among member countries and review the issue of expanding member countries
  - Appointed Singapore and Chile as Regional Coordinators

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex A. Opening Remarks of Singapore\*
- Annex B. Opening Remarks of Chile\*
- Annex C. List of Delegates\*
- Annex D. Agenda\*
- Annex E. Programme\*
- Annex F. Principles on Alternative Appellations\*
- Annex G. Framework Document\*
- Annex H. Cooperation Areas and Proposed Projects\*



\* Documents not available



## REPORT OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF OFFICIALS FROM EAST ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA

I-3 SEPTEMBER 1999. SINGAPORE

The Inaugural Meeting was held at The Mandarin Singapore, Singapore from 1-3 September 1999. The Opening Ceremony was held on 2 September 1999. The Opening Remarks of His Excellency Professor S Jayakumar, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Singapore, and the speech by the leader of the Chilean Delegation, His Excellency Cristian Barros, Director-General for Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, are at Annexes A and B respectively.

1. The Meeting was attended by officials of the 27 member countries, namely Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Viet Nam. The list of delegates appears at Annex C.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Bilahari Kausikan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore.

### AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. The Meeting adopted the Agenda at Annex D.

### AGENDA ITEM 2: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

4. The Meeting noted the Programme at Annex E. The Meeting met in plenary.

### AGENDA ITEM 3: EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM OTHER APPELLATIONS

5. The Meeting had an exchange of views on the appellation. The Meeting agreed that alternative appellations could be considered based on the principles outlined in Annex F. Several delegations expressed the view that any appellation considered should be inclusive. The following possible appellations were suggested:

- East Asia-Latin America +2 Forum
  - Singapore Forum
  - Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation
  - Singapore-Santiago Forum
  - The Grand Alliance
6. The Meeting agreed that consultations should continue with a view to reaching a consensus on a new appellation, pending which “East Asia- Latin America Forum (EALAF)” would be the working name for the Forum. Consultations on an alternative appellation should not impede progress in substantive areas.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: DISCUSSION ON FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT FOR THE EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF)**

7. The Meeting considered the Framework Document at Annex G. There were many constructive suggestions on the structure and rationale of the Framework Document. Delegations were invited to submit further suggestions in writing. It was agreed that Singapore would revise the Framework Document in light of these suggestions, and that the revised draft would be circulated to delegations for further comments.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: DISCUSSION ON EALAF DELIVERABLES**

8. The Meeting agreed that the areas of cooperation and/or projects should be within the purposes and scope of the Forum. Many ideas for areas of cooperation and/or projects were proposed, as reflected at Annex H. The Meeting also agreed that at the initial stage, the projects could be national projects, initiated, funded and coordinated by the country that proposed them.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: DATE, VENUE, AND COORDINATORS FOR THE SECOND EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) MEETING**

9. The Meeting decided that each region will have two coordinators chosen among its respective members. The Meeting agreed that Singapore and Chile will be the first two leading coordinators for the Forum. The second set of coordinators will be designated later.
10. The Meeting agreed to work towards a Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Santiago, Chile, in the first quarter of 2001, including a preparatory meeting of officials in 2000, and a second officials’ meeting back-to-back with the Ministerial Meeting.

## AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER MATTERS

11. No other matters were raised.

## AGENDA ITEM 8: CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF THE MEETING

12. The Meeting adopted the Report of the Meeting.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

13. The Meeting expressed its thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Singapore for the generous hospitality and excellent arrangements made.
14. The Meeting expressed its thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Singapore for the generous hospitality and excellent arrangements made.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

16-18 August 2000. Santiago, Chile

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Chile & Singapore**
- Participated **27 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (12)

### Main Results

- Agreement regarding the Foreign Ministers' meeting
  - Reviewed Chile hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> FMM in 2001
  - Agreed on hosting FMM every two years in East Asia and Latin America alternatively
- Drafted the "Framework Document"
  - Agreed that Singapore will prepare the final draft by January 2001
- Election of Deputy Coordinators
  - Elected Philippines and Colombia as Deputy Coordinators
  - Agreed on term of appointment for Regional Coordinators to be between two consecutive FMMs

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Agenda
- Programme
- General Information



## COORDINATORS' REPORT OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> SOM, SANTIAGO, CHILE, 16-18 AUGUST 2000

The second meeting of senior officials was held at the Carrera Hotel, Santiago, Chile on 16-18 August 2000. The Opening Ceremony was held on 16 August 2000. The Opening remarks of H.E. Jose Miguel Insulza, Minister of Interior of Chile, and the speech by the leader of the delegation of Singapore, H.E. Bilahari Kausikan, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore.

The Meeting was attended by officials of the 27 countries, namely Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Viet Nam.

The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Mario Artaza, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile, and H.E. Bilahari Kausikan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore.

### AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Meeting adopted the agenda.

### AGENDA ITEM 2: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

### AGENDA ITEM 3: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, SUCH AS:

Challenges and opportunities of globalization.

Exchange of views between the respective regions and relations between East Asia and Latin America.

Strengthening of the Economic Liberalization process through the development of the complementarities between VVTO, APEC, MERCOSUR, AFTA and FTA'S. Consensus building at the political level as an instrument towards convergence.

The meeting had a substantive exchange of views on regional developments and the challenges and opportunities of globalization. It was generally agreed that

the process of globalisation was inexorable. It was noted that globalisation and the rapid advance of technology impacted on all sectors, from political security to socio-economic to cultural identity.

The meeting noted that globalisation presented many challenges, as well as opportunities, and that countries needed to look for ways to maximise the benefits arising out of globalisation. The meeting also discussed ways in which the two regions could deal with globalisation, including strengthening inter-regional co-operation. It was agreed that this agenda item could be included in the agenda for the Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF THE FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT FOR EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF)**

The Meeting considered the draft framework document. There was a substantive discussion and various suggestions were made on the document. The Meeting took note of the discussion paper prepared by Chile on membership.

It was agreed that Singapore would prepare a revised framework document to be circulated to members by September 2000. Further comments on this draft could be submitted to Singapore by 5 Jan 2001.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) DELIVERABLES**

Several delegations reported on the implementation of the projects they had proposed at the inaugural meeting in Singapore. Some delegations also proposed new projects.

The Meeting noted that there was some duplication with regards to several proposed projects. For this reason, it was agreed that the co-coordinators would rationalize all the projects under separate themes or areas of cooperation.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: DISCUSSION ON EAST ASIA~LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) MODALITIES**

The Meeting elected Colombia and the Philippines as the deputy coordinators for the forum.

##### **i) Roles and Functions of the Coordinators**

The Meeting considered the non-paper prepared by Chile on the Roles and Functions of the Coordinators. The Meeting agreed to the following:

The coordinators, one from each region, would be assisted by deputy coordinators from the two regions. The coordinators and deputy coordinators would be elected by consensus.

The Ministerial meeting could be convened at regular intervals of approximately 2 years.

The term of office for the coordinators starts at the end of each Ministerial Meeting and continue till the next Ministerial Meeting.

The coordinators would be responsible for hosting the senior officials and Ministerial meetings.

The Ministerial Meeting should alternate between the two regions.

The coordinators could represent EALAF at other regional and international meetings with the consensus of all EALAF members.

## **ii) EALAF Secretariat**

The Meeting agreed that there was no necessity for an EALAF Secretariat at this stage. The role of the Secretariat would be undertaken by the coordinators.

## **iii) Discussion on Appellation**

The meeting had an exchange of views on the appellation of the forum. It was suggested that apart from EALAF-FALAE, several other appellations could be considered. These included:

- EALAF+2
- Forum for Dialogue and Co-operation
- Extended EALAF, EACERLAF
- Singapore Group
- Singapore-Santiago Forum

The meeting agreed that EALAF-FALAE would continue to be the working name of the forum, pending decision by the Foreign Ministers.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: SCHEDULING OF THE THIRD EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) MEETING, AND THE FIRST EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING**

It was proposed that the First EALAF Foreign Ministers Meeting could be held in the first two weeks of April 2001 in Santiago, Chile, and be preceded by the 3<sup>rd</sup> EALAF SOM. Chile, as host, will propose two or three alternative dates within the first two weeks of April 2001 for the consideration of members.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: AGENDA FOR AN EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING**

The Meeting had a preliminary discussion on the proposed agenda for the EALAF Ministerial Meeting. In this connection, the Meeting took note of the draft agenda circulated by Japan. It was agreed that the coordinators would prepare a draft agenda taking into account the views expressed at this meeting. The coordinators would circulate a draft agenda for further comments in due course.

## **AGENDA ITEM 9: OTHER MATTERS**

No other substantive matters were raised.

## **AGENDA ITEM 10: CONSIDERATION OF THE COORDINATORS' REPORT OF THE MEETING**

The Meeting adopted the Report of the Meeting.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

28 March 2001. Santiago, Chile

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Chile & Singapore**
- Participated **27 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (12)

### Main Results

- Adopted the draft of “Framework Document”
- Discussed the admission of new member countries
  - Agreed on presenting admission of Costa Rica, Cuba and El Salvador at the 1<sup>st</sup> FMM
- Changed the official appellation of the Forum
  - Suggested changing the official appellation of ELAF (East Asia-Latin America Forum) to FEALAC (Forum for East Asia and Latin America Cooperation) at the FMM

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information.

The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Agenda\*
- Programme\*
- General Information\*



\* Documents not available

## **COORDINATORS' REPORT OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> SOM, Santiago, Chile**

**28 March 2001**

The III Meeting of Senior Officials was held in Santiago, Chile, on 28 March 2001. The meeting was co-Chaired by Ambassador Octavio Errazuriz, Director-General (Asia Pacific), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile, and Mr. Bilahari Kausukan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore.

The meeting was attended by senior officials of the 27 member countries, namely Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Colombia, Chile, China, Ecuador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

### **Item 1 Adoption of Agenda**

The Meeting adopted the agenda.

### **Item 2 Business Arrangements.**

The Meeting noted the Program. The Meeting met in Plenary.

### **Item 3 Discussion on Appellation of Forum**

The Meeting supported the proposal that the official name of the forum could be 'Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation'. The Meeting further agreed that it be submitted to the Ministers with the recommendation that it be adopted.

### **Item 4 Discussion of Framework Document**

The Meeting finalized the draft-Framework Document and agreed that it be submitted to the Ministers for their endorsement. The Meeting agreed that the Framework Document could be reviewed and amended by consensus, if necessary.

### **Item 5 Discussion on New Members**

The Meeting discussed the applications for membership by Costa Rica, Cuba and El Salvador. The Meeting agreed to recommend to the Ministers that the three countries be admitted into the forum.

The Meeting also agreed to recommend to the Ministers, if the Ministers agreed to admit the three countries, that their representatives could be invited to participate in the Ministerial Meeting immediately Following their acceptance into the forum.

### Item 6 Report and Discussion on Projects

The Meeting was briefed by its members on the status of on-going projects, and proposal for new projects. A document on a list of the projects as well as papers submitted by members on new projects will be circulated at due course.

It was noted that some of the projects overlapped with each other and that there was need for better coordination. The Meeting agreed that the next Senior Officials' Meeting will address this issue. The meeting also agreed that one of the Co-Chairs could brief the Ministers on the status when this item is discussed at the Ministerial Meeting.

### Item 7 Preparations for the Ministerial Meeting

The Meeting was briefed on the program and agenda for the Ministerial Meeting.

The Meeting supported the proposal for the establishment of 3 Working Groups dealing with political/cultural; economic/social; and education/science and technology. The Working Groups could be tasked to develop specific frameworks for cooperation in this areas and to recommend specific forum wide-projects. The Working Groups may have Co-Chairs from the two regions. Membership of the Working Groups is flexible and could include Government officials, private sector and academia. The Working Groups could submit an interim report to the next Senior Officials Meeting in Colombia and the final report by the Ministerial Meeting in the Philippines in 2003. The Meeting agreed that the idea of establishing Working Groups could be submitted to the Ministers for their consideration.

The Meeting also agreed to recommend to the Ministers that there could be a short draft communiqué attaching the Coordinators Report of the Ministerial Meeting and the Framework Document. In this connection, they supported the draft Communiqué and agreed that it could be sent to the Ministers for their consideration.

### Item 8 Other Matters

No other matters were raised.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting

29-30 March 2001. Santiago, Chile

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Chile & Singapore**
- Participated **30 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (15)

### Main Results

- Changed official name of the forum from EALAF (East Asia-Latin America Forum) to FEALAC (Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation)
- Adopted 「Co-Chairs' Statement First Ministerial Meeting of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation」 and “Framework Document” of FEALAC
  - Basic document which contains the Forum's goals, extent of cooperation, and management direction
- Appointed Colombia and Philippines as the next Regional Coordinator
- Admitted new member countries
  - The number of member countries increases from 27 to 30 with the admission of Costa Rica, Cuba and El Salvador

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex A. Framework for a Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation between East Asia and Latin America
- Agenda
  - Programme
  - General Information



**CO-CHAIRS' STATEMENT:  
FIRST MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE  
FORUM FOR EAST ASIA - LATIN AMERICA COOPERATION**

SANTIAGO, CHILE (March 29-30, 2001)

1. The Inaugural Ministerial Meeting of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation was held in Santiago, Chile on 29 and 30 March 2001. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mrs Maria Soledad Alvear, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Chile and Professor S Jayakumar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore.
2. The Meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministers and heads of delegations of Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

**Appellation**

3. The Ministers agreed that the official name of the Forum will be "Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation".

**Adoption of the Framework Document**

4. The Ministers approved the Framework Document which appears at Annex A.
5. The Framework Document could be reviewed and amended by consensus if necessary.

**New Members**

6. The Ministers agreed by acclamation to the admission of Costa Rica, Cuba and El Salvador as new members of the Forum. The representatives from these three countries then joined the meeting.

## Review of National Projects

7. The Ministers were briefed by the Co-Chair of the Senior Officials' Meeting on their deliberations on the status of current and new national projects. The Ministers were of the view that the national projects dealt with substantive issues and fostered better understanding and cooperation between the two regions and encouraged the submission of new projects.
8. The Ministers noted that the increasing number of national projects, while demonstrating the interest and commitment of members to the Forum, had also led to some overlap. They instructed the Senior Officials to consider how the Forum could better coordinate, harmonise and synergise national projects in order to reap maximum benefits from them.
9. The Ministers also agreed that while national projects were of continued importance, they should be complemented by the establishment of Forum-wide projects.

## Presentation by IDB and ECLAC

10. The Ministers expressed their appreciation for the presentations during their lunch on 29 March 2001 by Mr. Julio Angel Mejias, representative of the Inter-Development Bank (IDB) in Chile, and Mr. Jose Antonio Ocampo, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The presentations provided many useful insights into the current status of relations between East Asia and Latin America.

## Regional Developments and Cooperation

11. The Ministers had a rich and multi-faceted exchange of views on the opportunities and challenges of globalisation covering, inter alia, political, economic, social, educational, environmental and science and technology issues. They agreed that this exchange of views had fostered better mutual understanding and provided them with a deeper appreciation of the potential of dialogue and cooperation between East Asia and Latin America.
12. Their discussions focused, inter alia, on the following broad themes :
  - a) An exchange of experiences and views on the positive and negative aspects of globalisation;
  - b) An exchange of views on the respective experiences of the two regions on regional integration;
  - c) The sharing of experiences of member states from both East Asia and Latin America on their political and economic transitions; and

- d) The impact of globalisation on international relations and on several regional and international issues.
13. In this connection, the Ministers welcomed the ongoing progress in South-North Korean relations following the inter-Korean Summit held in Pyongyang in June 2000. They hoped that the momentum would continue with the strengthening of the inter-Korean dialogues, consolidating the reconciliation and cooperation between the two Koreas that would also contribute to the stability of East Asia and beyond.
  14. To meet the challenges and seize the opportunities of globalisation, the Ministers also discussed specific ways in which the Forum could explore specific Forum-wide projects to respond to common issues.
  15. These included, but were not limited to, the following:
    - a) Assistance to small and medium enterprises;
    - b) People-to-people contacts of various kinds;
    - c) Academic and student exchanges;
    - d) Human resource development and capacity building;
    - e) Trade and Investment promotion;
    - f) Air and sea transportation links;
    - g) Webpages and other modalities for sharing information;
    - h) Responses to the call for a New Round;
    - i) Environmental issues;
    - j) Mapping and maximising complementarities between the two regions;
    - k) Responding to the challenges and opportunities of Information Technology; and
    - l) Cultural exchanges of various kinds.

### Future Direction of the Forum

16. The Ministers agreed that the First Ministerial Meeting of the Forum for East Asia and Latin America Cooperation marked a new chapter in relations between the two regions.
17. To sustain the momentum generated by the Meeting and to concretize the cooperation between the two regions, the Ministers decided to establish three open-ended Working Groups with the aim of strengthening dialogue and cooperation in the following fields:
  - a) Political/cultural cooperation;

- b) Economic /social cooperation; and
  - c) Education/science and technology cooperation.
18. The Ministers directed that the Working Groups would have the following broad Terms of Reference:
- a) Elaborate detailed frameworks for cooperation between the two regions in line with the rationale, purposes, objectives and principles of the Forum as set out in the Framework Document in order to make recommendations on a few practical, Forum-wide projects;
  - b) In doing so, and as agreed during the earlier discussions on national projects as described in paragraphs 7-9 above in this Co-Chairs' Statement, the Working Groups should, where appropriate, endeavour to coordinate and harmonize existing national projects and explore potential synergies between national projects and proposed Forum-wide projects in order to identify national projects which could be harmonised with, or incorporated into, possible Forum-wide projects; and
  - c) The Working Groups should also examine suggestions made by member states in order to prioritise them and avoid duplication with the existing work of other regional and international forums, groups and institutions.
19. The Ministers agreed that Chile and Singapore would co-chair the Working Group on political/cultural cooperation; Japan and Peru would co-chair the Working Group on economic/social cooperation; and Australia and Costa Rica would co-chair the Working Group on education/science and technology cooperation.
20. The Ministers agreed that the Working Groups should not be confined to government officials, but could also decide by consensus to include the private sector, the academia and other relevant, non-governmental organisations as well as regional and international organisations, whenever appropriate.
21. The Ministers instructed the Working Groups to begin their work as soon as possible in order to provide preliminary reports to the next Senior Officials' Meeting in Colombia in 2002. The Minister further instructed the Senior Officials to review the preliminary reports of the Working Groups in order to refine their Terms of Reference and provide further guidance to them. The Working Groups should present their conclusions to the Senior Officials' Meeting that would be held prior to the next Ministerial Meeting scheduled to be held in the Philippines in 2003. The Senior Officials would then consider the Working Groups' conclusions with a view to presenting recommendations to the Ministerial Meeting.



## Conclusion

22. The new Co-Coordicators, Philippines and Colombia, delivered closing statements.
23. The Ministers welcomed the next Co-Coordicators, Philippines and Colombia, and reaffirmed that the next SOM would be hosted by Colombia in 2002 and the next Ministerial Meeting would be held in the Philippines in 2003.
24. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the outgoing Co-Chairs of the Forum, Chile and Singapore.
25. The Ministers also expressed their appreciation to the government of Chile for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality accorded to all delegations.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

26-28 November 2002. Bogota, Colombia

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Colombia & Philippines**
- Participated **30 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (15)

### Main Results

- Appointed Korea as a Deputy Coordinator
  - Deputy Coordinator is automatically appointed as a Regional Coordinator after the 2<sup>nd</sup> FMM and serves as a Deputy Coordinator until the launch of the FEALAC Core Group
  - Agreed to Philippines' proposal to establish a Core Group
- Discussed the admission of new member countries
  - Admission of Nicaragua and Guatemala to be presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> FMM

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex 1. List of delegates\*
- Annex 2. Agenda
- Concept Paper for Establishment of FEALAC Core Group
  - Programme
  - General Information



\* Documents not available

## Report of the Coordinators of the Fourth Meeting of Senior Officials of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC SOM IV)

The Fourth Meeting of Senior Officials of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC SOM IV) took place in Bogotá, Colombia, from the 26<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2002. The Meeting was inaugurated by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Mrs. Carolina Barco. It was jointly chaired by the Viceminister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Mrs. Clemencia Forero, and by the Senior Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, Mr. Lauro L. Baja, Jr.

Delegations from the 30 member countries participated in the Meetings: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, China, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam. The list of delegates is attached as Annex 1.

### 1. Adoption of agenda

The Meeting adopted the agenda attached as Annex 2.

### 2. Designation of Deputy Coordinators (Article I0 of the Framework Document)

The Meeting welcomed Korea as Deputy Coordinator for East Asia. Consultations will continue on the search of a Deputy Coordinator for Latin America.

### 3. New application for membership: Nicaragua and Guatemala

The Meeting took note of the applications for membership of Nicaragua and Guatemala, which will be submitted to the process established in the Framework Document.

#### 4. Reports of the Co-Chairs of the Working Groups

The Meeting expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Presidents of the Working Groups, particularly to the countries that hosted the First Meetings: Singapore (political/cultural), Japan (economic/social) and Australia (education, science and technology).

After receiving the Reports, the Meeting gave comments and guidelines for the future work of the Working Groups, which are summarized as follows:

##### ◆ General guidelines for the Working Groups

- ☑ Encourage the holding of the Second Meeting as early as possible in the first semester of 2003 and to announce the dates well in advance.
- ☑ Encourage the deepening of the work of the Working Groups to ensure the consolidation of the Forum.
- ☑ Emphasize the need to further involve government officials, entities and experts who handle issues dealt with in each of the Working Groups.
- ☑ Reiterate the task of each Working Group of harmonizing existing national and bilateral projects to enhance the cooperation framework.
- ☑ Recommend to the Chairmen of the Working Groups to lead a project so that the Fifth Senior Officials' Meeting may put into consideration at least six concrete and viable interregional projects.

##### ◆ Specific guidelines for each Working Group

###### (1) Political and Cultural

- √ Give priority to the forum for young parliamentarians and the Electronic Network of the Centers of Studies in the Member Countries, as viable initiatives that could produce a significant impact on the strengthening of relations between the two regions, highlighting the project of Chile proposing a Network for Academic Centers and Singapore's Cultural and Journalists' Visit Programs.

###### (2) Economic and Social

- √ Appreciation to the Government of Japan for the establishment of the Group of Experts which has facilitated the tasks of this Working Group.

- ✓ Priority was given to projects that contribute to the common goal of poverty reduction. Those related to Entrepreneurship and Micro-, Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs), were underscored as promising areas of cooperation. Peru presented a project proposal in this regard. Said priorities and the progress achieved by this Working Group shall be the basis for the Meeting in Tokyo.
- ✓ Recognize the importance of interregional trade, which exhibits very low levels compared to its existing potential, as well as an imbalance. This issue serves as a valuable instrument for the deepening of the relations between the two regions. In this regard, positive acknowledgment was given to the study undertaken by Singapore on the obstacles to East Asia-Latin America trade.

### (3) Education, Science and Technology

- ✓ Underscore the importance of implementing the initiative of linking the existing electronic web pages of the member countries on these areas so as to connect the researchers and research centers of both regions, while seeking to identify search engines that would allow the use of a common language for the classification of materials.
- ✓ In that regard, the web page presented by Australia ([www.dest.gov.au/fealac](http://www.dest.gov.au/fealac)) at this Meeting was welcomed and the member countries were encouraged to link their web pages on education, science and technology to this web page.
- ✓ Recognize the importance of the projects related to the environment and to disaster relief and prevention, such as the El Niño Phenomenon and Clean Air.
- ✓ Encourage the participation of the member countries in the Fifth Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Asia-Pacific Centers, which will be held in Buenos Aires on 12-13 December 2002.

## 5. Evaluation of National Project

The Meeting expressed its appreciation for the large number of existing national projects which have already generated the dynamics of better knowledge between the two regions, thanks to a more free-flowing exchange of visits of, inter alia, government officials, researchers, academicians, journalists and youth.

The need for improved coordination among national projects, as well as with those of the Working Groups was underscored, in order to avoid duplication of efforts and to facilitate the assignment of priorities to the projects. For this purpose, Colombia, in its capacity as Coordinator, offered to submit a matrix of national projects, both accomplished or ongoing, as well as those being considered by the Working Groups, with a clear distinction between national and interregional projects.

## 6. Initiatives to strengthen FEALAC

The Senior Officials reiterated the importance of the sustainability of the Forum, indicating that this kind of initiatives required time to mature. They identified the need to improve its coherence, efficiency and focus, which would thus produce a positive impact on its success and long-term viability.

To address this need, the Coordinators shall promote a Core Group-style consultations and meetings that allow for deliberations, with the active participation of all members, including the Regional Coordinators, Deputy Coordinators and Chairmen of the Working Groups.

The results of these exchanges of views will be considered in the Fifth Senior Officials' Meeting in Manila, prior to which a working meeting on the strengthening of FELAC is envisaged.

To facilitate this task, the Regional Coordinators shall identify and make known to the other members the FEALAC National Focal Points or National Coordinators, encouraging more free-flowing interaction, with the use of the information technology.

An extensive exchange of ideas took place in the Meeting. The exercise will be of great use to the deliberations on FEALAC. Among the more important proposals are the following:

- To encourage the participation of academe and the private sector.
- To promote the creation of a Business Council.
- To work on the basis of the Forum's principles of equality, mutual benefit and common development.
- To identify tools that would contribute to a better knowledge of the culture and history of both regions.
- To promote the use of technology.
- To promote technical cooperation.
- To benefit from the experiences of the financial crises in both regions.
- To seek financing for cooperation projects.

- To make further use of the leadership of the Coordinators.
- To encourage a balanced participation of both regions.
- To establish relations with international organizations and international financial bodies.
- To emphasize the prioritization of projects.
- To take advantage of the experience already gained in the Forum.
- To improve the flow of communication between the National Focal Points/ National Coordinators of the Forum.

## 7. Next SOM (SOM V) and Second Meeting of the FEALAC Foreign Ministers (FMM II) in the Philippines

The Meeting took note of the great interest to establish an agenda that is as substantive as possible for the Second Ministerial Meeting and indicated the need to hold the Fifth Senior Officials Meeting in the middle of 2003 to decide on the issues for dialogue and the projects for cooperation that could be dealt by the Second Foreign Ministers Meeting, as well as the specific date for this meeting.

### ◆ Consultations on the agenda to be discussed and release of ministerial declarations in the FMM II.

The Coordinators shall consult with the countries of their respective regions the international issues on which there could be consensus to give substance to the declarations of the Second Ministerial Meeting.

## 8. Other matters

No other matter was discussed.

## 9. Consideration of the Report of the Coordinators

The Meetings received the present Report of the Coordinators.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

13-14 August 2003. San Jose, Costa Rica

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Colombia & Philippines**
- Participated **29 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (14)

### Main Results

- Discussed the date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> FMM
- Discussed the draft of “Manila Plan of Action”
- Elected Brazil as the Deputy Regional Coordinator for Latin America

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex 1. List of Delegations
- Annex 2. Approved Agenda
- Annex 3. List of FEALAC Projects Approved at 5<sup>th</sup> SOM
  - Programme
  - Logistics Information





## Report of the Coordinators of the Fifth Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM V) of the Forum for East Asia–Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC)

The Fifth Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM V) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) took place in San Jose, Costa Rica, on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of August 2003. The Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, H.E. Marco Vinicio Vargas, inaugurated the Meeting. The Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs for Policy of the Philippines, the Regional Coordinator for East Asia, H.E. Sonia Cataumber Brady and the Coordinator for Asia and Africa of Colombia, the Regional Coordinator for Latin America, H.E. Pio Garcia, jointly chaired the SOM V.

Delegations from the 29 member countries participated in the Meetings: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, China, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam. The list of delegates is attached as Annex 1.

### I. Adoption of Agenda

The Meeting adopted the agenda attached as Annex 2.

### 2. Designation of Deputy Coordinator for Latin America

The Meeting welcomed Brazil as Deputy Coordinator for Latin America. The SOM expressed appreciation to the Republic of Korea and Brazil for taking on the responsibility of the positions as they assume the functions of Regional Coordinator for East Asia and Regional Coordinator for Latin America, respectively, at the conclusion of the Second FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM II) and expressed full confidence in them as they prepare to discharge their functions.

### **3. Reports of the Co-chairs of the Working Groups**

The SOM expressed appreciation for the efforts made by Co-Chairs of the Working Groups, particularly to the countries that hosted the Second Meetings of the respective Working Groups, namely: Chile (political/cultural), Japan (economic/social) and Costa Rica (education, science and technology).

The SOM considered the final reports of the Politics and Culture and the Economy and Society Working Groups and endorsed them for the approval of the Foreign Ministers. They likewise recommended for the approval of the Ministers the projects in progress, and those proposed for implementation or in the process of elaboration, as enumerated in the abovementioned reports and as proposed during the deliberations of the SOM V. The projects recommended for approval are attached as Annex 3.

The SOM likewise noted with appreciation, the ad interim report of the Education, Science and Technology Working Group, and agreed to consider its final report at the SOM VI.

Finally on this agenda item, the SOM recognized the need to adopt a system of rotation of Working Group Co-Chairs, taking into account the need for continuity when necessary.

### **4. Consideration of Report of the Co-Chairs of the Core Group Process**

The SOM expressed appreciation to the Philippines and Colombia for Co-Chairing the Core Group Process. They endorsed the recommendations of the Core Group process to the Foreign Ministers for their approval at the Second Foreign Ministers' Meeting, to be held in Manila in January 2004.

### **5. New applications for membership: Nicaragua and Guatemala**

The Meeting recommended to the Foreign Ministers the admission of Nicaragua and Guatemala into the Forum. The Philippines, as host of the FMM II, will invite the two new members to participate in the FMM II ONCE their admission to FEALAC is officially approved by the Foreign Ministers.

### **6. Preparations for FMM II**

The Philippines proposed 19 and 20 January 2004 as the dates for the SOM VI and 21 and 22 January 2004 as the dates for the FMM II. Upon the request of some member states, the Philippines agreed to explore alternative dates in late January 2004.

The SOM also agreed that the FMM II would be composed of three phases. The first phase, a plenary meeting, would consider the recommendations of the SOM. The first phase would also include presentations by the heads of international institutions, such as, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Economic and Social Council for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on how their activities might support the aims of FEALAC and the specific projects of its Working Groups. The SOM also agreed that should the heads of these entities be unavailable, very senior representatives should represent them. The SOM requested the Philippines to coordinate with these entities with regard to their participation.

The SOM also agreed that the second phase of the FMM II would be composed of a ministerial retreat that would cover three broad areas: Enhancing Partnerships Between Latin America and East Asia, Securing the Future, and Overcoming Poverty as well as other topics of interest.

The SOM also agreed that the third phase of the FMM II would be a final plenary session to adopt the Manila Plan of Action to promote Cooperation between East Asia and Latin America (MPA), as well as to cover any outstanding procedural matters, if necessary.

The SOM likewise agreed that the Philippines would determine the exact duration of the three phases of FMM II at a later date after consulting with the member countries.

With regard to the FMM II outcome document, the SOM agreed that in principle, there should be only one outcome document, namely the Manila Plan of Action (MPA) and that the Co-Chairs statement that would reflect the proceedings of the FMM II could also be prepared.

The SOM agreed that the final text of the MPA should reflect the results of the Working Group process and should be a political document that would guide FEALAC in the biennium from the FMM II to the FMM III. It should therefore be brief enough to be interesting but long enough to cover the essential points. The SOM also agreed that relevant elements resulting from the ministerial retreat should be incorporated in the MPA.

Lastly, the SOM agreed that the final round of comments on the indicative list of elements for inclusion in the MPA should be submitted in writing to the Philippines not later than end of business on 01 September 2003, Manila Time, to ensure that at least two full rounds of consultations on

the draft document could be conducted before the SOM VI. These inputs could be faxed to +632-831-8894, or e-mailed to [fealacphil@dfa.gov.ph](mailto:fealacphil@dfa.gov.ph) or [mrbautista@dfa.gov.ph](mailto:mrbautista@dfa.gov.ph).

The SOM also agreed that, to ensure transparency, countries submitting these comments should also circulate their inputs directly to all member states. The Regional Coordinators agreed to post copies of these inputs on the FEALAC website managed by Colombia, at <http://www.focalae.net>.

The SOM also noted that greater use of information technology is necessary to enhance FEALAC's effectiveness and efficiency, especially in the preparations leading up to the FMM II. It was thus agreed that it is desirable for national FEALAC focal points to be in direct e-mail contact with each other. The SOM therefore expressed with appreciation Costa Rica's efforts to collect such a list of e-mail addresses and for circulating this information.

Upon the suggestion of the Philippines, the SOM also agreed that effective 15 September 2003, draft documents would be posted in the password-protected section of the abovementioned website and that member countries would be responsible for ensuring that their delegations to the various FEALAC meetings have a complete set of the pertinent meeting documents. It was agreed, however, that documents could also continue to be circulated by traditional means (ordinary correspondence and fax).

To facilitate the organization of documents, the SOM also requested the Regional Coordinators and the Co-Chairs of the Working Groups to work together to devise a uniform document numbering system.

## **7. Consideration of the Report of the Coordinators**

The SOM received the present Report of the Coordinators. The SOM also expressed its appreciation to the host country, Costa Rica, for its generous hosting of the SOM V and for the excellent arrangements as well as the warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegates.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

28-29 January 2004. Manila, Philippines

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Colombia & Philippines**
- Participated **30 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (15)

### Main Results

- Discussed the agenda of the 2<sup>nd</sup> FMM and related administrative matters
- Adopted the draft of “Manila Plan of Action”
- Transferred the cooperation area of ‘Education’ from Education, Science and Technology WG to Politics, Culture WG
- Elected next Co-Chairs of each Working Group
  - Politics, Culture, and Education WG : Singapore, Colombia
  - Economy and Society WG : Japan, Argentina
  - Science and Technology WG : Thailand, Costa Rica

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex 1. List of Delegates\*
- Annex 2. Approved Agenda\*
- Annex 3. FEALAC document numbering system and the proposed FEALAC document format\*
- Annex 4. Draft of the Manila Plan of Action\*
- Annex 5. Reports of the SOM IV and SOM V\*



\* Documents not available

## **Report of the Coordinators of the Sixth Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM VI) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation**

**Manila, 28 and 29 January 2004**

The Sixth Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM VI) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) took place in Manila, Philippines, on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2004.

The Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs for Policy of the Philippines, the Regional Coordinator for East Asia, H .E. Sonia Cataumber Brady and the Coordinator for Asia, Africa and Oceania of Colombia, the Regional Coordinator for Latin America, H .E. Pio Garcia, jointly chaired the SOM VI.

Delegations from 30 member countries participated in the Meeting: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

The list of delegates is attached as Annex 1.

### **1. Adoption of Agenda**

The Meeting adopted the agenda, attached as Annex 2.

### **2. Consideration of proposed FEALAC document format and numbering system**

The SOM recommended for approval by the Foreign Ministers the proposed FEALAC document numbering system and the proposed FEALAC document format, which are attached as Annex 3.

### **3. Consideration of the Report of the Working Group on Education, Science and Technology**

The SOM expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Co-Chairs of the Education, Science and Technology Working Group, Costa Rica and Australia.

The SOM recommended for the approval by the Ministers the projects in progress, and those proposed for implementation or under development, as enumerated in the report.

#### 4. **Consideration of transfer of Education function from Education, Science and Technology Working Group to Politics and Culture Working Group**

At the SOM V, held in San Jose, Costa Rica on 13 and 14 August 2003, the Co-Chair, Colombia, proposed the transfer of the Education function of the Education, Science and Technology Working Group to the Working Group on Politics and Culture.

The SOM recommended to the Foreign Ministers that the Education function be thus transferred, and that the appellation of the Working Group be changed to Working Group on Politics, Culture and Education.

#### 5. **Selection of new Co-Chairs of the Working Groups**

The SOM agreed that while the principle of rotation would be upheld, given the unique circumstances in FEALAC at this early stage of the Forum's development, due consideration should also be given to continuity.

The Senior Officials therefore recommended the following set of Working Group Co-Chairs: Politics, Culture and Education: Colombia and Singapore; Economy and Society: Argentina and Japan; Science and Technology: Costa Rica and its Co-Chair, to be selected by SOM VII.

It was also agreed that the terms of these coordinators would be up to the FMM III.

#### 6. **Consideration of Agenda for Second Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM II)**

The SOM endorsed to the Foreign Ministers the provisional agenda for the FMM II for their consideration and approval.

#### 7. **Consideration of draft Manila Plan of Action**

The SOM considered the draft of the Manila Plan of Action, contained in Annex 4, and recommended approval by the Foreign Ministers.

#### 8. **Other Matters**

No other matters were discussed.

## 9. Consideration of Report of the Coordinators of the SOM IV, V, and VI

The SOM received the present Report of the Coordinators and reiterated the recommendations made to the foreign ministers at the SOM IV, held in Bogota, Colombia on 26 to 28 November 2002 and the SOM V, held in San Jose, Costa Rica, on 13 and 14 August 2003, and SOM VI held in Manila, Philippines on 28 and 29 January 2004.

Attached as Annex 5 are the reports of the SOM IV and SOM V, with supporting documents.

## 10. Acknowledgement

The SOM also expressed its appreciation to the host country, the Philippines, for its generous hosting of the SOM VI and for the excellent arrangements as well as the warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegates.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting

30-31 January 2004. Manila, Philippines

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Colombia & Philippines**
- Participated **32 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (17)

### Main Results

- Adopted “Manila Plan of Action” which establishes FEALAC’s future direction
  - Emphasized need for bi-regional dialogue on economic development, overcoming poverty, and securing the future
- Appointed Korea and Brazil as the next Regional Coordinators
- Admitted new member countries
  - The number of member countries increases from 30 to 32 with the admission of Nicaragua and Guatemala

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Manila Action Plan (Eng.)
- Plan de Accion de Manila (Spa.)



## **CO-CHAIRS' STATEMENT ON THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING OF THE FORUM FOR EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA COOPERATION**

**Manila, 28-29 Jan 2004**

The Second Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation resulted in several key outputs.

We admitted two new members, Nicaragua and Guatemala. This makes FEALAC the largest inter-regional grouping with 32 members, linking South East Asia, East Asia, Oceania, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

We approved the reports of the Working Group on Education, Science and Technology, on Politics and Culture, and on Economy and Society. They now have the full mandate to implement their projects.

We saw the need for a broader and more comprehensive discussion of political and security issues, and entrusted the Senior Officials with the task of ensuring that these issues are discussed by the appropriate Working Groups.

We had a retreat in Tagaytay where we had a frank and candid exchange of views on issues of relevance to the two regions. We also approved the Manila Plan of Action, which sets the Forum's priorities and direction for the next stage of its development. It calls for, among others, specific projects in capacity building, cooperation in enhancing micro, small and medium enterprises, as well as a joint approach to the security challenges of the day. We emphasized that special attention should be given to those projects that the community-level impact.

The Ministers also agreed that they must exert efforts in other fora to make FEALAC complementary to existing efforts of other fora to uplift the lives of the more than two billion people that FEALAC represents. They thus shared views on areas for possible cooperation, and tasked the Working Groups to translate these ideas into action. They also recognized that FEALAC has an important part to play in the international system, and agreed that FEALAC officials in the relevant fora would enter into a dialogue to promote a better understanding of their priorities and interests in, among others, the United Nations and the World Trade Organization.

The Forum's inaugural Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in Santiago, Chile, in 2001. The FEALAC process is still in its infancy and is still evolving. We expect that FEALAC will develop its own character in incremental steps as the member countries become more familiar with each other and find more areas of mutual interest.

## **FEALAC, II Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM II)**

### **Manila Plan of Action to Further Enhance Cooperation Between East Asia and Latin America**

1. We, the Foreign Ministers of the thirty-two member countries of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) met in Manila, Philippines, on 30 and 31 January 2004 to deepen and broaden the links between our two regions. In this context, we welcomed the admission of Guatemala and Nicaragua as new members of the Forum.
2. Our meetings were conducted in a transparent and constructive atmosphere and were built upon the work begun at the First FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM I), held in Santiago, Chile on 29-30 March 2001.
3. We noted the Forum's progress with satisfaction and recognized that it has accomplished much despite being a relatively new intergovernmental entity. FEALAC continues to demonstrate its value through the advancement of important inter-regional projects in various fields. This has shown that the Forum has a valuable complementary role in the international system.
4. We reiterated our commitment to abide by the Framework Document as FEALAC's guiding beacon. We resolved at this meeting in Manila that we will set a more focused direction for the Forum that will make full use of the momentum generated since the FMM I.
5. We reiterated that enhanced economic and cultural links would lead to closer and deeper political ties. We enjoined our officials responsible for the Forum to ensure that FEALAC stays true to this path. The FMM I gave the Forum its foundation. The forthcoming biennium will be a critical period of consolidation that will give FEALAC its determining character. Therefore, now is the time to move to a more substantive direction.
6. We recognized that FEALAC can help in promoting peace and strengthening multilateral cooperation in all fields in today's international environment. We appreciated the importance of building on our achievements and seizing opportunities to make FEALAC more agile and responsive to the changing international environment.

7. We acknowledged that FEALAC plays a valuable part in bringing together countries from two very diverse regions for dialogue and cooperation. We agreed that better understanding among FEALAC member countries on matters of mutual interest could be useful in addressing issues in the relevant multilateral fora, particularly in forging better cooperation where our views converge.
8. We agreed that while FEALAC plays an important complementary role to activities in other fora, it should not duplicate existing efforts. We recognized that FEALAC has an important role in adding value through its inter-regional, consensus-based approach.
9. We acknowledged that the three Working Groups established at the FMM I developed many useful projects. The Working Groups brought the two regions closer through more frequent contacts among individuals from the member countries. We attached particular importance to those projects that promote a greater understanding between the two regions, including through greater information dissemination and people-to-people contact through, among others, modern information technologies. There is a need for further dialogue and cultural exchange among the Forum's members in order to better appreciate and understand their respective cultures and ways of life.

### ***Enhancing Economic Ties to Further Economic Development and Creating Opportunities to Overcome Poverty***

10. We noted the important roles of stability and security in promoting economic development and agreed that they should be enhanced through strengthening the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security as well as cooperation at the national, regional and global levels, while respecting the sovereignty of nations, to allow development to take place at a sustained and sustainable pace.
11. We reaffirmed that one of the cornerstones of FEALAC's foundation is to enhance economic ties and expand cooperation between the two regions, including through South-South Cooperation. We recalled the important roles of the business and academic sectors in socio-economic development, and the part that trade and investments should play in promoting the prosperity of our populations, taking into account the challenges presented by today's global economy.
12. We reiterated that one of FEALAC's priorities is overcoming poverty and providing equal opportunities including by promoting among our people, particularly among the disadvantaged and marginalized, including women

and youth, a worldview that embraces entrepreneurship and the right to a better life, thus contributing to socio-economic advancement. We can achieve this through the economic empowerment of our populations and the enhancement of social justice. We expressed our determination to strengthen national efforts and work together towards ensuring that the positive effects of globalization are enjoyed more broadly and equitably and that its negative effects will not contribute to the marginalization of any sectors of human society, particularly those in developing countries including landlocked developing countries and the less developed countries.

13. We recognized that education is one of the best means of empowering our people and promoting sustainable development. In this regard, we noted the importance of embarking on projects complementary to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, which will begin in 2005.
14. We recognized that most FEALAC member countries face the challenge of developing at a fast enough pace while safeguarding the environment. We recognized the importance of allocating the necessary resources to accomplish this, including through the promotion of employment and social services, including health and education for all. We reiterated the importance of accomplishing the internationally agreed development goals including the Millennium Development Goals, the actions set forth in the Monterrey Consensus, and the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. We expressed the need for work to continue urgently to ensure that the results of the Doha Development Round will contribute to a fairer and more equitable international trading system, bringing gains for all economies, particularly developing countries, via agricultural reform, improved market access for goods and services, and clarification and improvement of trade disciplines. We also expressed our support for the abolition of all forms of agricultural export subsidies in accordance with the Doha mandate.
15. We entrusted the SOM to coordinate the efforts of the working groups so that FEALAC may better contribute to fostering economic opportunities among FEALAC member countries, and encouraged the sharing of lessons learned and Best Practices. The SOM should ensure that the Working Groups undertake relevant projects in this regard, putting special attention on those projects that have a direct impact on our communities.
  - a. We encouraged efforts to strengthen trade and investment cooperation in FEALAC with particular attention given to the development of micro, small and medium enterprises as well as projects and fora that further build their capacity including through the strengthening of entrepreneurship and human resources.

- b. We noted the need for a public-business sector partnership in FEALAC to promote socio-economic development and create opportunities to help overcome poverty and facilitate individual and social progress. We called for an increasing role of the various economic agencies in our respective countries to better interface between FEALAC's public, business, and academic sectors. There is a need to promote exchanges of Best Practices to, among others, enhance governmental infrastructure to combat corruption, minimize red tape in bureaucracy, and strengthen the enabling environment for business and sustainable socio economic development. We encourage the participation of the FEALAC member countries in trade promotion programs offered by the International Trade Center (ITC), which is jointly sponsored by the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Furthermore the establishment, therefore, of a FEALAC Business Council and a FEALAC Academic Exchange Program could be considered as important means to strengthen partnerships between the two regions.
- c. We recognized that the provision of economic opportunities must be combined with a climate favorable to development. We noted the role of the international financial institutions in development and considered it imperative to foster important reforms in the international financial architecture to enhance their participation in developing countries' efforts to eradicate poverty and promote economic and social progress and alleviate the problem of external debt affecting many countries. We further recognized the contributions of multilateral specialized agencies and programs. We also recognized the contributions of regional financial institutions, such as the Asian Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, in promoting bi-regional exchanges. We encouraged them to improve their efforts to uplift the poor and underprivileged, and to make East Asia-Latin America Cooperation a priority area.
- d. We viewed the economic role of technology, especially information and communications technology, as an important engine of development. FEALAC should promote more exchanges and other technology transfers as well as collaborative research, while improving communications at all levels of the Forum to translate into better business opportunities. We encouraged activities that contribute to bridging the growing digital divide, particularly among and within FEALAC member countries including initiatives set forth in the Program of Action at the World Summit on the Information Society. Attention should also be placed on the exchange of best practices in the fields of environmental, agricultural and health technology.

- e. We acknowledged that it would be useful for FEALAC member countries to share experiences and Best Practices in promoting, among others, urban renewal, urban planning, land-use planning and infrastructure development and urban transport, mass housing and waste management, as well as rural development concerns.

## ***Securing the Future***

- 16. We noted that, while increased interdependence between nations has brought about certain advantages, including accelerated communications and economic interaction, it has also increased the vulnerability of countries and individuals to transnational threats. We believe that enhancing security for the well being of all people contributes positively to global sustainable development. It is therefore necessary to renew our commitment to combat crime, terrorism, and other transnational threats, including by understanding their root causes.
- 17. We acknowledged as important the need to mitigate against threats to human lives while realizing the full potential and security of each individual and state. In this context, a holistic approach that takes into account challenges such as environmental degradation, natural disasters, extreme poverty and hunger, illicit drugs, infectious diseases, human trafficking, transnational crime and terrorism, must be elaborated to secure the future of our people. Recognizing that it remains the principal responsibility of the state to promote the well being of its citizens, we highlighted the importance of enabling our populations to confront these tests as united societies.
- 18. We entrusted the SOM to coordinate the efforts of the Working Groups so that FEALAC may better contribute in addressing challenges to our security in an integrated and efficient manner.
  - a. We emphasized that the dialogue on matters affecting security should be broadened and deepened and relevant projects, including those to promote interfaith and inter-cultural understanding, be undertaken at the appropriate time. These efforts could include a program of interfaith dialogue so as to minimize religious prejudices, including as a result of the fight against terrorism.
  - b. We recognized the importance of cooperation between the two regions on disaster reduction, mitigation, relief and rehabilitation, and the strengthening of our efforts including in the various fora of the United Nations, and as part of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. The SOM should therefore promote projects in this regard in the



appropriate Working Groups with emphasis on projects related to early warning for natural and epidemic emergencies.

### ***Strengthening FEALAC to Further Inter-Regional Dialogue***

19. We agreed on the following to enhance our on-going inter-regional dialogue:
  - a. We authorized the Senior Officials to establish an ad referendum mechanism to secure the imprimatur of the Foreign Ministers once they have already reached consensus on procedural and administrative matters. Such a mechanism shall be used only if and when necessary. This is to ensure that decisions can be finalized with a minimum of delay while maintaining consensus-based decision-making in the Forum.
  - b. We agreed that sub-regional and inter-regional contacts at the official and unofficial levels, including the business and academic sectors, as well as the exchange of youth and cultural troupes, should continue to be enriched and that these interactions should serve to reinforce the intergovernmental nature of the Forum.
  - c. We instructed the SOM to avoid duplication of efforts and to evaluate projects, inter alia, with regard to their effectivity in the accomplishment of their respective goals; in furthering FEALAC's objectives; and in involving a significant number of member countries. We recognized that existing projects have contributed to accomplishing these objectives.
  - d. We agreed that while it is preferable for Co-Chairs and Regional Coordinators to host FEALAC meetings, and that they should be the choice of first instance, a greater degree of flexibility could be exercised in selecting hosts for meetings. Such a selection should be on the basis of consensus.
20. We agreed to meet again at the level of Foreign Ministers when appropriate, at a venue to be decided upon on the basis of consensus.
21. We expressed our appreciation to the out-going coordinators of the Forum, the Philippines and Colombia. We welcomed the new Regional Coordinators, Brazil and the Republic of Korea. We also expressed our appreciation to the Government of the Philippines for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality accorded to all delegations.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

27-28 October 2005. Seoul, Korea

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Brazil & Korea**
- Participated **30 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (15)

### Main Results

- Discussed the agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> FMM and related administrative matters
- Deputy Regional Coordinators
  - Latin America : Argentina, East Asia : Japan
- Discussed the admission of Dominican Republic as a new member country

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

Annex 1. List of Delegates\*

Annex 2. Approved Agenda\*



\* Documents not available

## Report of the Coordinators of the Seventh Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM VII) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation

Seoul, October 27-28, 2005

The Seventh Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM VII) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) took place in Seoul, Korea on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2005.

The Meeting was inaugurated by the Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea, H.E. Yu, Myung-hwan. It was jointly chaired by the Director General of Latin America and Caribbean Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Korea, H.E. Hwang, Eui-seung, and by the Under Secretary-General of Political Affairs of the Brazilian Ministry of External Relations of H.E. Pedro Motta.

Delegations from 30 member countries participated in the Meeting: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

The list of delegates is attached as Annex 1.

### 1. Adoption of Agenda

The Meeting adopted the agenda, attached as Annex 2.

### 2. Consideration of Reports of the Three Working Groups

#### 1) Political, Cultural and Education Working Group

The SOM considered the final Report of the Political, Cultural and Education Working Group and endorsed it for approval of the Foreign Ministers. The SOM expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Co-Chairs of the Working Group, Singapore and Colombia.

The Meeting was briefed by the member countries related to each cooperation projects in on the 'Political, Cultural and Education' field, the presented projects were as follows:

- Report on Political and Cultural Linkages between Countries of East Asia and Latin America (New Zealand, Paraguay)
- FEALAC Young Parliamentarians Forum (August 2005) (Singapore)
- Journalists Visit Programme (JVP) (2005 to 2010) (Singapore)
- Scholarship Program for Young Graduates from the FEALAC Member Countries by the Diplomatic Academy of Peru (Peru)
- Creation of System on Information Exchanges among FEALAC Member Countries to Combat Illicit Trafficking of Drugs (Colombia)
- Proposal of Forum for East Asia-Latin America University Presidents (FEALAUP) (first meeting to be held in May 2006) (China)
- Workshop on Drug Control Cooperation (January 2005) (Thailand)
- Training Course for FEALAC Cooperation on Poverty Reduction (July 2005 and July 2006) (Thailand)
- The FEALAC Buakaew Roundtable International for Foreign Officials (August 2005 and 2006) (Thailand)
- FEALAC Academic Network (Chile and Singapore)
- HUE Festival (June 3-6, 2006) (Viet Nam)

## **2) Economy and Society Working Group**

The SOM considered the final Report of the Economy and Society Working Group and endorsed it for the approval of the Foreign Ministers.

The SOM expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Co-Chairs of the Working Group, Argentina and Japan.

The Meeting was briefed by the member countries concerning each cooperation projects in the 'Economy and Society' field, the presented projects were as follows;

- The establishment of the FEALAC Business Council (FBC) (Korea)
- Result of the Symposium of Promotion and Application of Information and Communications Technology for the Competitiveness of MSMEs (July 2005) (Peru)
- FEALAC Young Leaders Invitation Programme on SMEs and IT (February 2005) (Japan)

- FEALAC Young Leaders Invitation Programme on Sustainable Development (December 2005) (Japan)
- Report on the Survey on Impediment to Trade and Foreign Direct Investment between Latin America and East Asia countries (October 2005) (Japan)
- International Humanitarian Fund (Venezuela)
- International Training Course on Hotel Management (March 2006) (Thailand)
- International Training Course on Tourism Management (May 2006) (Thailand)

The SOM acknowledged its preference for a continued effort for a consensus on the establishment of the FEALAC Business Council in accordance with the principles of the FEALAC Framework Document and the 'Manila Plan of Action'.

### **3) Science and Technology Working Group**

The SOM considered the final Report of the Science and Technology Working Group and endorsed it for the approval of the Foreign Ministers.

The SOM expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Co-Chairs of the Working Group, Costa Rica and Thailand.

The Meeting was briefed by the member countries concerning each co-operation projects in on the 'Science and Technology' field, the presented projects were as follows;

- **TELEMEDICINE:** Sustainable Connectivity Proposal for Communities with Limited Resources based on the Hispano-American Health Link Project (Peru)
- Space Monitoring System of Health Early Warning (Argentina)
- Result of the 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop for the Establishment of Information Exchange Network on ENSO (April 2005) (Peru)
- Natural Disasters Control Information Network (Costa Rica)
- Training Programme on Community-based Disaster Risk Management (Philippines)

## **3. Selection of Deputy Regional Coordinators of FEALAC**

The SOM welcomed Japan and Argentina as Deputy Regional Coordinators of FEALAC for East Asia and Latin America respectively.

#### 4. Consideration of Schedules for FEALAC Meetings

##### 1) The 3<sup>rd</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM III) and 8<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM VIII)

The SOM welcomed Brazil's proposal to host consecutive meetings of the SOM VIII and FMM III on August 2006. The SOM was also informed that Brazil will consult with FEALAC member countries on the specific agenda of the SOM VIII and FMM III.

The SOM suggested that the following issues could be discussed as part of the agenda of the FMM III:

- Implementation of the 'Manila Plan of Action'
- Broad and indicative issues that outline the future directions of FEALAC
- Engagement of financial institutions (e.g. ADB, IDB) for supporting FEALAC cooperation projects

The SOM pointed out that, as much as possible, the general issues of the FMM III agendas not be duplicated with other fora. The SOM agreed that the Regional Coordinators will prepare the draft of "Documents of FMM III" in close consultation with member countries, inter alia, by utilizing the meetings of the three Working Groups.

##### 2) The 4<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meetings (WGM IV)

Colombia proposed to host the Political, Cultural and Education Working Group Meeting in Bogotá on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2006.

Japan proposed to host the Economy and Society Working Group Meeting in Tokyo on May 2006.

Thailand proposed to host the Science and Technology Working Group Meeting in Bangkok on a date between the end of June and early July 2006. A one-day workshop on the use of alternative energy will also be held in Bangkok back-to-back with the Working Group Meeting.

#### 5. Other Matters

- 1) The SOM reached a consensus to recommend to the FMM the approval of the admission of the Dominican Republic into FEALAC.
- 2) The SOM recognized that FEALAC put more emphasis on the quality of FEALAC cooperation and the need for the Co-Chairs to intensify the coordination.

- 3) The SOM also discussed ways to improve the work of FEALAC and decided to further discuss the subject at its next meeting.

## 6. Consideration of Report of the Coordinators of the SOM VII of FEALAC

The SOM considered and approved the 'Report of the Coordinators of SOM VII'.

## 7. Acknowledgements

The SOM expressed its appreciation to the host country, the Republic of Korea, for hosting of the SOM VII and excellent arrangements as well as the warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegates.

The appreciation is also extended to Brazil for co-chairing the meeting.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

20-21 August 2007. Brasilia, Brazil

### Participants


- Co-chaired by **Brazil & Korea**
- Participated **32 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (17)

### Main Results

- Agreed on submitting a draft of 'Brasilia Ministerial Declaration and Programme of Action' at the 3<sup>rd</sup> FMM
- Discussed cooperation on each area of Working Groups such as the creation of information network on trade and investment within FEALAC

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- |             |  |   |
|-------------|--|---|
| Annex I.    | List of Delegates*   |  |
| Annex II.   | Agenda of the Meeting*   |   |
| Annex III.  | WG's final report*   |   |
| Annex IV.   | Report on the 4 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the WG on Economy and Society*  |   |
| Annex V.    | Report of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the WG on Science and Technology*   |   |
| Annex VI.   | Draft Brasilia Declaration*  |   |
| Annex VII.  | Promotion of tourism in both of FEALAC's regions*  |   |
| Annex VIII. | Exchange of information and implementation of best practices in both regions concerning the strengthening of SMEs* |   |
| Annex IX.   | Upgrading and strengthening of the existing FEALAC Academic Network (FAN)*   |   |
| Annex X.    | Establishment of a network information on trade and investment opportunities within FEALAC*                        |   |
| Annex XI.   | Statement regarding the situation of Korean hostages in Afghanistan*   |   |

\* Documents not available



## Coordinators' Report on the Eighth Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM VIII)

### Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation

Brasilia, August 20-21, 2007

The *Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation* (FEALAC)'s Eighth Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM VIII) took place in Brasilia, Brazil, August 20-21, 2007.

The Meeting was co-chaired by the Undersecretary-General for Africa, Asia, Middle East, and the Pacific of the Ministry of External Relations of Brazil (MRE), H.E. Ambassador Roberto Jaguaribe, and the Director-General of the Latin America and Caribbean Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea (MOFAT), H.E. Ambassador Han Byung-Kil.

Delegations from the 32 member countries participated in the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

The list of delegates is hereto attached as Annex I (SOM/2007/INF. 06)

The following topics were discussed and agreed upon by the participants:

#### I. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda of the Meeting (Annex II) was approved and adopted by the participants.

#### 2. Consideration of the Reports of the Working Groups

##### I) Working Group on Politics, Culture and Education:

The SOM VIII considered the final Report on the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Politics, Culture and Education, presented in Brasilia, August 20-21, 2007 by the co-chairs, Colombia and Singapore, and decided to submit the recommendations to the approval of the Third Foreign Ministers'

Meeting (III FMM). The SOM VIII expressed its appreciation for the results achieved by the Working Group.

Delegations presented their projects and contributions, which have been duly recorded in the WG's final report (Annex III). The delegations brought to attention new initiatives within the scope of the WG:

- The delegations of Paraguay and New Zealand announced the intention to update the Report on Political and Cultural Linkages between East Asia and Latin American countries.
- China offered scholarships for young diplomats to attend courses on the Chinese language and culture and indicated that it will continue its visiting programs for senior diplomats from FEALAC countries.
- The SOM VIII welcomed the proposal from Brazil to upgrade the academic network under FEALAC to an Academic Observatory, through the designation of academic focal points to be responsible for facilitating and fostering further exchanges on current research and programs.
- The SOM VIII also agreed that ongoing initiatives in this area within FEALAC shall be duly taken into account, especially the FEALAC Academic Network (FAN) initiative undertaken by Singapore and Chile, under the auspices of the IDB-Japan Fund.
- Chile referred to the importance of taking the existing database on scholarship programs available to researchers and students from member states as a basis for strengthening exchanges and generating academic networking. Peru suggested that FEALAC's home page on the internet be employed for this purpose.
- Thailand presented co-operation schemes on academic exchange, to be operated, on its side, by Burapha University.
- Thailand offered, moreover, to host the 4<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Buakaew Roundtable International for FEALAC member countries at a date to be informed later.
- Cuba stressed the importance of fighting illiteracy and promoting basic education in FEALAC member countries and offered to share its own methodology for illiteracy eradication with members of the FEALAC.

The Senior Officials welcomed Indonesia as the new co-chair of the WG on Politics, Culture and Education, as the representative of East Asia. They also confirmed Colombia for a further term as the Latin American co-chair of the Group.

## **II) Working Group on Economy and Society**

The SOM VIII considered the report on the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the WG on

Economy and Society (Annex IV), which was presented by Japan and Argentina in Brasilia, August 20-21, 2007 and decided to submit the recommendations to the approval of the III FMM. The SOM VIII expressed its appreciation for the results achieved by the Working Group.

Delegations brought some points to the attention of SOM VIII:

- Korea announced its intention to host the fifth meeting of the WG in October 2007 in Seoul. Korea also called for a seminar on self-governance best practices, to be held November 11-17, 2007, also in Seoul.
- Singapore emphasised the importance of sharing expertise and best practices among member countries, offering training programs opened to officials from all member states in the following areas: port management and operations, airport terminal operations and management, civil aviation management programme, environmental protection and health management, water supply and distribution management and urban planning and environment management.
- As regards the strengthening of small and medium enterprises (SME), Ecuador referred to its intention to go forward with the project of establishing a Centre for Practical/Theoretical Studies on SMEs.
- Chile announced a new project on migrant workers, consisting of new social policies oriented to the situation of migrants.
- China announced the organization of the 1<sup>st</sup> China-Latin America Business Summit, to be held in Santiago in November.
- Brazil presented a proposal for the establishment of a network among FEALAC countries to share experiences in the strengthening and development of SMEs and suggested a draft decision to be approved by the III FMM.
- Brazil highlighted the need to establish a specific subgroup on trade and investment. Initiatives envisaged by the proposal would include the establishment of information networks on trade and finance, information to be made available by government agencies, businesses and trade associations from member states.
- The Venezuelan delegate called to attention the need to join efforts to alleviate poverty and promote social attention, especially in the areas of health and education. Venezuela also offered to host a seminar on social policies to be held in the first trimester of 2008.
- Brazil proposed to strengthen discussion on tourism in the WG on Economy and Society. Delegations agreed on the importance of tourism as a tool to enhance mutual knowledge and economic development among FEALAC countries. In this regard, they agreed to recommend to the III

FMM the setting up of a specific subgroup on the matter under the WG on Economy and Society.

The Senior Officials welcomed the Republic of Korea and Ecuador as the new co-chairs of the WG on Economy and Society.

### **III) Working Group on Science and Technology**

The SOM VIII considered the report of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the WG on Science and Technology (Annex V) presented by Costa Rica and Thailand in Brasilia, on August 20-21, 2007 and decided to submit the recommendations to the approval of the III FMM. The SOM VIII expressed appreciation for the results achieved by the Working Group. Delegations announced some additional points:

- Peru reiterated the need to strengthen further cooperation in the implementation of ENSO project – Southern Oscillations of “El Nino”, with special emphasis on the FEALAC Information Exchange Network and on the participation of member countries in the project.
- Brazil stressed that FEALAC should give special emphasis on greater cooperation and research on the subject of renewable and non-renewable energy sources. The SOM VIII agreed that a starting point shall be the consolidation of information on the topic available among and to FEALAC members. The establishment of a wider information network on the use of renewable energy sources could be considered.
- Thailand invites FEALAC member countries to participate in the Study Visit on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Problem Management in Thailand in May 2008.

The Senior Officials welcomed Panama and New Zealand as the new co-chairs of the WG on Science and Technology.

### **3. Consideration of the Brasilia Declaration**

The SOM VIII considered the draft Brasilia Declaration (Annex VI) and recommended its approval by the Foreign Ministers. It also agreed to submit to the III FMM four specific decisions regarding: 1) promotion of tourism in both of FEALAC's regions; 2) exchange of information and implementation of best practices in both regions concerning the strengthening of SMEs; 3) upgrading and strengthening of the existing FEALAC Academic Network (FAN); and 4) establishment of a network information on trade and investment opportunities within FEALAC (Annexes VII to X, respectively).

#### 4. Other matters

The Senior Officers recommend to the Working Groups that all proposals and projects submitted by member states specify essential information such as costs involved, deadlines and budgetary sources, whenever possible.

They also agreed to submit to the III FMM a statement regarding the situation of Korean hostages in Afghanistan, included as Annex XI of the Report.

#### 5. Consideration of the Coordinators Report

The SOM considered and approved the present Coordinators' Report.

#### 6. Acknowledgements

The SOM VIII expressed its appreciation to the host country, Brazil, for hosting the VIII SOM and warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegates. The appreciation is also extended to the Republic of Korea for co-chairing the meeting.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting

23 August 2007. Brasília, Brazil

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Brazil & Korea**
- Participated **33 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (18)

### Main Results

- Adopted 「Brasilia Ministerial Declaration and Programme of Action」 which states cooperation in the international community and specifies areas of cooperation within FEALAC
  - Shared awareness of global issues such as climate change and change in global financial order, and emphasized expanded cooperation in trade and investment among member countries
- Appointed Japan and Argentina as the next Regional Coordinators
- Admitted new member countries
  - The number of member countries increases from 32 to 33 with the admission of Dominican Republic

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- List of Participants
- Agenda
- Decision on Tourism
- Decision on Small and Medium Enterprises
- Decision on Trade and Investment
- Decision on FEALAC Academic Network (FAN)
- Statement of Solidarity with the People of Peru
- Statement on the Hostage Situation in Afghanistan



**FEALAC - III FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING (FMM III)  
BRASILIA MINISTERIAL DECLARATION AND  
PROGRAMME OF ACTION**

*Brasilia, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007*

1. We, the Foreign Ministers of member countries of the Forum for East Asia and Latin America Co-operation (FEALAC), met in Brasilia, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of August, 2007, to strengthen the links between our regions, broaden the areas of our co-operation and enlarge the membership. In this context, we welcomed the admission of the Dominican Republic as a new member of the Forum.
2. Recalling the outcome of the I Foreign Ministers Meeting, held in Santiago, in 2001, when the foundations of FEALAC were established, and of the II Foreign Ministers Meeting, held in Manila, in 2004, which resulted in the Manila Plan of Action, we have unanimously adopted this Brasilia Ministerial Declaration, reaffirming the objectives and purposes of the Forum and building upon existing accomplishments, with a view to further enhancing our bi-regional co-operation.
3. In the course of two days of active and friendly discussions, we have reached basic consensus on various points, which will serve as further guidelines for future joint and co-operative actions.
4. We noted, with concern, the continuous growth of challenges present at the time of the last FEALAC Foreign Ministers Meeting (FMM), such as the widening income gap between developed and developing countries, the increasing poverty and hunger, the difficulties faced by many countries to meet their energy requirements adequately; the threats to the environment including climate change, the loss of biodiversity and the unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, and their adverse effects to sustainable development; the difficulties faced by many communities to meet their basic needs and to provide the new generations with education and health services; the increasing threats of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, the persisting phenomena of terrorism, as well as the increase of illicit drug trafficking and other trans-national organised crime, and the ominous threat of new pandemics as

well as the existing limits to get the sufficient financial means to resist this deterioration.

5. Aware that the world drug problem represents a threat to the security of our citizens and recognizing that drug abuse is a public health problem that affects society as a whole, we attach great importance to prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers as an essential part of national health care systems. Conscious also of the need for continued progress in the fight against the production and trafficking of illicit drugs, and frequently related crimes, such as laundering of assets, illicit arms and weapons trafficking, and the illicit diversion of pharmaceutical products and chemical substances, we acknowledged the value of strengthened international cooperation towards combating transnational organized crime in all its forms, particularly the illicit drug trafficking, based on the principle of shared responsibility between producing and consuming countries, and within the framework of respective domestic legislation and international conventions on the matter. We also recognized the importance of fighting against trafficking and smuggling of persons.
6. We recognized the importance of looking into the phenomenon of international migration in an integrated manner.
7. At the same time, we noted that scientific progress achieved in new areas, such as nanotechnology, biotechnology, information technology, the space technology and new and renewable sources of energy is very promising, and should, as much as possible, be shared world-wide. Therefore, we pledged to respond to those challenges identified in this renewed initiatives.
8. Reiterating our commitment to strengthening the multilateral climate change regime, we recall the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible co-operation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, co-ordinated with social and economic development in an integrated manner, and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions. We look forward to measures to address climate change within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and to the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change and the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, to be held in Bali, Indonesia, in December, 2007. We also look forward to the UN Secretary-General's high-level event, which is to take place in New York on 24 September 2007.



9. We highly appreciated the works of the three FEALAC Working Groups and determined to promote co-operation in the specific areas of priorities which those Working Groups identified as core programs in FEALAC activities: "Academic Exchange", "Exchange of Expertise of Addressing Narcotics, Drugs and Illicit Drug Trafficking" and "Parliamentarians, journalists and Young Leaders Exchange" for the Political Cultural and Education Working Group; "Sustainable Development, especially Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)", "Utilisation of Information and Communication Technology (ICT)", "Promotion of Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs)", and "Poverty Reduction" for the Economy and Society Working Group; as well as "Renewable Energy," "Natural Disaster Management" and "Epidemic Diseases" for the Science and Technology Working Group.
10. We expressed our concern that progress towards the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, remains slow and uneven. In that regard, we shared the view that urgent actions by each country and the international community are imperative to meet the needs of the world's poorest, of the middle income countries that still need the support of the international co-operation to overcome the remaining areas of poverty still left and to foster sustainable development in all of them. We reiterate the importance of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals until 2015. We recognised the value of developing innovative financial mechanisms on a voluntary basis and other financial mechanisms as meaningful complementation of the Official Development Aid (ODA). In this context, we encouraged interested countries to explore projects, actions and innovative financial mechanisms.
11. We reaffirmed the objectives of upholding and safeguarding an open and nondiscriminatory multilateral trading system, as expressed in the Doha Ministerial Declaration. We shared the intention to co-operate to bring the Doha Round negotiations of the WTO to a satisfactory term, pursuant to the Ministerial Declaration of November 2001 on the Doha Development Agenda, which explicitly recognises the need for all our peoples to benefit from the increased opportunities and welfare gains that the multilateral trade system generates. We expressed our full support for the timely, balanced and successful conclusion of the Doha Round.
12. In the current complex and multifaceted world order, no single country, or group of countries, would be able to tackle alone the interconnected threats facing the international community. Therefore, there must be broad, deep and sustained multilateral co-operation among States, including stronger co-operation among States from different regions. One of the ways could be fostering the triangular cooperation.

13. We reaffirm our strong belief in multilateralism with the United Nations at its center. We emphasised the need for a comprehensive reform of the United Nations, to make it more effective, accountable, efficient and transparent, and shared the intention to co-ordinate the efforts of our delegations in New York in this matter. In this regard, we reaffirmed our commitment to the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly in October 2005 (A/RES/60/1 – 2005 World Summit Outcome) that called for the strengthening of the General Assembly, the revitalisation of the Economic and Social Council, the advancement of the Peacebuilding Commission and “early reform of the Security Council – an essential element of our overall effort to reform the United Nations – in order to make it more broadly representative, efficient and transparent and thus to further enhance its effectiveness and the legitimacy and implementation of its decisions”.
14. We recalled that both regions uphold the importance of a democratic international order, based on among others respect for the principles of the International Law and the Charter of the United Nations, national sovereignty, mutual benefits, upholding of human rights, promotion of sustainable development and strengthening of multilateralism.
15. We pledged to continue fostering mutual understanding and respect, trust and dialogue, in order to explore fully the potential for co-operation and increase convergence and commitment, with the purpose of working together in different international fora towards safeguarding our common interests.
16. We acknowledged that FEALAC plays a valuable part in bringing together countries from two very diverse regions for dialogue and co-operation. In this sense, we reaffirmed our interest to engage in joint projects, with a view to fostering mutual knowledge between the two regions and bearing tangible fruits for our populations. We recognised that better understanding among FEALAC member countries on matters of mutual interest could be useful in addressing issues in the relevant multilateral fora, particularly in forging better co-ordination where our views converge. We recognised that while FEALAC plays an important complementary role to activities in other fora, it should avoid duplication of existing efforts.
17. In this context we welcomed the Alliance of Civilisations initiative launched by the UN Secretary-General to build bridges between societies, to promote dialogue and understanding and to forge the collective political will to address the world's imbalances, and commended the Report of its High Level Group which included representatives from both regions.

18. We noted with appreciation that the relationship between East Asia and Latin America has evolved from one marked by political approximation to one that includes a growing dimension of economic, technological and cultural approximation.
19. We decided to confer high priority to trade and investment co-operation in FEALAC, as an important means to promote development, prosperity and social inclusiveness for our populations as well as a way to promote an even more meaningful and substantive relationship between our regions.
20. We reaffirmed the particular importance of the development of micro, small and medium enterprises continuing with initiatives, projects and fora aimed at building their capacity, including by strengthening entrepreneurship and developing human resources, as well as by providing trade promotion.
21. We reaffirmed the need to raise awareness about FEALAC among civil society and population in member states, to promote the visibility of FEALAC and to encourage involvement of all different areas of the national administration.
22. We decided that, upon selection of priority projects for co-operation, we will give particular attention to those which encompass a large number of members and reconcile the goals of fostering a knowledge-based economy, promoting inclusive and sustainable development and alleviating poverty.
23. We expressed our determination to strengthen national efforts and work together towards ensuring that the positive effects of globalisation are enjoyed more broadly and equitably and that its negative effects will not contribute to the marginalization of any sectors of human society, particularly those in developing countries including landlocked developing countries, small island developing states and the least developed countries.
24. We recognised the importance of deeper involvement of economic, educational, Science and Technology, social, cultural and other sectors of member countries into the process, and we pledged that the projects being carried out by the working groups should reflect that understanding.
25. We recognised the importance of positive contributions of international and regional financial institutions to promoting bi-regional exchanges, such as Latin America/Caribbean and Asia-Pacific Economic and Business Association (LAEBA) initiative co-ordinated by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). We encouraged those international and regional financial institutions to play greater roles and enhance collaborations for FEALAC projects. We also welcomed and encouraged the collaboration between the Economic Commission for

Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) to further promote and develop bi-regional projects which would strengthen the relations between two regions. We expressed our wish that those two commissions would also play roles as permanent think tanks for FEALAC.

26. Based, inter alia, on the above points, we resolved to direct and support the following course of initiatives for FEALAC:

- Senior Officials should evaluate regularly the initiatives presented in the context of the Working Groups on Politics, Culture and Education, Economy and Society, Science, and Technology. The Working Groups are encouraged to conceive and perform concrete actions with a gradual and realistic approach, in order to enhance co-operation in such areas;
- Share experience in combating trans-national organised crimes, among others; illicit narcotics and drug trafficking, and terrorism;
- Assist trade promotion events, such as fairs, expositions, business, seminars and conferences, among other initiatives, in countries of both regions. Such initiatives should be aimed at allowing businessmen and business enterprises to share expertise and experience and explore mutually beneficial business opportunities;
- Share information on common projects and activities on a regular basis, including through web-sites. In this regard, the FEALAC member countries accept with appreciation the generous offer of the Republic of Korea to develop and maintain the common official FEALAC's internet site and encourage the Government of the Republic of Korea to open the web-site as soon as possible;
- Organise cultural events showcasing unique aspects of each country;
- Co-operate in the areas of rural development, credit and insurance to household farmers and cooperatives;
- Organise exchange programmes for students and scholars of both regions to increase linkages among academic institutions of the two regions;
- Share expertise and promote co-operative ventures pertaining to water treatment; waste management; biotechnology and biomedicine.
- Share experience on developing new and renewable sources of energy and share research and experiences aimed at saving energy with the use of efficient technologies and the implementation of sustainable approaches for the generation, transmission and consumption of energy;
- Encourage initiatives among member countries of FEALAC aiming at the eradication of illiteracy, in the fulfilment of the Second Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

- Strengthen efforts in the promotion of projects on disaster prevention, reduction, mitigation, relief and rehabilitation. To this end, we share the intention to continue to explore ways of combining our efforts in all international fora, including the United Nations, and in the context of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, as well as in regional institutions established for these purposes. In this regard, we will place special emphasis on regional initiatives and projects related to early warning for natural disasters and disaster risk reduction, and pandemic emergencies, such as HIV/AIDS, SARS and avian flu.
27. We welcomed the holding of the two synergetic activities that were conducted in Brasilia, alongside and in the framework of the III FMM, namely the Business Seminar between East Asia and Latin America, as well as the Academic Seminar that congregated members of research institutes of the two regions and took note of their recommendations. In this regard, we welcomed the participation of members from the media and the NGOs in those events as a valuable contribution to FEALAC activities.
  28. In concluding the discussions, we reached general consensus that the continuation and strengthening of co-operation between East Asian and Latin American countries are one of the most desirable and fruitful endeavour, bearing in mind that East Asia and Latin America are two of the most dynamic, fast-growing and multi-culturally interactive regions of the world.
  29. We decided to meet again at the level of Foreign Ministers at a venue and on a date to be decided by consensus.
  30. We expressed our appreciation to the outgoing co-ordinators of FEALAC, Brazil and the Republic of Korea, and welcomed the new Regional Co-ordinators, Argentina and Japan.

## **Statement of the III FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting of Solidarity with the People of Peru**

Deeply distressed by the tragic consequences of the earthquake that on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August affected Peru, especially the regions of Pisco, Ica and Canete, we, Ministers of State and other Heads of Delegations gathered here in Brasilia to participate at the III Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the East Asia-Latin America Cooperation Forum, expressed our sorrow and solidarity with the people and Government of Peru.

## Statement of the III FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the Hostage Situation in Afghanistan

We, Ministers of State and other Head of Delegations gathered here in Brasilia to participate at the III Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the East Asia-Latin America Co-operation Forum, expressed concern on the current situation of Afghanistan and shared the view that the recurring terrorist attacks in the region and elsewhere demonstrated that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations remains a persistent, evolving and long-term threat to peace, security and prosperity. In particular, we condemned the hostage taking in Afghanistan and shared the grief and sorrow of the families of hostages and victims. At the same time, we called for the immediate unconditional and safe release of the remaining hostages.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

7-8 April 2009. Buenos Aires, Argentina

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Argentina & Japan**
- Participated **33 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (18)
  - \* Honduras and Mongolia were invited to participate as observers

### Main Results

- Discussed the agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> FMM and related administrative matters
- Discussed systematizing National Projects and enhancing the management and effectiveness of FEALAC
- Discussed the admission of Mongolia and Honduras as new member countries
- Elected Deputy Regional Coordinators: Argentina & Indonesia

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

#### Annex I. List of Delegates

- Final Report (Eng.)
- Final Report (Spa.)





## COORDINATORS' REPORT ON THE 9<sup>th</sup> SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING (9<sup>th</sup> SOM) FORUM FOR EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA COOPERATION

Buenos Aires, April 7<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> 2009

The 9<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting (9<sup>th</sup> SOM) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on April 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 2009.

The meeting was co-chaired by the Argentine Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Victorio TACCETTI and by the Director-General for Latin America, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Satoru SATOH.

Delegations from all 33 FEALAC member countries participated in the meeting, namely: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam. Honduras and Mongolia were invited to participate as observers.

The list of delegates is attached here to as Annex I (SOM/2009/11/Final).

Participants addressed the following topics:

### I. Adoption of the Agenda

Participants approved and adopted the Meeting's agenda (document SOM/2009/1).

The motion to change the order of the Agenda and address the "New Members" item in second place was accepted.

### 2. New candidates to join FEALAC

The Senior Officials' Meeting welcomed Honduras and Mongolia as observers. Furthermore, it decided to request that the 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting accept the application submitted by both countries to become FEALAC members.

The Meeting agreed that following the admission of Honduras and Mongolia as FEALAC members, future membership applications should be assessed on the basis of specific membership criteria to be worked out.

### **3. Consideration of the Reports submitted by Working Group Co-Chairs**

#### **I) Working Group on Politics, Culture and Education:**

Senior Officials considered the Reports submitted by the Co-Chairs of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meetings on Politics, Culture and Education (SOM/2009/2.1. and SOM/2009/2.2). The conclusions were presented by the Group Co-Chairs, Indonesia and Colombia, respectively. The Meeting decided to submit the recommendations to the approval of the 4<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting (4<sup>th</sup> FMM) and welcomed the outcomes of the Working Group and the efforts made by the Co-chairs.

The delegations submitted their contributions to the consideration of the 9<sup>th</sup> SOM, as follows:

Ecuador considered that this Working Group could make further progress regarding the Politics, Culture and Education dialogue. This Delegation proposed that mechanisms be analyzed so as to facilitate cooperation. Bolivia expressed that the Ministers should be proposed to appoint teams in each Working Group to look into technical cooperation.

#### **II) Working Group on Economy and Society:**

Senior Officials considered the Reports by the Co-Chairs of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Meetings of the Working Group on Economy and Society (SOM/2009/2.3 and SOM/2009/2.4) presented by Korea and Ecuador, and decided to submit the recommendations to the approval of the 4<sup>th</sup> FMM. The SOM welcomed the outcomes of the Working Group and the efforts made by the Co-chairs.

The delegations submitted a few issues to the consideration of the Meeting, namely:

- The modalities agreed upon at the 6<sup>th</sup>. Meeting of this WG in connection with the Tourism Sub-Group were put to consideration of the Senior Officials' Meeting.
- Regarding the ways to create a network of finance and trade information for business organizations, member countries decided, in principle, to utilize the existing mechanisms including the FEALAC web site, and also agreed to submit the result of the discussion to the 10<sup>th</sup> SOM for its consideration.

- Ecuador made a presentation on the Proposal to set up a Bi-regional Small and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Brazil and Peru Delegations commented on the economic implications of the project. The latter expressed that in its opinion the project should be less costly and thus could use the facilities made available by FEALAC web site. Peru estimated that it would also be necessary to get the Inter-American Development Bank and the Asian Development Bank involved in the discussion about the project start-up. The importance of this initiative in the current world economic crisis was underpinned. Ecuador put a proposal to the consideration of the Senior Officials in connection with this issue (SOM/2009/2.6).

The Senior Officials' Meeting resolved to pose two draft decisions concerning the Biregional Center for SMEs Development and the Tourism Sub-Group, to be put into consideration at the Ministerial Meeting to be held in Tokyo. These state:

**“DRAFT DECISION No I**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting,

Recognizing the importance of improving the capacities of SMEs as a concrete means for the creation of jobs and the reduction of poverty

Expressing the intent of reinforcing the regional development of micro, small and medium enterprises,

**DECIDES**

Request the Working Group on Economy and Society to conclude in the next annual meeting the revision of the feasibility project for the establishment of the Bi-Regional Center for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), document VI/ESWG/ECU/2008/07, which encompasses the following elements:

A network of financial and commercial information regarding business organizations, which will be devised by interested countries with the aim of monitoring, identifying and disseminating investment and commercial opportunities in both regions.

A data bank that will allow the dissemination of opportunities for SMEs operating in different member countries, especially related to academic research activities or business experiences.

Use of information regarding experience and best practices for SME training, especially regarding the development of exporting skills.

## **Operational Structure**

Likewise, the Senior Officials express their wish that the Working Group on Economy and Society will make recommendations to the SOM in order to be submitted to the coming Ministerial Meeting.”

### **DECISION PROJECT No 2**

“The IX SOM recommends to the IV Ministerial meeting the following decision:

### **DECISION PROJECT**

#### **SUB GROUP OF TOURISM OF FEALAC**

- INSPIRED by the spirit of friendship prevailing in the relationships between the two regions;
- CONSIDERING the strengthening of cooperation ties between Latin America and East Asia;
- MOTIVATED by the wish to promote greater rapprochement between the respective peoples in the area of tourism;
- CONVINCED that tourism is an excellent instrument to promote not only economic development but also understanding, goodwill and the rapprochement of their people;
- BEARING IN MIND the decision on Tourism of the Third Ministerial Meeting of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America cooperation (FEALAC), which set up the Sub-Group on Tourism.

The IV Ministerial meeting of FEALAC decides as the modalities and responsibilities:

#### **I. MODALITIES OF THE SUBGROUP ON TOURISM OF FEALAC**

- Sub-group meetings will be open to all FEALAC member countries.
- The coordination of the Sub-Group will be shared by the co-chairs of the FEALAC Working Group on Economy and Society.
- The coordinators of the Sub-Group will prepare the provisional agenda of the Meeting and will circulate it among its members.
- The Sub-Group will meet in conjunction with the FEALAC Working Group on Economy and Society meetings at the same venue\*.

---

\* It was understood that the Sub-Group would gather at the same time as the FEALAC Economy and Society Working Group and in the same place.

- The coordinators of the Sub-Group will be responsible for:
- The elaboration of the reports on the Sub-Group activities;
- The submission of its recommendations to the FEALAC Working Group on Economy and Society;
- The report of the Sub-Group meeting, along with its recommendations will be approved by consensus.
- The recommendations adopted by the Sub-Group will be submitted to the FEALAC Working Group on Economy and Society for its considerations

## **II. RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **FIRST**

Promote bringing together national tourism sectors to examine the measures and mechanisms aimed at increasing tourist flows between the two regions;

### **SECOND**

Foster the adoption of regional cooperation measures and mechanisms, aimed at creating opportunities for the exchange of successful experiences for the mutual development of, and access to, markets of member countries;

### **THIRD**

Coordinate common positions in international organizations and at conferences and fora dealing with tourism;

### **FOURTH**

Give incentives to environmental preservation and share successful experiences on sustainable tourism management policies, plans and processes, especially in view of the importance of the issue of climate change;

### **FIFTH**

Promote the exchange of poverty by creating jobs in the tourism sector, contributing to achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals;

### **SIXTH**

Foster the exchange of knowledge to examine measures and mechanisms aimed at promoting cultural heritage preservation;

### **SEVENTH**

Promote the discussion and exchange of information about rates and investments, as well as the incentives that each country offers to foreign investors;

## **EIGHTH**

Promote cooperation between analysts, consultants and experts from both regions, for the purpose of boosting the level of specialization and professionalism of the persons involved in promoting and developing tourism.

## **NINTH**

Encourage students and instructors of tourism to take advantage of scholarship opportunities offered by schools, universities and training centers of the other member countries.”

### **III) Working Group on Science and Technology:**

The Senior Officials' Meeting considered the Report by the Co-Chairs of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Science and Technology (SOM/2009/2.5) and decided to submit its recommendations to the approval of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs. Participants in the Senior Officials' Meeting expressed their satisfaction at the efforts made by the co-chairs of the Working Group, Panama and New Zealand.

The Meeting highlighted the importance of using the Internet and other Information and Communications Technologies in all phases of FEALAC activities. The WG on Science and Technology should engage on assessing and making available action plans for the best use of these technologies to favour FEALAC operativeness.

## **4. National Projects**

The Senior Officials' Meeting thanked Peru for the valuable national report submitted by it (SOM/2009/3.1) and encouraged other countries to draft similar documents reflecting the follow-up on FEALAC policies within each of the countries.

The Senior Officials' Meeting thanked Argentina for the country's valuable contribution through the submission of four projects of interest to FEALAC, based on the emphasis placed on the topics sustainable development, social inclusion and the environment. These projects are the following:

- a. Education: Issuance of “Spanish Language Certificate: Language and Use” (CELU, by its Spanish acronym) (SOM/2009/3.2). Argentine proposal on education based on linguistic integration as a factor of integration between both regions.
- b. Sports as a social inclusion mechanism (SOM/2009/3.3)

- c. Infrastructure for integration: Transport, communications and energy in the framework of regional integration in the context of open regionalism as a means to facilitate trade between Latin America and East Asia (SOM/2009/3.4).
- d. Presentation by the National Institute for Agricultural and Cattle Breeding Technology (INTA, as per Spanish acronym) “Institucional INTA Presentation” and “Potential And Concerns on Jatropha Production in Argentina” (SOM/2009/3.17 and SOM/2009/3.18).

The Brazilian Delegation considered that the fact that the sports issue had been addressed by FEALAC was very positive, as well as the social inclusion approach. The Delegation stated that it could be included in the Working Group on Politics, Culture and Education.

The Meeting reached consensus and proposed that the Working Group on Politics, Culture and Education be also called “Sports”.

Senior Officials appreciated the efforts made by Thailand to keep an active position within FEALAC through projects such as those submitted at this meeting:

- a. Invitation for FEALAC member countries to request fellowships to attend cooperation courses and post-graduate (SOM/2009/3.6)
- b. International Symposium on Pan-Oceanic cooperation for climate disaster risk reduction (SOM/2009/3.7)
- c. International Symposium on FEALAC academic network among tertiary institutions (SOM/2009/3.8)

The Meeting welcomed the two national projects presented by the Japanese Delegation:

- a. FEALAC Young Leaders’ Programme (SOM/2009/3.9)
- b. Study on trade and investment between Asia and Latin America (SOM/2009/3.10)

The Meeting was thankful for Colombia’s contribution on the following projects:

- a. SENA virtual formation (SOM/2009/3.11).
- b. A workshop on best practices in the struggle against human trafficking (SOM/2009/3.12).
- c. A seminar on Terrorism (SOM/2009/3.13)

- d. “Colombia Is Passion”: enhancement of the country’s image through a successful communication strategy (SOM/2009/3.14).
- e. Scholarly exchanges with Colombia (SOM/2009/3.15).

Korea made a presentation on the current situation and future actions to be taken on the FEALAC official web site. In the presentation, Korea announced the completion of the second renewal of the web site. The changes include the improvement of the general layout and the creation of tool bars on business information, press releases and photo gallery, as well as the SMEs focal point registration. Korea also explained the current utilization of the web site by member countries and stressed a need for more participation and involvement of the member countries regarding the web site.

The Senior Officials considered Korea’s endeavors highly positive in that the official FEALAC web site was created and maintained.

The Meeting appreciated Korea’s efforts on the three new FEALAC national projects in the framework of the WG on Economy and Society:

- a. FEALAC SMEs promotion tour
- b. FEALAC expert meeting on current issues (renewable energy)
- c. The second FEALAC Eco-Tourism Conference

The Meeting welcomed the Chinese on-going projects in the framework of the Working Group on Politics, Culture and Education which are mentioned in the reports submitted by this group.

Senior Officials reiterated their acknowledgment to Cuba, as stated in the Reports (WG on Politics, Culture and Education), for its cooperation on literacy implemented in Latin America as well as East Asia countries which Cuba has offered to extend to other FEALAC members.

Bolivia submitted a document listing “project profiles” (SOM/2009/3.11) in the following sectors (SOM/2009/3.16):

- Mining and metallurgy
- Hydrocarbons
- Traditional medicine
- Telecommunications and IT sector

The Bolivian Delegation was invited to elaborate on these projects in the respective Working Groups.



## 5. FEALAC in the current context

Senior Officials recalled that the sense of global cohesiveness and inter-connection between the regions must be encouraged as a means to ensure that interdependence benefits all and that international peace and stability are preserved. This statement, which inspired the creation of FEALAC and is stated in the Framework Document adopted in Santiago de Chile, has become even more important within the context of the world economic and financial crisis which currently affects us all and calls for additional efforts by all international community members. As stated by the Ministers at their 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting in Brasilia.

“In the current complex and multifaceted world order, no single country, or group of countries, would be able to tackle alone the interconnected threats facing the international community. Therefore, there must be broad, deep and sustained multilateral co-operation among States, including stronger cooperation among States from different regions. One of the ways could be fostering the triangular cooperation.”

Delegations agreed that FEALAC has made a valuable contribution to interregional dialogue and cooperation since its establishment 10 years ago. They further agreed that it was important to endeavor to improve the focus of the process and to achieve greater effectiveness and efficiency through improvements to its operating procedures. It was in this context that delegations discussed themes for the 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting in Japan and considered proposals for new operating arrangements.

With a view to the forthcoming Ministerial meeting, Senior Officials analyzed themes as well as methodological proposals aimed at identifying FEALAC's “added value” within the current context.

### a) Themes

The Senior Officials who met in Buenos Aires underscored the potential for dialogue among FEALAC countries representing 40% of the planet's inhabitants, living in thirty-three sovereign States in two of the most dynamic regions worldwide, with a growing membership. They, therefore, decided to recommend that the Ministers of Foreign Affairs include on the Agenda of their 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting issues taking into account the current situation, seeking FEALAC's own perspective and avoiding overlapping efforts. This FEALAC “vision” aims at reinforcing inter-regional dialogue and cooperation including south-south and triangular cooperation, with a strong emphasis on social inclusion and the environment.

Senior Officials were very pleased to see that the document on social inclusion submitted by Argentina (SOM/2009/4.1) was included under this item, as well as the presentation by the Argentine Delegation concerning its experience with the Fondo Argentino de Cooperacion Horizontal (FO-AR) (the Argentine Fund for Horizontal Cooperation), circulated as SOM/2009/4.2.

The Senior Officials' Meeting adopted by consensus the tentative agenda of the next Ministerial Meeting to be put to the Ministers' consideration namely.

- Economic and Financial Crisis
- Social Inclusion
- Environment and Sustainable Development
- FEALAC future direction.

Senior Officials highlighted the fact that these issues would be addressed in the scope of FEALAC competence, pursuant to objectives such as fostering biregional dialogue and cooperation, avoiding duplications and overlappings with other fora. This proposal is considered a guideline for debate and shall be addressed with flexibility.

Several delegations made further statements about their country's positions.

## **b) Methodology**

Senior Officials reiterated the opportunity to reinforce FEALAC mechanisms and improve on its capacity to foster understanding, dialogue and cooperation between both regions. With this common purpose in mind, they analyzed the methodological proposals submitted by Japan (SOM/2009/4.3; SOM/2009/4.4 & SOM/2009/4.5) and Argentina (SOM/2009/4.6).

Senior Officials agreed upon the following by consensus:

- i) Propose the inclusion of a Technical Cooperation segment in the FEALAC Working Group meetings and Senior Officials' Meetings.

Several delegations considered that the IDB and the ADB could be invited to attend these meetings. The Venezuelan Delegation expressed that other regional financial Institutions could be also invited.

In the light of the approval of the Japanese methodological proposal, the technical cooperation segment would be streamlined with and will take up the same period of time as the FEALAC meeting.

- ii) Japan's proposal in connection with SOM/2009/4.3, SOM/2009/4.4 and SOM/2009/4.5 was accepted with wide consensus. The Senior Officials Meeting thus resolved to recommend that the proposal be accepted "on

a trial basis". Further, Japan also resolved to consider proposal modalities during the next Senior Official's Meeting, in particular issues concerning costs, coordinator roles in the Working Groups, adoption of follow-up and assessment mechanisms and expert involvement

- iii) The flexibility principle was reaffirmed, subject to member contribution.
- iv) The Meeting noted Thailand's proposal pursuant to a more efficient FEALAC cooperation (SOM/2009/3.5).

## 6. Tokyo Ministerial Meeting (Preparation)

The Asian Co-Chair (Japan) addressed this topic. The SOM considered the following information:

- a. Logistic Preparatory Work (SOM/2009/5.1)
- b. Ministerial Work Agenda (as per details under 5.a)
- c. Final Document (SOM/2009/5.2)

The Japanese Coordination, in particular, expects to get comments by e-mail on these documents by 24/04/2009.

## 7. Schedule of FEALAC Meetings

Senior Officials held a preliminary exchange of views and discussed the Schedule for future FEALAC meetings. The WG Meetings and Senior Officials' Meetings are to be held in 2010. It was deemed appropriate to hold the 5<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting in 2011 so as to keep up the current pace of high level FEALAC meetings. Senior Officials will be revisiting the schedule of future meetings.

## 8. Election of Deputy Regional Coordinators and Co-Chairs of the Working Groups

The 9<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting welcomed the FEALAC Deputy Regional Coordinators on behalf of Asia, Indonesia as well as Argentina, which will keep on being the Regional Coordinator for Latin America.

Indonesia and Argentina have thus been appointed as Deputy Coordinators for Asia and Latin America.

Furthermore, participants exchanged views on the appointment of Co-Chairs to head the three Working Groups as from the 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting.

Working Group Co-chairs will thus be

- for the WG on Politics, Culture and Education, Korea and Colombia.
- for the WG on Economy and Society, Philippines and Ecuador.
- for the WG on Science and Technology, New Zealand and the Latin American coordinator, either Mexico or the Dominican Republic, once the current discussions are closed.

## 9. Drafting and Approval of the Coordinators' Report

Participants in the 9<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting considered and approved the Regional Coordinators' Report (SOM/2009/10/FINAL).

## 10. Acknowledgments

Senior Officials expressed their appreciation to the host country, Argentina, for having organized the 9<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting and for the warm reception and hospitality given to the delegations. Their appreciation was also extended to Japan for having co-chaired the Meeting.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

14-15 January 2010. Tokyo, Japan

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Argentina & Japan**
- Participated **33 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (18)

### Main Results

- Agreed to submit the draft of 「Tokyo Declaration」 to the 4<sup>th</sup> FMM
- Discussed and agreed on strengthening FEALAC cooperation mechanism
  - Japan suggested establishing a Coordinating Board Meeting
  - Korea suggested establishing FEALAC Cyber Secretariat
- Suggested introducing a proposal on creating Sub-Working Group on Tourism and Bi-Regional Center for the Development of SMEs at the 4<sup>th</sup> FMM
- Elected the next Co-Chairs for each Working Group
  - Politics, Culture, Education, and Sports WG : Korea, Colombia
  - Economy and Society WG : Philippines, Ecuador
  - Science and Technology WG : New Zealand, Brazil
- Discussed the admission of Mongolia and Suriname as new member countries

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex 1. List of Delegates
- Annex 2. Agenda
  - Co-proposals by Japan and Korea on Strengthening FEALAC Mechanism
  - Decision on Sub-Group of Tourism of FEALAC
  - Decision on the Bi-Regional Center for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises



## **Coordinators' report of the Tenth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM X) Forum for East Asia- Latin America Cooperation**

**Tokyo, 14-15 January, 2010**

The Tenth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM X) of the Forum for East Asia- Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) took place in Tokyo, Japan, on 14 and 15 January 2010.

The meeting was co-chaired by the Director General for Latin American and Caribbean Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ambassador Satoru Satoh and Counselor of the Direction of Asia and Oceania of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of the Argentine Republic, Mr. Luis Eduardo Susman.

Delegations from the 33 member countries participated in the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam. Mongolia participated as observer.

The list of delegates is attached as Annex 1 (SOM/2010/INF/1).

### **I. Earthquake in Haiti**

The SOM observed a minute's silence to express its solidarity and sincere condolences to the people and Government of the Republic of Haiti for the devastation caused by the earthquakes of January 12, resulting in the tragic loss of human lives, injury and considerable material damages.

The SOM recommended a statement on the situation in Haiti to be issued by Foreign Ministers.

### **2. Adoption of Agenda**

The Meeting adopted the agenda, attached as Annex 2 (SOM/2010/2).

### 3. Consideration on Strengthening FEALAC mechanism

The SOM considered and reached consensus on a package of measures to strengthen FEALAC mechanism jointly proposed by Japan and Korea (SOM/2010/19 Rev.), which include the establishment of the Coordinating Board as a mechanism for the follow-up and assessment of FEALAC activities, the strengthening of the role of Coordinators, the encouragement of participation or involvement of experts to the Working Groups, as well as the creation of Cyber-Secretariat. These measures will be implemented after the approval at the Fourth Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM IV) and those measures will be reviewed every two years, except the Cyber-Secretariat.

The SOM recommended them for approval by the Foreign Ministers.

### 4. Preparation for Foreign Ministers' Meeting

The SOM considered the draft agenda of the FMM IV (SOM/2010/4) and the draft of the Tokyo Declaration (SOM/2010/5), and recommended approval by the Foreign Ministers.

The SOM also recommended the documents on the Bi-Regional Center for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SOM/2010/21 Rev.) and Sub-Group of Tourism (SOM/2010/22 Rev.) to be approved by Foreign Ministers.

### 5. Other Issues

#### 1) Selection and Confirmation of New Co-chairs of Working Groups

The Senior Officials confirmed the selection of Korea and Colombia as the new co-chairs of the Politics, Culture, Education and Sport Working Group, Philippines and Ecuador as the new co-chairs of Economy and Society Working Group, and New Zealand and Brazil as the new co-chairs of the Science and Technology Working Group.

#### 2) New membership for FEALAC

The SOM recommended to the Foreign Ministers the admission of Mongolia as a new member of FEALAC.

The SOM acknowledged the intention of the Republic of Surinam to be a new member country and confirmed to discuss this issue at the next Senior Officials Meeting (SOM XI).

The SOM discussed other issues related to membership.

### **3) Schedules of future FEALAC meetings**

The SOM welcomed the announcement made by Indonesia, next Asian Coordinator, to host the SOM XI and three Working Groups in Indonesia in later 2010, as well as the intention expressed by Argentina, next Latin-American Coordinator, to host the FMM V in Argentina.

## **6. Consideration of the Coordinators' Report of the SOM X**

The SOM considered and approved the present Coordinators' Report of the SOM X and decided to present it to the FMM IV, together with the Coordinators' Report on the SOM IX held in Buenos Aires in April, 2009 (SOM/2009/10/Final).

## **7. Acknowledgements**

The SOM expressed its appreciation to the host country, Japan, for hosting the SOM X and warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegates. The appreciation is also extended to Argentina for co-chairing the meeting.



## 4<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting

17 January 2010. Tokyo, Japan

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Argentina & Japan**
- Participated **34 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (18)

### Main Results

- Adopted 「Tokyo Declaration」 which underlines the importance of bi-regional cooperation to overcome global financial crisis and evaluates FEALAC activities over the past decade
  - Confirmed need to strengthen cooperation among member countries on climate change, environmental issues, and sustainable development
  - Shared awareness of bi-regional social inclusion and global issues such as UN reform, transnational organized crime, disaster risk reduction and management and response to influenza pandemic
  - Agreed on establishing the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat, hosted by Korea
- Appointed Indonesia and Argentina as the next Regional Coordinators
- Admitted new member countries
  - The number of member countries increases from 33 to 34 with the admission of Mongolia

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information.

The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- List of Participants
- Agenda
- Decision on Sub-Group of Tourism of FEALAC
- Decision on the Bi-regional Center for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises
- Statement on the situation in Haiti



## **Fourth Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation**

### **Tokyo Declaration**

#### **Introduction**

1. We, the Foreign Ministers of the member countries of the Forum for East Asia – Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), met in Tokyo, on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of January, 2010, to strengthen the links between the two regions and broaden the areas of our cooperation. On this occasion, we welcomed the admission of Mongolia as a new member of the Forum.
2. Recalling the achievements of the previous three Foreign Ministers' Meetings, we unanimously adopted this Tokyo Declaration.

#### **10 years of FEALAC and beyond**

3. Ten years have passed since the creation of FEALAC. We recognized that the relations between East Asia and Latin America have deepened considerably. We especially noted that the bi-regional trade between East Asia and Latin America has quadrupled, far outpacing the increase of other region-to-region trades in the world. The links between the two regions and their peoples, once described as missing, are getting broader and deeper.
4. We acknowledged that FEALAC has developed from its infancy to its youth in these years, by taking root as a useful forum to promote closer interactions and dialogue between the two regions. We reaffirmed that FEALAC is a unique forum that plays critical roles in promoting mutual learning of best practices in the both regions, in multiplying mutual benefits by cooperation and exchanges among countries of the regions and in collaborating to meet common global challenges in the international community. The cooperation through FEALAC, which represents 40% of the world population, 26% of the world economy and more than 40% of the world trade, has global relevance.
5. In this context, we committed ourselves to further strengthening our activities and interactions through the frameworks of FEALAC, in order to make the most of the vast potential in the bi-regional cooperation as well as to jointly tackle major challenges that we face in the world of today and future.

## Major challenges that FEALAC member countries face

### *Financial and economic crisis*

6. We recognized that the global economy appears to have emerged from the worst stage of crisis and we are in the midst of transition from crisis to recovery although we must remain vigilant. We recognized the important role of the G20 in tackling the global financial and economic crisis. We appreciated that our experience of the past crises and our responsive fiscal and monetary policies toward the latest crisis played a key role in confronting this grave challenge and stopping the sharp decline in economic activities that the crisis could have brought.
7. We shared the recognition that the impact of the crisis still continues to impact negatively on both regions, hampering our effort for recovery, and, in particular, undermining the most vulnerable countries. We reaffirmed the importance of taking wise fiscal policies and prudent financial management policies to build a resilient and viable international economy and of developing strategies to mitigate the impact of the crisis and to prevent future crisis, particularly for the poor. These include, combating all forms of protectionism and promoting global trade and investment including through an ambitious and balanced conclusion of the WTO Doha Development Round Negotiations, consistent with its mandate including development goals, in the year of 2010 based on the progress already made including with regard to its modalities. In this context, we stress the importance of accomplishing the quantified targets of IMF and the World Bank governance reform endorsed by 2009 IMF World Bank annual meeting in Istanbul, and restructuring International Financial Institutions, and undertaking actions necessary to achieve inclusive, sustainable and balanced growth. In this regard, we welcomed the Framework for Strong, Sustainable, and Balanced Growth launched at the G20 Pittsburgh Summit in September 2009. We also reiterated that the crisis of such global dimension requires the participation of all nations in the search for fair and viable solutions, in an inclusive and democratic framework, with the important role of the United Nations. We, therefore, reinforced our determination to continue working together to accelerate economic recovery by sharing our own experiences, wisdom and best practices that both regions obtained as they got over the past crises. We believe that FEALAC is an appropriate international forum to provide opportunities for such cooperation between countries of both regions.
8. We supported international and regional efforts to reduce hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity through international cooperation and investment in food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development. This includes

promoting and cooperating in the research, development, including transfer, of technologies, practices and process in the agriculture sector, particularly those that improve the efficiency and productivity of agriculture systems in a sustainable manner and those that could support adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change.

### ***Social inclusion***

9. We believe that economic growth must entail social inclusion through active policies and further involvement by member countries as well as through greater international cooperation. We are acutely aware that the global financial and economic crisis affects, above all, those who live in poverty and in disadvantageous circumstances. We emphasized the importance of international cooperation in supporting national efforts for fostering individual and collective well-being, under sustainable patterns through increasing the income level of people, and consolidating social safety nets. We also reaffirmed the importance of promoting the inclusive development that will strengthen skills of those who live in poverty and in disadvantageous circumstances and create job opportunities and provide decent work for them in order to maintain a productive and competitive workforce in the countries. We also acknowledge the importance of the migrant workers. We recommend that the working group on economy and society includes the topic in the discussion with an integrated approach. We welcome the next IV Global Forum on Migration and Development to be held in Mexico in 2010 with a constructive and successful conclusion. Moreover, we emphasize the need to further cooperate in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to enhance human progress and development, particularly in the areas of poverty reduction and food security, and thus to realize a prosperous and equitable society in our regions. We agreed on the need to consider cooperation and dialogue on social inclusion and social policies as one of the main objectives and working areas on which FEALAC should focus for the forthcoming years.

### ***The Environment and Sustainable development***

10. We recognize that the environmental issues, including climate change, affect all humankind, especially in developing countries and those more vulnerable among them, and require greater, concerted and coordinated action by the international community. FEALAC is a useful forum for member countries to share experiences, exchange views and promote cooperation in meeting these challenges. We shared the view that cooperation and mutual learning through sharing of experiences and technologies, capacity building, knowledge and lessons in particular the development and transfer of environmental friendly technology is beneficial and should be further promoted.

11. We reaffirmed the importance of tackling climate change issues and our determination to engage in efforts towards the resolution of such issues through international cooperation, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. In this context, building on the result at UN conference on climate change in Copenhagen, we recognized that much work has to be done to strengthen the climate change regime. And we reaffirmed our commitment to work constructively to ensure a successful conclusion of the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to be held in Mexico in 2010.
12. We stressed the need to seek ways and means to ensure that the efforts for the environmental protection are compatible with economic and social development. In this context, we recognized that coordinated global action will create new opportunities and incentives for the transfer of environmental technologies, in particular to developing countries including environmental goods and services such as organic products, energy efficient products, clean-energy transports, solar power generation and clean energy businesses. While we welcomed the inclusion by a significant number of countries of environment-related investment in their economic stimulus packages, we also acknowledged budgetary and financial restrictions hampering environment-related investment in developing countries and the current clean technology gap between these and developed ones. In view of this, we stressed the importance of ensuring favorable conditions for the development of green industries in developing countries so that they can further benefit from trade in environmental goods and services and are in a better position to contribute to global efforts for the fulfillment of the objectives enshrined in international environmental agreements. It is important that such initiatives result in net environmental benefits and are not a disguise for trade protectionism. We also stressed the importance of participating actively in the negotiation on the reduction or, as appropriate, elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to environmental goods and services in the WTO Doha Development Round Negotiations.
13. We shared the view that the FEALAC countries should utilize effectively their rich natural resources to implement environment-friendly measures that also realize sustainable growth to the benefit of our populations. We recognize the principle of sovereign rights of States to manage and regulate their natural resources. In this regard, we encourage the member countries to promote cooperation in areas including agroforestry, sustainable forest management and eco-tourism, as they are home to more than one third of the world's forests. We also underlined the importance of the conservation,

the sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits derived from biodiversity as a base for all the kind of human activities, particularly in Asia and Latin America that enjoy rich flora and fauna. We thus confirmed to cooperate with each other to establish action-oriented global targets beyond 2010 constructively and to conclude the negotiation of the international regime on access and benefit sharing at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan.

## Other Global Challenges

### ***Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation***

14. We shared the necessity of strengthening our efforts in the fields of nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful use of nuclear energy. We will cooperate to ensure successful outcome of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) so as to strengthen the Treaty's regime.
15. We recognized the importance of the full implementation of the September 2005 Joint Statement through early resumption of the Six-party talks.

### ***United Nations Reform***

16. We reaffirmed our strong belief in multilateralism with the United Nations at its center and the commitment to uphold the principles of the United Nations Charter. We thus reaffirmed the need for a comprehensive reform of the UN, including the Security Council, to make it more effective, democratic, accountable, efficient and transparent. We reaffirmed our commitment to the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly in October 2005 (A/RES/60/1-2005 World Summit Outcome).

### ***Human rights***

17. We reaffirmed our commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights, including through the ratification and implementation of relevant international human rights instruments.

### ***Transnational Organized Crime***

18. We express our deep concern for the threat that transnational organized crime poses to the wellbeing and development of all States and their peoples, and express our commitment to redouble our efforts in the framework of the United Nations to ensure the universality and full implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto. We express our intention to contribute with our ideas and experiences to strengthen the fight against transnational organized crime.

## ***Disaster Risk Reduction and Management***

19. We recognized that disasters continued to cause significant impact to the economy, society and well being of the people of East Asia and Latin America. We, therefore, reaffirmed the importance of further strengthening bi-regional cooperation, expanding the network of technical support and cooperation and sharing information and expertise among FEALAC members and international and regional institutions.

## ***Response to influenza pandemic***

20. We recognized that the timely information sharing and mutual cooperation at global and regional levels has played an important role in the fight against the current Influenza Pandemic (H1N1). We also stressed the need to share lessons learnt from our experience between Asia and Latin America, with a view to strengthening the preparedness for a possible future pandemic.

## ***Prospects of FEALAC activities***

21. We highly appreciated the progress made by the three FEALAC Working Groups in the cooperation in the areas specified as core programs in the Brasilia Ministerial Declaration. We also welcomed that, as described in the reports produced by the three Working Groups, a wide variety of national projects presented by each member country have contributed to deepen mutual understanding and cooperation between both regions.
22. We recognized that FEALAC's activities should be more focused and systematic for better coordination and effective management. We thus reaffirmed the need to carry out thorough stocktaking of the ongoing projects, properly categorize them under the relevant working groups and actively identify the areas of cooperation that reflect the common interests of East Asia and Latin America.
23. We therefore decided to address with a sense of urgency major challenges such as the global financial and economic crisis, sustainable development including environmental protection and climate change and social inclusion through the activities of the three Working Groups. We thus instructed the three Working Groups respectively to engage in the following priority areas in the period until the next Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

### **1) the Politics, Culture, Education and Sport Working Group;**

- Academic, cultural and intellectual exchange,
- Exchange of parliamentarians, policy makers and journalists
- Promotion of environmental awareness
- Sports as a means of social inclusion



## **2) the Economy and Society Working Group;**

- Environment and sustainable development
- Poverty reduction and social inclusion
- Trade and investment promotion
- Utilization of information and communication technology (ICT)
- Promotion of small and medium enterprises (SMEs)
- Tourism
- International Migration
- Infrastructure and integration

## **3) the Science and Technology Working Group**

- New and renewable energy
- Green House Gas mitigation technology
- Disaster risk reduction and management
- Technological innovation to strengthen the competitiveness
- Prevention and control of infectious diseases

24. In this regard, we welcomed the new projects and initiatives as well as those already introduced in the Working Groups proposed by member countries and commended those member countries for their valuable contributions to deepen and further promote cooperation and exchanges through FEALAC process.
25. We decided to reform the modality of Working Group meetings to make them more cost effective and sustainable by holding the three Working Group meetings consecutively in one venue. On this new modality, the Regional Coordinators will host the three Working Group meetings, SOM and FMM, unless otherwise decided by consensus.
26. We also decided to create the Coordinating Board which aims at making FEALAC activities more effective and consistent by establishing follow-up mechanism of the decisions taken by Foreign Ministers and SOM, as well as by improving the coordination among three Working Groups.
27. We decided to create the Cyber-secretariat by further developing the current FEALAC official website and eventually establishing a secretariat for the better management and promotion of the Forum. We appreciated Korea's willingness to host the Cyber-secretariat and make necessary changes to the existing website so that communication and coordination among the members could be enhanced. We also directed our respective officials to intensify their efforts in supporting Korea to achieve this objective.



28. We also instructed each Working Group to consider and assess cooperation offers and demands as well as needs and capacities of member countries in the areas or subjects discussed in each group. A segment for technical cooperation will thus be created with a view to optimize the utilization of the cooperation resources of both regions while respecting Member States national priorities and development policies.
29. We recognized that this meeting provided a timely opportunity to consolidate and strengthen FEALAC. We requested the Senior Officials to undertake a stock take of the forum's progress, achievements, membership issues, and the forum's future direction.

## Outreach

30. We recognized the contributions made by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in order to address major challenges in their respective regions. We also appreciated the efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) to promote bi-regional cooperation. We encouraged these organizations to play a greater role in the FEALAC process. In this regard, we instructed each Working Group to explore ways to enhance financial and technical cooperation with these organizations and others from these regions to carry out the FEALAC projects.
31. We appreciated an informative and constructive dialogue with the representatives of ADB, IDB and the World Bank participated in the FMM IV and recognized the importance of continuing this kind of dialogue between these international financial institutions and FEALAC.
32. We emphasized the necessity of promoting the publicity of FEALAC inside and outside the FEALAC member countries. We also consider it important to mobilize the private sector and other stakeholders of the member countries, as appropriate, for the FEALAC activities.

## Conclusion

33. The next Foreign Ministers' Meeting will be held at a venue and on a date to be decided by consensus.
34. We expressed our appreciation to the outgoing Coordinators of FEALAC, Argentina and Japan, and welcomed the new Coordinators, Argentina and Indonesia.

## **FEALAC Ministers' statement on the situation in Haiti**

We, the Foreign Ministers of FEALAC member states, express our deepest sorrow for the tragic loss of lives and suffering of the Haitian people and others residing in Haiti caused by destructive earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January 2010. We reaffirm our solidarity with the government and people of Haiti and the families of the victims. We also convey our deepest sympathy to the United Nations and to all countries participating in the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) for the tragic demise of their team members and for the destruction of MINUSTAH's UN headquarters. We call for continued efforts to rescue the victims and support the reconstruction of Haiti.

## 11<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

3 November 2010. Bali, Indonesia

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Argentina & Indonesia**
- Participated **26 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (11)

### Main Results

- Approved the final reports of three Working Groups
- Korea presented FEALAC Cyber Secretariat activities and proposed the establishment of Vision Group
- Indonesia and Argentina proposed issues regarding the FEALAC Summit at the 5<sup>th</sup> FMM
- Discussed the admission of Suriname as a new member country

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex A. List of Delegates
- Annex B. Agenda
- Annex C. Report on Working Group on Politics, Education, Cultural and Sports
- Annex D. Report on Working Group on Economy and Society
- Annex E. Report on Sub-working Group on Tourism
- Annex F. Report on Working Group on Science and Technology
- Annex G. Non-Paper Draft on Revitalization, Enhanced Visibility, and Future Direction of FEALAC



## Report of the Eleventh Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM XI) Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation

Bali, 3 November 2010

The Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) Eleventh Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM XI) was held in Bali, Indonesia, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010.

The Meeting was co-chaired by the Director General for American and European Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Ambassador Retno L.P. Marsudi, and the Director for Asia and Oceania of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of the Argentina Republic, H.E. Ambassador Daniel Adan Dziewezzo Polski.

Delegations from 26 member countries participated in the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Venezuela and Viet Nam. The list of delegates is attached as [Annex A](#).

Prior to the commencement of the SOM XI, Delegates observed a moment of silence for the victims of the Mentawai tsunami and Merapi volcanic eruption in Indonesia and the demise of the former President of Argentina. H.E. Nestor Kirchner.

The following topics were discussed and agreed upon by the participants:

### **I. Adoption of the Agenda**

SOM XI agreed to the Agenda as attached in [Annex B](#).

### **II. Reports of the Working Groups**

#### **a. Working Group on Politics, Education, Cultural and Sports**

SOM XI considered the Final Report of the Seventh Meeting of FEALAC Working Group on Politics, Education, Cultural and Sports (PCES) held in Bali, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010 by Colombia and the Republic of Korea, as Co-Chair of the Working Group.

Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. Members were encouraged to implement the recommendations. The report (attached as Annex C) will be referred to FMM V as a background paper in 2011.

**b. Working Group on Economy and Society**

SOM XI considered the Final Report of the Seventh Meeting of FEALAC Working Group on Economy and Society held in Bali, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2010 by Ecuador and the Philippines, as Co-Chair of the Working Group.

Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. Members were encouraged to implement the recommendations. The report (attached as Annex D) will be referred to FMM V as a background paper in 2011.

**c. Sub-working Group on Tourism**

SOM XI considered the Final Report of the First Meeting of FEALAC Sub-Working Group on Tourism held in Bali, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2010 by Ecuador and Philippines as Co-Chair of the Working Group.

Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. Members were encouraged to implement the recommendations. The report (attached as Annex E) will be referred to FMM V as a background paper in 2011.

**d. Working Group on Science and Technology**

SOM XI considered the final Report of the Sixth Meeting of FEALAC Working Group on Science and Technology (STWG) including the Action Plan held in Bali, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2010 by Brazil and New Zealand, Co-Chair of the Working Group.

Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. Members were encouraged to implement the recommendations. The report (attached as Annex F) will be referred to FMM V as a background paper in 2011.

### III. Cyber Secretariat

The Republic of Korea presented recent development of FEALAC Website and future plan for Cyber Secretariat, and urged all member countries to appoint a Contact Point and update information on a regular basis. SOM XI welcomed and appreciated the presentation and report by the Republic of Korea.

#### **IV. Strengthening FEALAC Mechanism: Consideration of Non Paper on Revitalization, Enhanced Visibility, and Future Direction of FEALAC (Concept non paper by Indonesia and Argentina)**

SOM XI considered the draft Non-Paper Revitalization, Enhanced Visibility, and Future Direction of FEALAC (attached as Annex G) submitted by Indonesia and Argentina, and agreed to submit their recommendations to be adopted by FMM V.

In a rich discussion, SOM XI welcomed the non-paper submitted by Indonesia and Argentina and agreed that FEALAC should focus on the issues reflected in that paper as mandated by the FMM IV. It was also agreed that a stock taking session would be appropriate, addressing questions like: Where are we? Where do we want to go? How do we get there? When do we expect to get there?

In this respect, some of the particular challenges that SOM XI agreed will need to be fully considered are:

- how to improve participation by members;
- how to improve participation by experts;
- how best to report activities and projects and their results; and
- what constitutes a FEALAC project or activity.

SOM XI also discussed the following issues:

##### **a. Vision Group**

The Republic of Korea proposed to establish a “Vision Group” to find a roadmap for FEALAC future. Upon the request of detailed information, the Republic of Korea promised to provide a concept paper to all members. This proposal must not duplicate the existing forums.

##### **b. Language**

While acknowledging the request to have Spanish language as a working language of FEALAC and its existing technical problems, the discussion of having Spanish Language in FEALAC should be further explored.

SOM XI encouraged the members to continue the current practice of having simultaneous Spanish translation in every Foreign Ministerial Meeting.

#### **V. Other Matters**

##### **a. Appointment of Next Regional Coordinators and Working Group Co-Chairs**

SOM XI welcomed Colombia’s intentions to assume the role of the next Latin America Coordinator in Buenos Aires. Co-Coordinators encouraged

all member countries to flag their readiness to assume the position of Asia Regional Coordinator and Co-chairs of the working groups, especially for those which have yet to take up the roles of Coordinator or Co-chair to do so.

**b. New membership for FEALAC**

The SOM XI agreed to propose the candidacy of Surinam as a new member of FEALAC to be adopted in the FMM V in Buenos Aires.

**c. Schedules for future FEALAC Meetings**

Argentina indicated that the meeting for the WG I, WG II, WG III, Sub-Working Group II, SOM XII and FMM V will be held during the second half of 2011.

**d. Format for FEALAC Projects**

The Delegation of Mexico presented a proposal on the Format for FEALAC Projects for further consideration.

## **VI. Consideration of the SOM XI Report**

SOM XI considered and adopted the report.

## **VII. Acknowledgments**

SOM XI expressed its appreciation to Indonesia as the host country for the warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegates as well as the excellent arrangement for all meetings. SOM XI also expressed their deep gratitude for the able co-chairmanship of the Republic of Argentina to make all meetings a success.

Bali, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010

## 12<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

24 August 2011. Buenos Aires, Argentina

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Argentina & Indonesia**
- Participated **34 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (19)

### Main Results

- Adopted the draft of 「Buenos Aires Declaration」 and Final Reports of three Working Groups
- Agreed to adopt document on the establishment of Vision Group and to report it to the FMM
- Reported results of FEALAC Cyber Secretariat activities and future plans
- Adopted National Project Format and Format for Business Information, and elected Co-Chairs of each WG for the next term
  - Politics, Culture, Education and Sports WG : Japan, Argentina
  - Economy and Society WG : Viet Nam, Ecuador
  - Science and Technology WG : Korea, Brazil
- Elected the Regional Coordinators for the next term: Colombia and Indonesia
- Discussed the admission of Honduras and Suriname as new member countries

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex A. List of Delegates\*
- Annex B. Guidelines on the establishment of the Vision Group



\* Documents not available



## Coordinators' Report of the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senior Officials' Forum for the East Asia-Latin America Cooperation

Buenos Aires, 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2011

1. The 12<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting (SOM XII) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was held in Buenos Aires, on August, 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
2. The Meeting was co-chaired by the Head of the Division for Asia and Oceania of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina, H.E. Ambassador Daniel Polski, and the Director for Intra-regional Cooperation for America and Europe from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, Ms. Dewi Kusumaastuti.
3. Delegations from 34 member countries participated in the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam. The list of delegates is attached as Annex A.
4. On item 2, the meeting accepted the candidacies of Argentina and Japan, for the Working Group on Politics, Culture, Education and Sports. It also accepted the candidacies of Ecuador and Viet Nam for the Working Group on Economy and Society and Subworking Group on Tourism, as well as those of Brazil and the Republic of Korea as Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Science and Technology, for the period 2011-2013.
5. **Reports of the Working Groups:** The Co-Chairpersons of the Working Groups presented their reports which were approved by the Meeting.
6. **Recommendations to the 5<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers Meeting:**
  - **Admission of new members:** The Meeting recommended the admission of Honduras and Suriname as new members.

- **Election of Regional Coordinators:** The Meeting welcomed the candidacy of Colombia as Regional Coordinator for Latin America for the period 2011/2013. Indonesia accepted to continue as Regional Coordinator for East Asia for the same period.
  - **Buenos Aires Draft Declaration:** The Meeting recommended that the 5<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers Meeting adopt the Buenos Aires Declaration (SOM/2011/17)
7. **Vision Group:** The proposal made by the Republic of Korea was extensively considered by the Senior Officials. They recommended the establishment of the Vision Group according to the guidelines set in the document attached as Annex B.
8. **FEALAC Cyber Secretariat proposals:**
- The Republic of Korea presented recent development of FEALAC Website and future plans for the Cyber Secretariat, as well as the formats to update information on member countries projects (SOM/2011/4) and business (SOM/2011/5) on a regular basis.
- It recommended that these formats be used for information to be sent by member countries to the Cyber Secretariat.
9. **Future FEALAC Meetings**
- Taking into account that the procedure established at the Fourth Ministerial Meeting has not yet been evaluated, the Meeting decided to postpone the discussion on this issue until its next Session.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting

25 August 2011. Buenos Aires, Argentina

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Argentina & Indonesia**
- Participated **36 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (20)

### Main Results

- Adopted 'Buenos Aires Declaration' which includes issues on reform of global governance mechanism and strategy to strengthen bi-regional cooperation among FEALAC member countries
  - Approved the establishment of Vision Group with the aim to guide the future direction of this forum and to provide strategic framework for strengthening and deepening the comprehensive cooperation between the two regions
  - Appreciated contribution of ADB, IDB, ECLAC, and ESCAP in promoting bi-regional cooperation and encouraged these organizations to play a greater role in FEALAC's progress
- Appointed Indonesia and Colombia as the next Regional Coordinators
- Admitted new member countries
  - The number of member countries increases from 34 to 36 with the admission of Honduras and Suriname

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Agenda



## **FIFTH FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING OF THE FORUM FOR EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA COOPERATION**

### **BUENOS AIRES DECLARATION**

*August 25, 2011*

#### **Introduction**

1. We the Foreign Ministers of the member countries of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), met in Buenos Aires, on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011, to strengthen the links between the two regions and broaden the areas of our cooperation. On this occasion, we welcome Suriname and Honduras as new members of the Forum.
2. Recalling the achievements of the previous four Foreign Ministers' Meetings, we unanimously adopt this Buenos Aires Declaration.

#### **FEALAC Present and Future**

3. In the first decade of its creation, FEALAC has evolved from a forum of dialogue into a more solid and stable mechanism for cooperation. During this period FEALAC has grown quantitatively, in terms of its member countries and activities, as well as qualitatively, in terms of its scope and areas of cooperation, covering common economic and social development goals. In its initial stage this forum has found its ground and begun to be widely recognized by the international community. Undoubtedly, the Forum has been able to make steady progress towards its intended goals.
4. We recognize that FEALAC has taken root as a useful forum to enhance mutual understanding and to increase economic, social and cultural ties and dialogue between the two regions and among its members. FEALAC is a unique forum that plays critical roles in promoting mutual acknowledgement of best practices in the two regions, in multiplying mutual benefits through cooperation and exchanges among countries of the regions and in collaborating to meet common global challenges. Cooperation through FEALAC, which represents 40% of the world population, 32% of the world economy and more than 40% of the world trade, has global relevance.

FEALAC is an ideal forum to widen opportunities for deeper cooperation between East Asia and Latin America.

5. FEALAC has consolidated over the last 10 years, as a broad-based and effective forum for interregional cooperation. The process has had a crucial and progressive role in promoting cooperation and partnership between East Asia and Latin America. Entering the second decade of FEALAC, it becomes necessary for its member countries to enhance their participation in its initiatives and activities, so that FEALAC can further develop. We consider that it is the right time to pursue this task and strengthen efforts to promote the FEALAC process with a view to building long-term strategic interregional relations based on consistency, trust and cooperation in international fora.
6. We underline that economic growth must go hand in hand with social and economic policies that favor a sustainable, fairer and more equitable creation and distribution of wealth and strengthen links between the two regions including trade, foreign investment, aid and other relevant flows. Countries also need to share their experiences in the field of social inclusion.
7. As the world is today confronted by a number of multifaceted and interconnected global problems and challenges – such as financial crises, social exclusion, food and energy security, nutrition, socio-natural disasters, transnational organized crime, illegal traffic in narcotic drugs, terrorism, nuclear proliferation and climate change – FEALAC must increase its effectiveness. In this context, this forum offers the opportunity to work together to deepen and broaden inter-regional relations between East Asia and Latin America to face common challenges and to achieve development goals. These efforts should be consistent with and supportive of the commitments adopted at the United Nations by its Member States.
8. We recognize science, technology and innovation as essential features of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In this context, we encourage all FEALAC member countries to further develop projects to promote cooperation in these areas (including the education field), creating synergies and using the ability to interconnect and interact in order to create, produce, distribute, adopt, and use scientific and technical knowledge. We welcome the FEALAC Action Plan on Science and Technology, which shall facilitate and foster cooperation in these fields.

## Major Challenges Faced by FEALAC Member Countries

### ***The Global Financial and Economic Crisis, Reform of the International Financial System and Trade Relations***

9. The recent global financial and economic crisis with the increase of uncertainties and downside risks underlined the need for an international financial and economic architecture oriented toward strong, inclusive, sustainable and balanced growth. FEALAC mindful of the central role of the United Nations in addressing solutions for ongoing global challenges, values the goals set by the G20 to address global economic challenges and also acknowledges the importance of debates in the G20 regarding macro-economic coordination, international monetary system reform, financial regulation, and sustainable development that need to take into consideration the interests of all countries.
10. The global economy faces major challenges and a robust recovery from the world financial crisis needs to be sustained in a more balanced way. We express deep concern that the ongoing recovery has not yet resulted in sufficient employment, social inclusion, and adequate growth rates for all economies. Even in some advanced economies unemployment is still high, and there remain social, fiscal, and financial vulnerabilities such as slow progress in fiscal consolidation, sovereign debt crisis, increasing concentration of wealth, and incomplete financial sector recovery and reform.
11. We reaffirm the importance of promoting inclusive and sustainable development that will strengthen the employable skills of those who live in hunger, poverty and unfavorable circumstances, and create job opportunities and encourage the promotion of decent work for them in order to improve their living standards, including their access to food, income, land and essential social services, and to maintain a decent productive life and competitive workforce in the countries. In this context, we recognize that coordinated global efforts, such as the G20 Seoul Development Consensus and other initiatives that have been carried out, to promote capacity building in developing countries, should be sustained and strengthened.
12. The ministers underscore the need to continue strengthening regional financial safety nets, such as the Chiang Mai Initiative and the Latin America Reserve Fund to cope with tensions in the world financial markets and also welcome the Union of South America Nations (UNASUR) decision to create a Council on Economy and Finance as coordinating body to assess concrete alternatives to enhance and expand RFAs in South America.

13. We support global, regional and national efforts to eradicate poverty, hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity through regional and international cooperation and investment in food and nutrition security, sustainable agriculture and rural development, including the exchange of information on and transfer of technology and capacity building in animal and plant health, and in the use of new technologies to enhance productivity in agriculture, livestock, aquaculture and food processing. We stress the importance of ensuring the sufficient and stable availability of food in our region and the timely and uninterrupted access to it, and recognize the importance of promoting small scale agriculture and establishing school feeding programs. We recognize the need to increase food production while combating climate change to which agricultural greenhouse gases are a contributing factor. In this regard we acknowledge the work of the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases.
14. In this context, we recall the paramount importance of pursuing reform of trade in agriculture in accordance to the agreement on agriculture and the Doha Development Agenda and promoting the role of transparent, rules-based, and well-functioning agricultural markets underpinning the efficient production and distribution of food, including the transparency of public and private food stocks.
15. We recognize the challenge for many countries of price volatility in the food and oil markets. We support greater efforts in responsible fora to address the need for greater stability through improved markets.
16. We also welcome the approval of FAO's Resolution 15/2011 "International Year of Quinoa", which acknowledged the high nutritional value of this resource for the attainment of food security and nutrition, the eradication of poverty and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals. Furthermore, we undertake to work together for endorsement by the next UN General Assembly.
17. Having just four years left before the target year of the MDGs, we stress the need to accelerate collective efforts toward the achievement of the MDGs through a reinforced global development partnership. In this regard, we take note of the concerted efforts including the MDGs Follow-up Meeting held in Tokyo, Japan in June as well as the upcoming Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness scheduled to take place in Busan, Republic of Korea in late November this year.

18. We reinforce our strong support to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in its role of eradicating hunger and strengthening food security and we welcome the election of the new Director-General of FAO.
19. We stress our determination to continue working together to accelerate economic recovery by sharing the experiences, know-how and best practices that both regions obtained as they overcame crises in the past. We believe that FEALAC is an excellent international forum to provide opportunities for such cooperation between and among countries of both regions.
20. We reaffirm the need to strengthen efforts to fulfill internationally agreed development goals, and we are committed to making every effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) by 2015. In this regard, we underline the importance of efforts to reach the target of 0.7 percent of Gross National Product (GNP) for Official Development Assistance (ODA) and to improve aid effectiveness, in order to help developing countries meet the MDG's target in a timely manner.
21. We underline our commitment to preserving and enhancing the open and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system embodied in the WTO. We express our concern about the lack of significant progress in the current negotiations and agree to make further efforts to achieve an ambitious, balanced, successful and comprehensive conclusion of the WTO Doha Development Agenda negotiations, in light of development dimensions as mandated in Ministerial Conferences of Doha (2001) and Hong Kong (2005).
22. As a first step towards that aim, and recognizing the special difficulties that least developed countries face in the global economy, we support the present exploration for potential outcomes for those countries, deliverable by the Eighth WTO Ministerial Conference this December.
23. In the face of renewed strains on financial markets, there remains a possibility of increasing protectionist pressures in the future. We reaffirm our intention to comply with WTO agreements as well as to continue to ensure transparency and predictability in implementing measures that impact on trade and investment. We commit to refrain from adopting protectionist or trade distorting measures and commit to rectify such measures as they arise.

### ***The Environment and Sustainable Development***

24. We recognize that the environmental issues, including climate change, affect life on the planet including humankind, especially to developing countries and require greater, concerted, coordinated and urgent action by the international community. FEALAC is a useful forum for the member countries to share



experiences and best practices, exchange views and promote cooperation in attempting to meet these challenges. We share the view that cooperation and mutual learning through the sharing of experiences and technologies, capacity building initiatives, and know how, particularly concerning the development and transfer of environmentally friendly technology are beneficial and should be further promoted, taking into account national circumstances and priorities.

25. We will work closely together for the success of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which will be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012, and which shall reaffirm the commitment of all nations to sustainable development.
26. We reaffirm the importance of addressing climate-change issues and our determination to engage in efforts towards the solution of such issues through cooperation by all countries based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. In this respect, we reaffirm our commitment to work constructively to further fulfill the Bali Road Map, to implement the Decisions adopted in Cancun last December 2010 at the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties of the Kyoto Protocol, as well as to ensure the successful conclusion of the 17<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties of the Kyoto Protocol to be held in South Africa in 2011.
27. We are fully aware of the danger that sea level rise poses, especially to coastal nations, and reiterate our determination to use every effort to cope with this threat and alleviate its impacts.
28. We stress the need to seek ways and means to ensure that the efforts for the protection of the environment are compatible and mutually reinforcing with socio-economic development. In this context, we recognize that coordinated global action must create new opportunities and incentives for the transfer and deployment of environmentally friendly technologies, in particular to developing countries.
29. We reaffirm the sovereign rights of States over their natural resources and biodiversity. In this regard, we encourage the member countries to promote cooperation in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including sustainable forest management and water resource management as one of the key sectors in the environmental, social and economic fields. We also underline the importance of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use of

its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge as a contribution to sustainable development and to poverty eradication, particularly in East Asia and Latin America.

30. We are committed to cooperating constructively with each other to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, as well as the Resource Mobilization Strategy set forth by the international community and to support also the early ratification and implementation of the “Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization” to the Convention on Biological Diversity, adopted at the tenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in October 2010.

### ***United Nations Reform***

31. We reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the important role of multilateralism and a multilateral international system with the United Nations at its heart. We reaffirm that the need for a comprehensive reform of the United Nations remains a priority for the Organization in order to most effectively address today's global challenges and ensure an effective support for its members, including addressing the needs of developing countries. We stress the importance of the reform in order to achieve a more democratic, representative, legitimate, efficient, effective and accountable UN Security Council, a revitalized General Assembly, and an enhanced Economic and Social Council.

### ***Human Rights***

32. We reaffirm the universal validity of human rights and our commitment to its promotion and protection, including through joining and implementing relevant international human rights and humanitarian law instruments.
33. We express our willingness to work on the promotion and protection of human rights through the exchange of experiences, best practices and cooperation within the Human Rights Council and other specialized bodies in human rights, in order to contribute to strengthening their work and impact around the world.
34. We stress the value of international cooperation as a means to help meet the challenges pending in this respect, as well as ongoing cooperation with specializing human right entities supporting the state actions.

### ***Disaster Risk Reduction and Management***

35. The earthquakes that took place in Chile and Christchurch, and the earthquake and tsunami which occurred in Japan, as well as other emergencies suffered by different FEALAC countries, pointed out the impact of socio-natural disasters on the economy, society and human beings of East Asia and Latin America. We, therefore, reaffirm the importance of further strengthening inter-regional cooperation, expanding the network of technical support and cooperation and sharing information and expertise among FEALAC the participation of civil society. We stress the need for the Second members and international and regional institutions in the area of disaster risk reduction, preparedness and management. We reaffirm that disaster risk, reduction policies should aim at reducing socioeconomic vulnerabilities and promoting local resilience and FEALAC Symposium on Pan-Oceanic Cooperation for Disaster Risk Reduction taking into account the Hyogo Framework for action to be held based on the participation of many countries. In this regard, we welcome Japan's proposal to hold an International Conference in 2012 to share its experiences and lessons learned on the Great East Japan Earthquake, as well as to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015.
36. Japan expressed its deep appreciation for the support and solidarity rendered by FEALAC member countries after the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011. We commended Japan's expressed determination towards both reconstruction and continuing fulfillment of its role as a leading member of the international community.
37. We reiterate our solidarity for the reconstruction process of respective countries seriously affected by natural disasters and reaffirm our strong commitment to share the information among FEALAC countries in a timely manner so that the recovery in trade and investment in affected countries could be duly accelerated.

### ***Transnational Organized Crime***

38. We express our deep concern for the threat that transnational organized crime poses to the security, well-being and development of all States and their peoples, and we call on all countries to join and implement fully the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto. We confirm our intention to contribute with our knowledge and best practices to strengthen the fight against transnational organized crime, including illegal traffic in narcotic drugs.
39. We reaffirm our commitment to promoting regional actions in addressing the world drug problem that requires an integrated and balanced approach,

under the principle of common and shared responsibility, respect for state sovereignty, territorial integrity, noninterference in internal affairs and respect for human rights, in order to reduce the supply of drugs and their demand.

### ***Corruption***

40. Corruption threatens the stability and security of societies, distorts fair competition and market integrity, undermines the institutions and values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizes sustainable development and the rule of law. We are therefore committed to ratifying and implementing the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and to cooperating in the fight against this menace.

### ***Terrorism***

41. We express our most vehement condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as we consider it criminal and unjustifiable under any circumstances, regardless of where and by whom it is committed, and because it constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security as well as to human life and dignity, peaceful and civilized coexistence.
42. We reaffirm our strongest conviction to work together, in the spirit of joint effort and close and continue cooperation, founded on the absolute respect for international law, including humanitarian law, human rights law, refugee law and the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations – at the regional and international levels – to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism.

### ***Illicit Traffic of Cultural Property and Clandestine Excavations***

43. We recognize that the illicit acquisition, import, export and transfer of cultural property, as well as the clandestine excavations are two of the main causes of the impoverishment of the cultural heritage of our countries and that international cooperation constitutes one of the most efficient means of protecting each country's cultural property against all the dangers resulting there from. Therefore, FEALAC members undertake to oppose such practices with the means at their disposal.

### ***Cooperation between East Asia and Latin America***

44. We share the view that emerging East Asia and Latin America have been among the fastest growing regions of the world economy during the last years. We recognize that the regions that make up FEALAC have been more dynamic and less affected by the crisis. In this context, we encourage both Latin American and East Asian governments and enterprises as well

as global business partners operating in the regions to continue working together to ensure and facilitate the quicker exchange and greater flows of goods, investments and services between the two regions, including through trade liberalization considering the asymmetries among countries and stress the importance of promoting greater efforts aimed at enhancing economic cooperation between East Asia and Latin American countries, bearing in mind the special needs of those vulnerable economies such as landlocked and small island states.

45. We also recognize that FEALAC's cooperation needs to be crosscutting and action-oriented to produce tangible benefits and substantial results. Activities of the Working Groups should be more focused and systematic for better coordination and effective management to avoid duplication. We also share the view that the working groups should concentrate their cooperative efforts towards those priorities with the greatest impact on common interests between East Asia and Latin America regarding the priority areas identified in the Tokyo Declaration, issued during the Fourth FEALAC Ministerial Meeting (Tokyo, 2010). Thus, we urge the Working Groups to focus on exploring the huge potentials of its members in their natural resources and enhancing less-explored areas, such as innovation, science and technology and tourism, especially ecotourism and sports.
46. We recognize the potential of the South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation as mechanisms that allow sharing the strengths and institutional capabilities of the countries of both regions, to contribute to their social and economic development and to strengthening linkages between the government, academic, productive, entrepreneurial and other relevant sectors of the region. Therefore, we urge to continue working on the bi-regional agenda, with strong coordination between the two regions.
47. We reaffirm that people-to-people contacts also constitute a very important part of East Asia-Latin America partnership. We stress that further substantial efforts must be made to bring FEALAC closer to our citizens and civil society and to reach out to peoples of East Asia and Latin America by funding programs in this area. No efforts should be spared to enhance the visibility of partnership and the transparency of the FEALAC process.
48. We emphasize the importance of engaging the private sector of the member countries in FEALAC activities. In addition, we recognize the relevance to strengthen the development of cooperation activities in the field of culture and education, especially student exchange for the promotion of the activities of this forum, as well as its significance for the two regions.

49. We welcome and take note of the non paper titled “Revitalization, Enhanced Visibility and Future Direction of FEALAC” (Annex G of the Report of the XI Senior Officials’ Meeting), and direct Senior Officials to prepare recommendations for consideration by us at our next meeting.
50. We decide to create the “FEALAC Vision Group” with the aim to guide the future direction of this forum and to provide strategic framework for strengthening and deepening of comprehensive cooperation between the two regions including taking into consideration the recommendations mentioned in paragraph 43 (SOM XI Report). We emphasize active participation of Regional Coordinators for the Vision Group to be launched within six months and for the final report of the Vision Group to be submitted to the next Foreign Ministers’ Meeting.
51. We recommend that Working Groups in FEALAC should prioritize technical cooperation as one of the tools for the exchange of experiences, training and knowledge to achieve objectives that are to be identified. We shall encourage Working Groups to develop studies to establish mechanisms that enable the full or partial funding of bi-regional cooperation initiatives in the framework of this forum.
52. We recognize that politics, culture, education, and sports are key topics in our process of deepening cooperation within our two regions. Thus, we recommend member countries to put into practice iconic FEALAC-wide projects, such as the university network as a pilot project. We also encourage the use of the Cyber Secretariat for this purpose so as to create closer ties among FEALAC countries by facilitating exchanges of information on bi-regional cooperation projects.
53. We recognize science, technology and innovation as key themes in the process of deepening cooperation within FEALAC. Thus, we urge Member Countries to put into practice the Sectorial Action Plan on Science and Technology, and to encourage cooperation among research and development institutions existing in the two regions, so as to create closer ties among FEALAC countries in this area, inter alia by identifying joint mechanisms for developing bi-regional cooperation projects.
54. Regarding the establishment of the FEALAC Financial Business and Commercial Information Network, we approve the Format for Business Information for the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat.
55. Argentina presented a proposal to establish a FEALAC Database of Investment Projects, a FEALAC Investment Network and a FEALAC Business Forum which will include participation from the private sector.

The proposal is a contribution to create awareness on existing investment opportunities in both regions.

56. The Working Group on Economy and Society had an active discussion regarding the Feasibility Project for the Bi-Regional Center for Development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), document VI/ESWG/ECU/2008/07 and recognized the need for a Technical Revision of the document, which will entail Work Plan and Funding. The Group decided the following course of action:
  - Ecuador will update the project proposal and re-circulate among members for comments from the respective technical agencies, for this to be discussed before the 9<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting.
  - Through these actions, the Working Group will be in a position to make recommendations, as instructed by the Foreign Ministers' decision.
57. The Sub-Working Group on Tourism emphasized the importance of sharing information about tourism flows, touristic information, regulations of entry, stays and exits, as well as to address the issue of improving inter-regional connectivity and conduct studies in air access and investments. It recommended the creation of the "Format for Tourism Information", as well as the approval in the future of the framework on Tourism between Latin American and East Asian countries, aimed at increasing tourism cooperation between the two regions and agreed to provide FEALAC Cyber Secretariat with brief information on upcoming major tourism events.
58. We highly appreciate the progress made by the Working Groups in Bali (XI SOM) and in Buenos Aires (XII SOM). We also welcome the fact that, as described in the reports of the Working Groups and the Sub-Working Group on Tourism, a wide variety of national projects presented by each member country has contributed to deepening communication, mutual understanding and cooperation between both regions.
59. In this regard, we welcome the new projects and initiatives submitted in the Working Groups proposed by member countries and commend those member countries for their valuable contributions to deepening and further promoting cooperation and exchanges through FEALAC process.
60. We recognize the Coordinating Board as a useful mechanism to make FEALAC activities more effective and consistent by establishing a follow-up mechanism of the decisions taken by Foreign Ministers and SOM, as well as by improving the coordination among the Working Groups.



61. We express our satisfaction for the efforts and contributions made by the Cyber Secretariat to facilitate communication among member countries and to enhance FEALAC's visibility by reinforcing the FEALAC website and hosting the "2011 FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop." We also support the Cyber Secretariat's eventual development as an effective support mechanism to further strengthen FEALAC's role and efficiency in promoting bi-regional cooperation. In this regard, we renew the request to member countries to make continuous and timely cooperation with the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat in all matters related to FEALAC.
62. We appreciate the contributions made by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank, in order to address major challenges in their respective regions. We also appreciated the efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) to promote bi-regional cooperation. We encouraged these organizations to play a greater role in the FEALAC process. In this regard, we instructed the Coordinating Board to explore ways to enhance financial and technical cooperation with these organizations and others from these regions to implement the FEALAC projects.
63. We furthermore recognize the importance of other initiatives for dialogue and convergence that promote regional integration while also fostering closer ties between East Asia and Latin America.
64. While acknowledging the request to have Spanish language as a working language of FEALAC and its existing technical problems, the discussion of having Spanish Language in FEALAC should be further explored. SOM XII encouraged the members to continue the current practice of having simultaneous Spanish translation in every Foreign Ministerial Meeting.
65. The next Foreign Ministers' Meeting will be held in 2013 in Indonesia on a date to be decided by consensus.
66. We express our appreciation to the outgoing Coordinator of FEALAC, Argentina, and welcome the next Coordinator for Latin America, Colombia. We express our deep gratitude to Indonesia for having accepted to continue as the Regional Coordinator for East Asia.



## 13<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

17 October 2012. Bogota, Colombia

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Colombia & Indonesia**
- Participated **32 Member Countries**: East Asia (14) / Latin America (18)

### Main Results

- Approved the Final Reports of three Working Groups
  - Politics, Education, Cultural and Sports: Argentina, Japan
  - Economy and Society, (sub WG) Tourism: Ecuador, Viet Nam
  - Science and Technology: Brazil, Republic of Korea
  - Discussed implementation of follow-up mechanisms and reframing the structure of Working Groups
- Reviewed results of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vision Group Meetings and expected the Final Report to be ready prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> FMM and the 14<sup>th</sup> SOM
- Agreed to intensify the usage of the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat for any FEALAC activities to enhance coordination and cooperation
- Reviewed Bi-regional projects
  - FEALAC University Network
  - Establishment of a Bi-regional Development Center for SMEs

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex A. List of Delegates
- Annex B. Agenda
- Annex C. Report on the Politics, Education, Culture and Sports
- Annex D. Report on the Working Group on Economy and Society
- Annex E. Report on the Sub-Working Group on Tourism
- Annex F. Report on the Working Group on Science and Technology
- Annex G. Recent development of the Cyber Secretariat activities and future plans
- Annex H. Charter of the FEALAC University Network



## Coordinators Report of the 13<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting Forum for East Asia – Latin America Cooperation

Bogota, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2012

1. The XIII Senior Officials Meeting (SOM XIII) of the Forum for East Asia - Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was held in Bogotá, on 17 October 2012.
2. The meeting was co-chaired by the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Colombia, H.E. Mrs. Mónica Lanzetta and the Director General for America and Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Ambassador Dian Triansyah Djani.
3. Delegations from the following member countries participated in the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam.  
The list of delegates is attached as Annex A.
4. H.E. Mrs Monica Lanzetta, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, welcomed the delegates to Bogota. She underlined the importance of the higher convergence of the two regions in terms of cooperation and the need to strengthen trade and investment components of FEALAC current agenda, and the need for a road map towards the next Foreign Ministers' Meeting.  
  
H.E. Ambassador Dian Triansyah Djani, Director General for America and Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia pointed out the need for every FEALAC member country to depart from the traditional way of thinking, and always explore new ways to enhance cooperation.  
  
The following topics were discussed and agreed upon by the participants:
5. **Adoption of the Agenda**  
SOM XIII approved and agreed to the Agenda as attached as Annex B.

## 6. Consideration of the Working Groups Reports

### a. Working Group on Politics, Education, Cultural and Sports

- i. SOM XIII considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Argentina and Japan, Co-Chairs of the 9<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Politics, Culture, Education and Sports held in Bogota, October 16, 2012.
- ii. Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. Members were encouraged to implement the recommendations. The Report (attached as Annex C – Report on FEALAC Cyber Secretariat) will be referred to FMM VI as a background paper in 2013.

### b. Working Group on Economy and Society

- i. SOM XIII considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Ecuador and Viet Nam, the Co-Chairs of the 9<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Economy and Society held in Bogota, October 16, 2012.
- ii. Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. Members were encouraged to implement the recommendations. The Report (attached as Annex D) will be referred to FMM VI as a background paper in 2013.

### c. Sub-Working Group on Tourism

- i. SOM XIII considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Ecuador and Viet Nam, Co-Chairs of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sub-Working Group Meeting on Tourism held in Bogota, October 16, 2012.
- ii. Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. Members were encouraged to implement the recommendations. The Report (attached as Annex E) will be referred to FMM VI as a background paper in 2013.

### d. Working Group on Science and Technology.

- i. SOM XIII considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Brazil and Republic of Korea, Co-Chairs of the 8<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Science and Technology held in Bogota, October 16, 2012.
- ii. Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. Members were encouraged to implement the recommendations. The Report (attached as Annex F) will be referred to FMM VI as a background paper in 2013.

Following the consideration of the Reports, the floor was opened for exchange of views on issues, such as the implementation of follow-up mechanisms and the possibilities for reframing the structure of working groups, with the view to increase efficiency and enhance cooperation in trade, investment and tourism between both regions.

The SOM will continue to further discuss this issue as well as the ways and means to strengthen FEALAC cooperation under a dedicated agenda item at the 14<sup>th</sup> SOM in Bali in 2013. The need to increase the number of bi-regional projects, as opposed to the current increase of national projects, was also underlined.

## **7. Report of Meetings of FEALAC Vision Group (FVG)**

- a. Mr. Keun Ho Jang, Director General for Latin America and Caribbean Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Republic of Korea reported on the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting held in Seoul in March 11 to 13, 2012. Ambassador Carlos Velasco from Peru, reported on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of FEALAC Vision Group, held in Lima, Peru, October 11 and 12, 2012, to the plenary.
- b. The FVG will prepare its Report with the following chapters:
  - Chapter I : International Situation and the State of FEALAC
  - Chapter II : Politics, Culture and Sport
  - Chapter III : Economy and Society
  - Chapter IV : Science, Technology, and Education
  - Chapter V : Institutional Arrangements.
- c. It is hoped the final report of FVG will provide specific cooperation strategies, measures, and concrete time for the advancement of FEALAC and its strategic vision.
- d. The final report is expected to be ready prior to the FMM VI and SOM XIV with sufficient time for member countries to debate and provide inputs to it, without compromising the autonomy and independence of the FVG.
- e. Colombia proposed to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the FEALAC FVG in Cali, Colombia, at the end of January – beginning of February 2013.
- f. Indonesia proposed to host the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of FEALAC FVG in Bali, Indonesia in 2013, prior to the FMM VI.

## **8. Activities Related to Strengthening of the Cyber Secretariat**

The Republic of Korea presented the recent developments of FEALAC cyber secretariat activities and the future plans (Annex G), and member countries agreed

to intensify the usage of the Cyber Secretariat for any FEALAC activities to enhance coordination and cooperation. SOM XIII highly appreciated the role of the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat as a communication medium between FEALAC National Focal Points.

## Bi-Regional Projects

### 9. Follow-up of FEALAC University Network

Brazil presented the Charter of the FEALAC University Network – the Network – (attached as Annex H) and urged all member countries to participate in the Network.

In a rich discussion, SOM XIII welcomed and appreciated the presentation of the Charter of the Network presented by Brazil and underlined the importance of having a broader eligibility criterion and wider coverage.

### 10. Review of Project for the “Establishment of a Bi-regional Development Center for SMEs”:

Ecuador presented the updated Feasibility of Project for the Establishment of a Bi-Regional Development Center for SMEs, and encouraged all member countries to participate in this project.

SOM XIII welcomed and appreciated the presentation and report by Ecuador. Some members supported the proposal.

In order to enhance the feasibility of the project, some members suggested that the project should be pursued on a step-by-step approach.

### 11. Presentation of the ALADI Latin America – Asia – Pacific Relations Observatory

- a. Mr. Pablo Rabczuk, Under Secretary of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) presented the Latin America – Asia – Pacific Relations Observatory.
- b. SOM XIII welcomed and appreciated the presentation and report by ALADI.

### 12. Adoption of the SOM XIII Report

The Senior Officials adopted the minutes from the Senior Officials Meeting with no further amendment.

## Any other matters

### 13. **Appointment of the Next Regional Coordinators and Working Group Co-Chairs**

SOM XIII welcomed Thailand's intention to assume the role of the next East Asia Regional Coordinator. Co-Coordiators encouraged all member countries to flag their readiness to assume the position of Regional Coordinator for Latin America and Co-Chairs of the Working Groups and Sub Working Group, especially those which have yet to take up the roles of Co-Coordinator and Co-Chair to do so.

### 14. **Schedules for Future FEALAC Meetings**

Indonesia proposed to host the FMM VI meeting in Bali, Indonesia, on June 6-7, 2013, preceded by the SOM XIV meeting, the 10<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Working Group Meeting on Politics Culture Education and Sports, the 10<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Working Group Meeting on Economy and Society, the 9<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Working Group Meeting on Science And Technology and the 4<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Sub Working Group Meeting on Tourism.

### 15. **Acknowledgment**

SOM XIII expressed its appreciation to Colombia as the host country for the warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegates as well as the excellent arrangement for all meetings. SOM XIII also expressed its deep gratitude for the able co-chairmanship of the Republic of Indonesia to make all meetings a success.

# 14<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

12 June 2013. Bali, Indonesia

## Participants

- Co-chaired by **Colombia & Indonesia**
- Participated **34 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (18)

## Main Results

- Adopted the draft of 'Uluwatu Declaration' and Final Reports of three Working Groups
- Reviewed the Final Report of the Vision Group agreed to realign the Working Groups as below
  - Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development WG
  - Trade, Investment, Tourism, and MSMEs WG
  - Culture, Youth and Gender, and Sports WG
  - Science and Technology, Innovation, and Education WG
- Approved 'FEALAC University Network' as a Bi-Regional Project for the next year and the establishment of Bi-Regional Development Center for SMEs
- Reported results of FEALAC Cyber Secretariat activities and future plans
- Elected Co-Chairs of each WG for the next term
  - Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development WG : China, Ecuador
  - Trade, Investment, Tourism, and MSMEs WG : Argentina
  - Culture, Youth and Gender, and Sports WG : Ecuador
  - Science and Technology, Innovation, and Education WG : Japan, Brazil (Reappointed)
- Elected Regional Coordinators for the next term: Costa Rica, Thailand

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

## Annex List

- Annex A. List of Participants
- Annex B. Agenda
- Annex C. Report on the Working Group on Politics, Education, Cultural and Sports
- Annex D. Report on the Working Group on Economy and Society
- Annex E. Report on the Sub-Working Group on Tourism
- Annex F. Report on the Working Group on Science and Technology
- Annex G. FEALAC Vision group Final Report
- Annex H. Charter of FEALAC University Network
- Annex I. Update on Establishment of Bi-regional Development Center for SMEs
- Annex J. FEALAC Organizational Chart
- Annex K. Draft Outcome Document of the Uluwatu Declaration
- Annex L. Bi-regional Dialogue on International Cooperation
- Annex M. Seminar on Sustainable Tourism and Tourism Ethics
  - Report on FEALAC Cyber Secretariat's Activities and Future Plans



## Report of the Fourteenth Senior Official's Meeting (SOM XIV) Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation

Bali, 12 June, 2013

1. The XIV Senior Officials Meeting (SOM XIV) of the Forum for East Asia – Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was held in Bali, Indonesia, on 12 June 2013. The meeting was co-chaired by the Director General for America and Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Ambassador Dian Triansyah Djani, and the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Colombia, H.E. Mrs. Mónica Lanzetta.
2. The Meeting was attended by delegations from 34 member countries participated in the meeting: Argentine, Australia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam. The list of delegates is attached as ANNEX A.
3. In his opening remarks, H.E. Mr. Dian Triansyah Djani, Director General for America and Europe of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia welcomed the delegates to Bali. He highlighted FEALAC's accomplishments in building the foundation for wide-ranging cooperation that can bring the two regions closer. In this regard, FEALAC member countries are encouraged to bring forward concrete projects that will further promote connectivity and increase FEALAC's attractiveness to the region. Ambassador Mónica Lanzetta, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia underlined the importance of bi-regional cooperation projects in deepening the ties between the two regions and enable FEALAC to realize its maximum potentials and produce better outcomes.
4. The Meeting agreed on the Agenda, which appears as ANNEX B.



## AGENDA ITEM 2: Election of Working Group Co-chairpersons

5. The Meeting took note of the results of the election of working group Co-chairpersons for the period of 2013–2015 as follows:
  - a. China and Ecuador will co-chair the Working Group on Politics, Education, Cultural and Sports.
  - b. Argentine will co-chair the Working Group on Economy and Society as well as the Sub-Working Group on Tourism. The position for the co-chair persons representing the Asian region is vacant since Viet Nam decided not to continue its current position as the co-chair and no Asian countries have submitted their nominations for the said position.
  - c. Japan and Brazil will co-chairs the Working Group on Science and Technology.

## AGENDA ITEM 3: Consideration of the Working Groups Report

### ***Working Group on Politics, Education, Cultural and Sports***

6. The Meeting considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Japan and Argentine, Co-Chairs of the 10<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Politics, Culture and Education held in Bali on 11 June 2013. The draft Charter for FEALAC University Network remains open to be commented by university experts from member countries.
7. Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the Senior Officials. The Report appears as ANNEX C. Member countries were encouraged to implement the recommendations.

### ***a. Working Group on Economy and Society***

8. The Meeting considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Viet Nam and Ecuador, Co-Chairs of the 10<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Economy and Society held in Bali on 11 June 2013. The meeting underlines the importance of bi-regional projects that support the development of SMEs and promote investment flow through opportunity information sharing.
9. Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. The Report appears as ANNEX D. Member countries were encouraged to implement the recommendations.

### ***b. Sub Working Group on Tourism***

10. The Meeting considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Viet Nam and Ecuador, Co-Chairs of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sub Working Group Meeting on Tourism held in Bali on 11 June 2013. The Meeting noted that the Sub

Working Group has discussed the need to increase flow of tourists through cooperation in connectivity, visa facilitation, enhanced security, and to further make use of the Cyber Secretariat website to better exchange tourism promotion related information.

11. Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. The Report appears as ANNEX E. Member countries were encouraged to implement the recommendations.

#### ***Working Group on Science and Technology***

12. The Meeting considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by South Korea and Brazil, Co-Chairs of the 10<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Science and Technology held in Bali on 11 June 2013.
13. Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the SOM. The Report appears as ANNEX F.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: Report of the Meetings of FEALAC Vision Group (FVG)**

14. H.E. Pitono Purnomo as the host of the 5<sup>th</sup> FVG meeting held in Bali 4-6 June 2013, briefed the Meeting on the main recommendations put forward by the FVG to ensure FEALAC's relevance in the region as follows:
  - a. FEALAC should focus at the implementation of iconic projects aimed at promoting connectivity between the two regions in the areas of common interests such as science and technology, media, business, tourism, education, youth and culture.
  - b. FEALAC should be more inclusive in formulating its cooperation projects and activities to ensure broader participation of relevant stakeholders and increase people-to-people contact.
  - c. Strengthening FEALAC's institutions and improving the effectiveness and efficiency of FEALAC's mechanism through among others the establishment of a permanent Secretariat, the re-organizing of the Working Group and the convening of Summit.
15. The complete report of the FEALAC Vision Group is attached as ANNEX G.
16. The Meeting expressed their appreciation for the report and recommendations put forward by the Group.
17. The Meeting highlighted and discussed the recommendations particularly on the idea to establish a permanent secretariat, a FEALAC Summit, as well as inter sessional meetings between FEALAC and other regional organizations.

18. The Meeting agreed with South Korea's proposal to have further discussion on FEALAC Vision Group's report and recommendations in a back-to-back meeting during the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop to be held in Republic of Korea in 2014.
19. The Meeting also took note of the proposal to convene inter-sessional meetings between FEALAC and other regional organizations to ensure more consultations and strengthen relations and cooperation between the two regions.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: Discussion on Activities related to Strengthening of Cyber Secretariat**

20. The Meeting was briefed by South Korea on the update of the current activities and future plans of the Cyber Secretariat, and encouraged FEALAC member countries to provide the Secretariat with basic information of member countries to be uploaded in the web page of the Secretariat.
21. The Meeting commended South Korea and agreed to encourage member countries to actively provide update information to the Secretariat.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: Bi-Regional Projects**

##### ***a. Follow up of FEALAC University Network***

22. The Meeting was briefed by Brazil on the progress of its initiative on the FEALAC University Network. Brazil informed the Meeting that some member countries have provided their comments to the draft Charter of the FEALAC University Network as attached in ANNEX H.
23. The Meeting agreed to adopt the FEALAC University Network as the bi regional project for next year.

##### ***b. Follow up of Project for the establishment of a Bi Regional Development Center for SMEs***

24. The Meeting was briefed by Ecuador on the current progress of the initiative to the establishment of Bi-Regional Development Center for SMEs. In this regard, member countries have expressed their support and agreement of the establishment of Bi Regional Development Center for SMEs as stipulated in its Term of Reference which appears in the ANNEX I.

## AGENDA ITEM 7: Recommendation to the 6<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers Meeting

### ***a. Election of Regional Coordinators***

25. The Meeting welcomes the readiness of Thailand to take up the role as the next East Asia Regional Coordinator and Costa Rica for the Latin America Region. Thus, Thailand and Costa Rica will assume the position as FEALAC's regional coordinator for the period of 2013-2015.
26. Thailand informed the meeting that a working group meeting on tourism and Academic Roundtable will be held back to back with the FEALAC SOM in Thailand next year. The venue of the events and their respective time will be conveyed at a later date.
27. Costa Rica informed the meeting that the venue and time of the FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting in 2015 will be announced later.
28. The meeting expressed appreciation to Thailand and Costa Rica for their readiness to assume the post of Regional Coordinators.

### ***b. Strengthening FEALAC Mechanism***

29. The Meeting discussed initiatives suggested by the member countries to further increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the FEALAC's mechanism.
30. The Meeting agreed to realign the Working Groups as stipulated in ANNEX J.
31. The Meeting also agreed on the idea to convene an inter-sessional meeting between the FEALAC SOM and FMM to monitor progress and review implementation of projects and provide policy guidance.

### ***c. Finalization of 6<sup>th</sup> FMM Outcome Document***

32. The Senior Officials discussed the draft outcome document of the 6<sup>th</sup> Foreign Minister Meeting namely the "Uluwatu Declaration" as attached in ANNEX K and recommended for the adoption by the Ministers.

## OTHER MATTERS

33. The Meeting took note the convening of the Second Meeting on International Cooperation Officials of FEALAC countries, Bi-Regional Dialogue on International Cooperation held in Bali, 12 June 2013, and the Seminar on Sustainable Tourism and Ethics which was held in Bali, 9-10 June 2013. The reports of the said events appear as ANNEX L and ANNEX M respectively.

## ADOPTION OF THE 16<sup>th</sup> SOM REPORT

34. The Meeting adopted the Report from the Senior Officials' Meeting.

## CLOSING

35. The Meeting expressed its sincere appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for the warm hospitality accorded to the FEALAC delegations and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting. The Meeting also conveyed its gratitude for the able Co-Chairmanship of the Republic of Colombia to make all meetings a success.

Bali, 12 June 2013

## 6<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting

13-14 June 2013. Bali, Indonesia

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Colombia & Indonesia**
- Participated **36 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (20)

### Main Results

- Adopted 'Uluwatu Declaration' which reiterates the commitment of FEALAC member countries to continue and deepen bi-regional cooperation for sustainable development
  - Confirmed Vision Group recommendation which demonstrates strong commitment of both regions to strengthen and deepen bi-regional partnership of FEALAC
- Concurred with the proposal made by Korea to hold FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop in March 2014 to discuss follow-up measures of Vision Group Report
- Appointed Thailand and Costa Rica as the next Regional Coordinators

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Agenda
- List of Participants



**ULUWATU DECLARATION  
SIXTH FEALAC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING  
(FMM VI)**

**Bali, 13-14 June 2013**

We, the Foreign Ministers of the Forum for East Asia and Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) member countries, met in Bali on 13 and 14 June 2013 at the FEALAC FMM VI, which was co-chaired by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, as FEALAC Regional Coordinator for East Asia, and by the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia, as FEALAC Regional Coordinator for Latin America. After having substantive discussions, we adopted this 'Uluwatu Declaration'.

**FEALAC and the Global Architecture**

1. We recognize that since the creation of FEALAC 12 years ago the world has undergone major changes. Globalization and interdependence are the characteristics of contemporary international relations. While there have been greater opportunities, we are also increasingly facing global challenges that affect all countries and their people and the sustainable development of all humankind, which have to be addressed in a democratic and transparent manner.
2. We further note that our world has also seen a shift in global and regional political and economic situation. New markets and players are emerging, many of whom are member countries of FEALAC. Today emerging developing countries play an important role as the engine for global economic growth and development, where FEALAC economies contribute 33.43% of the world's GDP and 29.82% of global trade.
3. Addressing new and emerging challenges in today's globalized and inter-dependent world requires efficient collaboration, cooperation and coordination among nations and other actors. This is particularly important if we are to ensure fair and inclusive globalization and development. In this context, we recognize efforts made in regional level to create new financial institutions as source of development among the countries participating in their dynamics and to address deficiencies of the current international financial architecture.

4. Within this evolving global and regional architecture, we recognize that FEALAC can play an important role in facilitating and strengthening inter-regional cooperation and collaboration between East Asia and Latin America. We will therefore work to reinvigorate our cooperation and collaboration, reducing inequalities and gaps within and among member countries and to support the attainment of sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development, including the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals in Latin American and East Asian countries.

### Promoting Connectivity of FEALAC

5. We share the common view that in order to promote an increasing inter-connectivity of our two regions, the deepening and broadening of the existing bi-regional cooperation play crucial roles. Various issues of common interest should be identified to be further explored. In light of which, we reaffirm our commitment to take effective measures of cooperation in order to overcome the needs and difficulties of states with vulnerable economies, including the landlocked developing countries and small island developing states.
6. In order to ensure a fair and sustainable development, we encourage co-operation and dialogue on macroeconomic policies and development strategies among FEALAC member countries. In this regard, we welcome the outcomes of the Seminar on “Experiences of FEALAC countries in transforming growth model towards sustainable development” held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, 5-8 June 2013.
7. Towards this end, we underline the importance of connectivity between the two regions in narrowing the distance gaps. In this regard, we support efforts to explore cooperation in air transportation by promoting direct flights and code sharing between the two region’s air carriers, as well as enhancing cooperation in sea transportation in order to facilitate greater movement of people and goods, according to international rules and laws. We also encourage institutional connectivity between the two regions, including social connectivity through academic and journalist exchanges as well as business sector mobility.
8. In view of global population growth, food security and nutrition has become a central issue. We therefore support international and regional efforts to ensure provision of sufficient, affordable and nutritious food through increased international cooperation, investment, promotion of research and development in the field of sustainable agriculture, fisheries and rural development, and concerted efforts to reduce food waste. We must aim to reduce stunting for all



children under five, recognizing that this is an investment in future economic and social growth.

9. We believe that Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are the backbone of the FEALAC economies and the largest source of domestic employment across all economic sectors in both rural and urban areas. The MSMEs sector also provides opportunities for women and youth to participate in the economic development of the country. We encourage the public-private sectors to develop MSMEs programs, which contribute to the economic development and prosperity in our regions. In this regard, we support Ecuador's initiative to develop a bi-regional center of development of the MSMEs. We also take note of the importance of exploring possible synergies with other relevant regional forums, so as to share views on ways to enable MSMEs development.
10. We reaffirm our commitment to the promotion of cooperation in the area of education, which is an essential part of economic growth and development. As an effort to achieve greater linkage between the two regions, we support Brazil's proposal of FEALAC University Network, to identify potential fields of cooperation in science and technology and to enhance the exchange of information, knowledge and experience in research and development. We welcome the Japanese initiative on FEALAC Latin America Robot Contest in which universities in FEALAC member countries have shown interest, as an important initiative to promote science and technology as well as academic cooperation. We also welcome the Colombian proposal of FEALAC "Network of Scientific-Technological convergence" that seeks to promote the joint and collaborative bioregional networking between research center and groups. We shall also explore collaboration focusing on technology based entrepreneurship including transfer of knowledge; joint knowledge management such as initiatives related to training and research projects; academic and business mobility including exchange of professors and students, as well as business associations in tech and labor-intensive areas.
11. We recognize that natural disasters exacerbated by climate change continue to affect the economic, physical, social and environmental assets of the people in East Asia and Latin America. We therefore underline the importance of disaster risk reduction and reaffirm the necessity to further strengthening inter-regional cooperation, expanding the network of technical support and cooperation and sharing information and expertise among FEALAC members and international and regional institutions in the area of disaster risk reduction, preparedness and management. This cooperation should be in line with major multilateral agreements.

12. We emphasize the importance of supporting existing regional and national initiatives amongst FEALAC members to build resilience, as well as the need to develop collaboration between regional centers on disaster risk reduction in order to respond more effectively to any future disasters, especially in its immediate aftermath, with the aim of maximizing life-saving efforts. In this sense, a feasibility study on the possibility to develop a bi-regional early warning system is foreseen as significant. We reiterate our solidarity for the reconstruction process of respective countries seriously affected by natural disasters and reaffirm our strong commitment to share the information among FEALAC countries in a timely manner so that the recovery in trade and investment in affected countries could be duly accelerated.
13. We reaffirm our commitment to increase efforts to develop cooperation on tourism, bearing in mind that tourism creates jobs, by stimulating easier movement of tourists, promoting eco-tourism and increasing involvement of youth. All these measures are taken in line with tourism ethics, which works as a fundamental frame of reference for responsible and sustainable tourism, and such tourism aims at maximizing benefits while minimizing its potentially negative impacts on the environment, cultural heritage and societies across the globe. In this regard, it is foreseen that in the future FEALAC may develop new research to provide enhanced better understanding of the tourism industry in developing resources in the tourism sector.
14. We reaffirm our commitment to strengthen socio-cultural cooperation and promote greater people to people interactions through increasing cultural education, sports and academic exchange, parliamentarians and civil societies. We acknowledge the possibilities for greater collaborations between centers of excellence and think tanks in both regions.
15. We underline the important contribution of our private sector in developing interregional trade and investment as well as a major actor in spurring greater growth. In this regard, we will facilitate greater business connectivity and networking as well as promote regular business forums. We will also facilitate greater ease of travel and movement for our business people, in accordance with national regulations.
16. Noting the important role of media as bearer of real-time information, we share the view of promoting greater connectivity between our media institutions through media linkages and journalist visits in order to increase the visibility of FEALAC within each of its member countries and contribute to a greater presence in the world.

17. We recognize the importance of enhancing international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime. In this regard, we reaffirm our commitment to take efforts to develop closer collaboration in preventing and combating transnational organized crime, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, corruption, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, particularly women and children, which has grave impacts on human rights, the rule of law, security and social economic development. We further acknowledge the importance of creating a safe cyberspace, including by enhancing international cooperation to combat cybercrime. With this end, we share the importance of cooperation in the field, which may include, information exchange, sharing of best practices and promotion of capacity building. We reconfirm our commitment to co-operate together in regional and multilateral fora in strengthening the fight against transnational organized crime and terrorism within the framework of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its relevant protocols and relevant international instruments on counter-terrorism.
18. We recognize the potential of the South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) as mechanisms that allow the sharing and promotion of the strengths and institutional capabilities of the countries of both regions, based on solidarity and guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty and free from any conditionalities, to contribute to their social and economic development and to strengthen linkages between the governments, academics, producers, entrepreneurs and other relevant sectors of the region. In this regard, we support Indonesia's initiative to build country-led knowledge hubs in the context of SSTC, which include institutional strengthening, knowledge exchange, coordination, bilateral and triangular cooperation, sustained engagement, as well as monitoring and evaluation.
19. We reaffirm our commitment to support the development of strategies on the energy sector which includes the development of clean technologies and renewable energy as well as expansion of access to energy services for people in remote areas through South-South cooperation, Triangular Cooperation, encouragement for innovation and increasing peoples' awareness on sustainable energy. In this regard, we welcome the outcome of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Pacific Water Summit held on 19 -20 May 2013 in Chiang Mai, Thailand, and the forthcoming 22<sup>nd</sup> World Energy Congress, to be organized by the World Energy Council and held in Daegu, the Republic of Korea, from 13 to 17 October 2013.

## FEALAC and the Global Challenges

20. We underscore that the ultimate goal of sustainable development is to end poverty in all its forms. We believe that achieving this objective requires that we promote sustained and inclusive economic growth with equity. With an equitable distribution, such growth will reduce inequality and meet the needs of the present without compromising the need of future generation.
21. We therefore reaffirm our commitment to fight against poverty, achieve all the MDGs and work towards an ambitious and implementable Post-2015 Development Agenda that place at its center poverty eradication, promotion of sustainable development, and equitable and inclusive growth.
22. In this context, we welcome the work that has been undertaken by the UN High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the report that it has submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General. Furthermore, we hope that the report would serve as an input to the intergovernmental process that is inclusive, open and transparent that aims to agree on Post-2015 Development Agenda.
23. We recognize the importance of multilateralism in the global trading system and the commitment to achieving an open, rule-based, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system that contributes to growth, sustainable development and employment generation in all sectors. We further reiterate our commitment to concluding the WTO Doha Development Agenda of multilateral trade negotiation which places the need and the interest of all developing countries, including least developed countries, at the heart of the Doha Work Program, and call for the necessary political will and flexibilities from all parties to achieve convergences and to break the impasse in the negotiation.
24. We are ready to work closely with other WTO Members to have a fruitful and comprehensive discussion towards a conclusion of the Doha Round negotiation in accordance with its mandate through a transparent and inclusive process with a view to upholding and safeguarding the integrity of the multilateral trading system that benefits all. In this context, we express our commitment to ensuring the success of the WTO Ministerial Meeting to be held in Bali in December 2013.
25. We reaffirm our commitment to enhance inter-regional investment and in this regard, we welcome efforts to develop innovative mechanism to promote and facilitate trade and investment flows. With the objective of improving investment flows and the overall establishment of strategic associations between firms of both regions, it is relevant to prioritize coordination efforts

that target investment in each of the member countries. In this regard, we support Argentina's proposal for the development of FEALAC Investment Opportunities Database, which will efficiently allow for member countries to post offers of investment projects seeking interregional investors.

26. We reiterate our commitment to a sustainable, inclusive economic growth by addressing global environmental challenges, strengthening resilience and improving disaster preparedness capacities. We will join our efforts and strive towards achieving a more stable climate, clean atmosphere, healthy and productive forests and oceans, which are just some of the environmental resources from which we all benefit. We reaffirm our determination to address climate change and to continue engaging constructively in the negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol towards a Post-2020 ambitious climate change regime.
27. We share the intention to achieving universal health coverage according to national policies and capabilities. We reaffirm the importance of cooperating closely in addressing pandemic, communicable and non-communicable diseases. In this regard, we will explore possibilities of joint cooperation in addressing pandemic, communicable and non-communicable diseases, as well as exchange of experiences in promoting access to public health care, including joint research and development of medicine and vaccine, sharing of best practices and experiences, and exchange of health practitioners.
28. We recognize the invaluable economic, social and cultural contributions of all migrant workers and members of their families. We further underline the need to identify various means to maximize development benefits and address the challenges that migration pose to countries of origin, transit and destination.
29. We reaffirm our strong belief in multilateralism with United Nations at its center and the commitment to uphold the principles of the United Nations Charter. We thus reaffirm the need for a comprehensive reform of the UN, including the Security Council, to make it more effective, democratic, accountable, efficient and transparent.

### From Santiago to Bali and Beyond

30. Since its creation, FEALAC has evolved from a forum of dialogue into a solid and stable cooperation forum linking the two regions. We reaffirm our commitments as outlined in Santiago in March 2001, in particular, to increase mutual understanding, trust and friendly cooperation among member

countries. We have continuously enriched and developed ways and means to sharing experiences and best practices as well as tapping potentials for cross-sectorial cooperation, inter alia in trade, tourism and investment, science and technology, sustainable development, as well as people-to-people exchanges.

31. We welcome the recommendation proposed by FEALAC Vision Group, which aims at evaluating FEALAC cooperation, and providing future visions on how FEALAC can contribute to address global challenges as well as promoting a strong and closer cooperation among member countries. The Vision Group recommendation demonstrates the strong commitment of both regions to strengthen and deepen the bi-regional partnership of FEALAC based on openness and cooperation. This partnership shall be pursued with the purpose of contributing to what is good not only for the region but also for the world. In this context we welcome Republic of Korea's proposal to hold FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop in March 2014 to discuss follow-up measures of the Vision Group report.
32. We noted the need for strengthening FEALAC processes and institutions in order to adequately respond to global challenges and opportunities as well as enhance inter-regional cooperation. In this regard, we agreed to refocus the existing Working Groups into as follows: (1) Working Group on Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development ; (2) Working Group on Trade, Investment, Tourism, MSMEs; (3) Working Group on Culture, Youth and Gender, Sports; (4) Working Group on Science and Technology, Innovation, Education.
33. Noting the importance of constant monitoring of the progress of the co-operation, we underline the necessity to enhance communication between FEALAC members and therefore the need to have more interaction and explore inter-sessional meetings at the SOM or Deputy SOM level when necessary, strengthen the role of the Coordinating Board as well as the need to fully utilize the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat sponsored by the Republic of Korea to facilitate online communication within FEALAC. As we recognize that continuous communication and coordination is key to strengthening and expanding FEALAC, enhancing the utilization of the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat is imperative. In the same vein, in order to increase visibility, we shall encourage member countries to create a national website of FEALAC linked with the Cyber Secretariat so as to enable the general public of FEALAC member countries to access national data and information. Appreciating the contributions made by the Cyber Secretariat to the FEALAC, we renew the request to member countries to make continuous and timely cooperation with the Cyber Secretariat, including by updating and enhancing data banks.

34. To improve our mechanism of dialogue and to advance our partnership, we believe in the significance of involving cross-sectorial institutions. Regular and timely deliberations among Focal Points are foreseen as a way and mean to achieve an effective cooperation as well as monitor progress in each working group.
35. Noting the importance of research as well as strengthening FEALAC analytical and policy recommendations, we underline the importance of cooperating closely with regional organizations, including APEC, ABAC, IDB, ADB, ASEAN, Pacific Alliance, CELAC, UNASUR, OAS, ALBA, SICA and think tanks in Latin America and East-Asia.
36. In order to fully achieve its objectives and goals, FEALAC needs to transform itself into a more effective and efficient framework of bi-regional cooperation. Within this context, it is deemed necessary to evaluate finished and ongoing national projects, with a view to restructure the mechanism of work, and to establish a reliable instrument to provide data regarding various aspects of FEALAC relations. It is necessary to develop mechanisms to ensure that national projects have a wider scope of participation and transform themselves into bi-regional projects in the future.
37. In achieving all the above-mentioned objectives, we, therefore, reaffirm the importance of further strengthening bi-regional cooperation, expanding the network of technical support and cooperation, and sharing information and expertise among FEALAC members and international and regional institutions. As such, we tasked the FEALAC Senior Officials to coordinate the implementation and evaluation of all programs and activities agreed at this Meeting.

## Closing

38. The next Foreign Ministers' Meeting will be held in 2015 in Costa Rica on a date to be decided by consensus.
39. We express our appreciation to the outgoing Coordinators of FEALAC, Indonesia and Colombia, and welcome the next Coordinators Thailand for East Asia and Costa Rica for Latin America.



## 15<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

22 August 2014. Bangkok, Thailand

### Participants


- Co-chaired by **Costa Rica & Thailand**
- Participated **32 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (16)

### Main Results

- Approved final reports of each Working Group
- Reported results of FEALAC Cyber Secretariat activities and future plans
- Discussed measures of improvement of FEALAC work process and strengthening the role of the Cyber Secretariat
  - Proposed 'Improvement of the Work Process and the Strengthening of Cyber Secretariat' by Thailand

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- |             |  |   |
|-------------|--|---|
| Annex I.    | List of the Heads of Delegations and Observers   |  |
| Annex II.   | Agenda   |   |
| Annex III.  | Follow-up on Uluwatu Declaration   |   |
| Annex IV.   | 1 <sup>st</sup> SPCSD Working Group Meeting Final Report                                   |   |
| Annex V.    | 1 <sup>st</sup> CYGS Working Group Meeting Final Report                                    |   |
| Annex VI.   | 1 <sup>st</sup> TITM Working Group Meeting Final Report                                    |   |
| Annex VII.  | 1 <sup>st</sup> STIE Working Group Meeting Final Report                                    |   |
| Annex VIII. | Proposal on the Improvement of the Work Process and the Strengthening of Cyber Secretariat |   |



## Report of the Fifteenth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM XV) Forum for East Asia - Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC)

Bangkok, 22 August 2014

1. The Fifteenth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM XV) of the Forum for East Asia - Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was held at the Bangkok Convention Centre at CentralWorld, Bangkok, on 22 August 2014. The meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Sihasak Phuangketkeow, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, and H.E. Mr. Alejandro Solano Ortiz, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Republic of Costa Rica.
2. The Meeting was attended by delegations from 32 member countries; Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, and Viet Nam. The SOM XV was also attended by representatives from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as invited observers. The list of the Heads of Delegations and Observers is attached as ANNEX I.
3. In his opening remarks, H.E. Mr. Sihasak Phuangketkeow, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand expressed the honour of Thailand to be the Coordinator of FEALAC for 2013 - 2015 and to host the 15<sup>th</sup> FEALAC SOM. He highlighted the potentials of East Asia and Latin America as the rising regions of the world which constitute large portions of the global population, GDP and trade. He underlined that political will of member countries is most important for FEALAC to progress, and he also underscored the significance of the promotion of people-to-people relations as it will be a solid foundation of the cooperation within FEALAC.

4. H.E. Mr. Alejandro Solano Ortiz, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica gave his remarks focusing on the importance of FEALAC member countries to build confidence and to have willingness to work together for mutual benefits, to close the gaps, and to enhance relationships. He stressed that there are many areas that the member countries can share their expertise and experiences i.e. technical cooperation, science and technology, trade and investment, etc. He also thanked the Cyber Secretariat for its contributions to the development of FEALAC process.

### **Agenda Item I : Adoption of the Agenda**

5. The Meeting adopted the agenda prepared by the host. The agenda appears as ANNEX II.

### **Agenda Item 2 : Overview of the Development of FEALAC**

6. The Meeting took stock of the development of FEALAC and shared their views and opinions on the matter. Indonesia presented a matrix of information on the Follow-up on Uluwatu Declaration, as appears as ANNEX III. Indonesia underscored that the member countries need to implement the instructions and recommendations of the FMM VI and also stated that a meeting particularly on the Follow-up on Uluwatu Declaration should be convened before the next FMM. Colombia was of the view that recommendations of the FEALAC Vision Group should be studied and implemented as well. ADB representative gave a brief review of the economic development in East Asia and Latin America and mentioned that countries with strong fundamentals have been less affected by crises. The Meeting generally agreed that there was encouraging development in FEALAC, however, member countries should be committed to work more closely together to move FEALAC forward.

### **Agenda Item 3 : Status and Election of Working Group Co-Chairs**

7. The Meeting was informed of the status of Working Group Co-Chairs as follows;
  - a. The Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development are China and Ecuador.
  - b. The Co-Chair of the Working Group on Culture, Youth, Gender and Sports is Ecuador. The East Asia Co-Chair is vacant.
  - c. The Co-Chair of the Working Group on Trade, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs is Argentina. The East Asia Co-Chair is vacant.

- d. The Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Science and Technology, Innovation and Education are Japan and Brazil.
8. Thailand nominated Viet Nam to be the Co-Chair of the Working Group on Culture, Youth, Gender and Sports, which was seconded by Ecuador. Thailand nominated the Republic of Korea to be the Co-Chair of the Working Group on Trade, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs, which was welcomed by Argentina. Viet Nam and the Republic of Korea were then elected to be the Co-Chairs of the respective Working Groups.

#### Agenda Item 4 : Consideration of the Working Groups Reports

9. China presented and submitted the report and recommendations of the first Working Group Meeting on Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development held on 21 August 2014, prepared by China and Ecuador as Co-Chairs. It was emphasized that a number of ongoing and concluded projects were reported, and new projects were proposed.

The Meeting considered the report and adopted the recommendations. The Report appears as ANNEX IV.

10. Viet Nam presented and submitted the report and recommendations of the first Working Group Meeting on Culture, Youth, Gender and Sports held on 21 August 2014, prepared by Viet Nam and Ecuador as Co-Chairs. It was mentioned that the WG Meeting had prioritized areas and topics of cooperation.

The Meeting considered the report and adopted the recommendations. The Report appears as ANNEX V.

11. Republic of Korea presented and submitted the report and recommendations of the first Working Group Meeting on Trade, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs held on 21 August 2014, prepared by the Republic of Korea and Argentina as Co-Chairs. A number of projects and proposals were discussed in the WG Meeting.

The Meeting considered the report and adopted the recommendations. The Report appears as ANNEX VI.

12. Japan and Brazil presented and submitted the report and recommendations of the first Working Group Meeting on Science and Technology, Innovation and Education held on 21 August 2014, prepared by Japan and Brazil as Co-Chairs. A number of projects and proposals were discussed in the WG Meeting. It was also reported that the Working Group decided to work to integrate similar initiatives to a regional project proposal. Brazil

stressed during the plenary session of the SOM the importance to further discuss an action plan. The Meeting considered the report and adopted the recommendations. The Report appears as ANNEX VII.

13. Member countries expressed their appreciation to the hard works of the Co-Chairs of all the Working Groups.

#### **Agenda Item 5 : Report of the FEALAC Side Events**

14. Representative of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of Thailand reported the results of the Tourism Seminar under the theme of “Connecting East Asia with Latin America” on 20 August 2014 and the Excursions on 19 August 2014. Mr. Carlos Vogeler, Director - Executive Secretary for Member Relations and Director of Regional Programme for the Americas, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) as the Keynote Speaker of the Tourism Seminar offered his comments on the Seminar and stressed the importance of the cooperation on tourism as it generates the expansion and growth of economy. He also mentioned the challenges of tourism such as visa and taxation.
15. Representative of the Joint Standing Committee on Commerce, Industry and Banking of Thailand reported the results of the Second FEALAC Business Forum organized on 20 August 2014 under the theme of “Connecting the Two Engines of Global Growth”. A number of speakers from business associations and private sectors shared views and ideas on the promotion of trade and investment between East Asia and Latin America. It was agreed among the participants that the FEALAC Business Forum should be institutionalized and organized regularly.
16. Representative of the Office of the Higher Education Commission of Thailand reported the results of the FEALAC Academic/STI Roundtable held on 20 August 2014. It was emphasized that the Roundtable was a great opportunity for participants from two regions to know each other, expand the networks, and explore possibilities of academic and STI cooperation between the two regions in the near future.
17. Member countries agreed that the above-mentioned side events, including the FEALAC Showcase, were useful and contributed to the enhancement of networks and people-to-people relations.

## Agenda Item 6 : Review and Implementation of Bi-Regional and Other FEALAC Projects

### 18. FEALAC University Network

Brazil reported the status of the project of FEALAC University Network and advised that a meeting of experts should be convened before, or in parallel to, the next SOM to set guidelines of the project, identify focal points of universities or national networks, discuss the financing of initiatives of cooperation, and identify targets of the projects.

Member countries expressed their willingness to participate in the FEALAC University Network including Argentina, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, Indonesia, Panama, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Uruguay.

### 19. Establishment of a Bi-Regional Development Center for SMEs

Ecuador informed the Meeting of the progress of the project of the Establishment of the Portal of Bi-Regional Development Center for SMEs which is divided in several stages. Ecuador is working on the first stage of the project and welcomed the participation of Thailand.

### 20. Proposal(s) of New Bi-Regional Project(s) and Other Project(s)

Ecuador, on behalf of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru as Members of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS), presented a proposal of FEALAC Inter-school Contest on Prevention, Disposition, Re-usage, and Recycle on Marine Litter. Ecuador asked that the CPPS could be invited by FEALAC to participate in the FEALAC meeting as an observer.

Argentina mentioned two new proposals presented to the Working Group, one on Electronic Phytosanitary Certificates, and a Seminar for Diplomatic Academies on Human Rights.

To further enhance FEALAC cooperation and activities, as well as a sense of ownership of the stakeholders, Indonesia proposed the FEALAC Youth Conference entitled “Strengthen the Pacific Web”.

It was stated that a total of 26 new proposals were discussed in the Working Groups Meetings. It was suggested that the concept papers of such projects should be circulated to member countries for consideration in two months.

## **Agenda Item 7 : Exchange of Views on Regional Development in East Asia and Latin America**

21. The Meeting expansively shared their views and opinions on the regional development in East Asia and Latin America.

East Asia Co-Chair gave a brief review of the development of ASEAN which will become the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) at the end of 2015. At the same time, ASEAN looks beyond 2015 and promotes dialogues and cooperation with other countries and regional groups while maintaining the principle with ASEAN centrality.

Latin America Co-Chair gave a brief review of the creation of CELAC (Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) of which all the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean are members. CELAC has 21 areas of cooperation and aims to promote dialogues with other countries and regional groups.

Mr. Ravi Ratnayake, Director, Trade and Investment Division, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) offered his views and information on the trends of trade and investment in East Asia. He mentioned about issues and barriers to the interregional economic integration including the cost of trade and the trade facilitation. He also provided recommendations to the promotion of trade and investment between the two regions, for example, to use interregional complementarities to expand intra-industry trade, and to develop the architecture for interregional trade and business, etc.

## **Agenda Item 8 : Future Direction**

### **8.1. Discussion on the Improvement of Work Process and the Strengthening of Cyber Secretariat**

22. The representative of the Cyber Secretariat gave a presentation of the activities that the Cyber Secretariat has organized since the second half of June 2013, and the services which the Cyber Secretariat provides for the member countries. The Cyber Secretariat also tabled a suggestion on the use of FEALAC logo and expected to have comments or suggestions on the draft guidelines for the use of FEALAC logo. New Zealand proposed that the suggestion be approved in principle and confirmed within two weeks if there was no objection lodged.

Member countries expressed their appreciation on the contributions of the Cyber Secretariat. The Republic of Korea thanked the member countries

for their supports of the Cyber Secretariat and appreciated that the member countries recognized the need to improve the Cyber Secretariat.

23. Thailand proposed a paper on the Improvement of the Work Process and the Strengthening of Cyber Secretariat which appears as ANNEX VIII. It was agreed that there is need to improve the work process of FEALAC and to strengthen the Cyber Secretariat. Member countries commended Thailand for the concept paper and it was suggested that the paper should be proposed to the next FMM for endorsement. The Republic of Korea requested that it be included in the list of the participants of the Coordination Meeting since the Republic of Korea is the host country and the sponsor of the Cyber Secretariat.

## **8.2. How to Better Connect FEALAC Countries to Better Reflect Dynamism of the Two Regions**

24. Mr. Yasushi Negishi, Country Director, Thailand Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank (ADB) spoke about the opportunities and challenges of the countries in East Asia and Latin America especially for being middle-income countries. He also mentioned that there can be collaboration between the member countries and ADB/IDB. ADB currently supported FEALAC member countries such as sponsoring research projects.

## **Agenda Item 9 : Schedule for Future FEALAC Meetings**

25. Costa Rica informed the Meeting that Costa Rica will host the next SOM and the next FMM in 2015 which Costa Rica will confirm with the member countries about the dates later.
26. Republic of Korea informed the Meeting that the Cyber Secretariat Workshop will take place in March 2015. The Workshop can be used as the inter-sessional meeting before the next SOM and the FMM.

## **Agenda Item 10 : Any Other Matters**

27. Guatemala informed the Meeting that Guatemala is willing to be the next Latin America Coordinator for FEALAC for the year 2015 - 2017.

## **Agenda Item II: Adoption of the SOM XV Report**

28. The Meeting adopted the report of the SOM XV.
29. Member countries expressed their appreciation to Thailand for the warm hospitality extended to the member countries and for the excellent arrangements of the meetings and side events. Member countries also congratulated the Co-Chairs on the efficient management of the Meeting.



## 16<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

20 August 2015. San José, Costa Rica

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Costa Rica & Thailand**
- Participated **35 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (19)

### Main Results

- Discussed and approved the agenda of the 7<sup>th</sup> FMM
- Discussed and adopted the first draft of the 'Guideline for the FEALAC Working Process' proposed by Thailand
- Reported results of FEALAC Cyber Secretariat activities and future plans
  - Approved 'Guideline on the Use of FEALAC Logo'
  - Presented 'FEALAC Project Review Survey' by the Cyber Secretariat
- Elected next Co-Chairs for each Working Group
  - Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development : China, Costa Rica
  - Culture, Youth, Gender, and Sports : Viet Nam, Ecuador
  - Commerce, Investment, Tourism, and MSMEs : Indonesia, Honduras
  - Science, Technology, Innovation, and Education : Japan, Colombia

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex. List of Participants
- Annex. List of Projects
- Annex. Working group reports
- Annex. Declaration of San José
  - Cyber Secretariat Activities
  - Guideline for the use of the FEALAC Logo
  - FEALAC Cyber Secretariat\_Proposal for the Project Review Survey
  - Minute of the Financial Institutions and Regional Organizations
  - LAC and EA Financial institutions
  - Cyber Secretariat for Financial institutions





## FORUM FOR EAST ASIA – LATIN AMERICA COOPERATION XVI SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (SOM)

San José, Costa Rica

### I SESSION

1. **Welcoming remarks pronounced by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship and SOM Leader of Costa Rica, Mr. Alejandro Solano Ortiz. (Costa Rica)**

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship and SOM Leader of Costa Rica, Mr. Alejandro Solano Ortiz welcomed all delegates to the XVI Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the FORUM FOR EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA COOPERATION (FEALAC). In his statement, he highlighted the importance of FEALAC, which in its 16 years of existence, has shown it is possible to achieve cooperation beyond borders; that both regions can be partners for progress, bound by a single vision; and can grow together and build together. He mentioned that joint activities with shared goals can and must be implemented, for posterity, by walking a single path towards our future, building a bridge towards progress beyond borders.

He expressed his gratitude to Thailand for its shared Presidency and also to the different working group coordinators.

2. **Remarks pronounced by Mr. Songsak Saicheua, Director-General, Department of American and South Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand. (Thailand)**

After expressing his appreciation to FEALAC member countries for their kind condolences and solidarity conveyed to the people and the Government of Thailand after the incident on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2015, the Director-General Mr. Songsak Saicheua, during his statement underscored the following matters: to develop a more structured partnership and cooperation between FEALAC and regional financial institutions; the efforts being achieved to elevate the FEALAC process to its next level; the implementation of the key elements in the Guideline for FEALAC Working Process; the regional projects and national projects undertaken in the Bangkok SOM. Finally, as Co-chair of

FEALAC, concluded on sharing Costa Rica's vision on "Two Regions, One Vision" and encouraged all FEALAC member countries to further translate this vision into actions to increase more trade, investment, economic activities and cooperation in all areas of common interest for the prosperity, security and sustainable development of the two regions.

3. **Approval of the Agenda (Costa Rica)**

It is submitted to consideration of the delegates the official Agenda of the plenary session of the XVI Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

**I SESSION**

1. Welcoming remarks pronounced by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship and SOM Leader of Costa Rica, Mr. Alejandro Solano Ortiz.
2. Remarks pronounced by H.E. Norachit Sinhaseni, Permanent Secretary, of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand.
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Preparation for the VII FMM: Review of the Agenda of the VII FMM
5. Consideration of the Working Groups Reports:
  - Social-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development, coordinated by China and Ecuador
  - Cultural, Youth, Gender and Sports, coordinated by Ecuador and Viet Nam
  - Commerce, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs, coordinated by Argentina and Korea
  - Science, Technology, Innovation and Education, coordinated by Japan and Brazil
6. Election of the new Co-Chairs of Working Groups
7. "Guideline for the FEALAC Working Process".
8. FEALAC Cyber Secretariat's Activities and Future Plans.
9. Discussion on FEALAC Regional Projects/Proposals Pending and New Proposals: "FEALAC PROJECT REVIEW SURVEY".
10. Preliminary consideration of the Latin America and East Asia Financial Organization and Institutions

## II SESSION

11. Declaration of San José, Costa Rica

Adoption of Guideline for FEALAC Working Process

12. Adoption of the FEALAC XVI SOM Report.

### 4. **Preparation for the VII FMM: Review of the Agenda of the VII FMM (Costa Rica)**

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica reviewed the agenda and answered some of the delegate's inquiries about the VII FMM.

All delegations approved the agenda.

### 5. **Consideration of the Working Groups Reports:**

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica invited all working group coordinators to present a brief summary of the working group sessions of the previous day.

- Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development, coordinated by **China** and **Ecuador**.

Ecuador presented the resulting remarks from this group and summarized the main aspects of the projects that were analyzed (**Document Annex**).

- Cultural, Youth, Gender and Sports, coordinated by **Ecuador** and **Viet Nam**.

Viet Nam briefed the plenary on the ongoing projects of this working group (**Document Annex**).

- Commerce, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs, coordinated by **Argentina** and **Korea**

Argentina presented the conclusions of this working group (**Document Annex**).

- Science, Technology, Innovation and Education, coordinated by **Japan** and **Brazil**

Japan presented the conclusions of the working group which were widely commented by FEALAC members (**Document Annex**).

Given that many FEALAC members made comments on the presentations of each working group, the Deputy Minister of Costa Rica asked all FEALAC members to deliver the written comments to each of the working group co-chairs in order to include them in the final report.

## 6. Election of the new Co-Chairs of Working Groups

The Co-Presidents announced the new Co-chairs of the Working Groups as follows:

From Latin American Side Countries new Co-chairs are:

- Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development: **Costa Rica**.
- Cultural, Youth, Gender and Sports: **Ecuador**
- Commerce, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs: **Honduras**
- Science, Technology, Innovation and Education: **Colombia**

From the Asian Side Countries new Co-chairs are:

- Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development: **China**
- Cultural, Youth, Gender and Sports: **Viet Nam**
- Commerce, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs: **Indonesia**
- Science, Technology, Innovation and Education: **Japan**

## 7. “Guideline for the FEALAC Working Process”

Thailand presented the “Guideline for the FEALAC Working Process”. When Thailand assumed the co-Presidency, the country wanted to strengthen FEALAC cooperation and dialogue. Thailand invited all delegates to encourage the adoption of the “Guideline for the FEALAC Working Process” at the FMM.

Many FEALAC members congratulated Thailand’s initiative for improving working methods of FEALAC and expressed their willingness of their countries to adopt it.

Peru asked that this mechanism be open to all FEALAC members that are not necessarily part of the Coordination Meeting but that might have an interest in the agenda. Since there were no further comments by other countries, the co-Chair proceeded to accept the proposal.

Cambodia made reference to page 2 which suggests the roles of the coordinator and deputy coordinator should be clearer, but the roles may overlap. Cambodia proposed that there should be a clear, defined role of the regional coordinator. Also on point 7, page 3 on Roles of Regional and International Organizations, Cambodia suggested that the word “all” be

eliminated from the phrase “at all level of FEALAC process”; that way there will be a better control as to who attends and does not attend the meetings.

Thailand thanked the delegates for their valuable inputs that will be taken into account, and mentioned that this is the first draft to be adopted and can be continue to be edited. The Guideline was adopted.

#### 8. **FEALAC Cyber Secretariat’s Activities and Future Plans**

Seul-ki Myoung, Researcher from FEALAC’s Cyber Secretariat, made a presentation on the Cyber Secretariat, which included:

##### **a. Activities**

- Hosting FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop every March since 2011
- Managing the official website of FEALAC ([www.fealac.org](http://www.fealac.org))
  - ✓ Created Biz info and National Project tabs
  - ✓ Investment Opportunities Database
  - ✓ Focal Points Zone
  - ✓ Expansion of the website’s function upon request of the members
- Informing member countries’ activities by online publication
- Publishing FEALAC promotional materials
- Sending e-mail notifications to focal points
- Enhancing FEALAC’s visibility through SNS (Facebook, Twitter)

##### **b. Future Plans**

- Guideline on the Use of FEALAC Logo (to be approved at the XVI SOM)
- FEALAC Project Review Survey (to come into effect after VII FMM)

#### 9. **Discussion on FEALAC Regional Projects/Proposals Pending and New Proposals: “FEALAC PROJECT REVIEW SURVEY”**

The Thailand co-chair opened the floor for questions and comments about this project. Many delegates intervened and expressed their appreciation for the work and services of the cyber secretariat and the support for the adoption of the Project Review Survey.

#### 10. **Preliminary consideration of the Latin America and East Asia Financial Organization and Institutions**

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica explained that the idea of Costa Rica was to follow a mandate of the Declaration of Buenos

Aires of 2011 that sought to approach some financial institutions of the region in order to establish medium and long term strategies. Following that mandate, the co-Presidency approached financial institutions in both regions.

The Viceminister of Finance of Costa Rica, Fernando Rodríguez, briefed the FEALAC members on the “First meeting on Latin American and Asian Financial Organizations and Institutions” held earlier in the morning. He stated that the proximity between the two regions has led to a large increase in flows, and there is significant potential to increase exports and other global trade in goods, services and persons.

He also indicated it is necessary to strengthen financial institutions in Latin America; therefore, efforts are being made to attract extra-regional partners at various levels.

Furthermore, the representatives of the Central America Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), National Council for Financial System Supervision, the International Finance Corporation, World Bank and Latin American Development Bank (CAF), and the Thai Bankers Association, expressed appreciation for the invitation and emphasized their desire to continue participating in the FEALAC.

Observations were made by the representative of Ecuador who indicated that the challenges of both regions is to let them know what FOCALAE is. He highlighted the need to strengthen biregional trade and to make sure the work that is done in this forum impacts the countries populations.

The representative of Honduras indicated that there should be a focal point for bioregional projects and proposed that FOCALAE establish a fifth working group on finance.

Further comments were made by the delegations of China, Indonesia, Japan, Dominican Republic, supporting the initiative in incorporating financial institutions of both regions to the process.

The Deputy Minister of Costa Rica thanked the financial institutions for participating in the meeting and expressed the need to create awareness on FEALAC’s work. He informed that the financial institutions will attend the FMM.

#### **11. Declaration of San José, Costa Rica**

After several points of view and proposals submitted by delegations the Declaration of San José was agree at the SOM level.

## 12. **Guideline for the use of the FEALAC Logo**

Member countries shall submit applications for using the logo to the Regional Coordinator of the respective region. This will lead us in the future to adapt to the different member countries' circumstances.

## 13. **Adoption of the FEALAC XVI SOM Report**

### **ANNEX:**

- List of Participants
- List of Projects
- Working group reports
- Declaration of San José

## 7<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting

21 August 2015. San Jose, Costa Rica

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Costa Rica & Thailand**
- Participated **36 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (20)

### Main Results

- Adopted 'Declaration of San Jose' which reaffirms the commitment to enhance comprehensive dialogue and cooperation between the two regions, as well as prepare the New FEALAC Action Plan for the celebration of the FEALAC's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Approved the 'Guidelines for FEALAC Working Processes' proposed by Thailand
- Endorsed the systematization of the countries' initiatives through the 'FEALAC Project Review Survey' and 'Guidelines on the Use of FEALAC Logo' proposed by the Cyber Secretariat
- Appointed Guatemala and Korea as the next Regional Coordinators

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Agenda
- List of Participants
- Joint Statement - Bangkok Bombing
- Executive Summary
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> FEALAC Business Forum





**DECLARATION OF SAN JOSE  
SEVENTH FEALAC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING  
(FMM VII)**

San José, 21 August 2015

**Introduction**

We, the Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegations of the member countries of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), attending the Seventh Ministerial Meeting of FEALAC, held in San Jose Costa Rica on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of August, 2015, which was co-chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Republic of Costa Rica, His Excellency Manuel A. Gonzalez Sanz, as Regional Coordinator for Latin America, as well as His Excellency, Norachit Sinhaseni, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, Regional Coordinator for East Asia, after having substantive and fruitful discussion, adopt this “Declaration of San Jose”.

We acknowledge the Uluwatu Declaration, adopted at FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting VI in Bali, Indonesia, in June 2013, which contains our joint commitments to pursue closer cooperation and bridge the divide between FEALAC countries as well as to face the myriad challenges and opportunities facing the global multilateral framework and to promote connectivity of FEALAC in many areas. The non-paper document on the follow-up to the Uluwatu Declaration prepared by Indonesia is also recommended as a tool to monitor progress on unfinished programs and plans.

**FEALAC on promoting Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development**

1. We reaffirm our commitment to end poverty and hunger as the greatest global challenge and consider this to be an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. In this regard, we recognize multiple efforts of countries in both regions.
2. We commit to work in a collaborative partnership towards the adoption and implementation of the new Agenda 2030, including the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and its 169 targets, which seek, to build upon the MDGs and address unfinished business. We recognize the goals and targets are integrated, indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable

development: the economic, social and environmental. We also recognize there are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country, in accordance with national circumstances and priorities, to achieve sustainable development.

3. We commit to strengthen sustainable and effective development, including through South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, which accompany the efforts of every state and region in the fight for the eradication of poverty, especially the most disadvantaged and marginalized sectors of society.
4. We recognize the efforts of the forum in the dissemination of good practices and successful public policies that promote the use of innovation in different sectors, including in agriculture as examples of sustainability and social responsibility as a transversal axis of development.
5. We note that the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) is an effective forum for lesson-learning and dissemination of good practices necessary to achieve these goals. In this regard, we commit to encourage concrete measures to strengthen and promote projects of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation between our regions, taking into account the specific needs of developing countries based on international law and internationally agreed principles on the matter.
6. While stressing the central role of public policies and finance for sustainable development, we also note the importance of building strong economic partnerships in promoting growth and prosperity, including the role of public-private partnerships if states consider it appropriate in contributing to the capacities of states to give prompt solutions for the socio economic development of its inhabitants.
7. We favor the advances in the solutions to tropical and emerging diseases, with special attention to neglected tropical diseases and their implications for quality of life and socio-economic development of countries. Therefore, and given that such diseases manifest cyclically, we note the conclusion of the Network of Institutions engaged in Research, Prevention and Control of the Tropical and Emerging Disease Initiative promoted by the Peru and supported by Thailand, who will work together in the implementation of the network.
8. We recognize the importance of international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime, in accordance with the relevant international instruments and principles of international law.

9. We note the progress of the Network of Scientific Convergence – Technological, which was presented by Colombia at the IX Meeting of the Working Group on Science and Technology, became operational in 2014, and now has 57 research groups and 154 researchers connected to the network. Also, we celebrated the First Seminar held in Bogota, with the participation of Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Myanmar, Peru and Indonesia.
10. We believe that public opinion makers have a fundamental role in the articulation of synergies that unite the peoples of both regions. The progress of Singapore's "FEALAC Journalist Visit Program" is of great value in this regard as it celebrates its 16<sup>th</sup> edition in Singapore in October 2015.
11. We acknowledge the importance of dialogue on legal affairs in serving to strengthen the exchange and interaction of the legal community of the two regions, enhance mutual understanding and promote cooperation between our regions. We therefore take note that the "2<sup>nd</sup> FEALAC Legal Forum" will be held in Shanghai on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
12. We recognize the importance of enhancing community empowerment in sustainable development. In this regard, we welcome Thailand's initiative to develop FEALAC Health and Healthcare and Community Empowerment Networks. The networks will provide opportunities to share the experiences in universal health coverage and how the sufficiency economy can support grassroots economic development and bring about the wealth of nations.
13. We note the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, adopted at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Ethiopia, from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2015 as part of a continuing effort towards a better worldwide alliance in which the international commitments become stronger towards the financing of development. We underscore the importance of paragraphs 71, 72 and 87 of the final document, where the multidimensional nature of development and the need to strengthen efforts to address ongoing challenges are recognized, according to the heterogeneity and different needs of Middle Income Countries, for Small Island Developing States, Least Developed Countries and Land Locked Developing Countries taking into account the specific needs of these groups of countries. We also recall the need to devise methodologies to better account for the complex and diverse realities of middle-income countries.
14. We also underscore the importance of paragraphs 97 and 98 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda referred to Debt and Debt Sustainability.

15. We welcome the strong commitment to gender equality in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Women's economic empowerment is critical to strengthened global growth.
16. We also share, in the spirit of paragraph 75 of the final document of Addis Ababa, that development banks effectively can and should perform an important role in widening access to finance for development, especially on quality infrastructure investment and to further develop instruments to channel the resources of long-term investors towards sustainable development. While recognizing the critical role of trade on development, we welcome paragraph 90 of the final document, which highlights Aid for Trade and trade-related technical assistance in enabling developing countries to fully participate in and benefit from trade.
17. We encourage the present and the developing international financial institutions to place importance on policies to address resources, social systems, environmental preservation and gender equality.
18. We welcome the centrality of gender equality to the Post 2015 Development Agenda which builds on the Millennium Development Goals. Realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women will make a crucial contribution towards the achievement of the sustainable development goals.
19. We support the initiative of the II International Conference on Nutrition in the framework of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and reaffirm its recommendation to the United Nations General Assembly to declare a Decade of Action for Nutrition 2016-2025, in order to avoid the many problems of malnutrition at the same time that greater inclusion, sustainable development and health are favored.

### **FEALAC and the Promotion of Sustainable Tourism**

20. Sustainability, as a model for development, raises the need to satisfy the current requirements of society without compromising the right of future generations to satisfy theirs. Tourism is a resource intensive activity and the incorporation of sustainability criteria for this matter represents an area of opportunity for both regions and their communities. Consequently, we envision sustainable tourism as a balanced interaction in the proper use of our natural and cultural resources respecting the sovereignty and inherent right of each people. This type of tourism contributes to improving the quality of life of local communities and to their development.

21. In this regard, we welcome diverse initiatives of countries in both regions, including the Seminar on “Sustainable Tourism and Tourism Ethics: Tourism as an Instrument for Inclusive Growth and Economic Equity”, held in Bali, Indonesia, in June 2013, which recommended the importance of the code of ethics to cover economic, social, cultural and environmental components by maximising the sector’s benefits while minimising its negative impact on environment, cultural heritage, and societies, and the promotion of the technical and cultural exchange of heritage restoration for the construction of the “Visitor Center and Interpretation of the Fortification of San Lorenzo El Real de Chagres”.
22. We also identify sustainable tourism as a contributor to the protection of the natural environment, the increase of high quality jobs and the improvement of people’s quality of life and as a mechanism for communities to manage their own development. We support initiatives which promote sustainable tourism as a social and community activity and at the same time, serve as an integrative bridge between the two regions, in harmony with nature, to strengthen appreciation and respect by their peoples of the cultural and natural heritage.
23. In this regard, we note the contribution of the Republic of Costa Rica on the “I Seminar on Sustainable Tourism FEALAC” that was held within the frame- work of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Trade, Investment, Tourism, and Small and Medium Enterprise Work Group (MSMEs) on 19 August 2015, and we note the proposal by Mexico to organize an international event on Sustainable Tourism in 2016.

### Promoting Trade, Investment, Innovation and Small and Medium Businesses

24. We recognize that the expansion of interregional trade, favors closer ties between the two regions, promoting their prosperity. Therefore, we reiterate the spirit of paragraph 25 of the Uluwatu Declaration, adopted in Bali, Indonesia, on June 14, 2013, in which we express our support to members that promote development mechanisms aimed at facilitating trade and the flow of investments between the states of the FEALAC.
25. In this regard, we welcome the initiatives of countries of both regions to promote mechanisms to facilitate trade and investment. We take note of the proposal of Argentina regarding an electronic Phytosanitary Certification System (ePhyto).
26. We consider particularly important that the TITM WG studies the initiatives aiming at enhancing the benefits of trade for both regions, aware that

interregional trade between Latin America and East Asia has great potential to be developed. Therefore, we appreciate the results achieved during the II FEALAC Business Forum held in Bangkok, Thailand, in 2014, which reflected the importance of exchange of information relating to the way of doing business between the two regions. We endorse the institutionalization of FEALAC Business Forum proposed at the 15<sup>th</sup> FEALAC SOM meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.

27. On that basis, we note the proposal by the Republic of Korea to host a seminar on inter-regional trade to exchange opinions on the state of affairs around interregional trade initiatives including the assessment of the potential impact of ongoing interregional trade initiatives on trade and investment among FEALAC countries and to discuss ways to invigorate trade and investment between the two regions including the discussion of the initiative of establishing of an Ad-hoc Expert Group on inter-regional Trade which was introduced during the 5<sup>th</sup> Cyber Secretariat Workshop in March 2015.
28. We celebrate that the FEALAC Investment Opportunities Database is now operating fully and we encourage member States to take advantage of this useful instrument that allows countries to post offers of investment projects seeking interregional investors, thus promoting development.
29. We are committed to sharing good practices to increase the institutional capacities of the member states, as well as the design and implementation of innovative support mechanisms that generate these skills. In this context, we support the initiative of Mexico to call on the FEALAC community to draw up innovative strategies to support micro and small traditional firms. On that basis, we support the efforts of the Republic of Colombia in the proposed “Financing Innovation and Entrepreneurship” which will be held in November 2015, and of Mexico which will host a Global Conference on Innovative Strategies to support micro and medium traditional enterprises in July 2016.
30. We also welcome the proposal by Mexico to organize with the Interamerican Development Bank-IDB, a seminar on Strengthening Production Chains in Latin America, the Caribbean and Asia.
31. We celebrate the launching in the context of the process of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of a technology facilitation mechanism as established in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, in order to support sustainable development goals. The mechanism will be based on a multi-stake holder collaboration between Member States, civil society, private sector, scientific community, United Nations bodies and other stakeholders.

## FEALAC Cooperation in Culture, Youth, Gender and Sports

32. We recognize that the promotion of cultural education, sports and scientific knowledge of the population of our countries are elements that enhance social development in healthy environments and peoples' quality of life.
33. In this regard, we also recognize the importance of moderation as an approach that could contribute to sustainable and inclusive development, equitable growth and social harmony. Hence, we take note of Malaysia's initiative of a Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) to amplify the voices of moderation.
34. We reaffirm our commitment to strengthen efforts for the protection of cultural heritage and cultural diversity everywhere, including in areas of conflict. We emphasize the UNESCO initiatives in the sense that the deliberate destruction of cultural heritage is used as a tactic of war in a strategy of cultural cleansing, which demands us to review the means of protection of the culture of mankind.
35. We support the initiative by Viet Nam and co-sponsored by Costa Rica called "FEALAC Network of Cultural Cities", which aims to strengthen international cooperation at a local level in the fields of culture, tourism and sports development. Viet Nam will host the first Meeting of Provincial Leaders/Mayors on the occasion of Hue's Festival, to be held on April 2016 in Thua thien - Hue province, Viet Nam.
36. We wish to state that FEALAC member countries have an invaluable natural, tangible and intangible cultural heritage. According to the 2015 World Heritage UNESCO list, the heritage sites of East Asia and Latin America together account for 36 percent of the world's registered heritage. In this regard, we welcome the initiative of the Government of Indonesia to host the II World Culture Forum, "The Power of Culture and Sustainable Development" which will be held in Bali, Indonesia, in September 2016.
37. We recognize the importance of creative and cultural industries for the comprehensive and sustainable development of societies, and the contribution they provide to job creation and economic growth of our countries, as well as to the welfare of our people. Therefore, we underline the importance of activities to research, measure, document and acknowledge the contributions of the creative and cultural industries to our economies; of the analysis and discussion of measures for the promotion and enhancement of enterprises and industries in these fields; and of exploring ways to develop more effective public policies of promotion of cultural activities in general.



38. We emphasize the need for the new generations to have better and greater opportunities to access education, to build entrepreneurial spirit, to unite, connect and collaborate among FEALAC youth. We therefore appreciate the Indonesian invitation to the youth from FEALAC countries to participate in the Indonesia FEALAC Youth Conference (IFYC) 2015, which will be held on September 18-22, 2015, hosted by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Indonesia in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.
39. We recognize that Thailand will undertake the project to create a FEALAC Friendship Schools Network in order to increase the cooperation among the schools of the FEALAC member countries.
40. We recognize the participation of women in development, and that their contribution to the economy has been historically underestimated and is fundamental to economic growth. Therefore, we support the initiative presented by Thailand and co-sponsored by Argentina called “FEALAC Women Entrepreneurs”, which aims to establish an information network between women entrepreneurs in the FEALAC countries to promote women’s economic empowerment.

### FEALAC Promotes Science, Technology, Innovation and Education

41. We welcome the initiative of Japan to host the first inter-regional school-wide robotic competitions and establish the first FEALAC Award in the IEEE Robotic competition, as a means to promote education in science and technology, as well as its initiative to enhance people-to-people exchange across the two regions.
42. We welcome the project on the FEALAC University Network to be coordinated by Brazil and Thailand.
43. We support the efforts of Colombia and Thailand to implement the project on FEALAC Science Convergence and Science and Technology and Innovation Dialogue.
44. We welcome the initiative by Brunei Darussalam in the establishment of student’s mobility consortium “FEALAC University Discovery Year (FUDY)” which aims to allow students from both regions to experience and appreciate the diverse cultures and unique way of life, and encourage member states to consolidate their own study abroad programs, including the expansion of academic mobility and joined collaborative researches.



## FEALAC and Climate Change

45. We reaffirm the importance of continuing and strengthening regional and international projects and programs, which promote cooperation, inter alia, in disaster risk reduction, adaptation and mitigation to climate change, technology transfer, capacity building and others, which will allow FEALAC members to reduce their vulnerability and adapt to adverse effect of climate change. We commit to work towards the success of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP 21) to be held in Paris in 2015.
46. We take note of the information provided by Bolivia about an upcoming conference entitled “World Peoples’ Conference on Climate Change and Defense of Life”, to be held in Cochabamba, Bolivia, on October 10<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup>.

## FEALAC 2015 : Two regions, One Vision

47. We agree to work towards the fundamental original objective of FEALAC, “to expand common ground on important international political and economic issues with a view to working together in different international fora in order to safeguard common interests”.
48. In this regard, we reaffirm the importance of establishing strategic synergies among FEALAC member states, international organizations and financial institutions of both regions to achieve a greater projection of this forum at the international level. We welcome initiatives to promote cooperation mechanisms to facilitate regular dialogue between FEALAC and financial institutions in order to involve them in the formulation, implementation and financing of projects. This will give us the opportunity to give FEALAC initiatives a truly bi-regional sense, to improve technical cooperation and to take advantage of good practices in efforts geared towards closer bi-regional ties.
49. To achieve “Two Regions, One Vision”, we realize the importance of connectivity between the two regions in enhancing and strengthening cooperation in all sectors, and in the efforts to narrow the distance and gaps. In this regard we take note of the initiative of the Government of Panama for the establishment of the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance, aimed to guarantee deployment of emergency relief items and greater coordination by bioregional humanitarian response activities.
50. We welcome the participation in this Ministerial meeting involving World Bank, Latin American Bank for Development, Korea Eximbank, International Finance Corporation, Central American Bank for Economic Integration, Latin American and Caribbean Economic System, Economic Commission

for Latin American and the Caribbean, as well as the representative from the Joint Standing Committee on Commerce, Industry and Banking of Thailand.

51. In this regard, we appreciate the fruitful discussions that encourage and enrich this dialogue and the contributions provided by the International Financial Institutions and Organizations in attention to the initiatives within FEALAC.
52. We reaffirm our commitment to begin in San José, Costa Rica the preparation of the NEW FEALAC ACTION PLAN for the celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of FEALAC. This Action Plan will be presented in Korea in 2017.
53. We recognize the invaluable contribution that the Cyber Secretariat, hosted by the Republic of Korea, has made to FEALAC and endorse the systematization of the countries' initiatives through the "FEALAC Project Review Survey" and Guidelines on the use of FEALAC logo.
54. We recall the contributions of the Vision Group, whose recommendations were shared at the VI FEALAC Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Bali, Indonesia, and we commit to continue promoting more and better actions in various areas of cooperation, such as: business networking, network of universities, contests and competitions among students on issues of science and technology, and network of Think Tanks to increase dialogue and understanding between the two regions.
55. In this regard, we adopt the "Guidelines for FEALAC Working Processes", which includes the establishment of a Coordination Meeting that invites the two current Regional Coordinators and, if possible, the two incoming Regional Coordinators, in order to ensure a coordinated Co-Presidency handover.
56. We aim to provide a space for reflection on the coordination that the forum has had to date, to stimulate proactive ways to draw new scenarios for finding common opportunities; to further enhance the comprehensive dialogue and thereby to strengthen existing and new forms of cooperation between Latin America and East Asia. In this context, we stressed our commitment to strengthening the dialogue and cooperation with several regional and sub-regional organizations and mechanisms.

## Closing

57. The next FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting VIII will be held in the Republic of Korea in 2017, and the Senior Officials' Meeting in Guatemala in 2016, on a date to be decided by consensus.
58. We express our appreciation to the outgoing Coordinators of FEALAC, the Republic of Costa Rica and the Kingdom of Thailand, and welcome the next Coordinators, the Republic of Guatemala for Latin America and the Republic of Korea for East Asia.

**FEALAC JOINT STATEMENT  
ON THE RATCHAPRASONG INTERSECTION  
– BANGKOK BOMBING**

We, the Member States of FEALAC, strongly condemns the bombing incident that have taken place at the Ratchaprasong Intersection, Bangkok on the 17 August 2015, causing injuries and loss of lives of innocent civilians.

We extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to the people and Government of Thailand and to the bereaved families of the victims of the bombing incident.

FEALAC deplores the use of violence and all its manifestations, its causes and its supporters.

We view the urgency to strengthen cooperation in combating terrorism. We are committed to work with the international community in this regard.

We support efforts made by the Government of Thailand to bring the perpetrators of this crime to justice.

## 17<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

26 August 2016. Guatemala City, Guatemala

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Guatemala & Korea**
- Participated **34 Member Countries**: East Asia (14) / Latin America (20)

### Main Results

- Approved final reports of each Working Group
- FEALAC Cyber Secretariat informed the status of the different cooperation projects, activities and future plans
- Discussed about the contribution of FEALAC to the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Discussed the proposed paper “Towards a More Dynamic FEALAC”
  - Korea proposed “Towards a More Dynamic FEALAC” which discussed the “FEALAC Troika Modalities”, “FEALAC Fund” and the possibility of holding a FEALAC Summit to celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex 1. Activities and future plans of the Cyber Secretariat
- Annex 2. Proposal for the Improvement of Project Review Survey
- Annex 3. CYGS WG Final Report  
STIE WG  
TITMSMEs WG  
SPCSD WG
- Annex 4. Conceptual Note FEALAC XVII
- Annex 5. Towards a more dynamic FEALAC (English)
- Annex 6. Elements for New FEALAC Action Plan (Draft)
- Annex 7. New FEALAC Action Plan Timeline



## FORUM FOR EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA COOPERATION XVII SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING CITY OF GUATEMALA

### I. Opening remarks by the Co-Chairs (Guatemala-Korea) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation – FEALAC

Welcoming remarks pronounced by the Ambassador Carlos Raul Morales Moscoso Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala. He welcomed all delegates to the XVII Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the FORUM FOR EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA COOPERATION (FEALAC). The Forum helps the work of the 2030 Sustainable Agenda, showing that both regions want to work for development. FEALAC seeks financial contributions for MSMEs, in order to help the human resource and contribute with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals proposed by the UN.

### 2. Endorsement of the Agenda

### 3. Information about the status of the different cooperation projects, activities and future plans, given by the Cyber-Secretariat.

Members of the Cyber-Secretariat make a brief speech about the status of the projects, activities of the Cyber-Secretariat, a proposal for the improvement FEALAC project review survey and request for cooperation. This document includes:

Annex 1: Powerpoint presentation FEALAC Cyber Secretariat's activities and future plans

Annex 2: Proposal for the improvement of FEALAC Project Review Survey

Argentina thanked Guatemala's hospitality and the work of the Cyber Secretariat which has made an efficient work until now. Korea said that Cyber Secretariat had made the work easier helping the cooperation within regions. People's Republic of China also thanked the organization of the Forum and promotes new dynamism at it. Brazil thanks the Cyber Secretary of the efficient and hard work. Thailand also asked the Cyber Secretary to create groups where all the same projects can be put in the same range to see how many share the same interest. Laos has learned a lot from Latin

American Countries and supports the proposal to improve the work of the Cyber Secretary. Also that FEALAC can be more visible and the hard work that they are making. Chile also thanks the hard work of all the members of the FEALAC and also supports the idea of making FEALAC more visible, and that in the future they can get the follow up of all the ongoing projects. Dominican Republic, thanks all the hard work of the commissions, and the improvement of the web resources.

#### 4. Reports of the different working groups

The Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala invited all working group coordinators to present a brief summary of the working group sessions of the previous day. The complete reports are included as Annex 3.

#### 5. Dialogue about the contribution of FEALAC to the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Statement about how the Forum contributes with the Sustainable Development Agenda from the combination of economic, social and environmental dimensions. It is included as Conceptual Note of the Republic of Guatemala (Annex 4).

It is important to thinking regional, to come together with better ideas and to promote international cooperation, with the ultimate objective to beneficiate all our populations. Promote new associations that will benefit the cooperation that can be continued through 2030. It is important to think regionally to achieve an effective cooperation in FEALAC, including the strengthening of relations between all the members of the Forum. The collective efforts will help to reduce the inequities in all the countries. All the goals can be reached by the hard work of all the country members and to delimitate the roles that all share, in order to reach a common objective such as Sustainable Development.

#### 6. Towards a more dynamic FEALAC

The Republic of Korea proposed a paper Towards a More Dynamic FEALAC, which was welcomed by the member countries and included in the Annex 5. It was agreed that the member countries would study:

- Building a Troika system and consider holding a Troika meeting among the foreign ministers on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly;
- The establishment of a FEALAC Fund, details of which will be discussed through follow-up meetings; and
- The possibility of holding a FEALAC Summit to celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

It was suggested that member countries should continue developing these initiatives and submit to the FMM for consideration.

Some members referred to the necessity for further discussion and internal consultations regarding the Summit.

## **7. Preparation of the VIII Foreign Ministers' Meeting of FEALAC**

The Republic of Korea circulated an outline containing the elements of the New FEALAC Action Plan, which the member countries welcomed and agreed to continue developing until the FMM VIII. New FEALAC Action Plan (Annex 6) includes three pillars with a number of initiatives that have to be developed in the next years.

## **8. Calendars of future meetings of FEALAC 2016-2017**

The Republic of Korea informed the SOM that the FMM VIII will be held on May 25, 2017 and that the Cyber Secretariat Workshop will take place in March (Annex 7).

## **9. Designation of the new Regional Coordinators and Co-Chairs of the Working Groups**

Regarding the designation of the new regional coordinators and Co-Chairs of the Working Groups, the member countries that held the co-chair of their respective working groups will remain in their positions at least for the next year. East Asian countries welcomed by consensus the leadership of Laos by volunteering as the next Regional Coordinator for East Asia. Venezuela postulated as the only candidate from the Latin-American region. Some countries informed that they would submit the subject to their respective governments.

## **10. Other matters**

- The Latin-American countries supported Guatemala's proposal to use Spanish as another official language in the Forum. The meeting agreed to continue discussing this issue.
- Guatemalan Chamber of Industry made a presentation inviting the delegations to the Investment Summit 2016.
- Argentina presented a video of the city of San Salvador de Jujuy as the FEALAC Cultural City for 2018.
- The SOM agreed the proposal from Chile and Viet Nam which congratulates Colombia for the recent conclusion of the negotiation of the Peace Accords between the Government of Colombia and FARC.



- Indonesia invited FEALAC members to the World Culture Forum in Bali from 10-14 October 2016.

## II. Approval of the report of the XVII SOM

### 12. Closing of the Meeting by the Co-Chairs: Guatemala and Korea

Closing words from the co-chairs thanking the officials and other representatives for the work made in the Forum.

### 13. Official Photo

## Ad-hoc Senior Officials' Meeting

I December 2016. Seoul, Republic of Korea

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Guatemala & Korea**
- Participated **34 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (18)

### Main Results

- Recommended to adopt the “FEALAC Fund – Concept Paper” with the goal to establish the FEALAC Fund at the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM
- Collected feedbacks on the draft New FEALAC Action Plan, which contains three pillars of cooperation, with eleven initiatives and a number of concrete actions

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex I. List of Heads of Delegations
- Annex II. FEALAC Ad-hoc SOM Agenda
- Annex III. FEALAC Fund - Concept Paper
- Annex IV. New FEALAC Action Plan Draft
- Annex V. Summary of Discussions Latin America  
Regional coordination



## Report of the FEALAC Ad-hoc Senior Officials' Meeting

Seoul, December I, 2016

1. The ad-hoc Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the Forum for East Asia – Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was held at the Shilla Hotel, Seoul, on December 1, 2016. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Lim Ki-mo, Director General for Latin American and Caribbean Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, and Mr. Carlos V. Cazali D., Sub-Director General for Multilateral and Economic Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala.
2. The meeting was attended by delegations from 34 member countries (the list of the heads of delegations is attached as [Annex I](#)).
  - **East Asia:** Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea (Republic), Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam.
  - **Latin America:** Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.
3. In his opening remarks Mr. Lim Ki-mo emphasized the importance of translating the agreements of the ministers as well as the recommendations of the FEALAC Vision Group into concrete actions. In this regard, he highlighted the value of the FEALAC Fund and the New FEALAC Action Plan and underscored that these would enable FEALAC achieve its potential.
4. Mr. Carlos V. Cazali D. stressed the importance of FEALAC in strengthening the link between the two regions and pointing out to the need for tangible outcomes, appreciated the value of the FEALAC Fund and the New FEALAC Action Plan.

### Agenda Item I: Adoption of the Agenda

5. The meeting adopted the agenda prepared by the host (the agenda is attached as [Annex II](#)).

## Agenda Item 2: FEALAC Fund

6. Korea made a presentation on the FEALAC Fund. Elaborating the challenges of national projects in terms of participation, implementation, and impact, Korea highlighted the series of efforts made by the ministers to create a fund since the 5<sup>th</sup> FMM declaration and emphasized that the creation of a fund at the upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> FMM reflects a continuity of the efforts that have been made thus far.

Based on extensive research, Korea explained that the establishment of a provisional trust fund within the World Bank in the form of a World Bank Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) is the optimal choice. A representative of the World Bank attended the meeting to observe and take questions.

7. The ad-hoc SOM commended the work of Korea and agreed by consensus to recommend their ministers to adopt the “FEALAC Fund – Concept Paper” (attached as Annex III) and to engage in inter-sessional work among the FEALAC member countries and with the World Bank in the fine tuning of the technical details including the project selection criteria, the governing structure, and others, with the goal to establish the FEALAC Fund at the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM.

Some countries, including Korea and Peru, expressed their willingness to contribute to the fund.

## Agenda Item 3: New FEALAC Action Plan

8. Korea briefed the member countries on the draft New FEALAC Action Plan, which contains three pillars of cooperation, with eleven initiatives and a number of concrete actions which are to be implemented within a given timeline.

Korea emphasized that the draft is a “working document” which requires the feedback from all member countries in order to become a deliverable at the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM and that it is a “living document” which will have to be regularly updated in the future to reflect achievements as well as additional cooperation.

9. The member countries provided feedback as follows:

### (Pillar 1)

- Regarding the summit, while agreeing on the need to celebrating a summit sometime in the future, the member countries commented that it would be premature to decide on the timing of the summit, given the absence of sufficient substance. The ad-hoc SOM decided to recommend the ministers to further discuss this issue at the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM.

- Furthermore, the member countries appreciated the holding of the 1<sup>st</sup> Troika Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly on September 22, 2016, and encouraged the consolidation of joint leadership through the Troika system.
- The member countries agreed on the need to encourage the participation of relevant leadership at the SOM and the FMM and emphasized that FEALAC should generate more tangible outcomes presentable to both the leaders and the public.
- There was a view that the regional coordinators should be appointed based on alphabetical rotation.
- There was also a view that FEALAC should come up with a pool of experts and leverage this pool to consider the launching of the FEALAC Vision Group II.
- The member countries appreciated the value of the Business Forum – first of which was held in Colombia 2012 and second of which was held in Thailand in 2014 – and agreed to work towards the Third Business Forum back-to-back with the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM.

#### **(Pillar 2)**

- The member countries agreed to improve the Working Group process to ensure its effectiveness. The role of the Working Group in the implementation of the future FEALAC Fund was emphasized.
- The ad-hoc SOM took note of the important role of the Working Group co-chairs in the implementation of Pillar 2.

#### **(Pillar 3)**

- The member countries welcomed the partnership with the World Bank in the creation of the FEALAC Fund.
  - It was recommended that a more effective communication system should be introduced to encourage feedback to and from other regional and international organization participating in FEALAC events.
10. The member countries adopted the draft New FEALAC Action Plan (attached as [Annex IV](#)) and agreed to continue improving the document as a deliverable at the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM by sending written feedback in the upcoming weeks.

#### Agenda Item 4: Way Ahead

11. Korea informed the meeting that the Cyber Secretariat Workshop will take place in March 2017. Korea also informed the meeting that the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM will be held in Busan as follows and that an invitation with detailed schedule will be delivered in the weeks to come:
  - May 23, 2017: Working Group Meetings + Coordination Meeting
  - May 24, 2017: SOM + official reception for foreign ministers and senior officials
  - May 25, 2017: 8<sup>th</sup> FMM

#### Agenda Item 5: Other Matters

12. Guatemala briefed the outcomes of talks among the Latin American member countries (attached as Annex V). Peru and Venezuela have expressed their will to become the incoming regional coordinators for Latin America – the decision will be made prior to the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM.
13. The member countries expressed their condolences regarding the passing of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of the Kingdom of Thailand and Fidel Castro, former President of Cuba. The member countries also expressed their condolences to Brazil for the loss of lives at the recent airplane accident.
14. The member countries welcomed the congressional approval of the Peace Agreement in Colombia.
15. It was requested that the Cyber Secretariat should revise the country information, in particular the size of territory, of the FEALAC Guidebook based on the materials submitted by each member country.

#### Agenda Item 6: Adoption of the ad-hoc SOM Report

16. The meeting adopted the report of the FEALAC ad-hoc SOM.
17. The member countries expressed their appreciation to Korea for the warm hospitality extended to the member countries and for the excellent arrangements of the meetings and side events, including the site visit to the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM venue.

## 18<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

30 August 2017. Busan, Korea

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Guatemala & Korea**
- Participated **36 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (20)

### Main Results

- Discussed and approved the agenda of the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM
- Reported and approved Working Group reports
- Discussed and agreed to recommend the Busan Declaration and the establishment of the “FEALAC Fund”
- Elected next Co-Chairs for each Working Group
  - Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development : China, Costa Rica
  - Culture, Youth, Gender, and Sports : Indonesia, Ecuador
  - Trade, Investment, Tourism, and MSMEs : Korea, Argentina
  - Science, Technology, Innovation, and Education : Japan, Panama
- Elected Regional Coordinators for next term: Guatemala and Lao PDR

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex A. List of participants
- Annex B. Agenda
- Annex C. Working Group Meeting Final Reports
- Annex D. Terms of Conditions and the Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee



## Report of the 18<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting

Busan, August 30, 2017

1. The 18<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the Forum for East Asia – Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) Preparatory SOM for the 8<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in Busan on August 30, 2017. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Lim Ki-mo, Ambassador for FEALAC and CARICOM, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, and Mr. Carlos V. Cazali D., Sub-Director General for Multilateral and Economic Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala.
2. The meeting was attended by delegations from 36 member countries (the list of the heads of delegations is attached as [Annex A]).
  - **East Asia:** Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.
  - **Latin America:** Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.

### Agenda Item I: Adoption of Agenda

3. The meeting adopted the agenda prepared by the host (the agenda is attached to [Annex B]).

### Agenda Item 2: Consideration of Working Group Reports

4. **(SPCSD – Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development)**

The meeting considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by China and Costa Rica, Co-chairs of the 4<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development held in Busan, Korea on August 29, 2017. The member countries discussed many designs for projects based on sound exchanges and also proposed future projects for more cooperation in the aforementioned areas.



Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the Senior Officials. The Report appears as [Annex C]. Member countries were encouraged to implement the recommendations.

5. **(TITM – Trade, Investment, Tourism, MSMEs)**

The meeting considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Honduras and Indonesia, Co-chairs of the 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop Meeting on Trade, Investment, Tourism, MSMEs held in Busan, Korea on August 29, 2017. The Co-Chairs encouraged strengthening FEALAC to minimize psychological barrier, especially related to distance and each member countries presented the projects since the 3<sup>rd</sup> FEALAC Working Group Meeting and the new proposals. The meeting also appreciated the contribution by Indonesia to establish the FEALAC Trade Regulation Database which includes the participation of the FEALAC member states and encourage FEALAC private sectors to take the benefit of the Trade Database that could be accessed at <https://fealac-tr.kemlu.go.id/>.

Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the Senior Officials. The Report appears as [Annex C]. Member countries were encouraged to implement the recommendations.

6. **(CYGS – Culture, Youth, Gender, Sports)**

The meeting considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Ecuador and Viet Nam, Co-chairs of the 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop Meeting on Culture, Youth, Gender, Sports held in Busan, Korea on August 29, 2017. It was noted the need to better stock-take the implemented projects and have forward-looking discussions on the new projects. It was also noted the need to prioritize the regional and national projects.

The meeting also welcomed the initiative of Indonesia to establish FEALAC Youth Center in the City of Bandung, Indonesia, which will become the platform of FEALAC youth connectivity. FEALAC Youth Center will be the host of FEALAC Youth Forum to organize activities by virtual and physical connection that could encourage youth of the two regions to interact and increase cross-cultural understanding.

Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the Senior Officials. The Report appears as [Annex C]. Member countries were encouraged to implement the recommendations.

7. **(STIE – Science, Technology, Innovation, Education)**

The meeting considered the Report and Recommendations submitted by Colombia and Japan, Co-chairs of the 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop Meeting on Science,

Technology, Innovation, Education held in Busan, Korea on August 29, 2017. As the Working Group, which has implemented the second largest number of projects, the meeting expressed the importance of this working group to enhance mutual understandings on the area of science, technology, innovation and education.

Recommendations were submitted to and adopted by the Senior Officials. The Report appears as [Annex C]. Member countries were encouraged to implement the recommendations.

### Agenda Item 3: The Official Documents of 8<sup>th</sup> FMM

#### 8. FEALAC Fund

##### a. Establishment

The SOM reached a consensus to recommend to the Foreign Ministers on the establishment of the FEALAC Fund in the form of a UN multi-donor trust fund under the partnership with UN ESCAP and UN ECLAC.

The FEALAC Fund will support projects that are inter-regional in scope and are most effective in enhancing mutual understanding. The Fund will comply with the UN rules and regulations, and will be administered and executed in accordance with the Terms and Conditions and the Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee as found in the [Annex D] to this document.

The FEALAC Fund will be based on voluntary contribution and take a step-by-step adaptive approach, whereby the modalities such as those related to the Steering Committee and the projects selection and implementation procedures will continue to be adjusted based on factors such as the growing size of the Fund and projects implemented.

The member countries welcomed the initial contribution of Korea and Peru, which will be transferred to the FEALAC Fund account within this year through bilateral arrangements with UN ESCAP and UN ECLAC. A number of member countries are undergoing domestic procedures to seek contribution to the Fund – the contribution can be made at any time while the Fund exists.

##### b. Steering Committee

The SOM acknowledged that the Steering Committee, the central governing body of the FEALAC Fund, will be operated transparently in a way that ensures the best interest of the FEALAC as a whole. The Steering Committee will consist of the FEALAC Troika, the donor countries, and UN ESCAP

and UN ECLAC, and it will be co-chaired by two FEALAC member countries, who are members thereof – each region will elect one country. Other FEALAC member countries will also be allowed to participate as observers.

The Annual Work Plan and other documents to be prepared by UN ESCAP and UN ECLAC and as presented to and approved by the Steering Committee will be duly shared with the FEALAC SOM. A number of options will be explored to enable consultation between the Steering Committee and the FEALAC SOM including through the FEALAC member countries present at the Committee meetings, who will make efforts to collect and represent the general view of FEALAC, or through the participation of UN ESCAP and UN ECLAC at FEALAC SOM.

Korea volunteered to host the first Steering Committee meeting tentatively in January 2018, after which, in principle, the meetings will be held once every year back-to-back with the FEALAC SOM. Ad-hoc Steering Committee meetings could be held, if deemed necessary by the UN Commissions and Steering Committee Co-Chairs.

The FEALAC Cyber Secretariat will assist the process by facilitating communication and distribution of reports, as necessary.

#### 9. **Busan Declaration and FEALAC New Action Plan**

The SOM reached a consensus to recommend the Foreign Ministers the adoption of Busan Declaration. The document was circulated twice in July and August for early comments from member countries.

The main principles that have been followed during the process of reviewing the comments were: (1) Priority was given to the expressions used within the United Nations context or by the international community in general, (2) Comments likely to cause misunderstanding or redundancy were not reflected, and (3) Balanced length of paragraph was considered.

The SOM reached a consensus to recommend the Foreign Ministers the adoption of the New FEALAC Action Plan and the Troika Operational Modalities, which are annexed to the Busan Declaration. It was highlighted that the New FEALAC Action Plan is a “living document,” which will be monitored regularly.

#### **Agenda Item 4: FEALAC Cyber Secretariat’s activities and future plans**

10. The FEALAC Cyber Secretariat briefed on its activities and future plans for further development of FEALAC. The Secretariat presented the recent

updates of activities conducted by the Secretariat since the 7<sup>th</sup> FMM. Along the line with the explanation on its basic roles, the Secretariat highlighted the significance of leadership of Working Group Co-chairs in enhancing the impact and visibility of national projects. The Secretariat also called for more active cooperation among member countries, the FEALAC leadership and the Secretariat in order to increase effectiveness and efficiency in working process and to increase visibility and impact of FEALAC as a whole. As the suggested areas to be improved are reflected in the Busan Declaration, the Cyber Secretariat looks forward to implement the proposal in practice.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Designation of incoming Regional Coordinators and Working Group Co-chairs**

11. The meeting took note of the results of the election of incoming Regional Coordinators and Working Group Co-chairs for the period of 2017-2019 as follows:
  - Regional Coordinators: Lao PDR and Guatemala (1 year for Guatemala)
  - Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development (SPCSD): Costa Rica and China
  - Trade, Investment, Tourism, MSMEs (TITM): Argentina and the Republic of Korea
  - Culture, Youth, Gender, Sports (CYGS): Ecuador and Indonesia
  - Science, Technology, Innovation, Education (STIE): Panama and Japan

#### **Agenda Item 6: Adoption of the SOM Final Report**

12. The meeting adopted the report of the FEALAC.
13. The member countries expressed their appreciation to Korea for the warm hospitality extended to the member countries and for the excellent arrangements of the meetings and side events.

#### **Agenda Item 7: Others**

14. Indonesia suggested designating a 'FEALAC Day.' Many member countries recognized the value of enhancing inter-regional cooperation between East Asia and Latin America.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting

31 August 2017. Busan, Korea

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Guatemala & Korea**
- Participated **36 Member Countries**: East Asia (16) / Latin America (20)

### Main Results

- Adopted 「Busan Declaration」 which reiterates the commitment to enhance comprehensive dialogue and cooperation between the two regions within a structured framework
  - Endorsed the “New FEALAC Action Plan” to promote co-operation in diverse areas within a structured framework
  - Endorsed “FEALAC Troika Modalities” with aims to ensure an effective 8<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting implementation of mid to long-term projects and enhance the predictability of the FEALAC agenda
  - Endorsed the “FEALAC Fund” in the form of a United Nations multi-donor trust fund under the partnership with ECLAC and ESCAP
- Appointed Lao PDR as the next Regional Coordinator for East Asia, and Guatemala as the interim Regional Coordinator until the Latin America member countries select its next Regional Coordinator

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex A. New FEALAC Action Plan
- Annex B. FEALAC TROIKA: Operational Modalities
  - Agenda
  - List of Participants Modalities



## 8<sup>th</sup> FEALAC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

Busan, August 31, 2017

### BUSAN DECLARATION

– *One Vision, New Action* –

#### Introduction

1. We, the Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegations of the member countries of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), met in Busan on August 31, 2017, in order to strengthen the interconnectivity between the two regions and broaden the areas of our cooperation. The 8<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held under the leadership co-chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, as the FEALAC Regional Coordinator for East Asia, and by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Ambassador of the Republic of Guatemala to the Republic of Korea chaired on behalf of the Minister\*, as the FEALAC Regional Coordinator for Latin America.
2. Recalling the achievements of the previous seven Foreign Ministers' Meetings and recognizing the substantive discussion at the 8<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting, we unanimously adopt this Busan Declaration.

#### FEALAC – Untapped Potential

3. Since its creation in 1999, FEALAC has served the purpose of increasing understanding and cooperation between East Asia and Latin America, and has initiated the mechanisms of dialogue that could not have been achieved bilaterally or through other intergovernmental organizations.
4. As of 2016, FEALAC represents 38% of the global economy and 33% of the global trade, which reflects a significant growth since its creation when

---

\* Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Ambassador of the Republic of Guatemala to the Republic of Korea chaired on behalf of the Minister.

it represented 30% of the global economy and 24% of the global trade. We acknowledge that there is an enormous untapped potential for East Asia-Latin America inter-regional cooperation through FEALAC, as it approaches towards its 20th anniversary in 2019. With the shared view that our efforts in the coming years will define the significance of the forum, we are determined to translate the numerous ideas put forward thus far into concrete actions.

5. Amid the complex global environment there is an opportunity to reiterate our commitment to expand a shared perspective on important international political and economic issues. We recognize that strengthened connectivity based on common values such as building a dynamic and open economy, and promoting all human rights will contribute to realizing the vast potential for FEALAC in various areas of collaboration.
6. In this context, we commit to promote the effectiveness and relevance of FEALAC by building a shared stance to jointly address major global challenges and by gradually and steadily implementing the ongoing and new FEALAC initiatives.

## FEALAC and Global Challenges

### *Economic Challenges*

7. We meet at a time when the global recovery is progressing, resilience is improved in some economies, and new sources for growth are emerging. Yet the recovery still remains uneven and there are challenges that hamper our effort to build confidence in contributing to shared prosperity. Notwithstanding the downside risks that persist in the context of economic and geopolitical uncertainty, we appreciate that we have made great strides so far since the past global financial crises, and reaffirm our past commitments on building strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth, while enhancing economic and financial resilience.
8. We share the recognition that the repercussion of global economic risks continues to negatively affect East Asia and Latin America by exacerbating unemployment, social inclusion and growth rates for all economies. We reiterate our opposition to protectionism on trade and investment in all its forms. In this context, we reaffirm the significance of monitoring risks as well as fiscal, monetary and structural policies, which would build sustainable and inclusive economy and prevent future crises. We acknowledge that steady progress in implementing effective economic policies such as monetary, fiscal and structural tools remain crucial for securing stronger potential growth.



9. In this regard, we recognize the role of the G20 in implementing comprehensive and integrated policies for strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. We note the adoption of G20 Leaders' Declaration in 2017 at the G20 Summit in Hamburg.

Stressing the central role of the WTO in setting global trade rules, as well as in administering a rules-based multilateral trading system, through monitoring its Members' trade policies and settling trade disputes, we reaffirm that international trade is an engine for inclusive growth and poverty reduction and also underline our commitment to preserving, strengthening and enhancing the open, rules-based, transparent, inclusive, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system embodied in the WTO as well as meaningful trade liberalization. We welcome the result of the 10<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya in 2015, including the process of accession of new members to the WTO. We commit to advance negotiations on the remaining Doha Development Agenda issues as well as range of issues of common interest and importance to today's economy. We express our commitment and also urge all WTO members to engage constructively in the negotiation to achieve positive outcomes through a successful consultation at the upcoming 11<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in December 2017 in order to contribute to development and inclusive and sustainable growth. We also take note of the importance of trade facilitation through the simplification, modernization and harmonization of the export and import procedures.

10. We believe that FEALAC is a key international forum to promote cross-cutting actions for both regions. We, thus, reinforce our determination to enhance regional and sub-regional cooperation, deeper economic integration and to accelerate economic recovery by sharing our own experiences, wisdom and best practices that both regions obtained from the past crises.

We intend to promote connectivity schemes and master plans between East Asia and Latin America, which can serve to create economic advantages, especially the cost effectiveness gained from saving logistical costs for land, maritime and air transport.

### ***Development and Environmental Challenges***

11. We support our collective efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, hunger and all forms of malnutrition and to transform shared challenges related to food, water, and energy security into opportunities for inclusive growth and sustainable development. We strongly foster cooperation for the sustainable use and integrated management of water resources. We,



therefore, commit to work through closer partnership and joint action towards achieving sustainable development, including sustainable development for all. We welcome the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015, which builds on the basis of the Millennium Development Goals, aims to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, seeks to address unfinished business, and contributes to end all forms of poverty.

12. We welcome the entry into force of the Paris Agreement in November 2016, a historic milestone for the global action on climate change that requires international cooperation by all countries with a view to accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions. We reaffirm the commitment to implement the Paris Agreement reflecting equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances, in order to achieve the goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. In addition, we will also continue robust international cooperation toward low greenhouse gas emission and climate-resilient development.
13. Along with our commitment to addressing climate change, we stress the role and the need to access to technology, innovation and capacity-building, which create new incentives and opportunities for the transfer of environmental technologies, in particular to developing countries in order to integrate them into regional and global value chains and promote development and productivity between the regions. We reaffirm that the efforts for the environmental protection are compatible with economic and social development. In this respect, we recognize the significant role of the South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC), in addition to the North-South cooperation, in allowing the promotion of clean technologies and renewable energy as well as expansion of access to energy services for people in remote areas.

### ***Security Challenges***

14. Sharing the view that a lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula is of crucial importance for the peace and stability of Northeast Asia and beyond, we express our grave concern over the escalation of tensions on the Korean Peninsula, including the most recent launch by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) of a ballistic missile on August 29, 2017 and its previous provocations. We strongly support the international community's

common goal of achieving the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. In this regard, we reaffirm the importance of complying with relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions. We also support the initiatives to improve inter-Korean relations towards establishing permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula as well as to relieve tension and resolve humanitarian issues and take note of there cent initiatives of the Republic of Korea.

15. We strongly condemn terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, in all forms and manifestations, which constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. We also reaffirm that terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group. We reaffirm our solidarity and resolve to continue to strengthen international coordination and cooperation with transparency and equality in order to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism, based on the Charter of the United Nations and international law applicable, including humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law.

We reiterate that the moderation approach which emphasizes mutual respect and understanding, tolerance and dialogue can be utilized to counter all forms and extremism as well as resolve differences and conflicts peacefully towards ensuring stability and sustainable development.

16. We express our deep concerns over the current increase in harmful Information and Communications Technology (ICT) activities. We reaffirm the urgent need to uphold our commitment to an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful ICT environment. We note the key role played by the United Nations in developing norms. In this regard, we support the ongoing work by international dialogues to promote common understanding on existing and potential cyber threats and possible cooperative measures to address them. We also believe that strengthening international cooperation in ICT security, including confidence-building measures and capacity-building, is essential, in order to reduce the risk of conflict among nations and to contribute to bridging an existing digital divide, which can affect developing countries' ability to respond.
17. We express our deep concerns over the threat by corruption and transnational organized crime sin all its forms. We, therefore, encourage all countries to accede and implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as to share our knowledge and best practices to strengthen the fight against corruption and transnational organized crime.

We express our support for internal legal actions taken in accordance with the rules of international law to fight against corruption and organized crime in order to promote the welfare and economic and social development of its people.

18. We welcome the vision of United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on conflict prevention as the priority of the United Nations. We thus commit to the idea that sustaining peace should be a goal and a process to build a common vision of a society, ensuring that the needs of all segments of the population are taken into account, which encompasses activities aimed at preventing the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict, addressing root causes, assisting parties to conflict to end hostilities, ensuring national reconciliation, and moving towards recovery, reconstruction and development emphasizing that sustaining peace is a shared task and responsibility that needs to be fulfilled by the Government and all other national stakeholders, and should flow through all three pillars of the United Nations engagement at all stages of conflict, and in all its dimensions, and needs sustained international attention and assistance.

### ***Other Major Challenges***

19. We recognize that disasters have continued to cause significant impact on the economy, society and wellbeing of the people of East Asia and Latin America. We, therefore, reaffirm the significance of further enhancement of inter-regional cooperation in expanding the network of technical support, capacity-building, information-sharing and expertise on a broad and people-centered approach among FEALAC member countries as well as relevant international and regional institutions. We underline the significance of strengthening the resilience through building capacity in accordance with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.
20. We reaffirm the universality, indivisibility, interdependence, and inter-relatedness of human rights and our commitment to the promotion, protection of human rights in accordance with the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and other relevant international human rights instruments. We stress the importance of strengthening international efforts to promote and protect human rights including through sharing our best practices.
21. We acknowledge the multidimensional effects and challenges of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUUF). We encourage FEALAC member countries to intensify maritime cooperation to fight IUUF practices.

22. We stress our strong belief in multilateralism with the United Nations at its center and the commitment to uphold the principles of the United Nations Charter. We thus reaffirm the need for a comprehensive reform of the UN, including the Security Council.

Also, in recognition of the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, stability, security and freedom of navigation and over-flight, we affirm our strong commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and universally recognized principles of international law.

## FEALAC –Renewed Dynamism

### *Recent Progress*

23. We acknowledge that FEALAC has played a valuable role in bringing together countries from two diverse regions for dialogue and cooperation. In order to fully leverage the unique benefit of FEALAC and create a better-working system, we welcome and embark on a number of initiatives.
24. We commend the works of the FEALAC Senior Officials' Meetings and FEALAC Working Group Meetings and endorse the recommendations made by these meetings. In particular, mindful of the San José Declaration, we endorse the New FEALAC Action Plan (annexed to this Declaration), which aims to put together ongoing and future efforts to ensure that they are fully recognized and take place within a structured framework. We recognize that the New FEALAC Action Plan is a living document that will continue to be reviewed and updated at every Senior Officials' Meeting to reflect the newest developments and to be reported to every FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting.
25. We welcome the launch of the FEALAC Troika system, whereby the Foreign Ministers of the previous, current, and incoming Regional Coordinators held the 1<sup>st</sup> FEALAC Troika Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the Sidelines of the 71<sup>st</sup> United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on September 22, 2016. Given the current biennial Foreign Ministers' Meeting system, we focus on the merits of the Troika system, which is expected to ensure a greater continuity of FEALAC agenda and an effective implementation of mid-to long-term projects. In this regard, we recommend that the FEALAC Troika Foreign Ministers' Meeting continue to be held every year on the Sidelines of the UNGA under the leadership of current Regional Coordinators and endorse the Troika Working Modalities (annexed to this Declaration).
26. We recall the repeated recommendations and efforts at the previous Foreign Ministers' Meeting to establish a funding mechanism that would enable

more enriching FEALAC-wide projects that promote inter-regional dialogue and understanding. In this context, we endorse the establishment of the FEALAC Fund in the form of a United Nations multi-donor trust fund under the partnership with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), details of which are included in the Senior Officials' Meeting Final Report. We expect this fund to ensure the broadest participation of FEALAC member countries and thereby bring tangible benefits to as many member countries as possible and develop a greater sense of ownership for each member country.

### Working Groups –More Active Leadership

27. We commend the contribution of the four Working Groups for the progress of FEALAC and encourage the incoming Working Group Co-chairs to exercise more active leadership to ensure greater effectiveness of the Working Groups.
28. Regarding the Working Group on Socio-political Cooperation and Sustainable Development, we appreciate the leadership of the Co-chair China and Costa Rica, who will continue to co-chair the Working Group for the next term. Under the leadership of China and Costa Rica, 32 projects were completed or ongoing between 7<sup>th</sup> FMM and 8<sup>th</sup> FMM, which includes 24 national projects and 8 regional projects. Beyond 8<sup>th</sup> FMM, 5 national projects and 2 regional projects are currently planned to be implemented.
29. Regarding the Working Group on Trade, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs, we appreciate the leadership of the outgoing Co-chair Honduras, who will be succeeded by Argentina, and Indonesia, who will be succeeded by the Republic of Korea. Under the leadership of Honduras and Indonesia, 19 projects were completed or ongoing between 7<sup>th</sup> FMM and 8<sup>th</sup> FMM, which includes 16 national projects and 3 regional projects. Beyond 8<sup>th</sup> FMM, 6 national projects and 3 regional projects are currently planned to be implemented.
30. Regarding the Working Group on Culture, Youth, Gender, and Sports, we appreciate the leadership of the Co-chair Ecuador, who will continue to co-chair the working group, and Viet Nam, who will be succeeded by Indonesia. Under the leadership of Ecuador and Viet Nam, 30 projects were completed ongoing between 7<sup>th</sup> FMM and 8<sup>th</sup> FMM, which includes 23 national projects and 7 regional projects. Beyond 8<sup>th</sup> FMM, 16 national projects and 6 regional projects are currently planned to be implemented.

31. Regarding the Working Group on Science, Technology, Innovation, and Education, we appreciate the leadership of the outgoing Co-chair Colombia, who will be succeeded by Panama, and Japan, who will continue to co-chair the working group. Under the leadership of Colombia and Japan, 26 projects were implemented or ongoing between 7<sup>th</sup> FMM and 8<sup>th</sup> FMM, which includes 17 national projects and 9 regional projects. Beyond 8<sup>th</sup> FMM, 5 national projects and 13 regional projects are currently planned to be implemented.
32. We recommend the Working Group Co-chairs to better coordinate national and regional projects to become more focused in a way that ensures greater impact and visibility, and avoids duplication. Furthermore, we call for the Working Group Co-chairs to ensure that all projects undergo adequate evaluation and review and that best practices are shared.

### Way Ahead

33. We appreciate that national and regional projects have been an important motor for the progress of FEALAC and anticipate that FEALAC-wide projects, financed by the FEALAC Fund, will create synergy effect with the efforts carried out in the form of national and regional projects. We underscore the need to avoid duplication among projects and task the Senior Officials' Meeting to closely review all ongoing and future projects.

We recognize that the FEALAC Business Forum has a special value of promoting closer trade relations and enhancing business opportunities for the potential investors in the two regions, and that it serves as a good model of how national projects are to be planned and executed. In this regard, we take note of the 3<sup>rd</sup> FEALAC Business Forum, which was hosted by the Republic of Korea on June 30, 2017 under the theme of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, and encourage the future hosts of FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting to also hold FEALAC Business Forum.

34. We appreciate the efforts made by the Cyber Secretariat, which was established in 2011 in accordance with the recommendations at the 4<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting, in managing FEALAC official website, facilitating communication within FEALAC, hosting Cyber Secretariat Workshops, and conducting FEALAC Project Review Survey, among others. We recommend the Cyber Secretariat to continue and reinforce its active role in working with the Working Group Co-chairs for compiling and updating national and regional projects database, strengthening FEALAC overall mechanism, engaging in public relations activities to increase the visibility of FEALAC,



and assisting host countries of FEALAC meetings, as appropriate, among others.

35. We recognize the need to promote the predictability and visibility of FEALAC events. In this regard, we recommend Regional Coordinators and Working Group Co-chairs to work with the Cyber Secretariat to develop and update FEALAC Events Calendar. Furthermore, we acknowledge the need to improve online communication at the working-level. In this regard, we encourage the Cyber Secretariat to present a plan to facilitate and promote working-level communication channel.
36. Noting that eminent persons and experts can help develop ideas for inter-regional collaboration through FEALAC, we encourage the creation of a FEALAC Expert Group Pool. We expect to leverage the FEALAC Expert Group Pool for supporting various activities, including a potential FEALAC Vision Group II.
37. We recognize that there is a need to promote the early selection of Regional Coordinators to ensure a well-functioning collective leadership system and strongly encourage that incoming Regional Coordinators are selected by latest at the Senior Officials' Meeting held in the year when Foreign Ministers' Meeting is not held. In this context, we will continue to explore a number of options that would invigorate the current voluntary-based system.
38. We acknowledge the value of a more frequent interaction among appropriate leaderships as well as a whole-of-government approach for greater relevance of FEALAC. We encourage the FEALAC mechanism to produce more tangible and visible outcomes that would create the momentum for new initiatives, including the exploring of a FEALAC Special Summit, annual Foreign Ministers' Meeting, and more whole-of-government activities, among others, along the sidelines of global forums.
39. We call for strengthening cooperation with international organizations, think tanks, civil society and the private sector, among others, in East Asia and Latin America in order to intensify concerted efforts and effectively conduct projects in various realms. In this regard, we welcome the cooperation with ECLAC and ESCAP, whose Executive Secretaries \*\*, attended the 8<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting and stressed their willingness to pursue new initiatives with FEALAC.

---

\*\* Due to unforeseen circumstances, for ECLAC the Deputy Executive Secretary participated on behalf of the Executive Secretary.

## Closing

40. The next 9<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting will be held in 2019, and the Senior Officials' Meeting will be held in 2018, on a date to be decided by consensus.
41. We express our appreciation to the outgoing Regional Coordinators of FEALAC, the Republic of Korea and the Republic of Guatemala, and welcome the Lao People's Democratic Republic as the next Regional Coordinator for East Asia. As for the next Regional Coordinator for Latin America, the Republic of Guatemala will become the interim Regional Coordinator until the Latin American member countries select its next Regional Coordinator, at latest the Senior Officials' Meeting in 2018.



## 19<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

21 November 2018. Vientiane, Lao PDR

### Participants


- Co-chaired by **Guatemala & Lao PDR**
- Participated **33 Member Countries**: East Asia (15) / Latin America (18)

### Main Results

- Approved final reports of each Working Groups
- Discussed the progress and updates of the New FEALAC Action Plan
  - Discussed the possibility of holding a Special FEALAC Summit
  - Discussed the possibility of setting up a pool of experts and consideration on creating the Experts Group Meeting
  - Discussed the progress of FEALAC Fund and FEALAC-wide projects
- FEALAC Cyber Secretariat reported the status of the different cooperation projects, activities and future plans, and submitted the following documents:
  - 'Case Study for Selection System of the Regional Coordinators' to foster discussion on the selection system of future Regional Coordinators of FEALAC
  - 'Guidelines for Hosting FEALAC Meetings' to be reviewed and approved at the next meeting
  - 'Terminology of the FEALAC Cooperation Projects'
- Discussed and agreed on holding an ad-hoc preparatory committee in the first semester of 2019 in light of 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary for FEALAC
- Discussed the issue of setting up a permanent FEALAC Secretariat and agreed to take this issue into consideration for the next Senior Officials' Meeting
- Elected Regional Coordinator of Latin America for the next term: Dominican Republic

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

## Annex List

- 
- Annex 1. List of the Heads of Delegations
  - Annex 2. Agenda
  - Annex 3. 5<sup>th</sup> SPCSD Working Group Meeting Final Report
  - Annex 4. 5<sup>th</sup> TITM Working Group Meeting Final Report
  - Annex 5. 5<sup>th</sup> CYGS Working Group Meeting Final Report
  - Annex 6. 5<sup>th</sup> STIE Working Group Meeting Final Report
  - Annex 7. Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting
    - Proposal of Establishment of Expert Group Pool and Meeting by ROK
    - Proposal of FEALAC Day by Indonesia
    - Proposal of Guideline for Hosting FEALAC Meetings by Cyber Secretariat
    - Proposal of Terminology of the FEALAC Cooperation Project by Cyber Secretariat
    - The Case Study for Selection System of the RC by Cyber Secretariat
    - Presentation of Cyber Secretariat Activities and Future Plans

## Report of the 19<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting

November 21, 2018 at Land Mark Mekong Riverside Hotel,  
Vientiane, Lao PDR

1. The 19<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the Forum for East Asia - Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was held on November 21, 2018 at Land Mark Mekong Riverside Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR.
2. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Songkane LUANGMUNINTHONE, Director General, Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SOM Leader for Lao PDR and His Excellency Ambassador JAIRO DAVID ESTRADA BARRIOS, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, SOM Leader for Guatemala.
3. The Meeting was attended by delegations from 33 member countries, UN ESCAP and ECLAC, and FEALAC Cyber Secretariat. (The list of the heads of delegations appears as [Annex 1](#))
  - **East Asia:** Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.
  - **Latin America:** Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

### Agenda Item I: Opening Remarks by Regional Coordinators

4. Mr. Songkane LUANGMUNINTHONE, Director General, Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR expressed his warm welcome to all delegates from FEALAC member countries to the 19<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting. In his statement, he highlighted the importance of FEALAC, which not only boosts East Asia-Latin American ties and forges the missing link between the two regions, but also tapping potentials in many areas of cooperation, such as: Trade, Investment, Science and Technology, Culture, Sports, Tourism, People-to-People Exchange, and so on by encouraging four working groups to deal with specific issues. In this regard, all member countries are encouraged to continually further closer

cooperation and interaction between the two regions as well as to develop iconic projects in order to enhance visibility of FEALAC.

5. His Excellency Ambassador JAIRO DAVID ESTRADA BARRIOS, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, SOM Leader for Guatemala delivered his opening remark and emphasized the main tasks of the SOM meeting is to review and update the Action Plan of FEALAC as well as the progress on the establishment of the fund, which is an essential element for continuing the improvement of the cooperation and dialogue between Latin American and East Asian regions that covers 40% of the world's population and 38% of the global economy. His Excellency encouraged all member countries to actively participate in the Working Groups in order to jointly achieve important progress on the fields of socio-political cooperation and sustainable development; trade, investment, tourism as well as small and medium enterprises; science, technology, innovation and education; as well as culture, youth, gender and sports.

## **Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Agenda**

6. The meeting considered and adopted the agenda, which appears as Annex 2.

## **Agenda Item 3: Consideration of Working Group Reports**

7. **Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development (SPCSD)**

The meeting considered the final report and recommendations submitted by Costa Rica and China, Co-chairs of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development held in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

The meeting took stock of the progress and outcomes of the 17 completed or ongoing projects since the 8<sup>th</sup> FMM including 15 national projects and 2 regional projects. The meeting was presented SPCSD Members' new proposals including 5 National Projects (one from China and four from Thailand) and 2 Regional Projects from Thailand and Costa Rica respectively.

China and Costa Rica announced their availability to continue as Co-chairs of the Working Group. In addition, the Co-Chairs will establish guidelines to better coordinate communication among them and countries that present projects for the next two years. (The summary report appears as Annex 3)

#### 8. **Trade, Investment, Tourism, MSMEs (TITM)**

The meeting considered the final report and recommendations submitted by Argentina and Korea, Co-chairs of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Trade, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs held in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

The meeting was briefed about the 2 completed and 1 ongoing regional projects. The meeting discussed and exchanged views on TITM Working Group priority list and focus area and finally, the meeting agreed to focus on 7 priority areas as follows: 1. The internationalization of SMEs, 2. Internationalization through the integration of Global Value Chain, 3. Access to Financing, 4. Projects of Investments, 5. Business For a, 6. Bi-regional tourism promotion, and 7. Digital Trade. (The summary report appears as [Annex 4](#))

#### 9. **Culture, Youth and Gender, Sports (CYGS)**

The meeting considered the final report and recommendations submitted by Ecuador and Indonesia, Co-chairs of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Culture, Youth and Gender, Sports held in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

According to the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat there were 10 national projects and regional projects; out of the 10 national projects, 4 projects were already completed while the other 6 projects are still on going. For the regional projects, 2 projects have already been implemented and 1 remaining project is still in implementation.

The meeting was presented the CYGS members' new proposals with 3 national projects and 2 regional projects. The meeting took note that there was a need to encourage member countries to propose more bi-regional projects that could be collaborated between the East Asia and Latin America regions which is line with the Pillar 2 of the New FEALAC Action Plan "Promoting Effectiveness of Working Groups and Projects".

The meeting discussed the possible Co-Chair for the year 2019-2021 which Singapore and Indonesia expressed their willingness to be the next Co-Chair from East Asia Side and Ecuador was agreeable to continue its Co-Chairmanship for a 3<sup>rd</sup> term if there are no other Latin American countries volunteer. (The summary report appears as [Annex 5](#))

#### 10. **Science and Technology, Innovation, Education (STIE)**

The meeting considered the final report and recommendations submitted by Panama and Japan, Co-chairs of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting on Science and Technology, Innovation, Education held in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

The meeting discussed the progress and outcome of the 16 completed or being in implement projects composing of 13 national projects and 3 regional projects. The meeting was also briefed about STIE Members' new proposals, two new projects from the Lao PDR: (1) Regional Research Exchange on Science between Universities, Researchers and Lectures in FEALAC member countries, and (2) Students Volunteers Exchange Program; and One new project from Uruguay on “the Plan Ceibal” (One laptop per child).

The meeting agreed that Panama and Japan would continue to be the next Co-Chair. (The summary report appears as [Annex 6](#))

#### **Agenda Item 4: The New FEALAC Action Plan**

##### 11. **Reviewing and updating the New FEALAC Action Plan**

The Meeting reviewed the implementation of the New FEALAC Action Plan briefed by the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat. The Cyber Secretariat reported the progress made under the 3 Pillars of the New FEALAC Action Plan as follows:

###### ***Pillar 1: Strengthening FEALAC Institutional Framework***

The 3<sup>rd</sup> FEALAC Troika Ministers' Meeting took place in September 2018 on the occasion of the UNGA 73, where the foreign ministers reviewed the progress of implementation of the New FEALAC Action Plan and agreed to enhance cooperation on the efforts to successfully run the FEALAC;

- Completing FEALAC Website Renewal, including creation of chat function and event calendar in order to increase greater predictability and enhance communication;
- Drafting 2 proposals on the Draft Guideline for hosting FEALAC Meetings and Terminology of the FEALAC cooperation projects on the 24 October 2018;
- Producing the case study for the selection systems of the next Regional Coordinators by rotation of member countries in alphabetical order; and
- Proposing the establishment of Expert Group Pool and Expert Meeting.

***Pillar 2: Promoting Effectiveness of Working Groups and Projects***

- Finishing 14 review surveys out of 54 projects, which have been submitted by TITM Co-chairs.

***Pillar 3: Enhancing Partnership with Regional and International Organisation***

- Working with UN ESCAP and ECLAC to run the FEALAC Fund and implement FEALAC Wide Projects.
- Recommended to invite regional or international organization to the 9<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' meeting in Dominican Republic.

**12. Progress of FEALAC Trust Fund (A3. of FEALAC Action Plan)**

The meeting was reported on the progress of FEALAC Trust Fund by the Co-chairs of Steering Committee (Korea and Mexico), especially the update of financial statement for period 30 November 2017 to 11 September 2018 and the review of the implementation of the two projects.

Korea first reported the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee meeting of FEALAC Fund that was held in January 2018 in Seoul. During this meeting, the committee elected Co-chairs of the committee, adopted rules of procedures, and approved two FEALAC wide projects.

Afterwards, Korea reported the result of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee meeting which was held in November 20, 2018 before the 19<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting. The meeting was also briefed by the Co-chairs of Steering Committee on the two new projects proposed by UN ESCAP and ECLAC: (1) Strengthening the East Asia-Latin America Cooperation on Sustainable Transport Connectivity and Logistics and (2) Strengthening Cross-Border Electronic Commerce Capabilities and SMEs in FEALAC Members. As a result, committee members agreed to access and consider the newly proposed projects in depth and explore the possibility of having additional meetings prior to the next Senior Officials' meeting in Dominican Republic to review these proposals.

Korea presented the financial reports of the Fund. To date, the total amount of accumulated fund is 1.21 million US dollars with the contribution of Korea, Peru, Thailand and Mexico. Furthermore, Panama, Philippines, Chile and Lao PDR pledged to contribute to the Fund.

Viet Nam pledged to contribute 100,000 USD to the FEALAC Fund. A number of member countries are undergoing domestic procedures to seek contribution to the fund. However, the contribution can be made at any time while the fund exists. (The summary report appears as [Annex 7](#))

13. **Possibility of holding a Special FEALAC Summit (A1. of FEALAC Action Plan)**

The meeting discussed and explored the opportunity for convening the FEALAC Special Summit. The meeting agreed that if it is going to be a FEALAC Summit, it is important to produce a tangible outcome for FEALAC in order to make the summit more meaningful for the leaders to come. However, the meeting proposed to bring this issue to further discuss in the next 9<sup>th</sup> FMM in Dominican Republic in 2019.

14. **Discussion and selection of future Regional Coordinators by rotation of Member Countries in alphabetical order (A2. of FEALAC Action Plan)**

The meeting discussed the Case Study for Selection Systems of the Regional Coordinators submitted by FEALAC Cyber Secretariat. The meeting was suggested that a selection of future Regional Coordinators on voluntary basis remains the most preferable option; however, an alphabetical order rotation might be introduced when there is no volunteering country for the Regional Coordinator position. For further discussion, the meeting proposed to bring this issue to the next SOM and the 9<sup>th</sup> FMM in Dominican Republic in 2019.

15. **Possibility of setting up a pool of experts and consideration on creating Expert Group Meeting (EGMs) (A4. of FEALAC Action Plan)**

The meeting acknowledged the proposal document on Establishment of Expert Group Pool and meeting submitted by the Republic of Korea with the aims as follows: (1) to increase and improve mutual understanding and friendly cooperation, (2) to tap into the potential of multidisciplinary cooperation in various areas, and (3) to expand common ground on important international political and economic issues. Although the member states agreed the necessity of creating experts group meeting in accordance with Pillar 2 of New FEALAC Action Plan, they suggested to study this matter further in detail in the next SOM.

## **Agenda Item 5: Report on FEALAC Cyber Secretariat's Activities and Future Plans**

16. The meeting was briefed by the Cyber Secretariat on its activities and future plans, including the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop, renewal of the official website, and the hosting of the Model FEALAC. The 8<sup>th</sup> Cyber Secretariat Workshop was attended by 31 member countries to follow up on the 8<sup>th</sup> FEALAC FMM under the theme of "Strengthening FEALAC with New Actions," discussing the follow-ups on the New FEALAC Action Plan. The Cyber Secretariat highlighted that the recently renewed website has useful functions such as the mobile version, chat function for focal points, and



online platform for the Project Review Survey. Also, the Cyber Secretariat noted the new topics' section, and encouraged member countries to send their information (website addresses) on relevant institutions for each topic group in order to update the website. Another notable activity of the Cyber Secretariat is the preparation of the following proposals and case study presented to 19<sup>th</sup> SOM, which are expected to be approved at the next FMM: (1) Guidelines for Hosting FEALAC Meetings, (2) Terminology of the FEALAC Cooperation Projects, (3) The Case Study for Selection Systems of the Regional Coordinators. Along with these documents, member countries were presented with the progress report of the New FEALAC Action Plan, as well as the 2018 FEALAC Factsheet, FEALAC Guidebook and leaflet that was prepared and published by the Cyber Secretariat. Its activities for public outreach was also highlighted, including photo contest, viral promotion on social media, and Model FEALAC which invited 72 youth from 34 member countries to discuss cooperation between East Asia and Latin America, as well as the role of youth in the cooperation framework.

17. The meeting was also presented Future Plans to continue supporting FEALAC process with a principal focus on 4 areas as follows: (1) The 9<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop, (2) Reinforcing archive functions, (3) Strengthening FEALAC Mechanism, and (4) Public Outreach. The Cyber Secretariat noted that the 9<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop will be held in the first half of next year, which time and venue will be confirmed later. The Cyber Secretariat also noted that it will carry out extensive promotion of the FEALAC to celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and encouraged member countries to join the celebration.
18. The meeting commended the excellent workings of the Cyber Secretariat and their contribution to the development of FEALAC, and expressed their appreciation to the Cyber Secretariat.
19. The Co-chair of Lao PDR suggested member countries to attach an online link to FEALAC website on their ministries' websites to enhance visibility of FEALAC in each country.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Welcoming the Next Latin America Regional Coordinator and Report on the Next FEALAC Official Meeting**

20. The meeting welcomed the results of the selection of incoming Regional Coordinators for the period of 2018-2019. The meeting expressed congratulation to Dominican Republic and for assuming the next Regional Coordinator for Latin America.

## Agenda Item 7: Other Matters

### 21. FEALAC Day

The meeting commended Indonesia for proposal of FEALAC Day, which will promote visibility of FEALAC events and increase public awareness on FEALAC increasing people to people contact from both regions. The meeting was agreed to assign the 1<sup>st</sup> September of the calendar year and the FEALAC Day would be celebrated every year in the respective capitals of each member states of FEALAC, with Ministry of Foreign Affairs taking a lead role and a full responsibility for the cost of the celebration of the FEALAC Day.

The Co-chair of Lao PDR requested member countries to inform the Cyber Secretariat of their activities related to FEALAC Day in order to share the event details and ideas with other member countries.

Argentina made a presentation on the second United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, which will take place in Buenos Aires in March 20-22 next year. Argentina also briefed the meeting the objectives of the conference and encouraged FEALAC member countries' cooperation agencies, programs of the UN system, development banks, funds, academia and civil society to actively participate in the preparatory process.

### 22. Discussion on any other matters raised by members

Korea suggested holding an ad-hoc preparatory committee at any convenient time in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the next year when the 20<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting in light of 20 years anniversary for FEALAC will be held. The predatory committee can serve as a useful venue to explore and collect insights and possible outcomes that can be obtained in the next Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

Laos suggested that Dominican Republic should lead the preparatory committee under the existing Troika system.

Korea suggested that member states should formally consider discussing the issue of setting up permanent FEALAC Secretariat due to the growing roles and responsibilities of Cyber Secretariat that member states have increased seeking assistances from Cyber Secretariat for numerous FEALAC issues. The meeting took note of the said proposal and agreed to take this issue into consideration for the next Senior Officials' meeting.

Costa Rica supported the idea and need for permanent secretariat but requested for concept papers that Costa Rica is willing to assist with concept paper to further discuss and analyze the issue.

### Agenda Item 8: Adoption of the SOM Final Report

23. The meeting adopted the report of the 19<sup>th</sup> FEALAC SOM in Vientiane. The member countries expressed appreciation to Lao PDR for the warm hospitality extended to all member countries and for the excellent arrangements of the meetings and side events.

### Agenda Item 9: Closing remarks by Regional Coordinators (Laos & Guatemala)

24. The Co-chairs expressed appreciation to all FEALAC member countries for their active participation and constructive discussion that have contributed to the successful conclusion of the meeting.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

8 November 2019. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Dominican Republic & Lao PDR**
- Participated **32 Member Countries** : East Asia (15) / Latin America (17)

### Main Results

- Discussed and agreed on contents of the Santo Domingo Declaration
- Approved final reports of each Working Group
- Reported and updated the status of FEALAC Trust Fund and its FEALAC-wide projects
- FEALAC Cyber Secretariat reported the status of the different cooperation projects, activities and future plans
  - Approved 'Guidelines for Hosting FEALAC Meetings' presented by Cyber Secretariat
- Reported the Interim Report on the New FEALAC Action Plan submitted by Dominican Republic
- Elected next Co-Chairs for each Working Group
  - 'Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development: China, Costa Rica
  - 'Culture, Youth, Gender, and Sports: Indonesia, Ecuador
  - 'Trade, Investment, Tourism, and MSMEs: Korea, Argentina
  - 'Science, Technology, Innovation, and Education: Japan, Panama

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex 1. List of Heads of Delegations
- Annex 2. SOM Agenda
- Annex 3. Santo Domingo Discussion Minutes
- Annex 4. Drafting Committee Meeting Minutes
- Annex 5. CYGS Working Group Final Report
- Annex 6. TITM Working Group Final Report
- Annex 7. STIE Working Group Final Report
- Annex 8. SPCSD Working Group Final Report
- Annex 9. Interim Report of the New FEALAC Action Plan
- Annex 10. Guidelines for FEALAC Meetings



## Report of the 20<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting

November 8, 2019 at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

1. The 20<sup>th</sup> Senior Official's Meeting (SOM) of the Forum for East Asia – Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was held on November 8, 2019 at the Convention Center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.
2. The meeting was co-chaired by His Excellency Hugo Francisco Rivera Fernández, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Economic Affairs and International Cooperation for the Dominican Republic, and Mr. Virasac Somphong, Director General of the Department for Economic Affairs for Lao PDR.
3. The meeting was attended by delegates from 32 member countries, UN ESCAP and ECLAC, and FEALAC Cyber Secretariat. (The list of heads of delegations appears as [Annex 1](#)).
  - **East Asia:** Brunei, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam.
  - **Latin America:** Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay.

### Agenda Item I: Opening words by the Regional Coordinators.

4. His Excellency Hugo Francisco Rivera Fernandez expressed his warm welcome to all delegates to the Dominican Republic. In his statement, he highlighted the opportunity that this 20th Anniversary gave for strengthening the ties between the two regions as well as strengthening FEALAC itself. He also highlighted the Dominican Republic's commitment to increase cooperation in the working areas of FEALAC and their desire to create new dynamism in FEALAC's leadership.
5. Mr. Virasac Somphong expressed his sincere thanks to the Dominican Republic for their organization of the meetings. In his statement, he highlighted that Lao PDR attaches great importance to FEALAC cooperation. He remembered

the progress that FEALAC has achieved in the last 20 years, including the FEALAC Multi-Donor Trust Fund and the celebration of bi-annual Foreign Ministers' Meetings.

### **Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the agenda.**

6. The Dominican Republic suggested some changes to the agenda, including the movement of Item 4 about the Official Photograph to the end of the first session, as well as the creation of a Drafting Committee in parallel for the revision of the 9<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Declaration.
7. Republic of Korea expressed that, after reviewing the 19<sup>th</sup> SOM reports, two items are not duly incorporated into the agenda. Firstly, the previous SOM proposed the raising of the issue of the transition of FEALAC into a Summit, as well discussion of the Expert Group, to this 20<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting. Republic of Korea thus suggested that these items should be discussed during this 20<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting.
8. Dominican Republic duly noted Republic of Korea's suggestion and stated that Agenda Item 6 about the revision of the Santo Domingo Declaration includes the issue about the transition of FEALAC into a Summit, which would be discussed at the Drafting Committee.
9. The agenda was approved with Dominican Republic's proposed modifications. The modified agenda appears as Annex 2.

### **Agenda Item 3: Discussion of the relevant issues of the IX FMM.**

10. The minutes of the discussion of the Santo Domingo Declaration for the first session of the Senior Officials' Meeting appear as Annex 3.

### **Agenda Item 4: Official Photo.**

11. After the adjournment of the first session, the Official Photo of the Senior Officials Meeting was taken at the stairs of the Convention Center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic.
12. Dominican Republic began the second session, stating that given that the Business Innovation Forum must begin at 4:00 pm, a Draft Committee for the review of the Declaration will be held in another room in parallel. The minutes of the Drafting Committee meeting appear as Annex 4.

## Agenda Item 5: Considerations of the Working Group Reports (Working Group Co-Chairs).

### 13. Culture, Youth, Gender and Sports

The meeting was chaired by Indonesia and Ecuador. According to the list from FEALAC Cyber Secretariat, The CYGS WG received 10 national projects and 3 regional projects. 6 national projects have already been completed while the other 4 projects are still ongoing. 2 regional projects have already been implemented, and 1 is still ongoing.

According to the summarized reports, Panama will hold the Caribbean Games in 2022 and invites countries to take part. Viet Nam reported that they will continue the 9<sup>th</sup> Latin American cultural exchange. Argentina reported the project to promote translation of Argentinean works.

The Working Group also discussed ways in which it could be strengthened. Colombia highlighted the special nature of the working group and its ability to lead to better understanding between the working groups. Finally, the Working Groups reported that Indonesia and Ecuador would continue chairing the Working Group. The final working group report for CYGS appears as [Annex 5](#).

### 14. Trade, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs

The meeting was chaired by Republic of Korea and Argentina.

Republic of Korea invited a special expert who gave a presentation titled “Smart Tourism Cooperation” about the change in the tourism industry due to the increase of millennial who are familiar with technologies, and reported on the “2019 FEALAC TITM Seminar on Trade and SMEs” held in Seoul on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Overall, two national projects were carried out by Japan and People’s Republic of China and two regional projects were carried out by Argentina and Republic of Korea since the 5<sup>th</sup> TITM WG Meeting.

Proposals for new projects included Thailand’s holding of training programs for FEALAC countries in the area of the Working Group and Argentina’s regional project for sharing experiences on Electronic Phytosanitary Certification.

Republic of Korea and the Dominican Republic also proposed the “Guideline for FEALAC Cooperation Projects” to further enhance the working mechanism of the Working Groups. Republic of Korea and Argentina will continue chairing the Working Group. The final working group report for TITM appears as [Annex 6](#).

**15. Science, Technology, Innovation and Education (STIE)**

The meeting was chaired by Japan and Panama.

Both co-chairs took note of the fact that this Working Group has registered the largest number of projects. Japan reported that since the 5<sup>th</sup> STIE WG Meeting, 7 projects were completed or are in implementation, all of which are national projects.

New proposals included the “Global Campus” project by Argentina that aims to foster international movements of students, teachers, artists and researchers and Panama’s “Estudiar sin hambre” (Studying without hunger) program. Japan and Panama will continue to co-chair the Working Group. The final working group report for STIE appears as Annex 7.

**16. Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development**

The meeting was chaired by People’s Republic of China and Costa Rica.

The members of the Working Group presented the projects carried out from 2018 to 2019, which includes 10 national projects and 2 regional projects. In terms of regional projects, Argentina reported on the project for Expertise sharing for the Construction of Affordable and Sustainable Housing for Vulnerable Sectors and Thailand reported on the Workshops on Drug Law Enforcement Cooperation.

In terms of national projects, People’s Republic of China reported on the 2 projects they have carried out, including the “Bridge to the future” training camp for young leaders, which they reported will continue.

New proposals included Panama’s initiatives “Colmena”, about improving the quality of life of vulnerable communities; and “Studying without hunger”, with the objective that students in vulnerable communities may have nutrition available to them. In terms of regional proposals, Panama introduced a program for a logistical center for facilitating logistical cooperation in the case of natural disasters and Argentina introduced a city-level cooperation project about the utilization of bamboo for industrial use. People’s Republic of China and Costa Rica will continue to chair the Working Group. The final working group report for SPCSD appears as Annex 8.

**Agenda Item 6: Report on the FEALAC Trust Fund Steering Committee Meeting.**

**17. Republic of Korea reported on the FEALAC Trust Fund Steering Committee Meeting.**



Republic of Korea reported that as of November 4 2019, a total of 2,225,000 USD were contributed to the FEALAC Trust Fund from Lao PDR, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Peru, Thailand and Philippines. 961,995 USD have been assigned to the ongoing FEALAC-wide projects.

Republic of Korea also reported pledges pending to be received from Panama with amount of 100,000 USD. Additionally, new contributions from Costa Rica with amount of 5,000 USD, Chile with amount of 10,000 USD, and Dominican Republic with amount of 5,000 USD were reported.

The Republic of Korea will contribute additional 1 million USD to the FEALAC Trust Fund in follow up to its 2017 and 2018 contributions.

Peru and Republic of Korea were selected as co-chairs of the FEALAC Trust Fund for the term 2019 to 2021. The 4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of the FEALAC Trust Fund will be held back to back with the 21<sup>st</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting in 2020. In addition, the steering committee members agreed to hold an ad-hoc steering committee meeting on the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> Cyber Secretariat Workshop in the first quarter of 2020 tentatively.

### Agenda Item 7: Future activities of the Cyber Secretariat.

18. The Cyber Secretariat reported on their activities from 2018 to 2019. These included:
  - The hosting of the 9<sup>th</sup> Cyber Secretariat Workshop and the Interim Co-ordination Meeting,
  - Support for Special Meeting of Troika in Santo Domingo,
  - Support for the 20<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting and 9<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Santo Domingo,
  - The Submission of the "Guidelines for FEALAC meetings",
  - The follow-up of progress on the New FEALAC Action Plan,
  - Managing the database of the cooperation projects among FEALAC member countries,
  - Digital activities including updating the mailing list and management of Official social media.
19. Cyber Secretariat reported on the actions taken to promote the visibility of FEALAC:
  - The creation of the 20th Anniversary logo for use by Member Countries
  - Co-operating the FEALAC Supporters Program
  - Operating official FEALAC social media and publishing promotional publications such as Newsletters, Factsheets and etc.,

20. Cyber Secretariat plans to continue support in the following areas:
- Holding the 10<sup>th</sup> Cyber Secretariat Workshop in 2020.
  - Support of the official meetings in 2020.
  - Continuation of following-up on FEALAC cooperation projects.
  - Plans to promote FEALAC through social media, publication of documents, and a publicity project for FEALAC

#### **Agenda Item 8: Interim Report on the New FEALAC Action Plan.**

21. Dominican Republic reported on the activities that the Dominican Republic participated in in their capacity as Regional Coordinator, including the Special Troika Meetings and the Business Innovation Forum. Dominican Republic reported on the state of the FEALAC Trust Fund, including the projects being worked on with UN ECLAC and ESCAP. Dominican Republic introduced a plan for international communication to increase the visibility of FEALAC. Chile made the note that Chile is undergoing the process to start donating to the FEALAC Trust Fund. The complete interim report appears as Annex 9.

#### **Agenda Item 9: Future Meetings.**

22. Dominican Republic reported that the 21<sup>st</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting will be held in Santo Domingo in 2020. The 10<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting will be held in Asia in 2021, although it is not clear at this point which country will hold the meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 10: Designation of next Regional Coordinators and WG Co-Chairs.**

23. People's Republic of China and Costa Rica will remain as co-chairs of the Working Group on Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development. Indonesia and Ecuador will remain as co-chairs of the Working Group on Culture, Youth, Gender and Sports. Republic of Korea and Argentina will remain as co-chairs of the Working Group on Trade, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs. Japan and Panama will remain as co-chairs of the Working Group on Science, Technology, Innovation and Education.

#### **Agenda Item II: Other Matters.**

24. Cyber Secretariat explained the "Guidelines for FEALAC Meetings" and invited the Member Countries to adopt the document at this Senior Officials' Meeting. Member Countries approved the adoption of the "Guidelines for FEALAC Meetings". The approved Guidelines appear as Annex 10.

25. Cyber Secretariat reported on the fact sheets on Member Countries published by the Secretariat during the working year. They requested an official mandate for the publication of the fact sheets and the confirmation of data included in the fact sheets before the publication. They also requested that Member Countries allow the publishing of promotional publication without needing the consensus of all of the member countries. These requests were approved.

#### **Agenda Item 12: Review of the IX Foreign Ministers' Meeting Agenda.**

26. Dominican Republic explained the agenda for the 9<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 13: Approval of the report.**

27. The meeting approved the report of the 20<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting in Santo Domingo.

#### **Agenda Item 14: Closing of the meeting.**

28. The meeting concluded with words by His Excellency Hugo Francisco Rivera Fernandez and Mr. Virasac Somphong as co-Regional Coordinators for Latin America and East Asia, respectively. In their statements, they highlighted the Dominican Republic's successful holding of the 20<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting and the 9<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting as well as the achievements made by Member Countries during the Senior Officials' Meeting.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting

9 November 2019. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Dominican Republic & Lao PDR**
- Participated **32 Member Countries**:: East Asia (15) / Latin America (17)

### Main Results

- Adopted 'Santo Domingo Declaration' which reaffirms and emphasizes the importance of greater cooperation among FEALAC members as it reaches the 20th anniversary since its establishment
- Endorsed the "International Communication Plan" proposed by the Dominican Republic, which aims to enhance visibility of the FEALAC at the global level through specific strategies and actions
- Agreed to explore the possible organization of a FEALAC Special Commemorative Summit so as to promote greater dynamism, participation, and pro-activity of the member states in the Forum
- Encouraged the use of a voluntary alphabetical rotation system starting from the year 2021, in case there are no volunteers to serve as Regional Coordinators, in order to ensure a well-functioning leadership system in FEALAC
- Incorporated 'Climate Change' as another topic to be dealt with under the Socio-Political Cooperation, Sustainable Development Working Group
- Appointed Lao PDR and the Dominican Republic as interim regional coordinators until each region selects their next Regional Coordinators

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Heads of Delegation
- Agenda



## 9<sup>th</sup> FEALAC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  
November 9, 2019

### SANTO DOMINGO DECLARATION

*- 20 years: New Actions for a Better Future -*

#### Introduction

1. Recognizing the Forum for East Asia – Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) as a unique intergovernmental multilateral consultation space between the countries of East Asia and Latin America, which, since its creation in September 1999, FEALAC has encouraged new partnerships, and new opportunities for intercontinental cooperation. We, the Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegations of the member countries of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), met in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on 09 November 2019, with a view to strengthen the relationship between the two regions.
2. The 9<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held under the co-chair of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, as the FEALAC Regional Coordinator for East Asia, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, as FEALAC Regional Coordinator for Latin America.
3. We recognize the importance of the New FEALAC Action Plan to increase the effectiveness of FEALAC and the need to progressively review all activities that derive from them, in order to meet the development needs of the member countries.
4. Recalling the achievements of the eight previous Foreign Ministers' Meetings and recognizing the substantive discussion at the 9<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting, we adopt this Santo Domingo Declaration.
5. Therefore, in accordance with the priorities of member countries, in relation to the proposed measures and activities contained in the New FEALAC Action Plan, we decided to refer to the following aspects:

## Revision and update of the “New FEALAC Action Plan”

6. Since the adoption of the “New FEALAC Action Plan”, at the 8<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers’ Meeting held on 31 August 2017, this document has served to give an integral and functional meaning to the mechanism through its three pillars: strengthening FEALAC’s institutional framework, promoting Effectiveness of Working Groups and Projects, and enhancing partnership with Regional and International Organizations.
7. We acknowledge that the New FEALAC Action Plan is a living document that will continue to be reviewed and updated to reflect the newest developments of FEALAC. In this regard, we stress that changes in this plan should be done based on consensus among member countries, taking into account the 2030 Agenda and sustainable development.

## Strengthening the Institutional Framework of FEALAC

8. We reaffirm each member country’s efforts and commitment to strengthening FEALAC’s institutional framework, aiming at enhancing visibility of the forum and implementing activities within this mechanism under the guidelines of the New Action Plan adopted in Busan, Republic of Korea, on 31 August 2017.
9. We recognize the initiative of the Dominican Republic to develop the International Communication Plan to enhance the visibility of the FEALAC and to promote and strengthen the forum. The Plan should contain voluntary measures as well as specific strategies and actions that will contribute to FEALAC’s more prominent positioning at the global level.
10. In this regard, we continue to support, from our respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the activities and actions aimed at advancing the International Communication Plan. We instruct our Senior Officials to prepare a draft of the International Communication Plan for our consideration.
11. In this context, Ministers take note of FEALAC Supporters Program initiated by Republic of Korea in 2019, which is a promotion activity to increase public awareness of FEALAC, and share the view that the Program would be a useful point of reference for advancing objectives of the International Communication Plan.
12. We welcome the initiative for member countries to hold “FEALAC Day” – such as those that have been held by Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, Indonesia, Mongolia, Lao PDR and Thailand – as part of increasing the visibility of FEALAC to the public.

13. We take note of Thailand's efforts in introducing FEALAC to the public in Thailand by creating "Discover Latin America" – a free-of-charge mobile phone application in the Thai language to provide general information about individual Latin American countries as well as regional groupings, including FEALAC. In addition, we recognize Thailand is hosting an event to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of FEALAC to promote a better understanding among people of the two regions.
14. We appreciate the invaluable contribution that the Cyber Secretariat, hosted by the Republic of Korea, has made to FEALAC. We renew the request to member countries to make continuous and active cooperation with the Cyber Secretariat.
15. Moreover, in light of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we recognize the importance of revitalizing the institutional framework, including, among other issues, the structure, aiming for a more dynamic cooperation and closer coordination amongst working groups to promote greater visibility of FEALAC. In this regard, we request to continue to discuss this matter at Senior Officials' Meeting of 2020.

### FEALAC Special Commemorative Summit

16. We identify the need to promote greater dynamism, participation and proactivity of the member states. In this regard, we agree to explore the possible organization of a FEALAC Special Commemorative Summit, with the participation of our Heads of State/Government.

### Regional Coordinators' rotation system

17. We have recognized the importance of the early selection of Regional Coordinators to ensure a well-functioning leadership system in FEALAC in the latest meeting. In this regard, in case that there are no volunteers, we encourage introducing a voluntary alphabetical rotation system in the year 2021, starting with the letter A, with due regard to those who have served as regional coordinators or hosted Foreign Ministers / Senior Officials' Meetings. We encourage Latin American and East Asian countries to consider choosing their respective regional coordinators a few months ahead of FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meetings.
18. To allow the timely definition of the Regional Coordinators, consultations within the Latin America and East Asian groups on their respective candidates could be made via virtual means, followed by a silence procedure in order to verify consensus within both regions. The consensus on the regional

coordination for each region should be achieved on a previously agreed date before FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meetings.

### **Promoting the effectiveness and efficiency of working groups and projects**

19. We recognize the necessity of adopting a "Guideline for FEALAC Cooperation Projects" that prescribes, among others, the form, purpose, principle and procedure, etc., of all FEALAC Cooperation Projects in order that these may be implemented in a more systematic manner. In this regard, we recognize the need to hold a discussion on the draft "Guideline for FEALAC Cooperation Projects", which contains prescribed project procedures from project preparation to completion with a view to its ad referendum approval prior to or at the next Senior Officials' Meeting.

### **Strengthening bi-regional educational, cultural, tourism and socio-political relations**

20. We are committed to further promoting links and solidarity between all FEALAC member countries through public and cultural diplomacy, people-to-people exchange. In this regard, we consider the identification of inter-regional cooperation projects of voluntary participation, especially under the Working Group of Culture, Youth, Gender and Sports, to generate further dialogue, mutual knowledge, and cultural exchanges among the people of both regions.
21. In this regard, we recognize the importance of Expo 2023 Buenos Aires, Argentina, that will seek the development of "Creative Industries in the Digital Convergence", and we encourage the participation of the FEALAC countries and companies in the field in order to contribute with ideas and experience.
22. We recognize the need to strengthen tourism cooperation among the countries of the two regions by expediting tourism promotion and marketing activities and enhance connectivity among the tourism destinations and products aimed at boosting tourism growth between the two regions.
23. We are in favor of empowering women in different areas, such as social, foreign policy, employment and financial, and are committed to supporting projects which target the improvement of quality of life of women in both regions.
24. We take note of the proposal of creating the "FEALAC Games" or the "FEALAC Sports Festival" and look forward to its further detailing.



25. In essence, of promoting sports festival, we take into consideration that Panama will host the Central American and Caribbean Games 2022 and promote members of FEALAC to participate.

### Boosting partnerships with regional and international organizations

26. We favor the strengthening of the relations between FEALAC and other international organizations, in line with the matters of the Forum Action Plan, and take note of the efforts of the Dominican Republic that have allowed the presence of representatives of international agencies accredited to its government, in the recently concluded meetings.

### Achievements of the FEALAC Multi-Donor Trust Fund

27. We acknowledge the value of the FEALAC Multi-Donor Trust Fund, which was established at the 8<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting to support projects of inter-regional scope, and serves as the most effective channel in enhancing mutual understanding between East Asia and Latin America. We recommend member countries' continued support and cooperation in the FEALAC Fund to bring tangible benefits.
28. In this regard, we take note of FEALAC wide projects, "Reducing inequality in FEALAC member countries innovative policy-making that leaves no one behind" and "Value Chain Development for deeper integration of East Asia and Latin America" led by UN ESCAP and ECLAC, which are funded by the FEALAC Multi-Donor Trust Fund. We share the view that these projects can be catalysts for bringing FEALAC together in a harmonious way.

### FEALAC and Global Issues

29. We reaffirmed our strong support for multilateralism and regionalism with the UN as its center, as well as for the rules – based international order based on the principle of international law, mutual interests and mutual respect.

Also, in recognition of the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, stability, security and freedom of navigation and over-flight, we affirm our strong commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and universally recognized principles of international law.

### Trade

30. We recognize that trade expansion among FEALAC member countries serves not only to promote the prosperity of each country but also to help strengthen ties between the two regions. In the midst of global economic

slowdown, we emphasize the need for all countries to promote free trade and remove non-tariff barriers and continue to promote projects of cooperation under the working group of Trade, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs.

31. We believe that FEALAC is an important international forum to promote cross-cutting actions for both region. We, thus, reinforce our determination to enhance regional and sub-regional cooperation as well as deeper economic integration.
32. We welcome that the G20 Trade Ministers in Tsukuba delivered a robust message with a view to realizing a free, open, rules-based, fair, non-discriminatory, transparent, predictable and stable trade and confirm their willingness to work constructively with other World Trade Organization (WTO) Members to implement necessary WTO reform with a sense of urgency.
33. In this regard, we take note of 2019 FEALAC Seminar on Trade and SMEs, which was co-hosted by Republic of Korea and Argentina on September 18, 2019 under the theme of FEALAC's trade facilitation in the context of the Digital Economy.
34. We support the implementation of the Feasibility Project for the Establishment of a Virtual Bi-regional Centre for Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Development, approved by the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Foreign Ministers (Bali, 13-14 June 9<sup>th</sup> 2013), which is in the restructuring and refinement phase and we reiterate our disposition for it to be implemented in a timely manner.
35. We value the role of Chile as Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) host economy, as well as the four pillars presented as Chair to guide APEC 2019: Digital Society, Integration 4.0, Women and Inclusive Development, and Sustainable Growth. Particularly, we value the initiatives in favor of SMEs.

## Innovation

36. In order to generate inclusive and sustainable economic growth, contribute to poverty reduction and strengthen trade relations between the two regions, we acknowledge the importance of the first FEALAC Business Forum held in Bogota, Colombia, in 2012 and thereafter was subsequently supported by the 2<sup>nd</sup> FEALAC Business Forum in Bangkok, Thailand, in 2014 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> FEALAC Business Forum in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in 2017.
37. We commend the Dominican Republic for hosting the 4<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Business Innovation Forum on the margins of the 9<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting and 20<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting which has created opportunities

for business people from the two regions to exchange experience and knowledge about the use of technology and innovation to increase value for the business. We believe that this information-sharing session will pave the way for higher economic growth, thereby improving the welfare of the populations of both regions.

38. In this regard, we highlight the active participation of the private sectors and academia of the member countries should be emphasized for stronger connectivity and cooperation within FEALAC. We recognize the importance of interregional trade for promoting prosperity within FEALAC.
39. As digitalization is transforming every aspect of our economies and societies, we recognize the critical role played by the effective use of data, as an enabler of economic growth, development, innovation and social well-being. In this regard, we welcome the intention of the G20 leaders to promote international policy discussions to harness the full potential of data and digital economy to foster innovation as well as the launch of the “Osaka Track” to promote international policy discussions, inter alia, international rule-making on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce at the WTO.

### Environmental issues

40. We acknowledge the importance of multilateral cooperation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris Agreement.
41. We emphasize that measures to address marine litter, especially marine plastic litter and micro plastics need to be taken nationally and internationally by all countries in partnership with relevant stakeholders, when appropriate, to promote sustainable use and management of land, forest, marine and water resources. In this regard, we welcome and share the “Osaka Blue Ocean Vision”.
42. We congratulate Panama on hosting the Our Ocean Conference 2021 and encourage the participation of FEALAC countries.
43. We know that global issues that concern Latin America and East Asian countries, such as migration and climate change, are taken into consideration in current efforts such as the Comprehensive Development Plan with Central America (PDI), which has garnered bi-regional support.
44. We value Ecuador's initiative “Intercollegiate Bioregional Competition for the Construction of Maritime Consciousness, through the prevention, dissipation, reuse and recycling of maritime waste”, which should be formulated in order for experts in the collection of maritime to participate.

45. We also agree to give highest priority to projects and discussions on the issues of comprehensive disaster, risk management, environment and climate change, within the works of the existing “Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development Working Group”. In this regard, we decided to change the name of this working group to “Socio-Political Cooperation, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Working Group”.
46. We commend the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for the Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Region, adopted in June 2019 and the efforts of the 2019 “APEC Roadmap on Marine Debris”. We are also concerned about the increasing level of marine debris, especially marine plastic litter and micro plastics, and recognize that it is necessary for all countries to tackle this problem nationally and internationally.
47. We recognize Costa Rica for the success obtained in the Pre COP 25 held in San Jose From October 8 to October 10, 2019 and we value Chile’s decision to chair COP 25, as well as its leadership on working together for successful outcome of the Conference, and inter alia, for the promotion of our oceans.

### Sustainable and Inclusive Growth

48. We reaffirm our commitment to build sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth, and acknowledge our continuing efforts to build and implement effective economic measures to facilitate the sustainable and inclusive economy. We note that FEALAC, a unique platform that facilitates regional cooperation between East Asia and Latin America, can promote further efforts on North-South, South-South and triangular co-operations as a means to promote sustainable and inclusive growth.
49. We reaffirm our commitment to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA).
50. We also reaffirmed the need to promote high quality infrastructure in accordance with broadly accepted international principles to realize inclusive, sustainable and resilient economic growth.

## Closing

51. The next Foreign Ministers' Meeting will be held in 2021, and the Senior Officials' Meeting, in 2020, at a date determined by consensus.
52. We express our appreciation to the Dominican Republic, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Republic of Guatemala for having assumed the role of Regional Coordinators for the term 2017-2019 in an efficient manner.
53. Dominican Republic and Lao People's Democratic Republic will become interim Regional Coordinators for Latin America and East Asia, until the member countries select their next Regional Coordinators.

## Extraordinary Senior Officials' Meeting: Covid-19

26 November 2020. Video Conference

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Dominican Republic & Lao PDR**
- Participated **27 Member Countries** : East Asia (13) / Latin America (14)

### Main Results

- Presented notable experiences in the Management of COVID-19: Costa Rica, Korea, Singapore
  - (Presentation 1) Experiencias de Costa Rica ante la Emergencia Covid 19
  - (Presentation 2) Public Health Measures of COVID-19 Outbreak: Rep. of Korea
  - (Presentation 3) Singapore's Experience in the management Covid-19
- Presented Experiences current Situation and Post COVID-19 Economic Reactivation
  - (Presentation 4) Current Situation and Economic Recovery Post-COVID-19 in Latin America and Caribbean
  - (Presentation 5) Socioeconomic Impact of Covid-19 on Asia-Pacific Economic and Policy Responses

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex 1. List of Participants
- Annex 2. (Presentation) Experiencias de Costa Rica ante la emergencia Covid-19
- Annex 3. (Presentation) Public Health Measures of COVID-19 Outbreak\_Rep. of Korea
- Annex 4. (Presentation) Singapore's Experience in the management Covid-19 Conceptual note
- Annex 5. (Presentation) Current Situation and Economic Recovery Post-COVID-19 in Latin America and Caribbean
- Annex 6 & 7. (Presentation) Socioeconomic Impact of Covid-19 on Asia-Pacific Economic and Policy Responses



## **Report of the Extraordinary Meeting of Senior Officials: COVID-19**

26 November 2020. Video Conference

1. The Extraordinary Meeting of Senior Officials: COVID-19, of the Latin America-East Asia Cooperation Forum, celebrated on November 26, 2020, held by the Zoom platform.
2. The opening of the meeting was led by His Excellency Mr. Roberto Álvarez, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, who stated that a year ago was celebrated the “IX (Ninth) Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Relations Foreign Affairs” and the “XX (Twentieth) Meeting of Senior Officials” of this Forum. A year later, we meet again, but in sadly different circumstances. I express that practically every country in the world has suffered the devastating health, social and economic consequences caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

He indicated that this pandemic has highlighted the shortcomings of social protection systems around the world, showing their limits and deficiencies. I express that everything indicates that it will be the worst crisis in the last 50 years and experts point out that it could be understood as the greatest social and economic challenge that humanity has faced since World War II.

He reiterated that for Latin America and the Caribbean the health and economic impact threatens to destroy a decade of social progress, in the same way he expressed that ECLAC has already predicted a fall in regional GDP of 9.1%, while in the specific case of the Dominican Republic it will be 5.3%. In cruder terms, he indicated that this implies that in our region an increase in unemployment is estimated by 44 million people and an increase in poverty by 45 million, primarily impacting vulnerable groups such as youth, women, Afro-descendants and indigenous people.

The Minister expressed that facing the pandemic has been expensive and painful. The border closures and the reduction of economic activity were necessary measures, but they have caused serious damage in the economies and productive sectors of our countries.

In a world as globalized as the current one, solidarity and coordination between States is essential to stop, or at least slow down, this situation and get out of it, mitigating the economic and social consequences. Aware of this situation, the Dominican Republic, as Regional Coordinator for Latin America, has promoted a space for dialogue regarding these aspects.

He expressed that during the coordination meeting held last September, the proposal to hold this meeting was brought to the table, and it has been seen how the member countries have welcomed this idea with a very good opinion.

He indicated that the present delegations during the meeting can see first-hand models of success in containing the spread of the virus, and that they serve as a basis for generating impact policies in the countries of both regions.

He also thanked the exhibitors who accompany us during the meeting, such as Korea, Singapore and Costa Rica, for taking a space from their busy and important agendas, expressing that they are key axes in their countries in the fight against the pandemic.

In addition, he thanked the representatives of ECLAC and ESCAP, who also provided some insights on the most effective steps for cooperation in the post-covid economic recovery.

He indicated that the path to recovery in terms of social progress and well-being for people requires a great effort and mutual cooperation from the countries. Authorized voices such as President Carlos Alvarado of Costa Rica who have called for the creation of a “global Marshall Plan.”

The Dominican Republic has proposed to the Latin American and Caribbean region to explore the path of a regional investment fund based on South-South cooperation, which will allow a route to be traced towards the transition to economies that are more resilient to future pandemics and other threats like climate change, whose effects we are already experiencing. I express that the gravity of the situation forces us to innovate and think big.

To conclude, Minister Álvarez commented that this year we cannot focus primarily on the institutional development of FEALAC, it is always possible to obtain valuable initiatives from this important space. However, the Dominican Republic reaffirms its commitment to strengthen bi-regional relations, aware of the potential that this strategic association represents for the development of our countries and our societies in multiple critical areas for the recovery from this serious global crisis.

3. The Official Photo was taken.



4. The delegations were led by the Dominican Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Republic of Argentina, Negara Brunei Darussalam, Republic of Chile, Republic of Cuba, Republic of Korea, Republic of Indonesia, Republic of Paraguay, Republic of Suriname, Kingdom of Thailand, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Republic of the Philippines, United Mexican States, Republic of Guatemala, Republic of Costa Rica, New Zealand, Japan, Republic of Panama, Republic of Peru, Republic of El Salvador, Republic of Ecuador, Malaysia, Republic of Colombia, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Cyber Secretariat and as special guests ECLAC and ESCAP. List of participants Annex 1.

### **Agenda Item I: Presentation of Experiences in the Management of COVID-19.**

5. Ambassador Hugo Fco. Rivera Fernández, Vice Minister for Economic Affairs and International Cooperation of the Dominican Republic takes the word and recalls that interventions are of 15 minutes for each speaker.

The moderator indicated that due to connection and audio problems from the Dominican Republic, the first speaker was going to change, according to the order of the program.

6. The word was taken by Mr. Pedro González Morera, Vice Minister of Health of the Republic of Costa Rica, who began his career as a General Assistant Physician for external consultation. He is a doctor by profession and has a master's degree in Health Services Management. In addition, he has more than 20 years of experience working for the Ministry of Health and the Costa Rican Social Security Fund (CCSS). Presentation Annex 2.
7. The word was taken by Dr. Jong-koo Lee, Ambassador for Global Health Security of the Republic of Korea, who is a professor at the Seoul National University School of Medicine (SNUCM, Global Health and Community Medicine for the Hospital residence). Recently, he is managing a 3-year investigation for the promotion of the health of the elderly through community participation. He has been Ambassador for Global Health Safety since June 2020. Presentation Annex 3.
8. Dr. Derrick Heng takes the word, Director of the Public Health Group of the Ministry of Health of Singapore, who has the responsibility to monitor Communicable Diseases and Non Transmissible Diseases. His areas of work include public health policy and surveillance of the aforementioned diseases; public health aspects of pandemic preparedness and response; analysis of population health and provision of public health intelligence to support policy and planning; and international cooperation. Dr. Heng has been involved in

policy initiatives in the areas of HIV, TB, tobacco control, obesity, chronic disease screening and mental health in Singapore. [Presentation Annex 4.](#)

## **Agenda Item 2: Presentations “Current Situation and Post COVID-19 Economic Reactivation”.**

9. Vice Minister Rivera told the delegations that the speeches lasted 15 minutes for each entity and that they would give the floor to the exhibitors.
10. Mr. Zebulun Kreiter spoke. He is an Economic Affairs Officer at the Office of the Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, Chile, where he supports institutional initiatives and publications. Previously, Zebulun conducted research and helped develop analytical tools to support trade policy decision-making in Latin America and the Caribbean at ECLAC's International Trade and Integration Division. [Presentation Annex 5.](#)
11. The word was addressed by Ms. Sweta C. Saxena, Chief of the Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (ESCAP), currently on leave from the IMF to serve as Head of the Division for Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in Bangkok, Thailand. He led the 2019 ESCAP flagship report “Ambitions Beyond Growth” and the 2020 flagship report "Towards sustainable economies". At the IMF, she has worked on multilateral surveillance of the G20 countries, in the Research Department, and fragile countries in the African Department. [Presentation Annex 6.](#)
12. The word was taken by Ms. Van Nguyen, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), who has worked as a Sustainable Development Officer for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). It supports ESCAP initiatives and cross-cutting projects for the implementation, monitoring and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It also provides direct support to the UN ESCAP senior management in their contribution to the implementation of the UN Development system reform. [Presentation Annex 7.](#)
13. Vice Minister Rivera expressed that the support that we have always received from ECLAC and ESCAP in FEALAC has been transcendental to fulfill our role of being a bridge of opportunities for our countries, once again thank you for your interventions and for your willingness to work with us in the coming years with the post-COVID-19 economic recovery.

### Agenda Item 3: Questions and answers.

14. Vice Minister Rivera addresses his question to Mr. Zebulun Kreiter, Economic Affairs Officer, Office of the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). *“Being a well diversified economy, where it has affected us the most is the part of tourism, with an 8.5% reduction in tourism.” What recommendations would ECLAC make for countries like the DR that find themselves in this vulnerability?*
15. Mr. Zebulun Kreiter, responded that the priority is to reduce the impact of the pandemic on those who work in that industry, including employment protection systems for SMEs such as social security. In the long term, it is necessary to adapt to the new conditions, taking into account the sectors of the population that could return to travel sooner. Regarding interregional cooperation, he recommends paying attention to supply chains, seeking to ensure that industries have close partners.
16. Cambodia posed a question to Mr. Zebulun Kreiter, Economic Affairs Officer, Office of the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). *“According to the impact assessment, some sectors are affected and others are moderately affected by the pandemic,” so what would be the most appropriate economic recovery plan after the pandemic given a series of structural reforms put in place?*
17. Mr. Zebulun Kreiter replied that the correct answer depends on the interests of each country, as each country has different conditions in terms of fiscal space.
18. Malaysia posed a question to Dr. Derrick Heng, Director of Public Health at the Singapore Ministry of Health. *“Singapore continues doing periodic checks among foreign workers.” Who pays for these screening tests? Is screening mandatory or voluntary?*
19. Dr. Derrick Heng replied that periodic controls are carried out on some sectors of workers, he explained that the cost is borne by the government, and that it is justified that an outbreak of a port, for example, is very probable, for which tests are carried out periodically for early detection.

### Agenda Item 4: Closure of the meeting.

20. Ambassador Hugo Fco. Rivera Fernández, Vice Minister for Economic Affairs and International Cooperation of the Dominican Republic, expressed that he would like to thank the government and the Dominican people for the participation of all members in this meeting. He especially reiterated gratitude

to the exhibitors who have given us their experiences in handling this pandemic that affects us all with such care.

He expressed that we are going through difficult times, a time to unite and work together to recover from the social, economic and health ravages that this pandemic will leave behind.

He indicated that sharing knowledge and experiences in this matter is essential to overcome this terrible problem. He expressed that, today more than ever, FEALAC, as a space for dialogue between the regions of Latin America and East Asia, is becoming a transcendental mechanism.

He reiterated that the commitment is to continue with the dialogue to strengthen bi-regional relations, aware of the potential that this strategic association represents for the development of our countries and our societies in multiple areas, through cooperation.

He expressed that each of these meetings is a special occasion to generate valuable initiatives that contribute to alleviating the damage caused to families directly or indirectly affected by COVID-19.

Vice Minister Rivera appreciates the participation in this meeting and closes the meeting.

## 21<sup>st</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting

30 November 2021. Virtual Meeting

### Participants

- Co-chaired by **Dominican Republic & Lao PDR**
- Participated **29 Member Countries** : East Asia (14) / Latin America (15)

### Main Results

- Approved final reports of each Working Group
- Discussed matters associated with the New FEALAC Action Plan
  - Reviewed the implementation of the New FEALAC Action Plan
  - Reported the progress of FEALAC Fund
  - Discussed the Case Study for Selection System of the Regional Coordinators by rotation of member countries in alphabetical order
  - Discussed on creating the Expert Group Meeting (EGMs)
- Discussed any other matters
  - Commended efforts for proposal of FEALAC Day
  - Suggested for future discussion on setting up permanent FEALAC Secretariat

Please refer to [the annex documents below](#) for more detailed information. The documents can be downloaded from the FEALAC official website scanning the QR code below.

### Annex List

- Annex 1. List of Delegates
- Annex 2. SOM Agenda
- Annex 3. CYGS Working Group Final Report  
TITM Working Group Final Report  
STIE Working Group Final Report  
SPCSD Working Group Final Report
- Annex 4. Trust Fund Project Summary Report
- Annex 5. Report on Activities and Future Plans of the Cyber Secretariat
- Annex 6. Draft Concept Note on the Rotation System of Regional Coordinators
- Annex 7. Draft Concept Note commented by Mexico and Argentina



## Report of the 21<sup>st</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting

30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 via virtual meeting

The 21<sup>st</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the Forum for East Asia - Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was virtually held on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.

The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Kingphokeo PHOMMAHAXAY, Director General, Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SOM Leader for the Lao PDR and Madam Gisselle ROGRIGUEZ FLORIMON, Head of the Bilateral International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, representing Ambassador Hugo RIVERA, Vice Minister for Economic Affairs and International Cooperation of the Dominican Republic, SOM Leader for the Dominican Republic.

The Meeting was attended by FEALAC SOM Leaders and delegation from the following 29 member countries, UN ESCAP and ECLAC, and FEALAC Cyber Secretariat.

- **East Asia:** Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.
- **Latin America:** Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.
- The list of the delegates appears as Annex 1.

### Agenda Item I: Opening Remarks by Regional Coordinators

Mr. Kingphokeo PHOMMAHAXAY, Director General, Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SOM Leader for the Lao PDR expressed his warmest welcome to all delegates from FEALAC member countries to the 21<sup>st</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting via virtual manner. In his statement, he emphasized that since its inception in 1999, the FEALAC mechanism has provided a regular and comprehensive channel of communication between Asia and Latin America, which significant progress has been made over past years, including the development of

New FEALAC Action Plan and the FEALAC Multi-Donor Trust Fund from the 8<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM) held in Busan in 2017, the establishment of the FEALAC Fund Steering Committee in January 2018 in Seoul, Republic of Korea as well as the regular holding of the FEALAC Troika prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite these remarkable progresses, the complex regional and international environment, including the emerging and unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, has forced many of FEALAC's planned events and activities to be postponed. The Lao PDR, on the other hand, extend his appreciation to the Dominican Republic and the Cyber Secretariat for their efforts in organizing several FEALAC activities, particularly the Special FEALAC SOM in November 2020 and the 11<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop in September 2021. He also highlighted that to further institutionalize FEALAC cooperation and advance the FEALAC process, it is essential to focus on the mechanism for rotating regional coordinators. To this end, he urged all member countries to fully engage in the discussion and provide constructive feedback to this 21<sup>st</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting.

Madam Gisselle ROGRIGUEZ FLORIMON, Head of the Bilateral International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, and Alternative SOM Leader for the Dominican Republic delivered her remarks and thanked the Lao PDR for convening the Meeting and all member countries for their participation today. She is convinced that this Meeting will provide the development of initiatives, which allow us to continue strengthening this vital Forum by developing ideas, facilitating collaborative innovative activities and projects, and generating the necessary synergies. Lastly, she sincerely hopes that the comprehensive initiatives that arise from this scenario will contribute to strengthening the efforts of this Forum as well as deepening relations between the two regions in order to improve general well-being regardless of any circumstances.

## Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Agenda

The Meeting considered and adopted the agenda, which appears as Annex 2.

## Agenda Item 3: Follow up the FEALAC Activities after the 9<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting

### 3.1. Consideration of four Working Group Reports

1. **Socio-Political Cooperation, Sustainable Development, Climate Change (SPCSDCC)**



The Meeting took note of the report presented by China and Costa Rica, Co-chairs of the Working Group on Socio-Political Cooperation, Sustainable Development, and Climate Change.

Since the 9<sup>th</sup> FMM, 11 national projects have been implemented or are still ongoing, and 2 new projects have been presented in the SPCSDCC working group, which involves think tank exchanges, youth development, public health, environmental protection, gender equality, and other fields.

China will host new sessions of the International Conference on “East Asia-Latin America Research Partners Dialogue” and the China-Latin America Youth Development Forum in 2022.

## **2. Trade, Investment, Tourism, MSMEs (TITM)**

The Meeting took note of the report presented by Argentina and Republic of Korea, Co-chairs of the Working Group on Trade, Investment, Tourism and MSMEs.

Since 2017, Argentina and Australia have been carrying out three consecutive biannual projects in the field of Electronic Phytosanitary Certification (e-Phyto).

Republic of Korea, the Co-chair of the Working Group on Trade, Investment, Tourism, and MSMEs (TITM), stated that in 2020-2021, there was only one national project identified as a TITM Working Group project: “FEALAC Online Talk Concert (Republic of Korea)”, which was held in November, 2021 introducing Latin America as an attractive tourist destination to the Korean public.

New proposal of Regional Pilot Project between Argentina, Australia and Guatemala in 2021 on EPhyto and trade modernisation project, which aims to enhance the technical support for GeNS countries in Latin America and Asia/Pacific Automatic Treatment monitoring and Traceability cooperation.

## **3. Culture, Youth, Gender, Sports (CYGS)**

The Meeting took note of the report and recommendations presented by Indonesia and Ecuador, Co-chairs of the Working Group on Culture, Youth and Gender, Sports.

There are 8 completed national projects, which includes 3 projects from Indonesia and 5 projects from Korea involving wide range of areas such as youth, women entrepreneurship, FEALAC celebration and the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition of FEALAC Cyber Secretariat, and so on.



There is 1 completed regional project on East Asia-Latin America Cultural Exchanges in Hue Festival, Viet Nam in 2020.

There are 3 new national projects from East Asia Region to be carried out in 2022, including (1) the East Asia and Latin America Cultural Exchange in Hue Festival and (2) Network of FEALAC Cultural Cities proposed by Viet Nam, and (3) the FEALAC Journalists' Visit Programme proposed by Singapore.

#### 4. **Science, Technology, Innovation, Education (STIE)**

The Meeting took note of the report represented by Panama and Japan, Co-chairs of the Working Group on Science and Technology, Innovation, Education.

There are 2 registered national projects from Panama, which comprise of (1) The Center for Biodiversity and Drug Discovery (CBDD) with the aims of sharing the experience of CBDD scientists in the planning, writing and execution of scientific research projects, and (2) The virtual platform of the Regional Humanitarian Assistance Logistics Center (CLRAH) for strengthening the facilities of the Knowledge Transfer Center as an instance of knowledge, training, skills development, and Exchanging experiences in logistics and humanitarian assistance in the Mesoamerican Region and the Caribbean.

Japan launched "Juntos!!" program to promote people-to-people exchanges between Japan and LAC countries and to encourage understandings of various aspects of Japan among participants, including 1) *Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and Caribbean Exchange Program Alumni Event* and 2) *Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program for the group of CARICOM*. In addition, Japan initiated the implementation of programs within the FEALAC framework to strengthen relationships between Asia and the LAC areas, which included 1) *The FEALAC 2020 Young Leaders Program* and 2) *The FEALAC 2021 Young Leaders Program*. Apart from that, there is a SATREPS initiative, which is a Japanese government program aimed at promoting international collaborative research. The program strives to address global issues and lead to research outcomes of practical benefit to both local and global society, based on the needs of developing countries. The following programs were included: 1) *Establishment of an Integrated Forest Management System for the Conservation of Andean – Amazon Mountain Forest Ecosystems*, 2) *Project for the Development of an Integrated Expert System for the Estimation and Observation of Infrastructure Damage Levels in the Lima Metropolitan Areas*, 3) *Creating a Local Value Chain on Digital Infrastructure*

by *Optimizing Cattle Microbial Flora and Grass-land Management*, and 4) *Numerical Weather Prediction and Warning Communication System for Densely Populated and Vulnerable Cities*. Also, Japan shared the projects implemented by Brunei Darussalam and the Philippines within the framework of STIE, which are “FEALAC University Discovery YEAR (FUDY)” and “Philippine International Quincentennial Conference (PIQC)” respectively.

*(The summary report of 4 working groups appears as [Annex 3](#).)*

### **3.2. Update on FEALAC Trust Fund**

The Meeting was updated on the 2 FEALAC-wide projects, which was implemented from January 2018 to December 2020 as follows:

- *The Value Chain Development for Deeper Integration of East Asia and Latin America*, which was budgeted USD 455,390 (for both ESCAP and ECLAC’s share, aimed to improve availability of data and the capacity of national institutions in FEALAC countries to develop evidence-based industrial and trade policies.
- *The reducing inequality in FEALAC Member Countries-innovative policy-making that leaves no one behind*, which was amount of USD 461,605 (for both ESCAP and ECLAC’s share), aimed to increase policymakers’ competence in FEALAC member countries to identify, prioritize, and design effective policies to reduce inequality.

The Meeting was informed of a new project proposal for 2021: *Leveraging Cross-Border E-Commerce for Inclusive and Sustainable Post-Pandemic Recovery in Southeast and East Asia and Latin America*, which is projected to cost USD 606,528.

*(The summary report appears as [Annex 4](#).)*

### **3.3. Reports on activities and future plans of the Cyber Secretariat**

The Meeting was briefed by the Cyber Secretariat on its activities and future plans, including the 11<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop, which was successfully convened on September 15, 2021 under the theme of “10 Years of FEALAC Cyber Secretariat: Revisiting and Moving Forward”, which recognized the importance of the Cyber Secretariat in the FEALAC mechanism, while also sharing thoughts and ideas on how to improve the FEALAC’s roles and functions in the future. Another remarkable activity of the Cyber Secretariat is the publication of the FEALAC Project Book, which compiles information on notable projects of FEALAC members with the hope that it will serve as a way to commemorate the legacy of FEALAC projects

that have been implemented to this day. The Cyber Secretariat also hosted the “FEALAC Cyber Secretariat 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition” from November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, which depicted the history and notable events of the Cyber Secretariat as well as an overview of the FEALAC. Furthermore, the Cyber Secretariat hosted social media events throughout the year, allowing a diverse audience to participate in FEALAC events. Overall, the Cyber Secretariat has used its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary to promote FEALAC while also providing opportunities for FEALAC members to discuss and share ideas on improving FEALAC’s mechanisms and institutionalization in order to revitalize FEALAC for the post-pandemic era.

Future plans for the FEALAC process were also presented at the Meeting, with a focus on the following four areas. (1) The Cyber Secretariat will enhance its efforts to become an integral part of the FEALAC mechanism by strengthening its function as a facilitator and a communicator to serve as an important body for increasing the visibility and relevance of FEALAC. (2) In this respect, the Cyber Secretariat will contribute to promoting FEALAC’s institutionalization and revitalization through constructive research and publication. The “Guidelines for FEALAC meetings” and “FEALAC Project Book” are two examples of how the Cyber Secretariat hopes to contribute to the systemization and revitalization of FEALAC through these efforts. (3) Furthermore, the Cyber Secretariat will actively promote FEALAC on the global stage through the online platform. In this connection, the Cyber Secretariat will ensure that publications and relevant information are electronically available through the FEALAC website to enhance the ease of use as well as regular publishing of social media content to make FEALAC more accessible and approachable. (4) Finally, the Cyber Secretariat will continually explore for opportunities to participate in FEALAC activities and will reach out to and collaborate with international organizations, private sectors, and other related bodies to increase FEALAC’s relevance and reputation.

The Meeting praised the excellent work and contribution of the Cyber Secretariat to the development of FEALAC, and expressed gratitude to the Cyber Secretariat.

*(The summary report appears as Annex 5.)*

#### **Agenda Item 4: Discussion on selection of future regional coordinators by rotation of Member Countries’ alphabet order**

The Chairman elaborated that the Lao PDR has been a Regional Coordinator for East Asia since 2017 and has actively carried out duties and responsibilities

in its capacity as Regional Coordinator, including the organization of the 19<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting and relevant Meetings held in November 2018 in Vientiane and the virtual 21<sup>st</sup> FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting as well. Therefore, it is appropriate time to make the transition of the position to other member countries and the Lao PDR is currently looking for a volunteer country to take over this position for the next term. Taking into account there is no volunteer country, Lao PDR has proposed an initiative of the draft Concept Note on the Rotating Mechanism of Regional Coordinators, with the aims to improve a better system that would support the early selection of incoming regional coordinators and encourage all member countries to actively participate in strengthening institutionalization of the FEALAC framework to become more tangible and profound, which the draft Concept Note was circulated to all member countries for consideration prior to the Meeting.

In this regard, the Meeting took note with appreciation of the draft Concept Note proposed by the Lao PDR, which a number of member countries expressed their concurrence with the comments made by Mexico and Argentina prior to the Meeting and make other comments and suggestions on this matter. Taking into account some member countries are not ready to serve as the next Regional Coordinator in the coming years for a number of reasons with domestic circumstances, the selection of Regional Coordinators should be based on the FEALAC principles of openness, voluntariness and consensus.

For the next step, the Lao PDR, as the Chairman of the Meeting and Regional Coordinator for East Asia, will work closely with the Dominican Republic as Co-chair of the Meeting and Regional Coordinator for Latin America as well as the Cyber Secretariat and other member countries to incorporate all comments and suggestions made by member countries at the Meeting and any comments that member countries may submit to the Lao PDR into the Second Draft of the Concept Note. In conclusion, the Meeting agreed to establish the Ad-hoc Working Group, as proposed by Lao PDR, to jointly work and continue discussion on the Second Draft of the Concept Note for consensus and finalization in order to submit it to the next FMM for official adoption.

*(The Draft Concept Note proposed by Lao PDR appears as Annex 6 and the Draft Concept Note commented by Mexico and Argentina appears as Annex 7.)*

### Agenda Item 5: Discussion on preparation for the 10<sup>th</sup> FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Lao PDR will consider hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM), either virtual manner or physical manner only if the situation is allowed. Given that all expected agenda items to be discussed at the Meeting, particularly the selection of the next regional coordinator, can be reached by consensus prior to the next FMM.

### Agenda Item 6: Other Matters

There were no any other matters to be discussed at the Meeting.

### Agenda Item 7: Closing remarks by Regional Coordinators

The Co-chairs expressed appreciation to all FEALAC member countries for their active participation and constructive discussion that have contributed to the successful conclusion of the Meeting.

발 간 등 록 번 호

11-1262000-000307-11



FEALAC

Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation