

**Memorandum of Understanding Between
The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
And
The Government of the People's Republic of China
On Cooperation in the Field of Non-traditional Security
Issues**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Government of the People's Republic of China, (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties");

DESIRING to strengthen the friendly cooperation among the Parties;

PURSUANT to the Joint Declaration of ASEAN and China on Cooperation in the Field of Non-traditional Security Issues adopted on 4th November 2002;

DETERMINED to enhance cooperation in the field of non-traditional security issues among the Parties, including in support of the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint as it relates to non-traditional security issues;

Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1
Objectives**

The Parties shall develop practical strategies in accordance with their national laws and regulations to enhance the capacity of each individual country and the region as a whole in dealing with such non-traditional security issues as terrorism, trafficking in illegal drugs, people smuggling, trafficking in persons especially women and children, arms smuggling, sea piracy, money laundering, international

economic crime and cyber crime, and other non-traditional security issues as mutually agreed by the Parties.

Article 2

Areas of Cooperation

The Parties have identified the following fields of common interest for mid and long-term cooperation:

1. Information Exchange
 - a. The Parties shall establish a compilation of their national laws and regulations pertaining to such fields as mentioned in Article 1;
 - b. The Parties shall establish a collection of international conventions pertaining to such fields as mentioned in Article 1, to which they are parties, and a collection of bilateral agreements signed among them where appropriate;
 - c. The Parties shall, subject to their respective national laws and policies, exchange intelligence information on the non-traditional security issues referred to in Article 1; and
 - d. The Parties shall, subject to their respective national laws and policies, exchange information on special equipment and techniques applied in dealing with the non-traditional security issues referred to in Article 1.
2. Personnel Exchange and Training
 - a. The Parties shall promote personnel contact and exchange among their law enforcement/related officers and experts;
 - b. China shall organise workshops to promote exchange of law enforcement experiences among the Parties in combating terrorism, trafficking in illegal drugs, people smuggling, trafficking in

persons, sea piracy, international economic crime and arms smuggling;

- c. China shall hold training courses to upgrade the level of capacity of each Party and the region as a whole in drug control, forensic sciences, including computer or digital forensic, immigration administration, anti-money laundering and counter terrorism financing, road traffic control and the investigation of financial crime, international economic crime and cyber crime. To ensure the quality of the training courses, China shall invite regional and international experts to give lectures; and
- d. The Parties shall promote exchange and cooperation among institutions.

3. Law Enforcement Cooperation

- a. The Parties shall encourage and offer each other the fullest law enforcement cooperation possible in accordance with their respective national laws and policies, and on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit; and
- b. The Parties shall promote cooperation in accordance with their national laws in such fields as evidence gathering, tracing of crime proceeds, apprehension and repatriation of criminal fugitives and return of crime proceeds; and encourage each other to enter into bilateral legal arrangements therein.

4. Joint Research

- a. The Parties shall support the joint research by their experts and scholars in the field of non-traditional security issues, and share the results of research between them; and
- b. The Parties shall organize exchange of visits for experts in relevant fields.

5. Other activities agreed upon by the Parties according to their national laws and policies.

Article 3 Implementation

1. The Parties agree that the implementing agencies for this Memorandum of Understanding are:
 - a. The relevant national agencies of the ASEAN Member States; and
 - b. The Ministry of Public Security for the People's Republic of China.

The implementing agencies of the Parties assisted by the ASEAN Secretariat shall determine through consultation the details, schedule and arrangements for the implementation of the cooperation provided in this Memorandum of Understanding, and country coordinator shall serve as coordinators for such cooperation.

2. ASEAN welcomes China's participation in the ASEAN cooperation pertaining to the fight against transnational crime, including the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime and its Work Programme.

3. The Parties shall hold meetings at working level once every year to exchange information on implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, to brief each other on the progress of cooperation under various mechanisms, and to discuss the plans for future cooperation.

Article 4 Financial Arrangements

1. Expenses of workshops, training courses and other activities organised by China in accordance with this Memorandum of Understanding shall be covered by the Chinese side, including meals, accommodation and local transportation for the participants sent by ASEAN Member States during their stay in China and fees for inviting experts,

while the expenses of international travel shall be covered by the sending countries, except when it is agreed otherwise.

2. Expenses on other workshops and training courses organised by governments of Member States of ASEAN and other activities mentioned in this Memorandum of Understanding shall be discussed and agreed upon by the Parties.

3. The activities mentioned in this Memorandum of Understanding shall be conducted subject to the availability of funds and personnel of the Parties.

Article 5 Confidentiality

1. Information, document, data, equipment or technology received in accordance with this Memorandum of Understanding shall not be disclosed or distributed to any third party except to the extent as authorised in written form to do so by the country providing it.

2. In the event of termination of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties have agreed that the provisions of this Article shall continue to apply.

Article 6 Suspension

Each Party reserves the right for reasons of security, public order or public health to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding. Such suspension shall take effect immediately after notification has been given to the other Party through diplomatic channels.

Article 7

Revision and Amendment

The Parties may request in writing a revision, amendment or modification of all or any part of this Memorandum of Understanding. Any revision, amendment or modification shall be mutually agreed upon in written form by the Parties and shall form an integral part of this Memorandum of Understanding. Such revision, amendment or modification shall come into force on such date as may be determined by the Parties.

Article 8

Settlement of Dispute

Any dispute or differences arising out of the interpretation/ implementation/application of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through consultation/ negotiation between the Parties without reference to any third party.

Article 9

Entry Into Force, Duration and Termination

1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect on the date of its signing and shall remain in force for a period of 5 years, with the possibility of renewal, subject to the agreement of both Parties.

2. Each Party may give written notice to the other of its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding. Such termination shall be effective thirty (30) days after written notification has been given to the other Party. The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the implementation of ongoing activities/programmes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorised by the respective ASEAN Member States and the People's

Republic of China, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

Done at Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia, this Eighteenth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Nine, in two original copies in English Language.