



**ASEAN
MAYORS
FORUM**

5th ASEAN MAYORS FORUM

*DRIVING LOCAL ACTIONS
FOR SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH*



26 - 28 August 2019, The United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, Thailand

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FOREWORD

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



The dynamic cities of Asia-Pacific are cornerstones of realising the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Analysis by ESCAP shows that our region needs to accelerate progress against more than 80 per cent of the SDG targets. In this context, most of the SDGs intersect in cities, and 65 per cent of all SDG targets require local actors or an orientation toward urban stakeholders. These realities illustrate the need to empower local governments to play catalytic parts and advance partnerships for sustainable growth and development.

Currently, more than 50 per cent of the population live in urban areas in the ASEAN region, and an additional 70 million will live in ASEAN's cities by 2025. Because much of this population growth is increasingly concentrated in intermediate cities rather than mega-cities, the urbanisation issues of mid-size cities will be at the centre of achievement of the SDGs. In view of this, climate change has become the most defining factor in this region. ASEAN is home to many low-lying and coastal cities housing millions of residents, who are especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change, including rising sea levels, temperature rise and increased numbers of natural disasters. Climate change takes away hard-won development gains by our societies and local communities.

In order to tackle these challenges, we must take action in four areas. First, strengthen urban planning to leverage multiple benefits across a range of issues, resulting in transformed and resilient societies in our region. Second, build resilience in cities through nature-based solutions, climate and disaster-resilient action plans and strengthening partnerships to build connected local communities for harnessing productivity gains and inclusive growth. Third, leverage smart city solutions and deploy technologies that not only improve efficiency of government, but provide transparency, promote citizen engagement and capitalise on private sector and market opportunities. Fourth, focus on means of financing sustainable urban development process, especially in smaller cities, to build much-needed infrastructure including transport, trade, energy and ICT.

Through these actions, ESCAP and the United Nations family stand ready to work with ASEAN mayors to achieve sustainable development by 2030 in Asia and the Pacific.

Dr. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana

Executive Secretary

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)



FOREWORD



SECRETARY GENERAL

The 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum marked a milestone for all of us. We held it with vigour after having received accreditation as an entity associated with ASEAN, an achievement for all local governments in Southeast Asia.

With the theme “Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth” and in line with Thailand’s ASEAN Chairmanship, the 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum contributed to addressing the challenges in the region by framing our discussions in the context of Digital ASEAN, Seamless ASEAN, and Sustainable ASEAN. This proceeding captures these discussions and documents the efforts of ASEAN Mayors in pursuing both the ASEAN Vision and global agenda for sustainable development.

On behalf of UCLG ASPAC and the AMF Secretariat, I express our deepest gratitude to the Government of Thailand, the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration for hosting this event. I would especially like to sincerely thank H.E. General Anupong Paochinda, Minister of Interior of Thailand, Pol. Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang, Governor of Bangkok, Dr. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, the UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP, H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola, Ambassador of the European Union to Thailand, and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPRs) and other partners for their support.

Our efforts do not end here. We will see to it that our commitments in the 5th ASEAN Mayors Declaration and the Joint Declaration of ASEAN-ROK Mayors on the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations will be realised.

We all have a dream for ASEAN – to create one ASEAN Community that does not leave anyone behind. Together, we can make it happen.

Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi

Secretary General

ASEAN Mayors Forum / United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific

FOREWORD

GOVERNOR OF BANGKOK



I am very pleased and honored to have the opportunity to welcome ASEAN mayors, representatives of local governments, diplomatic corps and all honourable participants in the 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum in Bangkok.

It is our policy to play active role in international arena in order to increase Bangkok's capacity and competitiveness, through relations with our sister cities and collaboration with partners around the world. Our aim is to create development opportunities in all dimensions, to make Bangkok a strong capital city and important vehicle for Thailand's development.

The 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum, was held between 26-28 August 2019 at the UN Conference Centre, in collaboration between Bangkok, city organisations, local governments and the UN Economic and Social Committee of Asia and the Pacific under the theme "Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth." This was not only a great opportunity for representatives from the cities of ASEAN Member States, international organisations, diplomatic corps and other participants to exchange knowledge and experience on local development, which is the level that is closest to the people. It also demonstrated Bangkok's foreign policy that gives importance to city-level cooperation so we can be a driving force for national and regional development. This people-centred approach would lead to prosperity, strength and sustainability of the ASEAN Community in accordance with the principle of "Cooperation, Unite, Progress, Sustainability."

I would like to thank our partners for joining us in organising this event and all other institutions for your participation and support. I was very pleased to welcome ASEAN Mayors and honourable guests in Bangkok. I hope that all the participants experienced warmth and friendliness throughout their stay and had a chance to absorb the culture and way of life, with memorable experience.

Pol. Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang
Governor of Bangkok

THE 5th ASEAN MAYORS FORUM



▶ INTRODUCTION TO THE 5th ASEAN MAYORS FORUM

The ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) was originally conceived in 2011 when visionary mayors in Southeast Asia met for the first time in Surabaya, Indonesia, to demonstrate the importance of local contributions to ASEAN's regional integration. The role of local governments has been enhanced due to the wide recognition that at least 60 per cent of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set under the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development cannot be achieved without actions at the local level. The particular dynamics of urbanisation further calls for ASEAN mayors' active work to prevent and mitigate its adverse consequences.

Among the key issues facing ASEAN is the need to sustain economic development without compromising environmental conditions and worsening inequalities. The Asia-Pacific SDGs

Progress Report 2017 points that the region has not successfully reduced inequalities and, in fact, is the only sub-region with widening inequalities. Adding to these challenges is that the on-going urbanisation will expose more people to natural disasters. In 2030, ASEAN's citizens who live in extreme risk areas will likely increase by 50 per cent, as compared to 2015.

The AMF has been advocating for local governments' indispensable roles and contributions to the ASEAN and global development, notably the UN SDGs, the New Urban Agenda (NUA), the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR). The 5th AMF served as a platform for discussions among ASEAN's local political leaders, national policy makers, international development partners



Mayors from ASEAN Member States pledged their commitment to work together towards sustainable development and inclusive growth at the 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum, organised in Bangkok, Thailand, 26-28 August 2019



and other experts, on how cities and local governments can collaborate in the priority areas set forth for ASEAN's SDG implementation as well as other relevant frameworks to address urbanisation challenges.

In line with Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship, the 5th AMF was held in Bangkok and contributed to the overarching theme of the Chair country: Advancing Partnership for Sustainability. The event was jointly organised by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), the United Nations Economic Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) and supported by the European Union (EU) and participated by various other organisations.

The 5th AMF aimed at Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth to support ASEAN's efforts to accelerate SDGs achievements while ensuring effective management of urbanisation, protecting environment and inclusive growth. The meeting discussions were framed by the following sub-themes: Digital ASEAN (future-oriented), Seamless ASEAN (enhanced connectivity), and Sustainable ASEAN (sustainability in all dimensions).

Almost three-hundred and fifty participants, including mayors, governors and representatives from ASEAN cities and local governments participated in the Forum. The event was successfully concluded with the adoption of the *ASEAN Mayors' Declaration on Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth*, which outlines concrete areas for further collaboration among ASEAN Mayors. The *Joint Declaration of the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Mayors on the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations* was also adopted to mark the 30th Anniversary of the bilateral relations, while underlying the importance of local level cooperation on this partnership.

AMF in the Context



From its establishment 52 years ago, ASEAN is now one of the major global players and recognised for its vital strategic importance. ASEAN's population has almost doubled over the last four decades, reaching 642.1 million in 2017. The Association is collectively ranked as the world 5th largest and Asian 3rd largest economy. ASEAN's economies remained robust despite uncertainties in the regional and global economies. GDP growth for 2018 stood at 5.2 per cent, with forecasted growth of 4.9 per cent for 2019. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows to ASEAN reached a record high, from \$123 billion in 2016 to \$137 billion in 2017.

Along with this remarkable economic progress is a steady movement of people to urban environment. As millions are relieved from poverty, at least 90 million more, especially the growing middleclass, are expected to move to urban areas by 2030. This projection does not only require significant investment on infrastructure, but also calls for stronger improvement of social conditions. Climate change has become more and more pressing issue as ASEAN is facing challenge in sustaining economic development without compromising environmental conditions.

Furthermore, there is an important connection between climate change and ASEAN's vulnerabilities to natural disasters. Over 1,500 disasters were recorded in the region in 2018 alone. Climate change impacts such as sea-level rise, extreme drought and flood will escalate this risk, especially in the highly populated areas. A single catastrophic event can undo the progress ASEAN made in several decades, in addition to the loss of life. The detrimental effect of not investing in environmental protection and resiliency will not only be on the economic side, but also societal and political structures.

In September 2015, all UN 193 Member States unanimously adopted the global agenda that lists 17 global goals, with the aim of making transformative impacts at the global level by 2030. Building on its clout, ASEAN has set a goal to build a regional community that is inclusive, people-centred that leaves no one behind, including by "Promoting Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development." Other cooperation frameworks have been elaborated to accelerate the achievement of SDGs and sustainable urban development.

While it takes all parties to make this happen, local governments play crucial roles among others. Without their active cooperation, ASEAN will fall short in its efforts to address major challenges such as urban problems and climate change. Future-oriented ASEAN must entail the region's preparedness to cope with urban dynamics, through its competitiveness and effective use of technical advances. There is a growing recognition that ASEAN's initiatives cannot be realised without effective involvement of cities and local governments. Networks

such as the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) are important catalyst for ASEAN's efforts to build an inclusive community. AMF can help ASEAN harness local opportunities, ideas and advantages as local governments are ideally placed to mobilise local communities, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders be part of the transformative agenda.

Further beyond the region, ASEAN's strategic international partnership should include cooperation at local level. City-to-city exchanges are essential components for the much-needed improvement of SDGs localisation. Decentralised cooperation, including in private section, are crucial in promoting practices of SDGs localisation, urban development know-how as well as mutual learning among cities and local governments.

WHY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS?

There are three (3) broad roles of local governments:



They provide the voice, leadership and strategic vision for their community.



They provide or organise local public services essential for people's well-being.



They act as catalyst and drivers for the local development process.

HIGHLIGHTS

The 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) successfully concluded in Bangkok, Thailand, with more than three hundred fifty participants including one-hundred and thirty mayors, governors and representatives of cities and local governments taking part in this year's Forum. The gathering came at a critical time as ASEAN member states need to accelerate their work in various areas if the region is to get back on track in realising the SDGs and other global development agendas.

The event was organised in the framework of Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship, and in partnership that truly reflected local-regional-global coalition for sustainable development. The Forum was jointly conducted by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC), the United Nations Economic Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), and supported by the Ministry of Interior of Thailand, the European Union (EU) and participated by almost twenty other organisations.

Discussions focused on how ASEAN cities and local governments can connect with various ASEAN's cooperation such as A Framework for

Action: Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 (MPAC); the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN); and the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS). The meeting also explored how AMF can meaningfully contribute to these frameworks in order to achieve the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 that leaves no one behind.

First day of the AMF started with a panel discussion on *ASEAN's Path Towards SDGs & Sustainable Urban Development*, followed by group discussions on the three main themes of Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship namely: Sustainable ASEAN (sustainability in all dimensions); Digital ASEAN (future-oriented); and Seamless ASEAN (enhanced connectivity). Fifty-five prominent figures, a majority of which were Mayors, took part as speakers that led interactive discussions. A special briefing session on the Global Covenant of Mayors for Energy and Climate (GCoM) was conducted by the EU to explain about GCoM initiative in Southeast Asia (GCoM SEA), launched last year in collaboration with UCLG ASPAC that also serves as GCoM SEA Secretariat and its Help Desk.



ASEAN Mayors in a group picture with H.E. General Anupong Paochinda, Minister of Interior of Thailand; Pol. Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang, Governor of Bangkok; Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) / Secretariat of the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF); Dr. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); and H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola, Ambassador of the European Union (EU) to Thailand

The 5th AMF successfully concluded with the adoption of the ASEAN Mayors' Declaration on Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth, which outlines concrete areas for further collaboration among ASEAN Mayors. The Joint Declaration of the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Mayors on the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations was also adopted at the event to mark this auspicious occasion and in the coming up of the Commemorative Summit to be hosted by Busan in November this year. Both sides are now working to identify follow-up actions to realise the vision set out in the first ASEAN-ROK Mayors Joint Declaration.



ASEAN Mayors jointly read the ASEAN Mayors' Declaration on Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth for the adoption.

ASEAN Mayors' Interface Meeting with Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) to ASEAN

To better connect ASEAN's work at the regional and local level, the first interface working lunch meeting between ASEAN Mayors and Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN, was hosted by BMA to exchange about their work and discuss potential areas where they can support each other in order to accelerate the implementation progress of ASEAN's cooperation frameworks and ensure that the benefits are triggered down to local level. As AMF has received the accreditation from ASEAN as the first local governments entity affiliated with ASEAN, there are opportunities that AMF can gain.



Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) to ASEAN visited the Forum and held an interface meeting with Mayor representatives to discuss how the work to promote sustainable development at the local and regional levels can complement each other.

ASEAN Mayors' Field Visit in Bangkok

On the last day, ASEAN Mayors conducted a technical visit, welcomed by Pol. Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang, Governor of Bangkok and Mr. Kriangyos Sudlabha, Deputy Governor of Bangkok. The participants first visited the Museum of Siam Discovery to appreciate the national identity and history of Thai people and their relationships with neighboring countries, through a series of interactive exhibits. Another site visited was Sanam Chai MRT Station, designed by a prominent architect to showcase unique cultural landscapes and was built to resemble a Rattanakosin-style stateroom.



Pol. Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang, Governor of Bangkok welcomed ASEAN Mayors during the technical visit to the Museum of Discovery.



ASEAN Mayors' group picture with Mr. Kriangyos Sudlabha, Deputy Governor of Bangkok, during the technical visit to the Sanam Chai MRT Station

Snapshot of Welcome Reception



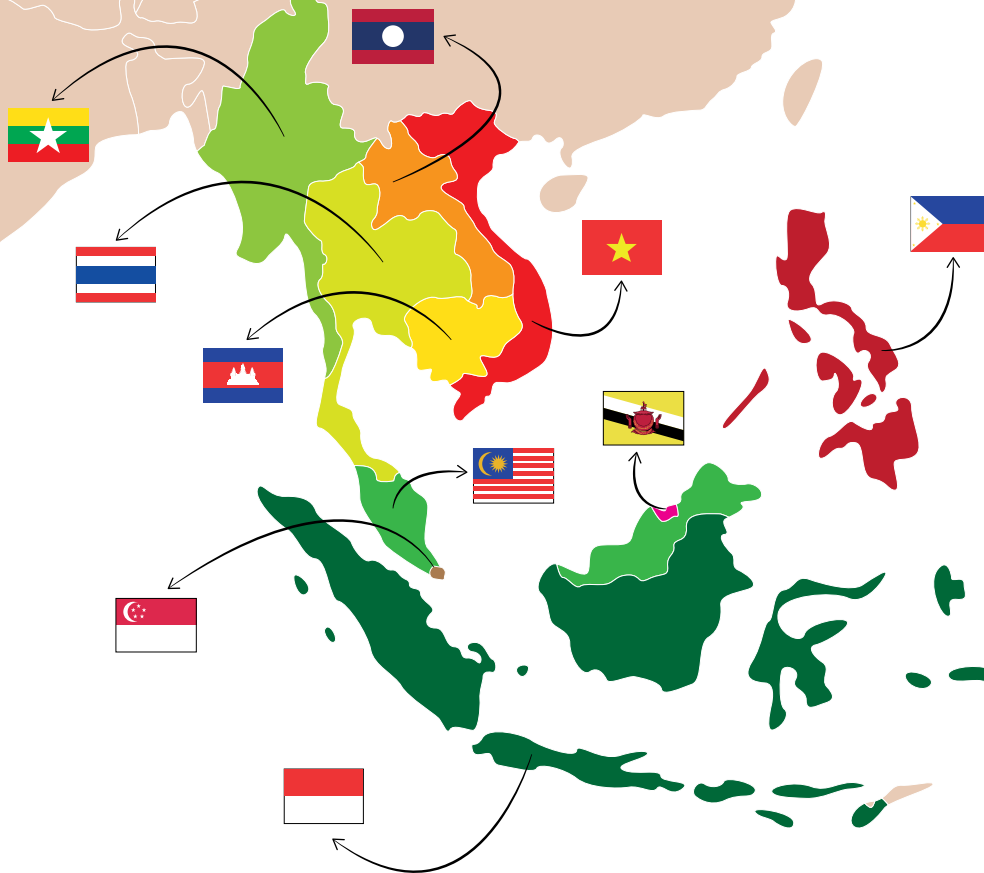
Participants enjoyed culinary and cultural performance during dinner reception welcomed by Mr. Kriangyos Sudlabha, Deputy Governor of Bangkok.



ASEAN UNITED FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH



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Cities represented at the 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum, Bangkok, Thailand, 26-28 August 2019



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Cambodia	➤	Russey Keo Municipality, Phnom Penh
		Kratie Municipality, Kratie Province
		Siem Reap Municipality, Siem Reap Province
		Kors Krolor District, Battambang Province
		Poipet Municipality, Banteay Meanchey Province
		Serey Sophorn Municipality, Banteay Meanchey Province
		NLC Women and Children's Affairs Committee

Indonesia	➤	Gorontalo
		Pacitan
		Batu City
		Salatiga
		Makassar
		Yogyakarta City
		Bogor City
		Padang City
		Tanjung Pinang

Lao PDR	➤	Luang Prabang Province
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Malaysia	➤	Seberang Perai Municipal Council
		Subang Jaya
		Kuala Lumpur
		Alor Setar City Council
		Melaka State
		Alor Gajah
		Ampang Jaya Municipal Council
		Kuala Selangor Municipal Council
		Tawau Municipal Council
		Kuantan Municipal Council
		Penampang District Council, Kampong Bharu

Myanmar	➤	Yangon City
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Nepal	➤	Jagannath Rural Municipality
		Jugal Rural Municipality

Philippines	➤	Naga City
		Batangas Province
		Local Government Unit of Vigan City
		Local Government Unit of Tabaco City
		Lucena City
		City Government of Baguio
		Dumaguete City
		Catbalogan City Government
		Lucena City

Singapore	➤	North East District
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South Korea	➤	Busan Metropolitan City
		Daejeon Metropolitan City

Thailand	➤	Bangkok
		Chiangrai
		Chiangmai
		Trang
		Rayong
		Nonthaburi
		Had Yai
		Phuket
		Yala
		Udon Thani
		Nakhon Phanom
		Phangnga
		Roi Et
		Lamphun

		Saraburi
		Sukhothai
		Nong Khai
		Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya
		Saen Suk
		Khao Pragman
		Nakhon Sawan
		Nadi
		Nadee, Nan
		Khon Kaen
		Yasothon
		Lampang
		Thungsong Municipality
		Hat Siao
		Map Ammarit
		Thamakhuea

Vietnam	➤	Cao Lanh City People Committee
		Hong Ngu Town City People Committee
		Nam Dinh City People Council
		Thanh Hoa city

▶ OPENING SESSION



Distinguished speakers during the opening ceremony. From left: Secretary General of the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) / Secretariat of the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF); Pol. Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang, Governor of Bangkok; H.E. General Anupong Paochinda, Minister of Interior of Thailand; Dr. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); and H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola, Ambassador of the European Union (EU) to Thailand.

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The 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) was inaugurated by H.E. General Anupong Paochinda, Minister of Interior. Minister Anupong Paochinda elaborated the importance of locally-focused development in his opening remarks stating that “Local government is the level that is closest to the people, resources and has the best knowledge of people’s needs and problems. If local governments adopt the SDGs as a framework for empowerment at the local level, this would help raise awareness among citizens and foster the linkages between local and international development efforts.”

Pol. Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang, Governor of Bangkok, extended his warm welcome remarks to all the participants and stated that “the 5th AMF which is organised under the theme Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth does not only serve as a platform for ASEAN Mayors and their partners to exchange and discuss their local development experience, but also demonstrates BMA’s commitment on international cooperation to strengthen local governments’ position and capacities in enhancing sustainable development at all national and regional levels, with people at the centre for the development process.”



H.E. General Anupong Paochinda, Minister of Interior officially inaugurated the 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum.

In her welcome remarks, Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC/AMF highlighted that “The world is not on track in achieving the SDGs. This is a critical concern that we need to address in ASEAN. As local government networks we can play a key catalyst role in fostering ownership from all stakeholders at local level. We can address inequality through inclusive service provision that do not only build on high technology, but also take into account our traditional knowledge and respect to local culture.” Dr. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, the UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP further noted during the opening session that “Alongside national governments, cities have been active promoters

and implementers of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. From Bangkok to Bandung, it's high-time for mayors to take centre stage as part of key solution providers if we are to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

The remarks were also delivered by H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola, Ambassador of the European Union to Thailand, who outlined common challenges and opportunities that European and ASEAN Cities are facing. He called on local governments to ensure that policies are planned according to data and scientific evidence. Ambassador Pirkka Tapiola urged the Mayors that "You must engage all stakeholders in their design and implementation to achieve inclusive and equal sustainable urban development for all citizens. The sessions planned for these next two days are a privileged space. You have the chance to gather, to share and learn from each other, to compare challenges, and to rethink policies and actions with citizens at their centre."



The participants stood up for the ASEAN anthem during the opening ceremony.



From left: Ms. Krisel Lagman-Luistro, Mayor of Tabaco and SDGs Focal Point of the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP); Mr. Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District, Singapore; Ms. Somjai Suwansupana, Mayor of Phuket, Thailand; and Mr. Phan Van Thuong, Chairman of People's Council of Cao Lanh City, Viet Nam



From left: Mr. Boontham Lertsukekasem, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Interior, Thailand; Mr. Chayachai Saengin, Director of Foreign Affairs Division, Ministry of Interior, Thailand; Mr. Pitiphon Photai, Inspector, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand; Mrs. Silapasuai Rawisaengsun, Permanent Secretary for the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration; Dr. Vallop Suwandee, Chairman of Advisors to Governor of Bangkok; Mr. Kriangyos Sudlabha, Deputy Governor of Bangkok; Mr. Sakoltee Phattiyakul, Deputy Governor of Bangkok; Mr. Sopon Pisuttiwong, Deputy Governor of Bangkok.



From left: Mr. Say Kosal, President of the National League of Local Councils of Cambodia; Mr. Mahyeldi Ansharullah, Mayor of Padang, Indonesia; Mr. Soukan Bounnhong, Vice Governor, Luang Prabang Province; Ms. Noraini Binti Roslan, Mayor of Subang Jaya, Malaysia and Dr. Maung Maung Soe, Mayor of Yangon, Myanmar

DISCUSSIONS

Panel: ASEAN's Path Towards SDGs & Sustainable Urban Development

Speakers of this panel were: (i) Dr. Suriya Chindawongse, Director-General of Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand; (ii) Dr. Maung Maung Soe, Mayor of Yangon, Myanmar; (iii) Mr. Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District, Singapore; and (iv) Ms. Norliza Hashim, CEO of Urbanice, Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Malaysia. The panel was moderated by Mr. Stefanos Fotiou, Director, Environment and Development Division, UN ESCAP.

The panel started with the rationale and progress of ASEAN's efforts to promote sustainable development. Dr. Suriya Chindawongse explained the background of the ASEAN's discussions on its regional initiative to promote SDGs, emphasising the principle of complementarity. It is essential that the work of ASEAN is anchored with what being done at local and national levels. Based on this philosophy, ASEAN has adopted a framework for action on Enhancing Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (referred to in short as Complementarities Initiative). The framework identified five cross-cutting priority areas as catalysts for the region's sustainable development namely; 1) Poverty Eradication; 2) Infrastructure and Connectivity; 3) Sustainable Management of Natural Resources; 4) Sustainable Consumption and Production and; 5) Resilience. Adding value to existing initiatives in member states at both local and national levels is a philosophy underpinning this Complementarities Initiative.

"It is essential that the work of ASEAN is anchored with what being done at local and national levels. Based on this philosophy, ASEAN has adopted a framework for action on Enhancing Complementarities between the ASEAN Community"

Dr. Suriya Chindawongse, Director-General of Department of ASEAN Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand



From left: Mr. Stefanos Fotiou, Director, Environment and Development Division, UN ESCAP; Dr. Suriya Chindawongse, Director-General, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand; Dr. Maung Maung Soe, Mayor of Yangon, Myanmar; Mr. Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District, Singapore; and Ms. Norliza Hashim, CEO Urbanice, Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Malaysia.

Thailand has been appointed as a coordinator for ASEAN's sustainable development, and will soon launch the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue, as part of the country's contribution. The Centre will support ASEAN Member States' sustainable development through research and dialogues with various stakeholders including cities. On the latter, Dr. Suriya stressed the importance of connecting the initiatives within the region such as the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN), as well as outside the region with dialogue partners since they are all inter-connected to sustainable development goals.

Dr. Maung Maung Soe, Mayor of Yangon, discussed his city's efforts to promote SDGs by focusing on a cluster of priority area: access to water, promotion of SMEs, sustainable industrialisation, innovation and infrastructure. He noted that there are only three mayors in Myanmar (Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay) and their partnerships with regional and international on SDGs is very crucial.

With regard to Yongon's aim to pursue SDG 11, in order to make the city inclusive, safe and resilient, the Mayor discussed the challenges related to growing population in the city as more people are moving in for better job opportunities. However, the situation should also be regarded as an opportunity for stronger labour force and source for development if well managed. In addition to this, there is a need to promote sustainable production and consumption, including of safe and healthy food products.

Mr. Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District, focused his presentation on Singapore's approach on SDGs, with people at the centre. The country's fundamental belief is that there is no single model that fits everyone, so the country must learn and adapt to fit their prevailing national and local circumstances. Every citizen counts in Singapore's sustainable development, and for this reason, the country has come up with various initiatives including Singapore's Together Movement to mobilise people, as the best available resource, to be part of the national development. This has been done through significant investment in education, starting from pre-school children to retirees as well as people with special needs. Support is provided to enable citizens' access to quality education, productive employment and decent work. Singapore has also focused on helping people adapt and respond to disruptive technology in order to provide certainty for their jobs. Particular attention is paid to senior citizens, including through the establishment of Silver Zone, where various types of data are used to analyse and develop measures to mitigate road accident risks. Senior citizens are further encouraged to engage in life-long learning process, reflecting Singapore's philosophy of making everyone matter throughout their life cycle.

Ms. Norliza Hashim, CEO of Urbanice of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government of Malaysia, discussed the country's urbanisation and its importance to economic development.



Panel discussion on ASEAN's Path Towards SDGs & Sustainable Urban Development took stock of ASEAN's existing and upcoming initiatives to promote SDGs and sustainable urban development, analysed the progress made and the challenges present, and identified opportunities for closer connection between the implementation at regional, national and local levels.

Malaysia has been an urbanised country since 1990 and the trend continues as more than 78 per cent of the country is currently urbanised. Furthermore, city areas contribute to almost 50 per cent of the GDPs. The situation stimulated a lot of discussion on how to balance between rural and urban developments, while ensuring responsible management of resources and consumption. Three main challenges were identified in Malaysia's efforts on SDGs. First, policy soloes persist despite efforts in joining up policies and programmes. There is a strong need to link up various areas namely housing affordability, planning and transport, economic development, public health and infrastructure development. Secondly, different levels of governance and the lack of synergies divide approaches and implementation of social, environmental and economic policy. Policy remain at high levels and cities, with limited funds and capacity, find it difficult to implement certain policies such as on livability, climate change mitigation, sustainability and social cohesion. Lastly, there is a need to foster common goals and interests among public, private and civil society. New alliances are needed to reconcile needs and resources.

Breakout Session: ASEAN's Actions and Initiatives

Sustainable ASEAN: SDGs Localisation and the Way Forward

The Speakers of this breakout session were: (i) Mr. Atsadang Wisetwongsa, Acting Mayor of Nadee, Thailand; (ii) Mr. Marten Tahan, Mayor of Gorontalo, Indonesia; (iii) Mr. Nelson S. Legacion, Mayor of Naga, Philippines and (v) Ms. Dewanti Rumpaka, Mayor of Batu City, Indonesia. The session was moderated by Mr. Curt Garrigan, Chief of Sustainable Urban Development Section, UN ESCAP.

The session focused on the challenge of localising the SDGs, stemming from the government centralisation, lack of authority and limited funding. Local governments find themselves without autonomy and authority, hence limited resources and capacity to plan, implement and engage with stakeholders. Moreover, Mayors face a lack of coordination and collaboration among city, provincial, and national levels – as well as other stakeholder groups. There is also a need for disaggregated data to support systematic planning. Among the biggest challenges for local governments is to identify proper local and feasible technology that can provide real solutions as well as the ways to mobilise financial resources for sustainable development.



Breakout session to discuss the complementarities between ASEAN Vision 2025 & UN 2030 Agenda, progress on SDGs localisation and how to accelerate the progress.

Going forward, the speakers stressed the need for key guiding principles for local decisions. The panelists noted the importance of good governance including evidence-based decision making as well as an environmental and ecological stewardship. They advocated for a more inclusive and whole-of-society approach, engaging multiple stakeholders and working with national ministries and planning agencies. Mr. Atsadang Wisetwongsa, Acting Mayor of Nadee, elaborated that his municipality regards the principles for good governance as fundamental to solve various problems and shared that during 2019-2021, the city will receive support from ESCAP to implement the project “Localising the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Urban Resources Management (SURM) in Nadee, Samuth Sakhon, Thailand.” Some strategic areas of intervention include the formation of the Nadee Sustainable Development Committee and strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships to promote circular economy.

“SDGs are useful because they provide a comprehensive framework that facilitate the communications across sectors and governmental departments. The SDGs targets and indicators also facilitate measuring progress and allow for benchmarking for national and international comparisons.”

Mr. Nelson S. Legacion
Mayor of Naga, Philippines

Mayors pointed out the need to prioritise local planning process as a key entry point to localise the SDGs. They can do so by connecting the existing local land use plans and long-term urban development plans to national development plans, using the SDGs frameworks/targets/

indicators as tools to increase dialogue among government agencies and stakeholders. Mr. Nelson S. Legacion, Mayor of Naga, shared that SDGs are useful because they provide a comprehensive framework that facilitates the communication across sectors and governmental departments. The SDGs targets and indicators also facilitate measuring progress and allow for benchmarking in national and international comparisons. However, Naga still faces some main challenges including the elaboration of voluntary local reporting and to guarantee the buy-in by local chief executives.

In addition, there is a need to define local priorities and develop investment programmes that are aligned with local and national plans.

The discussion emphasised the importance of mainstreaming international agendas through existing institutional procedures and organisational culture of public sector, instead of creating additional mechanisms. On this note, Ms. Dewanti Rumpaka, Mayor of Batu City, presented the strategies that her City undertakes in localising the 2030 Agenda. The implementation of these strategies was possible through the alignment of local projects to the SDGs targets and indicators and multi-stakeholder engagement. Some key lessons learned include the need to be culturally sensitive when localising the SDGs, to make use of the interrelated nature of SDGs to leverage progress, and develop programs aligned with the principle of leaving no one behind.

Challenges for localising SDGs identified by Mayors

- Mobilisation of resources/financing for sustainable development;
- Government centralisation and lack of funding. Local governments receive limited percentage of the tax revenue from central government;
- Local governments lack enough autonomy and authority, resulting in low capacity to plan, implement solutions and engage stakeholders;
- Lack of communications and alignments between different levels of government to find integrated solutions. The silo mentality that “this is not my problem” undermines the planning and implementations of solutions for complex problems;
- Lack of collaboration between government levels - city, provincial, and national level – and between stakeholder groups;
- Political realities of election cycles;
- Lack of disaggregated data to support systematic planning;
- Challenge in identifying proper local and feasible technology that can provide real solutions.

Breakout Session: ASEAN's Actions and Initiatives

Sustainable ASEAN: SDGs Localisation and the Way Forward

The speakers of this breakout session were : (i) Mr. Say Kosal, President of the National League of Local Councils of Cambodia (NLC), Cambodia; (ii) Mr. Soukan Bounnhong, Vice Governor of Luang Prabang, Lao PRD; (iii) Mr. Veerawat Paknikorn, Mayor of Yasothorn, Thailand; and (iv) Dr. Junichi Fujino, Principal Researcher, Program Director, City Taskforce, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan. The session was moderated by Ms. Atty. Shereen Gail Yu-Pamintuan, Executive Director at the League of Cities of the Philippines.



"Collaboration between cities is the key to deliver effective SDGs results. Greater emphasis must be also placed on enhancing the capacity of local government officers, especially in assessing, monitoring and reporting on progress of SDGs."

Ms. Atty. Shereen Gail Yu-Pamintuan,
Executive Director at the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP)



Mr. Say Kosal, President of the National League of Local Councils of Cambodia (NLC), Cambodia and Mr. Soukan Bounnhong, Vice Governor of Luang Prabang, Lao PRD discussed localising SDGs in their constituencies.

The session emphasised the importance of the local-scale implementation of the SDGs and reflected on the variety of SDGs frameworks and implementation across the countries. Mayors pointed that localising SDGs lead to push for multi-sectoral development at the local level. For instance, Luang Prabang succeeded in achieving local development in various area while pursuing SDGs including on health, education, water, energy, infrastructure and environment. Local finance was duly highlighted during the discussion as a barrier to localisation of SDGs.

A positive path towards SDGs follow-up and reporting where cities stand on the achievements of SDGs, is the setup of the world's first Voluntary

Local Review (VLR) online platform. As a matter of fact, many cities among the five continents are now involved in the platform, from Los Angeles to Buenos Aires. It serves as a way to showcase local governments actions on the SDGs, as a complement to the Voluntary National Review (VNR) process. So far, only Japanese cities participate among the Asian continent. Dr. Junichi Fujino shared that through IGES's work, Voluntary Reviews are also being undertaken with SMEs engaging the private sector. Lastly, the panelists ensured that the local level can be more ambitious than the national level. Locally determined contributions like Malaysia's high targets in the area of climate change is a good example.

During the session, Mayors put forward their recommendation that local authorities are crucial in the implementation of SDGs, although experience has to be developed and institutions strengthened. They recommended to prioritise

the improvement of collaboration and experience sharing between cities and foster the effective delivery of SDGs results. It was also suggested that local governments can play a leading role public procurement. This would also help increase local economic productivity. Moreover, Mayors assured that even in Least Developed Countries, significant

steps can be achieved at the local level in terms of SDGs, from poverty alleviation to biodiversity protection. To address the financial obstacle for the realisation of projects at the local level. The discussion concluded that creativity can be used as a tool to diversify the sources of income.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Develop SDG mechanisms at both national and local levels to provide platforms/channels for local governments to help strengthen collaboration with national government.
- Collaboration between cities is the key to deliver effective SDGs results. Collaboration consists of technology, experience and lesson-learnt shared between cities including through city-to-city exchanges.
- Greater emphasis must be placed on enhancing the capacity of local government officers on SDGs, especially in assessing, monitoring and reporting on progress.
- The use of media/social media could be better applied in helping to disseminate key messages regarding the SDGs.
- Voluntary Local Reviews can provide useful insights and inputs towards national development processes.
- Local level can be more ambitious than national level, especially in appreciating the local environment.
- Youth in ASEAN are interested and can contribute to harmonisation at the political community level.
- ASEAN city networks such as the ASEAN Mayors Forum, ASEAN SDG Frontrunner Cities Programme and ASEAN Smart Cities Network are essential to ensuring the active participation of cities in the localisation of SDGs and also the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.
- Even the smallest cities in least developed countries possess a strong role in localising SDGs with many demonstrating greater progress than at national level.
- Minimum checks and balances may be advocated for based upon local governments that have fulfilled certain criteria establishing their overall good governance.
- In the context of value-added-taxes (VAT) which are collected at the local level, a greater portion should be returned or reinvested into the local government.
- Renewed efforts should focus on how to scale-up good practices which are found across ASEAN region.
- Take heart as you are already helping to achieve the SDGs by being the front-liners at the local/community level.
- Various conferences and forums provide a structured pathway to increase the visibility of local governments and stakeholders starting from the local level, national, sub-regional, regional and high-level political processes towards support in achieving and localising the SDGs.

Breakout Session: ASEAN's Actions and Initiatives

Digital ASEAN: Smart Technologies for Sustainable Urban Development



Participants during the breakout group discussion to discuss the roles of smart technologies in urban development and ASEAN's cooperation.

The speakers of this breakout session were: (i) Mr. Teerasak Teekayupan, Mayor of Khon Kaen, Thailand; (ii) Mr. Haryadi Suyuti, Mayor of Yogyakarta, Indonesia; (iii) Mr. Jose Antonio Leviste II, Vice Governor, Batangas, Philippines; (v) Dr. Passakon Prathombutr, Senior Executive Vice President/CTO of Digital Economy Promotion Agency (DEPA), Thailand; and (vi) Mr. Lim Teng Leng, Deputy Director of Centre for Liveable Cities, Ministry of National Development, Singapore. The session was moderated by Mr. Hans Farnhammer, Head of Cooperation Delegation of the European Union to Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam.

The session featured discussions on municipal-level projects, implemented in cooperation with national government and private sector. Mr. Teerasak Teekayupan, Mayor of Khon Kaen, presented about the project under the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)-Economic Corridor, a double track train project, which connects neighboring ASEAN countries and China. Mr. Haryadi Suyuti, Mayor of Yogyakarta, identified good governance and integrated management as important factors in realising smart city, in addition to data collection, which is key for making sound management decision. Vice Governor of Batangas presented on the BATangas MAnaged Network (BATMAN) initiative, which provides efficiency, affordability and improved communication.

Dr. Passakon Prathombutr, Senior Executive/CTO, Digital Economy Promotion Agency (DEPA) elaborated on both non-digital and digital technologies which are equally important for developing smart cities. City data platforms to drive data and use analytics are critical for policy regulation, security, infrastructure and solutions. Internet of Things can be linked to many other technologies, such as smart pole to monitor pollution,

movement of people, bus systems, emergency calls, street lighting, garbage, etc. Mr. Lim Teng Leng, Deputy Director of Centre for Liveable Cities, Deputy Director of Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC), pointed that smart city development can bring great economic gains in terms of untapped potential, momentum for ASEAN economic integration and infrastructure financing gap. He also laid out key challenges for smart cities which was resistance to changes as well as the ability to develop bankable project proposals.

"Technologies are essential for achieving the smart city vision and city residents should be fully aware of its benefits. Good governance, integrated and sound management decisions, supported by data, are important factors in realising a liveable city."

Mr. Haryadi Suyuti
Mayor of Yogyakarta, Indonesia



Panelists for the session, from left: Mr. Teerasak Teekayupan, Mayor of Khon Kaen, Thailand; Mr. Haryadi Suyuti, Mayor of Yogyakarta, Indonesia; Mr. Jose Antonio Leviste II, Vice Governor, Batangas, Philippines; Dr. Passakon Prathombutr, Senior Executive Vice President/CTO, Digital Economy Promotion Agency (DEPA), Thailand; and Mr. Lim Teng Leng, Deputy Director, Centre for Liveable Cities, Ministry of National Development, Singapore.

Particular attention was on resource mobilisation for smart city projects. Mr. Jose Antonio Leviste II, Vice Governor of Batangas shared that funds will be mobilised through grants, joint ventures and Built-Operate-Transfer model, while the provincial government will handle the administration and implementation. Mayor of Khon Kaen explained about the efforts made to discuss with different partners and stakeholders through a participatory approach. The twenty companies involved will reap windfall benefits by investing in projects in their own city, not to mention public recognition and tax benefits.

Breakout Session: ASEAN's Multi-Stakeholder Approach

Digital ASEAN: Smart Technologies for Sustainable Urban Development

The Speakers of this breakout session were: (i) Mr. Iqbal S. Suhaeb, Mayor of Makassar, Indonesia; (ii) Mr. Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District, Singapore; (iii) Mr. Jongdae Cha, Director General from Daejeon International Marketing Enterprise, Daejeon, Republic of Korea; (iv) Mr. Albert Graves, Program Director, WeGO Secretariat; (v) Dr. Konstantin Matthies, Engagement Manager, AlphaBeta, Singapore; and finally, (vi) Ms. Chee Anne Roño, Urban Development Specialist, Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Philippines. The session was moderated by Mr. Paul A. Martin, Regional Technical Advisor ASEAN & Pacific, Local Development Practice, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).



Panelists of the session, from left: Mr. Iqbal S. Suhaeb, Mayor of Makassar, Indonesia; Mr. Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District, Singapore; Mr. Jongdae Cha, Director General from Daejeon International Marketing Enterprise; Mr. Albert Graves, Program Director, WeGO Secretariat; and Dr. Konstantin Matthies, Engagement Manager, AlphaBeta, Singapore.

"Makassar smart city programme focuses on e-government, traffic infrastructure system service and e-health care facilities. The role of data and technology play important role in planning and digitisation for smart cities."

Mr. Iqbal S. Suhaeb
Mayor of Makassar, Indonesia

Mr. Iqbal S. Suhaeb, Mayor of Makassar, started by explaining the important role of data and technology in planning and digitisation for smart cities. Mr. Desmond Choo, Mayor of North-East District of Singapore presented "Digital and Technology Solutions: Key to Sustainable Urban Development", to demonstrate how Singapore transformed in various aspects through the use of technology. Mr. Jongdae Cha, Director General from Daejeon International Marketing Enterprise, Republic of Korea (ROK) highlighted that the main strategies for Daejeon's smart city are founded on three factors: public benefits, cutting edge technology with economic efficiency, and public-private partnership. He explained that the "Intelligent Transport System" implemented under public-private partnership model, has resulted in improved road traffic, accessibility, etc.



Mr. Pongsak Yingchoncharoen, Mayor of Yala, Thailand, made an intervention during the discussion on the roles of smart technologies in sustainable urban development.

Mr. Albert Graves, Program Director of WeGO Secretariat, presented his organisation's activities on Smart Technology Solutions. WeGO has built strong partnership with ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) and is implementing 20 pilot smart city projects in the region. Dr. Konstantin Matthies, Engagement Manager of AlphaBeta, showcased his cooperation with ASEAN secretariat to develop the ASEAN Sustainable Development Strategy (ASUS) and noted that there is a

fundamental mismatch between demand and supply of services and expertise in sustainable and smart city strategies in ASEAN. Lastly, Ms. Chee Anne Roño, Urban Development Specialist, Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), stressed that capital development is important and introduced an ADB's ASEAN-Australia Smart Cities Trust Fund, established in April 2019, with a financing plan of \$15 million for digital solutions improvement in ASEAN cities with outputs: \$10 million for capacity development and proof of reading concept and \$5 million for investment grants.

"Singapore has harnessed on technological solutions to make the country liveable and sustainable. The on-going efforts to set foundations for a resilient and smart nation focus on preparing the young generation, helping the mid-careerists, and bridging senior citizens."

Mr. Desmond Choo
Mayor of North East District, Singapore

Conclusions and recommendations:

- (i) Role of data and technology is vital since they play important role in planning and digitalisation for smart cities;
- (ii) Public private partnership is one of the drivers for access to both technology and finance for building smart cities;
- (iii) Sharing knowledge, experience and best practices among and within cities and partners, facilitating access to technology and finance; enhancing community awareness and capacity development; removing legislation barrier to access capital market and finally;
- (iv) strong political commitment at both central and local level is very important for building digital ASEAN or smart cities in ASEAN.

Breakout Session: ASEAN's Actions and Initiatives

Seamless ASEAN: Climate Change and Promoting Resiliency



Panelists during the session, from left: Ms. Stephany Uy-Tan, Councilor of Catbalogan City, Philippines; Ms. Milag San Jose-Ballesteros, Regional Director for Southeast Asia And Oceania, C40 Cities; Mr. Yin Vannak, Governor of Kratie Municipality, Cambodia and Mr. Indartato, Mayor of Pacitan Regency, Indonesia.

The speakers for this breakout session were: (i) Mr. Yin Vannak, Governor of Kratie Municipality, Cambodia; (ii) Mr. Indartato, Mayor of Pacitan Regency, Indonesia; (iii) Datuk Mahadi bin C Ngah, Deputy Mayor of Planning of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; and (iv) Ms. Stephany Uy-Tan, Councilor of Catbalogan City, Philippines. The session was moderated by Ms. Milag San Jose-Ballesteros, Regional Director for Southeast Asia And Oceania, C40 Cities.

"Climate change mitigation strategies require all stakeholders to work together. Settlement of people and transportation are also important for Cambodia, with special attention being paid to vulnerable people."

Mr. Yin Vannak
Governor of Kratie Municipality, Cambodia

Discussion focused on the common challenges from climate change faced by ASEAN cities including increase of temperatures, frequency of extreme weather conditions, heavy rains and stronger typhoons. Mayors exchanged the intervention taken in various areas: Cambodia: disaster relief and healthcare services; Pacitan: structural and non-structural mitigation; Kuala Lumpur: Low Carbon

Blueprint 2030, Pedestrian and Cyclists Masterplan, Early Warning Weather Forecast System, and Collaboration; and Catbalogan: STEP North Centre and Sky City Mega Project. In terms of Budgeting and Financing, Cambodia shared its initiative on funding pooled from government across all levels, local communities and also private sector; and Kuala Lumpur: mainly comes from the City Hall and private sector.

"Kuala Lumpur has comprehensive climate migration plan that comprises of: Low Carbon Blueprint 2030; Pedestrian and Cyclists Masterplan; Early Warning Weather Forecast System; and Collaboration. Everyone's support is needed to ensure the effectiveness of climate change mitigation strategies."

Datuk Mahadi bin C Ngah
Deputy Mayor of Planning of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The discussion emphasised that while adaptation is largely a local response, it is important to work together looking at both vertical and horizontal integration, noted positive response from communities and public. Data and evidence are important to support climate resiliency actions and programmes, as most actions focus on disaster response but long-term adaptation planning still needs to be addressed. Urban realities, challenges and good practices should be taken into account on ASEAN discussions and decisions – stronger recognition of cities' voices and possible contributions to address climate change is needed. Furthermore, it is important to tackle climate change through preparation with communities among ASEAN countries. There is a need to stress the importance of shared responsibility in the region and to share resources in order to move forward. The session also called for ASEAN to play the role as facilitator for projects and solutions for climate change initiatives.

Breakout Session: ASEAN's Multi-Stakeholder Approach

Seamless ASEAN: Climate Change and Promoting Resiliency

The speakers of this breakout session were; (i) Mr. Surapol Teinsoot, Mayor of Nan, Thailand; (ii) Mr. Mahyeldi Ansharullah, Mayor of Padang, Indonesia; (iii) Ms. Noraini Binti Roslan, Mayor of Subang Jaya, Malaysia; and (iv) Ms. Krisel Lagman-Luistro, Mayor of Tabaco and SDGs Focal Point of the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP). The session was moderated by Ms. Loretta Hieber Girardet, Chief of Office, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

Mayors from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand exchanged experience and initiatives they have been implementing to mitigate climate change impacts and national disasters. Mr. Surapol Teinsoot, Mayor of Nan, started by explaining a series of measures, conducted in partnership with various stakeholders such as academic institution, to address flooding. These include development of early warning system, awareness raising campaigns, risk zone mapping and a long-term solution to increase forest areas.

Ms. Noraini Binti Roslan, Mayor of Subang Jaya, presented the Green City Action Plan (2019-2024), which aims to promote green lifestyle, incorporate elements of green technology and application in urbanisation and ensure sustainable development and environmental conservation for future generations. Notable initiatives include a requirement for all new development to maintain 10% of a green area, green technology incentives and environmental awareness raising on green waste management.

"Effective warning is not general warning. It has to be precise and useful. When community trusts the warning information, it increases disaster risk prevention effectiveness and reduces the budget needed"

Mr. Surapol Teinsoot
Mayor of Nan, Thailand



Panelists of the discussion, from left: Ms. Krisel Lagman-Luistro, Mayor of Tabaco and SDGs Focal Point of the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP); Ms. Noraini Binti Roslan, Mayor of Subang Jaya, Malaysia; Ms. Loretta Hieber Girardet, Chief of Office, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; and Mr. Surapol Teinsoot, Mayor of Nan, Thailand.

Mr. Mahyeldi Ansharullah, Mayor of Padang, drew attention on several aspects of natural disasters the city is facing: floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides and droughts. Padang is under an ongoing process to develop disaster management and several actions have been taken including: adjusting the city's spatial planning and land use by moving development from the coastline to higher land; Padang Disaster Smart City to raise people's awareness of disasters; establishing multi-stakeholder partnerships for disaster management, including monthly meetings with NGOs and government institutions like the local army, local police and universities; establishing the Indonesia Local Government Forum, in part to enhance the awareness of local governments about disasters, especially earthquakes and tsunamis and; developing tsunami evacuation maps and temporary evacuation sites.

“Fair and inclusive growth is indispensable for sustainable development. Tabaco City’s initiatives on disaster risk reduction empowering women to participate in not only the evacuation but the planning of evacuation centres, and how to make their stay more comfortable and profitable”

Ms. Krisel Lagman-Luistro
Mayor of Tabaco, Philippines

Ms. Krisel Lagman-Luistro, Mayor of Tabaco, noted that her country is one of the most hazard prone areas in the world. Her city is close to the most active volcano in the Philippines with 15 volcanic eruptions in the last 50 years. However, the city has had zero casualties from volcanic eruptions in the last 20 years. Tabaco City emphasised on empowering women to participate in not only the evacuation themselves but the planning of evacuations and evacuation centers, including how to make their stay more comfortable and profitable.

Furthermore, various considerations are made in ensuring women’s priorities for evacuation centers, among them, breastfeeding areas, child-friendly spaces, conjugal rooms for married couples, separate toilets for men and women health and nutrition services (e.g. menus devised to offer more nutritious food including vegetables). Ten gender sensitive evacuation centers have been established throughout the city. She concluded by emphasising the need for city to shift to managing risks and not just responding to disasters through: enabling permanent resettlement, not just putting up evacuation centers, mainstreaming climate change adaptation (CCA) in the education sector and conducting risk and vulnerability assessment of buildings.

“Many challenges in ASEAN cities require political wills and strong decisions. Data tells stories – if you can reduce traffic by x minutes it will have y better impacts on the environment. This kind of data can convince politicians and give them leverage to convince voters”

Ms. Noraini Binti Roslan
Mayor of Subang Jaya, Indonesia

Panel: International Partnership to Drive Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth

The speakers of this panel discussion were: (i) Dato' Sr Hj Rozali Hj Mohamud, President of Seberang Perai City Council, Malaysia; (ii) Dr. Bima Arya Sugiarto, Mayor of Bogor, Indonesia; (iii) Mr. Byun Seong-wan, Busan Vice Mayor for Administrative Affairs. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Vallop Suwandee, Chairman of Advisors to Governor, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration.

The session started with a short recall of both challenges and significant opportunities ASEAN countries need to weigh-in in order to come up with appropriate solutions. If Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) keep on flowing in Asia, migration, growing inequalities and digital revolution are among issues that require urgent considerations in the region. Furthermore, the solutions would need collective efforts and therefore multiple players must be engaged. In this regard, cities are essential components in addition to the decentralised cooperation and the support of international institutions. The discussion demonstrated some significant and successful experiences from ASEAN Mayors, from their learning and exchanging experiences with their international partners on sustainable urban development.

The panel first focused on the strategies Mayors implement to improve the quality of life and address the challenges at a local scale. Dato' Sr Hj Rozali Hj Mohamud, Mayor of Seberang Perai, spoke of the low carbon emission strategy Seberang Perai has been setting up since June 2018, mostly by defining ambitious targets and giving incentives to reduce carbon impact. Indeed, Seberang Perai seeks to be neutral carbon city by 2022 and zero carbon city by 2050. The core of the strategy relies on giving incentives to lower building's emission targeting 50 per cent of renewable energy and introducing new guidelines with 40 per cent low medium housings. Mayor of Seberang Perai pointed out the opportunity for ADB to provide soft loans intended for City council as the fastest way to reach low emission carbon infrastructure.

Dr. Bima Arya Sugiarto, Mayor of Bogor, highlighted his commitment to make Bogor healthy, smart and prosperous through anti-tobacco regulation. Significant policies with major instruments to improve the control have been implemented like stricter rules on non-smoking areas, prohibition of cigarettes companies sponsorship and law enforcement at a regional scale. The key for a successful result, according to the Mayor of Bogor, is to rely on the strong political will, combined with an enforced legal frame and a networking approach involving local, national and international players.



Panelist of the session, from left: Mr. Byun Seong-wan, Busan Vice Mayor for Administrative Affairs; Dato' Sr Hj Rozali Hj Mohamud, President of Seberang Perai City Council; Dr. Vallop Suwandee, Chairman of Advisors to Governor, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration and Dr. Bima Arya Sugiarto, Mayor of Bogor.

Mr. Byun Seong-wan, Vice Mayor of Busan, participated in the discussion to illustrate ROK cities' commitment to foster relations with ASEAN, as both sides are celebrating the 30th Anniversary of their partnership this year. The Vice Mayor presented the mutual benefits that Busan has been enjoying from its partnership, exchanges and bilateral with cities in ASEAN through development of sister city and friendship relations, strengthening economic cooperation through expanding market opportunities as well as boosting of cultural ties between their people. Vice Mayor Byun Seong-wan pledged Busan's commitments to live up to ASEAN-ROK's spirit to foster their good relations also through the city's hosting of the upcoming commemorative summit later this year.



Mr. Byun Seong-wan, Vice Mayor of Busan, participated in the discussion also to illustrate ROK cities' commitment to foster relations with ASEAN, as both sides are celebrating the 30th Anniversary of their partnership this year.

Why ASEAN Mayors need international partners?



ASEAN is recognised for its vital geostrategic importance. Not only all Member States have been growth outperformers globally. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows to ASEAN reached a record high, from \$123 billion in 2016 to \$137 billion in 2017. Together with this remarkable progress is a steady movement of people to urban environment, including middleclass and skilled workforce who are empowered by digital technological revolution.

Nonetheless, the region has not successfully reduced inequalities, according to the Asia-Pacific SDGs Progress Report 2017. As a matter of fact, the study found that ASEAN is the only sub-region with widening inequalities.

Since significant work on SDGs relies on local actions, strategic international partnership must consider cooperation at local level. The report entitled "Towards the Localisation on the SDGs," published by the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and presented to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2019, points that city-to-city exchanges are essential components for the much-needed improvement of SDGs localisation. Decentralised cooperation and the support of international institutions, including in private section, are crucial in promoting local practices of SDGs localisation, urban development know-how as well as mutual learning among cities and local governments.

AMF Closed-Door Meeting

The AMF closed-door meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Vallop Suwandee, Chairman of Advisors to Governor of Bangkok and Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC / Secretariat of the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF). The Mayors took stock of the AMF development, particularly the recent accreditation of AMF as an entity associated to ASEAN.

The meeting reviewed the duties and obligations of entities associated to ASEAN and took note of the criteria and modality for engagement with ASEAN as stated in the Rules of Procedure and Criteria for Engagement. The enhanced status of AMF underscored ASEAN Mayors' inspiration to deepen their collaboration not only on the Forum, but also in other areas including capacity development, peer-to-peer learning, exchange programmes amongst cities and local governments in ASEAN and/or with other countries.



ASEAN Mayors' closed-door meeting co-chaired by Dr. Vallop Suwandee, Chairman of Advisors to Governor of Bangkok and Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) / Secretariat of the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF). Mr. Curt Garrigan, Chief, Sustainable Urban Development Section, UN ESCAP, presented about the Asia Mayors Academy during the meeting.

The Mayors were then introduced to a draft Charter for AMF, a proposed framework to institutionalise AMF's functions, structure as well as collaboration among ASEAN Mayors. The draft was first proposed and discussed at the AMF Preparatory Meeting held last 26 March 2019 in Bangkok during the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD). It was further considered during the UCLG ASPAC Southeast Asia Standing Committee Meeting on 21 May 2019 in Yiwu, China. The draft has been circulated among the Mayors who participated in the meeting as well as those who could not attend to solicit broad-based inputs. Once finalised, the Charter will be submitted to the ASEAN for further perusal.



Datuk Ir. Hj. Amrullah bin Hj. Kamal, President of Tawau Municipal Council, made an intervention during the ASEAN's closed-door meeting.

Capitalising on the fruitful discussions during the 5th AMF, where more than 130 city representatives including almost 80 mayors participated along with experts from partner institutions, the Mayors reflected on a broad-range of recommendations from their peers and their partners. To build on this momentum, it was proposed that outcomes of the discussion should feed into upcoming 7th Asia-Pacific Urban Forum (APUF7), which will be held on 15-17 October 2019 in Penang, Malaysia, with the theme "Future of Asia and Pacific Cities: Transformative Pathways to Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development.” ASEAN Mayors were invited to take part through various activities/platforms including during the Local Government Assembly, Leaders Dialogue, or Voluntary Commitments.



Ms. Noraini Binti Roslan, Mayor of Subang Jaya, Malaysia, made an intervention during the ASEAN Mayors' closed-door meeting.

The meeting underlined the need for an early preparation of the 6th ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), to be organised in Viet Nam in line with the country's chairmanship of ASEAN next year. With regard to the issues to be focused, it was recommended that AMF could prioritise on regional issues, the common problems that Mayors face, such as air pollution, sea pollution and haze. During the 5th AMF, the need for cross-border collaboration among ASEAN Mayors to address various types of crimes was also brought to attention. Waste management and plastic marine debris will continue to pose significant challenge for Mayors in many ASEAN countries. To assist the Mayors with their consideration, the AMF Secretariat was requested to provide a list of documents related

to SDGs and the key areas discussed such as climate change in order to further set out strategic priority areas for ASEAN Mayors' collaboration.

During the meeting, UN ESCAP presented an initiative called Mayors' Academy for Sustainable Development, jointly implemented with UCLG ASPAC and other partners. The initiative is envisioned as a network and peer-to-peer learning platform for newly-elected or appointed mayors/governors in the Asia-Pacific region. It will involve week-long intensive training courses and city-to-city exchanges. Selected mayors can be part of an executive-level peer-to-peer learning space, join a network of "Mayors for Sustainability", increase their knowledge on sustainable urban development, global agenda and international frameworks, and access resources supporting cities in Asia Pacific.



Mayors discussed local-level collaboration, upcoming activities and strategic priorities for the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF). From left: Mr. Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District, Singapore; Ms. Somjai Suwansupana, Mayor of Phuket, Thailand; and Mr. Phan Van Thuong, Chairman of People's Council of Cao Lanh City, Viet Nam.

▶ TECHNICAL VISIT



Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang, Governor of Bangkok welcomed ASEAN Mayors and visiting delegates in front of the Museum of Siam Discovery.

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On 28 August 2019, ASEAN Mayors conducted a technical visit to learn about BMA's work on public transportation and cultural promotion. Pol. Gen. Aswin Kwanmuang, Governor of Bangkok and Mr. Kriangyos Sudlabha, Deputy Governor of Bangkok provided a warm welcome to the delegates at the sites visited, starting at Sanam Chai MRT station. This is one of the subway stations of Bangkok's Blue Line Electric Train Extension Project, located in the Rattanakosin Island area. The station is 23 meters wide, 270 meters long and 32 meters deep. Sanam Chai Station is unique and different from other stations in the city, as it illustrates Thai architecture during the Rattanakosin period, designed by a national artist Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pinyo Suwankiri. The station is located in a historical area as the construction team found palace foundations as well as other antiques such as coins, crockery, ceramics and pottery. All the items were delivered to the Fine Arts Department for preservation.

ASEAN Mayors then visited the Museum of Siam Discovery, the first learning museum that focuses on creating a fresh and innovative experience for visitors through modern technology and creative activities. Established to be a prototype of a delightful learning through the advanced learning management, in order to encourage people especially children and youth to build knowledge on Thai history, culture as well as neighboring countries.

ASEAN Mayors' Field Visit in Bangkok



Mr. Kriangyos Sudlabha, Deputy Governor of Bangkok, guided the delegates through the Sanam Chai Station, which presents a harmony between modern transportation and historical architectural design.



From left: Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC / Secretariat of AMF; Ms. Pornthip Pornchivathip, Director of International Affairs Office; and Mr. Kriangyos Sudlabha, Deputy Governor of Bangkok.



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Participants appreciated the Museum of Siam Discovery where they enjoyed fun and innovative way of learning about Thailand's history, culture and neighbouring countries.



ASEAN MAYORS' DECLARATION
DRIVING LOCAL ACTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH
The 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), Bangkok, 27 August 2019

WE, the Mayors of Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), convened at the 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) with the theme "Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth" in Bangkok, on 26-27 August 2019. Our meeting was held in line with Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship and in the spirit of advancing partnership for sustainability to achieve people-centred and forward-looking ASEAN.

RECOGNISED our shared responsibilities and joint actions to promote peace, prosperity, and citizens' well-being, without leaving anyone behind. With our political mandate to work at the level of government closest to the people, we are committed to intensify our efforts and collaboration under the AMF to deepen the ASEAN Community and address common challenges including those associated with rapid urban development, climate change and widening social and economic inequalities.

ACKNOWLEDGE that while all South East Asian Countries are different, we face similar challenges arising from rapid urbanisation and that this similarity provides an opportunity to address urbanisation in a coordinated and integrated regional manner.

DETERMINED to build upon the commitments we made as reflected in the outcome documents of previous AMF, namely the Surabaya Communiqué in 2011, Makassar Declaration in 2015 and Taguig Action Agenda in 2017, that supported the creation of the ASEAN Community as we now move forward to the ASEAN Vision 2040.

ACKNOWLEDGE that the ASEAN Secretariat is well placed to coordinate, harmonise and elevate efforts to address urbanisation in the region in a coherent and coordinated manner.

REITERATED the importance of our leadership and major role of local governments in the implementation of the ASEAN's integration frameworks such as the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 as well as the global agendas particularly the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, the New Urban Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

SHARED the sense of urgency to work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We emphasised local governments' key responsibilities in policy areas that affect the achievement of all SDGs and highlighted the need to advance the localisation of global agendas. We welcomed the progress made through the complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

CONVINCED that local governments have to be at the forefront of climate action if we are to make transformative and far-reaching improvement on ecological system. We are mindful of the urgent need to scale up our work to protect vulnerable groups that have been affected by or exposed to the impacts of climate change and poor environmental conditions such as air pollution and rapid increase of marine debris.

CONCERNED by the fact that our region is prone to natural disasters that can have catastrophic effects on people's lives and socio-economic development. We underlined the need to be better prepared for this challenge by enhancing the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) capabilities and expressed our support to the ASEAN Declaration on One ASEAN One Response: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One in the Region and Outside the Region.

REAFFIRMED our commitment as members of the ASEAN Mayors Forum, which is an entity that upholds the ASEAN's principles and purposes, we hereby:

1. Strive to deepen our network and collaboration to achieve the ASEAN Vision 2040. We will foster dialogues, exchanges and harness lessons from our actions to reinforce the dynamics of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 (MPAC), the ASEAN Sustainable Urban Strategy (ASUS), and the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) as guiding frameworks for sustainable development;
2. Commit to scale up our efforts to localise the sustainable development goals, ensuring that local plans contribute to national, regional and global targets. Our efforts should be complemented by mechanisms to create synergies with national plans and actions. In this regard, we call on national governments to provide an enabling environment for local governments, noting that the decentralisation trend in ASEAN is shifting more responsibilities to local governments;
3. Agree to enhance our mutual efforts to identify, develop and implement innovative policies and actions to address inequalities and complex challenges presented by rapid urban development. We welcome the ASEAN's promotion of knowledge on smart urbanisation strategies and models including through the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) and express our keen interest to engage in the existing frameworks;
4. Determine to strengthen our actions against climate change including through advocacy campaigns and collaboration on measurable local actions. We are committed to the development of national action plan to prevent, reduce, and manage marine plastic debris in support of the Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in ASEAN Region to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 14 and minimization of waste through sound waste management policies to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 11 and 12;
5. Aim to intensify our work and collective efforts to address disaster risk by developing local disaster risk reduction and management plans in line with national policies and the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), with the aim to contribute to substantial increase of the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020, set under target E of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR);
6. Welcome the report on ASEAN Vision 2040: Towards a Bolder and Strong ASEAN Community and its recognition of the AMF as a network that can help ASEAN advance inclusive growth, sustainable development, and people empowerment. We resolve to strengthen our network and cooperation to contribute to this vision;
7. Call on our international partners, particularly ESCAP and UN-Habitat, to ensure that the outcomes and commitments made at this AMF are reflected and followed-up at occasions such as the Seventh session of the Asia-Pacific Urban Forum to be held in Penang, Malaysia, in October 2019 and in the Tenth session of the World Urban Forum to be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates in February 2020;
8. Commit to building and strengthening our partnership to accelerate efforts, and to increase resources and commitments towards the implementation of this Declaration.



**JOINT DECLARATION OF THE ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA MAYORS
ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ASEAN-ROK DIALOGUE RELATIONS**

Adopted at the 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) co-organised by the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC), Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), the United Nations Economic Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) The United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, 27th August 2019.

WE, the Mayors of Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) and the Republic of Korea (ROK), met at the 5th ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), organised in the framework of Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship, with the theme "Driving Local Actions for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth" in Bangkok, on 26-27 August 2019. Our meeting underscored the ASEAN-ROK's commitment to enhance cooperation at all levels as we are commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations this year.

ACKNOWLEDGED the efforts to elevate ASEAN-ROK relations and progress made in building a strategic partnership, operationalised by the Plan of Action (POA) 2016-2020 to achieve the objectives set in the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity adopted in October 2010.

EMPHASISED the vital role of cities and local governments in contributing to the cooperation between ASEAN and ROK, being the level of government that is closest to the people and works to safeguard people's quality of life, inclusive growths and promotes sustainable development.

WELCOMED the Ministerial Declaration of the First ASEAN-ROK Infrastructure Ministers' Meeting that complements the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC 2025) and presents wider opportunities for cooperation on sustainable urbanisation.

COMMENDED ROK's commitment to double its contribution to the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund during the 6th ASEAN-ROK Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting last 12th April 2019 and stressed the important roles of local governments in the implementation of future joint programmes and projects.

SHARED our enthusiasm on and looked forward to the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit to be held in Busan, ROK, on 25th-26th November 2019 in celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations.

COMMITTED to:

- Promote regular dialogues and exchanges between ASEAN and ROK Mayors, by leveraging the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), to reinforce local government and people-to-people partnerships.
- Facilitate exchanges and cooperation on digital technology and innovative practices to build smart, sustainable and inclusive cities and societies, in line with the ASEAN Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC 2025), the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) and the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS).
- Enhance city-to-city collaboration on climate change and related pressing urban and regional challenges such as traffic congestion, pollution, waste management and marine debris;
- Foster people-to-people ties and empower our youth by providing avenues for educational and cultural exchanges and engagements in development policy formulation and implementation.
- Leverage on the ASEAN-ROK Mayors to advance collaboration.



TAGUIG ACTION AGENDA

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Local Governments for a Stronger ASEAN

AT the City of Taguig, Republic of the Philippines, Mayors, Vice-Mayors, and other representatives of local governments from the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), adopted the “Taguig Action Agenda: Local Governments for a Stronger ASEAN.” The Taguig Action Agenda reaffirms and follows the Surabaya Communique’ and Makassar Declaration, outcome documents of the 1st and 2nd ASEAN Mayors Forum, respectively.

IN support of the ASEAN Vision and the “ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together,” and with the understanding of the important role of local governments in engaging the people and ensuring that the benefits of the ASEAN Community is enjoyed by the people, the delegates concurred to implement the Agenda. It should naturally serve as basis for coordination and as reference document for future collaboration of cities and local governments in the region.

THE Agenda is designed to strengthen local government participation in the realization of ASEAN objectives through concrete actions at local level.

THE ASEAN local governments hereby commit and undertake to:

1. Formally organize an entity dedicated for ASEAN local governments that will serve as regional platform for collaboration that will be accredited and supported by the ASEAN Secretariat;
2. Collectively and actively participate in formal ASEAN meetings and processes to articulate issues and challenges besetting local governments across the region, in order to improve alignment and coordination for policy implementation, and to build stronger partnerships;
3. Establish a cadre of innovative and inspiring local leaders that will continuously engage key stakeholders and members of communities to participate in the realization of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 which highlights people-centeredness in its growth agenda;
4. Implement key areas of existing global commitments that call for an active role of local governments including the Sustainable Development Goals, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Paris Agreement on Climate Change, New Urban Agenda, and Financing for Sustainable Development.
5. Forge a more resilient future by reducing disaster and climate related risks, preventing the generation of new risks, and adapting to a changing climate through the implementation of economic, social, cultural, and environmental measures which addresses exposure and vulnerability and strengthen resilience.

THE ASEAN local governments will regularly review the progress of the Taguig Action Agenda and undertake to convene as a unified body every two years.

ADOPTED this 27th day of July 2017 at Shangri-la the Fort in Taguig City, Philippines during the 3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum.



Makassar Declaration on ASEAN Cities and Local Governments

We, Mayors from ASEAN member countries, participating in the ASEAN Mayors Forum and City Expo 2015 with the theme “Adaptive and Intelligent Cities for an Integrated Borderless Prosperous Region”; jointly organized by UCLG ASPAC, the Committee of Permanent Representatives of ASEAN, and the City of Makassar, have gathered from 8th to 10th September 2015 in the City of Makassar, South Sulawesi Province, Republic of Indonesia;

AFFIRMING that local governments play an important role in ASEAN, and particularly in building a stronger ASEAN Community, ensuring the implementation of the strategies under the three pillars of the ASEAN Community, beyond its constitution in December 2015;

DETERMINED to achieve the advantages and benefits that the ASEAN Community envisions and aims to bring to the ASEAN people, in spite of the challenges and impact for local governments;

EXPRESSING our strong belief that aligning our local development strategies with the developments of ASEAN will bring economic dynamism, government efficiency, and positive social, cultural, and environmental change;

REALIZING that local governments need to meet the standards of ASEAN, not only for the economic community, but to include the pillars of political security by highlighting good governance, upholding of human rights, strengthening cooperation on key political issues; and focusing on socio-cultural issues focusing on human development, women, youth and children, the elderly and persons with disabilities, indigenous people for better social justice and environmental sustainability, as enshrined in the ASEAN Community Blueprint.

RECOGNIZING that local governments' vision as part of ASEAN include four key elements:

1. People-empowerment - Cross cultural communication and exchange, highlighting the importance of youth as the future of ASEAN at the grassroots level to work for development are invaluable for the ASEAN Community to succeed and prosper, accompanied by decentralization and autonomy.
2. Integrated and inclusive approach - local governments deal with a multitude of issues that require an integrated approach. Critical thematic areas for ASEAN demanding attention and urgent actions include climate change, local economic development, tourism, poverty reduction, education for all, health and gender mainstreaming.
3. Responsive and forward-looking - local governments continuously strive to become intelligent and adaptive in response to challenges. To succeed, the promotion of good governance and the strengthening of financial options for plans to materialize are fundamental.
4. Heritage Preservation - The ASEAN Community should not lose sight of its heritage and preserving it should always be part of our identity.

URGING ASEAN to reach local governments, to assess their needs and to support the necessary actions to achieve solutions for the region common problems.

DO HEREBY:

1. LOBBY for a stronger ASEAN Secretariat dealing with the local government issues, creating a specific unit to coordinate the regional action;
2. URGE central governments to provide the enabling environment (legal, administrative, and financial) necessary for local governments, private sector, civil society organizations, and citizens to carry out their responsibilities and to maximize their role, reinforcing the necessary background for an empowered society.
3. BRING the central governments to support local governments and citizens for their active participation in achieving the forthcoming Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 11 “Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable,” as well as in formulating the New Urban Agenda with the occasion of Habitat III and its preparatory process.
4. APPEAL to relevant agencies to perform the necessary steps to undertake the following actions:
 - a. Raise awareness and educate people about ASEAN through different modalities and channels, including academic curricula, cultural exchange programs, social media, etc. Creating an ASEAN University for educating the ASEAN community and promote knowledge and sharing of expertise, bringing the people of the ASEAN member states closer together.
 - b. Organize an annual ASEAN mayors meeting prior to the ASEAN Summit to deliver the recommendations of local governments to the Heads of State and Government. Also, to create an ASEAN Mayors organization, spearheaded by UCLG ASPAC and its secretariat to support its operations.
 - c. Establish or formalize a platform, such as DELGOSEA to promote the sharing of experiences and good/best/smart practices, including prospects for replication, knowledge enhancement, skills development and capacity building.
 - d. Explore financial options, accessible to local governments, such as the establishment an ASEAN bank or the mobilization of domestic and international resources to address the perennial challenge suffered by many local governments lacking financial resources for sustainable development.

Overall, we agree to focus on the opportunities the ASEAN Community presents to us all, and to turn challenges into opportunities able to transform the ASEAN society. We commend this Declaration to be an integral part of the ASEAN Foundational Charter.

SIGNED this day
9th of September 2015.



Surabaya Communiqué 1st ASEAN City Mayors Forum, Surabaya, Indonesia, 24-25 October 2011

“ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations”

1. The 1st ASEAN City Mayors Forum (The First ACMF) held on 24-25 October 2011 in Surabaya, Indonesia, was chaired by the Chairman of Board of the Association of Indonesian Municipalities (APEKSI), Honorable Eddy Santana Putra and was attended by mayors of ASEAN cities.
2. We, the mayors of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States, have conducted substantive and productive discussions under the theme of “ASEAN Cities Towards ASEAN Community 2015 and Beyond: Challenges and Opportunities of the 21st Century.”
3. We take note the notation of H.E. Wardana, the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, who emphasized that the First ACMF is timely and opportune towards the establishment of ASEAN Community in 2015. Furthermore, we noted four priority areas of cooperation proposed, namely Public Administration and Governance, Environment and Sustainable Development, Public Service, and Regional Network. The deliberation of the Meeting is expected to serve as foundation of a strong regional partnership and contribute to more action-based common policies and strategies.
4. We welcome the initiative of holding the ACMF as an opportunity to promote roles and contributions of ASEAN cities in economic and socio-cultural cooperation in the region towards the establishment of ASEAN Community 2015. While contributing to the regional integration process, we also believe that the ACMF can strengthen regionalities of solidarity, community engagement, public participation, and universal values of humanity towards transformation of a new ASEAN as a people-oriented, people-centered, and people-driven organization.
5. We affirm our commitment to enhance cooperation among ASEAN cities towards the establishment of ASEAN Community 2015 characterized by a caring and sharing community. In this regard, we realize the importance of our common goals in creating ASEAN as a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable region. Furthermore, we encourage the exchange of experiences and best practices among ASEAN cities as well as with cities from ASEAN dialogue partners.
6. We feel the need to encourage the development of expertise through ASEAN cities capacity building, such as exchange of visits, joint education and training programs, joint research projects, mainstreaming gender issues, and networks of cooperation in facing challenges and taking advantages of the 21st century.
7. We believe that networks of cooperation between ASEAN cities can develop and improve the livelihood of ASEAN peoples. Therefore, it is essential to further strengthen collaboration among ASEAN cities to promote socio-cultural and economicities.
8. We affirm that ASEAN undertakings in three pillars of the ASEAN Community can only be assured through greater role of public participation. In line with this matter, we are indeed committed to promote public awareness and sense of ownership and belonging to ASEAN that in turn will contribute to productive interaction between ASEAN peoples.
9. We also share the same view that community building should be supported with effective public services, adequate means of communication, and infrastructure facilities. These conditions will enable ASEAN peoples to work together effectively and efficiently in sustaining the ASEAN Connectivity, particularly people-to-people connectivity.
10. We are of the view that it is necessary to establish the ASEAN City Mayors Forum, taking into account the prevailing national laws and regulations in respective ASEAN Member States.
11. We propose to convene the future ASEAN City Mayors Forum periodically on voluntary basis to discuss substantial matters that have become common interest of ASEAN and joint efforts that shall be taken to address current challenges. In this regard, we concurred that a Working Group shall be established to take necessary steps to examine the formalization of the ASEAN City Mayors Forum, follow up the outcome of this forum, explore the areas of cooperation, and formulate a work plan of the ASEAN cities towards the ASEAN Community by 2015. For this purpose, we will therefore seek guidance from concerned institutions and support from the ASEAN Secretariat.
12. We express our appreciation to the City of Surabaya, Indonesia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangement made for the Meeting and to all delegates for their valuable inputs and suggestions.



ASEAN MAYORS FORUM - TIMELINE

ASEAN: A Community of Opportunities for All



AMF received
an accreditation
from ASEAN

August
2018

26-28
August
2019

5th ASEAN Mayors Forum
*Driving Local Actions for Sustainable
and Inclusive Growth*
Bangkok, Thailand



4th ASEAN Mayors Forum 2018
*Building Sustainable and Smart
Development in ASEAN Cities and Regions*
Singapore, Republic of Singapore

7
July
2018



26-27
July
2017

3rd ASEAN Mayors Forum
*50 Years of ASEAN: Empowering
Communities for a Stronger Region*
Taguig, Philippines
Taguig Action Agenda



2nd ASEAN Mayors Forum
*Adaptive and Intelligent Cities
for an Integrated Borderless Prosperous Region*
Makassar, Indonesia
Makassar Declaration

9-11
September
2015



24-25
October
2011

1st ASEAN Mayors Forum
Surabaya, Indonesia
Surabaya Communiqué





ORGANISERS & PARTNERS

								
The ASEAN Mayors Forum Secretariat	ASEAN	The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)	The United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific (UCLG ASPAC)	The European Union (EU)	The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA)	Ministry of Interior, Thailand	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand	Digital Economy Promotion Agency, Thailand



PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS



UCLG ASPAC

serves as the Secretariat of the ASEAN Mayors Forum.

UCLG ASPAC is the largest regional section
of UCLG representing the united voice of cities in Asia-Pacific.



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