

Dialogue



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Towards Community Building in
East Asia

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Dialogue and Research Monitor: Toward Community Building in East Asia

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Preface

It is generally acknowledged that economic interdependence and frequent political interaction alone do not bring about the necessary conditions for a regional community. Stronger and sustainable intellectual underpinnings that bring about a shared sense of values and common aspirations are an essential element in community building.

Dialogue and Research Monitor: Toward Community Building in East Asia, compiled regularly by the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE), represents an exploration of effective means of strengthening the intellectual underpinnings of the emerging community in East Asia through continued intellectual dialogue and information exchange among policy research institutions, policy thinkers, and public intellectuals. This is done through monitoring of policy-relevant dialogue and research throughout the region. We view this as an integral part of JCIE's own efforts to promote joint research and policy dialogue in Asia Pacific, with the belief that such activities can contribute to the East Asian community-building process.

This publication is an extension of work conducted from 1995 to 2002 by Paul Evans, Shirley Yue, and a team of researchers at York University and then the University of British Columbia, with Ford Foundation funding, whereby an inventory of multilateral security dialogues in the Asia Pacific was produced. From 1998 onward, this was funded as part of the Asia Pacific Agenda Project (APAP), a consortium of policy research institutions in the Asia Pacific region with generous funding from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. When the initial life of that project came to an end in 2002, it was agreed that JCIE would continue to monitor research and dialogue in Asia Pacific with an expanded and greater focus on East Asian community building. While building on past accomplishments, JCIE sees the process of information gathering for this monitor as contributing in a small way to the building of a network among policy research institutions and like-minded public intellectuals in the Asia Pacific.

Notes on Scope and Process

This edition of the *Dialogue and Research Monitor* contains an inventory of dialogue and research activities occurring in 2006 that were related to security or nontraditional security—including what is increasingly regarded as “human security”—and to community building in Asia Pacific, particularly in East Asia. The regional demarcation of Asia Pacific follows the current commonly understood definition of the area, which includes East and Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand, and North America. Generally speaking, the dialogue and research activities covered in this volume are sponsored by institutions in Asia Pacific, have an agenda focusing on issues related to this region, and/or include participants mainly from this region. Activities that include participants from a single country or that are bilateral are not usually included.

The search for entries for this report is conducted through the network of partners in intellectual dialogues and information exchange that JCIE has developed over the years as well as through the websites, newsletters, and publications of various sponsoring organizations and prominent institutional actors in the Asia Pacific region. We rely primarily on resources available in English and Japanese. While best efforts

have been made to provide a comprehensive and accurate inventory of information, there will inevitably be information that the *Monitor* has failed to cover. Nonetheless, we hope that our readers will be able to gain a sense of the issues being considered today, the contexts in which they are being studied and discussed, and the various actors involved.

If you are aware of meetings, research, or publications that should be included in future editions of the *Dialogue and Research Monitor*, please send information to

Kim Gould Ashizawa at ashizawa@jcie.org.

JCIE would also appreciate any assistance concerning incomplete or inaccurate information.



Current and past editions (1999–) of *Dialogue and Research Monitor* are available online at www.jcie.or.jp/drm/index.html.

Overview

This volume of *Dialogue and Research Monitor* includes dialogues, research, and publications conducted or published between January and December 2006 that were focused on East Asia community building or on regional cooperation on security-related issues broadly defined. We have identified 174 Track 1 and 270 Track 2 dialogues, as well as 22 research projects and 122 publications.

These numbers represent a steady increase over recent years. In 2004, for example, we identified 114 Track 1 and 199 Track 2 dialogues, while in 2005 those numbers were 132 and 216 respectively. While this increase may in part reflect the greater availability of information on the Internet, one indicator that the upswing is real is the number of events that described themselves as “inaugural” or “first” meetings. Our list includes 21 new dialogue series in 2006—10 Track 1 and 11 Track 2—as compared to just 13 new initiatives in 2005. Eight of the new dialogues in 2006 dealt with security issues (including terrorism, security in Northeast Asia, and transnational crime), three focused on energy, two looked at the environment, two were Asia-Europe forums on economic issues, and others covered health, education, Northeast Asian relations, Korea-ASEAN relations, human rights, and social welfare and development.

Although the vast majority (over 70 percent) of Track 1 events we identified involved ASEAN (102 events), the ASEAN Regional Forum (13 events), or UNESCAP (10 events), the list of organizers of Track 2 events was more diverse and involved a number of actors that had not appeared in the previous year's *Monitor*. Many of these actors were involved in dialogues focused on functional exchanges, while some were India-based organizations, which are becoming increasingly involved in East Asian dialogues.

There has been a steady increase in the number of dialogues in comparison to recent years.

Tables 1 and 2 show the most prominent themes that appeared in the survey. Table 1 shows the themes that served as the central focus of the meetings, while table 2 includes all themes that were on the agenda at the meetings. (In other words, a meeting's main theme might be the future of the Asia Pacific region, and it would therefore be included in table 1 as “East Asia/Asia Pacific—general,” but participants at the meeting might have discussed development, economic cooperation, and environmental cooperation, which would be reflected in table 2.) In this overview, we will explore some of the key trends that we observed in 2006.

Regional Integration and Community Building

The year 2006 saw further discussions and efforts being made toward community building in the East Asian region, both in the context of ASEAN and of East Asia as a whole. In 2006, the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter held a series of meetings—including meetings with ASEAN officials and civil society representatives—as they prepared their report and recommendations for an ASEAN Charter, which was completed by the end of the year for approval by the ASEAN leaders at the ASEAN Summit held in the Philippines in January 2007. In addition to

Table 1. Top ten dialogue themes

	<i>Track 1</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Track 2</i>	<i>No.</i>
1	Bilateral/trilateral relations (e.g., ASEAN-China)	15	Bilateral/trilateral relations	18
2	East Asia/Asia Pacific—general Health/disease	13 13	Traditional security	17
3	--		Disaster	16
4	Transnational crime (incl. human & drug trafficking)	11	Environment	15
5	Disaster	10	Health/disease	14
6	Environment	8	East Asia/Asia Pacific—general	11
7	Finance Economy	7 7	Nonproliferation/arms control Economy East Asian community	10 10 10
8	--		--	
9	Terrorism Traditional security	6 6	--	
10	--		ASEAN Charter Energy Trade	9 9 9

Table 2. Top ten topics discussed at dialogues

	<i>Track 1</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Track 2</i>	<i>No.</i>
1	Development/poverty	37	East Asian community	62
2	Economy	32	Traditional security	58
3	Health/disease	27	Environment	38
4	Terrorism	26	ASEAN community	37
5	Disaster	26	Development/poverty China Economy	36 36 36
6	Trade Environment	21 21	--	
7	--		--	
8	Energy	20	Trade Energy	31 31
9	Transnational crime	19	--	
10	China	18	Japan Asia-Europe	28 28

the EPG meetings, there were a number of Track 2 meetings that examined such issues as human rights in the ASEAN Charter, or that sought greater civil society input into the drafting of the charter. The final version of the charter was approved in November 2007.

While ASEAN was clearly a dominant player in these dialogues, there was also a significant focus on a broader “East Asia” or “Asia Pacific” community. The ASEAN Community, ASEAN Economic Community, and ASEAN Security Community were discussed specifically in 14 of the events listed here, divided evenly between Track 1 and Track 2 events, and is not a topic of any of the publications. By contrast, there were 17 projects that looked at the “East Asia(n) community,” “Asia Pacific community,” or “Asian community,” and four new books on the subject. In addition, East Asian regionalism was the focus of seven new books and was discussed in a number of projects in the contexts of building regional infrastructure, regionalism versus universalism, or economic and political integration.

While ASEAN was clearly a dominant player in these dialogues, there was also a significant focus on a broader “East Asia” or “Asia Pacific” community.

Interestingly, however, the East Asian Summit itself received relatively little attention in 2006. The outcomes and future plans were discussed in several meetings of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 officials, but on the Track 2 side it was discussed primarily in terms of how it would affect the development of other relations, such as “Japan-ASEAN partnership after the first East Asian Summit,” or “East Asian Community after the first East Asian Summit.” It also came up in the context of a discussion on the range of Track 1 and 2 dialogues in the region, a comparison of European and East Asian integration, and an event on pan-Asian integration. Overall, however, it did not seem to be a critical issue for discussion.

It should also be noted that while the subregional architecture in Southeast Asia continued to evolve, increasing calls for some institutional mechanism to improve relations and build confidence in Northeast Asia made little headway in 2006, as will be discussed below.

Toward an Economic Community

The economy was a key area of discussion in 2006, encompassing discussions of economic growth and development, trade, and financial integration. In many ways, it seems that the security realm continues to be an area of *cooperation*, whereas trade and economic ties have made greater progress toward *integration*. In fact, economic integration was a topic of discussion in at least a dozen dialogues, and as a result, agreement was reached in 2006 to try to achieve the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015 rather than 2020, as originally planned.

It seems that the security realm continues to be an area of *cooperation*, whereas trade and economic ties have made greater progress toward *integration*.

Given that a decade had passed since the financial crisis, the impact and aftermath of that traumatic event was a theme in a number of publications and dialogues in 2006. Capital markets and investment promotion were

also discussed at a number of meetings, with four meetings looking specifically at the Asian Bond Markets Initiative, and three more touching on an Asian currency unit.

Negotiations for various bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements (FTA) were underway in 2006. An ASEAN-Korea FTA was concluded in May, for example. Talks in various stages were underway on an ASEAN–Australian and New Zealand FTA, an ASEAN-China FTA, a China-Japan-Korea FTA, an ASEAN-India FTA, and an East Asian FTA. Trade was the primary topic of five Track 1 events and nine Track 2 dialogues, and it was on the agenda of an additional 52 events. Five dialogues specifically addressed the issue of an East Asian FTA.

Although the United States was engaged in its own bilateral discussions and was pushing APEC to consider an East Asian FTA, perhaps not surprisingly it seemed to be more engaged in the security aspects of regionalism—counter-terrorism and nonproliferation, in particular—and less in the economic aspects. Very few events sponsored by US institutions looked at economic or financial questions.

The Doha Development Round, which was suspended in the summer of 2006 when parties failed to find common ground, was another topic addressed in a number of forums, both at the Track 1 and Track 2 levels. Participants at these meetings expressed concern over the stalled talks and the implications of its possible failure for the future of the multilateral trading system and for regional efforts to promote more even economic development.

The continued growth of the region has produced increasingly glaring *economic gaps* between and within countries. This issue and the need to alleviate *poverty* were major themes in 13 events and were discussed in a total of 73 events—more than 16 percent of all meetings listed here—split nearly evenly between Track 1 and Track 2. Development and the various challenges related to poverty were in fact the most discussed theme at Track 1 meetings and the fifth most discussed theme at Track 2 events.

Among the meetings that dealt specifically with this issue were the “ASEAN+3 High-Level Workshop on Poverty Alleviation”; a conference on “Asia 2015: Promoting Growth, Ending Poverty”; and the “Forum on National Plans as Poverty Reduction Strategies in East Asia.” The possibility and means to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) was a topic of particular concern in the region in 2006, as it appeared that not all targets would be met. One example was a UNESCAP-organized “Expert Group Meeting on Localizing the MDGs through a Community-Based Monitoring System.” Not surprisingly, many of these meetings were organized by UNESCAP and other UN agencies, the ADB, and such development agencies as DFID (UK) and GTZ (Germany).

Regional Security Cooperation

Of the 444 dialogues we identified in 2006, roughly 13 percent focused specifically on the more traditional aspects of regional security cooperation—including such issues as nonproliferation, the Korean peninsula, maritime security, military cooperation, and terrorism—while about 10 percent of the 124 publications focused on security as well. On certain security issues, where interests and needs are perhaps clearer, there seemed to be more action than dialogue, but on areas where there is still a great need for coordination and confidence building—such as arms control and terrorism—we found there were many dialogues this year.

As noted above, despite calls for an ASEAN Security Community, sensitivities regarding national sovereignty and other concerns have assured that integration on the security front remains a distant goal, but greater progress is being made on the nontraditional security front. There has also been talk of creating a framework in Northeast Asia for greater security cooperation at the subregional level, perhaps based on the Six-Party Talks, but the events of 2006—particularly North Korea’s missile launch in July and nuclear test in October—did little to further that objective. Strains in Japan’s relations with its neighbors in the first half of the year also posed an obstacle to progress, although the October visits by the then new prime minister, Shinzo Abe, to China and South Korea almost immediately after taking office seemed to bode well for a subsequent rapprochement between these three nations.

One of the more interesting findings of this year’s survey was that traditional security was a more significant factor in Track 2 dialogues than in Track 1. Among the topics addressed in Track 2 dialogues, the broad topic of *security ties in the region* ranked second, following meetings focused on *bilateral or trilateral relations* (e.g., US-Japan-China relations, which in some cases dealt with security relations as well). Meetings that addressed the more specific security questions of nonproliferation and energy security were also among the top 10 Track 2 themes. By contrast, among Track 1 meetings, traditional security and terrorism tied for the sixth spot, while energy security and nonproliferation did not even rank in the top 10 themes. Furthermore, the Track 1 meetings that looked at bilateral or trilateral relations—the most popular theme—did not seem to focus on traditional security ties, but rather were first and foremost on economic ties, and only occasionally on nontraditional security cooperation.

Traditional security was a more significant factor in Track 2 dialogues than in Track 1.

The topic of *nontraditional security* as a whole was the focus of six events (evenly divided between the two tracks) and was on the agenda of 25 dialogues. *Human security* was the focus of three Track 2 events and was on the agenda of 12 dialogues, which seems to indicate a gradually growing recognition and application of this relatively new approach to security. More specific elements of nontraditional and human security will be discussed below.

Two security topics that appeared slightly less in 2006 than in the previous year were *terrorism* and *maritime security*. The number of events that focused mainly on terrorism remained the same, but there was a one-third drop in the number of broader events in which terrorism was on the agenda. It was addressed more at the Track 1 level than Track 2, and was sometimes dealt with in the broader context of transnational crime or cultural conflicts. The challenge of terrorism in East Asia was the main subject of just one book on our list (although it was discussed to some extent in six others), implying perhaps that priority has been placed on practical action rather than study. The year ended with bombings in Thailand on New Year’s Eve, offering a frightening reminder of the importance of regional efforts on this issue.

Maritime security continued to be an important area of cooperation in the region, but there seemed to be a bit less talk and more action as some mechanisms for cooperation were already in place. (In 2006, for example, the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, which had

been concluded in 2004, came into effect.) There was a slight dip in the number of meetings focused specifically on maritime security compared to 2005, although the overall number of meetings in which it was discussed remained roughly the same.

Regional Cooperation on Transnational and Global Issues

One of the more striking findings of the 2006 survey was the increasing trend toward regional cooperation on and approaches to transnational issues and issues of global concern, including health, energy, disaster risk reduction, transnational crime, the environment, and intercultural conflict. These issues occupied four of the top 10 spots in terms of primary dialogue themes in both Track 1 and Track 2 dialogues. Together they accounted for over one-third of all regional dialogues in 2006. It would appear that this type of functional cooperation is politically easier or more palatable in many ways than collaboration on traditional security issues. These issues are, by nature, transboundary issues that require coordination among national and local governments, NGOs, businesses, and communities, and there is much to be gained by sharing information, resources, and best practices with neighboring countries and with others around the world.

The *health* field exemplifies this trend, as there has been growing regional and global cooperation on an array of health challenges. As the spread of HIV in Asia continued and the first fatal case of bird flu was documented outside of Asia in 2006, the undeniable need to share information and resources and to coordinate responses was abundantly clear. In our 2006 list, there are 27 events that focus specifically on health and communicable diseases—up from 20 in 2005—while another 21 projects included some discussion of health issues on their agendas. Of the health-specific dialogues, 11 events focused on HIV/AIDS, 6 dealt with avian influenza, 6 focused on broader discussions of infectious and pandemic disease, and 4 dealt with other health issues. Research on the issue was scarcer, however, as we identified just two publications on the regional impact of and responses to HIV/AIDS. (We should note that our survey looks for policy research related specifically to the East Asian region, and medical and technical literature is beyond the scope of our survey.)

These issues are, by nature, transboundary issues that require coordination among national and local governments, NGOs, businesses, and communities.

Disaster cooperation was another area of increased regional activity. There were 10 Track 1 and 16 Track 2 meetings focused on the topic in 2006, while in 2005, we identified just 4 and 3 respectively. When we examine how many meetings in total included disaster cooperation on their agendas, the number had nearly tripled from 2005 to 2006. Rather than focusing on disaster relief, the key words in meetings seem to increasingly be “disaster risk reduction,” “disaster management,” “disaster preparedness,” and “disaster communications.” As recent tragedies in the region have shown, confidence building among neighbors in the region and the creation and strengthening of frameworks for cooperation can play a crucial role in mitigating the impact of disasters. Many fear that the impact of global climate change will make this issue increasingly pertinent in the years to come.

There seems to be a steady focus in the region on *environmental cooperation* as well. Regional meetings examined such issues as sustainable development, haze and air pollution, recycling, green growth, citizen and local government participation in creating sustainable societies, biodiversity, and climate change resiliency. It ranked sixth among Track 1 dialogues and fourth among Track 2 events, and was discussed to some degree at a total of 59 events. Many of these meetings looked at community-level actions and initiatives to mitigate environmental degradation, and they examined how nongovernmental and governmental actors can work together to achieve results. The need for regional cooperation was perhaps most clearly expressed in a project on transboundary haze pollution in Southeast Asia, in which participants recognized that a key contributor to the problem, Indonesia, did not have adequate resources to tackle the issue alone, and therefore discussed ways to improve regional cooperation and share resources and information to address the problem.

Dialogues focusing on *energy security and cooperation* were on the rise in 2006. In all, energy issues were the focus of 17 meetings and discussed in over 50 meetings. On the Track 1 side, meetings were held in such contexts as the ASEAN+3 Energy Security Forum, the ASEAN Centre for Energy, and the ASEAN Ministers of Energy Meeting. These forums looked at issues including new and renewable energy and energy efficiency and conservation. The rapidly growing demand for energy appears to have raised awareness of the need to share information, technology, and other resources. Track 2 meetings focused on climate change and energy security; competition for resources between major powers—particularly China, India, and the United States; coordinating energy security policies in Northeast Asia; and demand and supply outlooks.

Regional cooperation appears to have increased slightly in the area of *transnational crime*, including trafficking in persons, drugs, and arms. This area was the main subject of 11 Track 1 and 4 Track 2 dialogues, which was not a huge change, but it was discussed at many other events as well. In total, participants at 62 events took up this important transnational issue—nearly double the number in 2005.

One final issue of note in 2006 dialogues was *culture*, which was discussed to some degree by participants at 22 events and was the specific focus of three Track 2 events and one book. Culture was discussed primarily in one of two contexts. The first was the holding of, or calls for, interfaith dialogues, which seems to have been spurred in particular by the controversy arising worldwide over the publication in 2005 of cartoons depicting the prophet Mohammed in a Dutch newspaper. The second, related context was the impact of Islamic communities in Asia and their connection to terrorism. In contrast to the “Asian values” debate of the 1990s, these discussions were firmly rooted in a recognition of the cultural diversity of the region and the need to overcome its potentially divisive influence.

Major Power Relations with the Region

China and, to a lesser degree, *India* were the focus of discussions and publications that looked at their impact on the region. But to an increasing degree, these countries were becoming involved in discussions of cooperation on energy, health, trafficking, and security issues, acting as important partners in addressing transnational and global problems. China’s impact on the regional and global economy was a focus of a

number of Track 2 projects, for example, but China was also involved in projects that promoted cooperation on integration, nonproliferation, drug trafficking, and security issues. This survey does not include events that examine single countries, but it does include events that look at the relations or impact of a country in the regional context. In that regard, China ranked tenth among Track 1 discussion topics and fifth among Track 2 projects—far exceeding any other country.

China was followed by *Japan* and then the *Korean Peninsula*. Japan-related discussions were often examinations of trilateral relationships—e.g., US-Japan-China, Japan-China-Korea, US-Korea-Japan, etc.—and were dominated by economic and trade issues. In light of the ongoing tensions on the peninsula (exacerbated when North Korea fired missiles in July and conducted nuclear tests in October), Korea-related discussions not surprisingly focused primarily on the security issues on the peninsula, nonproliferation, and Northeast Asian strategic relations. Only one Track 1 and four Track 2 meetings focused on the topic as a main theme, but the situation was discussed in at least 10 Track 1 and 25 Track 2 meetings, while an additional 12 events looked at the overall security and energy situation in Northeast Asia.

India, while still on the margins of the East Asian community, continued to be an active participant in regional events in 2006, and it appeared as the topic of 6 Track 1 and 12 Track 2 projects. At the Track 1 level, meetings were held on ASEAN-India trade, renewable energy, and development cooperation, for example; at the Track 2 level, it was discussed in the context of the impact of Indian growth on Southeast Asia; Japan-India cooperation to promote peace, stability and prosperity in the region; India's response to the AIDS epidemic; India's role in the region; and India's energy demand.

There seemed to be a slight surge of interest in 2006 in comparative regionalisms and lessons from *European integration*, which was evident both in the meetings and in the publications. Within the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) framework, events looked at cooperation on environmental issues, energy security, labor, terrorism, and other issues, but there were also projects that considered lessons from the EU for the ASEAN Charter, like "Regional Cooperation: Experience in Europe and Practice in East Asia," or "Europe and Asia: Comparing Approaches to Economic Integration."

Finally, the strategic interests of the *United States* in the region, and particularly in Northeast Asia or vis-à-vis China were discussed in 27 projects, most of which were at the Track 2 level. The US-ASEAN relationship was shifting somewhat as the US signed the Framework Document of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership in July, and established trading agreements and closer security relationships with some countries in Southeast Asia. Nonetheless, the United States in many ways appeared to be sitting on the sidelines. It played host to only two Track 1 meetings—both of which were gatherings of military officials. The majority of meetings organized by US institutions were focused on traditional security, terrorism, and other geopolitical topics. Other than an occasional project on energy or health, there was little indication of any significant involvement by the United States on some of the key functional challenges that are driving greater integration in the region.

There was little indication of any significant involvement by the United States on some of the key functional challenges that are driving greater integration in the region.

Reading Between the Lines

The survey for this year's edition of *Dialogue and Research Monitor* placed greater emphasis on identifying 2006 publications related to East Asia. As we have carried out this survey in recent years, we have found that the information available in English on current research projects is very uneven and difficult to access. Organizations tend to describe general areas of research interest, or topics on which individual scholars are working, but rarely give information on the types of collaborative, discrete projects that we list in the *Monitor*. By contrast, because institutions actively seek to disseminate the end results of their research, publications are much easier to find.

Because our list is limited to English-language publications, there is naturally some bias in this selection. It is more reflective of research aimed at the broader, international community than at a domestic constituency, which may slant the way issues are framed and analyzed. Nonetheless, we believe that the list sheds light on what research has been done over the past several years and what publications might be shaping the debate in the years to come. As a result of this new effort, there are 124 publications listed here as compared to 62 in 2005.

In some ways, the publications followed the trends that were seen in the dialogues. A significant number of publications examined the role and impact of China in the region, such as *Power Shift: China and Asia's New Dynamics*; *The Paramount Power: China and the Countries of Southeast Asia*; and *China's Rise: Implications for US Leadership in Asia*. Globalization's impact on the region was addressed by a number of authors, while various angles of Asian regionalism were examined as well. Financial and economic integration were high on the agenda, as seen in such titles as *Prospects for Regional Financial and Monetary Integration in East Asia*; *Transforming East Asia: The Evolution of Regional Economic Integration*; *East Asian Finance: The Road to Robust Markets*; *From Crisis to Opportunity: Financial Globalization and East Asian Capitalism*; and *A Basket Currency for Asia*.

Table 3. Main themes of publications

Themes	No.
China	10
Traditional security and defense	8
Asia Pacific/East Asia in general	6
Economy/economic cooperation	6
Globalization	6
Bilateral/trilateral relations	5
Development/poverty	5
Southeast Asia	5
Korean Peninsula/North Korea	5

Interestingly, however, one of the key trends we saw in dialogues in 2006 was not reflected in the publications. As compared to traditional security approaches and analyses of interstate relations, there were very few publications that focused on nontraditional security and the role of nonstate actors in addressing regional challenges. Among the exceptions were two publications by the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies at Nanyang Technological University—*Non-Traditional Security in Asia: Dilemmas in Securitisation* and *Studying Non-Traditional Security in Asia*:

Trend and Issues—and one from ISEAS, *Asian Security Reassessed*. There were just a handful of books that examined such hot dialogue topics as terrorism, piracy, infectious disease, or corruption. This could be interpreted as indicating that the focus is on actions rather than research, that the research being done is more technical in nature instead of being oriented to the policy and social science communities (and therefore would not be found in the sources covered by this survey), or perhaps the research has not yet caught up to this shift in focus yet. *Dialogue and Research Monitor* will be keeping an eye on this trend in the years ahead to see whether the research follows the interest in these pressing regional challenges.

Draft

Chronological Index of Dialogues

Track 1: Governmental Meetings

January

1. 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Task Force 15
2. 14th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum 15
3. 2nd ASEAN+3 New and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Forum and ASEAN+3 Natural Gas Forum..... 15
4. 22nd Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force 16
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11. ASEAN Bond Market Initiative (ABMI) and Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) Working Groups..... 18
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15. Regional Workshop on Designing Effective Second Generation HIV Surveillance Systems and Interpreting the Data for Use in HIV and AIDS Policy and Planning..... 19
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17. 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN+3 Energy Security Forum..... 19
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19. 4th ASEAN Capital Markets Forum Meeting 20
20. ASEAN Special Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)..... 20
21. International Workshop on Innovations in Water Conservation..... 20
22. 13th Asian Export Control Seminar 21
23. 4th Focal Point Meeting on the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) 21
24. 11th ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group Meeting 21
25. ASEM Workshop on Community-Level Actions for Global Environmental Agenda and ASEM Panel Discussion on the Role of Local Governments in Building a Sound Material-Cycle Society 22
26. 25th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC) 22
27. Workshop on Strengthening Social Protection Systems in ASEAN 22

March

28. 2nd ARF Inter-sessional Support Group Meeting on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ISG on CBM and PD) 23
29. ASEAN Special Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) 23

30.	6th ASEAN-US Informal Coordinating Mechanism (ICM)	24
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38.	APEC Symposium on Emerging Infectious Diseases	26
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40.	19th INTERPOL Asia Regional Conference.....	27
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45.	9th ASEAN-India Working Group on Development Cooperation	28
46.	Regional Symposium on the Socioeconomic Impact of HIV and AIDS	28
47.	8th ASEAN-India Joint Cooperation Committee; 8th ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting.....	29

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Track 1: Governmental Meetings

January

1. **3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Task Force**

Date: January 4–6, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

In response to the re-emergence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in late 2003, the 26th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) established the ASEAN HPAI Task Force to serve as a network to formulate and help in the implementation of definite measures and areas of cooperation to control HPAI in the animal health sector. At the 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN HPAI Task Force, a Work Plan for Control and Eradication of HPAI in the ASEAN Region was developed and agreed upon. The work plan comprises 14 project proposals covering the eight components of the Regional Framework for the Control and Eradication of HPAI in ASEAN. To coordinate the implementation of the work plan and ensure synergy of effort with the ASEAN+3 Emerging Infectious Diseases Program, a regional project coordination unit will be implemented.

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/BirdFlu/assistance/asean-subproject.pdf>

2. **14th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum**

Date: January 15–20, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF)

The 14th Annual Meeting of the APPF was held with 278 participants from 22 member parliaments and one observer country. Participants discussed political and security matters in the region, and they shared the view that the region continues to face traditional and nontraditional threats to peace and security that call for a comprehensive response—including addressing regional conflict, injustice, poverty and underdevelopment, and other social, political, and ideological factors that underpin and foster extremism. The meeting stressed the importance of bilateral, regional, and multilateral cooperation to combat terrorism, and participants agreed to increase the efforts of the APPF in examining ways of combating terrorism. The meeting also addressed recent developments on the Korean Peninsula, the situation in the Middle East, smuggling and trafficking in persons, the abolition of weapons of mass destruction, and democratization in the Asia Pacific region.

For information, see: <http://www.appf.org.pe/>

3. **2nd ASEAN+3 New and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Forum and ASEAN+3 Natural Gas Forum**

Date: January 16–19, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

This forum marked the first time that the New and Renewable Energy (NRE) and Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EEC) forums were merged into a single forum, following the decisions at the 4th SOME+3 Consultation in July 2005 in Cambodia. The forum was attended by delegates from Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, and Vietnam, together with staff members from the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) Secretariat, and the ASEAN Secretariat. The focus of the meeting was on “Enhancing the Promotion and Utilization of

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation for Energy Security and Environmental Protection,” which is in line with the overall objectives of ASEAN+3 energy cooperation. The meeting was to serve as a springboard for ASEAN+3 countries to undertake high-impact initiatives for developing NRE and EEC.

For information, see: http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/reports/energy_organisation/some/2nd%20ASEAN+3%20NRE%20&%20ECC%20Forum%20_Final_.pdf

4. 22nd Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force

Date: January 17, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

In 2004, ASEAN leaders adopted the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) to integrate the newer member countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam, or CLMV) into the ASEAN economic mainstream. To do so, they needed to narrow the development gap between the old ASEAN-6 and the newer members. A six-year (2002–2008) work plan was developed that focuses on infrastructure development, human resource development, information and communication technology, promotion of regional economic integration, tourism, poverty reduction and improvement in the quality of life, and projects that cut across all areas such as language training. The CLMV countries organized themselves into the IAI Task Force, which meets regularly to review the implementation of the projects under the IAI program.

For information, see: http://www.40amm.org.ph/amm_moreinfo_5.asp

5. 3rd Meeting of the Task Force to Explore Alliances and Linkages among Securities Markets in ASEAN and Capital Market Development Working Committee Meeting

Date: January 17, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/1-2006.htm

6. Special ASEAN Caucus for the ASEAN–Australia–New Zealand Free Trade Area

Date: January 21–22, 2006

Location: Vientiane, Lao PDR

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/1-2006.htm

7. 3rd Seminar on the Promotion of Accession to the International Counter-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols for the Asia-Pacific Countries

Date: January 25–27, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

The third of its kind, this seminar aimed at supporting the counterterrorism efforts of Asia Pacific countries by introducing the legal structures and experiences of Japan and other countries and also the efforts of the international organizations concerned in order to promote accession by the Asia Pacific countries to the International Counter-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols. The seminar was attended by government experts from the ASEAN countries, as well as Timor Leste, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Australia, and the United States. Participants were officials who are in charge of the International Counter-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols and related domestic legislative procedures in their countries, as well as specialists from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and the UN Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/1/0124-2.html>

8. ASEAN Regional Workshop on Standby Arrangements and Standard Operating Procedures (Emergency Relief Component)

Date: January 25–26, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

This meeting was held directly before the 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and is part of a series of efforts to strengthen disaster management in the Asia Pacific region since the December 2004 tsunami. A draft regional Standby Arrangements and Standard Operating Procedures (SASOP) was created, which was presented for discussion at the subsequent ACDM meeting.

For information, see: http://www.disaster.go.th/html/ricb/foreign/2006/acdm/meeting/meeting06/6thACDMReport_FINAL.pdf

9. 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM)

Date: January 27, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) meets annually to discuss the progress in and further requirements of regional disaster management. At the sixth meeting, discussions built on the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response, recently adopted by ASEAN, urging member states to give priority to disaster risk reduction and cooperate closely to mainstream disaster risk reduction (DRR) efforts into sustainable development policy planning and programming at all levels. The national disaster management offices were invited to cooperate even further at the national and community levels to enhance the participation of all relevant national and local stakeholders in a mapping exercise of existing actors, activities, and legal and institutional mechanisms in place for DRR. The objective is to assist governments in identifying national priorities and comprehensive strategic national action plans for DRR. Participants also discussed the contribution of ACDM member countries to the annual world campaign on DRR, which focused in 2006 on the theme of “Disaster Reduction Begins at School.” Collaboration with the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction was also discussed.

For information, see: http://www.disaster.go.th/html/ricb/foreign/2006/acdm/meeting/meeting06/6thACDMReport_FINAL.pdf

February

10. 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN-China Joint Working Group on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC)

Date: February 8–9, 2006

Location: Hainan, China

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) was the first political document jointly issued by ASEAN member countries and China on the South China Sea issue. The ASEAN-China Joint Working Group on the Implementation of the DOC meets regularly and submits a report and recommendations to the ASEAN-China SOM at the end of each meeting.

The main task of the working group is to study and recommend measures to translate the provisions of the DOC into concrete cooperative activities that will enhance mutual understanding and trust. Its mandate includes: (a) recommending guidelines and an action plan for the implementation of the DOC; (b) recommending specific cooperative activities in the

South China Sea (e.g., marine environmental protection, safety of navigation and communication at sea, search and rescue operations, and transnational crime); (c) creating a register of relevant experts and eminent persons; and (d) the convening of workshops, as the need arises.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/16885.htm>

11. ASEAN Bond Market Initiative (ABMI) and Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) Working Groups

Date: February 8–9, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/2-2006.htm

12. Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Pacific Island Countries

Date: February 9–10, 2006

Location: Madang, Papua New Guinea

Organizers/Sponsors: Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) and Developing Partners Planning

The Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) and Developing Partners Planning held a workshop on “Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Pacific Island Countries” to contribute to the development of a strategy to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action in the region, as outlined in the “Pacific Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management Framework for Action 2006–2015,” adopted by government officials attending the 12th Pacific Regional Disaster Management Meeting in Papua New Guinea and endorsed by their leaders at the annual session of the Pacific Islands Forum. The participants agreed to establish a partnership network comprising CROP agencies, national agencies, international organizations (UN country teams including UN/ISDR), development and donor partners for disaster risk reduction, and interested parties to develop the document.

For information, see: http://www.unisdr.org/eng/public_aware/highlights/2006/April2006-eng-p.htm

13. 3rd Asian Senior-Level Talks on Non-proliferation (ASTOP)

Date: February 13, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Japan

This meeting was attended by officials (director-general level) in charge of nonproliferation policies from the ASEAN countries, Australia, China, South Korea, the United States, and Japan. The objective was to deepen participants’ understanding of various issues related to the enhancement of the nonproliferation regime in Asia and to exchange views on the direction of their cooperation based on the recognition that the proliferation of WMD and missiles, together with their related materials and technology, has become an actual threat to the peace and stability of the Asian region and the international community.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/2/0203-3.html>

14. 11th ASEAN-India Trade Negotiating Committee

Date: February 13–15, 2006

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/2-2006.htm

15. Regional Workshop on Designing Effective Second Generation HIV Surveillance Systems and Interpreting the Data for Use in HIV and AIDS Policy and Planning

Date: February 13–17, 2006

Location: Vientiane, Lao PDR

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/2-2006.htm

16. Expert Group Meeting on the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010

Date: February 14–16, 2006

Location: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 was established at the 3rd UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries (Brussels, May 2001) and endorsed by the General Assembly in July 2001. In 2006, the General Assembly decided to hold a comprehensive review of its implementation. In preparation for that review, regional commissions were requested to assist the least developed countries in undertaking reviews of the program's implementation in their respective regions. In Asia Pacific, a Regional Review was organized jointly by UNESCAP and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

In preparation for this Regional Review, UNESCAP organized an expert group meeting in Phnom Penh in February 2006. During this meeting, the national focal points from the 14 least developed countries in the Asia Pacific region developed a draft consensus on issues related to the regional implementation of the Programme of Action. This draft consensus was to be considered for endorsement in the regional review.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/LDCCU/Meetings/IPoA-LDCs-2001-2010/EGM-Feb06-PP/EGMforMid-termReview.asp>

17. 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN+3 Energy Security Forum

Date: February 17, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

In 2002, the ASEAN+3 nations launched five forums for joint discussions on energy-related issues as part of an initiative to promote greater regional energy cooperation. The 3rd ASEAN+3 Energy Security Forum was attended by delegates from all of the ASEAN+3 countries, as well as representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), and the ASCOPE Secretariat. The delegates agreed that the issue of energy security has become all the more critical in the context of competing requirements on the scarce resources of member countries. Participants were updated on the Energy Security Communication System and discussed the next steps to be taken. They also discussed the Energy Demand Outlook in ASEAN up to 2030 and proposed that it should be expanded to include the energy outlook of the Plus 3 countries (i.e., China, Japan, and South Korea) as well. Finally, the participants considered the future activities of the forum.

For information, see: http://aseanenergy.org/download/reports/energy_organisastion/some/3rd%20SOME+3%20Energy%20Forum%20Updated%20Sum%20Rec.pdf

18. 6th Project Steering Committee Meeting for East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve

Date: February 17–18, 2006

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve (EAERR) is a regional cooperation program among ASEAN+3 nations. The organization's main goal is to help member countries cope with difficulties caused by natural disasters and disease. In addition, contributions made by member countries can be used for hunger alleviation and poverty reduction projects. At the 6th Project Steering Committee Meeting of EAERR, delegates discussed issues regarding the draft agreement on an East Asia Rice Reserve, reviewed the pilot project on hunger alleviation and poverty reduction in Lao PDR, and discussed the implementation plan for 2006.

For information, see: <http://english.vietnamnet.vn/biz/2006/02/541884/>
http://english.people.com.cn/200602/15/eng20060215_243045.html

19. 4th ASEAN Capital Markets Forum Meeting

Date: February 20, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Capital Markets Forum (ACMF) was established in 2004 as a meeting of heads of ASEAN securities market regulators. It focuses on the development of regional capital markets, and its aim is to analyze substantial issues and find convergent opinions on ways to meet the critical challenges facing the regional capital market. Areas of work conducted under the ambit of ASEAN and the ACMF include harmonization of accounting standards, an ASEAN Top 100 list of companies, an ASEAN Task Force on Linkages, and an ASEAN Finance Ministers' Investor Seminar.

For information, see: http://www.sc.com.my/ENG/html/resources/annual/ar2004_eng/pdf/07_intlcoop.pdf
<http://www.aseansec.org/calendar2006.htm>

20. ASEAN Special Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: February 20–21, 2006

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/2-2006.htm>

21. International Workshop on Innovations in Water Conservation

Date: February 21–23, 2006

Location: Tehran, Iran

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Regional Centre on Urban Water Management-Tehran; Tehran Province Water and Wastewater Company; support from the Governments of Japan and Iran

The International Workshop on Innovations in Water Conservation was held in Tehran, Iran. The workshop was attended by over 60 participants nominated by the governments of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Oman, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Yemen. A team of resource persons from Australia, Germany, and Iran participated in the workshop as well. The main objectives were to discuss procedures for and innovations in the effective use of water resources. The efficiency of water use is very uneven among the countries in Asia and so there is a need for action to improve water conservation in general, more specifically by accelerating the development of water efficiency plans as required by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

For information, see: <http://www.rcuwm.org.ir/pub/newsletter/Newsletter%2006.pdf>

22. 13th Asian Export Control Seminar

Date: February 21–23, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japan

The 13th Asian Export Control Seminar brought together 75 officials and experts from the ASEAN+3 countries as well as Australia, Germany, Mongolia, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, the UK, and the United States to discuss recent developments in WMD proliferation and export control, progress in the export control policies in Asia, issues in strengthening export control systems, outreach to industry to support their internal controls, and international cooperation.

For information, see: http://www.cistec.or.jp/open/service/intlcoop/13thAECS_Agenda.pdf

23. 4th Focal Point Meeting on the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS)

Date: February 21–24, 2006

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The Focal Point Meeting (FPM) is the decision-making mechanism of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Project. In accordance with the Project Implementation Plan, the meeting is held at least once a year to discuss, review, and decide on the work plan and activities of the project as well as other important matters relevant to project implementation. In 2006, the 4th FPM was held back-to-back with the 3rd Meeting of Directors-General of Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN+3 Countries. Besides the project work plan and activities, one important issue for consideration in the meeting was the general framework for the 2nd phase of the project. The meeting was attended by 35 participants, including focal points from the ASEAN+3 countries and representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, Japan International Cooperation Agency, and East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve Project.

For information, see: <http://afsis.oae.go.th/doc/PDF%202006/1/4th%20FPM%20-%20Cambodia.pdf>

24. 11th ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group Meeting

Date: February 23–24, 2006

Location: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 11th ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group (TFWG) Meeting was attended by delegates from nine ASEAN nations (only the Philippines was absent), ASEAN Secretariat staff members, and observers from the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport and the ADB. The agenda included such issues as implementing protocols and interstate transport agreements, the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multimodal Transport, and the adoption of the final text of Protocol 1 on the designation of transit transport routes and facilities of the 1998 ASEAN Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Goods in Transit. These were considered the pillars to promote connectivity, to improve the integration and efficiency of transport services and supporting logistics systems, and to further liberalize the ASEAN transport sector.

For information, see: [http://www.md.go.th/eng_page/int_aff/ASEAN%2011th%20TFWG%20Report%20\(Final\).pdf](http://www.md.go.th/eng_page/int_aff/ASEAN%2011th%20TFWG%20Report%20(Final).pdf)

25. ASEM Workshop on Community-Level Actions for Global Environmental Agenda and ASEM Panel Discussion on the Role of Local Governments in Building a Sound Material-Cycle Society

Date: February 27–March 3, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); government of Sweden; Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)

At this ASEM workshop, environmental policy experts from ASEM national and local governments exchanged views on how to build a sound material-cycle society through the promotion of the 3R (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) Initiative, and also on the role of local governments in curbing global warming. At the 7th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting (Kyoto, May 2005), Japan and Sweden jointly proposed the holding of this workshop in order to contribute to the development of substantive Asia-Europe cooperation in the field of sustainable development, including environmental and energy security.

In parallel with the ASEM Workshop, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in cooperation with the government of Sweden and JICA, held an ASEM Panel Discussion on February 27 at the JICA Institute for International Cooperation in Tokyo that was open to the public.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/2/0203-2.html>

26. 25th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC)

Date: February 27–March 3, 2006

Location: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

At the 25th AWGIPC, ASEAN delegates heard an update on the outcome of the EC-ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Cooperation Program (ECAP II) evaluation mission, and the progress and constraints of ECAP II at the regional level. The ASEAN working group also discussed the preparation of regional events to be implemented during 2006. The next ECAP II participation in an AWGIPC meeting was scheduled for July 2006 in Manila.

For information, see: http://www.ecap-project.org/activitiesevents/at_regional_level/25th_meeting_of_the_asean_working_group_on_intellectual_property_cooperation_awigpc_1_march_2006_ho_chi_minh_city.html

27. Workshop on Strengthening Social Protection Systems in ASEAN

Date: February 28–March 1, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; funded by the ASEAN-EU Programme for Regional Integration Support (APRIS) and the ASEAN-UNDP Partnership Facility (AUPF)

ASEAN officials identified key strategies and initiatives to strengthen social protection systems in ASEAN at a two-day inter-ministerial regional workshop. Organized by the Human Development Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat, the workshop brought together more than 45 representatives from ministries of labor, social welfare and development; rural development; and women to discuss the issue of social protection systems in ASEAN.

With respect to the labor sector, the workshop participants called for the development of a social parameters database in all ASEAN member countries as the key strategy. They also identified the need for multi-stakeholder involvement in addressing social protection issues for the informal and public sectors and for an aging workforce. With concern to child protection, it was proposed that training for trainers focusing on different areas of child protection was necessary. In terms of micro and area-based schemes, there was a call to

strengthen and promote the utilization of local and indigenous practices as well as systems of self-help.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18305.htm>

March

28. 2nd ARF Inter-sessional Support Group Meeting on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ISG on CBM and PD)

Date: March 1–3, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); co-chaired by the Philippines and the United States

The 2nd ARF ISG on CBM and PD stressed the importance of strengthening regional cooperation within the context of the ARF on a number of security topics including terrorism, nonproliferation of WMDs, a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula, China-ASEAN cooperation in the South China Sea, the democratization process in Myanmar, sectarian violence in Iraq, and Iran's nuclear enrichment activities. Nontraditional security issues included strengthening international disaster relief, infectious diseases such as avian influenza and HIV/AIDS, transnational crime, and competition for energy resources. Special attention was focused on maritime security, including competition for maritime resources, insurgency and maritime terrorism, illegal boarding and seizure of ships, pollution, and trafficking in persons and goods. In light of the offense caused by the publication of provocative cartoons of the Prophet Mohammad, participants praised the role of interfaith dialogues as a positive measure to mitigate misunderstanding in the region.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

29. ASEAN Special Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME)

Date: March 1, 2006

Location: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The Special Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) was attended by delegates from all ASEAN member countries. Staff members of the ASEAN Secretariat were in attendance, as were representatives of the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) Secretariat. ASEAN is at the threshold of significant developments in advancing energy cooperation to promote energy stability and security as a pathway to the ASEAN Community 2020, and energy was one of the heavily discussed topics during the 11th ASEAN Summit. In light of rapidly growing energy demand in ASEAN, increased efforts are needed in sharing information, technology, and know-how regarding energy.

The ASEAN Secretariat briefed the SOME on the relevant developments and follow-up actions arising from the 11th ASEAN Summit held in December 2005 in Malaysia. Participants then discussed the ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA) and received a briefing from the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) on its recent developments and on progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2004–2009, in ASEAN+3 cooperation, in preparation for a workshop on the Energy Charter Treaty, and in preparations for the SOME/2 and the 4th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM).

For information, see: http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/reports/energy_organisation/some/Special%20SOME%20Report%20_final_1%20Mar%202006.pdf

30. 6th ASEAN-US Informal Coordinating Mechanism (ICM)

Date: March 3–4, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; government of the United States

The ASEAN foreign ministers and the US secretary of state, with the assistance of the senior officials, gathered to discuss a draft Plan of Action for implementing the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership. This comprehensive and action-oriented initiative, comprising political and security cooperation, economic cooperation, and social and development cooperation, was accepted at the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference Session with the United States in July 2005 in Vientiane. The Plan of Action was to be discussed further in the 19th ASEAN-US Dialogue Meeting on May 23, 2006, and was then approved during the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in July 2006 in Kuala Lumpur.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18587.htm>

31. ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); East Asia Summit SOM

Date: March 8–10, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/calendar2006.htm>

32. Regional Thematic Working Group on Migration, Including Human Trafficking

Date: March 9, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); International Organization for Migration (IOM)

UNESCAP and IOM are the current co-chairs of the Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration Including Human Trafficking, a regional coordination mechanism set up by 16 United Nations agencies and other relevant international and intergovernmental organizations working on aspects of international migration within their respective program of work. The functions of the working group include information sharing, identification of priority areas for cooperation and joint programs, and dissemination of good practices in migration management.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/population/popheadline/310/art3.asp>

33. 7th ASEAN-China Joint Cooperation Committee

Date: March 15–16, 2006

Location: Nanning, China

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The Joint Cooperation Committee, set up in 1997, acts as an important coordination mechanism between China and ASEAN. The committee's seventh meeting focused on the follow-up activities of the China-ASEAN Summit held in 2005 and the commemorative activities to mark the 15th anniversary of China-ASEAN relations. Some 80 people attended the conference, including senior officials from China and all 10 ASEAN countries. During the two-day meeting, participants exchanged views on promoting pragmatic cooperation between China and ASEAN in various fields and approved projects supported by Sino-ASEAN cooperation funds.

For information, see: http://www.csc.mti-mofcom.gov.sg/csweb/scc/info/Article.jsp?a_no=24390&col_no=144
<http://china.org.cn/english/international/161906.htm>

34. Trilateral Strategic Dialogue between Australia, Japan, and the United States

Date: March 18, 2006

Location: Sydney, Australia

Organizers/Sponsors: Governments of Australia, Japan, and the United States

The foreign ministers of Australia and Japan and the US secretary of state met for the inaugural ministerial meeting of the Trilateral Strategic Dialogue between the three nations. (Starting in 2002, this dialogue was held at the SOM level; from 2006, that was to be complemented by annual ministerial meetings.) As longstanding democracies and developed economies, the three countries have a common cause in working to maintain stability and security globally, with a particular focus on the Asia Pacific region. This meeting was seen as a significant step in intensifying the strategic dialogue between the countries.

Discussions during the dialogue covered a wide range of current security challenges, both regional and global—China’s constructive engagement in the region, relations with India, nonproliferation issues (including the North Korean situation and the Six-Party Talks), democratization in Myanmar, terrorism, etc. Supporting the emergence and consolidation of democracies and strengthening cooperative frameworks in the Asia Pacific region was a particular focus of attention.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/australia/joint0603-2.html>

35. 1st ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting; 41st SEAMEO Council Conference

Date: March 21, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO)

Education ministers from Southeast Asian countries, the ASEAN secretary-general, the SEAMEO Secretariat director, senior education officials from the associate member countries of the SEAMEO (Australia, Canada, France, New Zealand, and Norway), partner organizations, and observers gathered for the 1st ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASEM) and the 41st SEAMEO Council Conference, held back-to-back. The ministers reviewed the plans and programs of SEAMEO units, exchanged views on education issues and on the promotion of ASEAN identity and a sociocultural community, and agreed to strengthen collaboration in the three key areas of language education, vocational and technical education, and selection and training of school leaders. In addition, the ministers attended an Art and Design Exhibition and visited schools and education institutions in Singapore.

For information, see: <http://www.moe.gov.sg/press/2006/pr20060324a.htm>

36. ASEAN-EU Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) and ASEM SOM

Date: March 22, 2006

Location: Vienna, Austria

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

A Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) between ASEAN and the EU is normally held twice a year—once on the eve of ministerial or summit meetings and once separately. No chairman’s statement is issued publicly after these meetings, although the chairman does write to participants, summarizing the main conclusions of the meeting.

An ASEM SOM is often held back-to-back with the ASEAN-EU SOM. At this meeting, discussions focused on the preparations for the 7th Finance Ministers Meeting in April 2006.

For information, see: <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/OfficialsMeetings/SOM/>

37. 3rd Forum for East Asia–Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) Core Group Meeting

Date: March 29–30, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Forum for East Asia–Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC);
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Japan

The 3rd FEALAC Core Group Meeting was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tokyo. Senior officials from Japan, South Korea, and Brazil led the meeting, which was attended by representatives from all 15 East Asian and 17 Latin American FEALAC members, as well as members of the three working groups (politics, culture, and education; economy and society; and science and technology). The FEALAC Core Group Meeting was held to discuss the preparations for the 3rd Ministerial Meeting, with a focus on future activities and FEALAC's relationship with the Asian Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and other organizations. This meeting was held on the initiative of Japan, the deputy coordinator on the East Asian side.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/press/2006/3/0331.html>

April

38. APEC Symposium on Emerging Infectious Diseases

Date: April 4–5, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

After this two-day meeting, which included presentations from representatives from the World Health Organization and the Asian Development Bank, APEC member economies agreed to establish and improve existing infectious disease surveillance networks and regional laboratory networks in the Asia Pacific. Member economies also agreed to enhance bio-safety standards at commercial farms and markets, improve veterinary capacity to detect and report infectious disease outbreaks, and strengthen animal health capacity to respond to outbreaks. In agreeing to these measures, the delegates to the seminar also made plans to undertake an assessment of the economic and social impacts of emerging infectious diseases in the region. This research is expected to guide decision-making in the event of a crisis. Member economies also agreed to increase technical and scientific cooperation for the development of prevention and control measures among economies to better deal with emerging infectious diseases.

For information, see: http://www.apecsec.org.sg/apec/news___media/media_releases/060406_prc_eid_symposium.html

39. 10th ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting and Retreat

Date: April 4–5, 2006

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 10th ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting was convened to discuss recent global and regional economic developments and the outlook for the year 2006. Delegates assessed the progress in implementing the Roadmap for Financial and Monetary Integration of ASEAN and other regional initiatives on customs, insurance, counterterrorism financing, money laundering, and reforms of the international financial system. During the meeting, four priorities were identified to further promote the competitiveness and depth of ASEAN's financial sector in a globalized market environment: developing an ASEAN asset class, reinforcing financial services liberalization, strengthening capacity building, and enhancing infrastructure financing. Progress was acknowledged in customs cooperation, particularly in finalizing the Protocol to

Establish and Implement the ASEAN Single Window (ASW). Through electronic processing of trade documents and streamlined customs procedures, the ASW is expected to significantly facilitate cross-border trade and investment in the region.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18352.htm>

40. 19th INTERPOL Asia Regional Conference

Date: April 11–13, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

INTERPOL's 19th Asia Regional Conference called on delegates to further develop police cooperation to combat all forms of crime, including human trafficking, drugs, and terrorism. Delegates also proposed that the INTERPOL General Secretariat make fighting corruption one of the organization's priority crime areas, which could include creating an INTERPOL Anti-Corruption Academy. More than 160 senior law enforcement officials from 35 countries in Asia attended the three-day meeting.

For information, see: <http://www.interpol.int/Public/ICPO/PressReleases/PR2006/PR200613.asp>

41. 5th Meeting of the Trilateral Consultations on the Possible Trilateral Legal Framework on Investment Agreement and on the Improvement of the Business Environment Concerning Investment between Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea

Date: April 11–13, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: Governments of Japan, China, and South Korea

The Trilateral Consultations were established based on the Action Strategy on Trilateral Cooperation among China, Japan, and Korea, formulated at a trilateral summit meeting held in Vientiane, Lao PDR, in November 2004. Four meetings were held in 2005 to discuss the possible trilateral legal framework on investment and measures for improvement of the business environment for investors. At the fifth meeting, the governments of the three countries continued discussions on whether they could start negotiations on a possible trilateral legal framework on investment. They also discussed measures that the three countries would take for the creation of a favorable business environment.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/4/0410-2.html>

42. ASEAN Foreign Ministers Retreat

Date: April 19–20, 2006

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; hosted by the Government of Indonesia

The ASEAN foreign ministers held their annual retreat (AMM Retreat) in Ubud, on Bali, Indonesia. The annual retreat, conducted in an informal setting, has no formal agenda in order to allow the ministers to engage in an open, frank, and free-flowing discussion on important issues affecting the region. The issues to be discussed included ASEAN centrality as well as strategies for implementing the Vientiane Action Programme. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia also briefed his ASEAN counterparts on his visit to Myanmar in March 2006 to obtain first-hand information on the progress of the implementation of the national reconciliation and democratization process by the government of Myanmar. While in Ubud, the ASEAN foreign ministers were also scheduled to meet the members of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter.

For information, see: http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26&vid=133

43. OSCE-Thailand Conference on Challenges to the Global Security

Date: April 25–26, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

OSCE and Asian officials focused for two days on challenges to global security at an international conference under the theme “From Poverty to Pandemic.” The conference explored future prospects for regional cooperation on eradicating trafficking in humans, drugs, and small arms and light weapons; illegal migration; and other new security threats. The discussions examined three topics: (1) the changing face of global security—reflections and perspectives; (2) poverty to pandemic—countering threats to regional security; and (3) challenges and opportunities for regional cooperation for global human security. The annual OSCE conference in Asia is the highlight of the work between the organization and its Asian Partners for Cooperation. Participants included representatives from OSCE institutions, participating states, Asian Partners for Cooperation (Afghanistan, Japan, Mongolia, South Korea, and Thailand) and Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia).

For information, see: <http://www.osce.org/item/18106.html>

44. 4th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ISM on CTTC)

Date: April 25–29, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); organized by the Governments of China and Brunei Darussalam

This meeting was attended by representatives from the ASEAN+3 countries, as well as from Australia, Canada, the EU, India, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Papua New Guinea, the United States, and Timor Leste. The ASEAN Secretariat and representatives from the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) also participated. Participants exchanged views on recent developments in the region, pointing out that despite the international counterterrorism efforts over the last few years, terrorism still poses a serious threat to regional and global peace and stability. The meeting reviewed the strategies and the implementation of measures to combat regional terrorism, the emergency response system, information-sharing measures, and the future direction of the ISM on CTTC. Participants expressed the belief that no country could succeed in the fight against terrorism alone and recognized the importance of strengthening the capabilities of ARF members by developing best practices and sharing knowledge and experiences.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

45. 9th ASEAN-India Working Group on Development Cooperation

Date: April 26, 2006

Location: Vientiane, Lao PDR

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/4-2006.htm>

46. Regional Symposium on the Socioeconomic Impact of HIV and AIDS

Date: April 27–28, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/4-2006.htm>

47. 8th ASEAN-India Joint Cooperation Committee; 8th ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: April 27–29, 2006

Location: Vientiane, Lao PDR

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 8th ASEAN-India SOM was held in Vientiane, Lao PDR. During the two-day meeting, delegates reviewed various areas of cooperation—particularly economic and development cooperation—between ASEAN and India; the implementation of agreements reached at last year’s summit; and progress on the ASEAN-India Action Programme. They reviewed mutual assistance in the ASEAN integration process and in narrowing the development gap between old and new member countries of the bloc.

The ASEAN delegates asked India to contribute US\$1 million to the ASEAN Development Fund for the implementation of the Vientiane Action Program, which centers on deepening regional integration and narrowing the development gap among member countries. In addition, ASEAN asked India to provide US\$5 million to the ASEAN-India Cooperation Fund for the implementation of six initiatives, including the construction of English language centers in the newer ASEAN members and the establishment of an information exchange network. Discussions also touched on the building of an ASEAN-India free trade area, and the issues of terrorism and transnational crime.

For information, see: <http://www.tmcnet.com/usubmit/2006/04/28/1621515.htm>

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2006-04/28/content_4487600.htm

May

48. 5th UN-ASEAN Regional Seminar on Conflict Prevention, Conflict Resolution and Peace Building

Date: May 3–5, 2006

Location: Subang Jaya, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations, ASEAN, UN Development Programme (UNDP)

Officials from the UN Department of Political Affairs joined with counterparts from ASEAN at the 5th annual UN-ASEAN Regional Seminar on Conflict Prevention, Conflict Resolution and Peace Building. Participants were urged to move from dialogue to tangible actions to strengthen the framework for cooperation between the UN and ASEAN and to build a stronger regional security architecture capable of addressing lingering tensions and political crises.

For information, see: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/whatsnew-may06.html>

49. APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Avian and Pandemic Influenza

Date: May 4–6, 2006

Location: Danang, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

At their previous meeting, in November 2005, APEC Leaders endorsed the APEC Initiative on Preparing for and Mitigating an Influenza Pandemic, which identified 11 areas for collective work by APEC economies to complement and support those of international organizations such as the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the World Organization for Animal Health. The APEC Health Task Force has identified enhancing avian and pandemic influenza preparedness and response as priorities of its 2006–07 work plan, calling for developing multisectoral cooperation and coordination on avian and pandemic influenza; establishing best practices and common approaches to risk communications; mitigating negative effects of avian influenza on agriculture and trade; working with the private

sector to help ensure continuity of business, trade, and essential services; and strengthening regional and international cooperation.

For information, see: http://www.apec.org/content/apec/ministerial_statements/sectoral_ministerial/avian_and_influenza/2006_AIPMM.html

50. ASEAN+3 Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: May 4, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/5-2006.htm

51. 9th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Meeting

Date: May 4, 2006

Location: Hyderabad, India

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

At the 9th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Meeting, finance ministers agreed to complete the strengthening of the regional liquidity support network. Substantial progress had been made toward the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI), such as the adoption of collective decision-making procedures for swap activation and the launch of the Group of Experts (GOE) and the Technical Working Group on Economic and Financial Monitoring (ETWG) to explore the ways for further strengthening surveillance capacity in East Asia. Finance ministers also agreed to task the deputies to set up a new task force to further study various possible options toward an advanced framework for a regional liquidity support arrangement (CMI multilateralization or post-CMI).

For information, see: http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/as3_060504.htm

http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/regional_financial_cooperation.htm

52. 23rd Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force

Date: May 8, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

In 2004, ASEAN Leaders adopted the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) to integrate the newer member countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam—CLMV) into the ASEAN economic mainstream. To do so, they needed to narrow the development gap between the old ASEAN-6 and the newer members. A six-year (2002–2008) work plan was developed that focuses on infrastructure development, human resource development, information and communication technology, promoting regional economic integration, tourism, poverty reduction and improvement in the quality of life, and projects that cut across all areas such as language training. The CLMV countries organized themselves into the IAI Task Force, which meets regularly to review the implementation of the projects under the IAI program.

53. Inaugural ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting (ADMM); Informal Defense Senior Officials Meeting

Date: May 8–9, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

At the inaugural ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting (ADMM), ministers exchanged views on the current regional and international security situation. The ministers welcomed the prevailing peace and stability in Southeast Asia but agreed that security challenges remained and that continued efforts should be undertaken to address them. The ministers agreed that the ADMM

should be an integral part of ASEAN and the establishment of an ASEAN Security Community and that it should add value to and complement the overall ASEAN process. The ministers agreed that the specific objectives of the ADMM would be (a) to promote regional peace and stability through dialogue and cooperation in defense and security; (b) to give guidance to existing senior defense and military officials' dialogues and cooperation within ASEAN and between ASEAN and its dialogue partners; (c) to promote mutual trust and confidence through greater understanding of defense and security challenges; and (d) to contribute to the establishment of an ASEAN Security Community.

The meeting was preceded by an Informal Defense Senior Officials Meeting on May 8, and the ministers agreed to establish an ASEAN Defense Senior Officials Meeting or ADSOM to support the activities of the ADMM.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18412.htm>

54. Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT) 4th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: May 10–12, 2006

Location: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (UNIAP); Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT)

The Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT) is a process led by the governments of the six Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) countries that aims at creating a sustained, effective system of cross-border collaboration to combat human trafficking. UNIAP serves as the secretariat to COMMIT. In early 2005, the GMS governments signed a subregional MOU on human trafficking in Asia Pacific and adopted a comprehensive Subregional Plan of Action to build a web of cooperative endeavors against human trafficking.

COMMIT is governed by an annual meeting of senior officials, which meets in a different Mekong country every year. The 4th SOM included updates on the status in each country and then addressed the status of implementation of COMMIT's 10-point plan of action, which covers areas such as training, identification of victims and apprehension of perpetrators, repatriation, legal frameworks and assistance, and cooperation with the tourism sector.

For information, see: http://www.no-trafficking.org/content/COMMIT_Process/commit_som4.htm

55. 35th Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistics Seminar (PASOLS 35)

Date: May 15–18, 2006

Location: Hawaii, US

Organizers/Sponsors: Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistics Seminar (PASOLS)

At PASOLS 35, delegates from 22 of the member countries discussed the revision of the structure, activities, and output of the seminar. Agreement was reached that management of PASOLS activities would be undertaken by a staff-level PASOLS Planning Group and that the prime focus of PASOLS would be logistics interoperability between member nations at the operational and strategic level. This would be achieved by having the principal product of PASOLS be a *PASOLS Mutual Logistics Support Handbook* (PASOLS MLSH). Major elements covered in the MLSH will be support to coalition operations, support to UN operations, and support for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. These elements will be addressed by PASOLS on a three-year cycle, with one of the subsets considered each year.

For information, see: <http://www.pasols.org/>

56. WTO/ESCAP/MOFCOM High-Level Consultations on the Doha Development Agenda Negotiation Issues

Date: May 15–19, 2006

Location: Shenzhen, China

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Trade and Investment Division; World Trade Organization (WTO); Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM)

The main objective of this conference was to provide an opportunity for senior officials from Asia Pacific economies to further reflect on the development dimension and trade implications of selected items of the Doha Work Programme. The conference is designed to promote enhanced awareness of state of play on key issues of the negotiating agenda; to exchange information on the implications at national, regional, and multilateral levels; and to discuss further capacity-building needs.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/projects/ddani.asp>

57. Consultation on ASEAN+3 Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) Programme Phase 2 Framework

Date: May 16–17, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/5-2006.htm

58. ASEAN Special Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: May 16–18, 2006

Location: Karambunai, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/5-2006.htm

59. ARF Defense Officials Dialogue

Date: May 17, 2006

Location: Karambunai, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

Representatives from the ministries of defense of all ARF participants except Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Mongolia, and Myanmar attended the meeting, which focused on the issue of transnational crime, including terrorism, piracy, arms smuggling, money laundering, drug trafficking, illegal migration, illegal fishing, and illegal logging. The participants discussed the nature, typology, trends, and common problems faced when dealing with these crimes. They discussed the role of the military and of regional efforts in fighting transnational crime. Participants agreed that efforts to combat transnational crime require the involvement of both defense and law enforcement agencies, as well as new regional strategies. The meeting also including preparations for the 3rd ARF Security Policy Conference and the ARF Defense Officials' Meeting.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

60. 3rd ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Security Policy Conference

Date: May 18, 2006

Location: Karambunai, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); hosted by Malaysia

This meeting was attended by representatives from the ASEAN+3 countries, as well as from Australia, Canada, the EU, India, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, the United States, and the ASEAN Secretariat. The twin themes of the conference were maritime security and peacekeeping operations. Participants discussed the importance of promoting safety and security of navigation at sea for international trade and commerce, the continued threat of piracy and other transnational crimes at sea, the possibility of building on existing subregional maritime security cooperation as a model for multilateral maritime security arrangements in the Asia Pacific region, and other key issues.

The participants also exchanged views on the state of UN peacekeeping operations and reaffirmed the central role of the UN in that task. They noted that many of the ARF countries had established or were establishing peacekeeping training centers and recommended that ARF members should continue to contribute to UN peacekeeping in terms of personnel as well as financial and logistical support. They agreed to work on establishing a regional network of peacekeeping experts and to continue promoting awareness of peacekeeping demands and challenges.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

61. ASEAN+3 Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: May 18, 2006

Location: Karambunai, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/5-2006.htm

62. 10th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Multilateral Environmental Agreements

Date: May 18–20, 2006

Location: Bogor, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/5-2006.htm

63. ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: May 20, 2006

Location: Karambunai, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFActivities/ListofARFTrackIActivities/tabid/93/Default.aspx>

64. 2nd Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) Darwin Dialogue

Date: May 22–25, 2006

Location: Darwin, Australia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 2nd Darwin Dialogue was attended by delegates from the BIMP-EAGA member countries, BIMP-EAGA Business Council, BIMP-EAGA Facilitation Center, Asian Development Bank, ASEAN Secretariat, German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), and officials from Northern Territory and AusAID.

The 2nd Dialogue was preceded by a BIMP-EAGA Business Investment Seminar, co-hosted by the BIMP-EAGA Business Council and Northern Territory Chamber of Commerce, which highlighted recent developments in BIMP-EAGA, recent developments in the ASEAN–Australia–New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) Agreement and its impact on BIMP-

EAGA-NT trade and investment relations, and investment opportunities in the BIMP-EAGA region and in Northern Territory.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18431.htm>

65. 26th ASEAN Chiefs of Police (ASEANPOL) Conference

Date: May 22–26, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEANPOL Conference was attended by the national police chiefs of ASEAN's 10 member countries. Delegates from Australia, China, South Korea, Japan, and New Zealand were also present at the conference as observers. ASEANPOL was created in 1981 to promote information exchange and law enforcement cooperation between the police authorities in the region. After the conference, ASEAN officially launched an ASEAN Database System to promote information sharing and exchanges and to improve efforts at solving crimes in the region.

For information, see: www.gov.cn/misc/2006-05/23/content_288722.htm

66. China-ASEAN Workshop on Disaster Reduction

Date: May 22–26, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The China-ASEAN Workshop on Disaster Reduction was attended by 60 delegates from ASEAN member countries, China, the ASEAN Secretariat, and other international and regional organizations. The meeting included three thematic sessions: (1) Integrated Disaster Risk Management, (2) Disaster Monitoring and Early Warning Technology, and (3) Regional Cooperation on Disaster Reduction. Among the participants' recommendations were the implementation of training and capacity-building programs to strengthen capacity pursuant to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and the promotion of mutual exchange of trainers and trainees related to disaster risk reduction. They called for a strengthening of capacity on disaster risk mapping through transfer of knowledge and expertise; for continued sharing of information, experiences, and best practices; and for the establishment of a network of centers of excellence, research centers, and training institutes, and of regular exchange visits of experts and senior officials.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-highlights/2006/june06.htm>

67. 19th ASEAN-US Dialogue

Date: May 23, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

Delegates from the ASEAN member governments and the United States attended this meeting, together with representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat. The members underlined the importance of the long-standing ASEAN-US Dialogue relations and the importance of the region and of ASEAN to the United States. The landmark developments in ASEAN-US relations over the preceding year included the release of the Joint Vision Statement on the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership and the work being done on the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership. Discussions continued on ways to further support ASEAN's efforts to establish the ASEAN Community, promote ASEAN integration, and reduce the development gap, underscoring the common interest of ASEAN and the United States in further developing economic relations.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18427.htm>

68. 5th Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD); ACD Ministerial Meeting

Date: May 23–24, 2006

Location: Doha, Qatar

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD)

The Asia Cooperation Dialogue, attended by representatives from ACD member countries, took place in Doha, Qatar, in May 2006. Two new members, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, were welcomed as the 29th and 30th members of the ACD at the conference. The meeting reviewed the progress made in various ACD cooperation projects and provided a venue for an exchange of views on how to enhance cooperation. Recommendations were made for ministers' consideration and/or endorsement in nine project areas: agriculture, e-education, energy, environmental education, financial cooperation, IT cooperation, natural disasters, poverty alleviation, and tourism.

In the final declaration, members endorsed the formation of an ACD Energy Forum as a platform for cooperation in the field. The establishment of an e-university to bridge the digital divide on the continent and facilitate access to higher education for the benefit of all ACD members was supported by the ministers. The declaration also called on ACD countries to join efforts to realize the goals of establishing an early warning and disaster relief system, and to enhance cooperation for alleviation of poverty and human resource development, among other things.

For information, see: <http://www.acddialogue.com/>

69. 4th Japan–Pacific Islands Forum Summit

Date: May 26–27, 2006

Location: Okinawa, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Pacific Islands Forum (PIF); co-hosted by the governments of Japan and Papua New Guinea

The leaders of Japan and the PIF nations met for the 4th Japan-PIF Summit Meeting. Building on the results of the Okinawa Initiative, adopted at the 3rd Japan-PIF Summit Meeting in 2003, participants decided to establish a new "Okinawa Partnership" in order to achieve a more robust and prosperous Pacific region. The leaders decided to establish a joint committee to annually review progress on the implementation of the Okinawa Partnership and future cooperation between Japan and PIF Members.

The PIF leaders advised that the Pacific Plan they adopted in October 2005 is currently being implemented to enhance and stimulate economic growth, sustainable development, good governance, and security for Pacific countries. Prime Minister Koizumi expressed Japan's readiness to assist such efforts by means of an assistance plan covering the areas of economic growth, sustainable development, good governance, security, and people-to-people communication and exchange. The leaders of Japan and the PIF called on the international community to enhance their partnerships with the region in line with the Pacific Plan framework.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/spf/palm2006/info.html>

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/spf/palm2006/declaration.html>

70. 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources Management

Date: May 29, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources Management (AWGWORM) was established by the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment in 2002. The working group cooperates on networking and collaborative action on integrated water resources management (IWRM);

exchange of relevant information, expertise, and technology on water management; and training, education, and awareness-raising campaigns on IWRM. In 2005, AWGWRM developed an ASEAN Strategic Plan of Action on WRM, which recognized the need to integrate the water sectors and such issues as water supply, sanitation, floods and droughts, degradation of the environment, food security, and the livelihoods of the poor. This was the 6th meeting of the working group.

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/awgwrw/ASEAN%20Strategic%20Plan%20of%20Action%20on%20Water%20Resources%20Management.pdf
<http://www.gwpseatac.ait.ac.th/aseanwrm.htm>

71. 12th ASEAN-China Senior Officials Consultations; ASEAN-China Senior Officials Meeting on the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC)

Date: May 29–31, 2006

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 12th ASEAN-China Senior Officials Consultations were held in Cambodia. Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Wu Dawei attended the two-day session along with his counterparts from the 10 ASEAN member countries and the secretary-general of ASEAN. The annual consultations are hosted in turn by China and ASEAN countries and serve as a venue for the two sides to exchange views, coordinate positions, and strengthen cooperation on regional and international affairs as well as bilateral relations.

For information, see: http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/0602qchina_asean.pdf
<http://english.cri.cn/537/2006/05/18/61@911111.htm>

72. APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade

Date: May 31–June 3, 2006

Location: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

At the APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade, participants decided the modality of the APEC Ministerial Meeting and Leaders Meeting to take place in Hanoi in November 2006. The discussions included APEC's support for the Doha Development Agenda negotiations, development of FTAs/RTAs within the region, and the Action Plan to implement the Busan Roadmap. The meeting was hosted by Vietnam, and the APEC ministers were joined by Director-General Pascal Lamy of the World Trade Organization.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/5/0526.html>

June

73. 6th ASEAN SOM on Transnational Crime (SOMTC); ASEAN Working Group Meeting on Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children; ASEAN Working Group on Counter Terrorism; ASEAN Working Group on Finalization of the SOMTC+3 Work Program; Workshop on Collection of Data and Statistics on Trafficking in Persons

Date: June 5–10, 2006

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) is a cooperative forum focused on eradicating transnational crime. The SOMTC is held every year, and the results of the meeting are brought to the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) for further discussion and ratification. There are eight types of transnational crimes that are

deemed to be seriously affecting Southeast Asia and require attention and cooperation from ASEAN member countries: illicit drug trafficking; trafficking in persons; sea piracy; arms smuggling; terrorism; money laundering; international economic crime; and cyber crime. At the 5th SOMTC in 2005 it was agreed that four types of crime would be given priority, namely terrorism, illegal narcotic trafficking, trafficking in persons, and money laundering.

The 6th SOMTC was combined with the SOMTC+1 meetings (namely with China, Japan, South Korea, and Australia) and the SOMTC+3 (jointly with China, Japan, and South Korea). The SOMTC was preceded by a workshop and working group activities on June 5–6, including a Workshop on Collection of Data and Statistics on Trafficking in Persons, and meetings of the Working Group on Counter Terrorism, Working Group on Trafficking In Persons, and Working Group on Finalization of the SOMTC+3 Work Program.

For information, see: http://www.humantrafficking.org/uploads/publications/20070806_154022_lowres_20asean_20report-complete.pdf
http://www.interpol.go.id/files/6_2e3fda.doc

74. 4th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities

Date: June 7–8, 2006

Location: Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC), chaired by Singapore, was formed in June 2003 to develop strategies and action plans to drive the Regional Environmentally Sustainable Cities Programme (RESCP). Among the objectives of the AWGESC are to develop a framework for sustainable cities in ASEAN that is applicable to the prevailing but varied circumstances among ASEAN cities; to develop strategies and action plans to realize the vision of sustainable cities in ASEAN; to promote the sharing of information and expertise in environmental protection and management; and to facilitate and organize activities to promote inter-city environmental cooperation and transfer of know-how and expertise.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/meeting.htm>

75. 4th ASEAN-Japan Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) Leaders Conference

Date: June 7–8, 2006

Location: Miyazaki, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

To strengthen ASEAN-Japan cooperation on transport, the 4th ASEAN-Japan Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) Leaders Conference was held in June 2006 in Miyazaki, Japan. Significant progress has been made in the implementation of the 21 joint projects, which cover transport facilitation, air, maritime, and land, under the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership. Drafts of the “ASEAN-Japan Ministerial Declaration on Transport Security,” the “Recommendation for ASEAN-Japan New Air Navigation System,” and the “ASEAN-Japan Regional Action Plan on Port Security “ were to be submitted to the 5th ASEAN STOM+Japan and the 4th ASEAN and Japan Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM+J) in February 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand, for consideration and adoption.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/20462.htm>

76. 6th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC); 4th ASEAN SOMTC+4; 3rd ASEAN SOMTC+Australia; 4th ASEAN SOMTC+China; 3rd ASEAN SOMTC+Japan; 1st ASEAN SOMTC+ROK Consultations

Date: June 7–9, 2006

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/6-2006.htm

77. 4th Asian Women Ministers and Parliamentarians Conference

Date: June 10–12, 2006

Location: Wellington, New Zealand

Organizers/Sponsors: New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development (NZPPD); Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD); supported by the Government of Japan, the New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID), and UN Population Fund (UNFPA)

At this fourth gathering of Asian women policymakers, participants discussed strategies for encouraging women to participate in decision making at all levels of governance, capacity building for gender governance, globalization and the economic empowerment of women in Asia Pacific, and promotion of an integrated approach to preventing violence against women. They also attended workshops on gender analysis, gender governance and gender-sensitive approaches to sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS, trafficking, early marriage and adolescent sexual and reproductive health, and the role of male parliamentarians in achieving gender equity. At the conclusion of the meeting, the participants adopted a plan of action, which addressed, among other items, issues of gender disparities in the region.

For information, see: <http://www.unfpa.org/parliamentarians/news/newsletters/issue66.htm>

78. ASEAN–BIMP-EAGA Consultation Meeting

Date: June 14–15, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; GTZ

Twenty representatives from the Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the ASEAN-Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC), and AusAID attended this event. The objective was to strengthen linkages and coordination between ASEAN and the BIMP-EAGA nations, as called for under the BIMP-EAGA Roadmap to Development for the period 2006–2010. Topics for discussion included ASEAN's institutional set-up and operational and management practices; the feasibility of pilot-testing ASEAN agreements in the BIMP-EAGA region; a coordination mechanism to foster closer public-private sector partnerships; ASEAN's practices in the implementation mechanism and monitoring and evaluation system; raising the profile of the BIMP-EAGA development agenda in ASEAN's framework; and promoting BIMP-EAGA's activities and documents through ASEANWeb.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18483.htm>

79. Regional Workshop on Mitigation, Preparedness and Development for Tsunami Early Warning Systems in the Indian Ocean Region

Date: June 14–16, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) secretariat; Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the UN Economic, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO-IOC), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The UN/ISDR Asia Pacific Unit and its Platform for the Promotion of Early Warning (PPEW) organized a regional workshop that brought together more than 130 experts from more than 20 countries bordering the Indian Ocean, regional partners, and representatives from UN agencies and disaster centers in the Indian Ocean region. The aim of the conference was to promote the engagement of development experts in the mitigation and preparedness process of the tsunami early warning systems. Experts from the fields of technical tsunami early warning systems,

disaster risk reduction, and development shared their experiences in relation to integrating tsunami early warning systems into disaster risk reduction and development processes.

Workshop outcomes helped to define the draft terms of reference for a proposed new Working Group of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group (ICG) on Mitigation Preparedness and Response. The outcomes and the proposed terms of reference were submitted for consideration and endorsement at the meeting of the ICG for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWS), held in Bali, Indonesia, in July 2006.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/ppew/tsunami/project-overview/dp-voices.htm>

80. Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation

Organization (SCO)

Date: June 15, 2006

Location: Shanghai, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

The 2006 Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the SCO was attended by the SCO heads of state and by representatives of observer states (India, Iran, Mongolia, Pakistan, Afghanistan), the Commonwealth of Independent States, and ASEAN. The heads of state signed the Declaration on the 5th Anniversary of the SCO and the Statement of Heads of Member States of SCO on International Information Security. They approved a new version of the regulations of the SCO Secretariat and a cooperation program among SCO members on combating terrorism, separatism, and extremism from 2007 to 2009.

The plenipotentiary representatives of member states of the SCO signed an agreement on the procedures for holding joint antiterrorism actions in the territories of SCO member states, an agreement on identifying and severing infiltrating channels of people engaged in terrorism, separatism, and extremism in the territories of SCO member states, an intergovernmental educational cooperation agreement of SCO member states, a resolution of the SCO Business Council, and an action plan of the SCO Interbank Association member banks on supporting regional economic cooperation.

For information, see: <http://www.sectSCO.org/html/00030.html>

81. Special Meeting of the ASEAN Task Force on AIDS (ATFOA)

Date: June 18, 2006

Location: Yangon, Myanmar

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/6-2006.htm

82. 8th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting; 2nd ASEAN+3 Health Ministers Meeting; 1st ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting

Date: June 21–23, 2006

Location: Yangon, Myanmar

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 8th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting brought together over 100 delegates to focus on promoting ASEAN unity in health emergencies. Ministers pledged to strengthen their national capabilities and regional cooperation to prepare for and respond to natural disasters, bioterrorism, and outbreaks of communicable diseases, including influenza pandemics. They adopted the second phase of the ASEAN+3 Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) Program and endorsed the work of the ASEAN Experts Group on Communicable Diseases and the ASEAN Task Force on AIDS. Other issues discussed included measures to enhance competitiveness, the health factor in ASEAN community building, and ASEAN cooperation with the WHO and UNAIDS.

The ASEAN+3 health ministers met on June 22 and adopted a strategic framework for Phase 2 of the EID Program. The meeting also addressed operationalization of the ASEAN+3 framework

for integrating traditional medicine and complementary and alternative medicine into national healthcare systems, an ASEAN-China workshop on social safety nets in health, and Japan's assistance to ASEAN countries to control avian influenza and for the pandemic preparedness plan. An inaugural ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting was held on the final day.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18494.pdf>
http://citrus.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/projects/ASEAN/ASEAN+3/3AS20060726%20Chairman_Statement_7th_Meeting.html
http://english.people.com.cn/200606/21/eng20060621_275989.html

83. 4th ASEM Conference on Counter-Terrorism

Date: June 26–27, 2006

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

ASEM partners decided to focus on counterterrorism during the 4th ASEM Summit in Denmark in 2002 and thus agreed on a declaration on cooperation against international terrorism. Conferences on counterterrorism have taken place on a yearly basis since then (Beijing in 2003, Berlin in 2004, and Semarang in 2005). The conference in Copenhagen built on the previous conferences, took stock of concrete cooperation initiatives, and offered a venue for sharing experiences with other international fora. The main areas of focus were supporting the role of the United Nations within the area of counterterrorism, strengthening regional cooperation, and deepening cooperation within the ASEM framework.

For information, see: http://www.aseinfoboard.org/content/documents/CCT_chairmansummary.pdf
<http://www.aseinfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=178>

84. ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism Dialogue

Date: June 28–29, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia

The ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism Dialogue was held in Tokyo, co-chaired by officials of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Japan and Malaysia, and attended by officials of the ASEAN countries and Japan, as well as the ASEAN Secretariat. This was the inaugural meeting of the dialogue, which was called for under an agreement signed at the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting held in December 2005. In light of the importance of international cooperation in countering terrorism, the dialogue was intended as a forum for free and frank exchanges of views between Japan and ASEAN to strengthen counterterrorism cooperation in the ASEAN region.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/6/0626-2.html>

July

85. AIPO Research Meeting on Legal Cooperation to Combat Trafficking in Persons

Date: July 2–5, 2006

Location: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO)

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/7-2006.htm>

86. 9th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Group on Money Laundering

Date: July 3–7, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Group (APG) on Money Laundering

At the 9th Annual Meeting of the APG on Money Laundering, the APG committed its membership to undergo compliance assessments against the expanded and enhanced global anti-money laundering and antiterrorist financing standards. Importantly, members agreed to continue the mandate of the APG until December 2012. The international standards on money laundering and terrorist financing are set out in the 40 recommendations and 9 special recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF).

The meeting was attended by over 250 participants representing 32 member jurisdictions (Myanmar, Afghanistan, and Canada had recently joined the APG), 6 observer jurisdictions, and 10 international and regional organizations, including the IMF and the World Bank.

For information, see: <http://www.apgml.org/documents/docs/3/APG%20iQ%20Aug%202006.pdf>

87. Special Meeting of the ASEAN Expert Group on Communicable Diseases (AEGCD)

Date: July 11–12, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The AEGCD implemented the ASEAN+3 Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) Program Phase I between August 2004 and October 2005 with support from the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program. This meeting was held to discuss Phase II of the EID Program, which was adopted at the ASEAN+3 Health Ministers Meeting on June 22, 2006. This program addresses the institutional strengthening of key animal and human health agencies of ASEAN member countries and the ASEAN Secretariat, and focuses on strengthening regional capacity and collaboration for EID outbreak preparedness and contingency planning, EID prevention and risk reduction, and surveillance and response.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/AR07.pdf>

88. Implementing UNSC Resolution 1540 in Asia and Pacific

Date: July 12–13, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA); Foreign Ministry of China; supported by governments of Australia, Denmark, Norway, the UK, and the EU

In April 2004, the UN Security Council adopted UN Security Council Resolution 1540, which established for the first time binding obligations on all UN member states under Chapter VII of the UN Charter to take and enforce effective measures against the proliferation of WMD, their means of delivery, and related materials. It was intended to ensure that no state or nonstate actor is a source of WMD proliferation. Sixty-seven government officials from 28 countries and from international organizations gathered in July 2006 to share their experiences in preparing their national reports and implementing resolution 1540, with a special focus on export controls, international assistance, and lessons learned.

For information, see: <http://disarmament.un.org/DDApublications/OP1106-64948web.pdf>

89. 26th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC)

Date: July 13, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC) held its 26th consultation session. ASEAN delegates were briefed by the EC-ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Cooperation Program (ECAP II) administrator on the outcome of regional activities implemented in the first half of 2006 and on the preparation of remaining regional activities for 2006. The Thai delegation also briefed the delegates on the successes of the ECAP II Regional Seminar & Exhibition on the Protection and Promotion of Geographical Indications organized in Bangkok on June 28–29, 2006. The ECAP II administrator also informed the ASEAN delegates of the latest development of the ECAP II extension for 2007.

For information, see: http://www.ecap-project.org/activitiesevents/at_regional_level/26th_meeting_of_the_asean_working_group_on_intellectual_property_cooperation_awigpc_13_july_2006_manila.html

90. 4th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials for the 37th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (SEOM 4/37)

Date: July 17–21, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/7-2006.htm

91. 24th Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force

Date: July 22, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

This was the 24th meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), which seeks to integrate the newer member countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam, or CLMV) into the ASEAN economic mainstream by narrowing the development gap between the old ASEAN-6 and the newer members. The CLMV countries organized the IAI Task Force, which meets regularly to review the implementation of the projects under the IAI work plan (2002–2008).

For information, see: <http://web5.bernama.com/events/amm/?type=spr&id=508>

92. ACMECS Workshop on Avian Influenza Prevention and Control

Date: July 24–28, 2006

Location: Yangon, Myanmar

Organizers/Sponsors: Ayeyawady–Chao Phraya–Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS); funded by Thailand and the World Health Organization (WHO)

ACMECS is a cooperation framework established in 2003 among Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam to utilize member countries' diverse strengths and to promote balanced development in the subregion. This workshop was attended by more than 40 Myanmar officials in the fields of animal health and public health, 10 experts from the Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, and 6 local experts in animal health and public health. It was a direct outcome of, and the first activity under, the ACMECS Immediate Action Plan for Preventing and Controlling Avian Influenza, adopted at the ACMECS Special Senior Officials Meeting on Avian Influenza Pandemic Preparedness (May 2006). This action plan identifies immediate needs and action by ACMECS members in combating the avian influenza problem in the region. It was agreed at the Special SOM Meeting that a pilot project should be carried out as early as possible in an ACMECS country. Similar activities will be carried out in Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam later this year, and other activities under the action plan are being developed.

For information, see: <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/35.php?id=4497>

93. ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) of the 24th ASEAN Ministers of Energy Meeting (AMEM); 5th SOME+3; 3rd AMEM+3; 24th AMEM; Energy Ministers Dialogue

Date: July 25–28, 2006

Location: Vientiane, Lao PDR

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

Topics at the SOME Meeting included progress on the trans-ASEAN gas pipeline project, the ASEAN power grid, ASEAN coal cooperation, cooperation in energy efficiency and conservation, cooperation on renewable energy, and regional energy policy and planning cooperation. At the AMEM, maintaining energy security and stability was affirmed as a priority agenda, as high oil prices present clear risks to sustained economic growth of the ASEAN region.

For information, see: http://www.aseanenergy.org/energy_organisations/amem/amem.html

http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/reports/energy_organisation/some/24th%20SOME%20Final%20Report.pdf

<http://www.eppo.go.th/inter/asean/AMEM24/amem24-E.html>

94. 39th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM)

Date: July 25, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN foreign ministers met and reemphasized the need for solidarity and focus on achieving greater regional integration. They agreed that ASEAN should adopt an incremental approach in its community-building efforts to ensure true consensus on establishing a set of common values, perceptions, and outlooks. The discussions covered a wide array of issues, but special focus was given to the building of the ASEAN Community. Three overarching principles were underlined: (1) that community interests would prevail over national interests on issues affecting the community; (2) that member countries must adhere to a common set of community values which, though universal in nature, are distinctly ASEAN in character; and (3) that member countries accept the need for good governance. The ministers were pleased with the progress made toward the realization of the ASEAN Community by the year 2020, and views were exchanged on how to move that date forward from 2020 to 2015.

For information, see: http://www.13thaseansummit.sg/asean/index.php/web/summit_overview/overview

<http://www.aseansec.org/18561.htm>

95. ASEAN+3 Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers Meeting; Post-Ministerial Conferences; Ad Hoc Consultations among East Asia Summit (EAS) Senior Officials

Date: July 26–27, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

At the ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers Meeting, North Korea's nuclear program was a major issue of discussion following the DPRK's test firing of its Taepodong-2 missiles on July 5. Delegates believed the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) could play a significant role in promoting peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula and expressed the hope that members of the Six-Party Talks could utilize their foreign ministers' presence during the 13th ARF to promote the resumption of the talks. Participants also expressed concern over the deteriorating situation and escalation of violence in the Middle East. The meeting also addressed ways to promote the role of civil society in the ASEAN+3 activities.

At the meeting of the EAS officials, foreign ministers exchanged views concerning the so-called “top-down” structure of the EAS. The 1st EAS had been held without a preset agenda and the participating leaders were encouraged to discuss issues they deemed important. The ministers agreed that there should be some mechanism to implement and follow up on the decisions of the EAS leaders. The ministers also identified five key issues for cooperation among EAS member countries: energy, finance, education, disaster relief, and pandemics (particularly avian influenza prevention).

Relations between ASEAN and the United States took a major step forward on July 27 with the signing of the Framework Document of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership. This was preceded by a dialogue meeting under the ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference with the United States.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/Default.aspx?tabid=67>
<http://www.mfa.go.th/web/35.php?id=4492>

96. 14th ASEAN Task Force On AIDS (ATFOA) Meeting

Date: July 27–28, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The Singapore Ministry of Health hosted the 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Task Force On AIDS (ATFOA). The ATFOA aims to develop regional strategies to prevent HIV transmission, reduce mortality associated with HIV infection and AIDS, and reduce the negative social and economic impact of HIV/AIDS in the ASEAN and adjoining regions. The 14th Meeting was attended by the national coordinators of HIV and AIDS programs from the ASEAN countries. The meeting provided a platform for the ASEAN members to update each other on their national strategies toward HIV/AIDS, exchange views on policy and technical issues pertaining to HIV/AIDS, and review its cooperation with regional and international organizations.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/7-2006.htm>

97. 13th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Meeting; Meeting of the ARF Defence Officials

Date: July 27–28, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

The 13th ARF meeting was attended by the foreign ministers of all ARF countries, as well as the EU high representative for common foreign and security policy, and the ASEAN secretary-general. A meeting of the defense and military officials attending the 13th ARF was also held on July 27. The ministers welcomed the admission of Bangladesh as the 26th participant of the ARF.

The ministers reaffirmed the importance of the ARF and held comprehensive discussions on issues of common concern including disaster prevention and relief, terrorism, denuclearization, communicable diseases, and maritime security issues. They stressed the need for the ARF to focus its deliberations on regional issues, particularly in the Asia Pacific region, as well as international issues with regional impact. The ministers recognized that the challenges facing the Asia Pacific region are becoming more complex and interrelated and require greater regional cooperation.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

98. 3rd Session of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning & Mitigation System

Date: July 31–August 2, 2006

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)–Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

Within the IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG-IOTWS), five intersessional working groups are conducting significant work on data collection and exchange, hazard identification and modeling, as well as the establishment of warning centers. At the 2nd Session of the ICG-IOTWS in December 2005, a group of representatives of agencies dealing with aid and development stressed the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction and development expertise into the work of the ICG. At the third session, the meeting began with a report on the intersessional activities, including a report from the IOC Tsunami Unit, reports from UN agencies, and national reports. The five existing working groups then gave progress reports and a report was given on the proposed sixth working group on migration, preparedness, and response. Participants then joined in working group sessional meetings, discussions of the 2006–2007 program, and the formation of recommendations.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/ppew/tsunami/project-overview/dp-voices.htm>

99. Workshop on Statistics for Monitoring the Achievement of the MDGs in Asia and the Pacific

Date: July 31–August 4, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The Statistics Division of UNESCAP, in partnership with the SIAP, UNDP, and ADB, organized a workshop on statistics for monitoring the achievement of the MDGs at the UN Conference Center in Bangkok, Thailand. The workshop was organized to gather high-level officials from national statistical bodies of all Asia Pacific member countries and international statistical agencies to examine data issues in monitoring MDG indicators and to develop sustainable strategies for data collection and coordination among national and international agencies. The major topics were (1) national priorities and relevance of MDG data for policymaking, (2) data availability and coordination issues, and (3) issues in tracking MDG progress.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/stat/meet/MDG2006/>

August

100. 9th High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration

Date: August 1–2, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/8-2006.htm

101. 27th Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD); 3rd ASEAN-China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD) Joint Task Force Meeting; 2nd ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC+3) Working Group on Narcotics

Date: August 1–4, 2006

Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); hosted by the Office of the Narcotics Control Board, Government of Thailand

The ACCORD Joint Task Force Meeting, held back-to-back with the annual ASOD meeting, discussed closer alignment between the annual ASOD Meeting—which brings together the 10 member national drug control agencies—and ACCORD to make them more supportive of one and another. One way to accomplish this would be through joint development of regionwide drug control initiatives that benefit all ACCORD partner countries. To this end, the ACCORD Joint Secretariat (UNODC and the ASEAN Secretariat) will work together to develop and implement needed regionwide initiatives. The meeting also focused on the implementation to date of four projects with ACCORD account funding and discussed Account modalities that would continue to support this regional initiative.

For information, see: <http://www.accordplan.net/file/032007/29/NACD%202006%20Report.pdf>

102. 5th ASEAN Capital Markets Forum Meeting

Date: August 4, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Capital Markets Forum (ACMF) was established in 2004 as a meeting of heads of ASEAN securities market regulators. It focuses on the development of regional capital markets, with the aim of analyzing substantial issues and finding convergent opinions in meeting the critical regional capital market challenges. Areas of work conducted under the ambit of ASEAN and the ACMF include harmonization of accounting standards, an ASEAN Top 100 list of companies, an ASEAN Task Force on Linkages, and an ASEAN Finance Ministers' Investor Seminar.

For information, see: http://www.sc.com.my/ENG/html/resources/annual/ar2004_eng/pdf/07_intlcoop.pdf

103. ASEAN-China Workshop on Environmental Cooperation

Date: August 6–12, 2006

Location: China

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/AR07.pdf>

104. 8th Asia-Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers

Date: August 7–13, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS)

Recognizing the importance of dialogue and consultation among military officers as a means of building mutual confidence and promoting security in the Asia Pacific region, the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS, now the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies or RSIS) in Singapore launched a "Summer Camp" in August 1999 for senior military officers in Asia Pacific (as well as several European countries). The objective was to allow participants to meet and deepen personal relationships, as well as share knowledge about military and security developments that would be of professional interest to them—an activity that had previously been the preserve of diplomats, officials, and academics.

Renamed the Asia-Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers in 2002, the meeting features lectures, informal discussions, and recreational activities. Topics in 2006 included New Dimensions in International Security; American Power in the 21st Century; the Rise of China: Regional Responses; Peacekeeping Operations; and Coping with Terrorism.

For information, see: <http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/newsletter/IDSS-APPSMO06.pdf>

105. 11th BIMSTEC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: August 8, 2006

Location: New Delhi, India

Organizers/Sponsors: Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

The 11th BIMSTEC SOM was held in New Delhi, India. Delegates from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand attended the meeting. Participants heard reports from the BIMSTEC Working Group (BWG) from the Lead Countries on the 13 BIMSTEC priority sectors: trade and investment, transport and communications, tourism, energy, technology, fisheries, poverty alleviation, agriculture, cultural cooperation, counterterrorism and transnational crime, environment and disaster management, public health, and people-to-people contacts.

The SOM discussed progress, priorities, and future needs in each field. They agreed that finalizing the BIMSTEC Free Trade Area Agreement on Trade in Goods is an important priority and welcomed the progress made toward finalizing the text and reaching agreement on the Dispute Settlement Mechanism. The SOM agreed that with increasing activities, BIMSTEC requires a full-time secretariat. They also discussed preparations for the 2nd BIMSTEC Summit in New Delhi on February 8, 2007, to be preceded by the Ministerial Meeting and Senior Officials Meeting.

For information, see: <http://www.bimstec.org/som.html>

106. 9th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting

Date: August 9, 2006

Location: New Delhi, India

Organizers/Sponsors: Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

The 9th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting was attended by ministers of foreign affairs from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. The meeting approved the report of the 11th Senior Officials Meeting and reiterated participants' commitment to the founding objectives and principles of BIMSTEC to accelerate economic and social growth in the region.

The meeting addressed ways to enhance regional cooperation in the areas of trade and investment, transport and communication, tourism, energy cooperation (including the establishment of a BIMSTEC Energy Centre in India that would act as a focal point for strengthening cooperation in the energy sector through sharing of experience and capacity building), technology (including a proposal to set up a Technology Transfer Exchange Facility, which would be discussed at an Experts Group Meeting), fisheries, poverty alleviation (including plans for an inaugural Ministerial Meeting on Poverty Alleviation), culture (a proposal for the establishment of BIMSTEC Cultural Industries Commission and Observatory in Bhutan), agriculture, counterterrorism and transnational crime, and environment & disaster management (including the establishment of the BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate). They also reiterated the need to establish a permanent BIMSTEC Secretariat.

For information, see: <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/35.php?id=4519>

107. 16th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity

Date: August 16–18, 2006

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

This was the 16th meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (AWGNCB), which aims to promote regional coordination on implementing biodiversity conservation–related conventions and activities.

108. ASEAN Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM); SEOM Consultations with China, Japan, Republic of Korea, +3, India, Australia; SEOM-Closer Economic Relations Consultations

Date: August 17–19, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/calendar2006.htm>

109. 20th ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council Meeting; 9th ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council

Date: August 21, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 20th Meeting of the AFTA Council was attended by ministers from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, as well as the secretary-general of ASEAN. The ministers discussed, among other items, the progress made in the implementation of the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) Scheme, the status of the various requests made under the Protocol Regarding the Implementation of the CEPT Scheme Temporary Exclusion List, the ASEAN Integration System of Preference (AISP), the liberalization of ICT goods under the e-ASEAN Framework Agreement, work on the elimination of non-tariff barriers, and developments in the work on rules of origin.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18682.htm>

110. 38th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting

Date: August 22–23, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The meeting opened with remarks underscoring the importance of making all efforts to achieve the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015. As ASEAN economies become more interdependent, ASEAN member countries must address the balance between domestic and regional interests in order to achieve the broader goal of the region becoming a single integrated seamless market that can serve as an international production base. Emphasis was also placed on the need to adopt a united front on international economic issues and to continue expanding linkages with major trading partners. The participants also called upon the private sector to come up with ideas and innovations to assist ASEAN governments in the formulation of strategic policies.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18692.htm>

111. 3rd State of the Environment Report Task Force Meeting

Date: August 23–25, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/calendar2006.htm>

112. ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) Consultations with China, Japan, ROK, +3, India, United States

Date: August 23–25, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

In conjunction with the 38th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting, consultations were held with China, Japan, South Korea, India, the United States, and the Plus Three countries together. The 5th ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM)-India Consultations focused on the ASEAN-India FTA negotiations, the global and regional economic situation, economic cooperation projects (e.g., on IT, SMEs, the environment), enhanced regional cooperation, the feasibility of an EAFTA, energy security cooperation, the WTO, and regional integration initiatives.

The 4th AEM-ROK Consultations addressed similar issues. The ministers noted that trade between ASEAN and Korea continues to grow and that Korea remained one of the top ten investors in ASEAN. Nine out of the 10 ASEAN nations had signed the Agreement on Trade in Goods (TIG) under the ASEAN-Korea Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation in 2006, and the ministers expressed hope that further consultations on the outstanding issues between Thailand and Korea would be resolved as soon as possible.

The 13th consultations between the AEM and Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) were held on August 23. The ministers discussed ASEAN-Japan trade and investment relations, economic cooperation, and progress of work under the Framework of ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP). The ministers agreed to Japan's proposal for a Track 2 study on a possible Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA) comprising ASEAN, Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea, and New Zealand. However, the ASEAN ministers re-iterated the need to expeditiously conclude the AJCEP as the basis for expanded regional integration initiatives. The ASEAN ministers welcomed Japan's proposal to establish an Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), and requested that Japan discuss this proposal further with the ASEAN Secretariat. The AEM-METI Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee (AMEICC) also met as part of the consultations.

The AEM-US Trade Representative meeting was held on August 25, and participants had productive discussions on a wide range of regional and global trade issues, including the creation of an ASEAN-US Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA) and a Joint Council on Trade and Investment under the TIFA to provide direction on the implementation of the TIFA and the work plan, as well as developments in the WTO, APEC, and the ASEAN-US Technical Assistance and Training Facility that was created in October 2004.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18717.htm>

<http://www.aseansec.org/18701.htm>

<http://www.aseansec.org/18714.htm>

113. 11th ASEAN Economic Ministers–Closer Economic Relations (CER) Consultations

Date: August 25, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the ministers from Australia and New Zealand (Closer Economic Relations, CER) held their 11th consultations on August 25. The ministers noted that ASEAN-CER trade continues to post significant gains, providing good momentum for establishing the ASEAN–Australia and New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA). Trade in goods between ASEAN and Australia/New Zealand expanded in 2005 by 23 percent and trade in services also experienced strong growth, but investment links remained relatively weak. Ministers expressed regret on the suspension of the Doha Development Agenda negotiations, noting the negative implications for the future of the multilateral trading system. They stressed that WTO members

must use this time to reflect and reassess their positions, with the aim of resuming negotiations as soon as possible.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18720.htm>

114. 8th ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation Ministerial Meeting

Date: August 26, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 8th ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC) Ministerial Meeting was attended by representatives from ASEAN member countries and China, with representatives from Japan, South Korea, and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as observers. The ministers took note of the progress made in the implementation of various projects (47 as of August 2006). They also noted the progress of the Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL). The participants exchanged views on enhancing the effectiveness of the AMBDC Framework and agreed to recommend to the 12th ASEAN Summit that the AMBDC Ministerial Meeting be placed under the ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting process in order to synchronize economic integration activities and maximize the limited resources available.

For information, see: <http://webevents.bernama.com/events/aem/?type=spr&cat=sta&id=576>

115. ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: August 28–30, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/8-2006.htm>

116. 4th ASEAN-Japan High-Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies

Date: August 28–31, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; government of Japan; World Health Organization (WHO)

Japan hosted this event with cooperation from the ASEAN Secretariat and the WHO. Attendees included roughly 40 health and welfare officials, including senior officials from ASEAN member countries. At the meeting, which was held under the theme of “Cooperation and Human Resources Development for Social Welfare and Health Services,” focus was placed on assistance for the socially vulnerable (children and women). Participants shared information and experiences regarding the situation in each country, countermeasures, and model cases, and they produced recommendations for the future efforts of the ASEAN countries.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/white/2006/ODA2006/html/honpen/hp202020102.htm>

117. 5th Meeting of ASEAN-China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD) Task Force I on Civic Awareness and Task Force II on Demand Reduction

Date: August 30–September 1, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

Meetings were held for two task forces under the ASEAN-China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD) Program.

For information, see: <http://www.accordplan.net/>

118. 7th ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Meeting

Date: August 31–September 1, 2006

Location: Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 7th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) was held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Prior to the meeting, the delegates visited areas affected by the May 2006 earthquake. The meeting was attended by delegates from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand, as well as representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat and from related national and international agencies.

Delegates discussed related initiatives in the region, the review of the implementation of the ASEAN Regional Programme on Disaster Management (ARPDM), implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), the development of ASEAN Standby Arrangements for Disaster Relief and Emergency Response, the initial study on the establishment of an ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), and lessons learned from the emergency response following the Indonesian earthquake. The 2nd Planning Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (ARDEX-06) was held as part of the 7th ACDM Meeting.

For information, see: http://www.disaster.go.th/html/ricb/foreign/2006/acdm/meeting/meeting07/07_report.html

September

119. 10th ARF Heads of Defense Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting

Date: September 4–7, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

A total of 67 delegates from 21 out of the 26 ARF countries attended this meeting, as did the head of the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat. The overarching theme of the meeting was “Cooperation in Countering Nontraditional Threats: Transformation in Academic Curricula and Syllabi,” covered by 18 papers submitted by 17 countries, subdivided into the two topics of “Enhancing Cooperation to Counterterrorism Threats” and “Multilateral Approaches and Cooperation for Effective Response to Natural Disasters.” The key points included (1) the need for military education institutions to collaborate and network for better dissemination of information, especially when addressing contemporary transnational security issues; (2) the need for continued conduct of this meeting; (3) the need for balanced educational inputs to shape the thinking and understanding of future leaders for managing security issues; and (4) the need for member nations of ARF to remain committed and contribute positively toward confidence-building measures.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

120. 17th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN); 3rd ASEAN+3 Senior Officials Meeting on the Environment (SOME)

Date: September 5–8, 2006

Location: Mandalay, Myanmar

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 17th Meeting of ASOEN and the 3rd ASEAN+3 SOME were hosted by Myanmar. In attendance were senior officials from ASEAN member nations, officials of the ASEAN

Secretariat, responsible persons from NGOs, and guests. Participants held discussions on coastal and marine environment, environmentally sustainable cities, multilateral environment agreements, nature conservation and biodiversity, integrated water resources management, transboundary haze pollution, and other ASEAN environmental activities. They also discussed setting up the ASEAN biodiversity central committee, reviews on the educative plan of ASEAN environmental activities from 2002 to 2005, future tasks from 2006 to 2010, and other issues.

At the 3rd ASEAN+3 SOME, participants held further discussions on potential areas of environmental cooperation.

For information, see: <http://burmalibrary.org/>

121. 25th Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force Meeting

Date: September 6, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

This was the 25th meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), which seeks to integrate the newer member countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam, or CLMV) into the ASEAN economic mainstream by narrowing the development gap between the old ASEAN-6 and the newer members. The CLMV countries organized the IAI Task Force, which meets regularly to review the implementation of the projects under the IAI work plan (2002–2008).

For information, see: <http://web5.bernama.com/events/amm/?type=spr&id=508>

122. ARF Workshop on Cyber Security

Date: September 6–8, 2006

Location: New Delhi, India

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

123. Regional Thematic Working Group on Migration, Including Human Trafficking

Date: September 8, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); International Organization for Migration (IOM)

UNESCAP and IOM are the current co-chairs of the Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration, Including Human Trafficking, a regional coordination mechanism set up by 16 UN agencies and other relevant international and intergovernmental organizations working on aspects of international migration within their respective program of work. The functions of the working group include information sharing, identification of priority areas for cooperation and joint programs, and dissemination of good practices in migration management.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/population/popheadline/310/art3.asp>

124. 8th ASEAN+3 Directors-General Meeting

Date: September 9, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 8th ASEAN+3 Directors-General Meeting entailed discussions on the current status of ASEAN+3 Dialogue Relations, including the expansion of ASEAN+3 cooperation in the areas of women's issues, minerals, rural development and poverty eradication, and natural disaster preparedness. The meeting also discussed matters pertaining to the drafting of the 2nd Joint

Statement on East Asia Cooperation, which was later issued by the ASEAN+3 Leaders on the occasion on the 10th Anniversary of ASEAN+3 Dialogue Relations in 2007.

For information, see: <http://www.12thaseansummit.org.ph/innertemplate3.asp?category=news&newsid=38>

125. 6th ASEM Summit

Date: September 10–11, 2006

Location: Helsinki, Finland

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

The 6th ASEM Summit, bringing together heads of state or government from the 25 member states of the EU, the European Commission, and the 13 ASEAN+3 countries, was held in Helsinki. It was a historically significant event as it marked the 10th anniversary of the ASEM cooperation forum. The overarching theme of the summit was “10 Years of ASEM: Global Challenges—Joint Responses,” reflecting both joint objectives and global developments.

The key topics of the Helsinki Summit were support for the multilateral international system; addressing security threats (including global health threats such as avian influenza); energy security and climate change; support for a conclusion of the negotiations on the WTO Doha Development Agenda; globalization, competitiveness and structural changes in the global economy; and intercultural dialogue. The first decade of ASEM cooperation was also one of the meeting’s crosscutting themes. A Finnish-Japanese joint research report, *ASEM in its Tenth Year: Looking Back, Looking Forward*, provided background for the discussion and decisions on the future of the process.

For information, see: <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Summits/ASEM6/>

126. 27th AIPO General Assembly

Date: September 10–15, 2006

Location: Cebu, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO); government of the Philippines

Some 300 lawmakers and officials from throughout Southeast Asia met in Cebu for a five-day event to discuss the theme of “Caring and Sharing for ASEAN Prosperity.” The participants included delegations from AIPO member countries—Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam—as well as observers from Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar, Australia, Canada, China, the European Parliament, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Russia. The gathering reiterated the need for political unification in ASEAN by launching an ASEAN parliament to legislate and confirm common action on world peace, antiterrorism, poverty, environmental health, narcotic drug trade, cross-border crimes, human rights, and social justice. The creation of an ASEAN parliament could also pave the way for having a common currency in Southeast Asia. Participants also called for the creation of a Standby ASEAN Disaster Relief Fund, an Interfaith Council in the UN system, and a large-scale debt-for-equity program that would enable the 100 poorest countries, in agreement with creditor states and lending institutions, to divert a percentage of their debt-service payments into national antipoverty programs under the UN’s Millennium Development Goals.

For information, see: <http://www.aipo.org>

127. ARF Seminar: The Role of Military and Civil Cooperation in the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Such as SARS and Avian Influenza

Date: September 14–15, 2006

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

Officials from 26 countries discussed regional and global avian influenza issues at the two-day seminar. The participants—mostly military, foreign affairs, and health care officials and scientists—learned about prevention mechanisms and training activities to help stifle the epidemic. They shared rapid response models and warning systems in case of outbreaks. The ultimate goal of the seminar was to enhance cooperation between ARF members to combat nontraditional security challenges.

For information, see: <http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn/showarticle.php?num=01HEA150906>

128. Meeting of the Council of Heads of Government/Prime Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States

Date: September 15, 2006

Location: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Organizers/Sponsors: Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

The regular meeting of the Council of Heads of Government/Prime Ministers of SCO Member States was attended by heads of government from Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyz Republic, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, and by representatives from SCO observer states (India, Iran, Mongolia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the EurAsian Economic Community). The council exchanged opinions on the pressing issues of strengthening stability in the region and further development in the SCO framework. Taking into account the decisions made at the June 15, 2006, anniversary meeting of the SCO Heads of State Council in Shanghai, the heads of government considered the future direction of economic cooperation among SCO member states, and drew up a number of concrete measures related to trade and economy, science and technology, society and culture, and other areas. Special working groups in the energy/fuel and IT areas were launched as well. Participants also called for greater coordination and communication with other regional bodies, including ASEAN.

For information, see: <http://www.sectSCO.org/html/00030.html>

129. 6th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR)

Date: September 18–20, 2006

Location: Qingdao, China

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

Pursuant to the decision of the 13th ARF Ministers Meeting on July 29, 2006, the 6th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (ISM-DR) was held in Shandong Province, China. Representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) were also present. The meeting was intended to allow ministers to share their best practices and successful experiences in the mobilization, utilization, and management of disaster relief resources, and to explore the framework, modality, and principles of the ARF disaster relief cooperation. Participants reviewed regional disaster relief cooperation and took stock of disaster relief resources in each country and region. Delegates also were briefed on the formulation of the ARF General Guidelines for Disaster Relief Cooperation, the draft of which was to be ready by November 2006.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

130. 5th Meeting of ASEAN-China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD) Task Force III on Law Enforcement

Date: September 20–22, 2006

Location: Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; ASEAN-China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD)

The ACCORD Task Forces are made up of government representatives of the 11 ACCORD countries (10 ASEAN countries and China) as well as representatives of embassies, NGOs, and other organizations. The task forces are chaired and hosted on a voluntary rotating basis by ACCORD countries. This task force focuses on Pillar II of the ACCORD Plan of Action: strengthening the rule of law by an enhanced network of control measures and improved law enforcement cooperation and legislative review.

For information, see: <http://www.accordplan.net/>

131. 2nd ASEAN+3 High-Level Workshop on Poverty Alleviation

Date: September 25–29, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; International Poverty Reduction Center in China

This workshop included meetings in Beijing and field trips to Guangxi and Yunnan provinces. The ASEAN+3 states sent 37 mid-level and senior officers to the workshop, of whom nine were at the ministerial level. Observers from eight international organizations and bilateral institutions attended the meetings as well. A resolution was drafted by the International Poverty Reduction Center, but due to dissent among the participants, it was not approved as a resolution and was later revised as the Beijing Proposal for the 2nd ASEAN+3 High-Level Workshop on Poverty Reduction, published by the State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development. Despite the setbacks, the conference was deemed a success, and participants recognized the value of establishing a mechanism for cooperation in this field.

For information, see: <http://www.iprcc.org.cn/article.php/en/332>

132. 8th ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Meeting; ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise 2006 (ARDEX-06); ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Contingency Planning Workshop

Date: September 25–29, 2006

Location: Phnom Penh and Takhmau City, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 8th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) was held on September 29 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The meeting was held back-to-back with the ACDM Contingency Planning Workshop on September 25–26, the ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (known as ARDEX-06) on September 27, and the ARDEX-06 Evaluation Meeting on September 28. The workshop and the meetings were held in Phnom Penh, while ARDEX-06 was held in Takhmau City in Kandal Province.

The meetings underscored the importance of providing new inputs to the development of regional standby arrangements and standard operating procedures. The ACDM meeting was attended by delegates from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, and by representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat. Representatives from the Pacific Disaster Center, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve, and US Department of Agriculture Forest Service attended the open sessions of the meeting.

For information, see: <http://www.disaster.go.th/html/ricb/foreign/2006/acdm/meeting/meeting08/report8.html>

133. Regionalism vs. Universalism in Global Order

Date: September 27–30, 2006

Location: Jachranka, Poland

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

Poland hosted a seminar titled “Regionalism vs. Universalism in Global Order,” which was part of the implementation of a Polish initiative to create an ASEM Diplomatic Academies Network, as was proposed in during the 2005 ASEM Foreign Ministers Meeting. The initiative’s aim is to promote partnership and collaboration through contacts between young diplomats. The idea is to stimulate a free exchange of ideas and debate on supra-regional issues; to enhance mutual understanding, tolerance, and dialogue between representatives of different cultures; and to fight stereotypes through better mutual knowledge.

Forty-two participants from various ASEM countries discussed recent developments in the world: security issues, the role of the UN, WTO negotiations, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, as well as the role of universal human rights. Experts from the Netherlands and the European Commission acquainted the participants with international negotiation techniques, the EU’s policy toward Asia, and the role of EU-Asia dialogue.

For information, see: <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=185>

October

134. 1st Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Energy Seminar

Date: October 6, 2006

Location: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD); hosted by the Republic of Uzbekistan

Delegates from Bhutan, China, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, South Korea, Tajikistan, Thailand, Vietnam, and Uzbekistan took part in the 1st ACD Energy Seminar. Delegates discussed and exchanged views on the energy policies of Asian countries, energy transportation, and nuclear and alternative energy sources. Participants recognized that energy security is a cornerstone of sustainable development in Asia. Cooperation in the field of energy and energy trade in Asia should be based on reliable provision and affordable prices, both for producers and consumers, as well as with minimal environmental impact. One of the aims of energy cooperation within the ACD is the exchange of information on energy resources, including production, consumption, and transit operations, with the aim of promoting greater predictability in the market.

For information, see: <http://aric.adb.org/initiativetable.php?iid=144&ssid=1&title=Asia%20Cooperation%20Dialogue>

135. 1st Meeting of Joint Experts Working Group on the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT)

Date: October 10–12, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Working Group on Counter-Terrorism determined at its meeting on June 6, 2006, to create a Joint Experts Working Group, which would consist of representatives of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), and Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM), in order to discuss and formulate guidelines and terms of reference for the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT), which was subsequently adopted in January 2007 as the first legally binding counterterrorism agreement involving all 10 ASEAN countries.

For information, see: www.interpol.go.id/files/6_2e3fda.doc

136. ARF Workshop on Stockpile Management Security of Man-Portable Air Defense Systems and Small Arms

Date: October 11–13, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); co-hosted by the governments of Thailand and Australia

As endorsed by the 13th ARF (July 2006), Thailand and Australia hosted this workshop, which was attended by representatives of ARF participating countries and the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat. The meeting addressed an issue of national and regional security—the proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW)—and the unauthorized use of Man-Portable Air Defense Systems (MANPADS), which pose a serious threat, particularly given their use by nonstate actors. The objectives of the workshop were to share information on improving stockpile security of MANPADS and other SALW. The focus was on management practices as well as physical security.

The workshop was held in six plenary sessions: (1) impact of illicit proliferation of SALW and unauthorized use of MANPADS; (2) stockpile management safety and security; (3) international assistance; (4) Cambodia case study; (5) stockpile management capacity; and (6) wrap up. Among the recommendations were that ARF participants cooperate bilaterally and at the multilateral level in such areas as technology transfer and information sharing. ARF participants were also encouraged to develop community-based approaches to the destruction of surplus weapons, including assistance in sustainable peace building and alternative development.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

137. 2006 Asian Regional Forum on Aid Effectiveness: Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation

Date: October 18–20, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Development Bank (ADB); co-sponsored by the government of Japan, UK Department for International Development (DFID), and the World Bank

The 2006 Asian Regional Forum on Aid Effectiveness was a three-day event hosted by the ADB. The objective of the forum was to facilitate implementation of the Paris Declaration in the Asia Pacific region at the political and working levels. The forum was attended by roughly 150 delegates from Asia Pacific countries and donor agencies.

The Paris Declaration (March 2005) is an international agreement to which more than 100 ministers, heads of agencies, and other senior officials committed their countries and organizations. Its objective is to increase efforts in the harmonization, alignment, and management of aid. Accordingly, this meeting was intended to improve aid effectiveness by sharing views and experiences and assessing the achievement of implementation of the Paris agenda. In this regard, participants sought to identify constraints, lessons learned, good practices and future challenges. Participants utilized the results of the 2006 Monitoring Survey of the Paris Declaration and country case studies as the basis for discussions.

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2006/Aid-Effectiveness/default.asp>

138. Australia-Japan-US Counterterrorism Talks

Date: October 24, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Governments of Australia, Japan, and the United States

Officials from Japan, the United States, and Australia attended this meeting to address a wide range of issues regarding international terrorism and counterterrorism measures.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/10/1023-2.html>

139. 37th Pacific Islands Forum

Date: October 24–25, 2006

Location: Nadi, Fiji

Organizers/Sponsors: Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)

The forum was attended by heads of state and government of the PIF member states. New Caledonia and French Polynesia attended the formal session as associate members and Timor Leste and Tokelau as observers. The leaders welcomed the considerable progress made in implementing the Pacific Plan, endorsed in 2005, noting the many significant initiatives gaining momentum under the plan and the strong and positive support from regional organizations and development partners. They called for efforts to intensify regional cooperation in relation to energy, transport, and ICT as focal areas for strengthening regionalism, which will deliver significant impacts to communities, as well as strengthening intergovernmental processes in support of sustainable development, economic growth, good governance, and security.

For information, see: <http://www.forumsec.org/index.cfm?go=main.resources&cmd=forumview&uid=documents0018&cid=444&catuid=EFBD217F-A066-182D-8A0B480B65B70F28>

140. ASEAN-China Commemorative Summit

Date: October 30–31, 2006

Location: Nanning, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Centre for ASEAN and China Studies

A commemorative summit was convened to mark the 15th anniversary of ASEAN-China dialogue relations. Participants exchanged views on current regional and international issues and the future direction of ASEAN-China dialogue relations. At the end of the commemorative summit, the leaders signed a joint statement of the ASEAN-China Commemorative Summit. Two side events were also held, namely the 3rd China-ASEAN Expo and the 3rd China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit.

For information, see: <http://asean-chinasummit.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/fhhd/t270375.htm>

141. 10th Western Pacific Naval Symposium

Date: October 30–November 2, 2006

Location: Hawaii, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: US Navy and Commander, US Pacific Fleet

The US Navy and Commander, US Pacific Fleet, invited naval leaders from 22 countries to Honolulu for the 10th Western Pacific Naval Symposium (WPNS) to discuss maritime security and other issues affecting the region's navies. The goal of the symposium was to increase naval cooperation in the Western Pacific by providing a forum to discuss maritime issues among regional naval leaders, thereby contributing to common understanding and agreement. The symposium allowed participants to engage in discussions and training on critical international topics, such as combined exercises, regional security, military exchange programs, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, interoperability, navigation, and communications. The theme for this year's symposium was "Maritime Security: Opportunities for Cooperation." WPNS members are Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, France, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia,

Singapore, Thailand, Tonga, the United States, and Vietnam. Observers are Bangladesh, Canada, Chile, and India.

For information, see: http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=26329

November

142. ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Defence Officials Dialogue

Date: November 1, 2006

Location: Batam, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

143. 5th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) and a Workshop on Life Harmony

Date: November 1–3, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; Government of Singapore

The ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) monitors progress made by ASEAN member countries in addressing key priorities identified for the advancement of women in the region. The mandate for regional-level monitoring is found in the 1988 Declaration on the Advancement of Women in ASEAN and the 2004 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in ASEAN. ACW member countries exchange views on national experiences, particularly in addressing the critical areas of concern under the Beijing Platform for Action. The ACW also undertakes projects and programs to promote women's advancement in the region.

Singapore hosted the 5th Meeting of the ACW. The theme of the meeting was "Enhancing Partnerships for the Economic Empowerment of ASEAN Women." Participants set out key priority areas, including the political and economic empowerment of women and gender mainstreaming of policies and programs. They also discussed ways to strengthen regional cooperation for the advancement of women in ASEAN countries. The meeting was preceded by a one-day Workshop on Life Harmony.

For information, see: http://app.mcys.gov.sg/web/corp_press_story.asp?szMod=corp&szSubMod=press&qid=1913

144. ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ISG on CBMs and PD)

Date: November 2–3, 2006

Location: Batam, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum; co-chaired by Indonesia and the European Union

Representatives from all ARF member states except DPRK and PNG were present. Participants exchanged views on the current regional situation and challenges in Asia Pacific, agreeing that the situation is generally stable and reiterating the necessity of working cooperatively to maintain peace and stability. Participants agreed that the ARF should continue to pay attention to addressing nontraditional security issues in the region such as terrorism, disaster relief, maritime security, nonproliferation of WMDs, energy security, communicable diseases, trafficking in persons, and trafficking of illicit drugs. The meeting took note of the situation in the South China Sea and exchanged views on other developments in the region, including progress in the implementation of the peace agreement in Aceh, the restoration of order in

Timor Leste, the security situation in the Solomon Islands, and the evolving political situation in Fiji. Participants agreed to work toward more concrete and practical activities so that the ARF could deliver on its commitment to preventive diplomacy.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

145. ASEAN Bond Market Initiative (ABMI) Working Group Meeting and 4th ASEAN+3 Focal Group Meeting

Date: November 2–3, 2006

Location: Hangzhou, China

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 1st ASEAN+3 Focal Group (FG) meeting was held in March 2004 in Manila, Philippines, and since then the FG meeting has been held biannually. The immediate focus of the FG is to monitor the progress of the ABMI working groups and to coordinate their future action plans. The 4th FG Meeting was convened in Hangzhou, China, with the attendance of representatives from ASEAN+3 countries, the ASEAN Secretariat, and the Asian Development Bank. According to the agreed terms of reference, chairs of each working-level meeting reported on progress to date, future work, and issues for consideration at the FG. The ADB also presented the attendants with a paper on bond market liquidity in East Asia, which identifies the determinants of bond market liquidity through empirical analysis and provides policy recommendations.

For information, see: http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/regional/asean_plus_three_asian_bond_market_initiatives/focal_groups.php
http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/documents/Progress_Report_ABMI_Nov_2006.pdf

146. 5th ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee Meeting

Date: November 2–3, 2006

Location: Moscow, Russia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee (ARJCC), set up in 1997, holds its meetings alternatively in Moscow and in one of the ASEAN capitals.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/11-2006.htm>

147. ASEAN Special Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM)

Date: November 5, 2006

Location: Makati, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/11-2006.htm>

148. ASEAN Standing Committee, Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM) and Joint Consultative Meeting

Date: November 6–7, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The Joint Consultative Meeting (JCM) of ASEAN Senior Officials, ASEAN Senior Economic Officials, and the ASEAN Standing Committee was convened on the theme “One Caring and Sharing Community.” Participants considered the outcome documents of the 12th ASEAN Summit, 10th ASEAN+3 Summit, 10th ASEAN-China Summit, 10th ASEAN-Japan Summit, 10th ASEAN-ROK Summit, and 5th ASEAN-India Summit, as well as those of the 3rd BIMP-EAGA Summit and the 2nd East Asia Summit. The 22 draft documents they considered included the

Cebu Roadmap Towards a Caring and Sharing Community, the ASEAN Declaration on the Blueprint for the ASEAN Charter, the Cebu Declaration on the Rights of Migrant Workers, the ASEAN Declaration of Commitments on the Protection and Welfare of Children, the ASEAN Declaration on HIV and AIDS, the Cebu Environmental Education Action Plan (2006–2010), the Cebu Declaration on Enhancing Sustainable Development, and the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Access and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits from the Utilization of Biological and Genetic Resources.

For information, see: <http://www.dfa.gov.ph/news/pr/pr2006/nov/pr871.htm>

149. WIPO-UNESCAP Colloquium on Intellectual Property

Date: November 6–8, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Trade and Investment Division; World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

The WIPO-UNESCAP colloquium aimed to raise awareness and knowledge of, and to promote regional cooperation on, trade- and investment-related intellectual property rights (IPR). This colloquium was the first of a series of joint activities to address key issues related to intellectual property rights and public interest from an Asia Pacific perspective. The colloquium addressed a broad range of IPR-related issues, which underscored the wide scope and importance of intellectual property and its protection both in the economy and society at large.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/ip.asp>

150. 3rd Ad Hoc Consultations of East Asia Summit Senior Officials

Date: November 8, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: www.aseansec.org/11-2006.htm

151. 14th Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area Senior Officials Meeting (BIMP-EAGA SOM); 11th BIMP-EAGA Ministerial Meeting

Date: November 8–10, 2006

Location: Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

At the 14th BIMP-EAGA Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), high-level leaders from the subregion noted the encouraging progress on a number of initiatives taken to accelerate growth and development in the subregion. The meeting was attended by delegates representing the four countries, the BIMP-EAGA Business Council, and the BIMP-EAGA Facilitation Centre, including development partners such as the Northern Territory of Australia, ADB, and GTZ.

For information, see: <http://www.medco.gov.ph/medcoweb/newsfeatl.asp?NewsMode=20&NewsMonthNo=11&NewsYearNo=2006&NewsFilter=1&NewsPageNo=2&NewsPageSize=10&NewsDetailID=1125>

152. 10th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment (AMME); Meeting of the Senior Officials on Environment; 5th ASEAN+3 Environment Ministers Meeting

Date: November 8–11, 2006

Location: Cebu, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

At the 10th AMME, environment ministers agreed to enhance regional cooperation to protect the environment, promote biodiversity, and deal with cross-border problems such as forest fire

haze and the illegal trade in wildlife. In a Cebu Resolution on Sustainable Development, adopted at the end of the two-day meeting, the ministers expressed full support for the recently established ASEAN Center for Biodiversity, agreed to pursue the listing of ASEAN Heritage Parks as a way to manage the region's biological resources, and agreed to expedite the signing of a regional framework agreement on equitable use of biological and genetic resources.

A Sub-regional Ministerial Steering Committee consisting of ministers from the five most affected countries—Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand—was formed to address more closely the land and forest fires that cause the region's haze pollution.

The *3rd ASEAN State of the Environment Report 2006*, a compilation of ASEAN country reports that will be presented during the summit, was launched during the meeting.

For information, see: http://www.siiiaonline.org/siia_hosts_briefing_on_singapores_efforts_in_transboundary_haze_prevention
http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/breakingnews/nation/view_article.php?article_id=31986

153. 21st ASEAN-Australia Forum

Date: November 9–10, 2006

Location: Phuket, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 21st ASEAN-Australia Forum was held with the participation of representatives from Australia and all ASEAN member countries as well as the ASEAN Secretariat. The forum acknowledged the long-standing partnership between ASEAN and Australia as well as multifaceted challenges, including traditional and nontraditional security threats, which constitute a compelling rationale for enhanced ASEAN-Australia partnership. The forum welcomed the development of a framework document on ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership and recommended the document for signing during the 2nd East Asia Summit in Cebu. The forum also agreed that a Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership should be drafted for adoption in 2007.

Participants discussed utilizing the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program (AADCP) to realize an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015; peace and stability in the Solomon Islands, Fiji, and Timor Leste; progress of the ASEAN–Australia and New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) negotiations; Vietnam's accession to the WTO; international terrorism; nuclear testing on the Korean Peninsula; drug trafficking and trafficking in persons; communicable diseases; and regional cooperation on disaster prevention.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18984.htm>

154. 6th Meeting of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management

Date: November 9–11, 2006

Location: Kunming, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Affairs, government of China; supported by government of Australia

The Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) on Disaster Management was established by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) in 2000 and comprises members who are working in key government positions in the national disaster management systems of countries in the Asian region. To date, 26 countries are represented by 30 RCC members from Asia Pacific. Annual meetings are convened by the ADPC and are co-organized by the government of the host country.

The 6th meeting of the RCC showcased the disaster management experiences of China and other nations in Asia Pacific and provided an opportunity to share lessons learned. Participants

discussed lessons from recent disasters in the Asian region, initiatives for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into national development planning, lessons learned from regional programs on preparedness and mitigation, progress on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA), and plans for the coming year.

For information, see: <http://www.adpc.net/RCC%206%20Agenda.pdf>

155. 22nd ASEAN-Japan Forum

Date: November 10–11, 2006

Location: Vientiane, Lao PDR

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

Discussion at this forum focused on the reform of the ASEAN-Japan Centre. The Eminent Persons Committee provided a report with recommendations on the reform of the center to strengthen its functions and also to widen and deepen its scope of activities. Participants exchanged views on the recommendations and tentatively agreed on the funding ratio for the coming years.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/20462.htm>

156. 14th APEC Economic Leaders Meeting; 18th APEC Joint Ministerial Meeting, and other APEC Meetings; 4th Meeting of the APEC Business Advisory Council; APEC CEO Summit

Date: November 12–19, 2006

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

In their annual two-day meeting, leaders of 21 APEC economies discussed the theme “Towards One Dynamic Community for Sustainable Development and Prosperity.” Discussions focused on two umbrella topics: advancing trade and investment in a changing world; and fundamentals ensuring dynamism, growth, and sustainable development in APEC. The leaders expressed their strong preference for a timely conclusion of the Doha Development Agenda round of WTO negotiations with an ambitious and overall balanced outcome, issuing a separate statement on this issue that included practical measures to resume the negotiations. Leaders also endorsed the Hanoi Action Plan to implement the Busan Roadmap, viewing this as a foundation for APEC economic and trade cooperation in the next 15 years. Leaders also endorsed recommendations to reform APEC to make the forum more vibrant, dynamic, and effective. The participants also welcomed new counterterrorism initiatives and agreed to expand and enhance cooperation in pandemic and disaster management and energy security.

Side events included the 4th Meeting of the APEC Business Advisory Council and the APEC CEO Summit.

For information, see: <http://www.apecsec.org.sg/>

157. 2nd ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum

Date: November 13, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

Top ASEAN immigration officials met for the 2nd ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum (AIIF). At the meeting, officials finalized and adopted the Terms of Reference and Sharing Framework on Immigration Intelligence. They agreed to strengthen coordination on immigration-related issues among the countries in the region in order to improve the management of migratory flows and to prevent transnational crime. They also agreed to strengthen the sharing of immigration intelligence information and the technology being used.

In a joint statement issued after the two-day meeting, participants recognized the need for strengthening collaboration on immigration-related issues with ASEAN dialogue partners, as well as with regional and international organizations. The meeting agreed to pursue initiatives in 2007—one on strengthening immigration training cooperation in the region and another on practitioner-level exchanges.

For information, see: http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/200611/15/eng20061115_321813.html

158. 25th Session of the Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement

Date: November 13–14, 2006

Location: Kolkata, India

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Trade and Investment Division

The standing committee met to explore new areas of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) and to discuss the launch of its fourth round of negotiations. Sessions focused on the results of the third round concessions, verification procedures of certificate of origin, modalities for the fourth round negotiations, expansion of APTA membership, and the future work plan of APTA.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/ba25th.asp>

159. 2nd Meeting of Joint Experts Working Group on the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT)

Date: November 13–15, 2006

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

This was the second meeting of a working group in preparation for the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT), which was adopted in January 2007 as the first legally binding counterterrorism agreement involving all 10 ASEAN countries.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/11-2006.htm>

160. ASEAN High-Level Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming within the Context of CEDAW, BPFAs, and the MDGs

Date: November 15–16, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM); ASEAN; hosted by Ministry of Women Empowerment, Indonesia

Ministers and senior officials in charge of women's empowerment and development from ASEAN countries shared experiences and best practices at the "ASEAN High-Level Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming in the Context of CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women), BPFAs (Beijing Platform for Action) and MDGs (Millennium Development Goals)." The meeting is one of the regional activities to operationalize the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women in ASEAN under the aegis of the ASEAN Committee on Women.

For information, see: <http://etna.mcot.net/query.php?nid=25974>

161. Coordinating Conference for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Plan of Action

Date: November 20–21, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/11-2007.htm>

162. 5th Meeting of the ASEAN Expert Group on Food Safety

Date: November 21–23, 2006

Location: Yangon, Myanmar

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

At the 18th Meeting of the ASEAN Sub-committee on Health & Nutrition in October 2000, participants agreed on the establishment of an ASEAN Expert Group on Food Safety (AEGFS), which was established the next year. At the fifth meeting of the AEGFS, held in 2006, participants gave special attention to the ASEAN Food Safety Improvement Plan (AFSIP) that they had developed since 2002. AFSIP aims at facilitating the coordination of food security handled by several ASEAN organizations. Topics of discussions included the inspection system and certification of food, the scope of the laboratory program, the scope of program participants and consumer advocacy, and the exchange of program information.

For information, see: http://agribisnis.deptan.go.id/index.php?files=Berita_Detail&id=545
<http://www.fao.org/DOCREP/MEETING/008/AD734E.HTM>

163. ASEAN Special Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME)

Date: November 21–23, 2006

Location: Luang Prabang, Lao PDR

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

This Special SOME was intended to further deliberate on and to finalize the new ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA) draft and the Annex Coordinated Emergency Response Measures (CERM).

For information, see: <http://www.eppo.go.th/inter/asean/AMEM24/SOME24-E.html>

164. 9th Steering Group Meeting of the ADB-OECD Anticorruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific

Date: November 27–29, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Development Bank (ADB); Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

The 9th Steering Group Meeting had three main objectives: (1) to report on and discuss implementation of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Asia-Pacific, including recent anticorruption reform projects that have taken place since the last meeting of the steering group in May 2006; (2) to launch the steering group's second policy review on mutual legal assistance and extradition in corruption cases under the framework of the action plan; and (3) to discuss and adopt the initiative's strategy and work program for 2007–2008.

Participants in the steering group meeting included focal points from the 27 countries that have endorsed the action plan; members of the advisory group to the steering group; senior-level officials from the governments of Lao PDR, Brunei Darussalam, New Zealand, and other observer countries interested in joining the initiative; and representatives of relevant international institutions.

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2006/9th-steering-group-meeting/default.asp>

165. 6th Japan-China-ROK Economic Director-General Consultations

Date: November 28–29, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: Governments of Japan, China, and South Korea

Japan, China, and Korea initiated director-general-level tripartite consultations in 2002. During this two-day session, the directors-general reviewed the Action Strategy on Japan-China-ROK

Cooperation, examining how to accelerate the negotiations for the projected tripartite investment agreement. The meeting was convened in preparation for the trilateral consultations held on December 4–5.

For information, see: www.mofa.go.jp/announce/press/2006/11/1124.html

166. ASEAN Regional Workshop on Gender Sensitive and Coordinated Violence Against Women (VAW) Services

Date: November 28–30, 2006

Location: Khon Kaen, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

ASEAN and UNIFEM's East and Southeast Asia Regional Office signed a Framework for Cooperation Agreement on June 8, 2006, that signaled the commitment of both organizations to work for the active involvement of women in the social, economic, and political spheres in accordance with the 1988 Declaration on the Advancement of Women in ASEAN. As part of that agreement, UNIFEM supported ASEAN in convening a regional workshop on gender-sensitive and coordinated services to address violence against women, focusing on operationalizing and managing one-stop crisis centers. The workshop, hosted by Thailand, focused on promoting and enhancing multisectoral collaboration toward gender-sensitive and coordinated domestic violence service provision in ASEAN.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/18627.htm>

December

167. 6th Meeting of the Trilateral Consultations on the Possible Trilateral Investment Agreement and on the Improvement of Business Environment Concerning Investment between Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea

Date: December 4–5, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Governments of Japan, China, and South Korea

The trilateral consultations were established based on the Action Strategy on Trilateral Cooperation between China, Japan, and Korea, formulated at the trilateral summit meeting held in Vientiane, Lao PDR, in November 2004. At the 6th meeting, the governments of the three countries continued discussions on whether they can start negotiations on the possible trilateral investment agreement. They also discussed the measures that the three countries will take for the improvement of the business environment.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/12/1204.html>

168. Joint Mid-term Review Meeting of the Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza in Asia and the Pacific Project

Date: December 5–6, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The 1st Joint Mid-term Review Meeting of the Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza in Asia and the Pacific Project was held in Manila. Participants included representatives from ADB's implementing partners in the project: ASEAN, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization, and development agencies that are supporting activities to reduce the risk of the spread of avian influenza in Asia, such as AusAID, the European Commission, USAID, UNICEF, and others.

The implementing partners and the Avian Influenza Secretariat reported on the status of the project, and discussions were held with all participating agencies on the project's contribution to regional avian influenza control efforts, and on how to enhance coordination among donors. The ADB Regional Project of the Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza in Asia and the Pacific, which was approved in March 2006, is part of the global effort against avian and human influenza.

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2006/Avian-Influenza-Asia-Pacific-Project/default.asp>

169. ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting

Date: December 8, 2006

Location: Cebu, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The ASEAN Economic Ministers met in Cebu and signed the following ASEAN Economic Integration Agreements: the Protocol on ASEAN Framework (Amendments) Agreement for the Integration of Priority Sectors; the Protocol on ASEAN Sectoral Integration (Amendments) Protocols for the Integration of Priority Sectors; the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Nursing Services; and the Protocol to Implement the Fifth Package of Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services. Two agreements with China were also signed. One of the agreements reduces tariffs on a basket of goods as part of an ASEAN-China free trade accord currently being negotiated.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/19027.htm>
<http://www.aseansec.org/afp/191.htm>

170. 4th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD) and Working Group Meeting; 3rd ASEAN+3 SOM on Social Welfare and Development

Date: December 12–15, 2006

Location: Mandalay, Myanmar

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/12-2007.htm>

171. 1st Governmental Meeting on Urban Air Quality in Asia

Date: December 13–14, 2006

Location: Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD); Indonesian State Ministry of the Environment;..... Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia); UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

This meeting was part of the Better Air Quality (BAQ) 2006 workshop, the largest regional event on urban air quality management in Asia. The meeting provided a forum for government agencies to discuss common challenges in urban air quality management and harmonize methods and standards on urban air quality management in the region. The meeting supported efforts of Asian governments to arrive at more optimal air pollution abatement strategies.

For information, see: <http://www.cleanairnet.org/baq2006/1757/propertyvalue-26755.html>

172. 2nd Session of the Senior Officials Committee Meeting on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia

Date: December 14–15, 2006

Location: Khabarovsk, Russia

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); Korea Energy Economics Institute

In November 2005, an Intergovernmental Collaborative Mechanism on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia was established to facilitate energy cooperation and trade to enhance energy security in Northeast Asia. The intergovernmental collaborative mechanism was adopted by the 1st Session of the Senior Officials Committee on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia, hosted by the Ministry of Fuel and Energy of the government of Mongolia. Under this mechanism, a working group on energy planning and cooperation was established to identify possible future energy cooperation activities. As a first practical step, the working group will develop country reports on energy policies, data, and statistics and identify information gaps. The country reports will also form the basis for identifying collaborative projects.

Participants discussed the potential for and challenges to inter-country cooperation, perspectives of international organizations, and the report of the Working Group on Energy Planning and Policy. They also agreed upon the agenda for 2007–2008 and strategies for sustaining the process.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esd/energy/dialogue/cooperation/soc2/index.asp>

173. ASEAN-India Workshop on Renewable Energy

Date: December 18–19, 2006

Location: New Delhi, India

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; organized by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India

The two-day Workshop on Renewable Energy was held in New Delhi, India, to identify joint activities to be implemented in the future in the form of training and workshops, R&D, demonstration in renewable energy, and the establishment of institutional linkages between and among institutions in ASEAN for cooperation on R&D in renewable energy.

For information, see: <http://www.astnet.org/>

174. Six-Party Talks (Fifth Round, Second Session)

Date: December 18–22, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

After a tense year in which North Korea announced a successful test of its nuclear weapons in October, the fifth round of the Six-Party Talks resumed. At the end of this meeting, a chairman's statement was issued and all six parties reaffirmed their commitment to the joint statement made on September 19, 2005. Numerous bilateral talks were held, especially the Sunday before the talks (Dec 17, 2006), and separate bilateral talks between the US delegation and the North Korean delegation were held concerning the freezing of overseas North Korean financial assets. These talks ended without consensus on a stance, but the delegations agreed to meet again in New York in January 2007.

For information, see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Six-party_talks#1st_phase_.289_Nov_.E2.80.93_11_Nov_2005.29

Track 2: Multisectoral Policy Meetings

January

1. **Regional Outlook Forum 2006**

Date: January 5, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The Regional Outlook Forum was initiated in 1998 as an outreach program to educate the public about key developments in the region. Forum speakers include research scholars, journalists, financial analysts, and business leaders with expertise on East and Southeast Asia. In 2006, the forum attracted an audience of close to 600 and featured five thematic sessions on topical issues related to international relations, politics, and economics. In addition to the standard panels reviewing the broad strategic and economic regional landscapes every year, the forum also devoted three sessions to economic integration, terrorism, and energy.

For information, see: <http://www.iseas.edu.sg/iframes/rof06paper.htm>

2. **Tsunami Warning Program and Disaster Preparedness System**

Date: January 10, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Chulalongkorn University; Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) Center, Thailand; GDLN Center, Tokyo; World Bank

This was the final dialogue of a four-part videoconference series, "Tsunami Recovery Efforts: Sharing Knowledge and Experiences." Representatives from South and East Asian countries recovering from the December 2004 tsunami came together through the World Bank's videoconferencing network, the Global Development Learning Network, to develop an integrated approach for tsunami preparedness and recovery. The dialogue series (October 2005–January 2006) brought together representatives from government, universities, research institutes, NGOs, and other agencies working on disaster preparedness, hazard management, and recovery efforts in the region. In the final session, more than 100 participants in Indonesia, Japan, Sri Lanka, and Thailand discussed the tsunami warning program and disaster preparedness system.

For information, see: <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:20698803~menuPK:34482~pagePK:2524753~piPK:51421526~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

3. **Japan-WHO Joint Meeting on Early Response to Potential Influenza Pandemic**

Date: January 12–13, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Government of Japan; World Health Organization (WHO)

With the world facing a continuously growing threat from avian influenza, a meeting was convened to focus on early responses to a potential pandemic. More than 130 participants attended the meeting from 14 Asian countries (including all those affected by the H5N1 virus), donor countries and agencies, and regional and international organizations. Participants identified key issues and recommended priority actions necessary to develop a rapid response and containment capacity in Asia. Recommendations addressed early response measures if and when a potential human pandemic strain emerges, as well as regional and international coordination in such areas as early detection and reporting of events with pandemic potential and stockpiling of antiviral drugs.

For information, see: <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/kenkou/kekkaku-kansenshou04/pdf/06a1-en.pdf>

4. 4th Pugwash Workshop on East Asian Security: Stability, Security and Cooperation in Northeast Asia

Date: January 12–15, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Pugwash Conferences; co-sponsored by Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament and the Beijing Institute of Applied Physics and Computational Mathematics; locally organized by the Program for Science and National Security Studies

More than 60 participants from China, North and South Korea, Japan, the United States, Pakistan, and Europe gathered for the 4th Pugwash Workshop on East Asian Security to discuss Northeast Asian security cooperation. The meeting was held at a time when the Six-Party Talks were in jeopardy, and participants engaged in intensive discussions on the current security situation on the Korean peninsula. Sessions were also devoted to relations between the big powers and their influence on East Asian security, including the strategic interests of the United States and Russia in the Northeast Asian region. The final session focused on confidence building and the search for lasting security cooperation in the region. It was clear that a lack of trust still exists among countries in the region and needs to be overcome. All participants agreed that at present, the Six-Party process is the best mechanism.

For information, see: <http://www.pugwash.org/reports/rc/ea/china2006/report.htm>

5. Asia-Pacific Regional Implementation Meeting for the 14th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Date: January 19–20, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); UN Food and Agriculture Organization Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Centre in Bangkok; UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Regional Office, Bangkok

The UN Commission on Sustainable Development, established in 1992, meets annually to ensure follow-up on the so-called Earth Summit of 1992 and subsequent international commitments. The Regional Implementation Meeting for Asia and the Pacific for the 14th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development was held to review the progress made, and identify key challenges and opportunities toward implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, in the areas of (a) energy for sustainable development, (b) industrial development, (c) air pollution, and (d) climate change. The meeting also featured a panel discussion with major stakeholders on the theme of how to continue economic growth for poverty reduction without compromising environmental sustainability.

For information, see: http://www.unescap.org/esd/rim/documents/Report_RIM.pdf
<http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-highlights/2006/february06.htm>

6. Public Symposium on Post-Disaster Recovery Lessons Learned

Date: January 19, 2006

Location: Kobe, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: International Recovery Platform (IRP) Secretariat; Asian Disaster Reduction Center; Cabinet Office of Japan; Hyogo Prefectural Government; UNDP; United Nations Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR); and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Kobe

The Public Symposium on Post-Disaster Recovery Lessons Learned attracted more than 180 participants from 21 countries throughout the Asia Pacific region and provided a unique opportunity to learn from past post-disaster experiences. Participants sought to identify the challenges faced in the recovery process of more recent major disasters, highlighting strategies to reduce potential risk and improve reconstruction. It was noted that the challenge lies in coordinating efforts among existing initiatives and resources. A video of the symposium is available on the IRP website.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-highlights/2006/february06.htm>

7. 5th Tokyo Workshop on ODA Evaluation

Date: January 26–27, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Participants in the 5th Tokyo Workshop on ODA Evaluation included Japanese individuals concerned with ODA, as well as representatives from 18 Asian partner countries, 12 development-related international organizations, and other donor countries. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has held this workshop annually since FY2001 with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness of Japan's ODA through deepening shared recognition of ODA evaluation in Asian partner countries (an area on which Japan places importance) and through accelerating capacity development in evaluation in these states. This 5th workshop sought to reinforce monitoring and evaluation systems of partner countries by focusing on "Management for Development Results."

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/1/0124.html>

8. 8th Asian Security Conference: Changing Security Dynamic in West Asia—Relevance for the Post 9-11 Systemic

Date: January 30–February 1, 2006

Location: New Delhi, India

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

Scholars and analysts from more than 20 countries around the world participated in the 8th Asian Security Conference, which examined the changing security scenario of West Asia and its implications for the region and the world. The conference sought answers to such questions as whether and how the political turbulence in the region is affecting international politics; how governance, polity, and regional frameworks in West Asia affect the security of the region; whether political change in the region is desirable and feasible; whether it will require greater international involvement to restructure and reshape regional political systems; whether political reforms aimed at greater political participation will lead to a rollback of Islamist radicalism or to more intransigent extremism; and what methods Islamist terrorists may adopt in the future to make their presence felt.

For information, see: <http://www.idsa.in/asian-sec.htm>

9. Countering the Support Environment for Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific Region

Date: January 31–February 2, 2006

Location: Hawaii, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS)

Terrorism is a growing threat in Southeast Asia, fostered by two simultaneous trends: the spread of militant religious ideologies and the growth of transnational "enabling" factors that allow illegal mobility and access to weapons and funding. To understand the support environment for terrorism in Southeast Asia, the APCSS hosted a three-day conference involving roughly 40 participants. Among the objectives of the conference were (1) to assess and understand the

ideological underpinning of terrorism in the region and the current trends; 2) to assess the transnational “enabling” factors—e.g., crime, porous borders, availability of small arms and explosives—that help sustain terrorist organizations; and (3) to assess current measures by states and regional organizations to counter terrorism and to identify any limitations that are acting as barriers to success.

For information, see: http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics_conferences.htm

February

10. International Symposium on Security Affairs 2006: Military Transformation in the 21st Century—Challenge for New Security Environment

Date: February 1, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: National Institute for Defense Studies

This year’s theme focused on “Military Transformation: Challenges and Prospects.” The meeting involved experts from the United States, Japan, Korea, Singapore, and other Asian countries. The goal of the meeting was to examine the transformation occurring in the US military and its impact on US-Japan relations and regional security.

For information, see: <http://www.nids.go.jp/english/index.html>

11. Asia-Pacific Alliances in the 21st Century: Waning or Rising?

Date: February 3–4, 2006

Location: Hawaii, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Pacific Forum CSIS; International Policy Studies Institute, Korea; Ilimin International Relations Institute, Korea University

Some 30 senior experts and young leaders met in Honolulu for a trilateral meeting to examine the future of alliances in the Asia Pacific and, in particular, the US-ROK alliance. The conference honored former ROK Foreign Minister and Ambassador to the United States Han Sung-joo. Conference discussions focused on the changing external environment and the transformation of domestic politics within US allied nations. Perceptions of China and the United States were also key considerations. The young leaders agreed that they saw the region and their countries’ alliances in fundamentally different ways than did their seniors. At the same time, however, most of them also believed that those alliances are still relevant, although the relationships need to change and move beyond the current predominantly military focus.

For information, see: http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights_v06n06.pdf

12. 4th Asia-Pacific Round Table: Asia in an Age of Globalisation

Date: February 6–7, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Global Foundation; World Bank; in association with the government of Singapore and Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The Asia-Pacific Round Table (APRT) is a dialogue among senior figures from international financial institutions, governments, academia, and the private sector on the most pressing challenges facing the Asia Pacific region and their possible solutions. At the 4th APRT, 100 leading policymakers and private sector leaders from around the globe participated in a two-day dialogue. Building upon relationships and discussions developed at the previous three meetings, the 2006 meeting was intended to contribute to the climate surrounding the annual meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, held in Singapore in September

2006. The two major themes of the meeting were the concept of “Asia” in an age of globalization and the private sector perspective on Asia’s continuing prosperity.

For information, see: <http://www.globalfoundation.org.au/AsiaPacificRoundTable2006.html>

13. Parliamentary Accountability and Security Sector Governance in Southeast Asia

Date: February 7–8, 2006

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung; Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces; Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace

This regional conference focused on mechanisms of parliamentary accountability in security sector governance. It enabled the presentation of particular security issues and concepts and their implications for parliamentary work in democratic transition states. The event furthermore provided the opportunity for an exchange of views and experiences in terms of security policies and the role of parliaments in different ASEAN states.

For information, see: http://www.dcaf.ch/news/_diarydetailskms.cfm?param0_219=2006&lng=en&id=25407&nav1=2

14. 1st Northeast Asia Trilateral Forum (Japan-China-Korea Wisemen’s Meeting)

Date: February 12–13, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: Nihon Keizai Shimbun (Japan); Xinhua News Agency (China); JoongAng Ilbo (South Korea)

Economic, political, and academic leaders from Japan, China, and South Korea, speaking at the Northeast Asia Trilateral Forum, called on the three countries to cooperate more actively through political ties. In addition, they urged the creation of a framework for regional economic integration so that East Asia can make the leap forward necessary to become the world’s growth engine. The forum, aimed at promoting mutual understanding and cooperation in East Asia, is also an attempt to search for development models in the region. Its themes range from trilateral economic cooperation and strategies for industrial development to environmental and energy issues. Former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone headed the Japanese contingent, while Qian Qichen, former Chinese vice premier, led the Chinese delegation, and Lee Hong-koo, former South Korean prime minister, served as the leader of the South Korean contingent.

For information, see: <http://www.nni.nikkei.co.jp/FR/FEAT/nasia/index.html>

15. 2nd Meeting of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter

Date: February 13–15, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

In 2005, at the 11th ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur, ASEAN Leaders agreed that an ASEAN Charter should be established to facilitate community building in the region. The charter was to serve as a legal and institutional framework, codifying all ASEAN norms, rules, and values. To draft this charter, an Eminent Persons Group on the ASEAN Charter was formed, comprising senior statesmen from around the region, who were to come up with recommendations. The EPG was asked to be “bold and visionary” in proposing major steps that could be taken to achieve an ASEAN Community as envisaged in the Declaration of ASEAN Concord II (2003), the Vientiane Action Programme (2004-2010), and the Vision 2020 (1997). This was the second of eight meetings of the ASEAN Charter EPG.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/19247.pdf>

16. BWC (Biological Weapons Convention) Tokyo Seminar

Date: February 14–15, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Center for the Promotion of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of the Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA)

Around 50 participants from government, academia, and international organizations attended the BWC Tokyo Seminar. Since entering into force in 1975, the BWC has been criticized as being insufficiently equipped to ensure the implementation of its obligations. In light of the emerging threat of bioterrorism (especially after the 2001 anthrax incidents in the United States), strengthening the convention has become a priority. The Tokyo Seminar was an opportunity for senior officials and distinguished experts to share their understanding of the current state of the convention, exchange ideas, and discuss effective approaches to the 6th BWC Review Conference, scheduled for November 2006. In conjunction with this meeting, a public symposium on “New Biological Threats and International Response” was also held on February 15.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2006/2/0202.html>

17. Asia and Pacific Regional Consultation on Scaling Up Towards Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support

Date: February 14–16, 2006

Location: Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); hosted by Thai Ministry of Public Health

Representatives from 20 countries across Asia Pacific met in Thailand to map out a strategy for scaling up HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support services and for moving toward universal access to treatment. The meeting was one of seven regional consultations held globally, and it brought together more than 100 leaders from governments, as well as from NGOs and community- and faith-based organizations across the region.

UNAIDS was asked by the UN General Assembly in 2005 to help facilitate an effort driven by the countries themselves to come as close as possible to the goal of universal access to treatment by 2010 for all those who need it. More than 10 countries in the Asia Pacific region have held national consultations aimed at identifying specific obstacles to scaling up toward universal access and the solutions needed to overcome them. The Asia Pacific consultation is the second regional event to take place.

For information, see: http://data.unaids.org/pub/PressRelease/2006/20060214_pr_tuathailand_en.pdf

18. Building Multi-party Capacity for a WMD-Free Korean Peninsula

Date: February 17, 2006

Location: Hawaii, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis (IFPA); Graduate School of International Studies, Yonsei University; Shanghai Institute of International Studies; funding from Carnegie Corporation of New York

Government officials and foreign policy experts from six countries gathered for a one-day workshop to discuss options for reviving the stalled Six-Party process and for building institutional capacity for implementing a viable denuclearization agreement with North Korea. As part of these discussions, policymakers and academics from the United States, China, Russia, Japan, South Korea, and Australia explored options to determine potential solutions to the three key issues that will be addressed by a negotiated denuclearization agreement: (1) security assurances; 2) nuclear dismantlement and verification; and (3) economic engagement

with North Korea. This was the second of three meetings held in 2005–2007 as part of an IFPA-led project.

For information, see: <http://www.ifpa.org/confwrkshp/Honolulu0206.htm>

19. 3rd Asia-Pacific Security Conference: Asia Pacific Security—Enduring Concerns

Date: February 19–20, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) and the Asian Aerospace 2006 Pte Ltd.

The 3rd Asia-Pacific Security Conference was held in conjunction with Asian Aerospace 2006, a major annual trade expo. The conference presented an opportunity for networking as well as for a serious exchange of views about the most important security challenges facing the region. The first panel of the conference discussed US strategic policy in Asia, asking such questions as how the United States would react to the rise of China as a potential challenger to its influence in the region and, importantly, what would be the nature and style of the rise of China. In the second panel of the conference, speakers addressed the nature of the terrorist threat in Asia; its links, if any, with groups in the Middle East; and regional responses to these threats. A lunch discussion focused specifically on the terrorist threat faced by Indonesia and how the Indonesian government was responding.

For information, see: <http://se2.isn.ch/serviceengine/FileContent?serviceID=7&fileid=62691F29-A0B3-9EB0-75CF-E8EF01EA7794&lng=en>

20. Post-Disaster Assessment and Monitoring of Changes in Coastal, Ocean and Human Systems in the Indian Ocean and Asian Waters

Date: February 20–23, 2006

Location: Phuket, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Department of Marine and Coastal Resources of the Thai Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment; UNESCO-Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Regional Secretariat for the Western Pacific

This international workshop brought together 200 natural and social scientists and educators, policymakers, marine protected area managers, and students from 93 institutions in 32 countries on five continents. The discussions focused on sharing lessons and experiences of post-disaster human and ecological rehabilitation and how to develop better approaches to coastal management. Participants examined the impacts of disasters and climate change on coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangroves, their associated biodiversity, fisheries, coasts, and beaches and on livelihoods dependent upon these ecosystems and communities. The meeting was to result in a book that analyzes lessons learned and the role of resilience in mitigating effects of destructive events.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-highlights/2006/march06.htm>
<http://westpac.unescobkk.org>

21. 13th ASEAN-ISIS Colloquium on Human Rights (AICOHR)

Date: February 21–24, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Institutes for Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS); Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISDS); support from Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), Taiwan Foundation For Democracy (TFD)

Leading representatives from human rights institutions and organizations in the region participated in a colloquium on the theme of “Human Rights Promotion in the ASEAN Security Community.” Topics discussed included the role of human rights in political development, the

challenges of human rights promotion, and the role of Track 2 initiatives in human rights promotion.

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/1/year-2006/month-1/veranstaltung_id-18867/

22. Review of Governance in Asia

Date: February 21, 2006

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Organizers/Sponsors: European Institute for Asian Studies; European Alliance for Asian Studies

The European Institute for Asian Studies, in collaboration with the European Alliance for Asian Studies, organized its annual Asia Update conference entitled “Governance in Asia.” The conference brought together academic specialists with members of the European Parliament, officials from the EU institutions, and Asian representatives. This meeting sought to provide information and analysis on the perceptions of governance that exist in Asia. The meeting reviewed recent evidence on the transformation toward market-based democratic governance in Asia; examined the notion of “good governance” held in several Asian countries where current developments are strongly at variance with the values the EU promotes; and discussed the increasing projection of India and China as regional leaders within Asia and the implications for the EU.

For information, see: <http://www.eias.org/conferences/2006/governance210206.html>

23. Terrorism, Geopolitics and Multinational Security Cooperation in Central Asia

Date: February 22–24, 2006

Location: Hawaii, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS)

The APCSS held a conference on the global war on terrorism, the momentous transformations in Central Asia, and the impact of these developments on Asia Pacific security. The conference format included panel discussions, breakout sessions, and a teleconference with US Central Command (CENTCOM) in Afghanistan. Senior defense and foreign affairs officials, prominent practitioners, and leading academics from both the United States and the region took part in the deliberations, with an equal distribution between security practitioners and area experts.

The conference addressed the complex security environment of Central Asia as the region continues to struggle with the phenomena of terrorism and religious extremism, poverty and corruption, political instability and authoritarian governance, great power suspicion and rivalry. How the region copes with these issues will extend important lessons to the larger region as well as to the world as a whole.

For information, see: http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics_conferences.htm

24. Advancing East Asian Economic Integration: Policies for Macroeconomic Adjustment, Growth and Development

Date: February 23–24, 2006

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM); Australian National University

Experts from throughout Asia and from international agencies gathered for a two-day meeting that focused on domestic macroeconomic adjustment, development, and growth; international and regional imbalances; and ways to harness the private sector for economic growth and development.

For information, see: <http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/pdf/ajrc/conferences/hanoi.pdf>

25. 7th ASEM Informal Seminar on Human Rights: Human Rights and Ethnic, Linguistic and Religious Minorities

Date: February 23–24, 2006

Location: Budapest, Hungary

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); sponsored by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (Sweden); support from the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Asia-Europe Foundation, and European Commission; co-hosted by Central European University

This meeting series was launched in 1998 with the purpose of increasing understanding and cooperation between Asia and Europe, especially with regard to human rights. The seminar highlighted the need to review the status and the instruments of protection of minority groups and members of minorities within the state and at the international level. Both Asia and Europe have to continue to seek joint, equitable, and appropriate solutions through regional and bilateral dialogue to the issues related to ethnic, linguistic, and religious minorities. This two-day seminar was structured around two topics: civil and political rights of minorities and economic, social, and cultural rights.

For information, see: http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=369

26. International Symposium on Trafficking in Persons

Date: February 25, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs; National Women's Education Center; and the International Organization for Migration (IOM); in cooperation with Japan Network Against Trafficking in Persons

This symposium invited speakers from various fields committed to the fight against human trafficking. It was intended to build a strong network among the experts, including public officials, law enforcers, NGOs, and academics dealing with the issue. The symposium was also aimed at advancing a better understanding of the issue among the general public.

For information, see: http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/i_crime/people/sympo0602.html

March

27. Ford Project on Non-Traditional Security in Asia: 3rd Regional Plenary Meeting of the Ford Grantees

Date: March 2–3, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS); support from Ford Foundation

One of the key events of the 3rd Regional Plenary Meeting was the launch of the publication *Studying Non-Traditional Security in Asia: Trends and Issues*. The concepts, frameworks, and approaches developed out of this Ford-funded research project are expected to be useful in anticipating, analyzing, and providing response mechanisms to new and emerging nontraditional security (NTS) challenges.

Session 1 of this meeting focused on human security in South Asia and on the dynamics of securitization in Asia. Session 2 looked at China's ability to deal with NTS; at the development gaps and economic security in ASEAN economies; and at globalization, pluralism, and securitization in East Asia. Session 3 looked at migration issues in South Asia and at the question of how to understand NTS in the East Asian context. The final session discussed

human security in South Asia, NTS issues in fisheries in Southeast Asia, and gender and NTS in South Asia.

For information, see: http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/FordConferenceReport.pdf

28. International Collaboration on Planning for Pandemics

Date: March 2–5, 2006

Location: West Sussex, UK

Organizers/Sponsors: Wilton Park Conferences

Recent outbreaks of avian influenza H5N1 in Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe and the fear of a pending pandemic necessitate international collaboration and action. This meeting focused on such issues as the following: What more can be done to encourage all countries to share surveillance data in a timely fashion? How can cooperation between the health and veterinary sectors be improved? What systems are needed to strengthen the capacity of public health systems in Asia? How quickly can surveillance and response capacity be strengthened and at what cost? How are donor funds being allocated and used? How can access to vaccines be improved in countries that have no manufacturing capability?

Wilton Park conferences generally attract 50–70 people of various nationalities for roundtable discussions. On average, more than half are from government, while others are mostly from NGOs, business, universities, parliaments, and the media.

For information, see: <http://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/themes/economic/pastconference.aspx?cnfref=WPS06/19>

29. CSCAP Legal Experts Study Group Meeting

Date: March 3–4, 2006

Location: Phuket, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)

The Legal Experts Study Group Meeting is a sub-meeting of the CSCAP Study Group on Capacity Building for Maritime Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific. Eleven participants from seven national CSCAPs focused on trying to work out matters concerning uneven adherence to international conventions; different levels of implementation, monitoring, and enforcement by state parties; and ways to amend legal barriers to effective maritime enforcement, particularly in areas where disputed and overlapping claims of maritime jurisdiction exist.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/archives.html>

30. Asia 2015: Promoting Growth, Ending Poverty

Date: March 6–7, 2006

Location: London, UK

Organizers/Sponsors: UK Department for International Development (DFID); cosponsored by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Bank

Asia 2015 was a two-day conference hosted by DFID and cosponsored by the ADB and the World Bank. The conference sought to highlight and celebrate the success of Asia in reducing poverty and promoting development; to identify the key challenges facing countries in Asia for sustaining growth and development in the future; and to build partnerships and an international consensus on priorities for achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Asia. The conference looked in detail at three key themes: “Future Scenarios: Prospects and Challenges for Asian Development”; “Unleashing the Potential for Poverty Reduction”; and “Where Next? Setting the Agenda for Partnership to 2015.”

For information, see: <http://www.asia2015conference.org/>

31. 4th Conference on Northeast Asian Security

Date: March 6, 2006

Location: New York, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: National Committee on American Foreign Policy (NCAFP); Korea Society

The NCAFP and the Korea Society co-hosted a North Korean delegation to discuss prospects for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks. This meeting took place one day before the North Korean delegation met with US officials in New York to discuss US allegations about North Korean “illicit activities,” including counterfeiting of US currency, money laundering, and drug smuggling—charges that were followed by the United States freezing DPRK assets in a bank in Macao. The talks came at a time of mounting frustration on both the US and the DPRK sides.

For information, see: http://www.ncafp.org/projects/northeast_asia/roundtables/roundmar06_zagoria.pdf

32. 4th Disaster Management Practitioners Workshop for Southeast Asia

Date: March 8–10, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Disaster Preparedness Center; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO)

The Disaster Management Practitioners Workshop for Southeast Asia (DMP SEA), first held in 1999, provides an opportunity for disaster management practitioners from governments, NGOs, international organizations, UN agencies, and donors from Southeast Asia to gather on a periodic basis to share experiences and lessons, identify emerging issues and strategies, and develop partnerships to promote community-based approaches to disaster risk management on a regional basis. The 4th DMP SEA Workshop was held in the aftermath of the great Asian tsunami and other large-scale disasters in the region and worldwide. Such events have significantly changed perceptions about vulnerability, risk, and capacity to reduce risks. The workshop is part of the Partnerships for Disaster Reduction Southeast Asia (PDRSEA), being conducted by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center and UNESCAP to promote National Strategic Planning for Community-Based Disaster Risk Management in five Southeast Asian countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Timor Leste, and Vietnam.

For information, see: <http://www.adpc.net/v2007/IKM/EVENTS%20AND%20NEWS/ADPC/2006/March/dmp-brochure-final.pdf>

33. Grand Design for Northeast Asia: Phase 3 Workshop

Date: March 10, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA)

This workshop was the third research workshop for a project jointly conducted by NIRA (Japan), Institute of Spatial Planning & Regional Economy (ISPREE, China), and the Korean Research Institute for Human Settlements, which builds on the findings of two previous phases. The main focus of this third workshop was regional cooperation in development finance and IT promotion.

In the first year of this third phase, researchers examined each country’s development program and the potential problems associated with aligning those programs with the grand design in an effort to create a road map for achieving regional interdependence in Northeast Asia. They also sought to determine which of five fields (energy-environment, transport-

distribution-communication, strategic development clusters, ecotourism, or development finance) should be given preference for implementation and to develop pilot program proposals around those fields.

For information, see: <http://www.nira.or.jp/past/pubj/newsletter/nn08.pdf>

34. Japan and India: Challenges and Prospects in Asia and Pacific in the 21st Century

Date: March 10, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Participants from Japan, India, the United States, and China gathered for a symposium in Tokyo. The first session examined “Challenges in Asia Pacific,” considering developments and challenges from the perspective of international politics and security as well as of the international economy. The discussion focused on how Japan, India, the United States, and China assess the shifts taking place in Asia Pacific. Session 2 focused on Japan-India relations, including what Japan and India are expected to do for peace, stability, and prosperity in Asia Pacific, and how the two countries should cooperate toward that goal, including through multilateral cooperation among Japan, India, the United States, and China.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/india/sympo0603/index.html>

35. 1st World Deauville Forum

Date: March 10–11, 2006

Location: Deauville, France

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and Le Monde de Demain; supported by UNESCO, OECD

The 1st World Deauville Forum focused on “World Economy for All—2006 Europe-Asia Dialogue.” More than 300 participants including CEOs, government officials, academics, NGO representatives, and students shared their perspectives in identifying values and reciprocal needs on which long-term exchanges may be built. Participants also discussed the social and financial context of Asian and European companies. This conference, organized back-to-back with the International Asian Film Festival, is intended to foster exchanges to promote the values of human respect, sustainability, and social responsibility as foundations for a new, well-balanced economy in Asia and Europe.

As part of this event, ASEF organized a debate entitled “Values in Work and Consumption—Rethinking the Link between Work and Consumption in Europe and Asia,” which focused on differences and similarities in the values that constitute the basis of all economic and business activities, as well as the influence of globalization on attitudes toward work and consumption.

For information, see: http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=300

36. CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Regional Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

Date: March 11–12, 2006

Location: Vancouver, Canada

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)

Twenty-two experts convened for the 2nd meeting of the CSCAP Study Group on Regional Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding. Participants came from South Asia, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand, and North America, and had extensive professional training in government, military, civilian policing, academia, NGOs, and former and current UN and other multilateral monitoring, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding missions.

International peace operations have become increasingly comprehensive, with greater numbers and types of stakeholders involved, and the structures and mechanisms for

coordinating these missions and for securing the resources to ensure their successful completion have yet to fully materialize. These organizational gaps are a challenge, but they are also an opportunity for the Asia Pacific to assume a more proactive and visible role in peace operations. The Study Group identified several political, operational, and organizational challenges to, and opportunities for, expanding and improving upon the Asia Pacific's current contributions to international peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/CSCAP%20Website%20Updates%20June%202006/PK%20and%20PB%202%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf>
http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_pubs/task,view/id,3380/type,1/

37. Security in North East Asia

Date: March 13–17, 2006

Location: West Sussex, UK

Organizers/Sponsors: Wilton Park Conferences

This Wilton Park Conference examined key questions surrounding security in Northeast Asia: What are the key threats in the region? How can tensions be reduced? How are overlapping internal and external aspects of security addressed? How does security in the region relate to economic growth and interaction? What institutional framework can best support dialogue and cooperation for increased security? How are US-China relations going to evolve? What is the European Union's role?

Wilton Park Conferences generally attract 50–70 people of various nationalities for roundtable discussions. On average, more than half are from government, while the others are mostly from NGOs, business, universities, parliaments, and the media. A summary of the discussions is available on the Wilton Park website.

For information, see: <http://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/themes/defence/pastconference.aspx?confref=WP806>

38. Maritime Security Conference on Globalisation and National Security

Date: March 15–16, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS)

More than 50 participants from government, military, and scholarly fields from throughout East and South Asia, the United States, Russia, and Europe gathered to discuss the impact of globalization on security, particularly in the context of South and Southeast Asia.

Globalization has become a buzzword, entering into mainstream dialogue and discourse, and attracting both supporters and detractors. The conference first examined whether the greater economic interdependence that comes with globalization will result in greater cooperation or will exacerbate existing rivalries and lead to conflict. Second, participants addressed how globalization affects a country's threat perception and its defense posture. Discussions then turned to how economic globalization affects the defense economy and allocation of resources to different sectors of the economy. Finally, the conference explored how globalization affects the defense industry and the acquisition and procurement policies and practices of the different states.

For information, see: http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/Globalization&Defense.pdf

39. Brainstorming on ASEAN Charter

Date: March 17–18, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); ASEAN-ISIS

KAS has worked to support initiatives in developing a charter for the ASEAN Community, funding two brainstorming sessions of the ASEAN-ISIS network in Singapore and Ubud. ASEAN-ISIS was invited to make recommendations concerning the ASEAN Charter to the Eminent Persons Group. KAS also brought the Asian drafters together with their European counterparts in Berlin and Brussels in September to enable a discussion on their experiences.

For information, see: <http://www.kas-asia.org/Conferences.htm#24mar2006>

40. 16th Asian Corporate Conference: Driving Global Business—India’s New Priorities, Asia’s New Realities

Date: March 18–20, 2006

Location: Mumbai, India

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Society; co-organized with Wall Street Journal and Confederation of Indian Industry; sponsored by AIG, Philip Morris International, Warburg Pincus, and other corporations

More than 1,000 senior government and business leaders from 23 countries in Asia and around the world gathered in Mumbai to examine India’s rise in the global economy at the Asia Society’s 16th Asian Corporate Conference. “Driving Global Business—India’s New Priorities, Asia’s New Realities” examined India’s potential to take off as a mature business market and how India’s growth will impact Asia’s economic future. Roundtable discussions explored topics such as the expansion of Indian businesses worldwide, the extent and implications of Asia’s renewed focus on intraregional business and trade, the effectiveness of India’s economic policies, and prospects for partnerships between Indian and Chinese businesses. In addition, the conference addressed critical social issues such as urban renewal and development in India’s emerging megacities, consumerism and rural development, HIV/AIDS, and education reform.

For information, see: <http://www.asiasociety.org/conference06/>

41. 10th Meeting of the Expanded Senior Panel of the Limited Nuclear Weapons Free Zone for Northeast Asia (LNWFZ-NEA)

Date: March 19–22, 2006

Location: Shanghai, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Shanghai Institute for International Studies (SIIS); Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy (CISTP) of the Sam Nunn School and Ivan Allen College of Georgia Tech in Atlanta; funding from Carnegie Corporation of New York, MacArthur Foundation, Korean Air, SIIS, and Georgia Tech (CISTP)

The 10th Plenary Meeting of the Limited Nuclear Weapons Free Zone for Northeast Asia was held in March 2006. Diplomatic, military, and academic specialists from China, Japan, North and South Korea, Mongolia, Russia, and the United States, and special observers from Argentina, Finland, and France met to continue in-depth discussions on the concept for a limited nuclear weapons-free zone for Northeast Asia. This forum is seen as a means to support and reinforce the Six-Party Talks.

The meeting concentrated on discussions to develop confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) for the region. Participants explored the idea of an organization to promote security and cooperation in Northeast Asia and discussed the possibility of the Six-Party Talks evolving into such an organization. The members of the forum stressed the need for step-by-

step progress as well as long-term commitment to mutually beneficial outcomes, and they also paid particular attention to the need to strengthen the NPT system.

For information, see: http://www.cistp.gatech.edu/cistp/programs/10thplenarypress_Release.pdf

42. East Asia and Pacific Regional Consultation on Children and AIDS

Date: March 22–24, 2006

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: Vietnamese Commission for Population, Family and Children; Family Health International; Save the Children; UNAIDS; UNICEF; US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief; World Health Organization

Delegates from across East Asia and the Pacific vowed to take swift and decisive action to tackle the issue of children and HIV/AIDS in the region. More than 300 representatives from governments, international agencies, and activist groups participated in the three-day East Asia and Pacific Regional Consultation on HIV/AIDS. At the end of the meeting, participants endorsed the Hanoi Call to Action, which urges countries in the region to follow specific steps to confront the impact of this disease on children. Among its recommendations, the Hanoi Call to Action urges countries to accurately assess the situation of children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. Currently, the nations of East Asia and the Pacific are home to an estimated 31,000 children infected with HIV, while 450,000 have lost one or both parents to AIDS. However, experts at the Hanoi conference noted that much of the region lacks precise data on vulnerable children. Delegates also stressed that countries need to defeat the pervasive stigma associated with HIV and AIDS.

For information, see: http://www.unicef.org/aids/index_31866.html

http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/200603/22/eng20060322_252625.html

43. Roundtable Discussion on Engaging ASEAN Governments on Human Rights Education

Date: March 23–25, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism; Asia Pacific Regional Resource Center for Human Rights Education (ARRC)

In July 2005, ASEAN Senior Officials asked the Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism to help in implementing the human rights program areas of the Vientiane Action Programme, particularly “promoting education and public awareness on human rights in the region.” As part of that effort, the Working Group, in coordination with the Asia Pacific Regional Resource Center for Human Rights Education, held a roundtable discussion to take stock of human rights education (HRE) programs and initiatives in ASEAN, identify strategies or possible engagements with ASEAN governments, identify both regional and national goals on HRE, and recommend possible HRE initiatives in ASEAN. The meeting was attended by participants from regional organizations engaged in HRE, by the national human rights institutions in ASEAN, and by members of the working group.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/engaging-asean-government.html>

44. 3rd Meeting of the CSCAP Study Group on Countering the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Asia Pacific

Date: March 26–27, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)

The CSCAP Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Study Group was launched in 2004 as a vehicle for raising regional consciousness on important issues related to WMD proliferation. In biannual meetings, the WMD Study Group examines regional attitudes toward the

Proliferation Security Initiative and other counter-proliferation efforts and regimes, the prospects for the Six-Party Talks and potential means for facilitating the Korean Peninsula denuclearization process, regional threat perceptions and security outlooks, missile proliferation, and ballistic missile defense.

Two meetings were held in 2006, in Singapore in March and in Vietnam in November. The Singapore meeting directly preceded an ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) WMD Seminar, so many ARF government officials also attended the CSCAP meeting in their private capacities, helping to create closer links between the ARF and CSCAP.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/CSCAP%20Website%20Updates%20June%202006/WMD%203%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf>

45. ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Seminar on Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

Date: March 27–29, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); hosted by Government of Singapore; co-chaired with Government of China

The seminar brought together senior officials and experts from the ARF countries to share national experiences in responding to the proliferation threat, review the various aspects of the global nonproliferation regime, and discuss ways to enhance their capacity and coordinate their responses to counter these threats.

For information, see: <https://www.aseanregionalforum.org/Default.aspx?tabid=67>

46. NIRA-ADB Joint Forum: The Prospects for an Asian Bond Market

Date: March 27, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA); Asian Development Bank (ADB)

NIRA, in cooperation with the Corporate Finance and Treasury Association of Japan and the Japan Capital Markets Association, launched two study groups in July 2005 for the purpose of formulating proposals for a strategic vision toward the integration of financial and capital markets in East Asia. Following this, consultations and exchanges were held with South Korean capital market experts. Since late 2005, the team has also been exchanging views with the ADB, which has been promoting the Asian Bond Market Initiative. The results of studies conducted over the past eight months were presented and discussed with participants at a NIRA-ADB joint forum.

For information, see: <http://www.nira.go.jp/newsj/kanren/170/178/index.html>
<http://www.nira.go.jp/newse/paper/pb/proposal.pdf>

47. Regional Expert Group Meeting on Development Challenges for Young People in Asia

Date: March 28–30, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Division for Social Policy and Development, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs; hosted by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Experts and representatives of universities, UN member states, UN agencies, and intergovernmental organizations gathered to identify and discuss major youth development challenges in Asia in preparation for the *World Youth Report 2007*, a biennial publication that provides a regional overview of the major trends in the 15 priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth. For each region, four topics that are affecting the lives of young people were

identified for an in-depth discussion. The four topics identified for the Asian region in 2006 were (1) globalization, (2) urbanization, (3) education, and (4) information and communication technologies.

For information, see: http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/regm_asia.htm

48. 3rd ASEAN Leadership Forum: Moving From Dialogue to Action

Date: March 30–31, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Secretariat; Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute

The ASEAN Leadership Forum is an annual meeting bringing together government, business, civil society, and intellectual leaders to take stock of the progress and achievements of ASEAN and to discuss the further challenges facing the region. It attempts to provide a venue for sharing ideas, insights, and experiences on building and strengthening ASEAN.

The 3rd ASEAN Leadership Forum explored the relationship between change management and bottom-line growth, and it examined the increasing importance of business leadership in ASEAN against a background of dynamic expansion and opportunity in the region. Participants debated the following critical questions: How far has ASEAN progressed? Will the new ASEAN Charter provide a compelling vision for ASEAN? What needs to be done to accelerate intraregional investment and deepen intra-ASEAN trade? What are the new opportunities and threats?

For information, see: <http://www.asli.com.my/cgi-bin/prevdetails.cfm?type=conference&id=125>

April

49. Strategic Visions for US-China-Japan Relations

Date: April 2–4, 2006

Location: Osaka, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Pacific Forum CSIS

US-Japan relations in 2006 were considered to be about as good as they have ever been. Sino-US relations saw their share of strains but remained generally cooperative and constructive, while also being candid and complex. Relations between Beijing and Tokyo, on the other hand, have seldom been worse in the postwar era and showed little sign of improving. It was in this setting that the Pacific Forum convened a workshop examining “Strategic Visions for US-China-Japan Relations.” Experts and young scholars from all three countries came together for two days of frank but constructive conversation aimed at finding common ground among all three states through a better understanding of each nation’s strategic vision and how it relates to the others. Sessions focused on the themes of “Examining Long-Term Visions,” “Examining Troubled Japan-China Relations: Sources and Solutions,” “Japan-China Tensions and the Impact on US Security,” “Economic Dynamics of Trilateral Relations: Bilateral and Regional,” and “Identifying Building Blocks for Strengthening Trilateral Relations.”

For information, see: http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights_v06n11.pdf

50. 1st Regional Conference on Building Networks to Strengthen ASEAN Human Rights Cooperation

Date: April 3–6, 2006

Location: Makati, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Philippine Commission on Human Rights; European Commission

The 1st Regional Conference on Building Networks to Strengthen ASEAN Human Rights Cooperation was an initiative of the Philippine Commission on Human Rights in partnership

with the European Commission. The workshop was attended by participants representing national human rights commissions of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand; ministries of foreign affairs and other government offices from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam; the Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism; and a representative of the ASEAN Secretariat; along with other guests and observers. The conference was divided into five sessions: (1) human rights cooperation in international and regional contexts, (2) developments in human rights cooperation in ASEAN, (3) human rights issues of regional importance in Southeast Asia, (4) strategy formulation, and (5) strategies for cooperation and networking.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanhrmech.org/downloads/Summary%20of%20Proceedings.pdf>

51. Forum on National Plans as Poverty Reduction Strategies in East Asia

Date: April 4–6, 2006

Location: Vientiane, Lao PDR

Organizers/Sponsors: International Monetary Fund (IMF); Asian Development Bank (ADB); UN Development Programme (UNDP); World Bank

The purpose of this forum was to help governments and other stakeholders embed poverty reduction principles in national plans and budgets to produce a document and process that can be fully owned by governments and supported by donors. Participants included around 100 representatives from governments, civil society, and development agencies. The forum aimed to share experiences on implementation and build consensus among governments and donors in the region regarding the critical attributes of national plans. In particular, the forum had two objectives: (1) share experiences with formulating and implementing national plans and poverty reduction strategies among countries of the region—Cambodia, China, Thailand, Timor Leste, and Vietnam; and (2) agree on principles and discuss steps to be taken by governments to make the formulation, implementation, and monitoring of national plans, budgets, and sector strategies more participatory, poverty focused, and results oriented, and agree on what development agencies need to do to support these plans and processes.

For information, see: <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/EASTASIAPACIFICEXT/0,,contentMDK:20862416~pagePK:146736~piPK:146830~SitePK:226301,00.html>

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2006/poverty-reduction-in-EA/default.asp>

52. 3rd Asia-Pacific Business Forum (APBF): Public-Private Partnerships for Development in Asia and the Pacific.

Date: April 7–8, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); in collaboration with the Government of Indonesia, Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN), and International Chamber of Commerce, Indonesia

The 2006 APBF convened approximately 400 corporate decision makers, senior government representatives, and representatives of civil society from the Asia Pacific region to discuss this year's topic, how the public and private sectors could work together to ensure sustainable economic and social development. Two substantive plenary sessions were held, one on "Strategies to Overcome Impediments to Development" and a second on "Pacific Connectivity through Public-Private Partnerships." Heads of state or government and ministers of Pacific island countries participated in the latter session. Breakout sessions were also held on "Stimulating Development through Public-Private Partnerships" in six areas of focus. The main

conclusions and recommendations that emerged from the forum are intended to guide UNESCAP's future work.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/apbf/mtg/brochure06.pdf>

53. 17th Northeast Asia Cooperation Dialogue (NEACD)

Date: April 9–11, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation (IGCC), University of California at San Diego; Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

Founded in 1993, the NEACD provides an annual Track 2 forum where foreign and defense ministry officials, military officers, and academics from China, Russia, North and South Korea, Japan, and the United States are able to meet and frankly discuss regional security issues. The 17th NEACD meeting was the largest to date and was the catalyst for an intensive round of sideline meetings by senior diplomats. The US, ROK, and DPRK governments sent their chief representatives to the Six-Party Talks to participate directly in the NEACD meeting, and the DPRK dispatched its largest and most senior group of participants ever.

The meeting began with a special workshop held on April 9, before the full plenary meeting, to focus on North Korean economic and energy development in the context of the nuclear issue. This resulted in the establishment of a new Track 2 dialogue to encourage North Korea's economic engagement with the outside world. The plenary meeting then examined national perspectives on regional security, issues related to nuclear verification, and future prospects for Track 1 and Track 2 diplomacy. In light of the fact that the North Korean delegation to the NEACD was led by its chief nuclear negotiator, Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kye Gwan, and the US delegation was led by Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill, the meeting drew intense media attention because of its implications for the stalled Six-Party Talks.

For information, see: http://igcc.ucsd.edu/regions/asia_pacific/NEACD17.php

54. Terrorism in Southeast Asia: The Threat and Response

Date: April 12–13, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS); US Department of State, Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism

A two-day international conference on terrorism in Southeast Asia was jointly sponsored by the IDSS (Singapore) and the US Department of State's Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism. Eminent counterterrorism experts and regional specialists from Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Japan, the UK, and the United States attended the conference. The meeting gave an overview of the current threats faced by states in the region and the counterterrorism initiatives in operation. Seven panels of experts discussed the internal and external factors contributing to the rise of terrorist groups and extremist networks in the region. The changing nature of the terrorist groups, the global-local tensions, and the ideology, rehabilitation, and reintegration of the jihadists were also addressed. The speakers suggested policy recommendations for creating a hostile environment for terrorist groups and their supporters at the ideological, financial, legislative, media, educational, informatics, and developmental levels.

For information, see: http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/NEW%20TerrorismSEAConference05.pdf

55. Brainstorming on ASEAN Charter

Date: April 17–19, 2006

Location: Ubud, Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); ASEAN-ISIS

This brainstorming session of the ASEAN-ISIS network, sponsored by KAS, was a follow-up to a March meeting held in Singapore. KAS has worked to support initiatives in developing a charter for the ASEAN Community, and ASEAN-ISIS was invited to make recommendations concerning the ASEAN Charter to the Eminent Persons Group. KAS also brought the Asian drafters together with their European counterparts in Berlin and Brussels in September to enable a discussion of their experiences.

For information, see: <http://www.kas-asia.org/Conferences.htm#24mar2006>

56. 3rd Meeting of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter

Date: April 17–19, 2006

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

As part of their efforts to frame an ASEAN Charter that would reflect the philosophy of a people-centric ASEAN, the EPG on the ASEAN Charter met with civil society organizations (CSOs) on April 17, to hear their ideas on what elements should be reflected in the ASEAN Charter. Organizations taking part included the ASEAN-ISIS, the Human Rights Working Group, Solidarity for Asian People's Advocacy, the Third World Network, the Migrant Forum in Asia, and the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization, among others. Discussions ranged from how CSOs and other organizations outside the formal ASEAN structure could regularly and effectively channel their views into ASEAN, the promotion and protection of human rights, and the importance of maintaining the competitiveness of ASEAN. Following those consultations, on April 18–19, the EPG held its 3rd meeting to deliberate on the principles and objectives they would recommend be included in the Charter.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/19247.pdf>

57. 3rd NCAFP Trilateral Republic of Korea–Japan–US Roundtable

Date: April 18–19, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: National Committee on American Foreign Policy (NCAFP); Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA); International Policy Studies Institute of Korea (IPSIKOR)

Three think tanks from the United States, Japan, and Korea co-hosted a meeting of security specialists, including current and former government officials and academics. This was the third such meeting in the past two years. The purpose of these trilateral meetings is to provide an opportunity for policy analysts, officials, and former officials from the three countries to engage in frank and forthright dialogue out of the media spotlight, to talk about long-range issues as well as current challenges, and to chart a common long-range strategy for dealing with security challenges. This meeting concentrated on four topics: US-ROK relations, US-Japan relations, Taiwan, and the North Korea nuclear issue.

For information, see: http://www.ncafp.org/projects/NEasia/roundapr06_usjapanrok.htm

58. 9th ASEM Customs Enforcement Working Group Meeting; International Conference on Customs Protection and Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights

Date: April 19–21, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: Korea Customs Service; Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

More than 300 participants attended this conference, including customs officials from 39 ASEM members, intellectual property right (IPR) holders, and experts from the private sector, academia, and international organizations (World Customs Organization, World Intellectual Property Organization, OECD, International Criminal Court, and International Trademark

Association). Drawing on this diverse group of attendees, the event served as a venue for discussions on ways to better protect IPR and countermeasures against IPR violations. Best practices of each participating country were presented on major investigation and surveillance issues such as smuggling, drugs, IPR, illegal weapons, commercial fraud, and trade security. Furthermore, participants discussed cooperative approaches to the issues and evaluated each country's implementation of two action plans, namely the "Fight Against Fraud" and "Supply Chain Security & Trade Facilitation and IPR."

For information, see: <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=180>

59. ASEAN-China Economic Forum: Economic Cooperation and Challenges Ahead

Date: April 20–21, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The conference aimed to evaluate the present status, challenges, and prospects in regard to the economic linkages and cooperation between ASEAN and China. This forum was organized under the ASEAN-China Study Programme.

For information, see: <http://www.iseas.edu.sg/20apr06a.pdf>

60. Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2005: Asia Searching for Win-Win, New Role for Asia

Date: April 21–23, 2006

Location: Boao, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Boao Forum for Asia

More than 850 senior politicians, scholars, and businesspeople from roughly 40 countries and regions gathered for this annual conference, which in 2006 addressed the theme of "Asia Searching for Win-Win." The participants discussed such major topics as regional economic cooperation, the prospects of the Doha round of World Trade Organization talks, and the energy market. It also examined China's banking, real estate, and automotive industries and reforms of state-owned enterprises.

For information, see: <http://www.boaoforum.org/Html/home-en.asp>

61. 2nd Annual Weatherhead East Asian Institute China Symposium: Feeding the Giant—The Domestic and Global Impact of China's Energy Needs

Date: April 21, 2006

Location: New York, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Center for Chinese Economy and Society, Columbia University

The Center for Chinese Economy and Society held its 2nd international symposium on contemporary China, "Feeding the Giant: The Domestic and Global Impact of China's Energy Needs." During this one-day event, scholars, policymakers, and members of the business community examined the consequences of China's quest for energy. The symposium featured four panel discussions highlighting (1) China's energy policy, (2) international security, (3) the domestic impact of China's energy crisis, and (4) the economics that are impacting both the region and the global marketplace. The goal of the symposium was to present the most current and useful scholarship on China's energy issues to an audience of interested scholars, students, business professionals, and community members.

For information, see: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/weai/documents/WEAI%20Annual%20Report,%202005-2006.pdf>

62. NEAT Working Group on Overall Architecture of Community Building in East Asia: Regional Architectures for Non-Traditional Security and Environmental Cooperation in East Asia

Date: April 24–25, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT); Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR)

NEAT was established by ASEAN+3 governments at their 2002 summit in Cambodia to formulate recommendations on regional community building for consideration by the member governments. In order to fulfill its mandate, NEAT establishes Working Groups on subjects of relevance and urgency. The Meeting of the NEAT Working Group on Overall Architecture of Community Building in East Asia involved 20 participants from all 13 NEAT member countries. The group focused on three main themes: cooperation on nontraditional security issues (e.g., trafficking in illegal drugs and people, sea piracy, terrorism, arms smuggling, money laundering, international economic crime, and cyber crime); pandemic threats (especially SARS and avian influenza); and environmental issues (e.g., deforestation, forest fires, chemical pollution, air pollution, marine contamination, and global warming). These themes were chosen because their causes and effects are transnational and require regional cooperation. Jointly addressing the problems shared by East Asian countries is crucial to fostering trust for community building in the region. A report on the meeting is available online.

For information, see: http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_04wg01.pdf

63. 3rd Annual Asian Dialogue on HIV/AIDS: Building a Social Agenda for HIV/AIDS—Sharing Asian Experiences

Date: April 26–28, 2006

Location: Mumbai, India

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Society; co-presented by the Confederation of Indian Industry, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and Positive Lives; funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

As India moves quickly toward a global leadership position in the 21st century, the impact of HIV/AIDS threatens to reverse its potential growth and prosperity. More than 5 million people in India are estimated to be living with the virus—second only to South Africa—and there were half a million new infections in 2005 alone. In an effort to bring fresh attention to this growing epidemic and to support India's response to it, the Asia Society hosted its 3rd Annual Asian Dialogue on HIV/AIDS, an international symposium with leaders from throughout the region. The project also included a photo exhibition, "Positive Lives, Positive Stories: An Exhibition to Change Attitudes on HIV & AIDS." The exhibition and symposium are the centerpiece of the AIDS in Asia Initiative, a three-year project launched in 2003 to raise awareness about the AIDS epidemic in Asia and to mobilize Asian decision makers and their American counterparts to build a collaborative response to Asia's growing HIV/AIDS crisis.

For information, see: <http://www.asiasociety.org/asiandialogue/index.html>

64. International Symposium on Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative

Date: April 27–28, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Development Bank (ADB); Thai Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)

Biodiversity corridors experts and implementers convened for the 1st International Symposium on the Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative (BCI). BCI is the flagship component of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Core Environment Program (CEP), which was designed to

address the immediate and long-term stresses that rapid economic growth would otherwise have on the environment and natural resources of the region. The symposium was structured around four themes: ecosystems connectivity, local livelihoods, climate change, and sustainable financing. The objective was to share lessons learned by implementers and practitioners of biodiversity corridors outside the GMS with implementers of the CEP. Participants at the symposium included members of the GMS Working Group on Environment; delegates from Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam; observers from the CEP's development partners; biodiversity corridor experts and implementers; and other representatives from NGOs and academia.

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2006/bci-symposium/default.asp>

65. 3rd CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Multilateral Security Frameworks in Northeast Asia

Date: April 28–29, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)

The 3rd meeting of the CSCAP Study Group on Multilateral Security Frameworks in North Pacific/Northeast Asia was hosted by CSCAP China and followed on meetings held in April 2005 in Tokyo and October 2005 in Seoul. More than 30 scholars and other experts representing regional CSCAPs participated and 15 papers were presented. It was the first time that two representatives from CSCAP DPRK attended the study group meeting, and they presented a paper on the situation on the Korean Peninsula. The meeting was divided into sessions on the security situation in Northeast Asia and tasks for multilateral security cooperation; theoretical frameworks, approaches, and mechanisms for multilateral security cooperation; Six-Party Talks and multilateral security cooperation; and nontraditional security threats and multilateral security cooperation. The papers were to be revised for submission to the CSCAP Steering Committee.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/archives.html> http://www.vuw.ac.nz/css/docs/CSCAP_Reports_Contributions/2006/MSF%203rd%20Mtg%20Report-TOW.pdf#search=%22cscap%20korea%22

May

66. 39th Annual ADB Meeting

Date: May 3–6, 2006

Location: Hyderabad, India

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Approximately 2,500 delegates gathered in Hyderabad, India, for the ADB's 39th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors. The event brought together economic and financial senior government officials, ministers, academics, journalists, businesspeople, investment bankers, and representatives of international and nongovernmental organizations. Among the issues on the agenda were the development challenges facing Asia in the context of global imbalances, India's (and South Asia's) role in a region that is rapidly integrating, and the Asia and Pacific region's massive infrastructure needs.

In addition to the business sessions and seminars, other events during the week included country presentations, the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' meeting on the sidelines, an Open Forum on ADB-NGO Cooperation, and the Governors' seminar. Complementing these, the annual seminar series addressed such themes as "Knowledge-Based Economies in the 21st Century," "Transforming Asian Economies with e-Services," "Asian Economic Integration," "Infrastructure," and "Sustainable Energy Development."

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2006/9742-regional-Annual-Meeting/>

67. 8th ASEF Talks on the Hill: Re-righting Intellectual Property—Economic and Social Policy Challenges in Asia and Europe

Date: May 7–9, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

This 8th ASEF Talks on the Hill brought together 13–15 experts from Asia and Europe. Beginning with an overview of the philosophical and economic rationale behind the development of intellectual property rights, the meeting went on to discuss the pertinent issues faced by the countries of ASEM at the level of regional and international organizations. A case study on the specific issues of intellectual property in the healthcare sector examined the clash that can occur between sometimes opposing priorities and goals. Finally, this meeting discussed concrete questions related to the implementation and enforceability of intellectual property across various countries, focusing on both economic and political challenges as well as cultural perceptions and beliefs that need to be recognized in the incorporation of intellectual property law and policy into various countries.

For information, see: http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=930
<http://www.civdialogue.asef.org>

68. Mayors' Asia-Pacific Environmental Summit 2006

Date: May 9–12, 2006

Location: Melbourne, Australia

Organizers/Sponsors: City of Melbourne, Australia; Melbourne Council Tourism; Asian Development Bank (ADB); Environmental Foundation, USA; Global Environment and Technology Foundation (GETF), USA; International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), Australia & New Zealand

In the belief that the future of the Asia Pacific region will be shaped by its cities and urban regions, the Mayors' Asia Pacific Environmental Summit (MAPES) provides a unique forum for mayors and other senior local government officials in the region to promote sustainable development in their cities, share information and best practices, and build partnerships with businesses, donor organizations, and NGOs. The City of Melbourne hosted MAPES 2006, in conjunction with Australia's largest environmental conference and trade show, ENVIRO 2006.

The MAPES program focuses on promoting bold leadership and action through extensive mayor-to-mayor dialogue and "Mayors' Commitments," specific pledges to address a wide range of problem areas, such as expanding water supply and wastewater treatment facilities; improving solid waste collection, recycling, and landfill management; rehabilitating slums; and improving riverfronts and river ecosystems. A plenary session focused on water management, while other sessions addressed small-piped water networks, a zonal approach to water management, e-governance and water, and cost recovery and water tariff reforms.

For information, see: <http://www.environmentalsummit.com/website/background/background.cfm>

69. China and Emerging Asia: Reorganizing the Global Economy?

Date: May 11, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP); Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS), Seoul National University; Bank for International Settlements (BIS)

This conference focused on the role of China and emerging Asia within the global economy. Participants examined such issues as China and the multilateral trading system, China's future demand for energy, China and the global environment, China's strategies for catching up economically and the implications for Korea, bond market development in East Asia and Latin

America; the international financial integration of China and India, whether East Asia is safe from future financial crises, and whether trade and financial integration reinforce each other.
For information, see: http://www.kiep.go.kr/eng/seminar_view.asp?num=176640&nowPage=1

70. 2nd CSCAP Export Controls Experts Group Meeting

Date: May 11–12, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); Pacific Forum CSIS; funding from US Department of Energy

The CSCAP WMD Study Group has formed an Export Controls Experts Group (XCXG) to assess national export control programs, identify vulnerabilities and shortcomings, and develop recommendations for improving both individual export control capacity and mutual cooperation. The XCXG met in Beijing in May 2006 in an expansive meeting that included more than 50 representatives from Chinese industries and ministries as well as export control experts from throughout the Asia Pacific region. The XCXG was scheduled to meet next in Tokyo in February 2007, back-to-back with a Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI) conference focused on export control cooperation. The XCXG is developing an East Asia export control template for inclusion in the WMD Study Group's Action Plan.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/>

71. 1st Working Group Meeting on Energy Planning and Policy

Date: May 15–16, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); Korea Energy Economics Institute (KEEI)

In November 2005, an Intergovernmental Collaborative Mechanism on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia was established to facilitate energy cooperation and trade to enhance energy security in Northeast Asia. Under this mechanism, a Working Group on Energy Planning and Cooperation was established to identify possible future energy cooperation activities. As a first practical step, the working group will develop country reports on energy policies, data, and statistics, and will identify information gaps. The reports will form the basis for identifying collaborative projects. At this first workshop, participants agreed on the objectives of the working group to be (1) coordination of energy security policies and legislation among countries of Northeast Asia by 2020, and (2) integration of energy security into national sustainable development strategies in line with global trends.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esd/energy/dialogue/cooperation/epp1/index.asp>

72. 8th Steering Group Meeting of the ADB-OECD Anticorruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific

Date: May 17–19, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Development Bank (ADB); Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

The 8th Steering Group Meeting had three main objectives: (1) to report on and discuss the implementation of the Anticorruption Action Plan for Asia-Pacific, including recent anticorruption reform projects that have taken place since the last meeting of the steering group in September 2005 and plans for upcoming reform projects in accordance with the Action Plan; (2) to finalize the steering group's self-evaluation and mutual review process on implementing the Action Plan's standards for curbing corruption in public procurement; and

(3) to have a preliminary discussion on the initiative's strategy and work program for 2007–2008 (to be adopted at the 9th Steering Group meeting).

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2006/8th-steering-group-meeting/default.asp>

73. PECC Pacific Food System Outlook (PFSO) Group 2006 Meeting

Date: May 17–18, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC)

This was the annual meeting of the PECC Pacific Food System Outlook group to discuss the draft report published annually on food forecasts and issues in the Pacific region. This year's meeting focused on the future role of biofuels, including lessons from Brazil and environmental tradeoffs.

For information, see: <http://www.pecc.org/food/>

74. UN Workshop on Small Arms and Light Weapons

Date: May 17–19, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific of the Department of Disarmament Affairs; cosponsored by governments of Japan, Thailand, Canada; the UN Department of Disarmament Affairs (UNDDA); and the UN Development Programme (UNDP)

This UN workshop was entitled "Towards the Review Conference on the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects." The objectives of the workshop were to identify specific problems with small arms and light weapons in the region, address challenges, exchange information (including experiences and best practices on the implementation of the Programme of Action), and encourage and improve regional cooperation. In order to achieve these goals, participants discussed various issues including ongoing and future actions related to illicit trade in small arms and light weapons; the implementation of an international instrument on marking and tracing; export/import control; supply and demand perspectives; gender issues; and linkages with other issues. Approximately 70 participants from governments, NGOs, and international organizations, mainly from South and Southeast Asia, attended the workshop in their personal capacities.

For information, see: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2006/dc3023.doc.htm>

75. Williamsburg Conference

Date: May 18–20, 2006

Location: Wye River, Maryland, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Society; sponsored by Citigroup, Lee Foundation, ITOCHU Corporation, Kansai Electronic Power, Mitsubishi Corporation, and Tokyo Electric Power Company

The theme of the 34th Williamsburg Conference was "Asia 20/20: Focus on the Future." Roughly 50 experts from 15 countries gathered for the meeting, where they reflected not only on how far the Asia Pacific community has come over the past 50 years, but also on how to work together to address the many challenges we will face in the future. Delegates focused on the need for members of the Asia Pacific community to work together to narrow the global trade imbalance, forge regional integration, promote energy security, and tackle human security challenges. Yet they also lamented Asia's rising nationalism and growing social inequality and poverty, both of which threaten collaboration and goodwill. These patterns of

convergence and divergence reflect another major conference theme, the benefits and perils of globalization. Delegates described the empowering capabilities of new technologies and the innovation they spawn worldwide, as well as the economic benefits accruing from rapidly expanding trade and investment.

For information, see: http://www.asiasociety.org/policy_business/williamsburg06.pdf

76. Japan-US-China Trilateral Conference and Symposium: Peace and Stability in East Asia—What Our Future Trilateral Relationships Should Be Like

Date: May 20–23, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies (CNAPS), Brookings Institution; Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); Keizai Koho Center; hosted by Peking University

The Japan-US-China Trilateral Conference brought together scholars from universities and think tanks and former officials to discuss relations among the three countries under the theme “Peace and Stability in East Asia—What Our Future Trilateral Relationships Should Be Like.” In addition to the conference, a public symposium was held on May 23, at which speakers stressed that a favorable Japan-China relationship is the cornerstone of stability in East Asia. They also noted that the three countries should deal with global issues such as energy problems. A total of 135 people attended the symposium.

For information, see: http://www.kkc.or.jp/english/activities/discuss6.html#2006_5

77. Civil Society and Government Collaboration to Combat Trafficking in Persons in the Greater Mekong Subregion

Date: May 22–24, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Government of Thailand; in collaboration with Vital Voices Global Partnership and the US government

A regional conference was held on human trafficking that brought together representatives from NGOs and governments in the six Mekong Subregion countries, as well as representatives and participants from the US government and from international nongovernmental and governmental organizations in order to discuss the importance of government-NGO collaboration to combat trafficking at the regional level.

Participants offered regional perspectives on cooperative relations between NGOs and governments in responding to trafficking in the Mekong Subregion. Topics included operationalizing multi-partner collaboration in implementing comprehensive, local trafficking efforts at the local level; challenges to NGO-government and cross-border cooperation; cross-border case studies of successful NGO-government collaboration in the Mekong Subregion; and Eastern European experiences in NGO-government collaboration in prosecution and prevention.

For information, see: <http://www.humantrafficking.org/events/126>

78. APEC Study Center Consortium Conference: Strengthening Economic Partnership for Sustainable and Equitable Development in the Asia-Pacific

Date: May 23–24, 2006

Location: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

This APEC conference focused on practical policies for strengthening regional cooperation in sustainable and equitable development in Asia Pacific. Sessions focused on such topics as approaches to the implementation of the Busan Roadmap, harmonization of APEC’s economic

and technical cooperation (ECOTECH) programs and its trade and investment liberalization and facilitation (TILF) programs for equitable development in the Asia Pacific," "emerging security issues in the APEC region and the framework for collective actions," "anti-corruption and good governance," "tourism, cultural exchanges, and the promotion of community awareness," "human resource development and capacity building," and "APEC reform: toward a dynamic community."

For information, see: http://www.apec.org.au/docs/06ASCC_HCMC/06_0_Program.pdf

79. 2nd Green Growth Policy Dialogue: Role of Public Policy in Providing Sustainable Consumption Choices—Resources Saving Society and Green Growth

Date: May 23–24, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); National Development and Reform Commission of China; China Standard Certification Center

One of the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development was the need to change the way societies produce and consume. Since then, the green growth approach has been endorsed as a unique instrument for achieving MDG 1 on Poverty Reduction and MDG 7 on Environmental Sustainability. The 2nd Green Growth Policy Dialogue focused on the potential role of governments and the public sector in applying green growth approaches to improving the eco-efficiency of consumption patterns, including the legal, economic, and social instruments that governments could employ. The dialogue attempted to generate interactive discussion and debate on developing innovative approaches to the promotion of sustainable consumption patterns, with the active participation of policymakers, academia, the private sector, civil society, and NGOs.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esd/environment/mced/tggap/documents/2RPD/presentation/index.htm>

80. North Korea: Placing Human Rights on the Security Agenda

Date: May 24, 2006

Location: New York, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Society; US Commission on International Religious Freedom; Refugees International

The Asia Society, Refugees International, and the US Commission on International Religious Freedom held a symposium to assess the feasibility of establishing a broader security agenda for Northeast Asia that would include a crucial humanitarian dimension. The panelists addressed the global implications of the continuing crisis in North Korea—famine, religious persecution, migration and refugees, trafficking—as well as its political, economic, and social impact on the country and the region. The panel also considered possible solutions that a united Northeast Asian security regime might provide. Finally, the speakers focused on the innovative actions and solutions that are emerging locally and globally and, in particular, explored the responsibility of the international community in their approach and response to North Korea.

For information, see: http://www.asiasource.org/asip/NKorea_humanrights.cfm

81. The Development of Law in Asia

Date: May 25–26, 2006

Location: Shanghai, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); Asian Law Institute, East China University of Politics and Law

The 3rd Asian Law Institute conference was held at the East China University of Politics and Law in Shanghai on the theme of “The Development of Law in Asia: Convergence versus Divergence?” Participants discussed a number of wide-ranging issues and sub-themes regarding regional legal issues in Asia: WTO and regional cooperation; financial law; jurisprudence and higher education of law; IP and e-commerce; international law and international human rights; and dispute resolution and business law. Legal experts from Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, North Korea, and Germany were sponsored by KAS to participate and to share their insights on the topics.

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-5/veranstaltungen_id-19205/index.html

82. The Future of Asia 2006: 12th Nikkei International Conference

Date: May 25–26, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Nihon Keizai Shimbun; in cooperation with People’s Daily (China), Kompas (Indonesia), JoongAng Ilbo (Republic of Korea), Maeil Business Newspaper (Republic of Korea), New Straits Times (Malaysia), The Straits Times (Singapore)

Current and former policymakers, economic leaders, and researchers from around the Asia Pacific gathered in Tokyo for a two-day conference, where they called for speeding up efforts for regional economic integration toward the eventual goal of forming an East Asian Community. The conference also highlighted the frosty relations between Japan and China as a major regional concern needing a quick resolution.

For information, see: <http://www.nni.nikkei.co.jp/FR/NIKKEI/inasia/future/2006/2006news15.html>

83. Expert Group Meeting on Eco-efficiency in Northeast Asia

Date: May 25–26, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Northeast Asia Subregional Programme for Environment Cooperation (NEASPEC), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

This expert group meeting (EGM) was held in collaboration with the China Standard Certification Center in Beijing and was attended by nominated national experts from all six NEASPEC member countries. The EGM reviewed relevant national policies, the implications of Northeast Asian countries’ economic development in the context of eco-efficiency, and the conceptual dimensions of eco-efficiency. Based on the findings from the review, the EGM discussed the applicability of the eco-efficiency concept at the subregional and national levels.

Participants proposed that NEASPEC explore possibilities for undertaking activities on such topics as a subregional recycling system, harmonized eco-labeling, sound material cycle network, cross-border cooperation on energy efficiency, eco-efficiency indicators, and capacity building in cleaner production. In view of the significance of improving eco-efficiency in Northeast Asia, the EGM decided to propose that the 12th Senior Officials Meeting of NEASPEC initiate a subregional program, tentatively titled “Eco-efficiency Partnership in North-East Asia.”

For information, see: <http://unescap.org/esd/newsletters/documents/NewsletterJun2006.pdf>

84. NEAT Working Group Meeting on East Asian Financial Cooperation

Date: May 26–27, 2006

Location: Shanghai, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT)

The NEAT Working Group Meeting on East Asian Financial Cooperation included the participation of scholars and experts from 12 of the ASEAN+3 countries. (Cambodia was absent.) The discussions focused on three major themes: changes in the backdrop of East Asian financial cooperation, the latest developments in East Asian financial cooperation, and prospects and policy recommendations. The working group agreed that financial cooperation is a crucial part of the regional integration process. Although the overall environment for financial cooperation has grown increasingly favorable, significant risks and obstacles remain. Participants stressed that East Asian financial cooperation should be carried out in the spirit of consensus and consultation to make headway and bring practical benefits to the people of the region.

For information, see: http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_04wg03.pdf

85. 4th CSCAP Capacity Building for Maritime Cooperation Study Group Meeting

Date: May 27–28, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); in cooperation with the Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA)

The main objectives of the CSCAP Study Group on Capacity Building for Maritime Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific are to refine the notion of capacity in the context of maritime security cooperation in the Asia Pacific; to identify the requirements of cooperation at the national, subregional, and regional levels; and to identify weaknesses in the present arrangements and see how these can be overcome. The study group's fourth and final meeting was held just prior to the CSCAP Steering Committee meeting. The goal was to complete consideration of what would be the final output from the study group. Participants also reviewed recent developments related to maritime security in the region, such as recent developments in security arrangements in the Malacca and Singapore Straits; cooperation among Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines in the area of the Sulu and Sulawesi Seas; the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI); and the establishment of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency.

For information, see: http://www.cscap.ca/Maritime_Cooperation_SG_Dec05_Report.doc

86. 20th Asia Pacific Roundtable

Date: May 29–June 1, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS), Malaysia

The Asia Pacific Roundtable is a forum for informal exchanges of views among scholars and practitioners on issues of peace and security that are critical issues of concern in the region. The roundtable is unique in that it is the only institution in the world that brings together all the adversary nations in the region to talk about what they think of some of the prevailing tensions and conflicts in the region, how these tensions can be reduced, how confidence can be built, and how conflicts can be resolved. The papers from the 20th meeting of the roundtable have been published in a conference volume, *Peace in the Pacific: Confronting the Issues*.

For information, see: http://www.isis.org.my/html/apr/apr_list.htm

87. 25th CSCAP Steering Committee Meeting

Date: May 29, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)

This was the biannual meeting of the CSCAP Steering Committee, which meets to review the progress of the various working groups and determine the plans for the coming year.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/archives.html>

88. 3rd FEALAC Cross Pacific Seminar

Date: May 29, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Latin American Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS); support from Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

With the theme of "Interaction of Two Regions," the 3rd seminar of the Forum for East Asia–Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) focused on a comparison between East Asia and Latin America against the background of European experiences. The seminar offered perspectives from Europe, Latin America, ASEAN, and East Asia.

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-5/veranstaltung_id-21022/index.html

89. Regional Conference on Water Financing: Addressing Financing Challenges through Good Governance

Date: May 30–31, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Global Water Partnership Southeast Asia; Philippine Water Partnership; support from Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The *Asia Water Watch 2015* study estimates that annual investments of US\$8 billion will be needed over the next decade to meet MDG targets for safe drinking water and sanitation alone. Additional investments are needed for irrigation services, river basin management, flood management and mitigation, and wastewater management. This regional conference addressed the urgent need for renewed political commitment to reforms in order to promote successful public and private investment in the water sector, and for the development of innovative financial products for the water sector. The conference was attended by some 200 water experts and representatives from governments, international organizations, and the private sector concerned with financing issues. Participants discussed the critical issues and financing challenges of the water sector that are currently confronting the region and tried to provide innovative solutions to these challenges.

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/documents/events/2006/Water-Financing/regcon.asp>

June

90. International Conference on Aging East Asia: Policy Responses and Regional Cooperation

Date: June 1, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Policy Research Institute, Japanese Ministry of Finance; Asian Development Bank Institute

East Asian government officials, researchers, and experts from international institutions gathered to discuss the challenges posed by aging societies and the potential for regional responses. Participants focused on current policy responses and potential regional cooperation related to three themes: (1) the current status and issues of aging in East Asia; (2) policy responses for aging in East Asian countries; and (3) suggestions from aging advanced countries.

For information, see: http://www.mof.go.jp/jouhou/soken/kenkyu/h18/adbi060601_e.htm

91. Regional Workshop on Educational Materials

Date: June 1, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

A regional workshop was held on educational materials for “Education for Natural Disaster Preparedness in Asia-Pacific in the Context of Education for Sustainable Development.” The workshop provided a forum to share valuable insights on natural disaster preparedness and mitigation at the national and regional levels and to maximize the synergies as well as strengthen the network between education for sustainable development practitioners and other stakeholders.

For information, see: <http://www.adpc.net/v2007/IKM/ADPC%20MONTHLY%20UPDATES/2006/June/June2006-A.asp>

92. 5th Annual Asia Security Summit (Shangri-La Dialogue)

Date: June 2–4, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)

Since its inaugural meeting in 2002, the Shangri-La Dialogue has evolved into a largely Track 1 event with some Track 2 participation from security and defense experts and academics. Over the first four years of the dialogue, defense ministers from 15 countries have participated, along with other senior defense and security officials from a further 6 countries. The 5th Shangri-La Dialogue was the largest yet and featured on-the-record plenary sessions for ministers and national security advisors to clarify and expand on government policy, and to be challenged by an expert group on policies and assumptions. Off-the-record breakout groups and bilateral meetings, also involving senior officials, provided an opportunity for private discussions to analyze pertinent strategic issues and to advance policy aims.

For information, see: <http://www.iiss.org/conferences/the-shangri-la-dialogue>

93. Cross-Strait Challenges and Third Party Engagement: US-Japan-Taiwan Trilateral Meeting

Date: June 4–6, 2006

Location: Hawaii, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

This meeting was part of CSIS’s ongoing Cross-Strait Initiative, designed to promote dialogue and understanding on key issues related to the PRC and Taiwan. The meeting was organized to facilitate understanding on the Taiwan Strait issue among important Asian regional powers, and to provide Taiwan with an opportunity to interact with and hear directly from influential representatives from those nations. The meeting addressed recent developments in US-Japan defense cooperation, Japanese security policy, and Japan-Taiwan relations. There was also an exchange of views on the Taiwan Strait issue.

For information, see: <http://www.csis.org/isp/taiwan/>

94. Climate Change and Energy Security: The Role of ASEM in Facilitating Co-operation between Europe and Asia

Date: June 8, 2006

Location: Helsinki, Finland

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); Finnish Institute of International Affairs; Center for International Energy Security, School of International Studies, Renmin University, China

Energy security has become increasingly important for both Asia and Europe. At the same time, awareness of the importance of addressing climate change has grown. Before the 2004 ASEM Summit, the Council for Asia-Europe Cooperation (CAEC) published a report that pointed to the potential for the two regions to take the lead on this issue. In preparation for the 2006 ASEM Summit, this workshop looked at two dimensions of the energy issue: climate change and energy security. Twenty leading experts from ASEM countries participated, along with policymakers from the two regions.

For information, see: <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/>

95. PAFTAD Conference Series: PAFTAD 31—Multinational Corporations and the Rise of a Network Economy in the Pacific Rim

Date: June 10–12, 2006

Location: Guadalajara, Mexico

Organizers/Sponsors: Pacific Trade and Development Forum (PAFTAD)

PAFTAD 31 was held in Guadalajara—known as Mexico’s Silicon Valley—with a focus on multinational corporations and the rise of a network economy in the Pacific Rim. Over the past 12 years, various observations have been made in regard to the changing modes of operation of multinational corporations and their role in production networks. These issues and their implications for Pacific regionalism were explored by the participants.

For information, see: <http://www.eaber.org/intranet/publish/paftad/index.php>

96. 5th Asia-Europe Roundtable Preparatory Workshop

Date: June 12–13, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Ten prominent Asian and European experts from academia, international NGOs, research centers, think tanks, and government gathered for a one-and-a-half day meeting to discuss the question, “How do regional communities in Europe and East Asia help in the process of post-conflict reconstruction?” This was considered as a possible topic for the 5th Asia-Europe Roundtable, which was to be held in Seoul in 2007.

For information, see: <http://www.asef.org>

97. Regional Workshop on Enhancing the Capacity and Role of NGO Networks in Disaster Risk Reduction

Date: June 13–15, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Disaster Reduction & Response Network (ADRRN); cosponsored by the United Nations OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

More than 40 members of the ADRRN and representatives from the UN and NGOs in Asia Pacific joined together to address the role of a regional network and how to move forward with coordination in disaster reduction and response. The workshop highlighted the great need for Asia Pacific–led NGOs to play an active role in the disaster risk reduction and response field. On June 14, UN Assistant Secretary-General Margareta Wahlstrom led the conference participants in a discussion of current issues facing the humanitarian community. She emphasized the growing need for humanitarian coordination, capacity building, and reform. The conference facilitated further partnering and coordination among NGOs and strengthened the ability of participants to work together to build a strong network of stakeholders in disaster risk reduction and response in the Asia Pacific region.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-highlights/asiapacific-highlights.htm>

98. International Conference on Human Security: Advancing Human Security

Date: June 13–14, 2006

Location: Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's Thoughts; International Committee of the Red Cross

This conference sought to better understand and advance the concept of human security. The *1994 UN Human Development Report* noted that “human security is not a concern with weapons—it is a concern with human life and dignity,” and it identified seven specific human security components: economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political security. Sessions at this conference focused on regional security in Asia; gender, conflict, and human security; responding to humanitarian action through interfaith dialogue; and health for human security.

For information, see: http://www.isis.org.my/html/bureaus/bureaus_bfpss.htm#bfpss_highlights
http://www.ipdm.uum.edu.my/web/human%20security/hsecurity_preface.htm

99. World Economic Forum on East Asia

Date: June 15–16, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: World Economic Forum; co-organized by Japan Association of Corporate Executives

The World Economic Forum on East Asia is the East Asian version of the annual get-together of the world's political and business leaders in Davos. Participants met to discuss the theme “Creating a New Agenda for Asian Integration.” The meeting was attended by politicians, business leaders, and academics, who pinpointed top priorities for the region, including creating or assigning regional institutions to discuss energy, security, and environmental issues; addressing the impact of Indian and Chinese growth on the future competitiveness of Southeast Asia; increasing energy efficiency in major consuming countries and industries; and sustaining Japan's recovery while cutting its fiscal deficit and to resolve Japan's historical and territorial disputes with China and Korea.

For information, see: <http://www.weforum.org/en/events/ArchivedEvents/eastasia/index.htm>

100. Workshop on the Human Impact of Tsunami and Disaster Risk Reduction

Date: June 16–17, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS); Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), Belgium; supported by UN/ISDR; UNESCO-IOC; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

A workshop was held to present studies from Sri Lanka and India on the human vulnerability to tsunamis, addressing the existing gaps in risk and vulnerability assessments. Researchers, policymakers, and disaster management experts shared research findings and experiences from their work in tsunami-affected countries. The workshop also identified national and regional needs and priorities for future research and policy initiatives in order to sustain long-term disaster risk reduction work in the region.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/ppew/tsunami/project-overview/dp-voices.htm>
<http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-highlights/asiapacific-highlights.htm>

101. 2nd International Workshop and Japan-US-Asia Dialogue: An East Asian Community and the United States

Date: June 20–21, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Global Forum of Japan (GFJ); Pacific Forum CSIS; Council on East Asian Community (CEAC); supported by Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP)

This workshop was attended by 78 participants from throughout Asia and the United States. Participants exchanged opinions on matters of importance related to the future of Japan-US-Asia relations. The first session focused on the theme, “An East Asian Community after the First East Asia Summit,” while the second session looked at “An East Asian Community and the United States.”

For information, see: <http://www.gfj.jp/jpn/dialogue/21/main.pdf>

102. National Defense University Pacific Symposium: China’s Global Activism—Implications for US Security Interests

Date: June 20, 2006

Location: Washington DC, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: National Defense University

China’s economic liberalization and rapid development have been major stories in recent decades, and China has begun efforts to translate its economic weight into political influence on the international scene. This activist foreign policy involves not only expanded foreign aid and investment but also political outreach, military diplomacy, and participation and leadership in multilateral organizations. From the American perspective, China’s activism represents an opportunity for engagement and a potential threat to US security interests. This symposium explored the issues posed by China’s global activism and potential responses by US policymakers. Senior government officials and distinguished experts examined the relationship between China’s international activities and US security interests, beginning with an overview of the context and specific nature of China’s activism, continuing with more specific discussions of China’s military modernization and various regional perspectives on China’s foreign policy, and concluding with an analysis of the policy implications that China’s activism holds for the US government. Papers are available online.

For information, see: <http://www.ndu.edu/inss/symposia/pacific2006/agenda.htm>

103. Pacific Health Summit

Date: June 20–22, 2006

Location: Seattle, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR), Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Western and Asian governments are connected by shared global health challenges such as the financing of healthcare, the emergence of infectious disease, the increasing incidences of chronic diseases, and the effects of aging populations. To help Western and Asian governments learn from each other and share solutions to these common challenges, NBR and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center convened the 2nd Annual Pacific Health Summit, bringing together more than 250 leaders in science, policy, public health, medicine, and industry from 18 economies. The summit allows world leaders to discuss global health issues, to share experiences, and to build effective partnerships and working networks. Themes discussed at the summit included how to pay for a healthier tomorrow, preparing for (and surviving) the next killer pandemic, the impact of information technology on global health in the 21st century, preparing for the global obesity epidemic, how to prioritize so that today’s

best science becomes tomorrow's affordable medicine, and keeping people healthy versus curing disease.

For information, see: <http://pacifichealthsummit.org/>

104. Gender and Human Rights Conference

Date: June 21–22, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Women's Action & Resource Initiative (WARI)

WARI held an international conference on gender and human rights in Southeast Asia. The two-day conference featured 20 presentations by experts from the United States, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Australia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and other countries.

For information, see: <http://www.humantrafficking.org/events/134>
<http://geocities.com/wari9/conference2006.htm>

105. The East Asian Financial Markets: The Next Frontier

Date: June 22–23, 2006

Location: Hong Kong, China

Organizers/Sponsors: World Bank; Hong Kong Monetary Authority

This conference enabled policymakers, regulators, and private sector participants to discuss the findings of a World Bank regional financial sector development study undertaken in collaboration with several partners in the East Asia region, and to consider steps needed at the national and regional levels to accelerate the development of vibrant East Asian financial markets that can meet the real needs of the sector. The conference was a combination of plenary and breakout sessions that focused on four general themes: (1) regional initiatives to promote financial integration and the broadening and deepening of the financial sector; (2) the contractual savings industry and the asset management industry and their role in developing capital markets; (3) developing securitization and derivatives markets for risk management and risk sharing; and (4) developing the securities markets.

For information, see: <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:20883450~menuPK:64256349~pagePK:2524753~piPK:51421526~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

106. Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment: International Workshop on Local Initiatives Addressing Transformation of Lifestyles towards Achieving Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

Date: June 23, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (Japan); supported by Japanese Ministry of Environment and City of Kitakyushu

First adopted at the 4th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development (MCED), held in Kitakyushu, Japan, in 2000, the Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment has a mandate to achieve tangible progress in environmental quality in urban areas in Asia Pacific. Activities have been conducted from 2000 to 2005 to promote local initiatives to control air and water pollution and minimize waste. These activities are channeled through a network of 61 cities in 18 countries in the region.

This one-day workshop was organized as a pre-event to ECO Asia 2006 (see below) and included the participation of representatives from local governments and initiatives from the Asia Pacific region to discuss the theme of transforming lifestyles to achieve sustainable development. The focus was on local government policies and grassroots activities addressing

the transformation of lifestyles that aims at improving environmental quality and vitalizing local economic livelihoods. The objectives of this workshop were to share information and experiences and to further promote such initiatives for discussion by ministers at ECO Asia.

For information, see: http://www.ecoasia.org/congress/2006_second/08.pdf

107. 14th Environment Congress for Asia and the Pacific (ECO Asia 2006)

Date: June 24, 2006

Location: Saitama, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Japanese Ministry of the Environment

Environment ministers and senior officials of Asia Pacific countries; representatives of international organizations, local governments, research institutes, and NGOs; and other experts gathered for ECO Asia 2006. Discussions focused on three themes: (1) vitalizing actions by citizens, (2) invigorating actions by communities and local governments, and (3) promoting collaboration toward sustainable societies among countries in Asia Pacific. Participants emphasized the need to develop mechanisms to implement the Eco-Action Partnership for Asia. Further collaboration should be promoted to strengthen appropriate frameworks for regional and subregional environmental monitoring, early warning systems, and research activities, all of which will facilitate timely action to deal with environmental crises and to rehabilitate degraded environments.

A number of related activities were held in parallel to ECO Asia 2006, such as the Saitama Environmental Forum 2006 and the GEA Virtual Globe Environmental NPO/NGO Meeting. In addition, an awards ceremony was held for the ECO Asia Foreign Students' Essay Contest.

For information, see: <http://www.ecoasia.org/main/2006june.html>

108. DPRK Energy Experts Working Group Meeting

Date: June 26–27, 2006

Location: San Francisco, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Nautilus Institute; co-hosted by Preventive Defense Project, Stanford University, and Center for the Pacific Rim, University of San Francisco; funding from US Department of Energy and Korea Energy Economics Institute

This study group meeting served to inform the Nautilus DPRK energy sector analysis update. Experts in attendance at the meeting provided recent data and insights to help make the Nautilus database as reflective as possible of actual conditions in North Korea. This in turn provided crucial input to the analysis, which seeks to inform the parties to the Six-Party Talks regarding possible approaches to DPRK energy sector redevelopment. In addition, the study group meeting served as an opportunity for experts on the DPRK to exchange views on the appropriate “next steps” in DPRK energy sector redevelopment. The participants also discussed potential activities and means by which the various parties concerned with Korean peninsula affairs might engage and work with the DPRK to help resolve the country's energy problems, and in so doing, begin to address the regional and global insecurities.

For information, see: <http://www.nautilus.org/DPRKEnergyMeeting.html>

109. EU-Asia Relations: Cooperating on Regional Security and Integration

Date: June 26–27, 2006

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Organizers/Sponsors: European Institute for Asian Studies; Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

This workshop on EU-Asia relations brought together leading Asian and European academics to discuss current developments in Asian regional integration from a security perspective and to analyze the scope and limits of EU-Asian security cooperation in the framework of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). Among the issues

covered at the workshop were the following: What lessons can be learned from the EU experience for its Asian partners with regard to regional security cooperation? What role does ASEM play as an interregional forum to discuss Asian regional security issues? How does the principle of noninterference in other nations' internal affairs hinder further Asian regional integration in the area of security? Will the ARF be able to move beyond the state of confidence-building measures and implement preventive diplomacy and conflict prevention mechanisms and instruments? Is OSCE-style security cooperation at all possible in the framework of the ARF?

For information, see: <http://www.asia-alliance.org/index.php?q=node/5#attachments>
http://213.207.98.213/files/active/0/IIAS_aff_EA_WS_Berlofsky7.pdf

110. Regional Workshop on ICT for Effective Disaster Management

Date: June 26–28, 2006

Location: Ahungalle, Sri Lanka

Organizers/Sponsors: Government of Sri Lanka; in cooperation with Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization (CTO), TRC, Inmarsat, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and Lanka Business Online

This three-day forum explored how stakeholders can effectively use information communication technology (ICT) to mitigate the impact of natural disasters and reduce the vulnerability of communities, nations, and regions. Representatives from civil society and national authorities from Maldives, India, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh, as well as from telecommunication groups and corporations, engaged in discussions with international and regional organizations to explore ways to cooperate in empowering local communities to respond effectively to disasters and to reduce their vulnerability. A strong message that came out of the workshop was that while advanced space technology and telecommunications systems are important to make early warning systems reliable and timely, the traditional knowledge and practices and people-centered aspects are the only real means to disseminate warnings effectively within the community and to ensure that warnings are understood and acted upon.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-highlights/asiapacific-highlights.htm>

111. 4th Meeting of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter

Date: June 27–29, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

The 4th meeting of the EPG on the ASEAN Charter focused on defining the ASEAN Economic Community and reconstructing the organization (including new Secretariat responsibilities), and featured consultations with regional civil society organizations, private business sector representatives, and academics.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/19247.pdf>

112. International Expert Consultative Meeting on Drought Risk Reduction

Date: June 27–29, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR); Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs

This meeting brought together 35 participants, including officials and experts from dozens of nations and international organizations with responsibility for drought-disaster reduction. Participants reviewed the activities and priorities for building drought-resilient societies and strengthening drought-risk reduction in the context of the Hyogo Framework for Action. The

meeting focused in particular on (1) policies and governance, (2) risk assessment, (3) mitigation measures, and (4) international and regional cooperation. A broad range of principles, priorities, activities, methodologies, and case studies were developed for effective international and regional cooperation on disaster risk reduction in the region. The ultimate goal of the exercise was to develop an international program on drought risk reduction as the basis for establishing the International Center for Drought Risk Reduction in Beijing.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-highlights/asiapacific-highlights.htm>

113. ASEAN Regional Forum of Expert and Eminent Persons (ARF EEPs)

Date: June 29–30, 2006

Location: Jeju Island, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); co-hosted by the governments of Malaysia and South Korea

Malaysia and the Republic of Korea jointly hosted the Inaugural Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum of Expert and Eminent Persons (ARF EEPs). The establishment of the ARF EEPs was mandated by the 8th ARF Ministers' Meeting, held in 2001, to provide policy recommendations on issues such as confidence-building measures, the development of preventive diplomacy, and approaches to conflicts in the region. The EEPs from all 25 ARF member countries participated in the meeting. The EEPs are respected individuals with a wealth of experience in political and security issues in the region. Discussions focused on a wide range of issues affecting the region and produced recommendations on appropriate strategies for enhancing peace, security, stability, and prosperity in the region. The recommendations were submitted to the 13th ARF Ministers' Meeting on July 28, 2006.

For information, see: http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26&vid=200

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/Default.aspx?tabid=67>

114. 5th Workshop on ASEAN Regional Mechanism on Human Rights

Date: June 29–30, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; hosted by government of Malaysia

Malaysia hosted the 5th Workshop on ASEAN Regional Mechanism on Human Rights. The two-day workshop, consisting of eight sessions, provided a forum for continuous dialogue on the establishment of a regional human rights mechanism. The discussions identified steps, programs, and frameworks necessary to realize the implementation of the Programme Areas on Human Rights contained in the Vientiane Action Programme, adopted in 2004 by ASEAN leaders. Participants at the workshop included representatives from relevant government agencies and national human rights institutions of the 10 ASEAN countries. Various international and local organizations were also invited to attend as observers.

For information, see: <http://www.isis.org.my/research.htm>

http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26&vid=202

115. Europe and Asia: Comparing Approaches to Economic Integration

Date: June 30–July 1, 2006

Location: Bruges, Belgium

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations University, Centre for Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS); London School of Economics; GARNET

GARNET is a "Network of Excellence" comprising 42 European research centers and universities and focusing on the theme of "Global Governance, Regionalization, and Regulation: The Role of the EU." This workshop examined the implications of the rapid growth of free trade agreements in Asia and how the EU should respond. The following key questions

were considered: Are the new generation of FTAs going to take over from the existing regional projects, such as ASEAN and APEC, and create a looser network of FTAs, or are they little more than politically motivated negotiations that will ultimately have no major impact? To what extent are the FTAs consistent with the politics of the region? What developments in the financial/monetary field might underpin FTAs? Do the FTAs represent a means of promoting a wider form of regional integration in Asia? Should the EU consider FTAs with individual Asian countries or hold to its region-to-region policy?

For information, see: http://www.ifri.org/frontDispatcher/ifri/manifestations/interventions___l_ext_rieur_1042052171194/publi_P_manif_asie_garnetbruges_1161954197730

116. 2nd NEAT Working Group on Energy Security Cooperation in East Asia

Date: June 30, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT); East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore

The second meeting of this NEAT working group, which followed an inaugural meeting held in May 2005, was attended by delegates from all 13 ASEAN+3 countries. The goals of the working group are three-fold: promote energy conservation, energy consumption efficiency, and energy security in East Asia; share and learn from the experiences of energy-efficient ASEAN+3 countries; and support an East Asian Community through regional energy cooperation. At this meeting, participants concentrated on energy conservation and the lessons that can be drawn from the more energy-efficient ASEAN+3 countries, as well as the maritime dimension of energy security. The meeting was particularly timely in light of continuing oil price increases and global concern over energy security. The final report was presented along with the other working group reports at the 4th annual NEAT meeting in August 2006.

For information, see: http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_04wg01.pdf

July

117. 2nd ASEM Interfaith Dialogue

Date: July 3–6, 2006

Location: Larnaca, Cyprus

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); Governments of Cyprus and Malaysia

The 2nd ASEM Interfaith Dialogue was held in Cyprus, focusing on the theme of “interfaith understanding and cooperation for a peaceful world.” The dialogue brought together political and religious leaders, academics and intellectuals, and experts in the field of interfaith and inter-religious relations to participate in three parallel working groups on (1) interfaith understanding, (2) the role of media in promoting interfaith dialogue, and (3) religion and multiethnic societies. The three-day dialogue process was timely, given the backdrop of crisis in interfaith and intercultural relations—notably the controversy surrounding the publication of drawings depicting the Islamic prophet Mohammad. The dialogue resulted in the Larnaca Action Plan, a list of practical advancements that builds on the Bali Declaration adopted a year before. The plan highlights best practices and calls for more concrete actions on the part of various actors in society.

For information, see: <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=164>

118. APEC Symposium on Total Supply Chain Security

Date: July 6–7, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Counter Terrorism Task Force; Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS); Singapore Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ministry of Trade and Industry; APEC Secretariat

In 2005, the APEC leaders supported a call by Singapore for APEC to put greater focus on the issue of supply-chain security to protect trade against the threat of international terrorism. The objectives of the resultant symposium were (1) to raise awareness among APEC economies of the importance of enhancing supply-chain security, and (2) to bring together experts from government, industry, international organizations, and academia to share their experiences and knowledge on the issue.

In total, 388 participants from all 21 APEC economies and from a number of non-APEC economies and international organizations attended the symposium. Fifty-six percent of the participants were from the private sector. The areas covered by the symposium included threats to and vulnerabilities of the global supply chain, government and industry perspectives on the principles of and approaches to supply-chain security, the role of international organizations, and challenges for the future.

For information, see: http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/APEC_Report.pdf

119. CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Human Trafficking

Date: July 8–9, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)

The Study Group on Human Trafficking was established at the CSCAP Steering Committee meeting in 2004 and held two meetings in 2005. Human trafficking involves systemic and continuing exploitation and provides a direct threat to the security of the region. To address this threat effectively, a holistic approach is needed. Individual states can do a great deal, but a successful effort requires more resources than most regional states can currently allocate. National efforts therefore need to be supplemented by the involvement of other regional states and institutions, civil society, as well as extra-regional states and agencies. The study group advocates the development of a dialogue between regional governments and civil society as a means of fostering such a unified approach, and it is seeking to add value to the work being done by other government agencies such as ASEAN and the ASEAN+3, and to the Bali Ministerial process.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/archives.html>

120. East Asian Regional Cooperation in the Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria

Date: July 10–11, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE), Friends of the Global Fund, Japan (FGFJ); cosponsored by the Chinese Center for Disease Control; Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

More than 100 government, business, NGO, and philanthropic leaders from around the world came together for a major conference in Beijing to examine East Asian regional cooperation in the fight against communicable diseases. The meeting was organized by the JCIE in its capacity as Secretariat for the Friends of the Global Fund, Japan, and was cosponsored by the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Global Fund. Participants discussed the

regional spread of malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS; China's response to these diseases; and effective strategies for promoting cross-border cooperation.

For information, see: <http://www.jcie.or.jp/fgfj/e/activities.html#Beijing>

121. 1st Asia Europe Economic Forum: European and Asian Perspectives on Global Imbalances

Date: July 13–14, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Bruegel (Brussels European and Global Economic Laboratory); Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS); People's Bank of China; Keio University; Seoul National University; Korea Institute for International Economic Policy

The Asia Europe Economic Forum was founded by a consortium of research institutes that include Bruegel, the Institute of World Economics and Politics (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), the Global Security Research Center (Keio University), the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy, and the Center for International Commerce and Finance (Seoul National University). The goal of the forum is to organize a series of conferences in Asia and Europe, the first of which took place in Beijing. A broad range of participants, including active and former senior policymakers, recognized academic experts, and private sector specialists, discussed European and Asian perspectives on global imbalances. The discussants analyzed growing account imbalances, assessed the risks of their abrupt unwinding, and discussed policy options for Europe and Asia. A report was published and is available online.

For information, see: <http://en.iwep.org.cn/Corporation/infoDetail12.asp?clnfold=180&dlnfold=149>
<http://www.bruegel.org/Public/SimplePage.php?ID=1703>

122. Maritime Piracy in Southeast Asia

Date: July 13–15, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

In recent decades, Southeast Asia has seen a new resurgence in maritime piracy. Reported pirate attacks have more than tripled over the past decade, and over 35 percent of the reported attacks in 2005 occurred in Southeast Asian waters. Hosted by the Media Program Asia of KAS in Singapore, this workshop brought together journalists and maritime experts to discuss various topics related to piracy, such as its social causes and its possible relationship to maritime terrorism. Focus was placed on the problems and challenges that journalists face when trying to objectively report on the topic.

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-7/veranstaltungen_id-20375/index.html

123. Inaugural Meeting of the Independent Commission on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific

Date: July 15, 2006

Location: New Delhi, India

Organizers/Sponsors: Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS (UNAIDS)

In 2006, a new body to study the spread and impact of HIV and AIDS in the Asia Pacific region was launched. The Independent Commission on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific consists of 10 leading economists, scientists, civil society representatives, and policymakers from across the region. Over a period of 18 months, the commission analyzed the impact and developmental consequences of the AIDS epidemic in the region and what this might mean to the socioeconomic environment in the medium and long term. The commission's findings were summarized in a report with recommendations for measures designed to mobilize leaders to

adequately respond to the epidemic in the region. UNAIDS provided the commission with logistical support in its initial months and contributed funding as well. A series of subregional consultations in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific were held to gain input from local experts in various fields.

For information, see: <http://www.unaids.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Resources/FeatureStories/archive/2006/20060717-asiapacific.asp>

124. Labour Migration Workshop for Asian Countries

Date: July 17–20, 2006

Location: Islamabad, Pakistan

Organizers/Sponsors: International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Labor migration officials of 10 Asian countries met in Islamabad for a training workshop on administering overseas employment programs. The specific focus of the workshop was the role of marketing and labor migration opportunities in EU member states. Delegations from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam attended the workshop. The meeting was organized by the IOM as part of a two-year regional program on facilitating labor migration between Asia and the EU (funded by the European Commission). The objective of the program is to facilitate legal labor migration by enhancing the capacity of governments and the private sector to place workers legally in the EU, to develop regional cooperation among labor-sending countries, and to warn about the risks of illegal labor migration.

For information, see: <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/eventAS/cache/offonce?entryId=8926&titleHolder=Labour%20Migration%20Workshop%20for%20Asian%20countries%20in%20Islamabad>

125. UNESCAP Workshop on Regional Follow-Up to the 7th Session and Preparation for the 8th Session of the Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly on the Elaboration of a Convention on the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities

Date: July 20–21, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

This two-day workshop was designed to inform civil society and government leaders of the latest progress in the global process of elaboration of a Convention on the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities. The workshop provided a set of effective preparatory strategies for global discussion and negotiation at the 8th Session of the Ad Hoc Committee in New York in August 2006. The workshop's agenda covered (1) the latest status of the process toward an international convention, a report from the 7th session of the Ad Hoc Committee, and preparation for the 8th session; (2) questions about international monitoring; (3) forward-looking strategies for after the adoption of the convention in the Asia Pacific region; and (4) the alignment effects of the convention, other international agreements and frameworks, and domestic disability legislation.

For information, see: <http://www.worldenable.net/convention2006/Default.htm>

126. East Asia a Decade after the Crisis

Date: July 21–22, 2006

Location: Canberra, Australia

Organizers/Sponsors: Australian National University (ANU); University of California, Berkeley

Roughly 25 participants from Asia Pacific and the United States gathered to discuss the state of the regional economy a decade after the financial crisis. Sessions focused on banking sector reform, corporate governance reform, regional financial cooperation, exchange rates, regional trade, and issues of democratization, poverty, and welfare. The second day of the meeting focused on country studies: "Constitutional Reform, Constitutional Crises, and the Politics of Economic Recovery in Thailand and the Philippines"; "Institutions, Economic Recovery, and Macroeconomic Vulnerability in Indonesia and Malaysia"; "Korean Political Economy 10 Years After the Crisis"; and "The Triangle of Tensions: China, Japan, and the United States in a Changing Asian Region."

For information, see: http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/events/ev_conf.php

127. NEAT Working Group on Trade-FDI-Technology Linkages in East Asia

Date: July 21, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT); Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI)

Fourteen experts from 10 Asian countries gathered to discuss the international trade structure in East Asia and policies and measures to promote further East Asian economic integration. The meeting addressed the need to promote Asian integration by establishing more appropriate linkages among the trade-FDI-technology structure, financial and capital flows, and exchange rate policy coordination in East Asia. Participants discussed such issues as the characteristics of production networks; the international division of labor among China, ASEAN, NIEs, and Japan; the consistency between FTAs and EPAs on the one hand and the promotion of East Asian economic integration on the other; policy issues for developing institutional, human, and physical infrastructure to promote trade-FDI linkages in East Asia; and what exchange rate regime can best facilitate efficient trade-FDI linkages and production networks in East Asia. The final report was submitted to the August 2006 General Meeting of NEAT.

For information, see: <http://www.rieti.go.jp/users/neat/en/pdf/finalreport.pdf>

128. International Law and the Prosperity of Asia

Date: July 26, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Saranrom Institute of Foreign Affairs; International Law Association of Thailand

The Saranrom Institute of Foreign Affairs, in cooperation with the International Law Association of Thailand, organized an international symposium that drew distinguished lawyers and scholars from various Asian countries to brainstorm on possible avenues for Asian cooperation on international law. Participants exchanged views on four international law issues: "International Law of Security, Prosperity, and Dispute Settlement—the Current Debate and Asia"; "International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights: Asian Perspectives"; "Law of the Sea in Asia"; and "International Trade and Economic Law: Prospects and Challenges for Asia."

For information, see: <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/35.php?id=4484>

129. Southeast and Northeast Asia Subregional Workshops on Trade and Environment Dimensions in the Food Sector

Date: July 26–27, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

For many developing countries, processed food has emerged as a new sector with great export potential. This trend, however, has come together with an increase in the number, complexity, and stringency of environmental and health-related requirements for food products, mainly due to increased consumer awareness and major food safety crises. Countries in the region often lack awareness and information on prevailing standards in their major export markets. In order to effectively address these challenges and improve the quality and competitiveness of the products, there is a need to develop sound, coherent policies that address both the trade and environmental dimensions.

In that context, UNESCAP organized subregional workshops for Southeast and Northeast Asia (July 2006) and South Asia (September 2006), with a focus on the trade and environment dimensions in the food and food processing industries. The workshops analyzed the linkages between environmental standards and regulations, market access, export competitiveness, and domestic environmental sustainability.

For information, see: <http://planet.unescap.org/esd/newsletters/documents/NewsletterSep2006.pdf>

130. 14th International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections Asia Pacific International Conference

Date: July 27–30, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections; Malaysian Medical Association; Academy of Family Physicians Malaysia; Persatuan Dermatologi Malaysia; Malaysia Ministry of Health

The program highlighted the control of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) including HIV/AIDS, with special reference to regional cultural practices and economic constraints. The conference's theme was "STI: Challenges and Strategies."

For information, see: <http://www.iusti.org/newsletter/2006-august-newsletter.pdf>

131. NEAT Working Group on East Asian Investment Cooperation

Date: July 28, 2006

Location: Weihai, Shandong Province, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT)

The NEAT Working Group Meeting on East Asian Investment Cooperation brought together scholars and experts from 11 of the ASEAN+3 countries. The discussions focused on three major themes: changes in the investment environment and greater investment cooperation in East Asia; systemic and institutional streamlining in East Asian investment cooperation; and priority areas of East Asian investment cooperation. The working group reached consensus on a number of issues: they agreed that there is an increasingly urgent need for East Asian investment cooperation, and that while the overall environment for East Asian investment cooperation has been improving, there are still difficulties. Disagreements arose in terms of the relative roles of governments and markets, the appropriate model for investment cooperation, the appropriate institutional framework, and the impact of China's policy adjustments.

For information, see: http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_04wg04.pdf

132. East Asia Investment Forum 2006

Date: July 29–30, 2006

Location: Weihai, Shandong Province, China

Organizers/Sponsors: China National Association for International Studies (CNAIS); China Enterprise Confederation; Shandong Provincial Government; Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT)

The objective of the East Asia Investment Forum 2006 was to explore the potential of intraregional cooperation in investment. More than 300 business leaders, high-ranking government officials, and experts from East Asian countries attended this forum. Based on a successful meeting in 2005, the 2006 forum focused on practical issues of regional investment cooperation, such as the prospects for investment in renewable energy, energy saving, and environmental protection; investment opportunities in the development of China's countryside; and new opportunities in the manufacturing and financial sector in East Asia. With dynamic interaction among participants from government, business, and academic circles, the forum served as an effective platform for facilitating information sharing and cooperation among regional investors.

For information, see: http://www.neat.org.cn/english/hysj/contentshow.php?content_id=72
<http://www.eaif.net>

133. Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction: Context for Indian Ocean Tsunami Early Warning Systems (TEWS)

Date: July 30, 2006

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR); United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); UNESCO-IOC; and members of the UN ISDR Asia Partnership

Within the IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG-IOTWS), five intersessional working groups are conducting work on data collection and exchange, hazard identification and modeling, and the establishment of warning centers. At the second session of ICG-IOTWS in December 2005, a group of representatives of aid and disaster relief agencies stressed the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction and development expertise into the work of the ICG. The group proposed a draft terms of reference for a sixth working group on mitigation, preparedness, and response. The chair invited ISDR to undertake consultation on the matter and report back to the third ICG-IOTWS meeting on July 31–August 2, 2006.

In order to finalize this consultative process and further refine the terms of reference, ISDR convened a workshop on disaster risk reduction that sought to identify ways for the technical, disaster management and development communities to interact better. All IOC member states were invited to attend and 37 representatives of countries, UN agencies, and NGOs participated.

For information, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/ppew/tsunami/project-overview/dp-voices.htm>

134. 11th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Forum

Date: July 31–August 3, 2006

Location: Suva, Fiji Islands

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Pacific Forum; Fiji Human Rights Commission

Hosted by the Fiji Human Rights Commission, the program included a one-day closed session of the forum council and a three-day meeting open to observers from governments, NGOs, the UN, and other international organizations. A major theme of the meeting was international labor standards and the role of national human rights institutions. Discussion focused on incorporating international labor standards into national codes and the application of these standards to issues of trafficking and migration. The meeting also included an interactive dialogue between representatives from national human rights institutions and NGOs on strategies to protect and promote the rights of human rights defenders. A highlight of the final day of the meeting was the presentation of the Advisory Council of Jurists' interim report on the right to education, which was followed by a panel discussion and presentations from experts in the field.

For information, see: <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/about/annual-meetings/11th-fiji-islands-2006>

135. International Conference on Japan-SAARC Cooperation

Date: July 31, 2006

Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Organizers/Sponsors: Dhaka University Japan Study Center; supported by Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Some 500 delegates, including 10 from Japan and 30 from the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries, took part in this conference, which was organized by the Japan Study Centre at Dhaka University with the help of the Japanese embassy. The conference brought together some of the best minds from the SAARC region and Japan in order to highlight the issues where Japan can work together with SAARC states to advance a common agenda of cooperation. The conference also aimed to raise awareness of common interests in the emerging regional order and of convergence of domestic and regional priorities and needs. Areas that participants recommended for future Japan-SAARC cooperation included disaster preparedness and management, environmental protection, and the expansion of infrastructure facilities for goods and services. They also proposed the establishment of a regular Japan-SAARC forum.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/saarc.html>

<http://www.newstoday-bd.com/metropolis.asp?newsdate=7/31/2006>

August

136. 7th Asia Pacific Forum, Awaji Conference Japan

Date: August 4–5, 2006

Location: Awaji, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Pacific Forum, Awaji Conference Japan

The Asia Pacific Forum, Awaji Conference Japan, an international symposium and forum for the discussion of critical themes, was established to clarify a “new vision for the Asia Pacific” pertaining to symbiosis among the diverse cultures of the Asia Pacific region, and to aim for policy proposals that can be broadly applied in societies. Members of the Awaji Conference include academics, intellectuals, business leaders, journalists, and others who possess a deep understanding and interest in the Asia Pacific region. The 7th Asia Pacific Forum, Awaji Conference, focused on the theme of “Falling Birthrates and Aging Society Looming in Asia.”

For information, see: http://www.awaji-conference.com/e_main3.html

137. IDSS 10th Anniversary Conference on the Nature of Policy Relevant Knowledge in Asian Security Affairs

Date: August 5–6, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS)

What constitutes policy-relevant knowledge in Asian security affairs? This was the main question addressed by the conference, organized to celebrate IDSS’s 10th anniversary. The two co-conveners of the conference, Professors Amitav Acharya and Khong Yuen Foong of IDSS, sought to generate a debate on the nature of policy-relevant knowledge in Asian security affairs. The conference brought together a distinguished group of current and former policymakers, scholar-practitioners, and scholar-theorists to address the issues. Participants were invited to use a current, past, or hypothetical policy issue and indicate what forms of knowledge he or she would most like to obtain when approaching that issue or making a decision. They were also requested to highlight one exemplary policy-relevant work that they found most helpful to policymaking.

For information, see: http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/10Anniversary.pdf

138. 2006 Senior Policy Seminar

Date: August 7–9, 2006

Location: Hawaii, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: East-West Center (EWC)

The Senior Policy Seminar brings together senior and influential policymakers, government officials, and academic experts from the United States and the Asia Pacific region for discussions on the economic, social, and strategic dynamics and the future of US policy in the region. Topics in the 2006 seminar included (1) tense relations in Northeast Asia, (2) whether the economic growth wave is sustainable, and (3) the ferment in Asian Islam.

For information, see: http://www.eastwestcenter.org/semedu-program.asp?program_ID=8&Topic=Leaders%20ZZ%20Policymakers&Area=Seminars

139. 2006 EWC-KOTI Conference: Toward the Integration of the Northeast Asian Transport Market

Date: August 14–15, 2006

Location: Sapporo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: East-West Center (EWC); Korea Transport Institute (KOTI)

The EWC and KOTI have been conducting research on the transport system as a vital component for the economic integration and future prosperity of the Northeast Asian region. The EWC-KOTI research initially assessed the existing infrastructure and the existing imbalances and inefficiencies in the transport system. They found that joint efforts among the countries in Northeast Asia will be essential to resolve the inefficiencies created by physical, legal, institutional, and technical barriers. Focusing on China, Japan, and Korea, researchers then identified barriers, their causes, and potential means of overcoming them.

Building on that research, the current phase of the EWC-KOTI research is developing a practical action plan for integrating the transport market in Northeast Asia. The 2006 conference focused on issues of standardization of transport and logistics statistics, on building a Northeast Asian regional database, and on strategies and linkages of the region's countries in developing multimodal transport.

For information, see: http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class_call=view&conf_ID=907&mode=view

140. UNDP-UNESCAP ARTNeT Consultative Meeting on Trade Facilitation and Regional Integration

Date: August 17–18, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Trade and Investment Division; UN Development Programme (UNDP)

The Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network (ARTNeT) is an open regional network of national-level research institutions specializing in trade and investment policy and facilitation issues. The purpose of this joint UNDP-UNESCAP ARTNeT consultative meeting was to provide a regional forum for discussion of selected trade facilitation issues—notably trade facilitation and regional integration—based on draft research papers and preliminary findings resulting from the implementation of the trade facilitation component of the ARTNeT Research Program 2006. The meeting was attended by representatives from the ASEAN nations as well as Bangladesh, China, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Russia. The research papers were complemented by country briefs and other expert presentations, and the discussions were designed to result in recommendations on specific trade facilitation–related issues.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/artnet/mtg/tfri.asp>

141. 8th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP)

Date: August 19–23, 2006

Location: Colombo, Sri Lanka

Organizers/Sponsors: Hosted by government of Sri Lanka; sponsored by AIDS Society of Asia and the Pacific (ASAP), Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS (UNAIDS), Standard Chartered Bank, and Sri Lankan corporations

The theme of the 8th ICAAP was “Waves of Change, Waves of Hope.” Within that theme, the meeting was designed to enhance the local, regional, and global responses to HIV/AIDS. Participants sought to form partnerships between stakeholders at all levels; to showcase successes and share best practices; to empower political, community, and business leadership; to ensure that communities that are infected, affected, and vulnerable to HIV/AIDS are free from stigmatization, marginalization, and discrimination; and to promote equal access to prevention, support, treatment, and care for all.

More than 2,000 participants attended the four-day event, which featured four “tracks”: political and community leadership and partnerships for change; basic and clinical sciences and epidemiology; scale up of prevention, treatment, care, and support; and socioeconomic, religious, and cultural barriers and ways forward. The meeting also addressed three crosscutting themes: human rights and human security; gender and sexuality; and GIPA (Greater Involvement of People living with AIDS).

For information, see: <http://www.icaap8.lk/>

142. Counter-Terrorism and Migration: Regional Challenges–Regional Responses

Date: August 21–25, 2006

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: International Organization for Migration (IOM); co-organized by the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Cambodia

This regional gathering, which was attended by senior immigration officers and officers working in the field of counterterrorism from nine ASEAN countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, the Philippines, Lao PDR, Thailand, Vietnam, and Singapore), sought to strengthen the awareness of migration- and terrorism-related challenges in Southeast Asia and to identify areas for future cross-border cooperation on the issues of migration, security, and border control. The conference focused on establishing and consolidating a framework linking current knowledge and threat and risk analysis to operational responses and future regional cooperation.

This was the fourth gathering of a three-year, UK-funded project, “Strengthening Regional Security through Cambodia’s Enhanced Border Control Capacity.” The project consists of national training programs and multilateral workshops on migration and border control as key tools in enhancing security and combating terrorism.

For information, see: <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/eventAS/cache/offonce?entryId=9799&titleHolder=Counter-Terrorism%20and%20Migration:%20Regional%20Challenges%20-%20Regional%20Responses>

143. 18th UN Conference on Disarmament Issues: Alarming Nuclear Proliferation Crisis and Regional and International Peace and Security

Date: August 21–23, 2006

Location: Yokohama, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations (UN)

This international conference involving policymakers and researchers examined the current challenges to the nonproliferation regime, the status and future prospects for the DPRK nuclear

program, concerns regarding Iran's nuclear program, the challenge posed by the nuclear black market, and ways of strengthening the Non-proliferation Treaty and disarmament efforts.
For information, see: <http://disarmament.un.org/rcpd/2006.htm>

144. 5th Meeting of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter

Date: August 22–24, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

This was the 5th meeting of the EPG on the ASEAN Charter.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/19247.pdf>

145. Maritime Security and Technology Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific

Date: August 22–24, 2006

Location: Hawaii, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS)

The primary objective of this conference was to discuss challenges and opportunities in technology cooperation in Asia-Pacific maritime security. Additional objectives included a discussion of the lessons learned and best practices in improving the maritime technology environment in the region; an assessment of the possibilities for system- and region-wide approaches toward establishing Maritime Domain Awareness and interoperability of platforms; and a discussion of existing and future models and approaches for maritime security technology cooperation. At the core of the conference was the notion that technology cooperation in maritime security means the development of regional alliances in the realm of scientific and technical knowledge that will serve to strengthen existing partnerships and be instrumental in creating new ones.

For information, see: http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics_conferences.htm

146. 4th NEAT Annual Conference

Date: August 22–23, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT); Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

The 4th NEAT Annual Conference was held in Malaysia under the sponsorship of ISIS. About 70 think tank representatives and intellectuals from ASEAN+3 countries participated in the annual conference. Reports were presented from the seven NEAT working groups. In addition, since the year 2007 marks the 10th anniversary of the ASEAN+3 Summit, and since the adoption of the second "Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation" (the first statement, adopted in 1999, formed the charter of the ASEAN+3) has been a big issue for the countries in East Asia, the "objective, principle, and value of an EAC" became a focal point of discussions on the inputs from NEAT to the ASEAN+3 Summit in 2007.

For information, see: http://www.ceac.jp/e/e-exchange_neat.html

147. ASEAN 100 Leadership Forum

Date: August 23–24, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Inc. Forum

The ASEAN 100 Leadership Forum is a highly interactive meeting that brings together outstanding Southeast Asian men and women who are expected to play key leadership roles in government, business, and civil society in the next 5 to 10 years. Participants engage in dialogue and debate on key issues and challenges facing the region.

The 2006 meeting brought together over 200 Southeast Asian leaders from seven ASEAN countries under the theme "Securing Southeast Asia's Place in the World." Participants discussed and debated ASEAN's approach to regional integration, the global economy and renewed focus on Asia, democracy and business, anticipating and responding to crises, the impact of the continued re-emergence of China and India, and sustaining economic reforms. They also explored what these issues mean for business and politics within the region.

For information, see: http://www.asean100forum.com/a100_programs_2006.php

148. ASEAN Roundtable 2006: Revisiting the Bali Concord II

Date: August 24–25, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

At the time of this roundtable, almost three years had passed since the ASEAN Concord II (better known as the Bali Concord II) was launched. The ASEAN Roundtable 2006 brought together academics and experts to take stock of what had been done to date in regional integration and to discuss approaches to realize the ASEAN Community by 2020.

For information, see: http://www.iseas.edu.sg/iframes/iframe_res.htm

http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-8/veranstaltungen_id-20646/index.html

149. 2nd Workshop on Political Transitions and Political Change in Southeast Asia

Date: August 28–29, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS); Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

This workshop was a follow-up to one held in November 2005, and its objective was to better understand the changes in the political architecture of the states in the Southeast Asian region. The workshop examined how to establish a stable democratic regime whenever political transitions occur, if that is the intended culmination of these transitions. In addition, it investigated what these political upheavals bring about and how to make these transitions work for the people. Sessions focused on "Political Transition and Democratic Resilience in Indonesia," "Thailand: From Competition Authoritarianism towards Electoral Democracy," "The Challenge for Democratic Consolidation in Post-War Societies: The Cambodian Experience," "The Travails of Democratic Consolidation in the Philippines," "Networked Autocracy: Consolidating Singapore's Political System," and "Political Transition in Malaysia."

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-8/veranstaltungen_id-21896/index.html

http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/political-transition_2nd_workshop.pdf

150. MOFA Japan–UNU Seminar: People Building Peace—Human Resource Development in Asia for Peacebuilding

Date: August 29, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA); United Nations University (UNU)

With peace operations ongoing on a significant scale in many parts of the world, and threats of new or renewed conflict continuing to arise, the peacebuilding agenda is drawing increasing global attention. In this conference, participants offered insights and concrete

suggestions for peacebuilding-related human resource development in Asia, and discussed the potential for collaboration among countries and institutions within Asia as well as those outside the region.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/un/pko/seminar0608-p.html>
<http://c3.unu.edu/unuvideo/index.cfm?fuseaction=event.home&EventID=95>
http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/event/sem_un.html

151. Mainstreaming Policies and Investment in Low Carbon: Opportunities for New Approaches to Investment and Flexible Mechanisms

Date: August 30–31, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); with the UK Department for International Development (DFID); UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA); Energeia Institute; Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

UNESCAP hosted this workshop devoted to climate change, which was the Asia Pacific regional response to the G8 Plan of Action on Climate Change, Clean Energy, and Sustainable Development. It initiates the Asia Pacific process to support the Gleneagles Dialogue process and particularly to embed the discussion on investment for climate-resilient, low-carbon economies within Asian regional institutions. Participants included 40 representatives from the energy, environment, and finance sectors of 12 countries, as well as representatives from the World Bank, the ADB, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and several other international and regional organizations. Issues were considered in the context of new approaches to the use of carbon finance and the Energy Investment Framework. Participants assessed the key trends, opportunities, and barriers, and they reviewed possibilities for innovative policy options and mechanisms.

For information, see: <http://planet.unescap.org/esd/newsletters/documents/NewsletterSep2006.pdf>

152. Managing for Development Results in the Asia Pacific Region

Date: August 30–September 1, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Development Bank (ADB); Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development–Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC); Community of Practice in Managing for Development Results (CoP-MfDR)

The CoP-MfDR is a virtual learning network that promotes knowledge exchange among public managers, organizations, civil society organizations, and practitioners on how to manage better for development results. It was launched in March 2006 with a face-to-face event in Manila. About 25 results practitioners from 11 Asia Pacific countries attended the event. Currently the CoP-MfDR has about 50 members. From March, online discussions were conducted on the challenges of and lessons from results management. The overall purpose of this meeting was to exchange MfDR experiences, assess the pilot implementation of the CoP-MfDR, and propose next steps. Invitees included results practitioners, government officials, and NGOs.

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2006/MfDR-Asia-Pacific-Region/default.asp>

153. STOP Trafficking Asia-Pacific International Forum

Date: August 30, 2006

Location: Vladivostok, Russia

Organizers/Sponsors: Primorsky Krai Administration; Winrock International partners

The theme of this meeting was “Uniting the Efforts of the State and Nongovernmental Organizations of the Asia-Pacific Region Countries in Preventing Human Trafficking: Best Experiences and Ways to Cooperate.” The goals of the event were to raise public awareness of the problem, to promote cooperation among Asia Pacific countries, and to work out specific antitrafficking measures based on Russian and international best practices.

Around 200 representatives of krai (province) administrations, law enforcement bodies, medical and psychiatric institutions, educational establishments, and local and international NGOs participated in the forum. The participants discussed such topics as criminal legislation standards in regard to human trafficking, Russian and international NGO activities on preventive and rehabilitation measures, and victim referral systems. The forum resulted in a resolution that recommended concrete ways to address the problem in the Asia Pacific region, such as establishing a crisis center for victims of human trafficking and organizing a permanent inter-agency working group.

For information, see: <http://www.humantrafficking.org/events/151>
http://winrock.ru/eng/news116_01.htm

September

154. 16th New Generation Seminar: Building a Resilient Asia Pacific Community—Disaster Risk Reduction Tools and Strategies for Decision-makers

Date: September 3–17, 2006

Location: Hawaii, Louisiana, and Washington DC, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: East-West Center (EWC); support from the Freeman Foundation

This is an annual program for rising young leaders from the United States and Asia Pacific, who participate in a two-week educational and dialogue program. The program is developed around a thematic focus and provides participants with an opportunity to strengthen their understanding of regional developments and challenges, increase their contacts with counterparts in the region, and become more effective international leaders. The program opens with a one-week seminar in Honolulu followed by a one-week study tour. The 2006 group traveled to New Orleans and Washington DC to explore decision making at all stages of a disaster, including prevention, response, and rebuilding.

For information, see: http://www.eastwestcenter.org/semedu-program.asp?program_ID=6&Topic=Leaders%20ZZ%20Policymakers&Area=Seminars

155. Asia-Pacific Security Forum

Date: September 4–5, 2006

Location: Cebu, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Pacific Forum CSIS; Institute for National Policy Research (Taiwan); Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (Philippines); and Asia Centre (France)

Since 1997, the Pacific Forum has conducted this annual forum that brings together about 30 senior experts to examine regional and global issues, including (but not limited to) cross-Strait relations. The meeting venue alternates between Taipei and other locations. The 2006 meeting was held in Cebu, Philippines, and focused on three themes: (1) nationalism, democracy, and security in East Asia; (2) the search for energy and resources in Asia Pacific; and (3) regional security organizations in Asia Pacific. In addition to bringing together experts, the meeting also included members of the Pacific Forum CSIS Young Leaders Program, who participated in the meeting and shared their views on these issues.

For information, see: <http://www.csis.org/pacfor/programs/>

156. Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change: Climate Change and Development—Asia-Pacific Regional Approach to Climate Friendly and Climate Change-Resilient Society

Date: September 5–8, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Japanese Ministry of the Environment; Australian Greenhouse Office; Indonesian Ministry of Environment; and Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan

The Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change is a regional meeting sponsored by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan that has been held annually since 1991 to convene climate change specialists from government, international and regional organizations, academia, the private sector, and NGOs/CSOs of the Asia Pacific region. The objective is to share information, experience, and views on climate change and to facilitate further activities to address climate change in the region. Discussions focused on useful policies and measures to integrate climate change issues into development planning, tools to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of ongoing and future efforts, and opportunities offered in working on climate change.

For information, see: <http://www.ap-net.org/seminar/archives/16th.html>

157. 15th Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF)

Date: September 5–7, 2006

Location: Khabarovsk, Russia

Organizers/Sponsors: Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF); Khabarovsk Krai Government

The conference was attended by leading researchers and government experts and focused on energy, transportation, and grand design; the Northeast Asian Development Bank; and international exchange and the role of tourism. Participants called for greater efforts to facilitate intraregional energy trade. They also agreed on the need for a “Grand Design for Northeast Asia” that would improve multimodal transportation and logistic systems in the region to promote cooperation and sustainable development. Also, to promote regional development, they agreed on the importance of a subregional bank for international cooperation to finance essential infrastructure, and applauded the new initiatives to create a Northeast Asian Development Bank.

For information, see: <http://www.neaef.org/conferences/>
<http://www.nira.go.jp/newsj/kanren/180/183/index.html>

158. 6th Asian International Forum in Fukuoka

Date: September 6–7, 2006

Location: Fukuoka, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Fukuoka Prefecture; Fukuoka City; Organizing Committee of the Asian International Forum in Fukuoka

This forum was established in commemoration of the Kyushu-Okinawa G8 Summit, Fukuoka Finance Minister’s Meeting in 2000. The Asian International Forum in Fukuoka started in 2001 and has been held annually, bringing scholars from Asian, EU, and US research institutes together to debate various issues, share knowledge and expertise, and promote development, prosperity, and mutual understanding in Asia.

The theme in 2006 was “Development and Challenges in Asia: Regional Alliance.” Keynote addresses discussed the “Political Issues of East Asia and Japan” and “The Return of Asia.” Other sessions focused on strategic industrial development in Asia, economic development and environmental problems, highly skilled and educated human resources for sustainable economic development, and advocacy for Kyushu and Fukuoka.

For information, see: <http://www.asiaforum.jp/english/archives/06/index.html>

159. 1st Policy Consultation Forum of the Seoul Initiative on Green Growth: Promoting Sustainable Infrastructure Development

Date: September 6–8, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); Korea Environment Institute; Korea Ministry of Environment

Members of the Seoul Initiative Network on Green Growth gathered along with other experts to share experiences and ideas on how to effectively promote sustainable infrastructure development for green growth. Roughly 100 participants from ministries of environment and other relevant ministries of 17 UNESCAP member states attended, as did experts from the World Bank, ADB, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Asian Institute of Technology, NGOs, the private sector, and research institutions.

The Policy Consultation Forum reviewed various options and policies to promote eco-efficient and environmentally sustainable infrastructure development and its systematic approaches focusing on water, waste, energy, and transport infrastructure in Asia Pacific. The forum also took stock of a vast range of experiences and models in the area of eco-efficient and environmentally sustainable infrastructure. Participants underlined the importance of sustainable infrastructure development in achieving Green Growth and recognized that improvement in the awareness of eco-efficiency concepts is urgently needed among policymakers and decision makers.

For information, see: <http://planet.unescap.org/esd/newsletters/documents/NewsletterSep2006.pdf>

160. The Emergence of India: Implications for the Asia-Pacific Region

Date: September 6–8, 2006

Location: Montana, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, University of Montana; Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation

Signaling the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center's decision to include India as an important part of its geographic focus, the 2006 Mansfield Conference focused on India's impressive emergence as an economic, military, and strategic power and how India's rise has influenced both the region and India's bilateral and multilateral relations with China, Japan, and the United States. The conference was cosponsored with the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and was followed by an offsite retreat in which conference participants could elaborate on their conference presentations in a private setting. Sessions focused on the emergence of India; the strategic implications of India's emergence in Asia; and the development of a new regional framework in Asia Pacific and the opportunities that exist for collaboration.

For information, see: <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/conferences/01topresent.htm>

161. ASEM@10: Connecting Civil Societies of Asia and Europe

Date: September 7–8, 2006

Location: Helsinki, Finland

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF); Finland Ministry for Foreign Affairs; International Institute for Asian Studies; European Institute of Asian Studies; Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

This conference gathered 60 representatives from NGOs, the business sector, academia, media, youth organizations, and research institutes to review the state of Asia-Europe relations with a focus on civil society partnerships and business links. It was the second of a series of informal civil society consultations organized by ASEF and its partners (the last one was held in Barcelona in June 2004).

ASEM@10 was an integral side-event to the ASEM6 Summit and featured plenary sessions and two workshops seeking to generate civil society input into the ASEM agenda on specific topics where policymakers, the business sector, and the rest of civil society have a common stake. The outcomes of the workshop discussions were reported at a concluding plenary, which was open to ASEM officials and participants of the ASEF Editors' Roundtable.

For information, see: http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=678

162. 4th International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP): Peace and Prosperity in Asia

Date: September 7–10, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP); Hanns Seidel Foundation; Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

ICAPP was established by like-minded parties in Asia, led by the Lakas-Christian Muslim Democratic Party of the Philippines, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, and the Hanns Seidel Foundation, which recognized the importance of sustained dialogue among political leaders to meet the common challenges the region faces in the 21st century. The objectives of ICAPP are to promote exchanges and cooperation between political parties from different Asian countries and with various ideologies, to enhance mutual understanding and trust among Asian countries, and to promote Asia's regional cooperation through political parties. Discussions focused on such themes as regional security and political stability, poverty reduction and good governance, and building an Asian community.

For information, see: <http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/month-9/year-2006/index.html>

163. 1st ASEAN GO-NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development

Date: September 8–9, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; International Council on Social Welfare, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Region (ICSW SEAP); Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security; funding from Japanese Government

This groundbreaking GO-NGO Forum between ASEAN officials and NGO representatives aimed to establish a permanent ASEAN GO-NGO mechanism on social policy and practice. Prior to the forum, ICSW held a one-day preparation meeting with all members from the SEAP region to define objectives and identify key issues. This was followed by a two-day ASEAN GO-NGO Forum where participants agreed on a series of recommendations for ASEAN GO-NGO engagement and cooperation in dealing with poverty, human trafficking, drug prevention, and migration.

For information, see: <http://www.icsw.org/publication/rnl.htm#seap>

164. 5th Japan-ASEAN Dialogue: Prospect for Japan-ASEAN Strategic Partnership after the 1st East Asia Summit

Date: September 8, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Global Forum of Japan (GFJ); Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR); ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS); support from Japan/ASEAN Exchange Projects; in cooperation with Yomiuri Shimbun; ASEAN Promotion Centre on Trade, Investment and Tourism; Council on East Asian Community (CEAC)

The dialogue, with 138 participants, examined three themes: (1) the state of the East Asian Community concept and ASEAN integration; (2) strengthening economic partnership for

consolidating ASEAN; and 3) promoting nontraditional security cooperation. Participants recommended that Japan further support ASEAN on natural and human resource issues, economic policy capacity building, and infrastructure development to help narrow disparities in the region. They also noted that Japan and ASEAN should strive to overcome any gaps in perception concerning such issues as economic partnership and security cooperation.

For information, see: <http://www.gfj.jp/jpn/dialogue/22/main.pdf>
<http://www.ceac.jp/e/e-exchange.html>

165. 3rd Session of the Committee on Managing Globalization (Part 1)

Date: September 12–14, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

UNESCAP's Committee on Managing Globalization is tasked with addressing issues within the focused subprogram areas of (a) international trade and investment, (b) transport infrastructure and facilitation of tourism, (c) environment and sustainable development, and (d) information, communications, and space technology.

The committee began its third session by examining a crosscutting issue for managing globalization related to trade and transport: promoting dry ports as a means of sharing the benefits of globalization with inland locations. The meeting looked at a series of trade and investment issues, including ways to enhance trade and investment integration of UNESCAP developing members and associate members, and at transport and tourism issues, such as sustainable development of tourism.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/cm/2006/CMG3-I/index.asp>

166. 1st Berlin Conference on Asian Security: Security Regionalism in the Asia-Pacific

Date: September 13–15, 2006

Location: Berlin, Germany

Organizers/Sponsors: German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP); German Federal Ministry of Defence; Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Jakarta

This was the inaugural meeting of the "Berlin Group" Conference on Asian Security. Participants from Europe, the United States, and Asia gathered to discuss the Five Power Defense Arrangements, US maritime security initiatives, regional maritime security initiatives, the Six-Party Talks on the North Korean nuclear issue, comparisons of various Track 1 and 2 dialogues (e.g., the Shangri-la Dialogue, NEACD, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, ASEAN, ARF, ASEAN+3, East Asian Summit), and the potential European role in the region.

For information, see: <http://www.isis.org.my/research.htm>

http://www.swp-berlin.org/de/common/get_document.php?asset_id=4510

167. EU-Asia Relations: Perspectives of Political and Security Policy in a Global Context

Date: September 14, 2006

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Organizers/Sponsors: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Brussels; European Institute for Asian Studies

The European Security Strategy stresses the importance of an effective multilateral system and acknowledges the role of regional organizations to strengthen global governance. In recent years, the need for intraregional and interregional cooperation has become more and more evident. With that in mind, a workshop (followed by a public forum) was held to promote discussion among researchers from Asia and Europe, as well as representatives of the EU

institutions, on the extent to which the concept of multiregionalism operates in the context of EU-Asian affairs and how this relationship can contribute to achieving European security objectives. Following on the 6th ASEM Summit in Helsinki, the meeting focused on the question of the growing interrelationship between regionalism and security questions in EU-Asian relations.

For information, see: <http://www.asia-alliance.org/?q=taxonomy/term/11>

168. China's Rise: Global Perspectives

Date: September 15–16, 2006

Location: Hong Kong, China

Organizers/Sponsors: University of Hong Kong, Centre of Asian Studies; Tsinghua University; Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)

Since 1999, Hong Kong University has organized a series of conferences and seminars on China's domestic development, as well as on China's role in the world, to encourage dialogue and scholarship on key topics. This conference represents a unique opportunity to explore the impact of China's rise on different regions throughout the world. About 20 outstanding speakers from different fields spoke on China's rise as seen from Russia, India, Latin America, and the West, as well as from East Asia and Southeast Asia.

For information, see: <http://www.hku.hk/cas/Event/15Sep2006.html>

169. 2nd Trilateral Forum: China as a Global Player

Date: September 16–17, 2006

Location: Shanghai, China

Organizers/Sponsors: National Intelligence Council (USA); School of Advanced International and Area Studies, East China Normal University; Centre for China Policy Analysis; Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva; Institute for International Strategic Studies, London (IISS)

This forum brought together Asian and Western policymakers and experts to provide a platform of open dialogue about the role of China in the world, how China is seen as a global actor by the foreign policy establishments of great powers, and how China as an international player deals with great powers. Panels focused on great power relations in Asia; nonproliferation (with reference to Iran and North Korea); bilateral ties (China-EU, China-US, and China-Japan); and China and the broader world, including the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America.

For information, see: <http://hei.unige.ch/news/files/CCPAForum.pdf>

http://www.ifri.org/files/centre_asie/TrilateralForumShanghaiAgenda.pdf

170. Meeting on the Straits of Malacca and Singapore: Enhancing Safety, Security and Environmental Protection

Date: September 18, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: International Maritime Organization (IMO); government of Malaysia; in cooperation with the governments of Indonesia and Singapore

The Meeting on the Straits of Malacca and Singapore was attended by delegations from the three littoral states (Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore) and 28 other states, as well as by observers from ASEAN and nine NGOs. The objective of the meeting was to discuss recent developments relating to the safety, security, and environmental protection of the straits, with the aim of developing mechanisms and programs to facilitate cooperation in keeping the straits safe and open to international shipping. One-third of the world's trade and half of the world's oil supply are carried through the straits by some 60,000 vessels each year.

The meeting adopted the Kuala Lumpur Statement, in which participants agreed to support a proposed cooperative mechanism on safety of navigation and environmental protection in the straits. They also agreed to support continuous efforts to promote dialogue and facilitate close cooperation between the littoral states, user states, the shipping industry, and other stakeholders.

For information, see: http://www.imo.org/About/mainframe.asp?topic_id=1320&doc_id=7007

171. Transnational Islamist Movements in Asia: Networks, Structure, and Threat Assessment

Date: September 19–20, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research; Hudson Institute, Center for Eurasian Policy

An international conference was held on transnational Islamist movements in Asia. Prominent Islamic scholars, counterterrorism experts, and regional security specialists from Australia, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Singapore, Spain, and the United States participated in the meeting. The key objective was to evaluate the evolving terrorist threat in Asia and to understand how global political and religious issues are transforming traditionally localized conflicts in many parts of the region. In this respect, the influence of events in the Middle East and developments within the global Muslim community on local Asian terrorist groups was explored. The conference covered three key issues: (1) the history of Islam and conflicts in the Asia Pacific region; (2) the evolution and the dynamics of transnational terrorist movements in Asia; and (3) the impact of transnational terrorist movements on the conflicts in countries in the region, such as India, China, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand.

For information, see: http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/trans%20Islamist%20Movemt.pdf

172. WTO/UNESCAP/ARTNeT Advanced Regional Seminar on Multilateral Negotiations in Services for Asian and Pacific Economies

Date: September 19–21, 2006

Location: Kolkata, India

Organizers/Sponsors: World Trade Organization (WTO), UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network (ARTNeT)

The objective of this meeting was to review recent developments and emerging agreements in the Doha Development Agenda negotiations on services, to deepen participants' understanding of issues of particular relevance to the negotiations, and to assess implications of trade liberalization in selected service sectors important for the region. Presentations covered such issues as banking and insurance liberalization in Malaysia, financial integration in ASEAN and the lessons from the EU, and the services trade in Nepal, Bangladesh, and Malaysia.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/activity2.asp>
<http://www.unescap.org/tid/projects/negoservice.asp>

173. China-ASEAN High-Level Seminar

Date: September 23–24, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: China Foreign Affairs University

The High-Level Seminar on China-ASEAN Relations was one of the key events held to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the China-ASEAN dialogue partnership. Participants included

government officials and experts from China, the 10 ASEAN member countries, and the ASEAN Secretariat. Following an opening session, three discussion panels were held on the topics of “Achievements in the Development of China-ASEAN Partnership,” “Major Issues in Furthering China-ASEAN Partnership,” and “China-ASEAN Partnership: Prospect, Goals and Roadmap.”
For information, see: <http://www.isis.org.my/research.htm>

174. Risks and Responsibilities: Male Sexual Health and HIV in Asia and the Pacific International Consultation

Date: September 23–26, 2006

Location: New Delhi, India

Organizers/Sponsors: National AIDS Control Organisation of India; Government of India

The main objectives of this consultation were (1) to generate and share knowledge on epidemiological, technical, social, policy, rights, and resources issues relevant to male-to-male sexual behaviors and HIV in Asia Pacific; (2) to identify obstacles and challenges that impede the design and implementation of specific HIV programs and services for men who have sex with men (MSM); and (3) to inform the formulation of strategies for improving and scaling up of strategic HIV prevention, treatment, care and support interventions, and services specifically for this target group.

The theme of the consultation, “Risks & Responsibilities,” signifies the increased risks that MSM face through sexual practices and cultural vulnerabilities, and the risks of not addressing these with adequate, appropriate, and sufficiently funded HIV prevention, treatment, and support interventions. This also flags the responsibilities of men for protecting themselves and their partners, and the responsibilities of governments, donors, and other stakeholders in ensuring resources and environments that enable quality HIV programs and services for prevention, treatment, care, and support.

For information, see: <http://www.risksandresponsibilities.org/displaymore.asp?itemid=534&chkey=141&subchkey=0&chname=Welcome%20to%20Delhi%20from%20NACO>

175. 6th Meeting of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter

Date: September 24–26, 2006

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

This was the 6th meeting of the EPG on the ASEAN Charter.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/19247.pdf>

176. 10th PIIC Seminar on International Security

Date: September 24–29, 2006

Location: Xiamen, China

Organizers/Sponsors: China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR); Beijing Institute of Applied Physics and Computational Mathematics; International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (Italy)

The 10th PIIC Seminar on International Security was held in Xiamen, Fujian Province. More than 100 scholars from 20-odd countries, including China, the United States, European countries, Japan, South Korea, Russia, and India, were present at the workshop. Panels examined key issues in international security, with particular emphasis on South and Northeast Asia. Topics included “Strategic Cooperation, Security, and Stability in the New Era,” “WMD Proliferation and Mechanisms to Curb It,” “Regional Stability and Nuclear Energy Cooperation,” “Nuclear Weapons: Security Keeper or Destroyer,” “Nuclear Weapons: Where

to Go Further," "Can We Still Have A Stable and Peaceful Outer Space?" and "Counter-Terrorism: A Century's Challenge."

For information, see: http://www.cicir.ac.cn/en/info/detail.php?strCode=en_communion&lnglD=363

177. Brainstorming on ASEAN Charter

Date: September 25–29, 2006

Location: Brussels, Belgium; and Berlin, Germany

Organizers/Sponsors: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); ASEAN Institutes for Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS)

KAS has worked to support initiatives in developing a charter for the ASEAN Community, funding two brainstorming sessions of the ASEAN-ISIS network in Singapore and Ubud. ASEAN-ISIS was invited to make recommendations concerning the ASEAN Charter to the Eminent Persons Group. KAS also brought together ASEAN-ISIS leaders from Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, and the Philippines with their European counterparts in Berlin and Brussels to facilitate a sharing of their experiences.

For information, see: <http://www.kas-asia.org/Conferences.htm#24mar2006>

178. IDSS–Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies Conference: Security Cooperation and Governance in Southeast Asia—Responding to Terrorism, Insurgency, and Separatist Violence in Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippines

Date: September 26–28, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS); Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS)

Nearly 90 experts from Asia, the United States, Europe, and Russia gathered for a three-day conference on security cooperation and governance in Southeast Asia. The conference was an effort to extend the collaboration between the two organizing institutions, which share common objectives and functions, as well as to investigate an issue of great importance to Asia and the United States. In addressing terrorism, insurgency, and separatist violence in three different countries, participants sought to achieve a comprehensive assessment of the current status and prospects for the resolution of these three types of security threats facing contemporary Southeast Asia, to explore the relationships and dynamics linking the three threats without introducing too much synergy where it is not appropriate, and to identify regional needs in addressing the security threats.

For information, see: http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/SecurityCorp&GovNew.pdf

http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics_conferences.htm

179. The Opportunity and Challenge in Economic Interactive Cooperation of East Asia

Date: September 26, 2006

Location: Shanghai, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of World Economy, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS); Shanghai Small Business (Trade Development) Service Centre; Research Centre for Foreign Investment, SASS

More than 30 Chinese and foreign experts, scholars, and businesspeople attended this seminar, which addressed various dimensions of issues of common concern, such as problems in regional economic cooperation in East Asia and China's role; opportunities and challenges in economic interaction among the Mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao due to regional economic integration; problems and solutions in the Sino-Korean economic partnership, in the

Sino-ASEAN economic partnership, and in the Sino-Japanese economic partnership; and Shanghai's enterprises investing in East Asian countries.

For information, see: <http://english.sass.org.cn/newsevents/?newstype=0053006A007C0078004A007B006A007300790078&newsid=00380035003A>

180. Symposium on a Free Trade Agreement among China, Japan, and Korea

Date: September 29, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Development Research Center; National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA); Korea Institute for International Economic Policy

Researchers involved in an ongoing project met to examine a possible free trade agreement among China, Japan, and Korea (a "CJKFTA"). Following an assessment of the macroeconomic impact of a CJKFTA and a survey of businesses in 2003, the three institutes conducted sector studies covering the agriculture, automobile, electronics, fisheries, textile, and steel sectors, and sections of the service sector in 2004 and 2005.

Continuing their study of a CJKFTA in 2006, the institutes decided to extend the previous sector studies to cover a broader area of the service sector. They also decided to examine other important issues, including rules of origin (ROOs) and sensitive sectors in the existing FTAs concluded by China, Japan, and Korea. The final report presented a general perspective on regional trade agreements in Northeast Asia, the major findings of the joint study for 2006, as well as conclusions and policy recommendations.

For information, see: http://www.nira.go.jp/newse/paper/joint6/houko_E.pdf
<http://www.nira.go.jp/pubj/newsletter/nn10.html>

October

181. 1st ARF Seminar on Energy Security

Date: October 5–6, 2006

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

This was the first seminar within the ARF focused on energy security, and the meeting was attended by representatives of the ASEAN secretariat and ARF member countries. The mix of participants from different backgrounds—including outside experts and industry representatives—provided the variety of experience needed to address energy security issues. Participants recognized that energy security has become a priority for many governments, and that the factors driving these high prices—strong demand growth from emerging economies, limited spare production capacity, inadequate refining capacity worldwide, supply disruptions caused by natural disasters, concerns with terrorism, political instability in regions with concentrations of oil and gas, and concerns about future hydrocarbon availability—will remain for the foreseeable future. Participants shared the view that governments should take a holistic approach to enhancing energy security in an increasingly interdependent world. There was recognition that this interdependence also opened opportunities for greater regional and international cooperation on difficult energy issues. Security of transit routes by land or by sea as a key aspect of energy security also received broad recognition.

For information, see: <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

182. Workshop on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Control and Eradication in ASEAN

Date: October 9–11, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Secretariat; Asian Development Bank (ADB); World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

The ASEAN Secretariat held a workshop on highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) control and eradication. The ASEAN Secretariat is one of the partners for the implementation of the ADB Regional Project on Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza, which was launched in March 2006. Participating as resource speakers were regional representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization and World Health Organization.

One major output of the workshop was the development of a Model Outbreak Response System, a system of harmonized operational procedures and regional policies on capacity, resource, and information sharing and networking. The system is expected to be a reference point for countries to develop their country-specific systems. The workshop hopes to address the gaps within the HPAI surveillance and information system and diagnosis in line with the Regional Framework for the Control and Eradication of HPAI in ASEAN. Two more workshops for ASEAN countries will be organized.

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2006/HPAI-Control/default.asp>

183. Regional Cooperation: Experience in Europe and Practice in East Asia

Date: October 10–11, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); China Institute for International Strategic Studies (CISS)

Participants discussed various models of international cooperation, such as bilateral trade agreements versus free trade areas or multilateral cooperation. Other issues for debate were the building of a regional identity across geographical borders, the necessity of a “master plan” for regionalization, as well as the importance of the process as a peer process. The sessions focused on (1) progress and challenges to East Asian cooperation; (2) East Asian economic integration; (3) conflict prevention and conflict solution in the region; (4) ASEAN and Chinese views of East Asia cooperation; (5) the process of European integration; (6) East Asian regional cooperation and lessons from Europe; (7) the consequences of China’s economic development for East Asian cooperation; and (8) the overall prospects for East Asian cooperation.

For information, see: http://www.eias.org/resources/BEIJING%20Conference%20Agenda_Regional%20Cooperation-2.pdf
http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/37/2/year-2006/month-10/veranstaltung_id-22331/index.html

184. 3rd Session of the Committee on Managing Globalization (Part 2)

Date: October 10–12, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The UNESCAP Committee on Managing Globalization continued its third session by examining such issues as technology for sustainable economic growth in the face of rising oil and natural resource prices; information, communication, and space technology issues; issues related to environment and sustainable development; and planning and evaluation for the committee’s continued work. The group also considered draft resolutions and decisions for submission to UNESCAP’s 63rd session.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/cm/2006/CMG3-I/index.asp>

185. Capacity Building for New International Architecture in Trade and Investment

Date: October 12–13, 2006

Location: Hawaii, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute for International Studies and Training (IIST); jointly hosted by University of Hawaii; Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

This workshop was held as part of the APEC Human Resources Development Project, which aims to promote understanding of the new international architecture in trade and investment, such as FTAs and RTAs. During the two-day workshop, country papers from 12 experts were presented, addressing the distinctive situations of FTA/RTA negotiations in the authors' economies. In Session 1 of the workshop, experts from ASEAN, Canada, China, Japan, South Korea, and the United States explained policies and current economic conditions in their countries concerning trade and investment agreements. In Session 2, discussions were held on major issues relating to FTAs/RTAs, such as problems concerning consistency with the WTO, dispute settlement systems, rules of origin, and the potential for forming an East Asian Community. In Session 3, opinions were exchanged on the future direction of the new international architecture in trade and investment.

For information, see: <http://www.iist.or.jp/e/contents/hrd/cb-hawaii-e.html>

186. 2nd Conference of East Asian Institutes Forum: East Asian Economic Integration—Progress and Impediments

Date: October 13–14, 2006

Location: Jeju Island, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP)

Representatives from economic research institutes in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, and Vietnam, as well as from the ADB, joined for a one-and-a-half day meeting on East Asian economic integration. Sessions examined the prospects for and impediments to an East Asia FTA, developments in financial cooperation in the region, regional economic integration and development cooperation, and the roles of East Asian institutes in regional economic integration.

For information, see: http://www.kiep.go.kr/kiepNews/seminar_out_view.asp?num=74669

187. 18th Hokkaido Conference for North Pacific Issues: Issues of Framework Building for Regional Cooperation in the North Pacific—Focusing on the Relationship between Russia and Nations in Asia

Date: October 18–19, 2006

Location: Hokkaido, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: North Pacific Region Advanced Research Center (NORPAC)

Participants from Russia, China, Korea, the United States, Canada, and Japan gathered to discuss issues related to the North Pacific and particularly Russia's relations with the region. Sessions focused on Russia's role in Asia, its relations with China and Korea, its energy development, and its ties to Japan.

For information, see: <http://www.norpac.or.jp/main2/18conf/18conf.htm>

188. Dialogue on Transboundary Haze Pollution in Southeast Asia

Date: October 19, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA); Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Indonesia; Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS), Malaysia

Some 20 representatives of regional civil society organizations from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand met in Singapore to discuss critical issues surrounding the current haze pollution that is affecting countries in Southeast Asia. The meeting responded to growing concern among Indonesia's neighbors with what is seen as inaction on the part of the Indonesian government. It was also an attempt to identify and recommend key actions that regional NGOs can take, while also urging their home governments to effectively implement existing commitments.

In light of the challenges Indonesia has faced recently—e.g., terrorism, natural disasters, tensions in Aceh, and avian flu—participants recognized that Indonesia alone does not have the resources required to solve this issue. In addition to greater regional cooperation, participants called for more information sharing with and among regional NGOs and local communities, an updated study on the socioeconomic impact of the haze, and greater inter-NGO and NGO-government dialogue.

For information, see: http://www.siiainline.org/news_brief_17_oct_2006_-_regional_civic_institutions_to_dialogue_on_transboundary_haze_pollution_in_southeast_asia

189. Education Forum for Asia 2006

Date: October 20–22, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Education Forum for Asia; Boao Forum for Asia; China Scholarship Council

The Education Forum of Asia was created to promote more relevant, dynamic, and higher quality education in Asia. It seeks to improve access to basic education, and to assist populations in adjusting to the rapidly changing work environment. At the 2006 forum, education professionals and policymakers from across the region gathered to focus on such topics as education on environmental protection, science and innovation, vocational education, arts education, student exchange, and high school bilingual education.

For information, see: <http://www.asia-edu.org/>

190. 4th CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Multilateral Security Cooperation in North Pacific/Northeast Asia

Date: October 23–24, 2006

Location: Berkeley, California, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)

The fourth and final meeting of this CSCAP Study Group was hosted by CSCAP USA and was attended by 25 experts, including representatives from eight CSCAP member committees (Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Thailand, and the United States). Given the context of the October 9 North Korean nuclear test, the majority of the discussion focused on that situation.

One objective of this meeting was to draft recommendations on how to promote multilateral security cooperation in Northeast Asia, which were to be submitted to the CSCAP Steering Committee in December 2006. There was disagreement within the group, however, over the substance and wording of those recommendations, most of which were proposals for responding to North Korea. Although there had been talk of continuing the study group, in light of the escalation of regional tensions, participants believed that regional security cooperation remained a distant prospect and that CSCAP's energies should be devoted to other projects, including one specifically dedicated to the North Korean nuclear crisis.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/>

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/css/docs/CSCAP_Reports_Contributions/2006/MSF%204th%20Mtg%20Report%20TOW.pdf

191. Health without Borders Regional Project Workshop

Date: October 25–27, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); funded by government of the Netherlands

This workshop was organized under the UNESCAP project “Health without Borders: Improving Health and Reducing HIV/AIDS Vulnerability among Long-Distance Road Transport Workers through a Multisectoral Approach.” The project aimed to improve the health of long-distance road transport workers traveling along Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) road transport corridors selected under the project. The goals were to share the outcomes of the project among project partners; present project outcomes to a wider range of stakeholders; and produce concrete policy recommendations regarding the health issues of truck drivers in the GMS.

Participants listened to analyses of the situation in Lao PDR and Vietnam and then discussed issues related to the themes of working conditions (e.g., cross-border mobility, absence from home, company practices, and health services), collaborating across borders, and integration of health concerns into transport services and policy. The meeting produced a set of recommendations (available online) that will inform the second phase of the project.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/hds/projects/healthwithoutborders/files/HwB%20Workshop%20report.pdf>

192. 14th Osaka City University (OCU) International Academic Symposium on Asian Regional Integration by Learning from Europe and the Euro: The Possibilities of the East Asian Community

Date: October 27–29, 2006

Location: Osaka, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Graduate School of Economics, Osaka City University; Delegation of the European Commission to Japan; Organizing Committee of International Symposium for Asian Regional Integration by Learning from Europe; Council on East Asian Community (CEAC)

The decision in the 1980s that the European single market required a single currency led to the successful launch of the euro in 1999. Euro notes and coins were launched in 2002. The euro today is part of the daily lives of 310 million Europeans from 12 EU member states, representing about one-sixth of the world GDP and one-fifth of world trade. Macroeconomic stability was among the main achievements of the euro. However, the euro’s impact has extended beyond the euro area, becoming the second most important international currency, for example in the international debt market.

Following on from two earlier symposiums on the euro (held in Tokyo in 2001 and 2004), this symposium looked at what the European experience can offer to Asian countries as they consider the future of an East Asian Community.

For information, see: <http://www.econ.osaka-cu.ac.jp/ocuis2006/e/index.html>

193. Democracy and Human Security in Southeast Asia

Date: October 27–28, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS), Chulalongkorn University; Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

Leading regional experts gathered to help ISIS commemorate its 25th anniversary by participating in a conference on democracy and human security in Southeast Asia. Papers examined the current progress in and obstacles to democracy and human security in Cambodia, Malaysia,

Myanmar, Singapore, and Thailand, as well as taking broader looks at such themes as “co-governance and human security” and “democracy and change in developing nations.”

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-10/veranstaltung_id-21431/index.html

194. The Role of China and Japan in Asia’s Integration Process: More than Economic Partners?

Date: October 30–31, 2006

Location: Shanghai, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS); Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB); Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

A symposium on “The Role of China and Japan in Asia’s Integration Process—Beyond Economic Partners?” was held, focusing on five topics: (1) the challenge and results of the “Kuala Lumpur process”; (2) how Asia can achieve economic integration; (3) the function of civil society in Asia’s integration process; (4) how to achieve peace and development in Asia; and (5) the construction of East Asia communities.

For information, see: <http://english.sass.org.cn/newsevents/?newstype=0053006A007C0078004A007B006A007300790078&newsid=003800360035>

195. 8th Europe–East Asia Think Tank Dialogue: Strengthening Regional and Inter-regional Cooperation in Responding to Rising Extremism and Resurging Nationalism

Date: October 30–November 4, 2006

Location: Berlin, Germany

Organizers/Sponsors: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); co-organized by the Institute for Strategic and Development Studies and the European Institute of Asian Studies

This dialogue is an annual event jointly organized by KAS and selected East Asian think tanks to promote intellectual exchange and research collaboration between Track 2 representatives from East Asian and EU countries. This year’s dialogue focused on regional and inter-regional cooperation in response to extremism and nationalism. Topics for discussion included recent political developments in East Asia and the EU; the regional economic outlooks in Europe, East Asia, and the United States; institution building through the EU Constitution and the ASEAN Charter; regional approaches to the rise of Islamic extremism; interregional cooperation beyond ASEM 10; and future prospects for EU–East Asian cooperation. In addition, participants met with members of the German Bundestag, foreign ministry officials, and business representatives, and they joined in a roundtable at the Center for Applied Policy Research in Munich.

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-11/veranstaltung_id-22284/index.html

196. WTO/ESCAP/MOFCOM Workshop: The Post-Doha Research Agenda for Developing Countries

Date: October 30–31, 2006

Location: Macao, China

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Trade and Investment Division; World Trade Organization (WTO); Ministry of Commerce of China (MOFCOM)

The main objective of this conference was to assess the current state of the art in trade-related research and compare it with the needs of developing and the least developed countries, especially in the UNESCAP region. The first session examined multilateral governance of global trade and sustainable development and the future of the WTO system. The next session looked at the clash between regionalism and multilateralism in the Asian

context. The third session focused on service trade liberalization as a development opportunity. The fourth session asked whether the concept of making trade work for poverty reduction is a reality or a fantasy. Session five looked at nontariff barriers and whether the WTO can find a solution.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/projects/postdoha.asp>

197. FES/WTO Asia Regional Dialogue: WTO at Crossroads?—Experiences and Expectations around the Doha Agenda

Date: October 30–31, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES); World Trade Organization (WTO)

Is the WTO Doha Development Round dead or only temporarily stalled? Will the multilateral trade negotiations be salvaged or will bilateral and regional free trade agreements become the trade tools of the future? How did the Doha Round get into its current deadlock and what could and should be done to revive the negotiations? These were some of the main questions raised during a two-day regional dialogue entitled “WTO at Crossroads?—Experiences and Expectations around the Doha Agenda.” The dialogue brought together representatives of the WTO secretariat and different stakeholders from the Asia-Pacific region, including representatives of civil society organizations and international organizations, academics, officials, and businesspeople.

For information, see: <http://www.fesspore.org/templates/fes/pdf/home/WTO%20Report.pdf>

November

198. 3rd ARTNeT Consultative Meeting of Policy Makers and Research Institutions

Date: November 1–2, 2006

Location: Macao, China

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Trade and Investment Division

The objective of this meeting was to report the ARTNeT research findings to policymakers and to approve the ARTNeT research program for 2006–2007. Participants discussed presentations on the ARTNeT thematic study on trade facilitation, selected ARTNeT short-term studies, the ARTNeT regional study on services trade, online and analytical tools for trade policymakers, and the demands of policymakers for trade-related research.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/artnet/mtg/consult3.asp>

199. 2nd Working Group Meeting on Energy Planning and Policy

Date: November 1–2, 2006

Location: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); Korea Energy Economics Institute

In November 2005, an Intergovernmental Collaborative Mechanism on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia was established to facilitate energy cooperation and trade to enhance energy security in Northeast Asia. Under this mechanism, a Working Group on Energy Planning and Cooperation (WG-EPP) was established to identify possible future energy cooperation activities. This was the second meeting of the WG-EPP, following on the inaugural meeting held in May 2006. Subsequently, work had begun on four country reports. The objective of the second meeting of the WG-EPP was to assess the progress of those activities as well as to identify matters or issues that need the attention and consideration of the Senior Officials

Committee on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia at its second session, to be held in December 2006. The second WG-EPP meeting was attended by representatives and experts from China, Mongolia, South Korea, and Russia. Representatives from the US government attended as observers.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esd/energy/dialogue/cooperation/epp1/index.asp>

200. Seminar on the New Strategic Triangle between China, Europe, and the United States in a Changing International System

Date: November 2–3, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR); Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); Atlantic Council of the United States; European Policy Centre

An international seminar on “The New Strategic Triangle: China, Europe and the United States in a Changing International System” was attended by more than 50 experts and scholars from the United States, Germany, Belgium, and Italy, as well as by Chinese government officials and researchers.

For information, see: http://www.cicir.ac.cn/en/info/detail.php?strCode=en_communion&lngID=409

201. 10th Regional Consultative Meeting on Good Urban Governance

Date: November 2, 2006

Location: Mumbai, India

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Good urban governance is an important area of work for UNESCAP. Good governance has become a core concept in most strategies implemented by the UN and its partner organizations, and it has been identified as critical for the success of poverty reduction efforts. Recently, the scope of the Regional Consultative Meeting has been broadened to cover not only good urban governance but also other issues related to urban poverty and human settlements. The meeting was open to any organization working on urban governance issues in Asia Pacific and aimed to provide updates on current and future regional activities and to find mechanisms for complementing or reinforcing each other’s work. Representatives from 11 organizations attended the meeting, where they discussed the preparations for the 4th World Urban Forum (WUF4), to be held in China in 2008. They also discussed the preparation of the *State of Asian Cities Report*, which will be presented at WUF4.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/pdd/calendar/rcm/gg/good-govern.asp>

202. Asian Energy Security Workshop 2006

Date: November 5–7, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Nautilus Institute; Energy and Environmental Technology Center (EETC), Tsinghua University

Held as part of the Asian Energy Security (AES) Project, this workshop was attended by participants from all of the Northeast Asian nations, as well as from Australia and the United States. The workshop emphasized collaborative research on different paths to address energy security issues in Northeast Asia. The AES workshop started with updates from participants on the overall energy policy and security situations in their countries, as well as on their work in modeling different energy futures for their country using a common software tool (LEAP) that all groups have been working with. The second day focused on modeling of nuclear energy

paths, where applicable, and on plans for future collaborative work and dissemination of project results.

The AES workshop shared a one-day “Scenarios” event with Nautilus’s East Asia Science and Security Collaborative Project. This small-group exercise explored the theme “Will the global nuclear energy partnership reduce WMD proliferation in the Asia-Pacific region by 2030?”

For information, see: <http://www.nautilus.org/energy/2006/beijingworkshop/index.html>

203. International Conference on Sustainable Growth in the Asia Pacific Region

Date: November 6–7, 2006

Location: Kyoto, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Kyoto University

About 30 experts from Australia, Canada, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States, Vietnam, the ASEAN Secretariat, ADB, IMF, and the World Bank exchanged views on possible ways to develop an information-sharing mechanism to address new issues that are rapidly emerging in this era of globalization. Conference participants agreed that to effectively address challenges for the sustainable growth of the Asia Pacific region it is necessary to continuously monitor and analyze the real economic, social, and environmental trends in an accurate and speedy manner. The participants agreed to cooperate in building an Economic Information-Sharing Mechanism of the Asia-Pacific (EiSMAP), an Internet-based information-sharing network that will provide basic economic and sustainability-related data. They will also cooperate to promote policy research related to newly emerging issues.

For information, see: <http://www-gs.kogaku.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ermap/documents/seimei.pdf>

204. 1st Joint Asian Security Dialogue Roundtable: East Asia after the North Korean Nuclear Test

Date: November 9, 2006

Location: Geneva, Switzerland

Organizers/Sponsors: Graduate Institute of International Studies (HEI); French Institute of International Relations (ifri)

Experts from China, France, Japan, and the United States participated in a roundtable on the implications for East Asia in the aftermath of the North Korean nuclear test.

For information, see: http://www.ifri.org/frontDispatcher/ifri/manifestations/interventions___I_ext_rieur_1042052171194/publi_P_manif_asie_geneve_1162894475396

205. AsianBio 2006: 3rd Asian Biotechnology Conference—Biotechnology Opportunities for Developing Countries

Date: November 9–10, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS); Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines; Philippine Government; International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics; National Academy of Science and Technology, Philippines; Philippine Council for Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development

The expansion of the biotechnology industry in the Asian region during the last decade has raised many possibilities that have attracted the interest of many sectors of society. In order to create a venue to discuss biotechnology as an engine of economic growth and development, RIS of India decided to organize an annual Asian Conference on Biotechnology and Development. It is intended to be a venue where major stakeholders—government, academia,

farmers, business, media, and the international community—can converge, discuss issues, and establish linkages.

The conference theme for 2006 was “Biotechnology Opportunities for Developing Countries.” Participants presented updates on the current status and progress of modern biotechnology; shared experiences in the fields of biotech policy, regulatory development, intellectual property rights and bioethics, and biocommercialization; identified niches in biotechnology where developing countries can play an active role; and explored collaboration in specific areas.

For information, see: <http://www.ris.org.in/>

206. Seminar on Strengthening Nuclear Security in Asian Countries

Date: November 9, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs; International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

About 100 participants from 19 countries gathered for the seminar. The chairman’s conclusions reported that the seminar participants recognized (1) that a threat to nuclear security exists; (2) that strengthening nuclear security is given high priority as an integral part of nuclear energy development; (3) that the international community should respond to threats through international legal instruments such as the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism; (4) that international cooperation is needed to prevent terrorist acts; and (5) that a further meeting should be convened in two years’ time to review the improvement of nuclear security.

For information, see: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2006/11/1110-3.html>

207. US-China-Japan Trilateral Conference

Date: November 10–11, 2006

Location: Virginia, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies (CNAPS), Brookings Institution; Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); Keizai Koho Center; Peking University

Scholars from the United States, China, and Japan convened at the Airlie Center in Virginia for the third in a series of unofficial trilateral meetings. The American scholars first proposed these meetings in response to the alarming deterioration in Sino-Japanese relations in the spring of 2005, and their initiative was enthusiastically endorsed by scholars from China and Japan, who hosted the first two such conferences (in July 2005 and May 2006 respectively).

The three delegations discussed strategic views and approaches of their respective countries in the region and addressed numerous issues, including the sources of friction between China and Japan; attitudes toward the history of the last century; Chinese and Japanese public views toward each other; Iraq, Iran, and the greater Middle East; regional security issues; development of regional institutions; energy; the recent US elections; and economic cooperation. Delegates expressed only their personal opinions, but all three groups briefed officials in their respective governments following the meeting.

For information, see: <http://www.brook.edu/fp/china/events/20061110.htm>

208. 1st Korea-ASEAN Cooperation Forum

Date: November 10–12, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN; Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); Korea Foundation; Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS)

The 1st Korea-ASEAN Cooperation Forum was held at CSIS in Jakarta, Indonesia. About 50 distinguished representatives from the legislative, business, media, cultural, and academic sectors from Korea and ASEAN exchanged ideas on various subjects. Topics included evaluation of and prospects for the region's overall environment, overview of Korea-ASEAN cooperation and major tasks, and strengthening cooperation in East Asia.

For information, see: <http://www.isis.org.my/research.htm>

<http://www.kf.or.kr:8080/eng/notice/photoView.jsp?boardIdx=79>

209. Kyoto Culture Symposium 2006

Date: November 10, 2006

Location: Kyoto, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Boao Forum for Asia; Japan Foundation

Globalization, which enables an ever-widening flow of information, money, and people, has been drastically changing our lives. While longing for the end of conflicts and for more regional integration, many people also hope to preserve their own culture. How can Asia, a region of diverse peoples and cultures, construct common values while nurturing their individual cultures? The Japan Foundation jointly organized an open symposium, "Globalization and Asian Values," with the Boao Forum for Asia to explore Asian cultural identity. Sessions examined the themes of globalization and culture, and the roles of culture for East Asian community building.

For information, see: <http://www.boaoforum.com/2006wenhua/rc-en.asp>

210. Expert Group Meeting on the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement and Regional Economic Cooperation

Date: November 12, 2006

Location: Kolkata, India

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Trade and Investment Division

The objective of this meeting was to discuss and explore the long-term strategy of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), previously known as the Bangkok Agreement. Signed in 1975, the APTA is the oldest preferential trade agreement among developing countries of the Asia Pacific region. Participants discussed the results of the third round of negotiations (the results of which were implemented as of September 1, 2006) and benefits for prospective APTA member countries; issues related to rules of origin, with specific reference to the APTA; and perspectives from potential APTA members, including interventions by potential APTA members on their respective trade policies and country positions on APTA. A roundtable discussion was also held on regionalism vs. multilateralism and the role of APTA.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/projects/aptarec.asp>

211. Re-thinking European Integration and East Asia Cooperation

Date: November 13–14, 2006

Location: Beijing, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF); China Foreign Affairs University; China National Association for International Studies (CNAIS)

To facilitate the understanding of the rapidly changing situations in both Europe and Asia and to reassess European integration and East Asia cooperation, this conference highlighted the latest developments in both regions. The conference brought together around 50 experts from Asia and Europe from the academe, media, and research institutes, as well as officials from foreign ministries, EU institutions, and Asian regional organizations. The meeting aimed to

enhance links among experts on regionalization processes from the 39 ASEM member countries and to increase understanding, trust, and sharing of experiences and methodology.

Issues discussed at the conference included the 2005 East Asian Summit and the rapid development of East Asian cooperation; EU enlargement, its subsequent implications, the increasing importance of European integration, and parallels with East Asian Community building in Asia; ASEM enlargement; and functional cooperation in economic, security, and education matters.

For information, see: http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=681

212. Forum on After Beijing: Gender Issues in Southeast Asia—Have Women Moved Up, Moved On, or Moved Out?

Date: November 13–14, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS); Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

This forum discussed gender issue developments since the UN's 1995 Beijing World Conference on Women. Organized in partnership with ISEAS, the forum looked at women's leadership and decision-making roles in ASEAN politics and society. It also examined the implications for women with regard to religion and government policies. Presentations topics included Asian women and politics—what action beyond Beijing?; envisioning women within the ASEAN community of caring societies; decision making and political leadership; women and religion; gender-sensitive policies; and women at work—employment opportunities and family life.

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-11/veranstaltung_id-23086/index.html

213. 13th Asia Pacific Security Seminar: Military in Transition and Asia-Pacific Security

Date: November 14–20, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS)

The 13th Asia-Pacific Security Seminar addressed the theme of "Military in Transition and Asia-Pacific Security." Participants came from 22 countries in the region. A keynote speech, entitled "Promotion of Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region," shed light on changing roles of the military in the new security environment. Participants then addressed three issues: emerging new threats and their implications for national defense policy; international peace operations; and addressing diversity through leadership, organization, and management.

In meeting these new challenges, the participants agreed on the need for continued efforts to promote security dialogue among the Asia Pacific countries. The results of the seminar were reported at the next ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Meeting of the Heads of Defense Universities, Colleges, and Institutions.

For information, see: <http://www.nids.go.jp/english/index.html>

214. The Future Institutional Architecture of Asia

Date: November 15–17, 2006

Location: St. Michaels, Maryland, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); Stanley Foundation

Roughly 30 participants from Australia, China, India, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, and the United States gathered to discuss how to build an open and inclusive regional architecture for Asia. Participants included scholars, journalists, and government officials.

The discussions addressed such questions as, How have views regarding regional multilateralism evolved in the postwar era? Will regional mechanisms and institutions become arenas for competition or cooperation? What drives the debate about regionalism? What are the differing perspectives on the East Asia Community and on the US role in regional institutions?

For information, see: http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_events/task,view/id,1233/

215. JEF-AEI Meeting

Date: November 16–17, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Japan Economic Foundation (JEF); American Enterprise Institute (AEI)

Twenty-four experts from the United States, Japan, and China gathered for the annual JEF-AEI Meeting. Sessions focused on the economic outlook of Japan and the United States; Japan and US trade relations in the context of Asian regional integration; the political outlook in Japan and the United States; Japanese, Chinese, and US joint security issues; economic and financial policies of China, Japan, and the United States; and China in the global economy.

For information, see: http://www.jef.or.jp/en_act/act_jef_aei.asp#

216. Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit: Shaping an Asia-Pacific Century—Challenges and Choices

Date: November 17–19, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia Society; Sejong Institute

A new generation of leaders representing a broad range of disciplines and 23 countries from across the Asia Pacific region and the United States gathered for the Asia Society's 1st Annual Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit. This delegation of young leaders (under 40) examined the role of values-based leadership and developed innovative, shared approaches to address global challenges and the region's most pressing issues. The summit featured breakout sessions, panel discussions, performances, and a live blog, all of which addressed vital issues related to economic development, poverty eradication, universal education, conflict resolution, HIV/AIDS and public health crises, environmental degradation, and human rights.

For information, see: <http://www.asiasociety.org/programs/Asia21/press.html>

http://www.iias.nl/portal/index.php?q=asia_society_asia_21_young_leaders_summit_shaping_an_asia_pacific_century_challenges_and_choices

217. Pursuing Security in a Dynamic Northeast Asia

Date: November 17–18, 2006

Location: Seattle, Washington, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR)

This conference was held to recognize the contributions of Dr. Kenneth Pyle, one of America's foremost experts on Northeast Asia. The meeting was intended to provide a substantive component to the gala events honoring the dedication of the Kenneth B. and Anne H.H. Pyle Center for Northeast Asian Studies at NBR. Through discussion among senior policymakers and leading Asia scholars, the conference sought to identify and analyze the long-term issues that affect the future security architecture and ultimately the stability of Northeast Asia.

For information, see: <http://nbr.org/programs/northeast/PyleCenter/index.htm>

218. China, India, and the United States: Competition for Energy Resources

Date: November 19–21, 2006

Location: Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Organizers/Sponsors: Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research

The Annual Energy Conference of the Center for Strategic Studies of the UAE focused this year on competition for energy resources among China, India, and the United States. More than 100 scholars from China, India, Japan, the United States, and Middle East countries participated in the conference. Participants discussed the relationship between demand outlook and supply potential looking ahead to 2030; China's economic growth and energy security; India's economic development and energy agenda; the US energy strategy; relations between Gulf producers and emerging consumers; Gulf producers' policies; the energy race between China and India, its causes, and potential opportunities for cooperation; energy alliances in the ASEAN+3 region; the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)-Asia-USA triangle of strategic relations; and an assessment of competition from major non-GCC producers, including Iran, Russia, and Venezuela.

For information, see: http://www.cicir.ac.cn/en/info/detail.php?strCode=en_communion&lngID=409
<http://www.ecsr.ac.ae/CDA/en/Activities/ActivitiesListEventMoreInfo/0,1717,2662,00.htm>

219. Regional Seminar on Strengthening the Capacity of National Machineries for Gender Equality to Shape Migration Policies and Protect Migrant Women

Date: November 22–24, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Gender and Development Section

The Gender and Development Section of UNESCAP organized a regional seminar as a follow-up to the High-Level Dialogue of the UN General Assembly that took place on September 14–15, 2006. The meeting explored ways in which national machineries and mechanisms for the advancement of women and gender equality can better influence migration-related policy and law making and address concerns of migrant women. Topics for discussion at the seminar included the social and economic impact of migration; the impact on children left behind as well as those accompanying a parent; brides as migrants; the impact of conflict-related migration on national development in post-conflict peace building and its gender dimensions; displacement due to disasters, environmental degradation, and development projects; protecting women migrants' rights and health; and strategies for addressing migration-related issues at national, regional, and international levels. Participants included academic experts and representatives of national machineries for gender equality, international organizations, and NGOs.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Events/RegSem22-24Nov06/index.asp>

220. 4th East Asia Forum (EAF)

Date: November 22, 2006

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: Council on East Asian Community (CEAC)

The East Asia Forum (EAF) is an international organization established based on proposals in the reports of the East Asia Vision Group and the East Asia Study Group. The Korean government took the initiative and held the 1st EAF in 2003. The EAF assembles business, academia, and government representatives at the Track 1.5 (semigovernmental) level from ASEAN+3 countries and seeks to provide a knowledge base for regional integration in East Asia. The theme of the 4th EAF was "East Asia Integration, Towards Building East Asia Community: Challenges and Prospects." Roughly 100 participants attended, and they were

split into three groups for discussions. The first group, formed by government officials, examined “Common Goals and Future Direction of East Asia”; the academic group dealt with the theme “Ways to Integrate to Build the East Asia Community”; and the business group deliberated on the theme “The Role of Business Circles in East Asia Economic Integration.”

For information, see: http://www.ceac.jp/e/e-exchange_eaf.html

<http://www.mfaic.gov.kh/bulletindetail.php?contentid=2110>

221. APISA International Workshop on Human Security in Asia: Socio-economic Challenges and Policy Options

Date: November 23–24, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA)

Human security is a dimension of international security that has gained increasing importance in international discourse on the subject of what constitutes “security.” This APISA workshop examined and assessed the phenomenon of human security and how it is evolving under pressures of “globalization” and “glocalization”—i.e., local reactions, responses, and adaptations to global processes with a view to defending core values and identities. Participants discussed whether state responses have been adequate in protecting and enhancing human security; whether there should be a greater role for civil society in safe-guarding human security in Asia; how international humanitarian law can assist in sensitizing nations and regimes to this critical dimension of human development; and what the key problems, challenges, and policy options are for the 21st century for Northeast Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.

For information, see: http://www.apisanet.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=40&Itemid=54

222. Building an East Asian Security Community: Challenges and Opportunities

Date: November 24–25, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: University of the Philippines

This conference identified and mapped the current interstate security issues and examined the prospects for security cooperation in various areas among ASEAN+3 countries in order to draw out implications for building an East Asian Community. Fourteen respected security experts from Asia Pacific made presentations at the meeting. The panels focused on the following topics: conceptualization of security communities for East Asia; comparing security perspectives and strategic cultures in East Asia; the impact of great power relations on security community building; exploring security cooperation on traditional and nontraditional security concerns; and the prospective role of external actors in East Asian security cooperation.

For information, see: <http://www.up.edu.ph:16080/~ac/landa.htm>

223. International Conference on Recycling Economy and Sustainable Development

Date: November 24–25, 2006

Location: Shenzhen, China

Organizers/Sponsors: Boao Forum for Asia; Shenzhen Municipal Government

More than 400 officials, entrepreneurs, and scholars from China, the United States, Britain, Japan, and South Korea attended this conference, which sought to learn from successful experiences in recycling and conservation in order to promote the sustainable development of developing Asian countries. The conference participants discussed policy and development trends affecting recycling efforts, as well as research and development in the area of new sources of renewable and clean energy.

For information, see: <http://www.boaoforum.com/xhjj/rc-en.asp>

224. 7th Trilateral Commission Pacific Asia Regional Meeting

Date: November 25–27, 2006

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Trilateral Commission; Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

The Trilateral Commission, founded in 1973, is a nongovernmental forum of leading private citizens from Europe, North America, and Pacific Asia that aims to promote mutual understanding and closer cooperation on common problems facing these three major democratic, industrialized regions of the world. The commission, which operates through three regional secretariats, coordinates task forces on a variety of pressing issues in international affairs. It meets in regional groups as well as in an annual three-day plenary to discuss these studies and to share perspectives on common political, economic, and foreign policy challenges. JCIE serves as the Pacific Asia secretariat.

The Pacific Asia Regional Meeting was held in Bali, where more than 30 participants gathered to discuss such topics as security challenges in East Asia, including the North Korean situation; regional energy security; the implications of new leadership for Japan's foreign policy direction; and the geopolitical implications of the re-emergence of China, Russia, and India.

For information, see: <http://www.trilateral.org/PAGP/REGMTGS/06bali.htm>

225. WTO at the Crossroads: The Challenges Ahead

Date: November 25–26, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC); Asian WTO Research Network; supported by Institute for International Studies and Training (IIST); Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University; Eastern Asia University; International Institute for Trade and Development; Thailand Research Fund; Stockholm Environment Institute

An international symposium entitled "WTO at the Crossroads: The Challenges Ahead" and an APEC workshop were held over a two-day period. Opinions were exchanged with experts from different sectors at the meeting, which constituted the final phase of APEC's Human Resources Development project aiming to promote understanding of the new international architectures in trade and investment, such as FTAs and RTAs. The symposium was divided into five sessions on WTO-related issues such as sustainable development, trade in services, the current status of RTAs, and the new international architecture in trade and investment. Discussions also focused on the feasibility of an APEC-wide FTA and the possible implications for the WTO.

IIST also held a workshop after the symposium, where experts examined and discussed the final report of IIST's APEC project, which had been conducted since 2005.

For information, see: <http://www.iist.or.jp/e/contents/hrd/cb-bangkok-e.html>

226. 5th Asian Public Intellectuals Workshop: Are We Up to the Challenge? Current Crises and the Asian Intellectual Community

Date: November 26–30, 2006

Location: Phuket, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Nippon Foundation

As Asia moves into the 21st century, it faces political, economic, and social challenges that transcend national boundaries. To meet these challenges, the region needs a new pool of intellectuals who are willing to be active in the public sphere and can articulate common concerns and propose creative solutions. In response, the Nippon Foundation, in cooperation with major academic institutions in Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand,

initiated the Nippon Foundation Fellowships for Asian Public Intellectuals (API Fellowship Program). Each year, the fellows gather to share their projects and engage in active discussions.

This year's sessions focused on human rights, ecological destruction and modern resource management, young and old in the modern world, human learning in the contemporary world, bridging tradition and modernity, art in a borderless world, identity and self-determination, self-perception in a changing Southeast Asia, and culture and national pride.

For information, see: <http://www.api-fellowships.org/body/archives.php>

227. 2006 International Energy Conference for Sustainable Asia

Date: November 26–29, 2006

Location: Selangor, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: World Federation of Engineering Organizations

Participants from throughout Asia gathered to discuss energy demand and supply outlooks in Asia, long-term energy technology outlooks, and the potential for new and renewable energy.

For information, see: http://www.wfeo.org/documents/download/2006_IEC_FINAL_Programme.pdf

228. 12th APAP Forum: Development of Trilateral Cooperation among East Asia, North America, and Europe in Global Governance—Prospects and Challenges

Date: November 27–28, 2006

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

The Asia Pacific Agenda Project (APAP) has been a centerpiece of JCIE's Global ThinkNet program since 1996. With funding from Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, JCIE has organized a multinational consortium of policy research organizations and academic institutions that sponsor joint policy research projects and hold workshops, seminars, and an annual forum to discuss their research findings. The 12th APAP Forum focused on the development of trilateral cooperation among East Asia, North America, and Europe in global governance. Participants from each region gathered to assess the level of regional cooperation in East Asia and ways in which interregional relations with Europe and North America can be strengthened. Panels were organized to explore how regional community building can contribute to better governance, what is needed to advance regional community building, the global impact of regionalism, and ways of ensuring that community building can help enhance Asia's contributions to the international community.

For information, see: <http://www.jcie.or.jp/thinknet/apap/>

229. CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Countering the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Asia Pacific

Date: November 27–29, 2006

Location: Danang, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)

In 2004, the Pacific Forum and USCSCAP took the lead in developing the CSCAP WMD Study Group as a vehicle for raising regional consciousness on important issues related to WMD proliferation. Its primary focus is the creation of an Asia Pacific Handbook and Action Plan to Prevent WMD Proliferation. In biannual meetings, the WMD Study Group is also examining regional attitudes toward the Proliferation Security Initiative and other counter-proliferation efforts and regimes, the prospects for the Six-Party Talks and potential means for facilitating the Korean Peninsula denuclearization process, regional threat perceptions and security outlooks, missile proliferation, and ballistic missile defense. Two meetings were held in 2006, in Singapore in March and in Vietnam in November.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.org/new.htm>

230. Expert Group Meeting on Localizing the Millennium Development Goals through Community-Based Monitoring Systems

Date: November 28, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

UNESCAP, in collaboration with the IDRC, organized an Expert Group Meeting on Localizing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through Community-Based Monitoring Systems, which was held in conjunction with the Committee on Poverty Reduction. The meeting brought together prominent experts in this area to discuss the Community-Based Monitoring System as a tool to assess the achievement of the MDGs at the local level and informal sector. The topic of this meeting was related to the agenda items of the Committee on Poverty Reduction, in particular, poverty and the informal sector.

For information, see: http://www.unescap.org/pdd/calendar/EGM_CBMS/index.asp

231. 7th Meeting of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter

Date: November 28–29, 2006

Location: Brunei Darussalam

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN

Following six meetings and extensive consultations with ASEAN heads of state, economic and finance ministers, and civil society organizations, the EPG was expected to iron out the remaining issues at this Brunei meeting and finalize its final report and recommendations, which were to be presented to the ASEAN leaders at the ASEAN Summit in Cebu City, Philippines the following month. Once approved by the leaders, a high-level group of ASEAN experts was to be designated to prepare the ASEAN Charter along the lines and direction set forth in the EPG report.

For information, see: <http://www.aseansec.org/19247.pdf>

232. Committee on Poverty Reduction 3rd Session

Date: November 29–December 1, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

At the 3rd Session of the Committee on Poverty Reduction, members discussed poverty and the informal sector, statistical challenges in assessing the achievement of the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals, strengthening national statistical capacity by promoting the 2010 round of population and housing censuses, and future committee program plans and evaluation. The committee considered draft resolutions and decisions for submission to UNESCAP at its 63rd session.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/pdd/CPR/CPR2006/index.asp>

233. 14th Conference of the East and Southeast Asia Network for Better Local Governments

Date: November 29–December 1, 2006

Location: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Organizers/Sponsors: East and Southeast Asia Network for Better Local Governments; Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

The primary objective of the East and Southeast Asia Network for Better Local Governments (ESEA) is the promotion of innovations in local government management. The network also seeks to actively engage in the promotion of best practices through continued information

exchange and replication mechanisms among network member countries. This 14th meeting of the network included the participation of local administration experts and representatives of ESEA. The theme for the meeting was “Decentralization in the Asia Pacific.”

For information, see: <http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/month-12/year-2006/index.html>
<http://www.logodef.org/esea.htm>

234. 4th Conference of Asian Constitutional Court Judges: Constitutional Jurisdiction between State, Culture, and Religion—Striking the Right Balance

Date: November 29–30, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); hosted by Supreme Court of the Philippines

On the initiative of the KAS, the first conference of Asian Constitutional Court Judges was held in Jakarta in September 2003, followed by meetings in Bangkok (2004) and Ulaanbaatar (2005). The 2006 conference was hosted by the Supreme Court of the Philippines and focused on the balance between different constitutional guarantees. Religious and other cultural influences on the interpretation of those constitutional rights are of special concern. Session themes included “Conflict of Interests between Different Basic Rights,” “Balancing Different Constitutional Values,” “Recent Developments and Important Decisions in Constitutional Matters in Asia,” and “Perspectives for an Asian Conference of Constitutional Courts.”

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-11/veranstaltung_id-23373/index.html

235. Conference on South Asia–East Asia Economic Cooperation and Pan-Asian Integration

Date: November 29–30, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Development Bank (ADB); Singapore Centre for Applied and Policy Economics, National University of Singapore (NUS); Institute of South Asian Studies, NUS; Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS); Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

The first day of this conference focused on the presentation of studies conducted by the ADB on South Asia–East Asia cooperation and potential cooperation in select sectors. The second day’s program was organized by RIS and ISEAS and was devoted to issues in broader economic integration and the agenda of the East Asia Summit. The first session on “Approaches for Pan-Asian Economic Integration” had presentations on the relevance of and approaches for a broader Asian community; Japanese perspectives on a comprehensive economic partnership in East Asia; and ASEAN’s role in fostering pan-Asian economic integration. It was followed by a panel discussion on regional economic cooperation in Asia and an agenda for the East Asia Summit. The conference had the participation of a large number of policymakers, businesspeople, and academics based in Singapore and other Asian countries.

For information, see: <http://www.ris.org.in/>
http://www.ris.org.in/diary_january2007.pdf

236. Strengthening Health Systems for Economic Growth and Achieving MDGs in the Asian and Pacific Region: Expert Group Meeting

Date: November 30–December 1, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The meeting involved detailed discussions among experts in the fields of health economics, health financing, and health systems reform concerning the draft of a technical background paper on the health MDGs. The paper had been prepared by UNESCAP in collaboration with ADB and UNDP. Also discussed was the draft of a document on “Development of Health Systems in the Context of Economic Growth to Achieve MDGs in Asia and the Pacific” for the UNESCAP 63rd Commission Session.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/hds/index.asp>

237. Asia-Europe Environment Forum: Combine or Combust—Cooperating on Chemicals and Hazardous Substances Management

Date: November 30–December 1, 2006

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Organizers/Sponsors: Asia-Europe Environment Forum; Hanns Seidel Foundation; Institute for Global Environmental Strategies; UN Environment Programme (UNEP); Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia

Approximately 50 high-level participants and speakers representing all 38 Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) countries from the research/academia, civil society, industry, and government sectors involved in various aspects of the management of chemicals and hazardous substances participated in this two-day meeting. Participants considered the following questions: What has been done by Asian and European governments with respect to the management of chemicals? How are they incorporating the chemicals portfolio into their current policies? How can Asian and European governments build on their experiences in the management of chemicals prior to the adoption of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management to forge further cooperation and narrow the capacity gap between the two regions? What kind of overall practical framework can Asia and Europe work together to create in the management of chemicals and hazardous substances?

For information, see: http://env.asef.org/Roundtables_ChemicalsandHazardousSubstancesManagement_Introduction.htm

238. Asia-Pacific Conference: East Asian Free Trade Area (EAFTA) and its Basic Framework

Date: November 30–December 1, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Japan Economic Foundation (JEF); Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

This was the fifth meeting of a discussion initiated by the Japan Economic Foundation on the EAFTA. The symposium was quite relevant in light of developments in East Asia cooperation over the preceding 12 months, including FTA agreements between Japan and Malaysia and between Japan and the Philippines. An FTA between Japan and Indonesia had been signed in principle the week before the meeting.

The key question for the meeting participants applied to ASEAN’s role as driver of the EAFTA: Will these bilateral FTAs or EPAs enhance or impede the process toward an EAFTA? Sessions focused on the recent FTA movements in the East Asian region and future prospects toward the EAFTA, Japan’s proposal for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA), and an analysis of the options—an East Asian Community or the EAFTA.

For information, see: http://www.jef.or.jp/en_act/act_asia.asp

239. 2nd East Asian Symposium on Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

Date: November 30–December 1, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: Korean Environmental Economics Association; Ecology Research Center of Dongguk University; Chinese Society for Environmental Economics; Japanese Society of Environmental Economics and Policy Studies; Taiwan Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (TAREA)

The symposium's goals were to (1) facilitate academic cooperation in environmental and natural resource economics in East Asia; (2) discuss and exchange academic experiences and practices on sustainable development in East Asia; (3) promote research cooperation in environmental and natural resource economics in East Asia; and (4) discuss the practical procedures of establishing the East Asia Association of Environmental Economics.

The meeting consisted of two plenary sessions—one focusing on rethinking sustainable development in East Asia and the other on environmental economics in East Asia—and about 12 parallel sessions on such issues as energy and environmental economics, population and sustainability, megacities and pollution, higher education and sustainability, water management, and the theory behind environmental taxes.

For information, see: <http://www.keea.org/>

240. United States Asia Pacific Council 4th Annual Washington Conference: Fundamental Change in Asia and United States Response

Date: November 30, 2006

Location: Washington DC, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: United States Asia Pacific Council (USAPC)

The USAPC held its 4th Annual Washington Conference. A group of distinguished academics, legislators, diplomats, and policy commentators provided insights into how the Asia Pacific's changing security dynamics, political relations, and trade and investment patterns will challenge US policy toward the region in the years ahead. Analysts also considered the implications of the 2006 mid-term Congressional elections on US relations with the region.

For information, see: <http://www.usapc.org/>

<http://www.usapc.org/Resource-Blog/newsletterJan07.pdf>

December

241. Forum on New Politics amidst Rising Expectations in Southeast Asia

Date: December 1, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS); Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

How are Southeast Asians, as peoples and as governments, reacting to a world that increasingly demands politicians to be more open, to better explain policies, and to face critical public opinion? How will these and other changes impact governance in the region? Distinguished speakers from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand presented their views at this seminar on "The New Politics amidst Rising Expectations in Southeast Asia."

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-12/veranstaltung_id-23326/index.html

242. 4th East Asia Congress: East Asian Community Building—Strategic Issues, Critical Imperatives

Date: December 3–5, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

The East Asia Congress is aimed at crystallizing the concept of an emerging East Asian community of peace, prosperity, and progress by providing a platform for dialogue among high government officials, business leaders, scholars, and the media. It is part celebration, part mobilization, and dedicated to formulating initiatives for the future. The 2006 congress focused on “strategic issues and critical imperatives” related to community building. Session topics focused on increasing East Asian political cohesiveness, enhancing East Asian economic integration, and closing the East Asian development gap.

For information, see: http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_fourth

http://www.isis.org.my/html/eaec/eaec_pubs.htm#eaecpub_congress4

243. Addressing Poverty: Pro-Poor Growth and Financial Inclusion in Asia Pacific

Date: December 4–6, 2006

Location: Canberra, Australia

Organizers/Sponsors: Development Studies Network, Australian National University (ANU); Foundation for Development Cooperation; support from ANZ Bank, World Bank, International Centre of Excellence in Asia-Pacific Studies (ANU), UNU-WIDER, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), AusAID, NZAID, and the National Museum of Australia

This international colloquium reviewed new understandings of pro-poor economic growth, community-based economies, and the role of the private sector in contributing to policies and practices that will support the move out of poverty in the Asia Pacific region. Special focus was placed on pro-poor economic models for the Pacific. The colloquium brought together 50 key international researchers working in pro-poor growth—economists, anthropologists, community leaders, development workers, and policymakers from governmental and nongovernmental organizations, UN and regional agencies, and universities.

As an associated event, ODI presented a workshop to provide researchers, policymakers, and development practitioners from the region with an opportunity to learn the latest theory and practical methods for bridging research and policy with a focus on effective economic policy for improving the livelihoods of the very poor.

For information, see: http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/pdf/events/development_studies.pdf

244. Workshop on ASEAN-Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) Regional Capacity Building in Disaster Response and Preparedness

Date: December 4–8, 2006

Location: Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) eCentre; ASEAN

The UNHCR eCentre, in cooperation with the Disaster Management Committee of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), hosted this workshop, which was the initial activity of the three-year ASEAN-Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) Regional Capacity Building Programme. The program seeks to enhance the capacities of ASEAN member countries in disaster risk reduction and disaster response and preparedness.

Participants included senior officials representing all 10 ASEAN countries, the UN, and civil society who are involved in training policies; training planning and programs in disaster response and preparedness; and disaster response policies, programs, and planning

responsibilities. The workshop included short presentations on existing capacity-building programs in participants' countries, allowing for comparison of current practices, identification of gaps, and prioritization of steps toward improving and harmonizing regional capacity-building efforts.

For information, see: <http://www.the-ecentre.net/news/training/index.cfm?fuseaction=view&id=175&type=previous>

245. NEAT Working Group Meeting on an East Asian Cooperation Framework for Migrant Labour

Date: December 6–7, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT); Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

The focus of this one-and-a-half day meeting was on three areas: (1) protection of the rights and fair treatment of migrant workers, (2) control and abatement of unsanctioned migration, and (3) provisions for the orderly repatriation of irregular migrants. All 13 NEAT members are represented in the working group.

For information, see: http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_fourth
http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_05wg05.pdf

246. East Asian Economic Integration and US-Japan Relations

Date: December 6, 2006

Location: Washington DC, USA

Organizers/Sponsors: Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO); Asia Society

East Asian economic integration has progressed significantly as companies have diversified production to take advantage of the region's growth. This process continues to be paralleled by and extended through formal trade negotiations centered on ASEAN. Though there appears to be strong support among states to form a free trade area within the region, there is a lack of consensus on both the substantive scope and geographical boundaries for the area. Additionally, there seem to be divergent approaches on how to go about institutionalizing such an architecture, particularly between Japan and China.

This one-day conference examined the implications of East Asian economic integration, with a particular focus on the potential impact on the United States, Japan, and their bilateral relationship. Speakers also examined the prospects for an East Asian FTA, and presenters offered perspectives from China, Southeast Asia, the United States, and Japan.

For information, see: http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_events/task,view/id,1155/

247. India and China Rising: Issues and Impact on the Global Economy

Date: December 6–7, 2006

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Tokyo Club Foundation for Global Studies

Roughly 30 experts from government, research institutions, and the private sector gathered to consider the impact of the emergence of India and China as economic powers. Sessions looked at India's past and future growth, financial sector reforms and their probable impact, and challenges for developing India's infrastructure. Participants also considered how China might achieve the goals of the 11th five-year plan through reforms, what strategies China should adopt for financing its future development, and the future of China's high-tech industry. Finally, they examined the impact of the two countries on the global economy.

For information, see: <http://www.tcf.or.jp/seminars/2006/20061206-07.html>

248. 2006 ASEAN Business & Investment Seminar

Date: December 7–11, 2006

Location: Cebu, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC)

The 4th ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (ASEAN-BIS) was held on the theme of “One Vision, One Identify, One Community,” with the sub-theme of “One Caring and Sharing Community—Bringing ASEAN Business to the World.” The ASEAN-Business & Investment Summit has been held annually since 2003 and is the ASEAN Business Advisory Council’s (ASEAN-BAC) premier platform for private sector feedback and interaction with the region’s political leaders to facilitate the creation of the ASEAN Economic Community. ASEAN-BIS brings together private and public sector organizations, government representatives, and captains of industry from within and outside ASEAN for dialogue and networking.

For information, see: http://www.asean-bac.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20&Itemid=34

249. 3rd CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Regional Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

Date: December 8–9, 2006

Location: New Delhi, India

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)

The CSCAP Study Group on Regional Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding convened its third and final meeting. Study group members shared a range of national perspectives on issues they felt demanded greater attention at the global, regional, national, and civil society levels. The group identified four such issues and proposed tentative solutions for further consideration: (1) coordination between the region and the United Nations; (2) a greater role for regional organizations; (3) development of a peacebuilding and reconstruction program within the ASEAN Secretariat; and (4) training inconsistencies and lack of communication among the region’s national peacekeeping facilities. Participants discussed such specific issues as the ASEAN monitoring mission in Aceh, and defining exit strategies.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/archives.html>

250. 5th ASEAN People’s Assembly (APA): Towards an ASEAN Community of Caring Societies—The Role of the People in ASEAN Community Building

Date: December 8–10, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

The 5th APA brought together representatives from various civil society groups and think tanks and key policymakers in Southeast Asia and other regions that have an interest in promoting people-oriented development in the process of ASEAN community building. Focused on the theme “Towards an ASEAN Community of Caring Societies—The Role of the People in ASEAN Community Building,” plenary sessions focused on terrorism in Southeast Asia, challenges and future directions for ASEAN, and linking ASEAN leaders with the people. Fifteen panel discussions examined such themes as press and media freedom in Southeast Asia; peace and social conflicts in Southeast Asia; human rights mechanism in Southeast Asia; toward effective observance of the rule of law; environment and energy security in Southeast Asia; human development, health, and poverty in Southeast Asia; and culture and arts in ASEAN.

For information, see: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2006/month-12/veranstaltung_id-20997/index.html

251. Strengthening Asian Economic and Financial Integration

Date: December 8, 2006

Location: Taipei, Taiwan

Organizers/Sponsors: Taiwan Institute of Economic Research (TIER); Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI)

This meeting brought together presenters from Japan and Taiwan to discuss ways of strengthening Asian economic and financial integration. The first session examined the trade and investment relationship among Japan, China, and Taiwan, while the second session focused on prospects for an Asian currency unit.

For information, see: <http://www.rieti.go.jp/en/events/06120801/info.html>

252. 2006 East-West Center Association International Conference: Building an Asia Pacific Community for Sustainable Development

Date: December 8–10, 2006

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: East-West Center Association (EWCA); Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations

More than 500 East-West Center alumni from 36 countries attended the EWC/EWCA International Conference on “Building an Asia Pacific Community for Sustainable Development.” The conference included more than 40 panel discussions ranging from air pollution to Vietnamese-US relations and to infectious diseases.

For information, see: <http://www.eastwestcenter.org/alumni/ewca-conferences/past-conferences/international/2006-hanoi-vietnam/>

253. ASEAN Civil Society Conference (ACSC) 2006

Date: December 10–12, 2006

Location: Cebu, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Solidarity for Asian People’s Advocacy (SAPA)

This three-day conference gathered together more than 300 participants from countries in the ASEAN region and from elsewhere in Asia Pacific, Australia, Europe, Africa, and South America. They came from various civil society groups to discuss issues confronting civil society in the context of ASEAN. The conference served as a platform for tackling the implications and dilemmas of regional integration and was the culmination of a series of national civil society consultations initiated by the SAPA working group.

The event, organized by the SAPA Working Group on ASEAN, examined the theme “Creating a Caring and Sharing Community—Enhancing People’s Participation in Governance and Development.” In addition to panels on the democracy deficit in Southeast Asia and on the ASEAN Charter and the shaping of ASEAN regionalism, participants finalized a statement to be presented to the ASEAN leadership.

For information, see: <http://www.mfasia.org/mfaStatements/2ndACSCprogram.pdf>

254. Workshop on Interdependent Koreas: Engagement for Peace in Bilateral, Regional, and Global Contexts

Date: December 11–12, 2006

Location: Hiroshima, Japan

Organizers/Sponsors: Hiroshima Peace Institute

This was the first workshop for participants in a research project involving Korean, Japanese, Taiwanese, and American scholars who are examining how inter-Korean relations have progressed and what requisites should be met for sustainable peace on the Korean Peninsula. With the expansion of South Korea’s engagement with the North through trade, investment,

and humanitarian aid, North Korea has become more reliant on South Korea in economic affairs. The actors who are involved in this process of engagement are not limited to the two governments but extend to business groups and NGOs. With North Korea's nuclear test, however, inter-Korean relations became increasingly complicated. This project aims at appraising whether or not the original goal of South Korea's engagement policy—i.e., "buying peace"—has been achieved and what the requisites are for the achievement of this goal.

For information, see: <http://serv.peace.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/English/>

255. Shaping the Future: Prospects for Asia's Long-Term Development over the Next Two Decades

Date: December 11–22, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This conference brought together economists from international agencies and research organizations in Asia and elsewhere to discuss Asia's prospects in the next two decades, focusing on the issues of trade, integration, and major development challenges. Sessions focused on the following themes: "Routes for Asia's Trade Integration," "Social Development in the Long Run," "Asia's Commodity Future: Agriculture and Energy," "Catalyzing Growth and Integration," and "Asia's Long-Term Growth and Trade-Country Perspectives."

For information, see: <http://www.adb.org/documents/events/2006/shaping-the-future/default.asp>

256. 2nd Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum

Date: December 11–12, 2006

Location: Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD); Japanese Ministry of the Environment; Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia)

The 1st Regional EST Forum was conducted in Aichi, Japan, in 2005 and resulted in the Aichi Statement. The 2nd Regional EST Forum was held as part of the Better Air Quality (BAQ) 2006 week in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The Regional EST Forum is a joint initiative of UNCRD and the Japanese Ministry of the Environment, which provides a strategic/knowledge platform for sharing experiences and disseminating among Asian countries best practices, policy instruments, tools, and technologies in relation to various aspects of EST. The Regional EST Forum is comprised of (1) high-level government representatives and (2) a subsidiary expert group of international experts in various thematic areas related to EST. Participating countries include the members of ASEAN and Mongolia, China, South Korea, and Japan. The experts of the forum provide strategic guidance to the participating countries in the relevant EST areas, including the formulation of national EST strategies.

For information, see: <http://www.cleanairnet.org/caiasia/1412/article-70544.html>

257. Committee on Emerging Social Issues 3rd Session

Date: December 12–14, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: Emerging Social Issues Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The Asia Pacific region faces new and continuing challenges from global and regional development trends that impact deeply on individuals, families, and communities. Many in this region face barriers to equal participation and full enjoyment of the right to development because of gender, age, disability, income, or other factors. Threats to "human security" (e.g., HIV/AIDS and human trafficking), as well as new regional challenges (e.g., aging populations and international migration) have an impact on overall socioeconomic development.

The Committee on Emerging Social Issues is responsible for helping UNESCAP members in designing and implementing effective policies and strategies to promote equal opportunities for the productive participation of all social groups and the overall improvement of the quality of life. This session featured discussions on regional responses to the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development; population and social integration; gender and development; health and development; program planning and evaluation; and draft resolutions for submission to UNESCAP's 63rd session.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/committee%202006/index.asp>

258. ITU/UNESCAP Joint Regional Workshop on Disaster Communications

Date: December 12–15, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); International Telecommunication Union (ITU); supported by the Australian Government and Rohde & Schwarz GmbH

This regional workshop was part of ITU and ESCAP's respective efforts to build capacity on preparedness for disaster communications, particularly in those countries that are prone to natural disasters. It aimed to provide guidance on technical, policy, and institutional issues in the development of networks, systems, and possible regional cooperation in the future for communications to support disaster management. The event focused on improving rapid responses in emergency situations, especially in least developed, developing, and small island developing states in Asia Pacific. Delegates from member states discussed disaster threats, strategies, and initiatives for improved disaster response and considered what assistance is required to improve disaster management in their countries. Speakers included experts from UN agencies, other international organizations, government agencies, civil society, and telecom companies.

For information, see: <http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2006/dec/g59.asp>

259. 2nd Asia-Pacific IDRL Forum: International Disaster Response Laws, Rules and Principles (IDRL)

Date: December 12–14, 2006

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

The IDRL program organized the second in a series of regional consultations to be held in 2006 and early 2007 in direct preparation for the 30th international conference. As determined at the 28th international conference, the overall purpose of regional forums is to engage in a consensus-building dialogue with major stakeholders involved in disaster response, allowing stakeholders to have direct input into the recommendations that would be submitted for adoption in 2007. The Asia-Pacific Forum was attended by 120 high-level participants, including representatives from national societies, governments, international organizations, corporations, and NGOs, as well as independent experts. Through panel presentations, plenary discussions, and working group sessions, participants explored the current IDRL frameworks at the international and regional levels and analyzed the main operational challenges identified by the different stakeholders involved in disaster response. Participants reflected upon core principles of IDRL and potential legal follow-up action at the international and national levels.

For information, see: http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA0000402.pdf

260. Sentosa Roundtable: No Community Without Contentment—In Search of Pathways to Peace in Asia

Date: December 12–13, 2006

Location: Singapore

Organizers/Sponsors: S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

The Sentosa Roundtable is a three-year-long policy dialogue involving prominent academics, activists, and policymakers on regional community and order in Asia. The first of these roundtables was held in December 2006, sponsored by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation of Japan. An annual forum for exploring new ideas and approaches to the management of peace and security in the region, the roundtable aimed at ascertaining the prospects for, the problems of, and the pathways to security community in Asia. The participants included a group of respected academics and nongovernmental policy experts from the region, former government officials, and Singapore-based analysts. The roundtable concluded that while sources of security have facilitated an emerging sense of community among states in the region, the road to forming a security community in Asia is nonetheless fraught with ample sources of insecurity that could easily breed dissatisfaction and discontentment, possibly leading to competition if not conflict among regional states.

For information, see: <http://se1.isn.ch:80/serviceengine/FileContent?serviceID=PublishingHouse&fileid=5C184CB4-A853-6638-BD63-EC5E8AF9721F&lng=en>
http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/SentosaRoundTableReport.pdf

261. Good Governance in Asia: An Inductive Approach

Date: December 13–14, 2006

Location: Penang, Malaysia

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA); supported by Swedish International Development Agency

Governance is a central issue in contemporary public sector management debates. The debate is in part inspired by findings that some countries consistently perform better than others and the answer, it is suggested, lies in the quality of their public institutions. The implication is that developing countries can promote their own development by adopting “right” institutional reforms. However, the case for governance is not incontrovertible. The star economic performers of Asia in the last several years—China, India, and Vietnam—can hardly be said to have followed standard good governance practices and yet they have prospered. The same can be said of the earlier Asian tigers and cubs. It is arguable that the principles of good governance should be inductively rather than deductively derived. The purpose of the workshop was to examine actual case studies in governing institutions in a range of sectors and countries in Asia with the purpose of drawing policy lessons.

For information, see: http://www.apisanet.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=39&Itemid=54

262. 26th CSCAP Steering Committee Meeting

Date: December 13–14, 2006

Location: Wellington, New Zealand

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP)

CSCAP-New Zealand convened the 26th Steering Committee in Wellington, which included 41 influential and leading thinkers from 18 CSCAP member countries and regional strategic studies think tanks.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/archives.html>

263. 5th UN–Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Issues: Beyond the Stalemate—Revitalizing Efforts to Curb the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Means of Delivery

Date: December 13–15, 2006

Location: Jeju Island, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: United Nations (UN); government of South Korea

Approximately 25 participants from governments, academic and research institutes, and NGOs—mainly from the Asia and the Pacific region—and international organizations attended the 5th UN-ROK Conference on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Issues, participating in their personal capacity. This conference examined the threats and challenges to disarmament and nonproliferation regimes in a global context, including WMD terrorism and how to prevent it, multilateral approaches to sensitive nuclear fuel cycle activities, mechanisms for strengthening export controls, and threats and challenges to disarmament and the nonproliferation regime in the regional context of Northeast Asia.

For information, see: <http://disarmament.un.org/rcpd/jeju2006/jeju2006.html>

264. Better Air Quality (BAQ) 2006

Date: December 13–15, 2006

Location: Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia); Indonesian Ministry of Environment; Yogyakarta Province; Yogyakarta City

BAQ 2006 drew over 1,000 participants from local and national government agencies, academic institutions, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector. Discussions were held on general air quality management; reducing emissions from mobile sources; stationary, area sources, and indoor pollution; and the benefits of climate change mitigation and urban air quality management. Workshops were also held on such issues as the health effects of air pollution in Asia; the impact of climate change on agriculture, biodiversity, food security, and water resources; and initiatives and cooperation to combat regional air pollution. As part of this event, a governmental meeting was held, as was a forum on environmentally sustainable transport.

For information, see: <http://www.cleanairnet.org/baq2006/1757/channel.html>

265. Prospects for Regional FTA(s) in Northeast Asia

Date: December 14, 2006

Location: Seoul, South Korea

Organizers/Sponsors: Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP); Northeast Asian Economic Association of Korea

Korean, Japanese, and Chinese experts gathered to discuss the obstacles and variables entailed in creating regional FTA(s) in Northeast Asia.

For information, see: http://www.kiep.go.kr/eng/seminar_view.asp?num=177305&nowPage=1

266. CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Facilitating Maritime Cooperation in the Asia Pacific: The Roles of Maritime Security Forces

Date: December 15–16, 2006

Location: Wellington, New Zealand

Organizers/Sponsors: Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP)

The first meeting of this newly created CSCAP study group was attended by 25 participants from 15 member CSCAPs and two keynote speakers. The main topic of the meeting was the roles of maritime security forces. The specific objectives were to explore contemporary concepts of maritime security in the Asia Pacific region and the implications for the roles of security forces, the implications of these concepts for regional cooperation, the contributions of maritime security forces to disaster relief and humanitarian assistance, and possible means for enhancing regional cooperation among maritime security forces.

For information, see: <http://www.cscap.ca/archives.html>

267. 2nd Roundtable Discussion on Human Rights in ASEAN: Challenges and Opportunities for Human Rights in a Caring and Sharing Community

Date: December 18–19, 2006

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Organizers/Sponsors: Indonesian Department of Foreign Affairs; Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism

The roundtable was attended by participants representing governments, national human rights institutions, and civil society groups from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, as well as representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, UNESCO, and observers from funding organizations. The roundtable was divided into five sessions covering the following topics: (1) Is ASEAN Making Progress on Human Rights? (2) Efforts to Implement the Human Rights Program Areas of the Vientiane Action Programme; (3) Human Rights and the ASEAN Charter; (4) Networking of National Human Rights Institutions: Efforts to Address Common Human Rights Issues and Concerns; and (5) Plenary Discussion on the Roundtable Conclusions and Recommendations.

For information, see: http://www.aseanhrmech.org/downloads/summary_of_proceedings_final.pdf

268. APISA Workshop: Strengthening Local Governance Capacity for Disaster Preparedness in Asia

Date: December 19–20, 2006

Location: Manila, Philippines

Organizers/Sponsors: Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA)

Asia led all regions in the number of natural disasters it suffered in 2004, accounting for 38 percent of the total. Over the last 30 years, 50 percent of the death toll from disasters came from Asian countries. The UNDP stressed in a 2005 report that better preparation for natural disasters could save millions of lives. This workshop principally aimed to contribute to the reduction of disaster vulnerabilities by generating a research, education, and policy agenda to strengthen local governance capacity for disaster preparedness in Asia. The panels of the workshop included such topics as examinations of local capacity, environmental governance, and disaster preparedness; community participation and vulnerability assessment; local disaster monitoring, hazard mapping, and early warning systems; gender, decentralization, and disaster management; and harnessing ICT for disaster preparedness and education.

For information, see: http://www.apisanet.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=38&Itemid=54

269. Communicating Disasters

Date: December 21–22, 2006

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers/Sponsors: TVE Asia Pacific; UN Development Programme (UNDP)

This regional meeting targeted media professionals, disaster researchers, managers, and development communication specialists from the main tsunami-affected countries in Asia. The event was held on the eve of the disaster's second anniversary. The meeting was organized by TVE Asia Pacific and UNDP. The objective was to focus on the role of media professionals and their use of ICT before, during, and after a disaster; to share lessons learned among media professionals and key players in disaster risk reduction based on the experience of the tsunami disaster; and to come up with guidelines for engaging the mass media and new media for more effective communication before, during, and after disasters. The discussions, findings, and conclusions of the meeting were expected to be published.

For information, see: <http://www.adpc.net/v2007/NEWS/2006/December/Communicating%20Disasters,%2021-22%20Dec,%20Bangkok.asp>

270. International Conference on Developing Vietnam-China “Two Economic Corridors, One Belt” within the ASEAN-China Cooperation Framework

Date: December 22–23, 2006

Location: Hai Phong, Vietnam

Organizers/Sponsors: Centre for ASEAN and China Studies, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences; Hai Phong People’s Committee

The purpose of this conference was to study the role of “two economic corridors, one belt” to develop ASEAN-China cooperation in general and develop Vietnam-China relations in particular. Forty participants from China, Cambodia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam attended this conference. They agreed that there had been great progress over the 15 years since Vietnam-China relations were normalized and the ASEAN-China dialogue relationship was established. Therefore, establishing “two economic corridors, one belt” was seen as an accurate and useful strategy for strengthening Vietnam-China economic cooperation within the ASEAN-China cooperation framework.

For information, see: <http://www.cacs.org.vn/webplus/viewer.asp?pgid=4&aid=162>

Preliminary List of Dialogues (January–June 2007)

January

Inaugural Meeting of the Consortium on Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia)

Date: January 8–9, 2007

Location: Singapore

http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past_conf.html#

<http://www.rsis-ntsasia.org/consortium/inaugural-meeting.html>

US-Japan-China Tri-Lat on Confidence and Security Measures (CSBM)

Date: January 10–11, 2007

Location: Hawaii, USA

http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics_conference.htm#2006

ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers Meeting; Japan-ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting; Foreign Ministers of the EAS Meeting; Japan-CLV Foreign Ministerial Meeting

Date: January 11–12, 2007

Location: Cebu, Philippines

www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/1/0105-3.html

8th East Asian Development Network (EADN) Annual Forum 2006

Date: January 12–13, 2007

Location: Beijing, China

<http://www.eadn.org/2006conference.htm>

ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM); Standing Committee Prep Meeting; ASEAN+3 SOM; ASEAN+3 SEOM; ASEAN-China SOM; ASEAN-Japan SOM & SEOM; ASEAN-ROK SOM & SEOM; ASEAN-India SOM & SEOM; East Asia Summit (EAS) Senior Officials Preparatory Meeting; ASEAN Ministerial Meeting; Final Meeting of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter

Date: January 12–15, 2007

Location: Cebu, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

8th Annual Global Development Conference: The Rise of Asia and its Implications

Date: January 12–19, 2007

Location: Beijing, China

<http://www.eadn.org/2006conference.htm>

7th China-Japan-ROK Summit Meeting

Date: January 14, 2007

Location: Cebu, Philippines

<http://chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/wjdt/2649/t289953.htm>

1st Asia-Pacific Programme for Senior National Security Officers

Date: January 14–20, 2007

Location: Singapore

http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/APPSNO_Conf_Report.pdf

2nd East Asia Summit (EAS)

Date: January 15, 2007

Location: Cebu, Philippines

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/eas/state0701.html>

International Forum on Tsunami and Earthquake: Progress of the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and Recovery from Tsunami and Earthquake

Date: January 15–16, 2007

Location: Kobe, Japan

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/forum0701.html>

APEC SOM I Meeting

Date: January 15–26, 2007

Location: Canberra, Australia

3rd Meeting of Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (JWG-CTTC)

Date: January 16–17, 2007

Location: Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

<http://www.bimstec.org/events.html>

Working Meeting on Evaluation of the Results of East Asia Emergency Rice Research (EAERR) Activities

Date: January 18–19, 2007

Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

Trilateral Workshop by the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Research Institutes

Date: January 19, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.mof.go.jp/english/soken/confer/chinakorea200701.htm>

15th Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum

Date: January 21–26, 2007

Location: Moscow, Russia

<http://www.appf.org.pe/>

Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) Task Force for Multilateralization

Date: January 23, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

ASEM Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: January 23–24, 2007

Location: Berlin, Germany

<http://www.aseinfoboard.org/OfficialsMeetings/SOM/>

ASEAN-EU Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: January 23–24, 2007

Location: Berlin, Germany

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

ASEAN Policy Dialogue on National Occupational Safety and Health Framework

Date: January 23–25, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

ASEM Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: January 24–25, 2007

Location: Berlin, Germany

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

Asian Biotechnology, Innovation and Development Initiative (ABIDI)

Date: January 25, 2007

Location: New Delhi, India

<http://www.ris.org.in/>

4th Asian Senior-Level Talks on Non-proliferation (ASTOP-IV)

Date: January 25–26, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www3.mofa.go.jp/k/news/2007/01/18d.html>

4th ASEAN+3 Oil Market; 5th ASEAN+3 Oil Stockpiling Forums; 6th Senior Officials Meeting on Energy+3 Energy Policy Governing Group (6th SOME+3 EPGG) Meeting; 4th Energy Security Forum

Date: January 25–26, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

ASEAN Defence Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: January 25–26, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

10th ASEF Talks on the Hill: (in)Secure Societies—Redefining Civil Liberties in a Changing Security Environment

Date: January 28–30, 2007

Location: Singapore

http://www.civdialogue.asef.org/TalksontheHill_PastTalks.htm

11th Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM)

Date: January 29–30, 2007

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

1st Meeting of the 38th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (SEOM 1/38) and Consultations; SEOM–European Union; SEOM–Australia

Date: January 29–31, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM)–EU and SEOM–Australia

Date: January 31, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

5th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication

Date: January 31, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

February

China, Korea and Japan Joint Symposium: In Search of New Cooperation and Sub-Regional Identities

Date: February 1–2, 2007

Location: Kyushu, Japan

http://asia.kyushu-u.ac.jp/eng/event/symposium070201-02/seisakuteigen_e/symposium070202e.html

1st Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter

Date: February 5–6, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

2nd Meeting of ARF Experts Eminent Persons (EEPs)

Date: February 5–6, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

2007 Northeast Asia International Conference for Development in Niigata

Date: February 5–7, 2007

Location: Niigata, Japan

<http://www.erina.or.jp/en/Publications/er/pdf/Er75.pdf>

ASEAN-Commonwealth Southeast Asian Policy Dialogue on Response to HIV and AIDS in Non-Health Sectors (Women and Youth)

Date: February 7–8, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

Fostering International Dialogue on Korean Security

Date: February 8–9, 2007

Location: London, UK

www.iiss.org

Six-Party Talks (5th Round, 3rd Session)

Date: February 8–13, 2007

Location: Beijing, China

<http://www.mofat.go.kr/index.jsp>

http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/n_korea/6party/action0702.html

3rd CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Export Controls

Date: February 9–10, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

http://www.cscap.ca/Export_Controls_EG.html

East Asian Democracy and Political Development in China

Date: February 9–10, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/NUSinfo/EAI/Events.htm>

5th CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Countering the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

Date: February 11–13, 2007

Location: San Francisco, USA

http://www.cscap.ca/WMD_SG.html

26th Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force

Date: February 12, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

Nuclear North Korea and the Future of Northeast Asian Security

Date: February 13, 2007

Location: San Francisco, USA

http://www.asiasociety.org/visit/sanfrancisco/nuclear_nk_event.html

ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Workshop on Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540

Date: February 13–15, 2007

Location: San Francisco, USA

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

3R Workshop on Effective Waste Management and Resource Use Efficiency in East and Southeast Asia

Date: February 15–16, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Effective-Waste-Management/default.asp>

Emerging Asian Regionalism: Ten Years after the Crisis

Date: February 19–20, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Emerging-Asian-Regionalism/default.asp>

Friends of the Helsinki Process Workshop on Human Trafficking: Enhancing Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships and International Cooperation

Date: February 22, 2007

Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand

<http://www.mfa.go.th/web/35.php?id=17943>

Advancing East Asian Economic Integration: The Institutional and Financial Foundations of Economic Growth and Integration in East Asia

Date: February 22–23, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.eaber.org/intranet/publish/Public/events.php>

[http://www.fpritraining.com/BKK_Conf/Summary/Seminar%20Summary%20BKK%20Conference%20\(Eng\).pdf](http://www.fpritraining.com/BKK_Conf/Summary/Seminar%20Summary%20BKK%20Conference%20(Eng).pdf)

3rd ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); Meeting of Working Group on the Zone of Peace Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN); Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ)

Date: February 25–26, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

6th ASEAN-Japan Committee on Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCCEP)

Date: February 25–28, 2007

Location: Boracay, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

11th Heads of Specialist Anti-Trafficking Units Meeting

Date: February 26, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

http://www.artipproject.org/artip/02_recentnews/recent_news.html

3rd ASEAN-Japan Aviation Security Meeting

Date: February 26–27, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

2nd ASEAN Workshop on Control and Eradication of HPAI in ASEAN

Date: February 26–27, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

11th Meeting of the Heads of Specialist Trafficking Units (HSU); 1st Regional Project Coordinating Committee (RPCC) Meeting for the Asia Regional Trafficking in Persons (ARTIP) Project

Date: February 26–28, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

6th Asia-Europe Young Parliamentarians' Meeting

Date: February 26–March 2, 2007

Location: The Hague, Netherlands

<http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=199>

ASEAN Capital Market Forum

Date: February 27, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

Economic Cooperation between the Russian Far East and Asia-Pacific Countries

Date: February 27–28, 2007

Location: Khabarovsk, Russia

Managing Porous Borders in Southeast Asia: Building International Cooperation, Good Governance, and Inter-agency Cooperation

Date: February 28–March 2, 2007

Location: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics_conference.htm#2006

Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) Task Force for Multilateralization

Date: February 28, 2007

Location: Pattaya, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

2nd Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter

Date: February 28–March 1, 2007

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

March

Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) Working Groups Meeting

Date: March 1, 2007

Location: Pattaya, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

ASEAN Foreign Ministers Retreat

Date: March 1–2, 2007

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26

East and Southeast Asia MDG Forum

Date: March 1–2, 2007

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.mdgasiapacific.org/index.php?q=node/95>

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) Retreat

Date: March 1–2, 2007

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

The Expansion of China and India: Impact and Consequences for Japan, UK, and the World Economy

Date: March 2, 2007

Location: London, England

http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/files/7143_020307prog.pdf

8th ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Trade Negotiating Committee Meeting

Date: March 4–9, 2007

Location: Wellington, New Zealand

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

Sub-regional Ministerial Meeting on Counter-Terrorism

Date: March 5–6, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26&vid=424

The Strategic Mapping Session and 27th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (27th AWGIPC)

Date: March 5–10, 2007

Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

Expert Workshop on Security Sector Reform: Lessons to Be Learned from Northeast and Southeast Asia

Date: March 7–9, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.fesspore.org/templates/fes/pdf/home/ssr.pdf>

1st ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting

Date: March 7–9, 2007

Location: Port Dickson, Malaysia

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

RSIS Conference: Living with China—Dynamic Interactions between Regional States and China

Date: March 8–9, 2007

Location: Singapore

http://www.ntu.edu.sg/rsis/publications/conf_reports.html

Workshop on Strengthening the Role of Southeast Asian Parliaments in Security Policy Review

Date: March 9–11, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.fesspore.org/templates/fes/pdf/home/nsp.pdf>

Tokyo Workshop on Small Arms and Light Weapons

Date: March 12–13, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

9th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM); 2nd Regional Workshop on the Establishment of the AHA Centre; 1st ACDM+3 Senior Officials Meeting

Date: March 12–15, 2007

Location: Vientiane, Laos

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

8th Project Steering Committee Meeting for East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve (EAERR) Pilot Project

Date: March 13–14, 2007

Location: Bali, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

16th ASEAN-European Union Ministerial Meeting (AEMM)

Date: March 14–15, 2007

Location: Nuremberg, Germany

http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26&vid=430

ASEAN-EU Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting

Date: March 14–15, 2007

Location: Nuremberg, Germany

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

26th ASEAN-China Trade Negotiating Committee (ACTNC) Meeting (incl. meetings of Working Groups on Services and Investment)

Date: March 14–16, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

ASEAN+3 Research Group Meeting

Date: March 15, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

1st Meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Agricultural Cooperation

Date: March 15–16, 2007

Location: Myanmar

<http://www.bimstec.org/events.html>

2nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Education (ASED)

Date: March 16, 2007

Location: Bali, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

4th Meeting of the Governing Board of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)

Date: March 16–17, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

PECC Pacific Economic Outlook (PEO)/ State of the Region (SOTR) Meeting

Date: March 17–18, 2007

Location: Osaka, Japan

8th ASEAN-China Joint Cooperation Committee (ACJCC)

Date: March 19–21, 2007

Location: Brunei Darussalam

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

Six-Party Talks (6th Round, 1st Session)

Date: March 19–22 and July 18–20, 2007

Location: Beijing, China

<http://www.mofat.go.kr/index.jsp>

http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/n_korea/6party/press0707.html

15th ASEAN-India Trade Negotiating Committee (AITNC)

Date: March 20–22, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

High-Level Policy Dialogue on Regional Cooperation for Infrastructure Development and Financing in Asia-Pacific

Date: March 21–22, 2007

Location: New Delhi, India

http://www.unescap.org/pdd/calendar/infrastructure/infrastructure_mar07.asp

Asian Space Conference 2007

Date: March 21–23, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://pdcc.ntu.edu.sg/ASC2007/>

2nd Meeting of the Senior Officials on the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters

Date: March 22, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

12th Senior Officials Meeting of the Northeast Asia Subregional Programme for Environment Cooperation (NEASPEC)

Date: March 22–23, 2007

Location: Beijing, China

<http://www.neaspec.org/som12.asp>

ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting Retreat

Date: March 23–25, 2007

Location: Bali, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

Special ASEAN Directors-General Meeting

Date: March 25–27, 2007

Location: Davao, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

5th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth; 1st ASEAN+3 Ministerial Meeting on Youth; 2nd ASEAN+China Ministerial Meeting on Youth

Date: March 26–27, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

APEC Energy Working Group

Date: March 26–30, 2007

Location: Auckland, New Zealand

Economic Reform and Regional Cooperation in East Asia

Date: March 27, 2007

Location: Beijing, China

<http://www.eaber.org/intranet/publish/Public/Publications.php>

Meeting between the High-Level Task Force (HLTF) on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter and Civil Society and Other Stakeholders

Date: March 27–29, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

3rd Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter

Date: March 27–29, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials Meeting of the 38th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (2/38 SEOM) and Consultations

Date: March 27–29, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

IFANS Workshop for Northeast Asian Foreign Ministers on Confrontation Strategy

Date: March 28, 2007

Location: Seoul, South Korea

<http://www.ifans.go.kr/eng/research/research/index.jsp>

ARF Defense Officials Dialogue

Date: March 28, 2007

Location: Helsinki, Finland

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ISG on CBMs and PD)

Date: March 28–30, 2007

Location: Helsinki, Finland

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

23rd ASEAN Business Advisory Council Meeting

Date: March 29–30, 2007

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

Senior Economic Officials Meeting Plus Three Consultations (SEOM+3); Senior Economic Officials Meeting–Ministry of Commerce of China Consultations (SEOM-MOFCOM); Senior Economic Officials Meeting–Ministry of Economic, Trade and Industry Consultations (SEOM-METI) Manila; Senior Economic Officials Meeting–Republic of Korea Consultations (SEOM-ROK); Senior Economic Officials Meeting–Closer Economic Relations Consultations (SEOM-CER); Senior Economic Officials Meeting–India Consultations (SEOM-India); Senior Economic Officials Meeting–Canada Consultations (SEOM-Canada); Senior Economic Officials Meeting -ERIA Representatives Meeting

Date: March 30–31, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

April

Workshop on Aid Effectiveness and Gender Equality in Southeast Asia

Date: April 2–3, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:21276397~menuPK:64256349~pagePK:2524753~piPK:51421526~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

5th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Asia Pacific Leadership Forum on HIV/AIDS and Development (APLF)

Date: April 2–3, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

ASEAN-US ICM

Date: April 2–3, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

Regional Meeting for Asian Global Compact Focal Points

Date: April 2–4, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/agc_focalpt.asp

ASEAN Finance Ministers Retreat (AFMM Retreat); ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meeting (AFDM+3)

Date: April 4, 2007

Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

19th Meeting of the ASEAN Crisis Communication Team

Date: April 5, 2007

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

11th ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting (AFMM)

Date: April 5, 2007

Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

Meeting of the Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT) Working Group on East Asian Financial Cooperation

Date: April 7–8, 2007

Location: Shanghai, China

http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_05wg02.pdf

4th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter

Date: April 9, 2007

Location: Yangon, Myanmar

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

11th High Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration

Date: April 9–10, 2007

Location: Yangon, Myanmar

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

17th ASEAN-Korea Trade Negotiating Committee (AKTNC)

Date: April 9–13, 2007

Location: Seoul, South Korea

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

Workshop of the Panel of ASEAN Experts on Fire and Haze Assessment and Coordination

Date: April 9–13, 2007

Location: Palembang, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

Asian ASEM Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: April 12–13, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

1st CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Oceania

Date: April 15–17, 2007

Location: Wellington, New Zealand

http://www.cscap.ca/Oceania_SG.html

US-Japan-ROK Relations for the 21st Century

Date: April 16–18, 2007

Location: Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights_v07n05.pdf

7th ASEAN-Japan Committee on Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCCEP) (incl. Meeting of the Working Group on ROO)

Date: April 16–19, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

APEC SOM II Meeting

Date: April 16–24, 2007

Location: Adelaide, Australia

APEC Second Track Dialogue

Date: April 17, 2007

Location: Canberra and Melbourne, Australia

http://www.apec.org.au/docs/07_AIIA_ASTPD.pdf

Energy Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific

Date: April 17–19, 2007

Location: Japan

<http://www.apcss.org/core/Conference/Conference%20Future%20Summary.htm>

2007 APEC Study Centre Consortium Conference

Date: April 18–20, 2007

Location: Melbourne, Australia

http://www.apec.org.au/event_list2.asp?type=conf

Regional Seminar on Anticorruption

Date: April 18–20, 2007

Location: Beijing, China

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Regional-Seminar-Anticorruption/default.asp>

Boao Forum for Asia 2007: Asia Searching for Win-Win

Date: April 19, 2007

Location: Boao, Hainan Province, China

<http://www.boaoforum.org/Html/home-en.asp>

5th Meeting of the High Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter (HLTF)

Date: April 19–20, 2007

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

Ten Years after the Asian Crisis: Assessing the Economic and Political Landscape in Southeast Asia

Date: April 19–21, 2007

Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia

<http://www.fesspore.org/templates/fes/pdf/home/asiancrisis.pdf>

3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials of the 38th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (SEOM 3/38)

Date: April 21–23, 2007

Location: Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

1st CSCAP Study Group on Asia Pacific Cooperation for Energy Security

Date: April 23–24, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.cscap.ca/Energy%20Security%20SG%20-%201st%20Meeting%20Report.pdf>

Collective Security in Space: Asian Perspectives

Date: April 23–24, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.rips.or.jp>

<http://www.gwu.edu/~spi/>

13th ASEAN-China Senior Officials Consultations (SOC); ASEAN-China Senior Officials Meeting on DOC

Date: April 23–25, 2007

Location: Huangshan, China

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

3rd Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Environment Ministers Meeting

Date: April 23–26, 2007

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark

<http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/MinisterialMeetings/?id=196>

Expert Meeting on the Pilot ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food (ARASF)

Date: April 24–25, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

6th Meeting of ASEAN Task Force on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (ATF-HPAI)

Date: April 24–25, 2007

Location: Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

1st Meeting of the ASEAN Social Forestry Network

Date: April 24–26, 2007

Location: Semarang, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

11th ASEAN-India Working Group Meeting; 9th Meeting of the ASEAN-India Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC)

Date: April 25–26, 2007

Location: Calcutta, India

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

Strategic Visions for US-China-Japan Relations

Date: April 25–27, 2007

Location: Nanjing, China

<http://www.csis.org/pacfor/programs/>

Expert Group Meeting on Regional Strategies for Implementing the Recommendations from the Secretary-General's In-depth Study on All Forms of Violence against Women

Date: April 26–27, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Events/EGM-VAW2007/index.asp>

Regional Perceptions of Asian Powers for Global Change

Date: April 26–27, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.fesspore.org/templates/fes/pdf/home/asianpowers.pdf>

3rd Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines–East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) Darwin Dialogue

Date: April 26–27, 2007

Location: Darwin, Australia

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

ARF Seminar on UN Peacekeeping: Challenges and Prospects

Date: April 26–28, 2007

Location: New Delhi, India

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

Meeting of the Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT) Working Group on Energy Security Cooperation in East Asia

Date: April 27, 2007

Location: Singapore

http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_05wg06.pdf

Building Multi-party Capacity for a WMD-Free Korean Peninsula

Date: April 27, 2007

Location: Beijing, China

<http://www.ifpa.org/confwrkshp/Beijing0407.htm>

9th ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: April 28, 2007

Location: Calcutta, India

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>

17th General Meeting of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC)

Date: April 29–May 2, 2007

Location: Sydney, Australia

<http://www.crawfordev.anu.edu.au/events/calendar/more.php?day=29/04/07&id=2504>

May

ASEAN Ad Hoc Experts Meeting on Anti-Corruption

Date: May 1–2, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

ASEAN Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) Consultative Forum on Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development

Date: May 2–4, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.tei.or.th/tbcsd/reports/20070502-04-ASEAN%20CSO%20meeting%20Report.pdf>

5th ARF Inter-sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ISM on CTTC)

Date: May 2–4, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

Senior Economic Officials Meeting–European Union Consultations (SEOM-EU); Senior Economic Officials Meeting–Ministry of Economic, Trade & Industry (SEOM-METI); ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) Retreat; ASEAN Economic Ministers–European Union Consultations (AEM-EU); Informal ASEAN Economic Ministers–Ministry of Economic, Trade and Industry (AEM-METI)

Date: May 2–4, 2007

Location: Brunei Darussalam

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

ASEAN Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) Consultative Forum on Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development

Date: May 2–4, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

Asian Development Bank (ADB) 40th Annual Meeting

Date: May 3–6, 2007

Location: Kyoto, Japan

<http://www.adb.org/AnnualMeeting/2007/program-events.asp>

ASEAN-European Commission Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) Meeting

Date: May 4, 2007

Location: Brussels, Belgium

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

14th ASEAN-ISIS Colloquium on Human Rights (AICOHR)

Date: May 4–5, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.isdsphilippines.org/conferences.htm>

ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Deputies; 10th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Meeting

Date: May 4–5, 2007

Location: Kyoto, Japan

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

Seminar on Energy Cooperation among Northeast Asian Countries

Date: May 9, 2007

Location: Seoul, South Korea

<http://www.ifans.go.kr/eng/research/research/index.jsp>

Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM)–Canada Consultations; ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Meeting

Date: May 9–12, 2007

Location: Ottawa, Canada

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

International Conference on Transparency and Governance

Date: May 10–11, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/CAG/index.htm>

Meeting between the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter and Senior Officials Attending the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Coordination Conference (SOC-COM)

Date: May 14–15, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

2nd SEAWUN Convention on Management Capacity Building and Performance Improvements for Southeast Asian Water Utilities

Date: May 14–16, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.adb.org/water/SEAWUN/2007/2nd-convention/default.asp>

BIMSTEC Sub-Group Meeting on Combating and Financing Terrorism

Date: May 15–16, 2007

Location: Phuket, Thailand

<http://www.bimstec.org/events.html>

5th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Conference on Counterterrorism

Date: May 15–16, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=206>

5th ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting (SLOM)

Date: May 15–16, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

The 10th Anniversary of the Asian Financial Crisis: Lessons Learned, Critical Assessments, and Charting the Path Forward

Date: May 16, 2007

Location: Washington DC, USA

http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=events.events&themonth=&theyear=2007&imageField.x=9&imageField.y=11&x_owner_info=1462%2Ctopics&topic_id=

1st EC-ASEAN Consultation on Labour Migration and Social Policy

Date: May 16, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

Maritime Security Conference—The South China Sea: The Long Road Towards a Cooperative Management Regime

Date: May 16–17, 2007

Location: Singapore

http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past_conf.html#

17th Asian Corporate Conference—Coming Together, Moving Ahead: Asian Economies Lead through Integration and Innovation

Date: May 16–18, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.asiasociety.org/conference07/agenda.html>

5th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter

Date: May 17–19, 2007

Location: Penang, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

Asia-Pacific Business Forum (APBF) 2007: At the Crossroads between Asia and Europe: Harnessing the Possibilities of Central Asia

Date: May 18–19, 2007

Location: Almaty, Kazakhstan

<http://www.unescap.org/tid/apbf/index.asp>

Economic Integration in East Asia and its Implications for Japan and the United States

Date: May 21, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.kkc.or.jp/english/activities/index.html>

12th Head of Specialist Anti-Trafficking in Persons Unit (HSU)

Date: May 21, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

ASEAN Working Group on Security Cooperation

Date: May 22, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN WEN)

Date: May 22–23, 2007

Location: Bogor, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: May 22–23, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

ASEAN Workshop on Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons

Date: May 22–25, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

ASEAN Workshop on Small Arms Control

Date: May 22–25, 2007

Location: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

ASEAN Defense Officials Dialogue

Date: May 23, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

[http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/
tabid/66/Default.aspx](http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx)

63rd Session of ESCAP: Consultative Meeting among Executive Heads of Sub-regional Organizations and ESCAP

Date: May 23, 2007

Location: Almaty, Kazakhstan

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

<http://www.unescap.org/63/ConsultativeMeeting.asp>

5th Asia-Europe Roundtable (AER): Sustaining the Peace through Post-conflict Reconstruction

Date: May 23–25, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.fesspore.org/>

3rd ARF Security Policy Conference

Date: May 24, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

[http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/
tabid/66/Default.aspx](http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx)

Senior Economic Officials Meeting–Pakistan Consultations (SEOM-Pakistan); Senior Economic Officials Meeting–Russia Consultations (SEOM-Russia); Senior Economic Officials Meeting–AUSTR Consultations (SEOM-AUSTR); Senior Economic Officials Meeting–EU Consultations (SEOM-EU)

Date: May 24, 2007

Location: Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

ASEAN+3 Senior Officials Meeting (ASEAN+3 SOM)

Date: May 24, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

Asia Competitiveness Forum: Competitiveness Research and Education

Date: May 24–25, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/ACI/index.htm>

The Future of Asia 2007—13th Nikkei International Conference

Date: May 24–25, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.nni.nikkei.co.jp/FR/NIKKEI/inasia/future/2007/>

ASEAN-China Workshop on Poverty Reduction for Officials of ASEAN+3

Date: May 24–30, 2007

Location: Nanjing and Guilin, China

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

ARF Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Date: May 25, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/PublicLibrary/ARFChairmansStatementsandReports/tabid/66/Default.aspx>

Joint Experts Working Group on Trafficking in Persons

Date: May 25, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

8th Asia Pacific Migration Research Network International Conference

Date: May 26–29, 2007

Location: Fuzhou, Fujian Province, China

http://www.no-trafficking.org/inet_eventcalendar/event_detail.aspx?event_id=90

APEC 8th Energy Ministerial Meeting

Date: May 27–30, 2007

Location: Darwin, Australia

HIV and AIDS Global Media Strategies

Date: May 28, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aibd.org.my/initiatives/amai/>

2nd Regional Consultation for Developing the GMS Energy Strategy

Date: May 28–29, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Second-Regional-Consultation-GMS/default.asp>

8th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Foreign Ministers Meeting

Date: May 28–29, 2007

Location: Hamburg, Germany

http://www.eu2007.de/en/News/Press_Releases/May/0530AAASEM.html

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

Regional Biosecurity Workshop

Date: May 28–30, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/CAG/index.htm>

ASEAN Working Group on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (AWGMEA's) Clusters Meetings; 11th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (AWGMEA); ASEAN-READI Dialogue on Climate Change

Date: May 28–31, 2007

Location: Vientiane, Laos

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

26th Session of the Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement

Date: May 29–30, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/ba26th.asp>

5th Focal Point Meeting for ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Project

Date: May 30–31, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

8th Session of the UN Secretary-General's Advisory Board: Asian Dialogue on Water and Sanitation

Date: May 31–June 1, 2007

Location: Shanghai, China

<http://www.adb.org/documents/events/2007/UNSGAB/8th-session/default.asp>

June

6th IISS Asia Security Conference: The Shangri-La Dialogue

Date: June 1–3, 2007

Location: Singapore

http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past_conf.html#

<http://www.iiss.org/conferences/the-shangri-la-dialogue>

East Asia Roundtable 2007: Community Building in Diversity

Date: June 2–4, 2007

Location: Kyoto, Japan

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/eng/newsletter/fall2007/page11.shtml>

Public Diplomacy in Japan and the Asia Pacific

Date: June 3, 2007

Location: Canberra, Australia

<http://www.crawfordev.anu.edu.au/events/calendar/more.php?day=06/03/07%2009:15&id=2483>

27th CSCAP Steering Committee Meeting

Date: June 4, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_recent

27th Meeting of Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force

Date: June 4, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

6th Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Foreign Ministers Meeting

Date: June 4–5, 2007

Location: Seoul, South Korea

<http://www.mofat.go.kr/index.jsp>

2nd ASEM HIV/AIDS Workshop

Date: June 4–5, 2007

Location: Stockholm, Sweden

<http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=208>

21st Asia Pacific Roundtable

Date: June 4–8, 2007

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_recent

3rd Green Growth Policy Dialogue: The Greening of Business and the Environment as a Business Opportunity

Date: June 5–7, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.greengrowth.org/GG2007/gg07-index.asp>

ASEAN Economic Community Coordinating Conference (ECOM)

Date: June 7–8, 2007

Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

Meeting of the Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT) Working Group on Enhancement of East Asian Cultural Exchange

Date: June 7–9, 2007

Location: Jeonju, Jeollabuk-do Province, South Korea

http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_05wg04.pdf

Preliminary Workshop on Malacca-Singapore Straits on the Enhancement of Safety of Navigation and the Environmental Protection of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore

Date: June 11–12, 2007

Location: Singapore

http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past_conf.html#

Ten Years after the Asian Crisis: Evolving East Asian Financial System and Challenges Ahead

Date: June 12, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.mof.go.jp/jouhou/sokei/kenkyu/h19/adbi070612/e.htm>

2nd Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Development Cooperation Forum (IDCF)

Date: June 12, 2007

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

Pacific Health Summit 2007

Date: June 12–14, 2007

Location: Seattle, USA

<http://pacifichealthsummit.org/downloads/Summit%202007/Report.pdf>

18th ASEAN-Korea Trade Negotiating Committee (AKTNC)

Date: June 12–15, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

21st Pacific Science Congress

Date: June 12–18, 2007

Location: Okinawa, Japan

<http://www.pacificscience.org/>

Meeting of the Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT) Working Group on Overall Architecture of Community Building in East Asia

Date: June 13–14, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/070613program.pdf>

3rd Working Group Meeting on Energy Planning and Policy

Date: June 14–15, 2007

Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand

<http://www.unescap.org/esd/energy/dialogue/cooperation/epp3/index.asp>

5th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC)

Date: June 14–15, 2007

Location: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

8th ASEAN-Japan Committee on Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP)

Date: June 14–16, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/6/1173998_850.html

Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict Asia-Pacific Inter-Regional Forum

Date: June 15, 2007

Location: Da Nang, Vietnam

<http://www.gppac.net/page.php?id=1505#par1713>

Trilateral Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of China, Japan, and Korea

Date: June 17–18, 2007

Location: Jeju, South Korea

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/eas/report0711.pdf>

3rd Task Force on Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) Multilateralization

Date: June 18, 2007

Location: Dalian, China

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

14th Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Ministerial Conference

Date: June 19–21, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/14th-Ministerial-Conference/MM-SOM-Chair-Report-on-GMS-POA.pdf>

3rd ASEM Interfaith Dialogue

Date: June 19–21, 2007

Location: Nanjing, China

<http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=200>

3rd Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution

Date: June 20, 2007

Location: Jambi, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

20th ASEAN-US Dialogue

Date: June 21, 2007

Location: Washington DC, USA

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

APEC SOM III Meeting

Date: June 22–July 3, 2007

Location: Queensland, Australia

http://www.apec.org/webapps/events_calendar/events_calendar.php

Sharing Experiences on Implementing Biotechnology and Biosafety Policies and Regulations

Date: June 23–27, 2007

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Biotechnology-Biosafety-Policies/default.asp>

World Economic Forum on East Asia 2007: The Leadership Imperative for an Asian Century

Date: June 24–25, 2007

Location: Singapore

<http://www.weforum.org/en/events/ArchivedEvents/WorldEconomicForumonEastAsia2007/index.htm>

RSIS Conference: The Asian Financial Crisis 10 Years Later: What Have We Learned?

Date: June 25–26, 2007

Location: Singapore

http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past_conf.html#

APEC 12th Women Leaders' Network Meeting

Date: June 25–27, 2007

Location: North Queensland, Australia

http://www.ofw.facs.gov.au/apec_wln/index.htm

7th Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) and its Related Meetings

Date: June 25–28, 2007

Location: Vientiane, Laos

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

Meeting of the Working Group of the Executive Committee of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Commission

Date: June 26, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

Asia Clean Energy Forum: Policy and Finance Solutions for Energy Security and Climate Change

Date: June 26–28, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Asia-Clean-Energy-Forum/default.asp>

7th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter

Date: June 26–28, 2007

Location: Bali, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

ASEAN Four Meeting on Human Rights

Date: June 28, 2007

Location: Bali, Indonesia

<http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/asean-four-signs-declaration-of-cooperation.html>

Ten Years After: Learning From the Asian Financial Crisis—Are Prevention Mechanisms Sufficient to Avoid Another Financial Crisis?

Date: June 29, 2007

Location: Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.rieti.go.jp/en/events/07062901/info.html>

Ad Hoc Consultations of East Asia Summit (EAS) Senior Officials; Meeting with Working Group for ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism; Meeting of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Commission; ASEAN Ministers Meeting (AMM) Informal Working Dinner

Date: June 29, 2007

Location: Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

Research Projects

The following is a list of research projects that were identified as being conducted by scholars from the Asia Pacific region during 2006 on topics that are relevant to East Asian regionalism and security, broadly defined. It should be noted that because the publicly available information on research projects is limited, and because we only picked up projects that were discrete projects—as opposed to a research institute’s broad, ongoing areas of research interest—conducted by more than one researcher, the list is fairly limited.

1. ARTNeT Regional Study on Services Trade Liberalization

UNESCAP ARTNeT; Lead research institution: Institute for Policy Research and Development (IPRAD), Nepal
2006

Description: This UNESCAP project examines a key area of economic activity in today’s economies—trade in services. To date there has been little research on services trade in developing countries (especially empirical research by their own research institutions and teams). Accordingly, this study consisted of a comparative study of the banking and insurance sectors in Nepal, Bangladesh, and Malaysia, complemented by an examination of financial services liberalization in the EU to derive lessons for ASEAN and the Asia Pacific region. This comparative study analyzed the impact of policies implemented in the financial sector in the above-mentioned three countries, taking ownership issues into special account. The positive experience of the EU in financial liberalization and the factors that made it possible were then reviewed, underscoring the difficulties that accompanied the liberalization process and highlighting possible ways to make the path to regional financial liberalization smoother.

Funding: Grant from the International Trade Development Research Centre (Ottawa, Canada); financial support from the WTO

Website: <http://www.artnetontrade.org/>

2. ARTNeT Study on Trade Facilitation

UNESCAP ARTNeT
2004–2006

Description: The first year of this ARTNeT research project focused on the cost of and need for selected trade facilitation measures being discussed by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation. Five country studies were conducted as well as one international expert survey on the cost of implementation of selected trade facilitation measures. The second year of research focused on trade facilitation beyond the negotiations, in particular (1) trade facilitation and regional integration, (2) customs valuation and implementation of the related WTO agreement, and (3) trade facilitation and logistics services liberalization.

Related Events: A UNDP/UNESCAP ARTNeT regional consultative meeting of researchers and policymakers on trade facilitation was held in August 2006.

Output: Papers were edited and published by UNESCAP, in cooperation with UNDP, in a book entitled *Trade Facilitation beyond the Multilateral Trade Negotiations: Regional Practices, Customs Valuation and other Emerging Issues*.

Website: <http://www.artnetontrade.org/>

3. Research Programme on an Asian Economic Community, Phase 3

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India
2006–2009

Description: In the first two phases of the Research Programme on the Asian Economic Community (2001–2003 and 2003–2006), a proposal for an Asian Economic Community was developed, and its relevance and potential was established and discussed with the policy think tanks of the region. In light of the subsequent launch of the East Asia Summit (EAS), combining all the major Asian economies, the focus of the third phase (2006–2009) is on supporting the EAS process. Studies are being conducted on the roadmap for the community-building process and for delineating the contours and key features of the program of regional cooperation in Asia. The think tank network will be further strengthened, and the policy dialogue will be extended to politicians and business leaders in the region.

Three working groups have been formed to conduct research targeting political and financial groups: (1) political constraints on the realization of an Asian Economic Community; (2) current and future states of regional specializations in the areas of investment, trade, and transportation; and (3) system development for the introduction of a common currency in an Asian Economic Community.

Related Events: Roundtable discussion—December 2006 in Singapore

Output: RIS will interview politicians and industrial managers. The results of the interviews and the research will be released on the web, in regular journals, and as project reports.

Funding: Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Website: <http://www.ris.org.in/>

4. A China-Japan-Korea Triologue in Northeast Asian Security

Institute of East Asia Studies (IEAS), Korea

2006–2007

Description: With the goal of promoting a “trialogue” between the key actors in Northeast Asia—Japan, China, and Korea—this project aimed to develop possible strategies to solve national security problems by organizing collaborative research groups with researchers from the private sector and by conducting attitude surveys with 90 security experts including policy planners, scholars, and researchers from the three countries. IEAS formed a core group of 10 members, including 3 researchers from each country, and organized core group meetings to prepare a questionnaire (June 2006), to discuss the survey results and other topics (December 2006), and to discuss the next year’s activities (March 2007). The survey was conducted twice on each of the following subjects: (1) politics and military topics; (2) economic topics, including the possibility of a free trade agreement among the three countries; and (3) historic and social topics. Additional interviews were conducted by the core group members.

Related Events: A Northeast Asia Security Symposium was held in February 2007 in Tokyo to report the results of the attitude survey.

Funding: Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund

Website: http://www.spf.org/e/project/2006/a3_08e.html

5. Comparative Study of the Development of Regional Bond Markets

Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; Project coordinator: Sun Jie

2006

Description: The Institute of World Economics and Politics conducted a study of national bond markets that examined the macro and micro factors, the market environment, and the legal environment that affect corporate financing decisions and that affect the development of the bond markets. The project also analyzed the development problems of the regional bond markets. The project mainly adopted the method of comparative study, supplemented by statistical data for illustrative and descriptive purposes.

Website: <http://en.iwep.org.cn/Corporation/infoDetail3.asp?cInfold=176&dInfold=129>

6. Development of Trilateral Cooperation among East Asia, North America, and Europe in Global Governance—Prospects and Challenges

Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

April 2006–March 2008

Description: The Asia Pacific Agenda Project (APAP) is a JCIE-organized multinational consortium of policy research organizations and academic institutions in the Asia Pacific that sponsor joint policy research projects and hold workshops, seminars, and an annual forum to discuss their research findings. The APAP research program in FY2006 focused on the question of trilateral cooperation among East Asia, North America, and Europe. Over the past decade, there has been a marked increase both within and among these regions in economic interdependence, cooperation on security issues, and functional collaboration on issues of common concern. As a result, there are greater expectations regarding the ability of the global governance system that has supported these three key regions to play a role in addressing interregional, intraregional, and global problems. In East Asia, for example, there has been increasing momentum behind the formation of a regional community. But at the same time, the political and social diversity of the region has made it difficult to resolve a number of issues and the rise of nationalism in many countries in the region has been posing a challenge to multinational cooperation, leading many to realize that the path to community building will not be a smooth one. Similar issues face North America and Europe. In light of these developments, this research project addressed the question of how national and regional governance can be improved through regional community building and how this can, in turn, foster better global governance.

Related Events: Participants presented preliminary drafts at the 12th APAP Forum in November 2006. The authors gathered again in Tokyo on March 10–11, 2007, to discuss revised drafts of the papers and to exchange opinions with policy experts.

Output: The papers were published in early 2008 under the title, *East Asia at a Crossroads*.

Funding: Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Website: www.jcie.or.jp

7. Energy Security

Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia (ERINA), Japan; Project director: Shoichi Itoh

2006–2007

Description: This project aimed to reinforce cooperative relationships between Japanese and foreign researchers, government officials, and experts from companies involved in the energy sector. ERINA conducted research into the potential for policy coordination among energy-consuming countries and between producing countries and consuming countries, publicizing the outcomes of this research through academic papers and presentations at international conferences. This was linked to discussions at a subcommittee meeting during the 2007 Northeast Asia International Conference for Economic Development in Niigata.

Related Events: 2007 Northeast Asia International Conference for Economic Development in Niigata

Output: “Sino-Russian Energy Relations: The Dilemma of Strategic Partnership and Mutual Distrust” (published by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, March 2007); “The Pacific Pipeline at a Crossroads: Dream Project or Pipe Dream?” (ERINA Report Vol. 73, January 2007); “Energy Security Revisited: A Catalyst for Multilateral Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region and the Role of the US-Japan Alliance” (Center for Global Partnership, August 2006); “Can Russia Become a ‘Regional Power’ in Northeast Asia?: Implications from Contemporary Energy Relations with China and Japan” (Center for East Asian Studies, Monterey Institute of International Studies, May 2006)

Website: <http://www.erina.or.jp/en/Research/db/index.htm>

8. A Free Trade Agreement among China, Japan, and Korea

Development Research Center, China; National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA), Japan; Korea Institute for International Economic Policy
2003–2008

Description: Since 2003, three research institutes representing China, Japan, and Korea have jointly undertaken a study on a possible Free Trade Agreement among the three countries (a “CJKFTA”). Following an assessment of the macroeconomic impact of a CJKFTA and a survey of businesses in 2003, the three institutes conducted sector studies on the agriculture, automobile, electronics, fisheries, textile, and steel sectors and on sections of the service sector in 2004 and 2005. Continuing their study in 2006, the institutes decided to extend the studies to cover a broader area of the service sector. They also decided to examine other important issues, including rules of origin and sensitive sectors in the existing FTAs concluded by China, Japan, and Korea.

The project has issued a report that presents a general perspective on regional trade agreements in Northeast Asia, followed by the major findings of the 2006 joint study and policy recommendations. Recognizing the importance and the urgency of forming a CJKFTA, the three institutes jointly recommended that the research be completed in 2007 to enable China, Japan, and Korea to design an ambitious CJKFTA.

Related Events: A symposium was held in Tokyo on September 29, 2006.

Output: Reports are available online.

Website: <http://www.nira.go.jp/pubj/newsletter/nn10.html>

9. Grand Design for Northeast Asia, Phase 4

National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA), Japan; Institute of Spatial Planning & Regional Economy, China’s National Development and Reform Commission; Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements
April 2006–March 2007

Description: The fourth phase of the “Grand Design for Northeast Asia” is comprised of a project on East Asian Economic Integration: Vision for Transport Network in Northeast Asia. In contrast to NAFTA and the EU, where regional transportation is primarily dependent on land and air networks, the coasts of Russia and China have an extremely strategic position in economic activity, so the development and enhancement of marine routes in addition to land and air routes is highly significant. For Japan in particular, because it is separated from the continent only by a narrow strip of ocean, the establishment of multilayered land, sea, and air transport networks that integrate the fruits of recent information technologies has become an important issue. Using the outcome of NIRA’s project on the Grand Design for Development of Northeast Asia (carried out in three phases beginning in 2001), this new phase of research examines ways to enhance individual transportation mode networks and conceptualize intermodal transportation networks, centered on an examination of the BESETO Corridor (the concept of cooperation among Beijing, Seoul, and Tokyo).

Related Events: Grand Design for Northeast Asia: Phase 3 Workshop, March 10, 2006

Website: <http://www.nira.go.jp>

10. Identifying Trends in Japan-DPRK Relations and Implications for US Policy

Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis (IFPA), USA; Project director: James Schoff
2005–2006

Description: This project examined the underlying trends in Japan’s North Korea policies and public opinion and assessed their implications for US policy. Washington’s policy options vis-à-vis North Korea are increasingly constrained, and although the Japan-DPRK relationship is only one piece of a complex puzzle, it is a central one that will influence near-term US

strategy and tactics. The United States will have to make a strategic decision about how it wants to break the six-party stalemate and, regardless of the choice it makes, strong support from Japan will be critical to success. Broadly speaking, US policymakers can either seek to apply greater economic and diplomatic pressure on North Korea or they can pursue a more conciliatory approach. There appear to be two different policy elite groups in Japan when it comes to the North Korean issue, one made up of pragmatists and the other of hawks. The pragmatists do not plan to go soft on North Korea and they will stick close to US policy on the issue, but they remain open to engagement and could coexist with the Kim Jong-il regime. The hawks probably view regime change in Pyongyang as the only viable solution to their security concerns and, to varying degrees, they would risk short-term regional instability to see this problem resolved.

Output: *Political Fences and Bad Neighbors: North Korea Policy Making in Japan & Implications for the United States* (IFPA, 2006; available online)

Funding: Smith Richardson Foundation

Website: <http://www.ifpa.org/pdf/fences.pdf>

11. Interdependent Koreas: Engagement for Peace in Bilateral, Regional, and Global Contexts

Hiroshima Peace Institute; Project coordinator: Kim Sung-chull, Associate Professor
April 2006–March 2008

Description: This project examines how inter-Korean relations have progressed and what conditions must be met for sustainable peace in the Korean Peninsula. With the expansion of South Korea's engagement with the North through trade, investment, and humanitarian aid, North Korea has become more reliant on South Korea in economic affairs. The actors who are involved in this process of engagement are not limited to the two governments but extend to business groups and nongovernmental organizations. North Korea's nuclear test, however, complicated inter-Korean relations. This project aims to appraise whether or not the original goal of South Korea's engagement policy, "buying peace," has been achieved and what the requisites are for the achievement of this goal. For this purpose, the project involves an analysis of Korean interdependence in various contexts: domestic, bilateral, regional, and global.

Related Events: 1st workshop—December 11–12, 2006, Hiroshima, Japan; 2nd workshop—June 8–9, 2007, New York, USA

Output: An edited volume is planned.

Website: <http://serv.peace.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/English/>

12. Irregular Migration in Asia

University of Hong Kong, Centre of Asian Studies; Asian Center, University of the Philippines
2006–

Description: The increased intraregional movement of people for work or pleasure is one manifestation of increasing integration in East Asia. In most cases, these transnational flows are voluntary, but for a significant number of people, that is not the case. Individuals may be coerced to move to work as sex workers, as bonded labor, or as slaves. Irregular migration is one of the main criminal offenses of the 21st century. But, as many countries in the region try to come to grips with this problem, they are hampered by a lack of objective data. The absence of data on human trafficking victims, for example, makes it difficult to understand the full scope of the problem in the Asian region. This problem is complicated by different legislative understandings of international and regional agreements, which also affects the compilation of data. A key objective of this project is therefore to solicit case study-based research on illegal migration in Asia so as to further our understanding of the assumptions and beliefs held by regional societies on this issue. The researchers believe that a greater understanding of the

challenge of irregular migration holds the potential to make a major contribution to the current policy and research debates.

Website: www.hku.hk/cas

13. Lines of Convergence: China, India, Japan and the Future of Asia

Center for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), India
2005–2006

Description: Relationships among Japan, China, and India have always been treated in bilateral frameworks—i.e., in terms of the Japan-China, China-India, or Japan-India relationship. Because of the rapid economic growth of Asia, fueled particularly by the recent growth of China and India, there are rising expectations on Asia to behave as a whole and to make contributions to political and economic stability both inside and outside of Asia. To respond to these expectations, Japan, China, and India must build positive and constructive collaborative relationships.

This project aimed to build confidence and mutual understanding among the three countries by conducting research in three areas—economics, geology, and culture. The results of the research were compiled as research papers and presented at international conferences. The following subjects were addressed: (1) how to minimize various distortions derived from structural reforms during transition periods in order to maintain stable economic growth; (2) the creation of a future diplomatic framework for the three countries, developed from the current bilateral relationships between the United States and each country; and (3) an analysis of components of Asian identity from the viewpoint of Asian symbiosis.

Related Events: Workshops were held in each country in September–October 2006. An international conference was held in February 2007 in Delhi with experts from Southeast Asia and India invited as discussants.

Output: The papers and review article were to be published in 2007.

Funding: Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund

Website: http://www.spf.org/e/project/2006/a3_11e.html

14. Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT) Working Group: Overall Architecture of Community Building in East Asia

NEAT; Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR)
2005–

Description: This project stemmed from JFIR's role as host for one of the six working group meetings held at the 3rd NEAT Annual Conference in Tokyo in 2005. The Working Group for Overall Architecture of Community Building in East Asia assembled experts from ASEAN+3 to discuss the principles and methods of community building and produced a report that was submitted as part of policy recommendations to the ASEAN+3 Summit. In 2006, the group held a meeting in Tokyo to discuss nontraditional security issues (e.g., avian influenza and terrorism) and regional coordination on environmental issues such as pollution and the destruction of forests.

Output: A report was submitted to the NEAT Annual Conference in Kuala Lumpur in 2006 and later included in policy recommendations to the ASEAN+3 Summit.

Website: http://www.jfir.or.jp/e/research_e/index.htm

15. The Paths Ahead: Missile Defense in Asia

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), United States; Project director: Kurt Campbell
June 2005–March 2006

Description: This study sought to assess developments in Asian approaches to missile defense, both to discover commonalities and differences that could shape a regional approach to the issues and to inform US thinking in shaping future missile defense architecture. The study focused on five governments that have made significant policy choices in the past regarding ballistic missile defense (BMD), and that were facing new choices as well: Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, India, and Australia. Three working groups reviewed and considerably enhanced the CSIS team's work. These groups comprised experienced former US military, defense, and government officials and policy experts from both the academic and think tank communities.

Early in the study, it became evident that there is no such thing as an "Asian missile defense position," and that the only meaningful way to understand the issue is country by country. This study therefore began with a snapshot of the situation in each country, considering threats to the country, its indigenous BMD capabilities, and its industrial ability to participate in developing its own defenses. The study moved on to examine the political and economic factors that shaped today's situation and will guide future developments, the major decisions facing each nation, and what US policies and capabilities may be required to provide a level of defense consonant with US alliance obligations and policy objectives.

Related Events: Working group meetings

Output: Report: *The Paths Ahead: Missile Defense in Asia* (CSIS, 2006; available online)

Funding: Lockheed Martin Corporation, ITOCHU, Raytheon, and Boeing

Website: http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/0603_pathsahead.pdf

16. The Promotion of Environmental Cooperation

Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia (ERINA); Project directors: Shagdar Enkhbayar and Shoichi Itoh
2004–2007

Description: Beginning in FY2004, ERINA researchers sought to promote reductions in greenhouse gases through the Kyoto mechanisms by making use of their network of connections in related institutions and groups throughout the region and by conducting research into the status of progress in relation to Clean Development Mechanism/Joint Implementation (CDM/JI) in Northeast Asia. In addition to the results being published as an ERINA booklet, this research was linked to discussions at a subcommittee meeting during the 2007 Northeast Asia International Conference for Economic Development in Niigata.

Related Events: 2007 Northeast Asia International Conference for Economic Development in Niigata

Output: *Enhancing the Environmental Cooperation in Northeast Asia in a New Dimension: Regional Cooperation on the Kyoto Mechanisms (CDM/JI)*, ERINA Booklet Vol. 5, March 2007

Website: <http://www.erina.or.jp/en/Research/db/index.htm>

17. The Promotion of Trade and Investment

Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia (ERINA); Project director: Tomoyoshi Nakajima
2006–2007

Description: ERINA conducted analyses of recent moves aimed at economic integration in East Asia, such as an East Asian FTA and an East Asian community. The study was conducted in collaboration with research institutes in Japan and overseas, such as the Cabinet Office Economic and Social Research Institute and the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy. In addition to the outcomes of these analyses being published through academic papers and presentations at international conferences, this was linked to discussions at a subcommittee meeting during the 2007 Northeast Asia International Conference for Economic Development in Niigata.

Related Events: 2007 Northeast Asia International Conference for Economic Development in Niigata

Output: “Japan’s Agricultural Reform in the Era of the East Asian FTA,” in *Anthology of Economic and Business Studies* 20, no. 1 (Inha University Institute for Business & Economics Research, July 2006); “The ‘Inevitability’ of the East Asian Community” (in Japanese) ERINA Discussion Paper 0605 (December 2006)

Website: <http://www.erina.or.jp/en/Research/db/index.htm>

18. Public-Private Sector Partnerships for Infrastructure Development

Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC), Singapore
2004–2007

Description: In 2004, a study by the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and Japan Bank for International Cooperation concluded that East Asia needs US\$1 trillion in infrastructure investment over the next 20 years. While government funding remains limited, new models of financing and delivery are increasingly being used to overcome this challenge. There is an increasing interest in “public-private partnerships” (PPPs) for infrastructure development. How do we define the function and impact of partnerships between government and business in the financing of infrastructure projects? What are the options for new forms of infrastructure finance, and what do they require for success?

PECC launched a work program in 2004 to assess the various forms of PPPs being implemented around the region. The specialist group included leading consultants, multilateral institutions, banks and financial houses, governments, and academics.

Output: In 2007, the group issued the results of three years of case study analysis.

Website: <http://www.pecc.org/>

19. Pursuing Security in a Dynamic Northeast Asia (PSDNEA)

National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR)
2006–

Description: In November 2006, as part of the dedication of the new Kenneth B. and Anne H. H. Pyle Center for Northeast Asian Studies, NBR convened a conference entitled “Pursuing Security in a Dynamic Northeast Asia” and invited a select group of the world’s top Northeast Asia specialists to identify and discuss the critical issues that will impact the future security environment of this vital region. Conference participants represented a broad spectrum of views from academia, business, government, and the policy research community.

As the center’s core research program, PSDNEA seeks to establish the Pyle Center as a hub through which the rising generation of American scholars, analysts, and policymakers will engage with and increase understanding of their counterparts across Northeast Asia.

Related Events: A conference was held on November 17–18, 2006, in Seattle, Washington.

Output: NBR has published post-conference publications. The first features former US Ambassador to Japan Michael Armacost and former Japanese Ambassador to the UN Yukio Satoh in “Emerging Trends, Dormant Interests: Developments in Northeast Asian Politics,” *NBR Analysis* 18, no. 1 (January 2007). *Asia Policy* 3 (January 2007) includes Professor Kenneth B. Pyle’s keynote address and papers by Nicholas Eberstadt, Aaron Friedberg, Francis Fukuyama, Michael Green, Chae-jin Lee, Kenneth Lieberthal, Dwight Perkins, Kenneth Pyle, Richard Samuels, and Robert Scalapino.

Website: <http://www.nbr.org/programs/northeast/currentprojects.html#Dynamic>

20. Russian Far East in the Asia-Pacific Region

Sasakawa Peace Foundation; Economic Research Institute, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences
2004–2006

Description: This was the final phase of a three-year research project. The Russian Far East has been suffering from decreasing population and economic recession partly because of decreased support from the central government since the transformation of the old systems in the 1990s. There are great expectations that the Russian Far East will be a resource supply center in the Pacific area, involved in the development of Sakhalin and of pipelines from Siberia to Asia Pacific, but no master plan for integrated cooperation between the Russian Far East and Asia Pacific has been shown. The project aimed to study possible strategies for the economic development of the Russian Far East from the viewpoint of Asian researchers.

Related Events: A preliminary workshop was held in August 2006 in Khabarovsk; an international conference was held in February 2007, also in Khabarovsk.

Output: Policy proposals were published in March 2007.

Funding: Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Website: http://www.spf.org/e/project/2006/a3_03e.html

21. Toward the Integration of the Northeast Asian Transport Market

East-West Center (EWC), United States; Korea Transport Institute (KOTI)
2005–

Description: This joint research project between the EWC and KOTI is based on the premise that an integrated and efficient transport system is a vital component for the economic integration and future prosperity of the Northeast Asian region. The EWC-KOTI research initially assessed the existing infrastructure and the existing imbalances and inefficiencies in the transport system. They found that joint efforts among the countries in Northeast Asia will be essential to resolve the inefficiencies created by physical, legal, institutional, and technical barriers. Focusing on China, Japan, and Korea, researchers then identified barriers, their causes, and potential means of overcoming them. Building on that research, the current phase of the EWC-KOTI research is developing a practical action plan for integrating the transport market in Northeast Asia. The 2006 conference focused on issues of standardization of transport and logistics statistics, on building a Northeast Asian regional database, and on strategies and linkages of the region's countries in developing multimodal transport.

Related Events: Conference on August 14–15, 2006, in Sapporo, Japan.

Website: http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class_call=view&conf_ID=907&mode=view

22. Vision for the Economic Development of Northeast Asia

Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia (ERINA), Japan; Project directors:
Mitsuhiro Mimura
2004–2006

Description: ERINA conducted joint research with research institutions and researchers within Japan and overseas with the aim of contributing to the formation of economic development projects in Northeast Asia, as well as promoting their implementation. Researchers examined such topics as the development and use of transport corridors and infrastructure, energy security, environmental cooperation, trade and investment, tourism and exchange, and country-specific economic and industrial issues. The outcomes of this project were published in English as a comprehensive vision for economic development and cooperation in Northeast Asia.

Output: Report—*The Vision for Economic Development and Cooperation in Northeast Asia*

Website: <http://www.erina.or.jp/en/Research/db/index.htm>

Publications

This section offers an illustrative list of works published in 2006 that are relevant to East Asian regionalism and security, broadly defined. We have tried to include primarily books and reports of a significant length as these shed light on the types of collaborative and individual research projects that were being conducted in the years leading up to 2006, and which were feeding into the broader discourse from 2006 on. Papers, briefs, and reports under 50 pages in length were generally omitted unless thought to be of particular relevance. The descriptions are based on the publishers' own descriptions of the works (where available) and are for reference only. Please note that neither the descriptions nor the inclusion of publications here constitute a review or endorsement of the publication by JCIE.

1. *Advancing East Asian Regionalism*

Melissa G. Curley and Nick Thomas, eds.
Routledge

Developments in East Asia have progressed rapidly in terms of regionalism since the 1997 crisis. The end of the Asian miracle called into question not only the capacity of regional states to meet the needs of their attendant peoples, but also challenged the viability of regional organizations, such as ASEAN, to adapt and respond to the changing circumstances.

This volume looks at the ways in which ASEAN has expanded since the crisis and evaluates the potential of East Asia to come together in a regional formation—one capable of representing the region as a whole, akin to the European Community. It draws upon the knowledge and perspectives of academics and policymakers actively engaged in issues of regionalism. Coupling case study material on regionalism, institutions, and sectoral cooperation with theoretical debates on regionalization, this book pushes our understanding of East Asian regionalism forward.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Advancing-East-Asian-Regionalism-isbn9780415349093>

2. *Anti-corruption Policies in Asia and the Pacific: Progress in Legal and Institutional Reform in 25 Countries*

Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Over the last decade, societies have come to realize the extent to which corruption and bribery have undermined their welfare and stability. Governments, the private sector, and civil society alike have consequently declared the fight against corruption to be of the highest priority. In the Asia Pacific region, 27 countries have joined forces to fight against corruption under the umbrella of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific, a unique partnership among all stakeholders from Asia Pacific countries. These countries have committed to reform of their legal and institutional frameworks and are taking stock of their relevant legal and institutional provisions to assess progress and remaining challenges. The present publication is the result of this process. It presents an overview of the main developments and reforms that countries have achieved since 2004, when the first edition was published. [Available online](#)

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Reports/Anticorruption-Policies/default.asp>

3. *An APEC Trade Agenda? The Political Economy of a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific*

Charles E. Morrison and Eduardo Pedrosa, eds.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The proposal for an Asia Pacific-wide free trade agreement is one of the oldest ideas for promoting mutually beneficial regional cooperation, dating back to the mid-1960s. In more recent times, the idea has found new support both as a “Plan B” to the stumbling Doha Development Agenda round of WTO negotiations and as a solution to the noodle bowl of bilateral agreements in the region.

This report assesses the political feasibility of the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) proposal and looks at alternative modalities for achieving free trade and investment in the Asia Pacific. The report includes trade policy perspectives from the three largest economies of the region, the United States, China, and Japan; lessons from similar proposals such as the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA); possible convergence among the many preferential trade agreements in the region; and alternative approaches to regional economic integration.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

4. *ASEAN and East Asian International Relations: Regional Delusion*

David Martin and M. L. R. Smith

Edward Elgar

Two academic authors offer new assessments of ASEAN and East Asian politico-economic affairs and international relations. They argue that many of the bases and ideologies surrounding the recent history of Asia are delusional or deeply flawed, including the pattern of academic study of the region; the assumptions underlying ASEAN and the so-called Asian models of economic development; the promotion of regionalism; Australia’s engagement with Asia; and the pursuit in Asia of the war on terror. Many of the assessments offered will indeed provoke controversy or rejection but this is a serious study with fresh perspectives.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=39770>

5. *ASEAN and the European Union*

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

ASEAN and the European Union have been partners for 25 years in a world that is undergoing rapid changes. The need for cooperation based on trust includes the wish for more information about each other, as well as permanent contacts and talks with one another. With this book, KAS wished to let authoritative personalities from the European Council, the European Commission, and the European Parliament share their insights about the institutions. This book is also meant as an indispensable compendium of the major European institutions and a praxis-oriented handbook for establishing contacts with the European players. **Available online**

http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/73/2/year-2006/dokument_id-9716/index.html

6. *ASEAN-China Economic Relations*

Saw Swee-hock, ed.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

This book, a product of the ASEAN-China Study Program of ISEAS, examines the rapidly expanding economic relations between ASEAN and China in recent years. The 15 chapters discuss in detail these relations in terms of many important topics such as trade, the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement, investments, services trade, energy cooperation, cooperation in developing the Mekong Subregion, China’s aid to Southeast Asian countries, the development of stronger business networks, and the political dimensions of China’s economic relations with ASEAN. The economic challenges, competition, and opportunities in the various sectors of the

two economies are examined in the context of the dynamic development of China and the globalization now taking place.
<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

7. *ASEAN Responses to Trafficking in Persons: Ending Impunity for Traffickers and Securing Justice for Victims*
ASEAN

ASEAN member countries have agreed to work together to combat trafficking in persons and to take certain key steps at home. There have been many important recent developments in the region, and this publication takes stock of those activities. It was prepared for and with the support of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime. In keeping with the mandate of that committee, it concentrates on the response of the criminal justice system to trafficking. The report looks at how ASEAN has responded to trafficking as a community, what member countries are themselves doing about trafficking, the main challenges to an effective criminal justice response to trafficking, promising initiatives within the region, and the future direction for ASEAN institutions and member countries in their fight against trafficking. [Available online](http://www.artipproject.org/artip/14_links/Pubs/ASEAN%20Responses%20to%20TIP.pdf)
http://www.artipproject.org/artip/14_links/Pubs/ASEAN%20Responses%20to%20TIP.pdf

8. *ASEAN-Russian Relations*
Gennady Chufirin, Mark Hong, and Teo Kah Beng, eds.
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

In contrast to India and China, Russia does not play a great role in the economies of ASEAN. Currently, Russia's interaction with ASEAN is limited to dialogue between the two parties; trade between both sides is characterized by Russian arms sales and ASEAN raw materials. This book explains why Russia's role is muted and examines the state of relations between Russia and selected individual ASEAN countries.
<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=38455>

9. *ASEM in its Tenth Year: Looking Back, Looking Forward*
Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) and the University of Helsinki Network for European Studies

On the occasion of the Asia-Europe Meeting's (ASEM) 10th anniversary, the foreign ministries of Finland and Japan sponsored a research project to evaluate the ASEM process and explore future possibilities. The final research report, prepared by JCIE and the University of Helsinki Network for European Studies, was presented to the ASEM Senior Officials Meeting in March 2006, and it served as background material at the ASEM Summit in September 2006. [Available online](http://www.jcie.or.jp/books/abstracts/A/asem10.html)
<http://www.jcie.or.jp/books/abstracts/A/asem10.html>

10. *Asia-Pacific Human Development Report 2006: Trade on Human Terms—Transforming Trade for Human Development in Asia and the Pacific*
UN Development Programme (UNDP); Macmillan

Free trade can benefit the poor of Asia Pacific if countries adopt bold new policies that harness trade and economic growth to promote people's wellbeing, according to the UNDP's *Asia-Pacific Human Development Report 2006*, the first in a new annual series focusing on critical development issues in the region. Opening to international trade has helped growth to soar and income poverty to substantially decline in many parts of the region. Asia Pacific now operates as the "factory of the world," and East Asia's "miracle" economies have used trade to accelerate progress in combating other aspects of deprivation, including education, health, and gender equality. Yet, trade has also contributed to increased inequalities between and within countries. In addition, many of the region's open economies are creating far fewer jobs,

especially for youth and women, and experiencing “jobless growth,” the report warns. This has profound implications because employment represents the main channel for the effects of trade on human development. [Available online](#)

http://www.undprcc.lk/rdhr2006/rdhr2006_report.asp

11. *Asia-Pacific Population Journal 20th Anniversary Special Issues (1986–2006)*

Emerging Social Issues Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The *Asia-Pacific Population Journal*, published three times a year, is one of the few primary journals published by the UNESCAP secretariat. It focuses on bringing out the policy and program implications of population research in the Asia Pacific region. This refereed professional journal contains articles and notes that cover a broad range of population and development issues of interest to readers in the region in a form that is relatively easy for educated readers to understand. The journal published a special edition to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the publication. [Available online](#)

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1181>

12. *Asia Pacific Security: Imperatives for Co-operation (19th APR)*

Stephen Leong, ed.

Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

Two decades since its inception, the Asia Pacific Roundtable (APR) continues to bring together the region’s scholars, think tank researchers, policy practitioners, and representatives of civil society organizations to interact and exchange views on current security issues and thus contribute to the valuable discourse on regional security in the Asia Pacific. This volume contains selected papers from those presented at the 19th APR.

http://www.isis.org.my/html/publicns/pub_books.htm

13. *Asia Pacific Security Survey 2006*

Richard W. Baker

East-West Center

This report presents the results of a survey completed by 73 security analysts from 15 countries in the Asia Pacific region plus Europe and the Pacific Islands. The survey is an outgrowth and continuation of the *Asia Pacific Security Outlook* project and book series launched in 1997 under the joint sponsorship of JCIE, the ASEAN-ISIS institutions, and the East-West Center. Although the publication is being suspended, the questionnaire sustains the essence of the project, which is to provide a diversity of perspectives on regional security issues. The information compiled from the survey provides a generally accurate representation of the state of thinking about the security outlook in the region among security specialists. [Available online](#)

http://www.eastwestcenter.org/res-rp-publicationdetails.asp?pub_ID=1980

14. *The Asian Conventional Military Balance in 2006: Total and Sub-regional Balances—Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia*

Anthony H. Cordesman and Martin Kleiber

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

This working draft report presents trends in military expenditures, analyzing the current overall military balance in Asia as a whole, as well as subregional balances and trends in individual countries. The rise of China as a major power has triggered a new debate over the military balance in Asia, but it is only one of the trends shaping regional military forces. Destabilization in the Taiwan Straits, Japan’s reassertion of its strategic role in the region, North Korea’s

persistence in creating nuclear forces, and cuts and shifts in US forces are also affecting the balance. There are fewer signs of significant shifts in the balance in South and Southeast Asia. The major change in the threat has been the emergence of transnational threats from Islamist extremists and continuing internal ethnic, sectarian, and tribal tensions.

http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/060626_asia_balance.pdf

15. *Asian Development Outlook 2006*

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This 18th edition of the *Asian Development Outlook* provides a comprehensive economic analysis of 43 economies in developing Asia Pacific. Using the ADB's unique knowledge of the region, it examines trends and prospects in Central Asia, East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific in the context of global economic movements. An important theme is how developing Asia can best position itself to maximize the benefits of international trade.

Aggregate GDP for the region expanded by a robust 7.4 percent in 2005. Growth was underpinned by a favorable external environment and continuing progress on domestic reform issues. China and India both grew rapidly. Looking forward, the projection is for continued robust growth. It will be helped by broadly favorable global conditions, but sustainability will depend on how well countries address their internal constraints. For many countries, a key challenge is to reignite investment demand and ensure that domestic savings are put to good use. [Available online](#)

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/ADO/2006/default.asp>

16. *Asian Informal Workers: Global Risks, Local Protection*

Santosh Mehrotra and Mario Biggeri, eds.

Routledge

There has been an increasing informalization of the non-agricultural labor force in developing countries over the last half-century of development. Simultaneously, there has been a feminization of that very large segment of the labor force. This book draws on small-scale surveys in at least three sectors, carried out in five Asian countries (India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippines) where industrial outwork and informal sector production, usually by women working out of their homes, is widespread. The book also examines the incidence and implications of child work in such households.

Industrial outwork is a source of income diversification for poor families and enables the emergence of micro-enterprises, but it is also a source of exploitation of vulnerable workers as firms attempt to contain costs. This book examines the social protection needs of these workers and also argues for public action to promote such work and protect such workers as part of a potential new labor-intensive growth strategy in these and other developing countries.

<http://www.routledge.com/books/Asian-Informal-Workers-isbn9780415382755>

17. *Asian Security Reassessed*

Stephen Hoadley and Jurgen Ruland, eds.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

This book traces changes in the concept of security in Asia from realist to cooperative, comprehensive, and human security approaches, and assesses a number of policy alternatives to management of both old and new security threats. It surveys not only orthodox security threats, such as tensions between regional powers or armed ethnic antagonists, but also new sources of anxiety such as resource scarcity, economic instability, irregular migration, community fragmentation, and international terrorism. Security policies of major powers such as China, Japan, and the United States, and the moderating roles of regional organizations such as ASEAN, the ASEAB Regional Forum, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and the

Korean Peninsula Economic Development Organization are evaluated in historical and contemporary perspectives. Contributors offer policy-relevant insights where appropriate. The book concludes that traditional security approaches remain valid but need to be adapted to the new challenges, and offers suggestions for incorporating fresh Asian security perceptions into the agendas of policymakers, analysts, and scholars.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

18. *A Basket Currency for Asia*

Takatoshi Ito, ed.
Routledge

The failure of the dollar peg to prevent the Asian currency crisis of 1997 has highlighted the importance of the exchange rate regime in Asia and provoked much discussion as to what the alternatives are in terms of exchange rate systems. Bringing together extensive research on Asian basket currencies, this new volume discusses whether a currency basket system is the answer, striking a balance between the theoretical and empirical. With strong policy implications for East Asia, the contributors argue that for countries that have close economic relationships with several currency areas, it is well worth considering a currency basket system. The book also pursues the important idea of coordination failure, whereby if each individual country tries to adopt an optimal exchange rate given other neighboring countries' policies, they may collectively fail to reach a region's optimal exchange rate regime.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/A-Basket-Currency-for-Asia-isbn9780415383769>

19. *Beyond Japan: The Dynamics of East Asian Regionalism*

Peter J. Katzenstein and Takashi Shiraishi, eds.
Cornell University

Have Japan's relative economic decline and China's rapid ascent altered the dynamics of Asian regionalism? Peter Katzenstein and Takashi Shiraishi, the editors of *Network Power*, one of the most comprehensive volumes on East Asian regionalism in the 1990s, present an impressive new collection that brings the reader up to date. This book argues that East Asia's regional dynamics are no longer the result of a simple extension of any one national model. While Japanese institutional structures and political practices remain critically important, the new East Asia now under construction is more than, and different from, the sum of its various national parts. At the outset of a new century, the interplay of Japanese factors with Chinese, American, and other national influences is producing a distinctively new East Asian region.

http://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/cup_detail.taf?ti_id=4430

20. *BFA Annual Report 2006: Economic Integration in Asia*

Boao Forum for Asia

In keeping with its goal of producing an annual monitoring report every year that would reflect the current state of trade and investment in the Asian region and identify appropriate measures required for sustaining the ongoing momentum of the "Asian economic miracle," the Boao Forum for Asia has come up with a framework report on the occasion of its 5th anniversary. *BFA Annual Report 2006* is the product of close collaboration between the Asia-based economic forum and the World Bank.

The coverage of this report extends beyond the topic of trade in goods taken up in the 2005 report and now includes a good deal of discussion on trade in services. The current report also examines investment flows, including FDI, within the Asian region. Special emphasis has been given to smaller economies within the region, particularly Cambodia, Vietnam, and Lao PDR within ASEAN, in order to understand the impact of emerging economies of Asia on these

smaller countries. Attempts have been made to also reveal the extent of participation of small countries in FDI flows. [Available online](#)
www.boaforum.org

21. *Building Multi-party Capacity for a WMD-Free Korea*

Charles Perry, Guillermo Pinczuk, James L. Schoff, and Todd Walters
Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis (IFPA)

This is a report on an ongoing, multiyear project, based on the proceedings of a February 2006 workshop and extensive follow-up research into ways in which greater stability and predictability can be introduced to the denuclearization dialogue. The report addresses the issues of economic engagement with North Korea, denuclearization and verification, security assurances, and moving forward with capacity building. [Available online](#)
<http://www.ifpa.org/pdf/BuildMPC.pdf>

22. *Central Asia and its Asian Neighbors: Security and Commerce at the Crossroads*

Rollie Lal
RAND

The Asian states neighboring Central Asia have historic links and strong interests in the region. China, Iran, Afghanistan, India, and Pakistan are critical players in the security and economic issues that will determine the future of Central Asia and affect US interests in the region. Although these Asian states do not agree on how to secure Afghanistan against threats, there is unanimous agreement that a stable Afghanistan is critical to their own security interests. However, opinion toward US presence and policy in the region could be a point of conflict. The purpose of this monograph is to provide an assessment of the nature of Asian states' interest and influence in Central Asia in order to determine the development of these relationships and how they will shape the strategic dynamics of Asia in the coming years. [Available online](#)
<http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/MG440/>

23. *The Challenges of China's Growth*

Dwight H. Perkins
American Enterprise Institute (AEI)

China's economic performance over the past three decades—its rapid growth, economic opening, and strides in poverty alleviation—marks a historic turn that may qualify as one of the great “success stories” of modern economic development. China seems poised for further rapid growth today, but questions and uncertainties cloud the longer-term horizon. Can China make the institutional changes and policy reforms that will be required to reach significantly higher general levels of productivity and income? Will continuing economic growth unleash unpredictable social or political forces within China? And what will “an economically rising China” (potentially, a China with the world's largest GDP) mean for the security of China's neighbors and the international community? [Available online](#)
http://www.aei.org/books/filter.all,bookID.869/book_detail.asp

24. *Chasing the Sun: Rethinking East Asian Policy*

Morton Abramowitz and Stephen Bosworth
Century Foundation Press

During the past half century, US policy in East Asia was guided by a simple dictum: avoid the domination of East Asia by any power other than the United States. Increasingly, however, this policy approach seems questionable. Even as East Asian leaders often tell Americans they want a continued US presence for security purposes, they also fear an American effort to “contain” China that will put them between a rising regional power and the global superpower, creating

dangerous tensions that ultimately would threaten the region's golden goose—China's powerful economic growth engine. Others, like some Japanese, would welcome a conclusion by the United States that a powerful China ultimately threatens American interests. *Chasing the Sun* addresses major policy problems of East Asia and examines how the United States can retain influence commensurate with its interests.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/books/clientpr/priority/postamericancenturyineastasia.htm>

25. *China-ASEAN Relations: Economic and Legal Dimensions*

John Wong, Zou Keyuan, and Zeng Huaqun, eds.
World Scientific Publishing

With China's dynamic economic growth, its relations with ASEAN states have expanded rapidly in recent years, culminating in the conclusion of the landmark China-ASEAN Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement in 2002. Beyond trade and economic activities, China-ASEAN cooperation has broadened to cover the environment, science and technology, nontraditional security areas, and related legal issues. China's relations with ASEAN have reached a new era in which the two sides have established an economic, legal, and political framework for their comprehensive cooperation.

This book provides a comprehensive overview of China-ASEAN relations from economic, legal, and political perspectives and examines various important topics related to nontraditional security issues, free trade zone and regional economic integration, border trade and environmental issues, and maritime security.

<http://www.worldscibooks.com/eastasianstudies/6025.html>

26. *China-ASEAN Relations: Perspectives, Prospects, and Implications for US Interests*

Jing-dong Yuan
Strategic Studies Institute of the US Army War College

The author traces the evolution of China-ASEAN relations since the early 1990s and examines some of the key factors that have contributed to the positive developments in bilateral ties. He describes and analyzes how China and ASEAN have managed the territorial disputes through negotiation and compromises, looks at the expanding economic ties between China and ASEAN member states, examines the politico-strategic and economic rationales for establishing a free trade area, and evaluates the emerging yet still limited defense and security ties between the two. He also assesses the implications of the growing China-ASEAN ties for US interests in the region. **Available online**

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=735>

27. *China's Development and Prospect of ASEAN-China Relations*

Centre for ASEAN and China Studies

On December 20, 2005, a seminar on "China's Development and Prospect of ASEAN-China Relations" was held in Hanoi as the first activity of the Centre for ASEAN and China Studies. The seminar attracted scholars in China and ASEAN countries, who exchanged views about the development of China and the prospects of ASEAN-China relations. The research findings included in this volume offer input for policymakers on both sides to promote ASEAN-China relations.

<http://www.cacs.org.vn/webplus/viewer.asp?pgid=4&aid=156>

28. *China's Rise: Implications for US Leadership in Asia*

Robert Sutter
East-West Center

This study argues that overt US competition with China for influence in Asia is unwelcome, counterproductive to US interests, and unwarranted given the limited challenge posed by

China's rise. US policymakers should resist recent congressional, media, and interest group pressures that employ overstated appraisals of China's rising power in order to push for tougher competition with China. Contrary to prevailing commentaries, the study demonstrates that China's advance rests on a fairly narrow foundation, and China's influence in Asia is undermined by domestic preoccupations, nationalistic ambitions at odds with neighbors, and the adverse economic implications of China's rise for many in Asia.

This study probes the nature of the Southeast Asian regional security dynamic by investigating the regional security strategies of Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The focus is on how these states envisage the United States acting out its role as security guarantor vis-à-vis the China challenge. That is, this study fleshes out Southeast Asia's so-called hedging strategies against China. **Available online**

http://www.eastwestcenter.org/publications/search-for-publications/browse-alphabetic-list-of-titles/?class_call=view&pub_ID=1981&mode=view

29. *Conflict, Terrorism and the Media in Asia*

Benjamin Cole, ed.
Routledge

There are many different kinds of subnational conflicts across Asia, with a variety of causes, but since September 11, 2001, these have been increasingly portrayed as part of the global terrorist threat, to be dealt with by the "War on Terror." This major new study examines a wide range of such conflicts, showing how, despite their significant differences, they share the role of the media as interlocutor, and exploring how the media exercises this role. The book raises a number of issues concerning how the media report different forms of political violence and conflict, including issues of impartiality in the media's relations with governments and insurgents, and how the focus on the "War on Terror" has led to some forms of violence— notably those employed by states for political purposes—to be overlooked.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Conflict-Terrorism-and-the-Media-in-Asia-isbn9780415351980>

30. *Curbing Corruption in Public Procurement in Asia and the Pacific*

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Curbing Corruption in Public Procurement in Asia and the Pacific presents the findings of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific's 2005–2006 thematic review on curbing corruption in public procurement. It highlights trends, approaches, and achievements covering the initiative's 25 member countries and jurisdictions in Asia Pacific in a comparative overview that provides details on existing policies and key elements of legal and institutional frameworks.

The publication begins with an inventory of measures for curbing corruption in public procurement in Asia Pacific through comprehensive regulations, transparency and fairness, promotion of integrity of individuals, and verification mechanisms. It then turns to country reports, examining the current systems for curbing corruption in public procurement. **Available online**

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Public-Procurement-Asia-Pacific/default.asp>

31. *Demarcating Ethnicity in New Nations: Cases of the Chinese in Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia*

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) and Singapore Society of Asian Studies

When people are learning to accept the new concept of nation, the impact of globalization, especially with China as an influential factor again, will compel ethnic Chinese to look beyond national borders and even return to cultural identification. How will the Chinese in Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia relate culturally to China? How will the Chinese conduct cultural

interaction among themselves in Southeast Asia? These are the issues covered by this publication, which is available in English and Chinese.

http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/73/2/year-2006/dokument_id-9790/index.html

32. *Democracy in Asia, Europe and the World: Toward a Universal Definition*

Chung-si Ahn and Bertrand Fort, eds.

Marshall Cavendish Academic

Democracy has long been among the most contested concepts in political science and political philosophy. Yet, since the 1990s, there has been a widespread tendency to think as if a universally acceptable definition is already in hand. The catalysts for this change appear to be the worldwide wave of democratization and revived attention to the study of democracies. The underlying assumption is that we have a shared ambition of democracy. This would imply that countries that are undergoing a process of democratization will eventually reach a stage that conforms to such a definition. In extending its geographical scope across the world, has the concept of democracy lost some of the sharp contentious characteristics of the past? Or, on the contrary, will these profound divisions continue to prevail? Some of the most prominent academics from Asia and Europe come together to examine these issues that have pertinent applications for democracy in practice in Asia and Europe.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=39355>

33. *Different Societies, Shared Futures: Australia, Indonesia and the Region*

John Monfries, ed.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

Australia's relationship with Indonesia is one of its most important and contentious bilateral relationships, characterized by sharply differing social and cultural mores and by periodic crises and mutual distrust but also by significant person-to-person contacts in many fields. Recent developments, including the tsunami tragedy, the policies of a new Indonesian president, and the Corby affair, have demonstrated both the best and the worst in the relationship. Australia's management of its most important regional relationship also has implications for its relations with other countries in the region.

This book examines the wide range of factors and approaches that are involved in meeting the bilateral and regional challenges, including government links, public images and mutual perceptions, regional organizations, the role of Islam, the aid relationship, security and counterterrorism, economic and business relations, and the student market.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=39002>

34. *The Dragon's Shadow: The Rise of China and Japan's New Nationalism*

Ben Self

Henry L. Stimson Center

The era of "Friendship Diplomacy" between Japan and China began in the aftermath of Tokyo's defeat in World War II and both countries' economic prostration. The Friendship era flourished so long as Japan maintained a penitent and conciliatory policy toward China and abjured militarism, and China remained dependent on Japanese aid, investment, and trade. That era's collapse in the late 1990s roughly coincided with the end of the Cold War, the bursting of Japan's economic bubble, and Tokyo's emerging sense of threat from a rising China and North Korea's missiles and nuclear capability. Former Prime Minister Abe moved quickly to reestablish normal relations with both Beijing and Seoul, but the fact that his revisionist-nationalist agenda was generally in keeping with the national mood raises serious questions about the future stability of Northeast Asia and the US-Japan alliance. **Available online**

<http://www.stimson.org/pub.cfm?id=383>

35. *East Asia: Between Regionalism and Globalism*

Gennady Chufrin, ed.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) and Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO)

This book analyzes modern tendencies in the development of regional economic cooperation in East Asia, which is considered by countries in the region as their response to growing challenges of globalization. Trying to protect their national interests through collective efforts, they are promoting regional commercial, investment, and financial cooperation as measures aimed at improving the efficiency of their economies. These steps, however, are not regarded as a counterweight to globalization but merely directed against most negative manifestations of the latter and in fact are realized as one of the forms of globalization at the regional level.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

36. *East Asia, Globalization and the New Economy*

F. Gerard Adams

Routledge

We are witnessing a transformation in the world economy as a result of the IT/e-business revolution. Modern logistics based on cheap communication and transportation are shifting the locus of production and the international division of labor between the West and the lower wage countries of East Asia and within East Asia itself. Looming over the entire picture is the colossus that is China, and this transformation is making East Asia the manufacturing center of the world economy. Written by an expert in the area of business economics, this book analyzes these developments and evaluates their future impact on the development of East Asia and its role in the world economy. The author questions whether the e-business revolution will renew and sustain the rapid economic development of East Asia.

[http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/East-Asia-Globalization-and-the-New-Economy-
isbn9780415769914](http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/East-Asia-Globalization-and-the-New-Economy-isbn9780415769914)

37. *East Asian Finance: The Road to Robust Markets*

Swati R. Ghosh

World Bank

Well-functioning financial markets are critical for supporting East Asia's ambitious growth and development agenda. Over the coming years, East Asia's financial sector will need to be highly diversified to meet the needs of increasingly complex and sophisticated economies. It will need to provide financial services efficiently and be robust to withstand potential shocks in a changing world economy.

East Asian Finance provides a comprehensive overview of the financial markets in the East Asia region. It systematically analyzes each of the financial segments in terms of access, efficiency, and stability, and discusses the remaining challenges and policy priorities. It argues that the East Asian economies need to focus on further developing the securities markets. In particular, given the depth of the financial sector overall, economies in East Asia lag behind in the relative importance of the bond market.

[http://publications.worldbank.org/e-commerce/catalog/product?context=drilldown&item%5fid=
=5912627](http://publications.worldbank.org/e-commerce/catalog/product?context=drilldown&item%5fid=5912627)

38. *East Asian Strategic Review 2006*

Tsunekawa Jun, ed.

National Institute for Defense Studies

The *East Asian Strategic Review* is the flagship publication of the National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS). This annual report includes analyses of the strategic environment of East Asia

from a Japanese viewpoint. The region covered in the review includes the Korean Peninsula, China, Taiwan, Southeast Asia, Russia, the United States, and Japan. It also analyzes the surrounding areas of East Asia from the viewpoint of Japan's commitment to the security of East Asia. The report is published annually in both Japanese and English.

This year's review focuses on the realignment of US forces and East Asian security, the Indian Ocean tsunami and international cooperation, the Korean Peninsula, China's achievements and the challenges of "neighboring diplomacy," Southeast Asia and major power relations, Sino-Russian relations, challenges facing the Bush administration, and more effective international cooperation by Japan. [Available online](http://www.nids.go.jp/english/index.html)
<http://www.nids.go.jp/english/index.html>

39. *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 2006: Energizing the Global Economy*

Poverty and Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The 2006 edition of UNESCAP's *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* focused on "Energizing the Global Economy." According to the report, the principal policy issues and challenges facing the region over the next 12 months would be concerned with the course of oil prices, the threat of global external payment imbalances unwinding precipitously, the impact of higher interest rates, and the potential for the avian influenza to develop into a human pandemic. Longer-term issues relate to the ongoing challenge of poverty reduction, utilizing the benefits of home remittances to simultaneously improve social indicators and macroeconomic fundamentals, and re-energizing the trade liberalization agenda following the 6th WTO Ministerial Conference, held in Hong Kong in December 2005.

http://www.unescap.org/unis/library/pub_pdf/escat_2005.pdf

40. *Emerging Financial Risks in East Asia*

Doo-yong Yang, ed.

Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP)

This report emanates from a project conducted by KIEP and the Policy Research Institute (PRI), which sought to identify major financial risks in East Asia and provide comprehensive analyses and policy implications and recommendations. Themes covered in the project included current capital flows and related risks from possible capital reversal, China's new exchange rate regime and its implication for East Asia, and ways to stimulate the private sector in East Asia. [Available online](http://www.kiep.go.kr/eng/std_data_view.asp?num=177342&sCate=013003&sSubCate=&ITp=r&nowPage=1&listCnt=15#)

http://www.kiep.go.kr/eng/std_data_view.asp?num=177342&sCate=013003&sSubCate=&ITp=r&nowPage=1&listCnt=15#

41. *Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter*

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

In 2006, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations was 39 years old, but unlike the African Union, the Organization of American States, and other regional associations, ASEAN had no formal charter. The only founding document was the ASEAN Declaration, issued in Bangkok in 1967. ASEAN came to the conclusion that it was time to adopt a charter for the association. A charter would also give ASEAN an unquestionable legal personality and legal standing. In this publication, ISEAS put together a record of the proceedings of the EPG consultations with civil society and business sector representatives on the occasion of its fourth meeting to discuss an ASEAN Charter.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

42. *Energy and Security: The Geopolitics of Energy in the Asia-Pacific*

Manjeet Singh Pardesi, Amitav Acharya, Premarani Somasundram, et al.
Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), Nanyang Technological University

This report discusses the geopolitics of energy in the Asia Pacific region. The report locates energy security at the nexus of critical policy issues, such as national grand strategy, military force modernization, maritime security, and environmental policy. The authors analyze the energy security strategies of the different states from the perspective of policymakers responsible for the broader national security policy and not from the more technical point of view of the energy industry. The authors explain that if the energy security strategies of the major states can be coordinated, then the benefits to the international system, in terms of stability of energy prices and lessened geopolitical tensions, will be significant. [Available online](http://www.isn.ethz.ch/pubs/ph/details.cfm?lng=en&id=26447)
<http://www.isn.ethz.ch/pubs/ph/details.cfm?lng=en&id=26447>

43. *Energy Security In Asia*

Michael Wesley, ed.
Routledge

This book explores the various dimensions of energy security in Asia, which has become an increasingly important geopolitical issue. International contributors look at the roles played by each of the major energy importers (United States, China, Japan, and India) as well as the main suppliers (OPEC states, Russia, Central Asia, and Australia). In each case, the domestic politics of energy security are investigated, and state interests and perspectives on the issue are considered.

Analyzing the policy and security aspects of energy security, the book includes an examination of the geopolitics of energy competition (strategic, economic, and environmental dimensions) and the impact of energy security on human security.
<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Energy-Security-in-Asia-isbn9780415410069>

44. *Enhancing Regional Cooperation in Infrastructure Development Including that Related to Disaster Management*

Poverty and Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Adequate infrastructure in the four key sectors considered in this study—transport, telecommunications, energy, and water—is a prerequisite for opening up access to global trade and investment flows, increasing the competitiveness of production and services, and thus sustaining the region's economic growth. The study, which was prepared for the 62nd session of UNESCAP (Jakarta, April 2006), analyzes the role of infrastructure and its socioeconomic linkages as well as regional initiatives in creating, maintaining, and utilizing infrastructure with a focus on financing such investment. It identifies specific options for strengthening regional cooperation in these areas. [Available online](http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1148)
<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1148>

45. *European and Asian Perspectives on Global Imbalances*

Alan Ahearne, ed.
Asia Europe Economic Forum

Five institutions from Asia and Europe agreed in 2006 to establish an Asia Europe Economic Forum. This high-level forum gives Asian and European policy experts an occasion for in-depth, research-based exchanges on global issues of mutual interest by organizing a series of conferences in Asia and Europe. The first of these conferences took place in Beijing on July 13–14, 2006. There was a broad range of participants, including active and former senior

policymakers, recognized academic experts, and private sector specialists. The theme was “European and Asian Perspectives on Global Imbalances.” This publication includes papers presented at the conference and summaries of the panel discussions. The papers analyzed growing account imbalances, assessed the risks of their abrupt unwinding, and discussed policy options for Europe and Asia. [Available online](http://www.bruegel.org/Public/SimplePage.php?ID=1703)
<http://www.bruegel.org/Public/SimplePage.php?ID=1703>

46. *Fairness, Globalization, and Public Institutions: East Asia & Beyond*

Jim Dator, Dick Pratt, and Yongseok Seo, eds.
University of Hawaii

In this book, a group of academics and practitioners contribute to the examination of a key dimension of globalization: its fairness. They present a broad-ranging study of the intersections between fairness, globalization, and public institutions. The four sections in this book look at the meanings of the key concepts of “fairness,” “globalization,” and “public institutions”; the different preferred views on the relation of the three key concepts; historic, global, and future-oriented perspectives on the issues; and how public institutions in several East and Southeast Asian countries respond (or fail to respond) to globalization with fairness. The work concludes with an analysis of what is needed in training and research and a summary of the authors’ main lessons learned in this process. Although this study focuses on East and Southeast Asia, the relevance of the issues discussed extends well beyond these regions.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=39108>

47. *Fighting a Rising Tide: The Response to AIDS in East Asia*

Tadashi Yamamoto and Satoko Itoh, eds.
Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

Twelve chapters were commissioned to experts around Asia Pacific to examine how government, civil society, corporations, and media are responding to the rising tide of HIV/AIDS infection that is afflicting the region. These chapters portray a surprising diversity of experiences. Countries such as Australia had early, concentrated epidemics, for example, while others like China are experiencing rapidly growing epidemics. Thailand has seen high but declining prevalence rates, Vietnam is seeing exponential growth in rates among specific populations, and Japan and others still have low prevalence rates but need to remain vigilant.

The varied responses by each society to the rising threat offer critical and practical lessons. Equally important is the increasing recognition that many problems contributing to the spread of HIV/AIDS are cross-border issues that must be addressed collaboratively. In this volume, experts in the field offer insight into the efforts occurring in their own societies to fight the spread of HIV/AIDS. [Available online](http://www.jcie.or.jp/fgj/e/risingtide.html)

<http://www.jcie.or.jp/fgj/e/risingtide.html>

48. *Fighting the Spread of WMD: Views from the Next Generation (Issues & Insights 6, no. 4)*

Brad Glosserman
Pacific Forum CSIS

The Pacific Forum, as secretariat of the US Committee of CSCAP, co-chairs an international study group on Countering the Proliferation of WMD in the Asia Pacific. This volume of *Issues & Insights* presents papers from the second meeting of the study group, held in Manila (December 2005), which were written by Asian and American participants in the Pacific Forum’s Young Leaders program. Much of the discussion in Manila focused on two issues: the salience of the WMD threat to Asian governments and the basic question of why states proliferate. In truth, most Southeast Asian governments do not see WMD as a threat; they are focused on more basic, internal concerns and lack the resources to understand and confront

the WMD threat. There is no single explanation for why states proliferate. Nevertheless, the reluctance of nuclear weapons states to eliminate their arsenals sends the wrong signal.

[Available online](#)

http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/issuesinsights_v06n04.pdf

49. *From Crisis to Opportunity: Financial Globalization and East Asian Capitalism*

Mo Jongryn and Daniel I. Okimoto, eds.

Stanford University

Since the mid-1990s, China, Japan, and Korea have come under severe pressure to restructure and reform their economic systems. Indeed, across East Asia, governments are attempting to address their structural problems with a variety of reform programs. It is still too early to declare the triumph of financial globalization, and East Asian financial and corporate systems continue to fall short of global standards in structure and performance. Yet old models have been discarded and new patterns are emerging.

This book identifies and accounts for empirical regularities across East Asian countries and sectors, which previous studies have left largely unexplained. In general, the contributors to this collection conclude that the interaction between financial globalization and domestic politics is the key to unlocking the reform process. In particular, the authors address issues important to the study of East Asian political economies, such as their receptivity to financial globalization, their financial integration, and the convergence or divergence of their economic institutions.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/Books/2006/fromcrisistoopportunity.aspx>

50. *From Triangles to Trilaterals: The Next Generation Views US-China-Japan Relations (Issues & Insights 6, no. 8)*

Brad Glosserman, ed.

Pacific Forum CSIS

Few relationships are as complex and as confusing as the one that includes the United States, China, and Japan. The three countries interact on virtually every level and have shared interests and objectives across a range of concerns. Stabilizing that triangle is a source of considerable concern among foreign policy specialists.

At the Pacific Forum CSIS conference on “Strategic Goals in US-China-Japan Relations,” an entire session was dedicated to presentations by young leaders to hear their thinking about relations among the three countries. Their paper assignment, the results of which make up this volume, was to determine which bilateral relationship among the three countries is, in their opinion, most important and what specifically those two countries could do to ensure good relations with the third. A young leader from each of the three countries provided a brief summary of their paper for conference participants. [Available online](#)

http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/issuesinsights_v06n08.pdf

51. *Global Forces 2005: Proceedings of the ASPI Conference*

Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI)

Seventeen of the world’s strategic thinkers debated the key issues shaping global and Asia Pacific security at ASPI’s inaugural conference, which was held over two days in September 2005. This is a two-volume publication with day one topics on global strategy and day two on strategic change. [Available online](#)

http://www.aspi.org.au/publications/publication_details.aspx?ContentID=92&pubtype=5

52. *Global, Regional, and National: Strategic Issues and Linkages*

Jusuf Wanandi

Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Jakarta

This book is a collection of Jusuf Wanandi's articles published in *The Jakarta Post* since January 1984. Wanandi helped establish both CSIS and the *Post*. His book is divided into three parts, each of which examines relevant issues at global, regional, and national levels. On global issues, he focuses on lessons to be learned from changes in US leadership from Ronald Reagan to George W. Bush. He also stresses the importance of preparing for globalization. On regional issues, Wanandi stresses the need to build an East Asian community, with efforts focused on finding a balance among China, Japan, South Korea, and India in the East Asia Summit or ASEAN+3. At the national level, he concluded that Indonesia still needs steady economic development, more democratic reforms, and good policies and actions to create and maintain stability, especially in Aceh and Papua.

http://www.csis.or.id/events_past_view.asp?id=132&tab=0

53. *Globalisation and the Asia-Pacific: Contested Perspectives and Diverse Experiences*

Iyanatul Islam and Moazzem Hossain, eds.

Edward Elgar

This book illustrates contested perspectives on globalization as represented by the diverse experiences of selected economies within the Asia Pacific region, namely Australia, China, India, and Sri Lanka, as case studies. This volume is written in a nontechnical but rigorous fashion, enabling the reader to follow complex and technical debates pertaining to globalization. The book begins by studying the nature of disagreements among economists on the benefits and costs of globalization, highlighting ways in which one can consolidate the gains from globalization while mitigating its costs, offering a critique of macroeconomic conservatism and discussing the promises, pitfalls and perils of foreign direct investment. The contributors then go on to anchor global debates in regional and country-specific circumstances. The issues discussed range from broad political economy perspectives to industry case studies, but all are united by concerns about socioeconomic disparities in an age of globalization.

<http://www.griffith.edu.au/business/griffith-asia-institute/publications>

54. *Globalization and East Asia: Opportunities and Challenges*

Khosrow Fatemi, ed.

Routledge

This book examines the intricate economic workings of East Asia over the last 30 years. Put together by an illustrious team of academics and researchers, this study is divided into four main sections. The first section introduces the distinctive qualities of the policies that have sparked economic growth and development. This is followed by comparative studies of different countries and industries in the region and an in-depth study of the East Asian area over the last 50 years. Part three contains sector-specific studies within Malaysia, China, Hong Kong, and Thailand. The last part spotlights industry-specific elements and explores the future of globalization in relation to its effects on East Asia.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=40674>

55. *Governments and Markets in East Asia: The Politics of Economic Crises*

Jungug Choi

Routledge

Governments and Markets in East Asia examines the relationship between economic performance, elite cooperation, and political regime stability in the context of the Asian crisis

and argues that economic crisis is not the cause of greater political harmony or discord but rather that it serves as a catalyst that may encourage elites to cooperate or conflict depending upon the particular circumstances at the time of crisis. This book maintains that the political consequences of the Asian crisis varied according to the type of elite that existed in each stricken society. Including a comprehensive comparative study of five countries' experiences during the economic crisis—Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, South Korea, and the Philippines—this book investigates the pre-crisis political context and elite configuration of these five countries and considers what lessons can be drawn from their experiences.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Governments-and-Markets-in-East-Asia-ISBN9780415399029>

56. *Harnessing Globalization: A Review of East Asian Case Histories*

Henry Y. Wan, Jr.

World Scientific Publishing

At a time of robust worldwide debates on globalization, this volume shows how successful each of the East Asian economies has been in harnessing globalization by appropriate and alternative means to catch up with the advanced economies and what implications can be drawn to assess Chinese economic growth in that context. The essays in this book highlight the development of East Asia over the six decades after World War II and ask, among other questions, why the region has performed so well economically relative to the rest of the developing world and which are the most challenging limitations to be addressed.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=38430>

57. *Human Rights in Asia: A Comparative Legal Study of Twelve Asian Jurisdictions, France and the United States*

Randall Peerenboom, C. J. Petersen, et al., eds.

Routledge

This work considers how human rights are viewed and implemented in Asia. It covers not just civil and political rights, but also social, economic, and cultural rights. This study discusses the problems arising from the fact that ideas of human rights have evolved in Western liberal democracies and examines how far such values are compatible with Asian values and applicable in Asian contexts. Core chapters on France and the United States provide a benchmark on how human rights have emerged and how they are applied and implemented in a civil law and a common law jurisdiction. These are then followed by 12 chapters on the major countries of East Asia plus India, each of which follows a common template to consider the context of the legal system in each country, black letter law, legal discussions and debates, and key current issues concerning human rights in each jurisdiction.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=36476>

58. *Illicit Drugs and Development: Critical Issues for Asia and the Pacific (Development Bulletin no. 69)*

Australian National University Development Studies Network

Published in February 2006, this issue of *Development Bulletin* investigates the impact of illicit drugs—a social, political, and economic issue that is seldom considered in the development debate, is overlooked in development policy, and has no place in the Millennium Development Goals, yet seriously constrains the likelihood of achieving sustainable development goals in most Asian (and increasingly Pacific) countries. The volume features papers from the Illicit Drugs and Development Symposium held in Canberra, Australia, in August 2005.

<http://devnet.anu.edu.au/bulletin.php>

59. *Impact of HIV/AIDS 2005–2025 in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and East Timor*

AusAID

In 2004, at a meeting of the South-West Pacific Dialogue, the governments of Papua New Guinea (PNG), Indonesia, East Timor, the Philippines, New Zealand, and Australia agreed on undertaking a collaborative study of the epidemiological, social, and economic risks and vulnerabilities related to HIV/AIDS. An epidemiological model was developed to project the future course of the HIV epidemic over the period 2005–2025 in PNG, Indonesia, and East Timor under three scenarios. The first scenario assumed that HIV interventions remain at current levels (baseline scenario). The second and third scenarios assumed increases in HIV interventions to medium and high response levels. Projections of HIV case numbers and deaths were used as a basis to estimate future social, economic, and security impacts. This report includes the results of the HIV Epidemiological Modeling and Impact (HEMI) Study.

Available online

http://www.ausaid.gov.au/research/pubout.cfm?ID=6912_3210_5427_6152_4107&FromSection=Research&Type=All

60. *India and South East Asia: The Security Cooperation*

Y. M. Bammi

Gyan Publishing House

Lieutenant-General Bammi, now retired from military posts in India, has written this study of security threats being faced in Southeast Asia and the role India can play to mitigate them. Consideration of the implications for India of these threats is followed by short assessments of national security strengths and weaknesses of each country in the region. The strategic interests of non-Southeast Asian nations and regional bodies in the security of the area and the South China Sea are overviewed. India's proposed "look East" policy is also addressed.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=39904>

61. *India and Southeast Asia: Towards Security Convergence*

Sudhir Devare

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

India's influence has been felt in Southeast Asia for more than a thousand years. This book looks at a modern aspect of this relationship, including the security dimension of the increasing engagement between India and ASEAN in response to the presence of the United States and China in Asia. The roles of maritime and economic cooperation, of the overseas Indians, and of Myanmar in this growing relationship are explored.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=38057>

62. *India Looks East: Strategies and Impacts*

Dong Zhang

AusAID

This report was prepared as part of an AusAID study on India's economic rise and its impact on East Asia. Economic reforms and liberalization have underpinned India's rapid economic rise since 1991, and the way such change is undertaken will continue to shape India's long-term growth and international economic relations. Greater exposure to competition has prompted Indian businesses to embark on a growth path based on innovation, efficiency, and profitability. This has resulted in improved competitiveness. Removing infrastructure bottlenecks will lift India's medium-term growth prospects.

In 1991, India adopted a "Look East" policy to promote economic integration with East Asia. The policy has supported India's economic transformation and growth, has enabled development of its lagging regions, and is helping India to shape an Asian economic

community. To deepen its economic integration with East Asia, however, India must overcome institutional obstacles and improve operational capacity, which are the targets of its next stage of reform and liberalization. [Available online](#)

http://www.usaid.gov/au/publications/pdf/india_east.pdf

63. *Integration in Asia and Europe: Convergence or Divergence?*

Paul J.J. Welfens, Franz Knipping, Suthiphand Chirathivat, and Cillian Ryan, eds.
Springer

Broadening and deepening of economic and political integration are hallmarks of the EU and ASEAN. This book critically analyzes the economic and institutional changes in both Europe and Asia. There is considerable potential for instability, but one also finds regional growth opportunities. Comparative policy analysis and evaluation of various cooperation strategies are presented. Emphasis is on banking, financial market dynamics, ICT, and macroeconomic policies as well as trade, energy, and environmental issues. Legal aspects are combined with historical and economic perspectives. Due emphasis also is placed on the impact of China and the role of international organizations. The comparative analysis of EU and ASEAN integration suggests important policy choices, including those at the multilateral level.

<http://www.springer.com/west/home/generic/search/results?SGWID=4-40109-22-72045920-0>

64. *International Economic Integration and Asia (Advanced Research in Asian Economic Studies 3)*

Michael Plummer and Erik Jones, eds.
World Scientific

Regional economic integration has become a key force in international commercial policy in the early 21st century. Europe has traditionally embraced regionalism; the United States became actively involved in preferential trading arrangements only in the 1980s. While Asia has been late in accepting formal regional economic integration accords, all Asian countries are now in the process of creating various free trade areas and other forms of economic integration programs, and some are already in place. This volume analyzes the regionalism trend from an Asian perspective. It considers the lessons from, and the economic implications of, various economic integration programs in the OECD (mostly the EU, but also NAFTA), as well as the proposals for closer economic integration in the region itself.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=40581>

65. *Intra-Asian Trade and the World Market*

John Latham and Heita Kawakatsu, eds.
Routledge

Intra-Asian trade is a major theme of recent writing on Asian economic history. From the second half of the 19th century, intra-Asian trade flows linked Asia into an integrated economic system, with reciprocal benefits for all participants. But although this was a network from which all gained, there was also considerable inter-Asian competition between Asian producers for these Asian markets and for those of the wider world.

This collection presents captivating snapshots of trade in specific commodities such as copper, fur, silk, textiles, and palm oil, alongside chapters comprehensively covering the region. Filling a particular gap in the literature on intra-Asian trade prior to the 20th century, this study contributes to our knowledge of Asian trade both prior to and after the arrival of colonial states.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Intra-Asian-Trade-and-the-World-Market-ISBN9780415372077>

66. *Japan and China in the World Political Economy*

Saadia Pekkanen and Kellee Tsai, eds.
Routledge

Two powers in East Asia today stand to define the region's economic and commercial future: Japan, which rose in a spectacular industrial burst to become at present the world's second largest economy; and China, which is rapidly advancing toward a market economy under the watchful eye of the world.

While much has been made of Japan and China's particular economic institutions and developmental paths, few works analyze them in a comparative framework. Including contributions from leading academics, the text focuses on the period from the 1980s to the onset of the 2000s, reviewing the experiences of Japan and China across the areas of development, trade, investment, finance, and technology. Drawing on a combination of official documents, economic statistics, case studies, and original fieldwork, this book offers a firmer grasp of the role Japan and China stand to play in the world political economy.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Japan-and-China-in-the-World-Political-Economy-isbn9780415369015>

67. *Japan, Australia and Asia-Pacific Security*

Brad Williams and Andrew Newman, eds.
Routledge

The threats to security in Southeast Asia have been serious and constant since the end of the Second World War. The book provides an absorbing account of the evolution of a key axis of regional stability—defense contacts between Japan and Australia—tracing the relationship from the early postwar period to the post-9/11 present. Though most works have focused on their economic nexus, Japan and Australia's defense and security ties have assumed increasing importance since the mid-1990s. With problems such as North Korea's nuclear program and the China-Taiwan standoff threatening regional stability, the two countries have sought to strengthen bilateral relations, and indications are that this relationship is likely to grow in the future. *Japan, Australia and Asia-Pacific Security* explores the evolution of their relationship in the broader context of Asia-Pacific security, addressing regional, subregional, and transnational issues.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Japan-Australia-and-Asia-Pacific-Security-isbn9780415381390>

68. *Japan in a Dynamic Asia: Coping with the New Security Challenges*

Yoichiro Sato and Satu Limaye
Lexington Books

Japan's increasing activism in its foreign relations in recent years has been brought about by a number of factors, including the end of the Cold War, the drastic growth of China, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and new transnational security threats. The papers in this volume update our understanding of Japan's rapidly changing foreign policies in the context of the new regional power balance and security concerns. Unlike most books on Japan's foreign policy, which focus mainly on US-Japan relations, this work analyzes Japan's relations with individual Asian countries and subregions. The role of the United States, when relevant, is discussed in the context of these bilateral and multilateral relations.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=40942>

69. *Key Economic Developments and Prospects in the Asia-Pacific Region 2006*

70. *Key Economic Developments and Prospects in the Asia-Pacific Region 2007*

Poverty and Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The purpose of the annual *Key Economic Developments and Prospects in the Asia-Pacific Region* is to provide a review of the international and regional economic environment. The report provides a forward-looking analysis focusing on principal policy issues and challenges likely to confront governments in the region over the near term.

The 2006 report examines the international environment, prospects for the region in 2006, and subregional economic performance. It also raises key issues of concern for the region, including the potential for a new oil shock, global imbalances, the impact of a yuan revaluation, record reserves in the region, the challenges of avian influenza in the region, and international trade and the WTO agenda.

The 2007 report, published at the end of 2006, begins with a section that examines the widespread economic gains in 2006, including growth driven by a booming China and India and a reviving Japan. The next section looks at key economic issues on the watch list, asking whether China is “overheating” and looking at financial market volatility risks. The final section offers the outlook for 2007. [Available online](#)

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1119> (2006 edition)

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1177> (2007 edition)

71. *Knowledge, Commitment, Action Against Corruption in Asia and the Pacific*

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This publication assembles the papers presented during the 5th Regional Anti-Corruption Conference of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific, which was held in Beijing, China, on September 28–30, 2005. It reflects the comprehensive discussions, debates, and conclusions on pressing issues relevant to the fight against corruption in Asia and the Pacific. In addition to offering the conference conclusions and recommendations, chapters focus on achievements and new challenges in the fight against corruption in Asia and the Pacific, the role of international organizations and donors in the region’s fight against corruption, how the business sector can contribute to the fight against corruption, the role of surveys in anti-corruption reform, preventing corruption in disaster relief operations, conflict of interest in the public sector, and international legal assistance in the prosecution of corruption.

[Available online](#)

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/knowledge-commitment-action/default.asp>

72. *Korea: The East Asia Pivot*

Jonathan D. Pollack, ed.

Naval War College Press

This authoritative collection of essays, the second in the Policy Studies Series of the Naval War College Press, focuses on North and South Korea. The papers in this volume examine from a variety of perspectives how nearly 60 years after the establishment of rival states on the 38th parallel, and 15 years after the end of the Cold War, “the ground is shifting in Korea.” Topics covered in this thought-provoking volume include the setting of Korean politics, political strategies of the two Koreas, and peninsular economic futures. These papers were first presented at the 2004 Naval War College’s Asia-Pacific Forum, at which specialists on Korean affairs and regional politics discussed the potential for major change on the Korean Peninsula. Despite the recent concern about North Korean nuclear development, the contributors take a wider view of the region, addressing such topics as the rebirth of ideology in South Korea, Korea’s economic dynamics, and the Chinese view of Korea.

http://www.bernan.com/Online_Catalog/Title_Page.aspx?TitleID=194770

73. *Labor Markets in Asia: Issues and Perspectives*

Asian Development Bank (ADB); Palgrave Macmillan

By conservative estimates, Asia is home to about 500 million workers who are either unemployed or underemployed. Therefore, helping people as workers is critical for poverty reduction. Why are countries across Asia unable to create enough employment for their growing labor forces? Are supposedly rigid labor markets the reason? This volume argues that while labor market reforms may be necessary in some specific cases, by no means are labor market policies the main explanation for the widespread increase in unemployment and stubborn underemployment across Asia.

Country specific studies for China, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam undermine the case for across-the-board labor market reforms. Instead, the authors advocate well-designed, country-specific reforms that target the particular policies that may inhibit employment creation. The authors also argue that governments across developing Asia must bring the objectives of full, productive employment to the top of their agendas.

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Labor-Markets/default.asp>

74. *Managing Globalization: Lessons from China and India (Inaugural Conference of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy)*

David A. Kelly, Ramkishan S. Rajan, et al., eds.

World Scientific Publishing

The dynamics of a global economy are being reshaped by the economic emergence of two Asian giants, China and India. How the world's two most populous countries manage globalization as they pursue economic reform and liberalization will significantly impact their societies, the rest of Asia, and the world. This book brings together articles by scholars of China and India to share and discuss their research findings in four areas: challenges, opportunities, and responses to globalization; social security and governance; national security in the age of globalization; and ethnicity and identity in the new world. The book includes an opening address by Singapore's Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=40106>

75. *Managing Sino-American Crises: Case Studies and Analysis*

Michael D. Swaine and Zhang Tuosheng, eds., with Danielle F. S. Cohen

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

US-China relations have witnessed significant tensions and conflict over the years. Sensitivities and suspicions between Washington and Beijing have heightened as China's global power and influence have grown. Arguably, this new international order could increase the chances of a political-military crisis—or perhaps outright conflict—between the two powers. *Managing Sino-American Crises* brings together Chinese and American officials and participants in past confrontations, as well as scholars from both countries, to explore the changing features of crisis behavior and their implications for defusing future encounters. Using conceptual analysis and historical case studies, this authoritative volume identifies specific problems and opportunities that will likely confront both countries in the future. The authors propose recommendations that will improve the effectiveness of US-China crisis management skills.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/books/clientpr/carnegie/managingsinoamericancrises.htm>

76. *MDG Report: Progress in Asia and the Pacific 2006*

UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This report is the latest update on the progress toward meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Asia and the Pacific. By zooming in on specific indicators, the report

highlights the region's achievements and exposes issues on which much work remains to be done. It provides estimates of populations affected by social and economic poverty in the Asia Pacific region and compares it with the two other major developing regions, sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean. Asia Pacific countries continue to make progress toward the MDGs, but based on present trends, many are likely to miss some vital targets, including those for infant mortality, HIV prevalence, and access to water and sanitation in urban areas. Even more worryingly, some countries are at risk of failing to reach even two-thirds of the targets. [Available online](#)

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1174>

77. *Middle East–Asia Relations: Imagining Alternative Futures*

Ellen Laipson and Emile El-Hokayem

Henry L. Stimson Center

In light of the high interest in the growing ties between the Gulf region and the energy-hungry Asian powers (China, Japan, India, and Pakistan), the Henry L. Stimson Center is releasing a set of papers that can inform the debate about the future of Middle East–Asia relations and the role of the United States. In 2004, the Stimson Center contributed to the National Intelligence Council's Global Trends 2020 project by convening a series of workshops to consider how the interactions between and among the large states of the Middle East and the rising Asian powers might play out. The first section of this report, which was published in 2006, focuses on Middle East–South Asia relations, including an analysis and three scenarios, and the second section looks at Middle East–China relations, including one scenario. These scenarios are intended to stimulate thinking about potential alternative futures, not to describe or predict the policies and problems of these diverse countries out to the year 2020. [Available online](#)

<http://www.stimson.org/pub.cfm?id=336>

78. *Multinationals and Economic Growth in East Asia: Foreign Direct Investment, Corporate Strategies and National Economic Development*

Urata Shujiro, Chia Siow Yue, et al., eds.

Routledge

Developing countries in East Asia recorded remarkable economic growth until the Asian financial crisis erupted in mid-1997. Although several countries experienced devastating setbacks, most recovered to achieve reasonable rates of economic growth over the next few years. Sound macroeconomic management, export-oriented policies, and the availability of skilled and low-wage labor are among the factors that contributed to the rapid economic growth before the crisis and the recovery thereafter. Especially noteworthy is the role played by foreign direct investment (FDI). This book identifies factors that contributed to the expansion of FDI inflows in East Asia and enabled recipient countries to utilize FDI effectively. It includes case studies on China, South Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. Also included is a comparative study of investing firms headquartered in the United States, Japan, and Hong Kong. The authors conclude that social stability, clear and effective policy implementation, and corporate governance are all key factors in reaping economic success from FDI.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=40216>

79. *Multiregionalism and Multilateralism: Asian-European Relations in a Global Context*

Sebastian Bersick, Wim Stokhof, and Paul van der Velde

Amsterdam University Press

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an interregional forum that consists of the members of the European Union and the ASEAN+3. The main components of the ASEM process include political

dialogue, economy, education, and culture. *Multiregionalism and Multilateralism* focuses on the institutionalization of intraregional and interregional cooperation in the international system, with emphasis on the changing relationship between the EU, China, and India. The role of ASEM in this relationship is growing more important because of the growth of multilateralism as the cornerstone of the international system.

http://www.aup.nl/do.php?a=show_visitor_book&isbn=9789053569290

80. *New Paradigms for Transpacific Collaboration (Joint US-Korea Academic Studies Series 16)*

James M. Lister, ed.

Korea Economic Institute (KEI)

The KEI in Washington DC and the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) in Seoul, in cooperation with the University of Washington, cosponsored an academic symposium on the campus of the University of Washington in October 2005 to consider some key developments in Northeast Asia and US foreign policy toward that region. This volume contains the papers presented at the symposium.

The 2005 symposium examined a range of topics: the implications of advanced economic integration and cooperation in Northeast Asia; developments and possible opportunities in the region's energy sector, the recent impact of economic and political changes in South Korea, North Korean economic reforms and whether the dynamics of the North Korean political and economic systems are shifting, and the Bush administration's foreign policy toward Northeast Asia. [Available online](#)

http://www.keia.org/joint_studies.php

81. *New Zealand and the Developing FTA Architecture of the Asia-Pacific Region*

Robert Scollay

APEC Study Centre, University of Auckland

Understanding the existing and proposed free trade agreements encompassing the Asian region has increased in importance since the indefinite suspension of the WTO Doha round of trade talks. The Asia New Zealand Foundation (Asia:NZ) and the New Zealand Treasury commissioned Dr. Robert Scollay to examine trends in preferential trade in the Asia Pacific region, including simulations of proposed agreements and the impacts on New Zealand.

[Available online](#)

http://www.asianz.org.nz/files/FTA-Architecture_Full-Report.pdf

82. *Non-Traditional Security in Asia: Dilemmas in Securitisation*

Mely Caballero-Anthony, Ralf Emmers, and Amitav Acharya, eds.

Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), Nanyang Technological University

This book offers a comprehensive analysis of the nature of security issues confronting Asia. Given the growing trend of an expanding security agenda beyond the military dimension of interstate relations, this volume provides an extensive study of emerging nontraditional challenges to this region. These challenges include environmental degradation, illegal immigration, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, transnational crime, poverty, and underdevelopment.

In particular, this volume brings together regional perspectives from across Asia, examines how these perspectives are perceived and managed, and develops a systematic conceptual framework. Specifically, this study draws upon, modifies, and operationalizes the concepts of securitization and desecuritization.

<http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/books.html>

83. *North Korea 2005 and Beyond*

Philip W. Yun and Gi-wook Shin, eds.

Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University

In the summer of 1995, it was fashionable in Washington and Seoul to predict the imminent collapse of North Korea's political and economic systems, and even of the state itself. Ten years on, this volume aims to rectify misconceptions and increase collective understanding about North Korea. It is intended to present a snapshot of what is happening in North Korea economically, politically, and socially. To be sure, there is much we still do not know. Moreover, issues of North Korean nonproliferation are so often binary that compromise becomes difficult, if not impossible.

The distinguished contributors—specialists in politics, economics, human rights, and security—advocate a subtler, more multidimensional approach to the North Korea problem. Offering cautionary perspective on this poorly understood place, they highlight recent positive developments and suggest solutions to seemingly intractable problems. Most attest that economics, commerce, and integration may be the most powerful forces for change on the Korean Peninsula.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/books/clientpr/aprc/northkorea.htm>

84. *Order and Security in Southeast Asia: Essays in Memory of Michael Leifer*

Joseph Chinyong Liow and Ralf Emmers

Routledge

Michael Leifer (1933–2001) was one of the leading scholars of Southeast Asian international relations. He was very influential through his extensive writings and his contacts with people in academia, government, and business in the region. An impressively large number of his students have become leading figures in their own right. In this book of essays, two of Michael Leifer's last PhD students explore and reflect on the key themes of his work on Southeast Asia.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=38026>

85. *Pacific 2020: Challenges and Opportunities for Growth*

AusAID

The Pacific 2020 project is an initiative of the Australian minister for foreign affairs, the Hon. Alexander Downer, MP, and was developed and implemented by AusAID, the Australian Agency for International Development. This report was produced as part of the Pacific 2020 project, in collaboration with numerous individuals and organizations from throughout the Pacific islands region and elsewhere.

Pacific 2020: Challenges and Opportunities for Growth has two parts: part one provides a self-standing overview of the report's context, motivation, key findings and common themes, while part two provides details on each of the nine growth topics studied as part of the project.

Available online

<http://www.ausaid.gov.au/publications/pdf/pacific2020.pdf>

86. *The Paramount Power: China and the Countries of Southeast Asia*

Milton Osborne

Lowy Institute for International Policy

In a new Lowy Institute Paper entitled *The Paramount Power: China and the Countries of Southeast Asia*, Dr. Milton Osborne, an Australian expert on Southeast Asian history, examines how China's relations with Southeast Asia have dramatically changed for the better in the last 10 years. FTAs and strategic partnerships have replaced decades of mistrust and uncertainty. China is now the paramount power in Southeast Asia with significant soft power resources and

regional goodwill. China's new role poses new challenges for Japan and the United States in the region and globally. [Available online](http://www.lowyinstitute.org/Publication.asp?pid=370)
<http://www.lowyinstitute.org/Publication.asp?pid=370>

87. *The Paths Ahead: Missile Defense in Asia*

Jeremiah Gertier
Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

The Paths Ahead reviews the current situation and future prospects of ballistic missile defense (BMD) in Asia. The study considers the threats to—and defensive capabilities of—Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, India, and Australia and illustrates the BMD policy choices each faces. It also outlines policy options for the United States, should it choose to assist in providing defenses. *The Paths Ahead* draws on the expertise of numerous foreign policy and missile defense experts.

[Available online](http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_pubs/task,view/id,3019/type,1/)

http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_pubs/task,view/id,3019/type,1/

88. *Piracy, Maritime Terrorism and Securing the Malacca Straits*

Graham Gerard Ong-Webb, ed.
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) and International Institute for Asian Studies

Maritime piracy continues to persist as a significant phenomenon manifesting a range of social, historical, geopolitical, security, and economic issues. Today, the waters of Southeast Asia serve as the dominant region for the occurrence of piracy and the challenges it poses to regional security and Malacca Straits security. As a second installment within the Series on Maritime Issues and Piracy in Asia, published by the International Institute of Asian Studies at Leiden University and ISEAS, the authors of this volume add fresh perspectives to the ongoing debate about piracy, the threat of maritime terrorism, and the challenge of securing the Malacca Straits today.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

89. *Political Fences and Bad Neighbors: North Korea Policy Making in Japan & Implications for the United States*

James L. Schoff
Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis (IFPA)

In September 2005, the IFPA began a study of recent trends concerning Japan–North Korea relations and the mechanics of Japanese foreign policymaking toward North Korea. The goal of the study was to enhance US policymakers' understanding of the current and future political dynamics in Japan on the North Korean question, in part by closely examining the underlying trends related to Japanese public opinion toward North Korea, to the changing personalities and policymaking habits and structures in the Japanese government, and to ways that the media and policy pressure groups influence the North Korea debate in Japan. This report describes the findings of the project's research and interviews, and it seeks to identify the determining factors behind Japan's evolving North Korea policy and to assess their implications for US policymakers in the near and medium term. [Available online](http://www.ifpa.org/pdf/fences.pdf)

<http://www.ifpa.org/pdf/fences.pdf>

90. *Politics of Death: Political Violence in Southeast Asia (Southeast Asian Modernities 4)*

Aurel Croissant, Beate Martin, et al., eds.
LIT-Verlag

This volume analyzes four aspects of political violence in Southeast Asia: elections and violence; intra-ethnic conflict; communist insurgency; terrorism and religious extremism; and lethal crime and politics. Together, the 10 case studies on Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines,

and Thailand challenge the idea that democratic governance will bring an end to internal violent conflict. As some examples in the region suggest, semi-democratic polities in Southeast Asia may even be more successful in reducing levels of internal violence compared with new democracies in their neighborhood and other types of political regimes they have tried in the past.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=41366>

91. *Poverty, Health, and Ecosystems: Experience from Asia*

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The majority of Asia's poor live in rural areas where ecosystems they depend on are facing strains from unsustainable exploitation or conversion to other uses, according to a new publication launched by the ADB and the World Conservation Union (IUCN). The book, *Poverty, Health, and Ecosystems: Experience from Asia*, offers 16 case studies that highlight the challenges faced by these poor and often resource-dependent households across Asia, and offers new insights into the relationships between healthy ecosystems and healthy people. The cases also delve into the social processes that underpin poverty and often perpetuate the unsustainable management of natural systems—by both the poor and non-poor, and by local and external groups. The case studies present a range of efforts to overcome such problems, often relying on alliances between civil society and development agencies and resource-based NGOs that can help facilitate wider legal redress. The book was prepared as part of the ADB's Poverty and Environment Program. [Available online](#)

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Poverty-Health-Ecosystems/default.asp>

92. *Power Shift: China and Asia's New Dynamics*

David Shambaugh, ed.

University of California Press

The dynamics of international relations in Asia are undergoing broad and fundamental changes that are reverberating around the world. The primary catalyst of change in the region is the rise of China as the engine of regional economic growth, as a major military power, as a significant voice in regional diplomacy, and as a proactive power in multilateral institutions. With in-depth assessments by 17 leading experts on China's foreign relations, this volume offers a comprehensive analysis of China's emerging influence on international relations in Asia.

The contributors explore the various dimensions of China's rise, its influence on the region, the consequences for the United States, and alternative models of the evolving Asian order. What emerges is a clear picture of China increasingly at the center of the regional web; while North Korea and Taiwan could erupt in conflict, the predominant trend in Asia is the creation of an extensive web of mutual interdependence among states and nonstate actors.

<http://www.ucpress.edu/books/pages/10447.php>

93. *The Powers of Ideas: Intellectual Input and Political Change in East and Southeast Asia*

Claudia Derichs and Thomas Heberer, ed.

NIAS Press/ Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The traditional approach to studying the politics of a region is to focus on events, personalities, and issues—the mechanics of the political process. What this volume looks to do is to step back and examine ideas and visions, as well as those who articulate them and/or put them into operation. The contributors thus aim to conceptualize what discourse means for political change in East and Southeast Asia, and how ideas in discourses affect political practice. As well as theorizing on the roles of intellectuals, ideas, and discourses for processes of democratization, reform, and change, the chapters also offer insights into the national and local, the general and the specific situation of the selected countries.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

94. *Prospects for Regional Financial and Monetary Integration in East Asia*

Yung-chul Park and Doo-yong Yang
Korea Institute for International Economic Policy

The financial crisis that erupted in 1997 weakened the region's confidence and gave a strong impetus to the search for a regional mechanism that could forestall future crises. This search has been gathering momentum and opening the door to possibly significant policy-led integration in East Asia. The adoption and implementation of the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) and Asian Bond Market Initiative (ABMI) could be counted as a major step toward strengthening financial and monetary cooperation in East Asia.

This study begins by examining financial market liberalization and integration, looking at the potential benefits of financial integration and the connection between financial integration and monetary unification. The next sections focus on capital flows in Asia, financial globalization and real (trade) regionalization, the economic rationale for a regional financial arrangement in East Asia, recent developments in the CMI and ABMI, exchange rate policy coordination for monetary unification, and barriers to financial cooperation and integration.

Available online

http://www.kiep.go.kr/eng/std_data_view.asp?num=131974&sCate=013002&sSubCate=&ITp=r&nowPage=3&listCnt=15

95. *Pursuing Gender Equality through the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific*

Asian Development Bank (ADB), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Pursuing Gender Equality through the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific was published jointly by the ADB, the UNDP, and UNESCAP. The paper is part of a series of studies identifying critical issues and problems concerning the timely achievement of the MDGs. If the MDGs are to be achieved, ensuring gender equality and women's empowerment is essential. Yet despite formal commitments made by countries to guarantee equality between the sexes, and despite the demonstrated benefits of gender equality to societies and economies, gender discrimination remains pervasive in the Asia Pacific region. MDG progress reports and studies from across Asia Pacific confirm the interrelationships between the gender-specific MDGs and all of the other goals, as well as the importance of a gender perspective in any strategy to achieve these goals. This report provides examples of promising initiatives and supportive institutions, and recommends a number of actions that key stakeholders should take. Available online

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/books/pursuing-gender-equality/default.asp>

96. *Regional Action Plan towards the Information Society in Asia and the Pacific*

Information, Communication and Space Technology (ICSTD), UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

This publication is a further step in the direction envisaged in the *Regional Roadmap towards an Information Society*. It addresses the key issues relating to the application of information and communication technologies and outlines how the global and regional initiatives could promote and catalyze actions at the regional and national levels. It outlines a comprehensive plan and strategic framework for collaborative ICT programs and projects at the regional level for realizing the vision of an inclusive and sustainable information society in Asia Pacific.

Available online

http://www.unescap.org/icstd/Pubs/st_escap_2415.pdf

97. *Regional Cooperation and its Enemies in Northeast Asia: The Impact of Domestic Forces*

Edward Friedman and Sung-chull Kim, eds.
Routledge

Examining the prospects for building a regional community in Northeast Asia, this book considers the foreign policies of the individual states as well as the impact of domestic politics on the regionalist agenda. It outlines the emerging Northeast Asian community and the domestic requisites for its evolution and realization, and puts it in context by comparing the emerging community with Southeast Asia.

The book investigates the attitudes of the key powers, including China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, Russia, and the United States, toward the ideal of greater regional cooperation, with particular emphasis on the implications of domestic factors in each country for regional dynamics. It concludes by identifying the foremost dangers that risk obstructing greater regional cooperation, particularly the China-Japan rivalry, nationalist sentiments, territorial disputes, and energy competition.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Regional-Co-operation-and-Its-Enemies-in-Northeast-Asia-isbn9780415399227>

98. *Regional Integration in East Asia and Europe: Convergence or Divergence?*

Bertrand Fort and Douglas Webber, eds.
Routledge

A fascinating insight into how regional organizations in Europe and East Asia are currently grappling with a striking number of essentially similar challenges, this issue-based overview of political integration focuses on the differences and similarities in regional integration levels and processes in the two regions in order to examine how the long-term future, role, and impact of organizations such as the EU and ASEAN may depend heavily on how well they deal with complex and conflict-laden issues in the next few years.

This volume analyzes the historical development, current state, and prospective future evolution of political integration in the two regions. Leading Asian and European scholars identify key variables that account for the contrasting political integration levels, clearly demonstrating and explaining why the rhythm of integration in both regions varies.

<http://www.routledge.com/>

99. *Regional Outlook: Southeast Asia 2006–2007*

Russell Hiang-Khng Heng and Rahul Sen, eds.
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

Launched in 1992, *Regional Outlook* is an annual publication of ISEAS published every January. Designed for the busy executive, professional, diplomat, journalist, or interested observer, *Regional Outlook* aims to provide a succinct analysis of current political and economic trends shaping the region and the outlook for the forthcoming two years. This forward-looking book contains focused political commentaries and economic forecasts on all 10 countries in Southeast Asia, as well as a select number of topical pieces of significance to the region. [Available online](#)

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

100. *Regional Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding, A CSCAP Study Group Report (Issues & Insights 10, no. 6)*

Pacific Forum CSIS

This is a report on the second meeting of the CSCAP Study Group on Regional Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding, convened on March 11–12, 2006, in Vancouver. Twenty-two participants came from South Asia, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand, and North

America and had extensive professional training in government, military, civilian policing, academia, NGOs, and former and current UN and other multilateral monitoring, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding missions. The study group identified several political, operational, and organizational challenges to, and opportunities for, expanding and improving upon the Asia Pacific's current contributions to international peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts. [Available online](#)

http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_pubs/task,view/id,3380/type,1/

101. *Regionalism in Southeast Asia*

Nicholas Tarling

Routledge

Regionalism in Southeast Asia provides the reader with a historical analysis of Southeast Asia from the distinct perspective of regionalism. Southeast Asian history is usually written from a national point of view, which underplays the links between neighboring states and nations and the effects of these bonds on the development of regionalism. This innovative book begins by defining the meaning of "region" and "regionalism" and then applies those terms to periods in history in Southeast Asia, looking at how patterns of regionalism have shifted through time to the present day. By focusing on the regional perspective, Tarling gives an original treatment of Southeast Asian history, its political dynamics, and its international relations. *Regionalism in Southeast Asia* completes a trilogy of books on Southeast Asia by Nicholas Tarling, the other two being *Nationalism in Southeast Asia* and *Imperialism in Southeast Asia*.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Regionalism-in-Southeast-Asia-ISBN9780415379625>

102. *The Role of Public Administration in Building a Harmonious Society*

Raza Ahmad, ed.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This volume brings together a selection of papers presented at the 2005 annual conference of the Network of Asia-Pacific Schools and Institutes of Public Administration and Governance, held in Beijing in December 2005. The meeting's theme was the role of public administration in building a harmonious society. The papers explore a number of subthemes: citizen participation and local autonomy, public administration strategies, innovations in governance and public service, conflict resolution and peace building, demographic transitions and imbalances, healthcare for the poor, and the teaching of public administration and policy.

This collection of papers reflects the diversity of "grounded" voices to be found in the region. While the approaches are different, a distinguishing feature is the depth of local knowledge they exhibit and the manner in which innovation from within the Asia Pacific region is highlighted. [Available online](#)

<http://www.adb.org/documents/Books/Role-Public-Admin-Building-Harmonious-Society/default.asp>

103. *Russia-ASEAN Relations: New Directions*

Gennady Chufirin, Mark Hong, Teo Kah Beng, eds.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) and Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO)

With the rise of India and China, the rest of Asia is feeling the great impact of socioeconomic changes and challenges created by these twin engines of progress and cooperation. The question on the minds of regional analysts is, Where is Russia in the midst of these vast changes? What is its role? How and why is a great power like Russia adopting such a low profile in the region? In what ways can ASEAN engage Russia?

Currently, Russia's interaction with ASEAN is limited to dialogue between both parties; trade between both sides is categorized by Russian arms sales and ASEAN raw materials. This book sets out to help explain these anomalies and puzzles by examining the state of relations between Russia and selected individual ASEAN countries. Several interesting ideas are offered, such as a proposal for a Russia-ASEAN FTA, building tourism and business bridges through budget airlines, and strengthening and energizing the ASEAN-Russia dialogue.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

<http://www.imemo.ru/en/publ/index2006.php>

104. *Shifting Terrain: The Domestic Politics of the US Military Presence in Asia*

Sheila A. Smith

East-West Center

The United States has maintained military forces in the Asia Pacific region since the end of World War II, and its alliances with key countries in the region continue to be seen as critical to regional peace and stability. Attention has focused on the shifting regional balance of power or new sources of instability in the region, yet complex social and political changes in the countries that have hosted US forces are changing the way governments in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines manage the American troops stationed in their countries.

As the US government seeks to transform and realign its global military presence, Washington must consider these new domestic influences on governments that host US forces. Broad public support in these societies for a shared security agenda will be the foundation for future alliance cooperation. But Washington, Tokyo, Seoul, and Manila must give greater attention to the local impacts of US forces and develop policies that mitigate the pressures on local residents. [Available online](#)

http://www.eastwestcenter.org/publications/search-for-publications/browse-alphabetic-list-of-titles/?class_call=view&pub_ID=1979&mode=view

105. *Southeast Asia in Search of an ASEAN Community*

Rodolfo C. Severino

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

This volume on ASEAN reappraises the organization from the inside, through controversial or perplexing issues such as the "ASEAN Way"; the accession of the new members, including Myanmar; the principle of noninterference; regional security; regional economic integration; haze; SARS; and ASEAN's future.

Written by the former ASEAN secretary-general, this book illuminates the inner workings of the key Southeast Asian regional institution. It is a must-read for journalists, policymakers, political scientists, and others who need an insider's view on how ASEAN has evolved, how it operates, and whether it will remain relevant in the evolving Asia Pacific and global order.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

106. *Southeast Asia: Threats in the Security Environment*

T. H. Andrew Tan

Marshall Cavendish Academic

Of late, Southeast Asia has come into prominence as the "second front" in the global war on terrorism. This extra-regional designation, which initially caused angst and consternation, has given way to the region's participation, to varying degrees of enthusiasm, in the war on terrorism. Events such as the discovery of the Al Qaeda-linked Jemaah Islamiah (JI) network and the deadly Bali bomb attack in 2002 have brought the region into focus as a frontline in the war on international terrorism. As a very significant proportion of world trade and oil traverses the region's vital waterways, there is growing international recognition of the strategic

importance of Southeast Asia. This book consists of a selection of the author's conference papers, commentaries, and articles (1999–2004), now updated and revised.
<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=39276>

107. *Southeast Asian Studies: Debates and New Directions*

Cynthia Chou and Vincent Houben, eds.
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

What is the relevance of the area studies approach to Southeast Asia? The current state and future directions of area studies, of which Southeast Asian studies are a part, is a central question not only to scientists working in the field but also those engaged in university politics. This collection of nine articles is written by specialists from different disciplinary backgrounds and working in institutions of higher learning all around the world. It provides an up-to-date insight into the current state of the study field, including its strengths and weaknesses, and seeks ways to reconfigure Southeast Asian studies in order to meet the challenges of a region that is caught up in profound transformation as a consequence of both globalization and localization.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

108. *Spatial Disparities in Human Development: Perspectives from Asia*

Ravi Kanbur, Anthony J. Venables, and Guanghua Wan, eds.
United Nations University Press

Spatial disparities are a measure of the unequal distribution of income, wealth, power, and resources between peoples in different locations. This book focuses on issues of poverty and inequality that are directly related to the Millennium Development Goals. It addresses a wide range of issues, including interlinkages between conflict and inequality, poverty mapping, and the causes and consequences of inequality. It applies the latest research techniques, such as regression-based decomposition, poverty decomposition, and computable general equilibrium models. Containing theoretical and empirical contributions by some of the most prominent economists in the area of inequality and development studies, the book examines spatial disparities in areas including China, Russia, and Central Asia.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/books/clientpr/unupress/spatialdisparities.htm>

109. *State of the Environment in Asia and the Pacific 2005: Economic Growth and Sustainability*

UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The *State of the Environment in Asia and the Pacific 2005* report is a major review of sustainable development issues and environmental conditions and trends in Asia Pacific. It has been published every five years by UNESCAP since 1985, with the support of the government of Japan. Key findings form the basis for the deliberations at the Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development.

The 2005 report takes a new and deeper look at the pressures on the environment arising from rapid economic growth in the region. It argues that member governments have made progress in improving environmental performance, but because of the limited environmental carrying capacity of the region and the immense pressure exerted by the changing consumption and production patterns, environmental degradation continues. The publication elaborates on “green growth” policy measures as a key requirement for achieving MDG 7 (environmental sustainability) and MDG 1 (poverty reduction). [Available online](http://unescap.org/esd/environment/soe/2005/mainpub/)
<http://unescap.org/esd/environment/soe/2005/mainpub/>

110. *State of the Region 2006–2007*

Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC)

A recent report on the state of the Asia Pacific region predicts a modest economic slowdown and warns that APEC is at risk of becoming irrelevant. PECC's *State of the Region* report forecasts real GDP growth of 4.3 percent in 2007 for the region as a whole, down from an expected 5.0 percent this year. The slowdown will be led by the United States, due to the cumulative effect of higher oil prices and rising interest rates over the last two years. The report includes findings from a survey of 370 regional opinion leaders and commentary on key risks and challenges facing the region. Charles E. Morrison, PECC international chair, notes that this survey is the first of its kind and that it provides unique insight into the views of government officials, scholars, and businesspeople from 21 economies. [Available online](http://www.pecc.org/sotr/default.htm#SOTR2006)
<http://www.pecc.org/sotr/default.htm#SOTR2006>

111. *Strategic Asia 2006–07: Trade, Interdependence and Security*

Ashley J. Tellis and Michael Wills

National Bureau for Asian Research (NBR)

This book examines the strategic balance in Asia and the increasing levels of trade and interdependence in the region, assessing the implications for the United States. *Strategic Asia 2006–07: Trade, Interdependence, and Security*, the sixth volume in NBR's Strategic Asia series, examines how trade and interdependence fit into the grand strategies of various Asian states and how changing economic relationships could affect regional stability in Asia. Through a combination of country, regional, and topical studies, the book assesses trade and investment dynamics in the region, the rise of new powers, the ongoing processes of globalization, and the impact of economic interdependence on security, and evaluates how these trends are altering Asia's strategic environment. [Available online](http://www.nbr.org/publications/book.aspx?ID=14)
<http://www.nbr.org/publications/book.aspx?ID=14>

112. *Strategy and Security in the Asia-Pacific*

Robert Ayson and Desmond Ball, eds.

Allen & Unwin Academic

In this volume, 20 specialists from the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at Australian National University explore some of the recent momentous changes in regional and international strategic affairs. Part One addresses general and international issues and Part Two looks at the Asia Pacific region, including the evolving power relationship between the United States and China.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=40183>

113. *Studying Non-Traditional Security in Asia: Trends and Issues*

Mely Caballero-Anthony, Ralf Emmers, and Amitav Acharya, eds.

Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDDS), Nanyang Technological University

The security challenges confronting Asia today go beyond the traditional dimensions of security and tend to be more diverse than what the region has ever known before. Issues like infectious diseases, trafficking in illegal drugs, irregular migration, environmental degradation, financial crisis, and natural disasters are increasingly being treated as pressing concerns with serious security implications. Such concerns pose threats to the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of nation-states as well as to the welfare and security of their respective societies and individuals.

Consisting of a collection of essays, this volume presents current trends and research directions in nontraditional security in Asia. It is structured around research projects

undertaken by various research institutes in the region, showcasing their major findings and highlighting key implications for the field of nontraditional security studies.
<http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/books.html>

114. *Transforming East Asia: The Evolution of Regional Economic Integration*

Naoko Munakata

Brookings Institution Press and the Research Institute of Economy, Trade, and Industry

East Asian economic integration is on the rise. Free trade agreements have proliferated throughout the region, and moves toward broader forms of regional cooperation are afoot. These initiatives have caused alarm in some quarters, leading observers to warn that East Asia may become a closed, inward-looking bloc. In this timely and important book, Naoko Munakata challenges this pessimistic interpretation.

Drawing on two decades of experience as an economic official and trade negotiator, Munakata argues that East Asian integration has little to do with either defensiveness or anti-Western sentiment. Instead, it reflects pragmatic calculations of economic interest, as well as a desire to build trust and a sense of community across the region. *Transforming East Asia* explores the impact these factors have had on developments since the mid-1980s, a tumultuous period in the region. The book also offers policy prescriptions for building on regionalism's achievements to date while identifying key uncertainties about the prospects for an East Asian community.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/books/transformingeastasia.htm>

115. *Transnational Migration and Work in Asia*

Kevin Hewison and Ken Young, eds.

Routledge Asian Studies

Focusing on the issues associated with migrating for work both in and from the Asian region, this book sheds light on the debate over migration and trafficking. With contributions from an international team of well-known scholars, the book sets labor migration firmly within the context of globalization, providing a focused, contemporary discussion of what is undoubtedly a major 21st century concern.

Transnational Migration and Work in Asia analyzes workers' motivations and rationales, highlighting the similarities of migration experiences throughout Asia. Presenting in-depth case studies of the real-life experiences and problems faced by migrant workers, the book discusses migrants' relations with the state and their vulnerability to exploitation, as well as the major policy issues now facing governments, employers, NGOs, and international agencies.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Transnational-Migration-and-Work-in-Asia-isbn9780415368896>

116. *Twenty-Two Years of ASEAN-ISIS: Origin, Evolution and Challenges of Track Two Diplomacy*

Hadi Soesastro, Clara Joewono, and Carolina G. Hernandez, eds.

Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Jakarta

This volume looks back on 22 years of the ASEAN-ISIS network. The book begins with a tribute to the founder of ASEAN-ISIS, Noordin Sopiee, who passed away in 2005. Leading scholars from the region offer their reflections on the contributions of ASEAN-ISIS and the role of track two diplomacy in the region.

http://www.csis.or.id/publications_book_view.asp?id=58&tab=0

117. *United Nations Seminar on Implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1540 in Asia and the Pacific (UN DDA Occasional Papers no. 11)*

UN Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA)

Conference proceeding from a 2006 UN conference on nonproliferation and disarmament efforts in Asia Pacific in keeping with UN Security Council Resolution 1540, which established for the first time binding obligations on all UN member states under Chapter VII of the UN Charter to take and enforce effective measures against the proliferation of WMD, their means of delivery, and related materials. It was intended to ensure that no state or nonstate actor is a source of WMD proliferation.

Sixty-seven government officials from 28 countries and from international organizations gathered in July 2006 to share their experiences in preparing their national reports and implementing resolution 1540, with a special focus on export controls, international assistance, and lessons learned. [Available online](#)

<http://disarmament.un.org/DDApublications/OP1106-64948web.pdf>

118. *Urbanization and Sustainability in Asia: Case Studies of Good Practice*

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The book presents case studies of good practices on sustainable urban development from 12 Asian countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. It provides insights into current issues, management approaches, and investment types in urban development in the Asian setting. It also provides other examples of good practices in sustainable urban region development in the context of more advanced economies. It is a useful reference for city managers, political leaders, and professionals responsible for planning and managing the development of cities.

[Available online](#)

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Urbanization-Sustainability/default.asp>

119. *US Alliances in Asia: Views of the Next Generation (Issues & Insights 6, no. 6)*

Brad Glosserman, ed.

Pacific Forum CSIS

Long-standing security alliances with Japan and the Republic of Korea have been a cornerstone of US engagement in Northeast Asia and with the broader Asia Pacific region. Those alliances have come under increasing scrutiny as the regional security environment has evolved. Critics charge their raison d'être has vanished with the dissolution of the Soviet Union and that their continued existence, as currently configured, is problematic for regional security. Beijing's antipathy to those alliances influences the thinking of US allies as they contemplate their relationships with Washington. Change is also taking place within Japan and the ROK.

This volume includes papers from two conferences held in early 2006 that looked closely at the state of those alliances and their future. The discussions, which involved young leaders from the region, focused on changing perceptions of the external environment, of domestic political priorities, of each ally's place in the world, and of the United States itself. [Available online](#)

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights_v06n06.pdf

120. *US-China Relations and East Asia Regionalism: What Lies Ahead? (Issues & Insights 6, no. 1)*

Ralph Cossa

Pacific Forum CSIS

This monograph briefly addresses five major issue areas affecting Sino-US relations: China-Taiwan cross-Strait developments, in which growing confidence in Washington's and Beijing's intentions and a severe limiting of Taiwan independence advocates' options have resulted in at

least a temporary defusing of this volatile issue; the North Korea nuclear crisis and broader Korean Peninsula issues, which provide the best current example of Sino-US strategic cooperation but which could easily unravel over a variety of issues; the promotion of freedom, democracy, and human rights; economic disagreements focused on balance of payments and revaluation issues; and the impact of more proactive Chinese diplomacy. It also addresses growing multilateral cooperation through current and emerging mechanisms, with special focus on the 2005 East Asia Summit and ongoing attempts at East Asia community building, arguing that this could, but does not currently or necessarily, represent another potential Sino-US "battlefield." [Available online](#)

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights_v06n01.pdf

121. *Whither the Six-Party Talks?: Issues, Stakes and Perspectives (NZAI Reg. Analysis 2006/1)*

Zhang Yongjin, ed.

New Zealand Asia Institute, University of Auckland

These 10 short papers from the New Zealand Asia Institute discuss a number of issues related to the ongoing Six-Party Talks, which have been addressing nuclear arms development in North Korea since 2003. Some of the papers present the participating countries' perspectives on the "nuclearization" of the peninsula, including two from the point of view of Australia and New Zealand.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=40701>

122. *Yearbook of Asian Affairs 2006*

Institute of Developing Economies (IDE)

The English edition of the *Japanese Yearbook of Asian Affairs 2006* (main sections only) offers information and analyses by research experts on the rapidly evolving trends in Asia. Chapters examine China's and India's rapid growth and the struggle for leadership in Asia, FTAs in Asia and the full-scale debate on the East Asian Community in 2005, the significance of and issues at the first East Asia Summit, the United States and Asia under pressure of domestic affairs, and the impact of high oil prices on the Asian economy. The second part of the book provides reviews by country and region. [Available online](#)

<http://www.ide.go.jp/English/Publish/Books/Yearbook/>

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