ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA PLAN OF ACTION
TO IMPLEMENT THE JOINT DECLARATION
ON COMPREHENSIVE COOPERATION PARTNERSHIP

In commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of dialogue relations between Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Republic of Korea (ROK), the Leaders of ASEAN and the ROK adopted the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership at the 8th ASEAN-ROK Summit on 30 November 2004 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. Satisfied with the close and progressive cooperation that ASEAN and the ROK have forged since the establishment of the dialogue partnership in 1989, the Leaders agreed upon comprehensive areas of future cooperation covering political, economic, environmental, social, cultural fields and international affairs.

The Leader of the ROK reaffirmed his support for the Bali Concord II signed on 7 October 2003 and the Vientiane Action Programme signed on 29 November 2004 by the ASEAN Leaders to realise the ASEAN Community by narrowing the development gaps within ASEAN and accelerating integration of ASEAN.

The Leaders of ASEAN and the ROK at their 9th ASEAN-ROK Summit on 13 December 2005 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia adopted this ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action to provide concrete actions and initiatives for realising their commitments as reflected in the Joint Declaration.

1. Political and Security Cooperation

1.1. Expanding Exchanges in the Political and Security Field:

a. Continue high-level contacts between ASEAN and the ROK through existing bilateral, regional and multilateral mechanisms within the frameworks of ASEAN, ASEAN Plus Three, and ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and increase exchanges between officials in the political and security areas;

b. Continue the ASEAN-ROK Future-Oriented Cooperation Project, which promotes exchanges between diplomats and government officials of both sides, and extend the Project to cover exchanges among officials in the political, national security and national defence fields;

c. Strengthen cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK government-affiliated research institutes in the political and security fields such as
the ASEAN-Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS) through exchange of experts, joint research projects and joint seminars; and

d. Promote linkages and increase exchange visits among military and security training institutions to enhance cooperation in the region.

1.2. Strengthen cooperation and increase consultation through the ARF and the ASEAN Plus Three process with a view to achieving peace, security and stability in the region.

1.3. Enhance multilateral and regional cooperation with the objective to achieve total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and to jointly prevent their transfer, and proliferation.

1.4. Promote and enhance cooperation in combating terrorism and transnational crimes:

a. Strengthen cooperation in combating terrorism in a comprehensive manner at bilateral, regional and international levels including the ASEAN-ROK dialogue, regional frameworks such as the ARF and the ASEAN Plus Three process, and the United Nations (UN);

b. Strengthen the regional capacity to counter terrorism and other transnational crimes by promoting exchanges of information and experts, strengthening capacity building and sharing of best practices among their law enforcement making use of the existing centres in ASEAN such as the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Thailand, the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT) in Malaysia and the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC) in Indonesia, for development of capacity building and expertise, and for the implementation of joint projects in combating terrorism and other transnational crimes in the region;

c. Strengthen cooperation in the eight priority areas of ASEAN and ASEAN Plus Three cooperation namely terrorism, trafficking in persons, arms smuggling, sea piracy, money laundering, illicit drug trafficking, international economic crime and cyber crime through the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), the ASEAN Plus Three process and other mechanisms; and
d. Develop a framework for cooperation to effectively implement the ASEAN-ROK Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism through the establishment of SOMTC+ROK Consultation and other existing mechanisms, and closely cooperate in the fields of immigration controls, law enforcement, transport security, and prevention of financing of terrorists, capacity building and related organisations.

1.5. Promote maritime security cooperation:

a. Increase cooperation in maritime security based on international laws and conventions and seek ways to strengthen cooperation in this field; and

b. Enhance cooperation on issues of maritime safety, security and marine environmental protection in accordance with international laws and conventions by promoting capacity building, information sharing, intelligence exchange and other appropriate forms of cooperation respecting the principle of sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States and bearing in mind the primary responsibilities of the littoral States in this matter.

1.6. Reaffirm the role of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as the regional code of conduct for inter-state relations in Southeast Asia and jointly encourage other countries outside the region to accede to the Treaty to further promote regional peace, security, stability, prosperity, mutual confidence and trust.

1.7. Reaffirm the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity and non-interference in the domestic affairs of other States as envisaged in the TAC.

2. Strengthening the Foundation of Comprehensive Economic Cooperation

2.1. Consultation Channels for Economic Cooperation:

a. Enhance consultation to establish comprehensive economic cooperative relations through the existing ASEAN Economic Ministers-ROK (AEM-ROK) Consultations, the Senior Economic Officials’ Meeting (SEOM)-ROK Consultations and between respective ASEAN sectoral and other bodies and the ROK in areas such as finance, construction and transportation, agriculture and
commodities, labour, tourism, energy, Information and Communications Technology (ICT), forestry, mining and fisheries;

b. Promote cooperation and exchanges between business organisations of ASEAN and the ROK to pursue closer private sector collaboration; and

c. Strengthen cooperation of private sector within the context of East Asia Business Council (EABC) with the view to promoting greater linkages between firms in ASEAN, Republic of Korea, Japan and China.

2.2. ASEAN-ROK Free Trade Agreement (FTA):

a. Endeavour to complete their respective domestic procedures in time to enable the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation (CEC) between ASEAN and the ROK to come into effect in 2006;

b. Endeavour to ensure the timely implementation of the activities/projects identified in the Annex of Economic Cooperation under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and undertake economic cooperation projects in other areas of mutual interests;

c. Endeavour to complete domestic procedures to enable the Agreement on Trade in Goods, including the Rules of Origin and the Agreement on Dispute Settlement Mechanism under the Framework Agreement on CEC to come into effect in 2006;

d. Commence negotiations on the Agreement on Trade in Services and the Agreement on Investment under the AKFTA Framework in 2006 with a goal of concluding them by the end of that year; and

e. ASEAN and Republic of Korea will realise the Free Trade Area in Goods by 2010 for ASEAN-6 and Republic of Korea; 2016 for Viet Nam and 2018 for Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar, with flexibility for some sensitive products.

2.3. Trade Expansion:

a. Make mutual efforts to expand trade through various avenues such as goods exhibitions and expositions as well as through the
exchange of trade delegations; and

b. Facilitate the increased entry of ASEAN imports, especially agricultural products, into the ROK market.

2.4. Customs Cooperation:

a. Promote exchange of information, subject to the national laws of each party and with the exception of confidential information, on the respective customs procedures, enforcement and risk management techniques in the ASEAN and the ROK;

b. Promote secure and efficient trade between ASEAN and the ROK through supply line security measures in accordance with international agreements;

c. Continue consultations and cooperation within the ASEAN-ROK Customs Experts Meeting and the ASEAN-ROK Customs Directors-General/Commissioners' Meeting with a view to enhancing policy coordination in the customs areas;

d. The ROK will provide training opportunities for ASEAN customs officials to share expertise on streamlining and simplification of customs procedures; and

e. Endeavour to promote application of information technology in customs procedures to facilitate trade.

2.5. Investment Expansion:

a. Enhance cooperation through the existing dialogue mechanisms and the ASEAN Plus Three process to develop cooperative measures and actions for promoting mutual investment, including establishing the ASEAN Investment Information Network Portal, conducting capacity building activities, exchanges of experts and sharing related experiences, technology, information and policies;

b. The ROK will conduct investment missions into ASEAN and encourage the Korean private sector to make investments in ASEAN;

c. A contact point shall be set up in each ASEAN Member Country and the ROK to implement specific projects; and
d. ASEAN will take measures to further improve its investment environment so as to draw additional investments from outside the region, including the ROK.

2.6. Financial and Monetary Cooperation:

a. Strengthen cooperation within the ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers’ Meeting to support stable economic growth in the region;

b. Support the development of the Asian bond markets for the security and advancement of the region’s financial market;

c. Make greater efforts to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency in the operation of the “Chiang Mai Initiative” (CMI);

d. Actively participate in policy dialogue on macroeconomic and financial policies to reinforce economic and financial integration in the region; and

e. Cooperate in building up capacity of CLMV in the fields of analysis and policy-planning.

2.7. Cooperation on Construction, Distribution and Transportation:

a. Strengthen competitiveness and efficiency in logistics in terms of operation, related equipment by promoting exchanges of experts and information, and by sharing experiences and technology in the related policies;

b. Exchange experts, information and experiences on the Intelligence Transport System (ITS) and Database (DB) system in the transportation field in order to improve traffic flow and to enhance the effectiveness of transportation related policies;

c. Encourage dialogue between governments and related businesses to exchange information and technology; cooperate to share experiences and best practices in order to establish standard specifications in the fields of railway, subways, Light Rail Transit (LRT) and others; and

d. Cooperate to improve the safety of automobiles through the development of safety standards in accordance with international
standards set by the Working Party 29: World Forum for Harmonisation of Vehicle Regulation, promotion of communication between governments and related businesses to strengthen the competitiveness of the automobile industry and exchange visits of experts, and share experiences and best practices.

2.8. Food, Agriculture and Forestry:

a. Enhance cooperation in the field of agriculture through the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) Plus Three and implement major agreements reached at this meeting;

b. Endeavour to launch cooperation projects to exchange information and technology, and to develop joint-research projects in the fields of food production, poverty alleviation, agricultural and livestock industry, agricultural machinery, agricultural products marketing, improvement of agricultural infrastructure and development of rural areas;

c. Develop joint collaborative projects in postharvest technology such as forced air cooling, packaging and cold chain distribution of vegetables over long distances;

d. The ROK will continue to contribute to ASEAN’s efforts on enhancing human resources development in the agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors through programmes such as organising workshops in ASEAN countries, the dispatch of experts (e.g. in agriculture technologies, food sanitary laws and post-harvest handling) to ASEAN Member Countries, agricultural extension, etc.; and

e. Encourage the progress of agriculture-related industries such as agricultural technologies and crop varieties development and breeding technologies through the conduct of exhibitions, expositions and seminars.

2.9. Marine Affairs and Fisheries:

a. Make mutual efforts to exchange information and expertise in the fields of fisheries, deep sea fisheries, aquaculture, sea farming, quality control, processing and distribution of marine and fisheries products, and postharvest technology;
b. Develop measures to harmonise the technological standards of marine and fisheries products in order to promote trade in this field between ASEAN and ROK; and

c. Undertake cooperative measures to develop human resources and promote investment in the related industries of fisheries in the ASEAN countries.

3. **Bridging the Development Gap among ASEAN Member Countries and Supporting ASEAN’s Efforts for Regional Integration**

3.1. Basic Framework for Development Cooperation:

3.1.1. ASEAN-ROK Special Cooperation Fund

a. The ROK will continue to support the ASEAN-ROK Special Cooperation Fund (SCF) to promote the exchange of experts and information and the establishment of cooperative projects in various areas, including the environment, agriculture, fisheries, health, culture, education, economics and human resources;

b. Further expand cooperative projects into the fields of arts, tourism, ICT, and science and technology to forge mutual understanding between the peoples of ASEAN and the ROK;

c. Closely cooperate in the ASEAN-ROK Joint Planning and Review Committee to enhance the effectiveness and ensure the transparent operation of the ASEAN-ROK funds; and

d. The ROK will continue its efforts to increase its contribution to the ASEAN-ROK SCF, to assist in further expanding cooperative projects.

3.1.2. The ROK will contribute to the economic and social development of ASEAN Member Countries by providing financial aid where necessary.

3.1.3. Tightening the Development Cooperation Network

a. To promote the efficiency and coherence of development cooperation policies towards ASEAN, the ROK will strengthen networks among its government-related agencies and examine the possibility of establishing a channel for regular dialogue; and
b. Explore, for better coordination of development cooperation activities and projects, a channel for regular dialogue, if necessary with the participation of the ASEAN Secretariat, among the development cooperation agencies of ASEAN and the ROK.

3.2. Greater Mekong Sub-region:

The ROK will examine the possibility of providing technical and technological support to the countries in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) in collaboration with international organisations such as the Mekong River Commission, the World Bank, and the ADB for the development of the Mekong River Basin region in accordance with the local requirements.

3.3. Brunei Darussalam Indonesia Malaysia the Philippines-East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA):

   a. The ROK will cooperate with the BIMP-EAGA countries to promote human resources development and capacity building in the following areas: agriculture, fisheries, tourism, transportation, environment, ICT, the small and medium enterprises;

   b. The ROK will dispatch experts to the BIMP-EAGA countries to examine and study prospective areas for cooperation. BIMP-EAGA countries will provide information on relevant projects to the ROK;

   c. Encourage resource development through direct investment, project contracting and technology sharing;

   d. Explore the possibility of establishing dialogue channel between the BIMP-EAGA countries and the ROK, as well as between relevant private sector organisations, in order to synergise links and expand mutual trade and investment; and

   e. Explore opportunities for possible technical and capital assistance for BIMP-EAGA programmes and projects.

3.4. Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS):

The ROK will examine the possibility of participating in ACMECS projects, particularly in the fields of ICT, transportation, infrastructure, agriculture and human resources development, and consult with ACMECS countries on the
modalities for its participation.

3.5. Cambodia – Laos – Viet Nam (CLV) Development Triangle

ROK will study the CLV Development Triangle and explore the possibility to provide relevant assistance in enhancing ASEAN's integration efforts.

3.6 Infrastructure Development:

a. Pursue ways to strengthen policy consultation and the exchange of information and technology in the areas of airport facilities, city development and other infrastructures, such as the “ASEAN Highway Network Development Project.” To this end, ASEAN and the ROK will cooperate to conduct seminars and exchange of experts; and

b. The ROK will support the efforts of the respective countries to establish the Singapore-Kunming Rail Link, and cooperate to provide technical and financial assistance such as by participating in feasibility study projects, etc.

3.7. Fostering Grass-Root Economies:

a. The ROK will support training programmes aimed at sharing information on its agricultural policy and rural development experiences such as the "Saemaul Campaign", advanced technologies for rice cultivation and development of water resources for agriculture, and livestock technologies to support the development of rural areas and agriculture infrastructures in ASEAN Member Countries; and

b. Upon the request of each ASEAN Member Countries, the ROK will progressively increase dispatch of overseas volunteer teams which are currently working to support income growth in rural areas through small size project developments, mainly in ASEAN rural areas and small towns.

3.8. Initiative of ASEAN Integration (IAI):

a. The ROK will contribute to reducing the development gap in ASEAN and deepening integration through the prompt completion of the five IAI projects in which it is participating;
b. The ROK will examine the possibility of expanding its financial contribution for the implementation of the IAI projects in close consultation with the ASEAN Secretariat and its related concerned organizations;

c. In line with the IAI, the ROK will make efforts to provide support to programmes and activities of ASEAN sub-regional growth areas; and

d. The ROK will cooperate with other ASEAN Member Countries to examine the possibility of providing technical support for the development of human resources for the least developed countries (LDC) of ASEAN. The ROK will cooperate with ASEAN to provide funding and technical support to the priority areas of CLMV, namely infrastructure, human resource development and information technology. In this regard, the ROK will consider establishing training centers in CLMV countries for more effective implementation of various cooperative projects.

3.9. Vientiane Action Programme (VAP):

a. In consultation with ASEAN Member Countries, the ROK will identify the areas to support the implementation of the VAP in order to deepen ASEAN’s regional integration efforts and strengthen development cooperative relations; and

b. ASEAN will provide information on priority activities with set timeframes and develop an implementation programme to implement activities jointly identified or selected by ASEAN and the ROK.

4. Strengthening ASEAN Competitiveness

4.1. Narrowing Information Gap:

a. The ROK will cooperate closely in building IT infrastructure and in developing policies and human resources to narrow development gap in the IT sector among ASEAN Member Countries, as part of the “Special Cooperative Project for Reducing East Asia Information Gap” which was adopted at the 6th ASEAN Plus Three Senior Economic Officials Meeting in 2002;
b. The ROK will create an educational environment that fosters the improvement of IT capacity in ASEAN Member Countries by expanding the installation of the Information Access Centres that are currently in Cambodia, Viet Nam and the Philippines to every ASEAN Member Country;

c. The ROK will cooperate to nourish effective IT policy development of ASEAN by sharing information and experiences with IT policy makers and experts from ASEAN Member Countries;

d. The ROK will assist in the wide distribution of information technology throughout the ASEAN Member Countries by holding computer and internet training sessions for local residents with the help of Korean Internet Volunteers (KIV) who are dispatched to each ASEAN Member Country for foreign internet training; and

e. The ROK will lend support to students of ASEAN Member Countries so that they can complete their undergraduate programme, as well as pursue master's/post-graduate studies, in the field of IT at Seoul National University and the Information and Communications University (ICU).

4.2. Strengthening Competitiveness in Science and Technology:

a. The ROK will assist in promoting exchange of information to strengthen scientific technology competitiveness, and developing technology management and innovation to build the capabilities of Science & Technology experts and officials in ASEAN;

b. Implement joint efforts to enhance economic growth and ASEAN's community well being by intensifying cooperation activities, promoting R&D collaboration, technology development and commercialisation in the areas of biotechnology, food technology, new materials, micro-electronics, meteorology and other high value-added industries, especially latest technology of marine biology or genetic engineering.

4.3. Fostering Small and Medium Enterprises:

a. The ROK will assist ASEAN in implementing the ASEAN Policy Blueprint for SME Development (APBSD) 2004-2014;
b. Initiate discussions for developing effective measures to foster small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly within ASEAN local communities; and

c. Cooperate for a more efficient ASEAN Plus Three cooperation, particularly on ROK-led initiatives to build up networks among ASEAN and ROK SMEs.

4.4. Enhancing Cooperation in Tourism:

a. Promote cooperation in tourism by strengthening related networks in the government and private sector to regularly exchange information on tourism and cooperate to develop efficient policies for the advancement of the tourism industry;

b. Pursue, with a view to promoting ASEAN’s tourism industry, diverse projects utilising ASEAN’s rich cultural heritage such as the creation of a “Cultural Map of ASEAN”; and

c. Jointly cooperate in developing exchange programmes to foster professionalism in the tourism industry. As a part of these efforts, the ROK will continuously provide education programmes on Korean language and Korean culture for ASEAN tourism professionals and to encourage Koreans to travel to ASEAN Member Countries.

4.5. Cooperation in the Field of Labour:

Continue the annual Human Resources Development Programme for Officials of ASEAN Member Countries bearing in mind the priorities for human resource development emphasised by the ASEAN Labour Ministers in the context of globalisation, HRD planning and labour market monitoring, enhancing labour mobility, strengthening social security and tripartite cooperation.

5. Enhancing Mutual Understandings through Social and Cultural Exchange

5.1. ASEAN-ROK Future-Oriented Cooperation Project (FOCP):

a. Actively and continuously conduct future-oriented cooperation projects to promote and strengthen people-to-people exchanges in the fields of culture, media, education, and the arts, and encourage
mutual understanding among the peoples of ASEAN and the ROK; and

b. Make efforts to improve the efficiency of exchange programmes for government officials and educational programmes for junior or mid-level diplomats through the FOCP to encourage mutual understanding among government officials from ASEAN and the ROK.

5.2. Increase Understanding and Awareness between ASEAN and the ROK:

a. The ROK will establish the Korea Foundation Centre in two or three ASEAN Member Countries within the next five years with a view to introducing Korean culture and the Korean language to the people of ASEAN and supporting the cultural and public relations activities of ASEAN Member Countries; and

b. The ROK will initiate and continue various programmes for Koreans and people of ASEAN Member Countries to mutually experience each others’ culture through the "Korea Foundation Cultural Centre" in Seoul, which was established in 2005.

5.3. Exchange in the fields of Culture and Arts:

a. Increase culture and arts exchange through the reciprocal holding of exhibitions and cultural performances;

b. Provide further opportunities to share experiences and best practices on creating and implementing culture and arts policies, and encourage people-to-people exchange in various fields of culture and arts, such as performance art and cultural heritage; and

c. Increase exchanges of experiences and information in the field of art management by holding workshops and networking the professionals in this area in order to promote the culture and arts industry in both ASEAN and the ROK;

5.4. Exchange of Mass Culture:

a. Encourage mutual participation in International Film Festivals that are held in ASEAN and the ROK and increase exchange of popular culture through instruments such as films, TV programmes and print media; and
b. The ROK will extend training programmes that invite ASEAN experts and students in the fields of TV, film, theatre, dance, and music production to cooperate in the development of human resources of ASEAN popular culture.

5.5. Preservation of Cultural Heritage:

a. Strengthen joint research on the preservation and conservation of cultural heritage; and

b. The ROK will support the capacity building of ASEAN experts in the field of cultural heritage preservation through the "Asia Cooperation Programme in Conservation Science."

5.6. Expanding Youth Exchanges:

a. Continue to implement the "ASEAN-Korea Youth Exchange Programme" which has been held annually since 1998, and strengthen follow-up measures, such as the establishment of networks among participants, so as to encourage continued interaction among the participating youths;

b. Jointly organise a variety of programmes and activities such as the "ASEAN Youth Camp" for youths and future leaders, facilitating interactions among the private and public sectors of both sides and the young leaders of civic organisations; and

c. Focus on implementing cooperation areas agreed at the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth (SOMY) to enhance coherence of youth policies and cooperation.

5.7. Promoting ASEAN and Korean Studies:

a. The Korea Foundation will lead efforts to promote the study of the Korean language by expanding Korean research programmes in ASEAN universities, holding training programmes by Korean language experts in ASEAN Member Countries and supporting the development of Korean language teaching materials;

b. The ROK will provide scholarship for ASEAN teachers to study Korean language and fellowship opportunities for ASEAN students majoring in Korean Studies;
c. The Korea Foundation will explore measures for continuously expanding Korean language fellowship programmes provided for ASEAN diplomats and officials;

d. The ROK will make best efforts to provide necessary support in the establishment, operation, and activities of the centers for Korean Studies in the ASEAN member countries; and

e. The ROK, to promote mutual understanding between ASEAN and the ROK, will provide scholarship opportunities for the participation of Korean students in the ASEAN Studies Programme launched by the ASEAN University Network (AUN).

5.8. Education Cooperation:

a. Continue to carry out workshops, joint research and training, and exchange of fellowships with the ASEAN University Network (AUN) through the existing ASEAN-Korea Academic Exchange Programme, and the ASEAN Post-Doctoral Fellowship Programme;

b. Continue the provision of scholarships for ASEAN students through the existing International College Student Exchange Programme; and

c. The ROK will support educational programmes in the field of science and technology.

5.9. Sports:

a. Cooperate to develop diverse joint projects that promote ASEAN-ROK sports exchange;

b. Promote exchange of information of sports science and technology, technical information, and research related to the development of ASEAN-ROK sports;

c. Exchange of sports teams to attend joint training camps between ASEAN-ROK sports community;

d. Exchange of coaches, officials, referees, researches and other sports experts; and
e. Exchange of knowledge of construction of sports venues/facilities and its management.

6. Expanding Cooperation in Addressing Global Issues

6.1. Food Safety:

a. Closely and actively cooperate in promoting mutual understanding of their respective policies and regulations in the areas of food safety, animal (including fish) and plant quarantine and disease control;

b. Share information and technologies in the related areas; and

c. Develop human resources in the field of quarantine and inspection through efforts such as organising training programs and workshops for ASEAN.

6.2. Energy Security:

a. Promote close cooperation among ASEAN and ROK to enhance capacity building in energy security;

b. Strengthen cooperation in renewable and alternative energy and energy efficiency to reduce fossil energy usage;

c. Closely cooperate in research and development of renewable and alternative energy and collaborate to enhance energy efficiency by increasing exchange of expertise in the related field; and

d. Increase cooperation between the institutions of both sides especially in the technology for the production of bioenergy and the development of vehicle engine compatible for biofuels.

6.3. Environment:

a. The ROK will provide short-term training programmes and offer master and doctorate degree courses to ASEAN students in order to help develop their capacities in the field of environment;

b. The ROK will increase training programmes, including capacity building with ASEAN based on the agreed ten priority areas of
environmental cooperation, in particular integrated water resources management, environmentally sustainable cities (solid waste management), environmentally sound technologies and cleaner production, biodiversity management (rehabilitation of degraded lands and forests), and public awareness and education;

c. Cooperate in preventing forest destruction through the sharing of related policies, information and experiences, especially in the areas of tropical forest rehabilitation, forest fire prevention and control and landslide prevention; contribute to improving income growth and the living standard of local communities through sustainable forest management;

d. Cooperate in preventing coastal and marine pollution through exchange of experts, sharing related policies, data and information; and

e. Promote the development and transfer of Clean Technology.

6.4. Combating and Monitoring Infectious Diseases

a. Cooperate in establishing effective monitoring and surveillance systems for newly emerging infectious diseases (EID), including zoonotic diseases in the region and actively participate in prevention efforts through regular workshops, joint researches expert exchanges, and training activities, including the promotion of a common guiding principle on health screening at ports of entry;

b. Strengthen monitoring and actively participate in establishing a cooperative network system for ASEAN Plus Three EID monitoring and swift information sharing;

c. Mutually recognise the seriousness of the regional situation of HIV/AIDS and cooperate in the prevention of such diseases, exchange related information to provide effective joint measures against the spread of HIV/AIDS, and cooperate to develop joint policies and programmes for combating HIV/AIDS;

d. The ROK will provide technical assistance to ASEAN for establishing and improving local hospitals, especially in underdeveloped areas to improve hospital facilities and the overall medical environment of CLMV countries;
e. Screen passengers arriving from areas with recent incidence of infectious diseases, especially when involving public health issues of international concern;

f. Effectively implement the pre-departure screening of passengers with infectious diseases in order to prevent the spread of the diseases. The pre-departure screening will be conducted through agreed protocols and guidelines and may involve the completion of a standardised health declaration card and a temperature check of the passengers before boarding the vessels; and

g. Use existing modes of communication to promptly inform the next port of destination of any crew or passenger who may be exposed to infectious diseases.

6.5. Cooperation for Reducing Regional Natural Disasters:

a. Expand scientific and technological cooperation and information exchange to establish an early-warning system to reduce the risks of natural disasters. The ROK will collaborate with ASEAN to implement a joint-project for both sides to share satellite image materials to strengthen their research capability in the areas of weather, natural disasters and environment;

b. Conduct regional discussions to develop a cooperative system or mechanism that will bring effective and organised relief and rehabilitation, including equipment support and relief squad dispatch to serious disaster areas;

c. Jointly develop and implement various cooperative projects, including training programmes, in strengthening disaster management and emergency response skills of disaster response officers in ASEAN Member Countries; and

d. Discuss the possibility of providing support, if necessary, in the case of a regional emergency.

7. Regional and International Cooperation

7.1. Acknowledging the necessity for revitalising the UN system, ASEAN and ROK will closely cooperate to contribute to the UN reform to better reflect
every member country’s interests under the principles of democracy, representation and effectiveness.

7.2. Extend support to Lao PDR and Viet Nam that have yet to join the World Trade Organisation (WTO), and cooperate for the early accession of the two countries to WTO.

7.3. Strengthen collaboration and policy consultation between ASEAN and the ROK in major multilateral forums including the ARF, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM), and Forum for East Asia Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC).

8. **Fostering East Asia Cooperation**

8.1. Strengthen East Asia cooperation by implementing the short-term, and medium and long-term measures of the East Asia Study Group (EASG) adopted in November 2002 and by promoting and strengthening functional cooperation in the various agreed sectors within the ASEAN Plus Three framework:

a. Fast-track the implementation of all 17 short-term EASG recommendations by the 10th anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in 2007 and explore their linkage with the medium and long term measure to promote more sustainable East Asia cooperation; and

b. Implement in a systematic and concrete manner the nine medium- and long-term EASG recommendations to support the development of an East Asian Community in the longer-term.

8.2. **Utilise the ASEAN Plus Three Summit and East Asia Summit to promote dialogue cooperation and community building in the region.**

8.3. Encourage active participation and involvement of the business community, academia and all sectors of society in promoting and strengthening East Asian cooperation:

a. Promote East Asian studies and encourage greater participation from experts and scholars not only from the government, but also from other areas such as the private sector, the academia and non-government organisations (NGOs);
b. Cooperate in promoting the interest and addressing the challenges facing the ASEAN Plus Three countries through mechanisms such as the East Asia Forum (EAF), Network of East Asia Think-tanks (NEAT) and other related meetings; and

c. Explore the better utilisation of existing mechanisms such as the EAF, the NEAT, the Network of East Asian Studies (NEAS) and other initiatives to avoid overlapping in efforts in implementing the EASG measures and enhancing East Asia cooperation.

8.4. Promote East Asian identity by strengthening cooperation in the social and cultural fields to elevate the cooperation to the same level as political and economic cooperation. Towards this end, ASEAN and ROK could consider initiatives such as the designation of an East Asia Week or the establishment an East Asian Cultural Exchange Foundation to increase awareness and understanding of East Asian identity and society.

Funding and Implementation

1. The actions, initiatives and activities outlined in this Plan of Action will be implemented using available resources, such as the ASEAN-ROK SCF, the ASEAN-ROK FOCP, project funding from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and other sources. ASEAN and the ROK will extend financial support to the implementation of the measures in this Plan of Action based on their respective capacities.

2. The ROK has increased its contribution to the ASEAN-ROK SCF by US$1,000,000.00 in the fiscal year of 2005 to support the effective implementation of various actions and measures proposed in this Plan.

3. ASEAN and the ROK, with the assistance of their respective line agencies and the ASEAN Secretariat, will formulate a detailed implementation plan to prioritise the implementation of this Plan of Action. The ROK will provide the ASEAN Secretariat with necessary technical assistance and support for the coordination and implementation of this Plan of Action.

4. ASEAN and the ROK will monitor the progress of the implementation of this Plan of Action through existing mechanisms within the dialogue framework such as the ASEAN-ROK Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue and the ASEAN-ROK Joint Planning and Review Committee (JPRC).
5. At appropriate intervals of the implementation of this Plan of Action, ASEAN and the ROK will conduct comprehensive reviews to ensure the effectiveness and timely execution of the measures and actions in the Plan of Action.

6. Both sides may make revisions to this Plan of Action, as and when necessary based on mutual consultation and consent, given the dynamic developments in the ASEAN-ROK dialogue partnership as well as the region.

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