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9th FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic)

The 9th FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM) was held on November 9, 2019 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, under the theme "20 years: New Actions for a Better Future". The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministers and delegations from 32 FEALAC member countries, and representatives from UN ESCAP and ECLAC. The meeting served as a vital chapter to strengthen the institutional framework of FEALAC as well as to promote mutual and sustainable growth between East Asia and Latin America by fostering FEALAC cooperation.



The 9th FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held on November 9, 2019 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic under the theme "20 years: New Actions for a Better Future". For the first session, foreign ministers and delegations discussed the future of the FEALAC in light of its 20th anniversary. Especially, ministers and delegations acknowledged the untapped potential of FEALAC as a unique forum that connects two of the most growing regions in the world. In order to revitalize FEALAC, members stressed the importance of the institutionalization of FEALAC and the enhancement of bi-regional cooperation to promote sustainable and inclusive growth.

During the second session, UN ECLAC and ESCAP made presentations on ongoing FEALAC-Wide projects: "Reducing inequality in FEALAC member countries" and "Value Chain Development for deeper integration of East Asia and Latin America". Ministers took note of these projects and expressed that these projects can be catalysts for connecting FEALAC together in a harmonious way while addressing some of important issues that FEALAC members are facing. On this note, Ministers and delegations urged continued support and cooperation in the FEALAC Trust fund to bring tangible benefits and outcomes. (cont.)

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Furthermore, at the Foreign Ministers' Meeting, ministers and delegations endorsed the recommendations made by the 20th FEALAC Senior Officials' Meeting, and adopted the "Santo Domingo Declaration". The Santo Domingo Declaration included crucial contents to strengthen the institutional framework of FEALAC and addressed international and global issues. Some of the key contents include: revision and updates of the New FEALAC Action Plan, exploring the possibility of the FEALAC Special Commemorative Summit, introduction of a voluntary alphabetical rotation system for the selection of Regional Coordinators starting from the year 2021, discussion of the Guideline for FEALAC Cooperation Projects, and an incorporation of 'Climate Change' topic into the existing "Socio Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development Working Group" to address the global climate issue. Ministers and members expressed their sincere appreciation to the Dominican Republic, the Lao PDR and the Republic of Guatemala for their roles as Regional Coordinators for the term 2017-2019, the leadership of the Working Group Co-chairs, and the support from the Cyber Secretariat.

* The Santo Domingo Declaration and other documents of the Meeting are available at the official FEALAC website.

20th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic)

The 20th Senior Officials' Meeting was held on November 8, 2019 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and was co-chaired by H.E. Hugo Francisco Rivera Fernández, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Economic Affairs and international cooperation for the Dominican Republic and Mr. Virasac Somphong, Acting Director General of the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lao PDR.



The 20th Senior Officials' Meeting was attended by delegates from 32 member countries, UN ESCAP and ECLAC, and FEALAC Cyber Secretariat. The main agenda of this meeting was to discuss the contents of the Santo Domingo Declaration. Afterwards, delegates approved 4 working group reports presented by each working group co-chairs. Republic of Korea, as a co-chair of the FEALAC Trust Fund Steering Committee reported the status and the future plan of the FEALAC Trust Fund, and announced that Peru and Korea were selected as Co-chairs of the steering committee for the term 2019 - 2021. Furthermore, Cyber Secretariat reported their activities from 2018 to 2019 along with a future plan for increasing the visibility of FEALAC and continuing support for the FEALAC mechanism.

* Final SOM Report and documents of the Meeting are available at the official FEALAC website

FEALAC Day Celebration

The 1st FEALAC Day was celebrated in various member countries during the first week of September 2019. We thank our members for their active participation in the event and we look forward to diverse events and celebration plans for the 2nd FEALAC Day next year.

Republic of Korea & Cyber Secretariat

- FEALAC Supporters Program comprised of local university students that promoted 20th anniversary of FEALAC and the celebration of the first FEALAC day

Argentina

- Official press release to celebrate the first FEALAC day and 20th anniversary of FEALAC

Cambodia

- Lecture series at the National Institution of Diplomatic and International Relations of Cambodia to Cambodian young diplomats

China

- A special seminar where participants discussed the history of FEALAC and opportunities/challenges faced by cooperation between East Asia and Latin America

Costa Rica

- A special conference regarding cultural exchange and diplomacy between East Asia and Latin America

Indonesia

- Exhibition and Talk-shows with the theme of "Maximizing Potential among FEALAC Youth Across Pacific and Atlantic Ocean"
- Workshop and a visit to the FEALAC Youth center

For further details, please find the "News" tab on the official FEALAC website

Announcements

FEALAC Events

✧ 10th FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop

- Date: TBD (around first half of 2020)
- Venue: Republic of Korea
- Other details are soon to be announced through diplomatic channels and Cyber Secretariat.

Meetings in 2020

- ✧ Interim Coordination Meeting (alongside 10th Cyber Secretariat Workshop)
- ✧ Ad-hoc Fund Steering Committee Meeting (alongside 10th Cyber Secretariat Workshop)
- ✧ 21st SOM
- ✧ 7th WG Meeting
- ✧ 4th Fund Steering Committee Meeting

FEALAC Website

✧ Request for Updates

- We kindly ask our members to **update project information for any new or ongoing projects**
- We also kindly ask our members to **complete the project review survey** for projects that are finished.
- Project review survey can be found under the "Focal Point Zone" tab
- Please let us know **your government's links for the respective topics under the "topic" tab** (i.e. under the "culture" topic, let us know your Ministry of Culture's link so that we can update the info in the official website).

If there is any update on focal point contact, please let us know through our email: fealac@mofa.go.kr

FEALAC Newsletter

The FEALAC Newsletter aims to enhance communication among FEALAC member countries through dissemination of information on the activities of FEALAC and the Cyber Secretariat. The articles contained in this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official views of FEALAC and the Cyber Secretariat. We welcome readers' comments and suggestions. Any inquiries about this Newsletter should be addressed to: fealac@mofa.go.kr