

# Dialogue and Research Monitor: Toward Community Building in East Asia

Vol. 7, January–December 2007

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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, 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 activities and publications occurring in 2007 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 dialogues 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 or publications that should be included in future editions of the *Dialogue and Research Monitor*, please send information to:**

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

## Overview

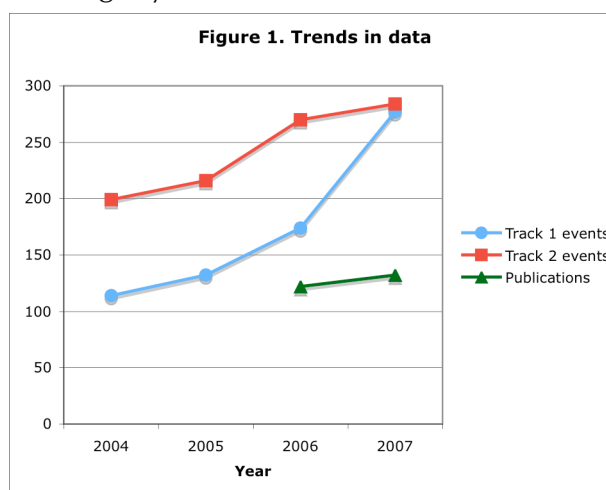
This volume of *Dialogue and Research Monitor* includes dialogues and publications conducted or published between January and December 2007 that were focused on East Asia community building or on regional cooperation on security-related issues broadly defined. It was a momentous year, marking the 40th anniversary of ASEAN, the adoption of the ASEAN Charter, and the 10th anniversary of the Asian financial crisis. Not surprisingly, an impressive number of dialogues were held this year.

We have identified 278 Track 1 and 284 Track 2 dialogues, as well as 132 publications. As shown in figure 1, 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, and in 2006 they were 174 and 270. We began conducting a more extensive survey of publications in 2006, and the number of relevant books and reports we found rose slightly in 2007 as well.

While this increase in part reflects the greater availability of information on the Internet, and in some cases, a shift in the way in which we gather data for this survey, one indicator that the upswing is real is the number of events that are described by their organizers as “inaugural” or “first” meetings. From 2005 to 2006, the number of new dialogue series (i.e., dialogues intended to be conducted regularly) jumped from 13 to 21; the 2007 list rose again to 32 new initiatives (15 new Track 1 dialogues and 17 Track 2). Key topics among the new initiatives on the Track 1 side included cooperation in such fields as defense, energy, disaster management and preparedness, and water. On the Track 2 side, the issues were more diverse and included energy security, cooperation among Northeast Asian research institutes on economic issues, the environment, preventive diplomacy, Islam and democracy, and public-private cooperation on various issues.

*It was a momentous year, marking the 40th anniversary of ASEAN, the adoption of the ASEAN Charter, and the 10th anniversary of the Asian financial crisis.*

environmental cooperation, which would be reflected in table 2.) In this overview, we will explore some of the key trends that we observed in 2007.



The following tables 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

**Table 1. Top ten dialogue themes**

	<i>Track 1</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Track 2</i>	<i>No.</i>
1	ASEAN/ASEAN Community	24	Energy	22
2	Economy/econ. cooperation	19	Environment	20
3	Bilateral/trilateral relations	18	Bilateral/trilateral relations Development	16 16
4	Environment	17	--	
5	ASEAN Charter	16	East Asia/Asia Pacific (general) Finance	15 15
6	Finance Transnational crime (incl. human/ drug trafficking, corruption)	14 14	--	
7	--		Economy Security/defense	13 13
8	Energy Health Security/defense	12 12 12	--	
9	--		Human rights Int'l relations/balance of power	10 10
10	--		--	

**Table 2. Top ten topics discussed at dialogues**

	<i>Track 1</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Track 2</i>	<i>No.</i>
1	ASEAN/ASEAN Community	71	Environment	64
2	Trade	56	Economy	61
3	Economy	53	Southeast Asia	58
4	Environment	47	Development	56
5	Development	45	Energy/energy security	51
6	Energy Health	37 37	Security/defense	43
7	--		China	42
8	Security/defense	36	Trade United States	30 30
9	Disaster relief/management	34	--	
10	Integration	33	Japan	27

## ASEAN and East Asia Community Building

ASEAN marked its 40th anniversary in 2007, adopting as its theme for the year, "One ASEAN at the Heart of Dynamic Asia." It was a time for reflection on past accomplishments and future directions, and several Track 2 dialogues were convened specifically on this topic. The ASEAN People's Assembly held a three-day conference on "ASEAN at 40—Realizing the People's Expectations," for example, while the ASEAN Think Tank Forum focused on "ASEAN at 40—Achievements and Challenges," and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies of Singapore convened an ASEAN 40th Anniversary Conference titled "Ideas and Institutions—Building an ASEAN Community?" These events examined the recent progress at the governmental and civil society levels toward participatory regionalism but also highlighted the many challenges that still lie ahead. They were, however,

somewhat exceptional: while ASEAN (including ASEAN community building) was the focus of the largest number of meetings on the Track 1 side, and was on the agenda of 71 Track 1 meetings in all, it was the focus of only a small number of meetings at the Track 2 level.

Throughout the year, a high-level task force met to draft the ASEAN Charter, which was finalized and signed at the ASEAN Summit in November 2007. (The charter came into force in December 2008.) During the process, the task force met with civil society organizations and international institutions such as the Asian Development Bank. It also met with human rights organizations as it considered a proposal for a human rights body within ASEAN. This was one of the more contentious issues raised in the charter, and it seemed likely to be the focus of ongoing debate in subsequent years. In 2007, there were 22 Track 1 and 7 Track 2 meetings that discussed the charter, the latter generally in the context of future prospects and challenges for ASEAN as a whole.

The year 2007 also marked the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-US and of ASEAN-EU relations. Interestingly, there were only a few meetings on either the Track 1 or Track 2 level that focused on ASEAN-US relations; most discussions involving the United States looked at trilateral relations (e.g., US-Japan-ROK, US-China-Japan, or US-Japan-India relations), the US role in Asia Pacific, or the United States in Northeast Asia. ASEAN-EU relations also received limited attention as compared with European relations with Asia as a whole. However, the ASEAN-EU Commemorative Summit, a Track 1 event held in November, produced a plan of action to implement the Nuremburg Declaration on the ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership, which set out the framework and direction of comprehensive cooperation between the two sides in such areas as counterterrorism and transnational crime; trade promotion; energy, environment, and climate change; disaster management; and science and technology. (This is similar to the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership, which was announced in 2005.) The EU and ASEAN also agreed to move forward with negotiations on a free trade agreement.

In contrast to the meetings focused on ASEAN-US and ASEAN-EU relations, there were several ASEAN-China and ASEAN-Japan meetings that went beyond more general discussions of “bilateral” relations and focused on specific areas of practical cooperation, including the ASEAN-Japan Aviation Security Meeting, the ASEAN-Japan Counter Terrorism Dialogue, and the ASEAN-China Symposium on Progress of Human Infection with Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Prevention and Control.

ASEAN’s cooperation with China, Japan, and Korea also appeared to be expanding within the ASEAN+3 framework. In this year’s list, we identified 27 ASEAN+3 meetings related to our themes as compared with just 7 in 2005. These meetings covered such issues as energy security, information sharing on emerging infectious diseases, women and poverty eradication, transnational crime, climate change, and financial integration and stability. The increasing use of the ASEAN+3 format to address transnational and global issues appears to be strengthening the broader East Asia community as well. Whether the East Asia Summit mechanism will play a similar or complementary role over time remains to be seen.

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## Major Powers in the Region and Subregional Community Building

Looking at Asia more broadly, there was a relatively steady rate of events that examined the relationship with, or role of, major powers in the region. Our survey found a slight increase in Track 2 dialogues that examined the issue of **US involvement in Asia** (from 21 to 30) within the broader framework of their meetings and no change in the number of Track 1 meetings. As was the case last year, the vast majority of these discussions related to security or traditional international relations issues, as noted above. Only a handful discussed economic issues, while even fewer looked at the US role in addressing transnational challenges in the region. **Japan** was on the agenda of 36 discussions (a slight drop), and **China's role** in the region was discussed at 50 meetings (with a slight rise in Track 2 dialogues). As was the case with the United States, China and Japan were discussed primarily in the contexts of bilateral or trilateral relations, the balance of power in the region, economics, and security. Representative of this category of meeting was a workshop held by JCIE on "Managing China-Japan-US Relations and Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation," which was part of a research project examining a wide range of topics—the emergence of regional community, financial cooperation, and tensions in the Taiwan Straits, etc.—in the context of the trilateral relationship. **India** continued to be on the radar, but there was no significant change in the number or context of the discussions.

**Community building in Northeast Asia** was the focus of 5 Track 2 dialogues and served as the geographical context for more than 40 dialogues in all—10 governmental meetings (including 4 sessions of the Six-Party Talks) and 33 nongovernmental meetings. Of note among Track 1 meetings was a trilateral foreign ministers meeting among China, Japan, and South Korea—the first time such a meeting was held independently from other multilateral events.

The meeting focused on ways to expand cooperation on a range of issues, including trade and investment, environmental protection, climate change, and cultural exchange, and also addressed the Six-Party Talks and security in Northeast Asia. The ministers agreed to continue this trilateral dialogue in the future. Energy and security were the key themes for this subregion, with the Korean Peninsula being a key concern. This trend was clearly a response to North Korea's 2006 nuclear tests, which created a greater sense of urgency in discussions of institutional mechanisms for promoting stability in Northeast Asia.

By contrast, 4 dialogues examined the **Southeast Asian region** specifically (as opposed to the institutional framework of ASEAN), and 28 dialogues (5 at the Track 1 level) examined issues within that subregional context. Topics here were more mixed, ranging from traditional security to the environment, nonproliferation, gender issues, and migration. Examples include a Stanley Foundation-funded meeting of scholars and practitioners to discuss "New Power Dynamics in Southeast Asia," which considered changing power competition in Southeast Asian security, terrorism, new and nontraditional security issues, and the changing regional security architecture; and a gathering held by the Hiroshima Peace Institute that analyzed bilateral tensions in Southeast Asia and the appropriate mechanisms for dispute settlement.

A number of events also focused on **smaller subregions**, such as the Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines–East ASEAN Growth Area; the

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Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle; the Cambodia–Lao PDR–Myanmar–Vietnam region; the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation mechanism (India, Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam); the Pacific Islands; and the Southwest Pacific (Australia, Indonesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, and Timor Leste). Some of these groupings primarily target the promotion of trade and development, but a number of meetings also addressed transnational issues. For example, the Southwest Pacific officials discussed political and security trends within the member nations and in the region and also considered ways to promote cooperation in the areas of education and culture, transnational crime and terrorism, interfaith dialogue, maritime issues, avian influenza and HIV/AIDS, and the prevention of natural disasters.

## Economic Community Building

The year 2007 was also the 10th anniversary of the *Asian financial crisis*, and there were 10 Track 2 conferences that focused specifically on the lessons learned from that crisis. The number of events that focused on finance and the economy overall (including the “anniversary” events) grew dramatically, as did events looking at economic integration. Among Track 1 events, we found 41 dialogues on economic, financial, and trade issues and another 33 Track 2 events. Roughly a dozen of these meetings discussed the development of the *ASEAN Economic Community*, while 9

*Out of the close to 90 dialogues on economic, trade, and financial issues, 75 percent were ongoing dialogues rather than one-time-only events.*

dialogues discussed the stalled *Doha Development Round* of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and its impact on the region. The WTO itself held two meetings in the region to discuss the progress in, and the implications for Asia Pacific of, the Doha Round. *Economic integration* was the specific focus of 14 dialogues on our lists (6 Track 1 and 8 Track 2). The general approach to the theme seemed to be similar to

previous years, as meetings examined the implications of regional integration for Japan and the United States, ways to build the institutional and financial foundations for regional integration, and lessons to be learned from Europe. An Asian Development Bank meeting in 2007 also reviewed the poverty impacts of regional economic integration. Trade was the focus of another 13 events, and while the overall trends in discussions were similar to previous years, there seemed to be a slight decline in the number of meetings where free trade agreements were high on the agenda.

One trend that we noted among events on these topics was the *prominent role of ongoing dialogues* rather than one-time conferences. Out of the close to 90 dialogues on these issues, just one-quarter were one-time-only events, and about half of those were meetings that looked at the 10th anniversary of the financial crisis. This is 10 percent higher than the overall ratio for our list (65 percent), which seems to indicate that the institutional frameworks provided by ASEAN, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council have played an important role in creating an ongoing dialogue on economic, trade, and financial issues in the region.

Dialogues focusing specifically on *economic development and poverty alleviation*, on the other hand, were primarily organized by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the United Nations Development

Programme, and/or the Asian Development Bank, and the majority were Track 2 dialogues. The Global Development Conference, for example, held its annual meeting in Beijing in 2007 and highlighted the implications of Asia's rise for development in other regions, with poverty reduction and sustainable development as the underlying themes. Some meetings took a very concrete approach, such as a regional meeting on the theme "Towards a Joint Regional Agenda for the Alleviation of Poverty through Agriculture and Secondary Crop Development," while others took innovative approaches, such as the ESCAP and Thai government's meeting on "Happiness in Global Perspectives and Local Interpretations: The Implication for Alternative Development Paradigms and Public Policy." Development and poverty were discussed at roughly 100 meetings in 2007, making it the third most talked about issue in 2007, behind the economy and the environment.

### **Traditional and Nontraditional Security Cooperation in the Region**

Of the 562 dialogues we identified in 2007, roughly 11 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 13 percent of the 132 publications on our list focused on security as well. Perhaps the most significant shift from 2006 to 2007 was the increased number of events at the Track 1 level that either directly or indirectly addressed traditional security and defense concerns—nearly doubling from the previous year. Of note were the holding of the first ASEAN Defense Senior Officials Meeting and the first ASEAN Defense Ministers Retreat and the expansion of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Defense Officials Dialogue to a full-day format, showing the increased engagement within ASEAN on security cooperation.

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There was a slight increase in 2007—particularly in Track 1 venues—in discussions of **nonproliferation, weapons of mass destruction, and arms trafficking**, with a total of 47 projects (compared with 35 in 2006) discussing those topics. **Northeast Asia and North Korea** figured into nearly half of those dialogues. **Terrorism** discussions also increased very slightly over the previous year, with meetings organized by ASEAN, the ARF, the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), and Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation, among others. Some of the issues covered included ways to increase information exchange, capacity building through training, and exchanges on counterterrorism among countries in Southeast Asia; ways for Asia and Europe to work together to tighten border controls and to combat terrorist financing and terrorist use of media; and the use and abuse of charities and new technology in financing terrorism.

One nontraditional security issue saw a dramatic jump in our survey. **Energy and energy security** became a key issue as the cost of a barrel of crude oil nearly doubled over the course of 2007. We identified 12 Track 1 and 22 Track 2 events that specifically focused on energy (up from 8 and 9 respectively in 2006). The number of dialogues that

included energy on the agenda also jumped by 75 percent over the previous year. While some projects addressed energy in the context of climate change, the majority took up the

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issue in a security context. The East Asia Summit launched an Energy Ministers Meeting and an Energy Cooperation Task Force during the year. This followed up on the Cebu Declaration on East Asian Energy Security, announced at the January 2007 summit, which stressed close cooperative efforts to enhance energy security for the region in order to ensure the supply of reliable, adequate, and affordable energy for sustainable economic growth and to enhance competitiveness. Official discussions were also underway on developing a mechanism for energy

cooperation in Northeast Asia. Key regional research centers and international organizations also took up this topic, examining the possibility of cooperation between businesses and government, between advanced and developing nations, and between Asia and Europe in coping, for example, with the increased regional demand for energy and in ensuring a stable and environmentally sound supply for the region.

## **Regional Cooperation on Transnational and Global Issues**

In the 2006 survey, we noted an increase in the number of events focusing on transnational and global issues, such as health, disaster risk reduction, transnational crime, the environment, and intercultural conflict. These numbers stayed roughly the same in 2007, but there were some notable exceptions. There were fewer Track 1 meetings focused on disaster relief/management or terrorism this year, and fewer Track 2 meetings focused on disasters or on health—although the latter showed only a very slight decline. The environment, transnational crime, and health were among the top eight issues examined in Track 1 dialogues, while on the Track 2 side, the environment was ranked second, while human rights came in at ninth in terms of the main focus of discussions.

The **environment** showed significant gains over 2006, as the number of Track 1 discussions we identified that focused on or addressed this issue more than doubled, and Track 2 events rose significantly as well. We also found more publications that examined the issue in the Asian context. These examinations of environmental concerns were in many cases done in conjunction with other issues, including development, income disparity, health, and energy. The 17th Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change, for example, examined measures to integrate climate change issues into development planning. A UN-OECD workshop focused on developing sustainability strategies in Asia to mitigate the heavy environmental toll of rapid economic growth in the region. And an international conference held by the Pacific Basin Consortium looked at ways to reduce risks to human and environmental health within a larger context that recognizes the importance of addressing development, poverty, equity, and sustainability.

*Discussions of the environment showed significant gains over 2006 and examined the environment in conjunction with such issues as development, income disparity, health, and energy.*

Many discussions of climate change began to address the “post-2012” challenges of how to move beyond the Kyoto Protocol. Some looked at subregional cooperation. The senior officials meeting of the Northeast Asia Subregional Programme for Environment Cooperation, for example, reviewed a proposal for launching an “Eco-efficiency Partnership in Northeast Asia.” And a number of ASEM and ASEAN-EU meetings looked at interregional cooperation as well.

As noted above, in 2007 there was a decline in discussions focused on **disaster relief and management** after the upward blip in 2006 that resulted from the tragic 2005 tsunami. However, the topic was included on the broader agendas of more Track 1 dialogues than ever before, implying that it is a subject being discussed in terms of ongoing regional cooperation. More than half of the 11 events that did focus specifically on this topic were held by ASEAN, while two of the nongovernmental meetings were organized by the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

The numbers for the **health** field stayed roughly the same, although it was included on more Track 1 agendas than the previous year. The number of events specifically mentioning avian influenza dropped off a bit from the 2006 numbers, as did those specifically mentioning HIV/AIDS, but discussions of infectious disease in general rose slightly and it was addressed in a variety of contexts. For example, the meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry examined disease control programs in livestock and aquatic animals, including the progress in the implementation of the Regional Framework for Control and Eradication of HPAI in ASEAN; the Asian Development Bank held a seminar on sanitation, which sought to help local governments improve sanitation as a way of improving public health; and a workshop was held by ASEAN and China’s Ministry of Health to develop a protocol for communication and information sharing on emerging infectious diseases in the ASEAN+3 countries. ASEAN also holds regular meetings on the issue in the form of the ASEAN Workshop on Control and Eradication of HPAI, the ASEAN Task Force on HPAI, the ASEAN Regional Workshop on Multisectoral Coordination in Pandemic Preparedness and Response, the Meeting of the ASEAN Experts Group on Communicable Disease, and the Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development.

*The number of events specifically focusing on avian influenza or HIV/AIDS dropped slightly, but discussions of infectious disease in general rose slightly and it was addressed in a variety of contexts.*

**Transnational crime**, including **drug and human trafficking**, held fairly stable as a focus for discussions. It appears that there are regional mechanisms in place that are moving forward steadily to address these issues, such as meetings of the heads of specialist anti-trafficking in persons units, the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative Against Trafficking (COMMIT), the ASEAN and China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD), the meetings of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drugs, and the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime and its working group on narcotics. The discussions, as in the past, were primarily held at the Track 1 level, with relatively little work being done on the Track 2 side.

The reverse held true for **gender**-related discussions. Gender was the focus of 7 Track 2 discussions in 2007, and gender issues were raised in 18 Track 2 meetings in all. On the Track 1 level, those numbers were 2 and 5 respectively. One workshop held by the

World Bank, the UK Department for International Development, and the UN examined how to strengthen the achievement of gender equality objectives within specific aid effectiveness initiatives in Southeast Asia. Other meetings considered gender, poverty, and infrastructure; legal empowerment for women; female labor migration in globalizing Asia; and women and poverty in the context of human security.

There also seemed to be an increased discussion of *human and civil rights*—particularly among the Track 1 events. Two key factors in this elevated discourse were the debate over the inclusion of a human rights commission in the ASEAN Charter, and the midpoint review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons.

Finally, another interesting trend that directly relates to many of these transnational and global issues was a slight rise in the number of references to the concept of *human security*. One major conference, focused on “Mainstreaming Human Security: The Asian Contribution,” was organized by Chulalongkorn University to examine the status of human security in Asia, to provide an Asian debate on the theoretical aspects of human security, and to look at the practical implications of the concept in terms of policy implementation. Notably, APEC is among the institutions that have introduced a human security dimension into its programs over the past two to three years.

## By the Book

In this year’s edition of *Dialogue and Research Monitor*, we once again placed our emphasis on identifying publications related to East Asia as a barometer of research being conducted in recent years. 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 noted above, we were able to identify 132 relevant publications that were released in 2007. While there was a wide array of topics, the top 10 themes addressed in these studies are summarized in the table below.

At the top of the list we find publications that examine *traditional security and defense* issues related to the Asia Pacific region. Four of these are broad, annual reviews of regional security issues—three of which are published by research centers in Japan (National Institute for Defense Studies), India (Institute for Defence Studies & Analyses), and the United States (East-West Center), and one that is a new annual survey published by the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific, an international dialogue and research consortium. The other publications on security represent diverse perspectives, from *The Role of Knowledge Communities in Constructing Asia-Pacific Security*, which focuses on the dearth of critical and/or post-positivist perspectives in Asia Pacific security studies and criticizes regional communities of security specialists and intellectuals for having contributed to a state-centric, political image at the expense of alternative ideas, to *East Asian Security: Two Views*, which examines the need for a new framework for Northeast Asian security that can cope with the legacy of frequent changes in the region’s great power relations, and *Reassessing Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific: Competition, Congruence, and Transformation*, which reexamines security cooperation in the region in light of such developments as the emergence of new roles for existing

institutions, the rise of new institutions, and the increasing formalization of regional institutions.

**Table 3. Main themes of publications**

<i>Theme</i>	<i>No.</i>
Traditional security/defense	11
Asia Pacific/East Asia—general	8
Bilateral/trilateral relations	8
Economy/economic cooperation	8
Health/disease	8
ASEAN community	6
Regionalism	6
International relations/balance of power	6
Development/poverty	5
China	4
Korean Peninsula/ North Korea	4
East Asian community	4
Environment	4

As was the case in the dialogues, there was a slight decrease in the focus given to **China**. (We should note that only books that examine China’s role in regional security and community building are included here; single-country studies are not included in this survey.) Two books looked specifically at China’s relations with Southeast Asia, while one looked at its security diplomacy more broadly and another sounded an alarmist note about “the coming China wars.” China was increasingly being examined in conjunction with India, as seen in such titles as *Dancing with Giants: China, India and the Global Economy*, *India & China in the Asian Century: Global Economic Power Dynamics*, and *India-China-Japan: The New Power Triangle in Asia*. The four books on **Korea** were split between those that looked at the security issues posed by North Korea and those that looked at Korea’s role in East Asia more broadly, while the three books on **Japan** that we identified looked at Japan’s shifting role in the region, such as the collection of essays by JCIE Fellow Hitoshi Tanaka that examines East Asian regional integration and Japan’s potential role in strengthening regional community building and establishing an East Asia security forum.

**Health** was a major theme in dialogues and proved to be the subject of a number of studies on Asia as well. Regional cooperation on preventing the spread of infectious diseases such as HIV, SARS, and avian influenza was the focus of five books on our list, such as JCIE’s book, *East Asian Regional Cooperation in the Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria*, while two ESCAP publications looked at ways to improve health systems in order to meet the health-related Millennium Development Goals in Asia Pacific, and another book examined *Public Health in Asia and the Pacific*, exploring how health problems in Asia Pacific and the collective responses to them have been shaped by cultural, economic, social, demographic, environmental, and political factors.

As was the case last year, the strong interest in **nontraditional security** that we see among the dialogues was not reflected in the publications. Some exceptions were *Disease & Security: Natural Plagues and Biological Weapons in East Asia* and *The Environmental Dimension of Asian Security: Conflict and Cooperation over Energy, Resources, and Pollution*. Two books focused on terrorism in Southeast Asia, while three examined

maritime security or piracy in the region. This is a fairly modest number compared with the number of dialogues held on these subjects.

Finally, the topics of **regionalism, East Asian community, and the ASEAN community** were the subject of an increasing number of publications, reflecting the trends in dialogues as well. Publications on regionalism focused on the emerging architecture for cooperation and its implications for other nations, such as the United States; contrasted the construction of regional communities in Europe and Southeast Asia; and looked at the obstacles and implications of Asia's "new regionalism." There were four books that looked at the East Asia community, four that addressed the ASEAN community, two that looked at regional cooperation and integration in the economic sphere, and seven that looked at regionalism in Asia as a whole.

The data in the 2007 volume of *Dialogue and Research Monitor* shows that the interest in and commitment to regional cooperation—particularly on functional issues—appears to be steadily increasing in the Asia Pacific region. The number of ongoing dialogues (as opposed to one-off meetings) has been growing at both the governmental and nongovernmental levels, and these meetings are providing a basis for greater engagement, confidence building, and cooperation on delicate issues such as national security and human rights. They are also facilitating efforts in the region to tackle the most pressing and immediate transnational issues of the day—from natural disasters to energy security, infectious disease, climate change, and terrorism. Instability in the region has certainly not disappeared, but as the situation in Northeast Asia demonstrates, this instability itself has prompted cooperation and dialogue that may very well serve as the basis for a strengthening of regional institutions. JCIE hopes that this annual survey of dialogues and research will contribute to a greater understanding of the steps being taken toward—and the challenges that still remain for—the creation of an East Asia community.

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## Track 1: Governmental Meetings

### January

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**Date:** January 10–14, 2007  
**Location:** Cebu, Philippines  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Senior foreign affairs and economic officials from ASEAN and ASEAN+3 countries, as well as India, met in an array of meetings on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit. In addition, the EPG on the ASEAN Charter held its final meeting before presenting its recommendations to ASEAN leaders.

**For information, see:** <http://www.12thaseansummit.org.ph/innertemplate3.asp?category=docs&docid=62>

2. **ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers Meeting; Japan-ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting; Foreign Ministers of the East Asia Summit (EAS) Meeting; Japan–Cambodia/Laos/Vietnam (CLV) Foreign Ministerial Meeting; Cambodia–Lao PDR–Myanmar–Vietnam (CLMV) Ministerial Meeting; 4th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation Ministerial Meeting**  
**Date:** January 11–12, 2007  
**Location:** Cebu, Philippines  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

On the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit, foreign ministers held an array of bilateral and multilateral meetings. The ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers Meeting held a working lunch to exchange views on ways to further promote ASEAN+3 cooperation and to discuss preparations for the ASEAN+3 Summit Meeting.

The Japan-ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting was held to review and further promote Japan-ASEAN cooperation and to prepare for the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting.

There was a working lunch of the foreign ministers of the EAS member countries to exchange views on regional cooperation and on preparations for the next EAS. In addition, a Japan-CLV Foreign Ministerial Meeting was held to exchange views on ways to further promote cooperation. Japan expressed its regard for the Mekong region as a priority area for economic assistance and pledged to increase its development aid to CLV countries and the entire region.

The fourth Mekong-Ganga Cooperation Ministerial Meeting brought together ministers from the six member countries of India, Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam. These countries stress cooperation in tourism, culture, education, and transportation linkages to create a foundation for trade and investment cooperation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/1/0105-3.html>  
<http://www.kh.emb-japan.go.jp/speech/2007/20070530.doc>

3. **10th ASEAN-China Summit; 10th ASEAN–Republic of Korea Summit; 10th ASEAN-Japan Summit; 5th ASEAN-India Summit**  
**Date:** January 11–12, 2007  
**Location:** Cebu, Philippines  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

On the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit, heads of state held an array of bilateral and multilateral summit meetings. At the ASEAN-China Summit, leaders welcomed China's five-point proposal for strengthening political mutual trust, bringing ASEAN-China economic relations and trade to a new level, carrying out cooperation in nontraditional security fields, actively supporting ASEAN community building and integration, and expanding social, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges. ASEAN leaders thanked China for its pledge of US\$1 million for Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) projects. Participants signed agreements on trade in services, information and communications technology cooperation, and agricultural cooperation.

The ASEAN-ROK Summit addressed North Korea's recent missile launches and nuclear test. Participants expressed concern, reaffirmed the need for full implementation of UN Security Council resolutions, and noted the possible role that the ASEAN Regional Forum might play in helping to promote dialogue and interaction with the DPRK. ASEAN leaders thanked the ROK for being the top contributor to the IAI, and the ROK announced that it will double its official development assistance (ODA) to ASEAN member countries by 2009.

At the ASEAN-Japan Summit, ASEAN leaders thanked Japan for its support of the Vientiane Action Programme and the IAI. Japan pledged new funding to help bridge the development gap in ASEAN through the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership and launched an initiative to expand its ODA to the Mekong region.

At the ASEAN-India Summit, participants welcomed India's "Look East Policy." ASEAN and India will launch a dialogue on an Open Skies Agreement to liberalize air services between the regions and foster interaction and movement between its peoples. Participants also welcomed India's increasingly active participation in the region.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/1/0105-3.html>  
<http://www.kh.emb-japan.go.jp/speech/2007/20070530.doc>

4. **3rd Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) Summit; 2nd Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle Summit; 3rd Cambodia-Lao PDR-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Summit**  
**Date:** January 12, 2007  
**Location:** Cebu, Philippines  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

In broad-ranging discussions that covered topics related to the region's economy, security, energy, environment, and sociocultural issues, the leaders of the BIMP-EAGA reaffirmed their commitment to narrowing development gaps in ASEAN as an essential step in the realization of an ASEAN Community. Participants discussed the progress made in the implementation of the BIMP-EAGA Roadmap to Development 2006-2010, such as the completion of a BIMP-EAGA database on cross-border trade, investment, and tourism; the preparation of an energy action plan; and the conduct of joint trade and tourism promotion activities. To enhance regional transport connectivity, leaders signed a memorandum of understanding on expansion of air linkages. The second Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle Summit and third CLMV Summit were held as well.

**For information, see:** <http://www.12thaseansummit.org.ph/innertemplate3.asp?category=docs&docid=51>

5. **12th ASEAN Summit**  
**Date:** January 13, 2007  
**Location:** Cebu, Philippines  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The heads of state of ASEAN exchanged views on regional and international developments, focusing on how to deepen ASEAN integration to better foster the region's sustainable

development, stability, security, and prosperity. Participants signed the Cebu Declaration on the Blueprint of the ASEAN Charter to endorse the Report of the Eminent Persons Group on the ASEAN Charter, and also directed the High-Level Task Force to complete the drafting of the ASEAN Charter in time for the 13th Summit in November 2007. Leaders also discussed measures to further create linkages within ASEAN to work toward an economic, social/cultural, and security community.

In terms of external relations, participants welcomed the progress of free trade agreement negotiations with China, Japan, South Korea, India, Australia, and New Zealand. Leaders also considered forging closer cooperation with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

**For information, see:** <http://www.12thaseansummit.org.ph/innertemplate3.asp?category=docs&docid=62>

6. **7th China–Japan–Republic of Korea Summit Meeting**

**Date:** January 14, 2007

**Location:** Cebu, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Government of China

The seventh summit meeting among the leaders of China, Japan, and South Korea was held with the attendance of Wen Jiabao, Abe Shinzo, and Roh Moo-hyun. The three leaders expressed satisfaction with the recent development of relations among the three countries and shared the view that they shoulder a great responsibility for maintaining peace, stability, and prosperity in Asia. They stressed that strengthening future-oriented trilateral cooperation serves the long-term interests of their peoples and contributes to stability and development in the region. The leaders agreed to have more frequent exchanges and decided to set up a trilateral consultation mechanism at the level of senior foreign affairs officials. The first round of these consultations was to be held in China later in 2007.

**For information, see:** <http://chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/wjdt/2649/t289953.htm>

7. **10th ASEAN+3 Summit**

**Date:** January 14, 2007

**Location:** Cebu, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Heads of ASEAN member countries and of China, Japan, and South Korea reaffirmed their long-term goal of realizing an East Asia community. ASEAN+3 cooperation has expanded to such areas as women, poverty alleviation, disaster management, and minerals. Proposals included Japan's support for disaster reduction/preparedness education through the Asian Disaster Reduction Center and China's setting up of a regional monitoring network on infectious diseases. Participants reaffirmed their commitment to ASEAN community building, according priority to the successful implementation of the Vientiane Action Programme, narrowing the development gap, and facilitating ASEAN integration.

**For information, see:** <http://www.12thaseansummit.org.ph/innertemplate3.asp?category=docs&docid=61>

8. **2nd East Asia Summit (EAS)**

**Date:** January 15, 2007

**Location:** Cebu, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** EAS; chaired by the Philippines

The heads of state and government of ASEAN, Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea, and New Zealand exchanged views on regional and international issues, as well as on issues of strategic importance to the East Asian region. Issues discussed included poverty eradication,

energy, education, finance, avian influenza, natural disaster mitigation, the Doha Development Agenda, economic development and regional integration, interfaith initiatives, denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and the future direction of the EAS.

Energy was a particular priority area for the second EAS, and a special session was devoted to achieving the shared goal of ensuring affordable energy sources for development in the region. Discussions covered energy security, renewable and alternative energy sources, energy efficiency and conservation, and climate change and resulted in the Cebu Declaration on East Asian Energy Security.

Participants agreed to initiate concrete projects in all five of the priority areas of EAS cooperation—energy security, finance, education, avian influenza, and disaster mitigation—before the next summit.

**For information, see:** <http://www.12thaseansummit.org.ph/innertemplate3.asp?category=docs&docid=36>

9. **3rd Meeting of the BIMSTEC Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (JWG-CTTC)**

**Date:** January 16–17, 2007

**Location:** Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

BIMSTEC established the JWG-CTTC in 2004 to coordinate efforts of BIMSTEC member states in the areas of intelligence sharing and capacity building, as well as to strengthen joint efforts on counterterrorism and transnational crime. Participants at this third meeting unanimously approved an agreement to jointly combat international terrorism and illicit drug trafficking, which was then recommended to the BIMSTEC Summit. Moreover, participants decided to submit a recommendation to set up a BIMSTEC general secretariat office, establish a border liaison office, and promote mutual legal assistance in criminal matters to enhance cooperation against terrorism and transnational crime.

**For information, see:** <http://www.bimstec.org/NewsletterII.pdf>

10. **1st APEC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM I) for the 19th APEC Ministerial Meeting**

**Date:** January 18, 2007

**Location:** Canberra, Australia

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

At the APEC SOM I, participants discussed trade and investment liberalization and business facilitation; structural reform; economic and technical cooperation; and enhancement of human security, including counterterrorism, health issues, emergency preparedness, and energy.

**For information, see:** [http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2007/SOM/SOM1/07\\_som1\\_summary.doc](http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2007/SOM/SOM1/07_som1_summary.doc)

11. **Special ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (WGIPC)**

**Date:** January 21–22, 2007

**Location:** Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The WGIPC was established in the mid-1990s to implement the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Intellectual Property Cooperation and to serve as a forum for regular consultations to monitor regional and international developments on intellectual property. The working group brings together representatives from national intellectual property offices in ASEAN and international partners to discuss regional strategies on the development of intellectual property.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/9268.htm>

12. **1st Meeting of the ASEAN Nuclear Energy Safety Sub-Sector Network (NES-SSN)**

**Date:** January 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

In response to the recommendation of the 12th ASEAN Summit in Cebu, the ASEAN energy ministers created the NES-SSN to discuss civilian nuclear energy safety and security issues and to develop a nuclear safety regime at the regional level that meets international standards. In attendance at the first meeting as observers were two representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), who presented the IAEA's program on nuclear safety and security, with particular emphasis on the global nuclear safety and security regime and the Asian Nuclear Safety Network. The meeting offered an opportunity to discuss potential ways of strengthening cooperation between ASEAN and the IAEA in the area of nuclear safety.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ugm.cl/portal-corea/pdf/11-ASEAN-Plus-3\\_Statements.pdf](http://www.ugm.cl/portal-corea/pdf/11-ASEAN-Plus-3_Statements.pdf)

13. **15th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF)**

**Date:** January 22–25, 2007

**Location:** Moscow, Russia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** APPF

The 15th APPF was held with participants from 23 member nations. The first session examined political and security matters, and participants discussed such traditional and nontraditional threats to stability in the region as terrorism, drug trafficking, transnational organized crime, and nuclear proliferation. The second plenary session was on economic and trade matters, and participants noted the dynamism and significant economic potential of the region. They called on the APPF to become a platform for multilateral efforts to create the necessary environment for enhanced economic cooperation in the region. In the third plenary on regional cooperation, delegates exchanged views on intercivilization dialogue, disaster relief and emergency response, transport logistics, environmental and healthcare issues, pandemic diseases, information technology, and educational exchanges. Poverty eradication and migration were given the highest priority. The fourth plenary examined the future activities of the APPF. The meeting produced a joint communiqué and 20 resolutions.

**For information, see:** <http://www.appf.org.pe/meeting/fiftennth/communique-ingles.pdf>

14. **1st Chiang Mai Initiative Task Force for Multilateralization Meeting**

**Date:** January 23, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) is intended to address short-term liquidity difficulties and supplement existing international financial arrangements through a network of bilateral swap arrangements (BSA). At the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting+3 in 2006, ministers agreed to set up a new task force to further study various options toward an advanced framework for a more effective multilateral framework of regional liquidity support. The proposal for multilateralization that was approved at the 2006 meeting culminated in the conversion of BSA bilateral contracts into a single contract informally known as a common fund or a self-managed reserve pooling arrangement. The ministers agreed in principle that this type of reserve pooling arrangement governed by a single contractual agreement is an appropriate form of multilateralization of the existing swap system, and they established this task force to carry out further in-depth studies on the key elements of the multilateralization. This was their first meeting.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/ASEAN+3Database.pdf>

<http://www.icrier.org/pdf/6nov08/Charles%20Wyplosz-Paper.pdf>

15. **ASEM Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**  
**Date:** January 23–24, 2007  
**Location:** Berlin, Germany  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

The ASEM SOM is 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. The conclusions are reported to foreign ministers.

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

16. **ASEAN Policy Dialogue on National Occupational Safety and Health Framework**  
**Date:** January 23–25, 2007  
**Location:** Singapore  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health Network (ASEAN-OSHNET); Government of Singapore

At the 19th ASEAN Labor Ministers Meeting in May 2006, participants agreed to include occupational safety and health (OSH) as an additional priority area in the ASEAN labor ministers work program. As a result, ASEAN-OSHNET and the government of Singapore jointly convened this meeting, which was attended by delegates from the ASEAN+3 countries. Representatives of the ASEAN-OSHNET and ASEAN secretariats, and experts from the International Labour Organization were also in attendance.

The meeting resulted in a five-year plan of action (2007–2011) to help guide ASEAN member countries in the implementation and strengthening of national OSH frameworks and to enhance OSH standards, systems, strategies, and programs in the region. The plan of action also addresses ways to strengthen regional OSH cooperation within ASEAN and collaboration with partner countries and international organizations.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/20917.pdf>

17. **Network of Asian River Basin Organizations 4th Thematic Workshop on Water Allocation and Water Rights**  
**Date:** January 23–26, 2007  
**Location:** Saitama, Japan  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO); support from Asian Development Bank; hosted by Japan Water Agency, Government of Japan

As increased water demand and water use conflicts are occurring in many countries in Asia, NARBO conducted four thematic workshops on water rights and water allocation issues as part of the organization's major activities in 2005–2007. The first three workshops focused on identifying water rights and water allocation issues in each member country, uncovering the causes of the issues, and identifying improvements and solutions.

This was the fourth workshop, and it served to finalize country-specific action programs for addressing water allocation and water rights issues. While most of the proposed action plans directly address allocation issues, they also create an enabling environment for implementing a water rights system. After discussing the action plan with their respective organizations, the participants were to submit a final version of the action plan in February 2007. The participants also were expected to report on the progress of the implementation of the action plan at the third NARBO General Meeting in early 2008.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/water/NARBO/2007/4th-thematic/meeting-report.asp>

18. **4th Asian Senior-Level Talks on Non-proliferation (ASTOP-IV)**

**Date:** January 25–26, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Director-general-level government officials in charge of nonproliferation policies from ASEAN countries, Australia, Canada, China, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, and the United States attended this meeting. Based on the common understanding that the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction constitutes a real threat to the peace and security of the Asian region and beyond, participants reviewed non-proliferation efforts and discussed future cooperation in this area. Topics included strengthening the international nuclear nonproliferation regime, implementing recent UN Security Council resolutions concerning North Korea and Iran, ensuring the nuclear fuel supply, addressing challenges facing the domestic implementation of nonproliferation measures, and assessing the Proliferation Security Initiative.

**For information, see:** <http://www3.mofa.go.jp/k/news/2007/01/18d.html>

19. **4th ASEAN+3 Oil Market & 5th ASEAN+3 Oil Stockpiling Forums; 6th ASEAN+3 Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME+3) Energy Policy Governing Group Meeting; 4th Energy Security Forum**

**Date:** January 25–26, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

20. **1st ASEAN Defence Senior Officials Meeting (ADSOM)**

**Date:** January 25–26, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Following the first ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) in May 2006, the ADSOM was established to meet between ministerial meetings to follow up on the decisions reached at the ADMM. The inaugural ADSOM was held in January 2007. The participants agreed on a draft Protocol to the Concept Paper on the Establishment of the ADMM, which outlines the existing military-to-military arrangements that fall under the purview of the ADMM and the organizational structure of ASEAN defense dialogue and cooperation. ADSOM also agreed on a draft ADMM Three-Year Work Programme that will contribute to the implementation of the ASEAN Security Community Plan of Action and the Vientiane Action Programme. Both the draft protocol and the work program were considered at the following ADMM.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/ar07.pdf>

21. **11th ASEAN Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM)**

**Date:** January 29–30, 2007

**Location:** Siem Reap, Cambodia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

22. **1st Meeting of the 38th ASEAN Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM 1/38); ASEAN–European Union SEOM; ASEAN–Australia SEOM**

**Date:** January 29–31, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/1-2007.htm>

23. **5th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (AMRDPE)**

**Date:** January 31, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The fifth AMRDPE focused on the theme, "Community Empowerment: A Crucial Path to Rural Development and Poverty Eradication." The meeting was attended by ASEAN ministers responsible for rural development and poverty eradication or their representatives, and the secretary-general of ASEAN also attended. Thailand's Prime Minister Surayud Chulanont offered a keynote address in which he noted that rural development and poverty reduction are crosscutting issues that need to be addressed in all three pillars of the ASEAN Community. Participants discussed the Millennium Development Goals, the future of rural development and poverty eradication within the ASEAN community, and partnerships with the Plus Three countries. The ministers agreed to accelerate the ASEAN Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication in the following areas: (1) narrowing the digital divide; (2) employment and income generation; and (3) partnership, decentralization, and local participation. The next AMRDPE was scheduled for 2009.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/19453.pdf>

**February**

24. **1st Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** February 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Based on the report submitted to the ASEAN leaders in 2006 by the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter, a high-level group of ASEAN experts was designated to draft the charter. The task force was comprised of one high-level representative from each ASEAN member country, assisted by not more than four experts. The task force was instructed to develop its draft along the lines and direction set forth in the EPG Report and to incorporate the instructions of ASEAN leaders and foreign ministers and historical ASEAN documents. The group met monthly and was to submit a first draft to the foreign ministers in September 2007. The final charter was signed at the ASEAN Summit in November.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ips.org.sg/pub/pa\\_tk\\_ST\\_Charter%20makes%20ASEAN%20stronger%20more%20united%20and%20effective\\_080807.pdf](http://www.ips.org.sg/pub/pa_tk_ST_Charter%20makes%20ASEAN%20stronger%20more%20united%20and%20effective_080807.pdf)

25. **14th Asian Export Control Seminar**

**Date:** February 6–8, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan; Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; Center for Information on Security Trade Control (CISTEC)

The Asian Export Control Seminar has been held annually for export control officials in Asian countries and regions since 1993. The goal of the seminar is to step up regional and international efforts on nonproliferation by fostering common awareness of the importance of nonproliferation and export control across Asia and by consolidating regional export control systems. Participants came from 26 countries or regions, primarily from Asia Pacific but also from England, Germany, India, Pakistan, and the United Arab Emirates.

**For information, see:** <http://www.meti.go.jp/english/newtopics/data/n070117e.html>



26. **Six-Party Talks (5th Round, 3rd Session)**

**Date:** February 8–13, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Governments of China, Japan, North Korea, Russia, South Korea, and the United States

The parties to the talks held discussions on the actions each will take in the initial phase for the implementation of the Joint Statement of September 19, 2005. Participants reaffirmed their common goal of achieving early denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and agreed to take coordinated steps in a phased manner. In a joint statement issued on February 13, it was agreed that North Korea would shut down and seal for the purpose of eventual abandonment the Yongbyon nuclear facility and discuss with other parties a list of all its nuclear programs. International Atomic Energy Agency personnel were to be invited back to verify the shutdown. In return, the other five parties were to provide emergency energy assistance to North Korea, and all six were to take positive steps to increase mutual trust in the region. Working groups were to be established on the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, normalization of US-DPRK relations, normalization of Japan-DPRK relations, economy and energy cooperation, and a joint Northeast Asia peace and security mechanism. The working groups were to begin meeting within 30 days, and the sixth round of the talks was to begin in March 2007.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/n\\_korea/6party/action0702.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/n_korea/6party/action0702.html)

27. **26th Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force**

**Date:** February 12, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

To realize ASEAN's vision of a stable, prosperous, and peaceful ASEAN Community, the ASEAN leaders adopted the IAI in 2004 as a special program to integrate the newer member countries—Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam (CLMV)—into the ASEAN economic mainstream. The CLMV countries have organized themselves into the IAI Task Force, meeting regularly to review the implementation of the projects under the IAI program, which cover such areas as infrastructure development, human resource development, information and communication technology, and promotion of regional economic integration among the CLMV countries.

**For information, see:** [http://www.40amm.org.ph/amm\\_moreinfo\\_5.asp](http://www.40amm.org.ph/amm_moreinfo_5.asp)

28. **ARF Workshop on Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540**

**Date:** February 13–15, 2007

**Location:** San Francisco, USA

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

The ARF held a workshop to increase awareness of the obligations and requirements of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 and to facilitate cooperation on implementation at the regional and global levels. The resolution imposes binding obligations on all states to implement a series of measures to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related materials. At the workshop, participants shared their national implementation plans, affirmed the need for regional coordination in implementation of the resolution, and welcomed the positive role that regional organizations such as the ARF could play in this respect. The workshop was attended by representatives of 23 ARF members and the ASEAN Secretariat.

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

29. **3rd ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**  
**Date:** February 25–26, 2007  
**Location:** Manila, Philippines  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN  
**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>
30. **Meeting of the Working Group on the Zone of Peace Freedom and Neutrality; Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ)**  
**Date:** February 25–26, 2007  
**Location:** Manila, Philippines  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

These were working meetings on the SEANWFZ, which was established in 1995 by the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone, and on the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality, of which SEANWFZ is one component.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

31. **2nd ASEAN Workshop on Control and Eradication of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in ASEAN**  
**Date:** February 26–27, 2007  
**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; Asian Development Bank; UN Food and Agriculture Organization; World Organisation for Animal Health

This workshop addressed the gaps and issues within the process of HPAI containment, emergency preparedness, eradication, and vaccination, in close reference to the Regional Framework for the Control and Eradication of HPAI in ASEAN. The meeting generated regionally adaptable outbreak response systems, which were developed through discussions of the experiences and lessons learned among member countries and participating international organizations.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aiweb.info/document.aspx?DocID=83&ccID=14>

32. **ASEAN-Japan Aviation Security Meeting**  
**Date:** February 26–27, 2007  
**Location:** Singapore  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; Singapore Aviation Academy; Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Japan

Singapore was the venue for the first aviation security workshop organized by Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport for ASEAN. Held at the Singapore Aviation Academy, the workshop was attended by some 50 participants, including aviation security directors from all 10 ASEAN member states.

Participants discussed the latest challenge to security, liquid explosives, as well as a wide spectrum of other aviation security issues such as air cargo security; protection of passengers, bags, and aircraft; and quality control. Delegates also visited Changi Airport to observe firsthand the security measures adopted there.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/2-2007.htm>

[http://www.saa.com.sg/saa/en/About\\_Us/e-review-jun2007.html](http://www.saa.com.sg/saa/en/About_Us/e-review-jun2007.html)

33. **11th Meeting of the Heads of Specialist Trafficking Units (HSU); 1st Regional Project Coordinating Committee Meeting for the ARTIP Project**

**Date:** February 26–28, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia Regional Trafficking in Persons (ARTIP) Project; Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)

ARTIP is a five-year project (2006–2010) supported by AusAID to assist countries in Asia in tackling the problem of trafficking in people. ARTIP is initially working in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Thailand and is considering expanding to other ASEAN countries. ARTIP seeks to equip both general and specialist law enforcement agencies with the knowledge and skills required to combat trafficking. Particular attention is given to specialist trafficking units and the relations between these units in order to promote cooperation among countries.

The first Regional Project Coordinating Committee meeting was held back-to-back with a meeting of the HSUs. The HSU process contributes to the continuation of ARTIP by promoting dialogue among the antitrafficking units established within national police services in the region.

**For information, see:** [http://www.artipproject.org/02\\_recentnews/recent\\_news.html](http://www.artipproject.org/02_recentnews/recent_news.html)

34. **6th Asia-Europe Young Parliamentarians Meeting (AEYPM)**

**Date:** February 26–March 2, 2007

**Location:** The Hague, Netherlands

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF); Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands; International Institute for Asian Studies

The AEYPM is intended to foster high-level exchanges and intensive networking between young parliamentarians from Asia and Europe. At the sixth AEYPM, over 50 young parliamentarians from more than 25 ASEM countries and the European Parliament gathered to exchange views on the theme “Towards an Asia-Europe Partnership.” The participants discussed the shifting paradigms in Asia-Europe relations. Issues of importance to both regions were debated, including migration and community building, education- and knowledge-based societies, and security issues and civil liberties. Participants sought to translate the outcomes into actual steps toward creating a closer Asian-European partnership in a global context.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=199>

35. **ASEAN Capital Market Forum**

**Date:** February 27, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ASEAN Capital Market Forum, which comprises the heads of securities regulators, plays an active role in leading initiatives to promote integration of the regional capital market, in line with the ASEAN roadmap for regional financial integration. The forum has established various working groups to formulate a set of common standards for cross-border offerings, for disclosure requirements, and for distribution rules on IPOs, offering rules for debt securities and promoting convergence with international accounting standards and mutual recognition regimes for market professionals and capital market products.

**For information, see:** [www.sc.com.my/eng/html/resources/speech/sp\\_20080513.html](http://www.sc.com.my/eng/html/resources/speech/sp_20080513.html)

36. **2nd Chiang Mai Initiative Task Force for Multilateralization**

**Date:** February 28, 2007

**Location:** Pattaya, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the second meeting of the Chiang Mai Initiative task force, comprised of deputy finance ministers. The task force meets regularly to study various possible options for creating an advanced framework of regional liquidity support.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/regional\\_financial\\_cooperation.htm#CMI](http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/regional_financial_cooperation.htm#CMI)

37. **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

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the second regular meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

### **March**

38. **Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) Working Groups Meeting**

**Date:** March 1, 2007

**Location:** Pattaya, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ASEAN+3 ABMI, which was endorsed at the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Meeting in 2003, aims to develop efficient and liquid bond markets in Asia, enabling better utilization of Asian savings for Asian investments. Discussions at the Pattaya meeting included facilitation of technical coordination activities on regional bond market development. Additionally, an evaluation of technical assistance was issued, which included recommendations for the establishment of a regulatory framework that recognizes bond issuances among countries in the region and urged further discussion on how to achieve cross-border settlements of government securities.

**For information, see:** [http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/regional/asean\\_plus\\_three\\_asian\\_bond\\_market\\_initiatives/overview.php](http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/regional/asean_plus_three_asian_bond_market_initiatives/overview.php)

[http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/documents/Progress\\_Report\\_ABMI\\_Nov\\_2007.pdf](http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/documents/Progress_Report_ABMI_Nov_2007.pdf)

39. **1st Meeting of the East Asia Summit Energy Cooperation Task Force (EAS ECTF)**

**Date:** March 1, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** East Asia Summit (EAS); hosted by the Energy Market Authority of Singapore

Participants at this meeting noted the following energy-related outcomes from the second EAS in Cebu in January 2007: (a) the signing of a Cebu Declaration on East Asian Energy Security; (b) an agreement to convene an EAS Energy Ministers Meeting to consider ways to enhance energy cooperation; and (c) Japan's initiative on "Fueling Asia—Japan's Cooperation Initiative for Clean Energy and Sustainable Growth." The meeting produced a final draft of the Terms of Reference of the ECTF, which included a proposal to submit its findings and recommendations to the EAS energy ministers and, thereafter, the EAS leaders. Recognizing the 12 measures highlighted in the Cebu Declaration on East Asian Energy Security, the participants agreed to start with a focus on cooperation in the areas of energy efficiency and conservation, energy market integration, and biofuels for transport and other purposes.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/papers/2007/Summary%20Record%20of%20the%201st%20Meeting%20of%20the%20EAS%20Task%20Force%20on%20Energy%20Cooperation\(Final\).pdf](http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/papers/2007/Summary%20Record%20of%20the%201st%20Meeting%20of%20the%20EAS%20Task%20Force%20on%20Energy%20Cooperation(Final).pdf)

40. **ASEAN Ministerial Meeting Retreat**

**Date:** March 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Siem Reap, Cambodia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This annual retreat has no formal agenda, but allows foreign ministers to engage in an open, frank, and free-flowing discussion on important issues affecting the region. Discussion items included the draft of the ASEAN Charter and documents relating to the upcoming EU-ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting in mid-March. The ministers also prepared for the celebration of the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-EU and ASEAN-US relations and discussed how to make the upcoming ASEAN Summit more effective. Ministers considered upgrading their relations with the UN, including creating an ASEAN-UN Cooperation Agreement.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mfaic.gov.kh/e-visa/Bulletin.aspx?Title=His+Excellency+Deputy+Prime+Minister+HOR+Namhong+at+the+ASEAN+Ministerial+Retreat&M\\_WebContent\\_BulletinDir=Asc&M\\_WebContentDir=Asc](http://www.mfaic.gov.kh/e-visa/Bulletin.aspx?Title=His+Excellency+Deputy+Prime+Minister+HOR+Namhong+at+the+ASEAN+Ministerial+Retreat&M_WebContent_BulletinDir=Asc&M_WebContentDir=Asc)

41. **Sub-regional Ministerial Meeting on Counter-Terrorism**

**Date:** March 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Governments of Australia and Indonesia

Ministers of foreign affairs from Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand gathered to discuss policy issues regarding terrorist groups in the subregion, including ways to strengthen existing counterterrorism law enforcement, and how to promote cooperation to meet emerging counterterrorism challenges. Australia and Indonesia hosted the meeting, which builds on the Bali Process initiated in 2002.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kln.gov.my/?m\\_id=26&vid=424](http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26&vid=424)

42. **Strategic Mapping Session and 27th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation**

**Date:** March 5–8, 2007

**Location:** Chiang Mai, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Representatives from national intellectual property (IP) offices in ASEAN and international partners discussed regional strategies on the development of IP. During the meeting, representatives of the EC-ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Cooperation Programme (ECAP II) offered a briefing on the progress of regional activities implemented under that program, as well as upcoming activities in 2007.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ecap-project.org/activitiesevents/at\\_regional\\_level/27th\\_meeting\\_of\\_the\\_asean\\_working\\_group\\_on\\_intellectual\\_property\\_cooperation\\_awgipc\\_7\\_8\\_march\\_2007\\_chiangmai\\_thailand.html](http://www.ecap-project.org/activitiesevents/at_regional_level/27th_meeting_of_the_asean_working_group_on_intellectual_property_cooperation_awgipc_7_8_march_2007_chiangmai_thailand.html)

43. **1st ARF Peacekeeping Experts Meeting**

**Date:** March 7–9, 2007

**Location:** Part Dickson, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

This meeting was intended to establish a regional network of peacekeeping experts to contribute to building confidence and interoperability among regional peacekeepers and to enhance regional peacekeeping capacity. The meeting was organized into six sessions: an overview of the Malaysian peacekeeping training center, national briefs on peace operations

training, UN projects, insights into peacekeeping operations, a presentation by the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the development of an almanac of peace operations training activities. Potential next steps included creating a “global clearinghouse” to coordinate training needs and training activities so as to avoid duplication of efforts in view of resource constraints, and creating a UN Standby Arrangements System to enhance the ability of the UN to plan and respond effectively and rapidly to crisis situations.

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

44. **9th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM); 2nd Regional Workshop on the Establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre); 1st ACDM+3 Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** March 12–15, 2007

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Discussions at the ninth ACDM focused on a review of the ASEAN Regional Programme on Disaster Management, including consideration of the establishment of an ASEAN regional disaster management framework and an ASEAN response action plan, methods of building capacity in the region, ways to partner with NGOs and to mobilize financial support and resources, and ways to enhance disaster management public education and awareness. Participants also discussed the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response, planning for the ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise, and the ASEAN-Hyogo Framework for Action Regional Capacity Building in Disaster Response and Preparedness.

On March 13, a workshop was held to discuss the establishment of the AHA Centre. The ASEAN Secretariat and Indonesian government officials presented a draft roadmap for the establishment of the center, outlining the goals, target dates, and requirements. In-depth discussions then followed on the operating concept in the three areas of concern of the center: disaster risk identification, assessment, and monitoring; disaster preparedness and emergency response; and prevention and mitigation. On March 15, the 1st ACDM+3 Senior Officials Meeting reviewed the status of cooperation in ASEAN and ASEAN+3 on disaster management, and participants exchanged views on potential areas of cooperation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.disaster.go.th/html/ricb/foreign/2006/acdm/meeting/meeting09/final...pap.../tentative%20prog%20ACDM%20\(asof5feb\).doc](http://www.disaster.go.th/html/ricb/foreign/2006/acdm/meeting/meeting09/final...pap.../tentative%20prog%20ACDM%20(asof5feb).doc)

45. **16th ASEAN–European Union Ministerial Meeting (AEMM); ASEAN-EU Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** March 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Nuremberg, Germany

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Co-chaired by Germany and Cambodia

Attended by foreign ministers from the EU and ASEAN, the 16th AEMM provided a forum for interregional consultation to promote constructive dialogue between ASEAN and the EU on issues of mutual concern. The meeting marked the 30th anniversary of dialogue relations. At the conclusion of the meeting, ministers endorsed the Nuremberg Declaration on an ASEAN-EU Strategy for Enhanced Partnership, in which the ministers affirmed that the EU and ASEAN share fundamental objectives in their wider global agenda and that they both promote effective multilateralism as a means of tackling global challenges, support an open and fair trade system under the World Trade Organization, seek to advance human rights and good governance, work in the area of disarmament and nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means

of delivery, remain engaged in the global fight against terrorism, encourage international cooperation on migration, promote environmentally sustainable development and action on climate change, and develop stable, transparent markets in energy and resources.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/20693.pdf>

<http://www.tivarati.com/news/2007-03-19/10310004/>

46. **1st Meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Agricultural Cooperation**

**Date:** March 15–16, 2007

**Location:** Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

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

Member countries (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Thailand) met to discuss emerging issues and challenges confronting the agricultural sector in the BIMSTEC region, including the threat of animal diseases, global climatic changes, environmental degradation, biodiversity and food safety, free and fair global trade, access to new and emerging technologies, and increasing demand for alternative sources of energy. A plenary meeting and bilateral meetings were organized. Six areas of cooperation were identified: enhancing the competitiveness of the agriculture sector, promoting agricultural research and development, promoting public-private partnership for the development of agriculture and agro-processing industries, strengthening socioeconomic development in rural communities, improving agricultural trade and investment, and developing alternative energy crops.

**For information, see:** <http://www.bimstec.org/NewsletterIII.pdf>

47. **2nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Education (ASED)**

**Date:** March 16, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This meeting was held directly after the 42nd Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Council Conference. The education ministers addressed quality assurance, poverty alleviation, information and communications technology, and Southeast Asian identity.

**For information, see:** [http://www.seameo.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=209&Itemid=30](http://www.seameo.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=209&Itemid=30)

48. **8th ASEAN-China Joint Cooperation Committee (ACJCC)**

**Date:** March 19–21, 2007

**Location:** Brunei

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The purpose of the ACJCC is to strengthen policy cooperation and information sharing. This has promoted cooperation in various fields, particularly human resource development and personnel and cultural exchanges. The ACJCC acts as the coordinator for all the ASEAN-China mechanisms at the working level.

**For information, see:** <http://cjjp.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/1/3/373>

49. **Six-Party Talks (6th Round, 1st Session)**

**Date:** March 19–22, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Governments of China, Japan, North Korea, Russia, South Korea, and the United States

The People's Republic of China hosted the first session of the sixth round of the Six-Party Talks. The US chief negotiator announced that it was unfreezing funds belonging to the North Koreans to reciprocate the positive steps the North Koreans had taken. However, the talks were abandoned as North Korea refused to proceed without having the US\$25 million in their hands. The discussions resumed in July.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofat.go.kr/index.jsp>

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/n\\_korea/6party/press0707.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/n_korea/6party/press0707.html)

50. **2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters**

**Date:** March 22, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The idea for a regionwide Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Treaty for like-minded ASEAN member countries was proposed in June 2002, and the treaty was adopted and signed in 2004 by eight of the ASEAN member countries and later signed by Thailand and Myanmar. Senior officials first met in 2005. At the second meeting of senior officials, it was decided that experts from the ASEAN member countries on mutual legal assistance would be nominated by the parties to brief the ASEAN sectoral bodies on the treaty and facilitate the training of ASEAN member countries' law enforcement officers on the implementation of the treaty.

**For information, see:** <http://www.agc.gov.my/agc/sec/DOC/provisionalagenda-03062005.pdf>

<http://www.agc.gov.my/agc/agc/int/rep/rep2007/unit7.pdf>

51. **12th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the Northeast Asia Subregional Programme for Environment Cooperation**

**Date:** March 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Northeast Asia Subregional Programme for Environment Cooperation (NEASPEC); United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

NEASPEC is an intergovernmental mechanism through which China, Japan, Mongolia, North Korea, South Korea, and Russia cooperate to address environmental challenges in the region. The annual SOM functions as the governing body and is the principal vehicle for the evolution of NEASPEC. In addition to officials from member nations, the 12th SOM was also attended by representatives from the Asian Development Bank and UN agencies and other experts.

The meeting began with a review of the environment and development policies and issues of NEASPEC, with statements made by member country delegations and international organizations. Participants then reviewed program planning and implementation. They adopted the Resolution on the Framework for Nature Conservation Programme in North-East Asia and endorsed the Nature Conservation Strategy. They also expressed support for the project on the mitigation of transboundary air pollution from coal-fired power plants, underscored the need to coordinate with relevant programs existing in the subregion, and reviewed a proposal for launching an Eco-efficiency Partnership in Northeast Asia.

**For information, see:** <http://kp.china-embassy.org/eng/zt/dbyaqyh/z/neaspec/t309267.htm>

<http://www.neaspec.org/som12.asp>

52. **1st ASEAN Defense Ministers Retreat**

**Date:** March 23–25, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN



The retreat aimed to build bonds of mutual trust and confidence among ASEAN defense ministers, which is vital in promoting regional peace and stability. The retreat allowed the defense ministers to get together to discuss issues of shared interest and enhance mutual understanding. It also gave them the opportunity to get to know one another better.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mindef.gov.sg/imindef/mindef\\_websites/topics/admm/media\\_release/14nov07\\_nr/14nov07\\_fs.html](http://www.mindef.gov.sg/imindef/mindef_websites/topics/admm/media_release/14nov07_nr/14nov07_fs.html)

53. **Special ASEAN Directors-General Meeting**

**Date:** March 25–27, 2007

**Location:** Davao, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The directors-general of the ASEAN national secretariats met for their annual special meeting, which is held in addition to the four regular meetings they attend of the ASEAN Standing Committee (ASC). The ASC tackles day-to-day issues of ASEAN between summits. The special meetings of the ASEAN directors-general are reserved for important policy issues affecting the association.

**For information, see:** <http://www.dfa.gov.ph/news/pr/pr2007/mar/pr196.pdf>

54. **33rd Meeting of the APEC Energy Working Group (EWG); 2nd East Asia Summit Energy Cooperation Task Force**

**Date:** March 26–30, 2007

**Location:** Auckland, New Zealand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC); East Asia Summit

The APEC EWG, launched in 1990, seeks to maximize the energy sector's contribution to the region's economic and social wellbeing, while mitigating the environmental effects of energy supply and use. Members discussed the topic of "Improving Cooperation between National (State Owned) and International (Private Sector) Energy Companies." Members discussed the joint oil data initiative, sea-lane security, a real-time emergency information sharing system, energy emergency responses, alternative transportation fuels, energy investment, natural gas trade, energy efficiency, and renewable energy.

**For information, see:** <http://www.ewg.apec.org/assets/documents/apecinternet/EWG33%5FSummaryRecord20070619153828%2Epdf>

55. **Seminar on the Promotion of Accession to the International Counter-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols for the Asia-Pacific Countries**

**Date:** March 27–28, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Government of Japan

This seminar was attended by government experts from the ASEAN countries, as well as from Fiji and Papua New Guinea, who are in charge of ratification of the International Counter-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols and of related domestic legislative procedures in their countries. Also attending were representatives of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the UN Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, and officials from Australia and the United States. The meeting was the fourth in a series of seminars for the purpose of supporting the 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 with promoting accession by Asia Pacific countries to the International Counter-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/3/1172936\\_844.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/3/1172936_844.html)

56. **2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM) of the 38th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (2/38 SEOM) and Consultations**

**Date:** March 27–29, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At these meetings, officials clarified the role of the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) in the ASEAN Charter as the driver and coordinator for economic integration. The AEM were recognized as having responsibility for oversight of all economic initiatives in ASEAN. Participants also discussed a strengthened coordination mechanism among sectoral ministerial bodies and encouraged the SEOM to undertake a greater role in coordinating issues between sectoral senior official meetings.

**For information, see:** [http://www.dephut.go.id/files/Annex\\_05\\_Updates%20on%20ASEAN%20Economic%20Integration.pdf](http://www.dephut.go.id/files/Annex_05_Updates%20on%20ASEAN%20Economic%20Integration.pdf)

57. **ARF Defense Officials Dialogue**

**Date:** March 28, 2007

**Location:** Helsinki, Finland

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

Defense officials discussed regional and international issues, multinational peacekeeping, and crisis management cooperation, as well as civil-military cooperation and situational awareness and early warning. As decided at the ARF Senior Officials Meeting in 2006, the Defense Officials Dialogue was extended to a full day for the first time.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=YSvJQm5bJSs%3d&tabid=66&mid=940>

58. **3rd Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** March 28–29, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the third regular meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

59. **ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy**

**Date:** March 28–30, 2007

**Location:** Helsinki, Finland

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

Participants at this ARF intersessional meeting agreed that the current situation in the Asia Pacific region is generally positive, stable, and economically dynamic. Participants noted the increasingly constructive cooperation of major actors in the region and the growing number of strategic partnerships. However, a number of traditional and nontraditional security issues such as terrorism, transnational crime, nuclear proliferation, communicable diseases, and natural disasters continued to pose serious threats to regional security and required greater multinational cooperation. Participants welcomed the resumption of the Six-Party Talks and expressed concern over the lack of genuine political reforms in Myanmar. Participants also discussed the security situations in the South Pacific, Timor Leste, Afghanistan, and the South China Sea.

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

60. **ASEAN Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM) +3 Consultations and +1 Consultations with China, Japan, Republic of Korea, India, and Canada; SEOM–Closer Economic Relations Consultations; SEOM–Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) Representatives Meeting**  
**Date:** March 30–31, 2007  
**Location:** Manila, Philippines  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN  
**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

### ***April***

61. **ASEAN-US Informal Coordinating Mechanism (ICM)**  
**Date:** April 2–3, 2007  
**Location:** Singapore  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ICM reviewed the plan of action to implement the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership. Specific priority measures for ASEAN-US cooperation in 2007 included cooperation in the areas of the economy, health, scholarships, information and communications technology, transport, energy, disaster management, and environmental management.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/18589.pdf>  
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2006/76231.htm>

62. **ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meeting (AFDM); ASEAN+3 Informal and Formal Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meetings (AFDM+3)**  
**Date:** April 2–4, 2007  
**Location:** Chiang Mai, Thailand  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The AFDM+3 acknowledged the progress reports of the Asian Bond Markets Initiative Working Groups on creating new securitized debt instruments, developing a credit guarantee and investment mechanism, minimizing foreign exchange settlement risks, and enhancing comparability and harmonization among local credit rating agencies. Participants also discussed and exchanged views on ways to upgrade the bilateral Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) toward a new and advanced framework of multilateral arrangement, the so-called “CMI Multilateralization.” The meeting reached an agreement on the preferred form of financing arrangement and legal modality. Participants provided guidance and set priorities for the implementation of this new framework.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mof.go.th/news2007/024\\_e.pdf](http://www.mof.go.th/news2007/024_e.pdf)

63. **Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**  
**Date:** April 4, 2007  
**Location:** Siem Reap, Cambodia  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The objectives of the SOM were to (1) discuss and seek to adopt the Midterm Review of the 10-Year GMS Strategic Framework for endorsement by the 14th GMS Ministerial Conference, and (2) discuss the program of events, agenda of individual meetings, and key arrangements for the 14th GMS Ministerial Conference, to be held in June 2007. The SOM members highlighted the progress of recent GMS programs, including completion of the Second Mekong International Bridge, the conclusion of financing arrangements for the North-South Economic Corridor Bridge, the signing of all annexes and protocols to the GMS Cross-Border Transport

Agreement, and the finalization of the Strategic Framework for GMS Cooperation in Agriculture and the Core Agriculture Support Program. In this regard, the SOM expressed appreciation for the ADB's key coordinating role and the hope that the ADB would continue providing adequate financial, technical, and human resources to support the GMS Program.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/documents/events/mekong/proceedings/som-meeting-summary-april07.pdf>

64. **ASEAN Finance Ministers Retreat; 11th ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting (AFMM)**

**Date:** April 4–5, 2007

**Location:** Chiang Mai, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; hosted by the Ministry of Finance of Thailand

The main objective of the AFMM process, which started in 1997 after the regional financial crisis, is to accelerate cooperation and policy dialogue between ASEAN member countries on economic and financial sectors in order to strengthen the regional financial system, develop an effective and in-depth financial market, and promote sustainable economic growth. At the 11th AFMM, ministers exchanged views on global and regional economic developments and discussed progress in the implementation of the Roadmap for Financial and Monetary Integration of ASEAN and other regional initiatives. They also explored how finance cooperation could further contribute to the realization of the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015. Topics included ways to further strengthen the capital market, ASEAN's commitment to concluding the fourth round of negotiations under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services by the end of the year, the need for a new infrastructure financing mechanism to accelerate regional growth and integration, and cooperation on taxation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.fpo.go.th/afmm2007/General\\_Information-final\\_pdf.pdf](http://www.fpo.go.th/afmm2007/General_Information-final_pdf.pdf)

65. **19th Meeting of the ASEAN Crisis Communication Team (ACCT)**

**Date:** April 5, 2007

**Location:** Siem Reap, Cambodia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Participants discussed the impact of the avian influenza crisis and its potential affect on tourism. They also discussed production of an "ASEAN Crisis Communication Manual," which was distributed to ASEAN member countries at the ASEAN Tourism Forum in February 2007 in Singapore. The session recorded a Singapore proposal for training for the ACCT "training for trainers" program. Finally, a representative from the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) proposed that PATA could conduct training on crisis communication and offer technical help in tourism statistics as part of ASEAN-PATA cooperation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.budpar.go.id/page.php?ic=563&id=281>

66. **4th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** April 9, 2007

**Location:** Yangon, Myanmar

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the fourth regular meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

67. **11th High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration**

**Date:** April 9–10, 2007

**Location:** Yangon, Myanmar

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

In addition to meeting with the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter, participants in this meeting also reviewed a second draft of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint.

**For information, see:** [http://www.dephut.go.id/files/Annex\\_05\\_Updates%20on%20ASEAN%20Economic%20Integration.pdf](http://www.dephut.go.id/files/Annex_05_Updates%20on%20ASEAN%20Economic%20Integration.pdf)

68. **2nd APEC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM II)**

**Date:** April 16–24, 2007

**Location:** Adelaide, Australia

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

At the APEC SOM II, senior officials discussed regional economic integration, trade and investment liberalization, and business facilitation; structural reform; economic and technical cooperation; enhancement of human security, including counterterrorism, health issues, emergency preparedness, and energy; and APEC reform.

**For information, see:** [http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2007/SOM/SOM2/07\\_som2\\_summary.pdf](http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2007/SOM/SOM2/07_som2_summary.pdf)

69. **5th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** April 19–20, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the fifth meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

70. **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

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Discussions among senior economic officials covered an array of issues including the blueprint for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). Specifically, they examined the AEC structure, the strategic schedule of the AEC, and the reporting mechanism for realizing the AEC. The economic ministers had requested that the SEOM come up with a general statement on consumer protection for inclusion in the blueprint. It was noted that considerations for consumer protection have been taken into account under the various existing ASEAN initiatives, such as harmonization and simplification of standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment procedures. The participants agreed that cooperation among consumer protection agencies should focus on information exchange, experience sharing, and capacity building.

**For information, see:** [http://www.dephut.go.id/files/Annex\\_05\\_Updates%20on%20ASEAN%20Economic%20Integration.pdf](http://www.dephut.go.id/files/Annex_05_Updates%20on%20ASEAN%20Economic%20Integration.pdf)

71. **13th ASEAN-China Senior Officials Consultations; ASEAN-China Senior Officials Meeting on the Declaration of the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC)**

**Date:** April 23–25, 2007

**Location:** Huangshan, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; Government of China

As part of their annual meeting, senior officials from ASEAN and China met to discuss recent developments in ASEAN and China, exchange views on regional and international issues, and review ASEAN-China dialogue relations and the future direction. The ASEAN-China DOC was

adopted in Phnom Penh in 2002. At this meeting, senior officials worked to finalize the guidelines on the implementation of the DOC.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/ASEAN+3Database.pdf>

72. **3rd ASEM Environment Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** April 23–26, 2007

**Location:** Copenhagen, Denmark

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

At the third ASEM Environment Ministers Meeting, participants from 38 countries adopted a declaration that clearly states the agreement between Asia and Europe on the need to promote an ambitious post-2012 climate change agreement. The ASEM countries underlined the need to ensure a substantial process to be concluded as early as possible to avoid a gap between the first and second commitment periods. This would increase the possibility of a good result at the UN Climate Conference, to be held in Copenhagen in 2009. The European and Asian countries agreed that the decoupling of economic growth from emissions and energy consumption is not only necessary but certainly a possibility. This was the first time that the environment ministers of the EU and Asia have reached agreement on an actual declaration text under ASEM. Earlier ASEM Environment Ministers Meetings had resulted only in a chairman's summary.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/MinisterialMeetings/?id=196>

73. **Expert Meeting on the Pilot ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food**

**Date:** April 24–25, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

In 2005, the European Commission Regional Adviser on Health and Food Safety met with representatives of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam to discuss the EU Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed. The representatives of the four ASEAN countries felt that the EU system was a powerful tool for the effective management of market surveillance and for informing food safety policy and legislation, and accordingly they began discussions on establishing a Pilot ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food. The European Commission has been discussing the provision of technical assistance for the creation of regional and/or national rapid alert systems modeled on the EU system.

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

74. **6th Meeting of the ASEAN Task Force on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (ATF-HPAI)**

**Date:** April 24–25, 2007

**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ATF-HPAI continued work on developing a regional strategy for the progressive eradication of HPAI (2008–2010), which was subsequently endorsed by the 29th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry on November 1, 2007. The objective of the strategy is to strengthen the coordination and capacity to manage HPAI infections. With the support of the Asian Development Bank, the task force considered the ASEAN Regional Animal Health Information System, as well as ASEAN participation in the Food and Agriculture Organization/World Organization for Animal Health Global Strategy for the Progressive Control of HPAI and the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases.

**For information, see:** <http://www.dfa.gov.ph/news/pr/pr2007/jun/pr409.pdf>

75. **11th ASEAN-India Working Group Meetings; 9th Meeting of the ASEAN-India Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC); 9th ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting**  
**Date:** April 25–28, 2007  
**Location:** Calcutta, India  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The JCC is a key institutional mechanism for providing substantive content and implementing programs of cooperation between ASEAN and India. Although comprehensive, the JCC focuses on actualizing ASEAN-India cooperation in trade and investment, science and technology, tourism, infrastructure, human resource development, and people-to-people interaction. ASEAN-India sectoral cooperation has been gaining strength with the establishment of working group-level meetings on the subjects of development cooperation, science and technology, tourism, transport and infrastructure, and telecommunications.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/5736.htm>; <http://exim.indiamart.com/free-trade-agreement/asean-india.html>

76. **3rd Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines–East ASEAN Growth Areas (BIMP-EAGA) Darwin Dialogue**  
**Date:** April 26–27, 2007  
**Location:** Darwin, Australia  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The 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, and the German Technical Cooperation and officials from the Northern Territory (NT), the Australian government, and AusAID. Participants exchanged views on issues of mutual concern and on deepening the cooperation between BIMP-EAGA and the NT in the areas of trade facilitation, tourism, transport, education, and social and cultural undertakings. They noted the need to expedite the implementation of programs and projects identified in the BIMP-EAGA–NT Framework of Cooperation. Other outcomes included the encouragement of the NT to participate in the BIMP-EAGA customs, immigration, quarantine, and security initiatives, and of jointly promoting BIMP-EAGA and the NT as one ecotourism destination.

**For information, see:** <http://www.medco.gov.ph/medcoweb/uploads/BIMP/April%202007/3rd%20Darwin%20Dialogue%20Joint%20Communique.pdf>

77. **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  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

The Emerging Social Issues Division of ESCAP organized an expert group meeting on regional strategies for implementing the recommendations from the secretary-general’s study on violence against women with particular emphasis on harmful traditional and cultural practices and the role of national machineries. The meeting recommended ways of strengthening normative sociocultural, advocacy, and legal frameworks inclusive of multisectoral and integrated approaches to prevent and respond to violence against women. The outcome of the meeting provided members and associate members of ESCAP and its partners and their national machineries with recommended strategies and priority actions for eliminating violence against women in a region-specific context.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Events/EGM-VAW2007/index.asp>

78. **ARF Seminar on UN Peacekeeping: Challenges and Prospects**

**Date:** April 26–28, 2007

**Location:** New Delhi, India

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); Government of India

Pursuant to the decision of the 13th ARF Ministerial Meeting held in July 2006, India organized a seminar on “UN Peacekeeping: Challenges and Prospects.” The seminar was held at the Centre for UN Peacekeeping, a center set up by the government of India with an exclusive focus on peacekeeping activities. Experts and policymakers on peacekeeping from the ARF member states, as well as representatives from the International Committee of the Red Cross, UN, UNDP, and UNHCR participated. Discussion topics included an integrated approach to peacekeeping, peacebuilding and security sector reform, humanitarian dimensions of peacekeeping, capacity building, and training for peacekeeping.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=obOyu%2F7G%2BT0%3D&tabid=66&mid=940>

**May**

79. **ASEAN Ad Hoc Experts Meeting on Anti-Corruption**

**Date:** May 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Indonesia

Each ASEAN country was represented at this meeting by a high-level technical delegation in charge of discussing proposals for a “roadmap” for the ASEAN Security Community Plan of Action aimed at implementing efficient mechanisms to fight corruption in the region. A representative from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) delivered a keynote speech on the technical aspects of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and the mechanisms for international cooperation under UN conventions, with a specific focus on the issue of assets recovery in corruption offenses. The participants showed support of the UNCAC in general and recognized the role of the UNODC Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific in the implementation of that convention. The recommendations of the meeting highlighted the role the UNODC could play in the future through a strategic partnership with the ASEAN Secretariat.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unodc.un.or.th/eastern\\_horizons/27/EH27.pdf](http://www.unodc.un.or.th/eastern_horizons/27/EH27.pdf)

80. **10th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Meeting (AFMM+3); ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meeting; 7th Trilateral (China-Japan-Korea) Finance Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** May 1–5, 2007

**Location:** Kyoto, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At the AFFM+3, finance ministers exchanged views on regional economic and financial developments and policies and reviewed the progress of regional financial cooperation processes, including the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) Multilateralization, the Asian Bond Markets Initiative, and the ASEAN+3 Research Group. Regarding the CMI, ministers reached an agreement in principle on a self-managed pooling arrangement governed by a single contractual agreement as a step toward an advanced framework of a regional liquidity support mechanism.

At the Trilateral Finance Ministers Meeting, participants supported the progress on CMI and Asian Bond Markets Initiative and reaffirmed their commitment to continued close cooperation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mof.go.jp/english/mf\\_review/mfr407/407.pdf](http://www.mof.go.jp/english/mf_review/mfr407/407.pdf)  
[http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/as3\\_070505.htm](http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/as3_070505.htm)



81. **5th ARF Inter-sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime**

**Date:** May 2–4, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

This meeting sought to bring government officials together to discuss ways of promoting intercivilizational dialogue as a way of enhancing the fight against global terrorism. Participants exchanged views on recent developments in terrorism in the region and provided updates on their respective counterterrorism strategies. Participants also shared their national experiences in promoting intercivilizational dialogue. In particular, they discussed how such dialogue had contributed to, or could potentially contribute to, the fight against terrorism. Participants also discussed the potential role of community organizations and the media and the role of multilateral institutions.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=eqhGeuETCOM%3d&tabid=66&mid=940>

82. **Senior Economic Officials Meeting Consultations with the European Union; Senior Economic Officials Meeting Consultations with the Ministry of Economic, Trade & Industry of Japan (SEOM-METI); 13th ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) Retreat; ASEAN Economic Ministers–European Union Consultations (AEM-EU); Informal ASEAN Economic Ministers–Ministry of Economic, Trade and Industry Meeting (AEM-METI)**

**Date:** May 2–4, 2007

**Location:** Brunei

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The 13th ASEAN Economic Ministers Retreat was held on May 3, and the ministers exchanged views on the directions and ambitions for economic integration of ASEAN. The ministers reaffirmed their determination to realize ASEAN's goal of a competitive single market and production base with equitable economic development and full integration into the global economy. They also agreed that the region should be an open, outward-looking, inclusive, and market-driven economy consistent with multilateral rules. They called on all relevant officials to closely coordinate and exert all efforts to complete the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint so that it could be recommended for endorsement at the ASEAN Summit in November 2007. Other topics covered at the retreat included the Framework Agreement of the ASEAN Investment Area, the proposed Roadmap for Integration of Logistics Services, ASEAN's ongoing FTA negotiations with external nations, and recognition of the full market economy status of Vietnam.

At the AEM-EU Consultations, the EU trade commissioner and ASEAN economic ministers launched FTA negotiations. In doing so, both confirmed that a successful conclusion of the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations remains their priority.

The main focus of AEM-METI discussions was the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership and other economic cooperation initiatives, including plans for the ASEAN-Japan Summit in November 2007.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/ASEAN+3Database.pdf>

<http://www.aseansec.org/13AEMR.pdf>

[http://ec.europa.eu/trade/issues/bilateral/regions/asem/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/trade/issues/bilateral/regions/asem/index_en.htm)

83. **16th ASEAN–European Commission Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) Meeting**

**Date:** May 4, 2007

**Location:** Brussels, Belgium

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; European Commission

The ASEAN-EC JCC promotes and reviews the various cooperation activities envisaged in the EC-ASEAN Cooperation Agreement. Biannual meetings are attended by representatives of ASEAN member countries, the European Commission, and the ASEAN Secretariat. European Union member states are invited as observers.

The meeting reviewed EC-ASEAN cooperation programs of the past five years and discussed priorities for the immediate future. Participants noted the successful EU-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in March 2007, and discussed steps for finalizing the ASEAN-EU Plan of Action to Implement the Nuremberg Declaration. They also discussed activities to be implemented in 2007 to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of EU-ASEAN dialogue relations.

**For information, see:** <http://nanyang2.xmu.edu.cn/Article/ShowArticle.asp?ArticleID=2525>

84. **ACMECS Ministerial Meeting**

**Date:** May 4, 2007

**Location:** Mandalay, Myanmar

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Ayeyawady–Chao Phraya–Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS); hosted by the Government of Myanmar

Ministers from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Myanmar, and Thailand met and reaffirmed their political will to further strengthen the goals of the Bagan Declaration of 2003 to increase competitiveness, narrow economic disparity, and promote socioeconomic development in the subregion. The ministers exchanged views on the status of implementation of the ACMECS projects. They noted significant progress made in cooperation in such areas as trade and investment facilitation, transport linkages, agriculture, industry and energy, public health, tourism cooperation, and human resource development. They also noted that most of these entailed bilateral projects involving Thailand. In this regard, the ministers reiterated the need to speed up the implementation of common and bilateral projects between the ACMECS member countries.

**For information, see:** [http://www.acmeecs.org/fileadmin/Meeting\\_Doc/070508175801\\_ACMECS\\_MM\\_Joint\\_statement.pdf](http://www.acmeecs.org/fileadmin/Meeting_Doc/070508175801_ACMECS_MM_Joint_statement.pdf)

85. **8th Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders (PICL)**

**Date:** May 6–9, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, US

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Pacific Islands Development Program, East-West Center (PICL Secretariat)

The PICL convened in Washington DC for the first time in its 26-year history. Twenty leaders participated, representing an area that encompasses one-third of the globe. The purpose of meeting in Washington was to deepen the Pacific Islands region's engagement with the United States. High-level meetings were held with the executive and legislative branches of the US government. Topics of discussion included economic development, security, trade, aid, environmental protection, climate change, fisheries, emergency responses to natural disasters, and the desire to expand US public diplomacy programs. The PICL agreed on the need to strengthen the Joint Commercial Commission by securing additional resources to fund programs for developing trade and investment and by revamping the agreement to improve market access for Pacific Island countries' exports.

**For information, see:** [http://pidp.eastwestcenter.org/pireport/special/picl\\_2007\\_communique.pdf](http://pidp.eastwestcenter.org/pireport/special/picl_2007_communique.pdf)

86. **ASEAN-Canada Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM) Consultations; ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Meeting**

**Date:** May 9–12, 2007

**Location:** Ottawa, Canada

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; Co-chaired by the Governments of Canada and Vietnam

The year 2007 commemorates the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-Canada relations. Issues discussed included health security, energy security, terrorism and transnational crime, and trade and investment. Canada briefed ASEAN on the results achieved to date under the auspices of the first ASEAN-Canada Joint Cooperation Work Plan (2005–2007), notably the signing of the Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism at the Post-Ministerial Conference in 2006. In addition, effective collaboration has occurred in the key areas of fighting disease, promoting human rights, supporting communities, promoting gender equality, and fostering innovative information technology.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/20689.htm>

87. **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 15, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

As part of the High-Level Task Force's consultations with ASEAN groups as it drafted the ASEAN Charter, its members met with the officials attending the ASEAN SOC-COM.

**For information, see:** [http://www.40amm.org.ph/main\\_overview.asp](http://www.40amm.org.ph/main_overview.asp)  
<http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

88. **3rd Meeting of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group Meeting on Combating the Financing of Terrorism**

**Date:** May 15–16, 2007

**Location:** Phuket, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

In 2004, BIMSTEC established a Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism and International Crimes. This was the third meeting of one of four sub-groups that have been established under that joint working group. During the meeting, member countries agreed to strengthen their cooperation in information exchange, capacity-building training, and exchanges. A counterterrorism deal was developed and signed in 2008 that included an agreement on information sharing on movement of funds and financial resources through member governments' financial intelligence units.

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

[http://www1.apan-info.net/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/Download.aspx?TabId=3368&DMXModule=11167&Command=Core\\_Download&EntryId=11228&PortalId=59](http://www1.apan-info.net/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/Download.aspx?TabId=3368&DMXModule=11167&Command=Core_Download&EntryId=11228&PortalId=59)

89. **5th ASEM Conference on Counterterrorism**

**Date:** May 15–16, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

Participants at the fifth ASEM Conference on Counterterrorism were representatives from ASEM partners as well as counterterrorism institutions. The conference strongly condemned terrorism in all its forms and underlined the importance of a comprehensive approach from the international community to fight terrorism, carried out in accordance with international law. The conference recognized that, despite significant progress, terrorism remains a serious threat to international peace and security. The conference participants recognized the need to further enhance counterterrorism cooperation by sharing information, tightening immigration and

border control, and combating terrorist financing, terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction, and terrorist use of media (particularly the Internet). The conference emphasized the need to broaden and enhance mutual understanding among cultures and civilizations and, for this purpose, to promote interfaith, intercultural, intercivilization, and intermedia dialogues among ASEM partners. The results of this conference were presented at the eighth ASEM Foreign Ministers Meeting later in the month.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aseminfoboard.org/content/documents/5thConf\\_CounterTerrorism\\_ChairSummary.pdf](http://www.aseminfoboard.org/content/documents/5thConf_CounterTerrorism_ChairSummary.pdf)

90. **6th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** May 17–19, 2007

**Location:** Penang, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the sixth regular meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter. As part of its consultations with ASEAN groups, the task force also met with the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) on May 17. The AIPA delegation proposed more coherent collaboration and coordination between the legislative arm (AIPA) and executive arm (ASEAN) on the harmonization of laws and legislation among ASEAN member countries, setting up ASEAN's own tribunal to adjudicate or arbitrate disputes between ASEAN member countries, and an article for the expeditious ratification of agreements.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aipo.org/AIPA\\_NB/3rdaipaNews.htm](http://www.aipo.org/AIPA_NB/3rdaipaNews.htm)  
<http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

91. **63rd Session of ESCAP; Consultative Meeting among Executive Heads of Sub-regional Organizations and ESCAP**

**Date:** May 17–23, 2007

**Location:** Almaty, Kazakhstan

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

The 62 members of ESCAP gathered for the commission's annual meeting, being held for the first time in Central Asia. The first three days of the meeting focused on reviewing the recent work of the ESCAP secretariat and the work program and resources mobilization for the period 2008–2009. The three-day ministerial segment focused on how to help poor countries in Asia Pacific achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and on promoting investment in health services in member countries and regions.

On the final day, a consultative meeting was held among ESCAP officials and officials from the subregional organizations—ASEAN, Economic Cooperation Organization, Pacific Islands Forum, and SAARC. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization and Eurasian Economic Community also joined as observers. The meeting focused on promoting cooperation in such areas as infrastructure development and financing and regional trade and investment.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/63/>

92. **1st Round of Japan–China–Republic of Korea Senior Foreign Affairs Officials Consultation**

**Date:** May 19, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Chaired by Government of China; Governments of Japan and South Korea

The first round of this trilateral consultation among senior foreign affairs officials was attended by deputy ministers from each country. Based on an agreement reached at the seventh China-Japan-

ROK Summit, held in January 2007, this consultation was held to promote communication and coordination on major political and diplomatic issues involving the three countries as well as international and regional issues. In addition to sharing views on the importance of trilateral cooperation and the future direction of cooperation, they also exchanged views on the situation in Northeast Asia and other regions, including the Six-Party Talks.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/5/1173424\\_848.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/5/1173424_848.html)

93. **12th Heads of Specialist Anti-Trafficking in Persons Units**

**Date:** May 21, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The Heads of Specialist Units process supports the continuation of the Asia Regional Trafficking in Persons Project, which assists countries in Asia in tackling the problem of trafficking in people.

**For information, see:** <http://www1.usaid.gov.au/latestnews/pdfs/combined.pdf>

94. **Regional Program on Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing through Charities and New Technology**

**Date:** May 21–25, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism; US Department of State

The US Department of State's Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training Section's Counterterrorism Unit conducted a regional program on money laundering and terrorist financing. The program covered the use and abuse of charities and use of new technology in financing terrorism; the investigation and prosecution of such crimes; and the seizing, maintenance, and forfeiture of assets. Forty-eight representatives from Bangladesh, Brunei, Timor Leste, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Singapore participated in this program.

**For information, see:** <http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/opdat/ctu/ctu.html>

95. **ASEAN Working Group on Security Cooperation (AWGSC)**

**Date:** May 22, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Participants at this working group meeting proposed the dissolution of the AWGSC in view of the establishment of the ASEAN Defence Senior Officials Meeting (ADSOM) Working Group. However, it was agreed that the decision on the future of the AWGSC would be deferred until the discussions of the ASEAN Charter were completed and the charter was adopted.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mod.go.th/admm/Report%20of%20the%20ASEAN%20WG%20on%20Security%20Cooperation%20\(6%20May%2008\).pdf](http://www.mod.go.th/admm/Report%20of%20the%20ASEAN%20WG%20on%20Security%20Cooperation%20(6%20May%2008).pdf)

96. **2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN)**

**Date:** May 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Bogor, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

ASEAN-WEN is a platform for effective coordination and information sharing across national and regional agencies in the fight against the illicit harvesting and trafficking of wildlife. Since

the launching of ASEAN-WEN in 2005, each ASEAN-WEN member country has increased its cross-border efforts to stop nature-related crimes and criminal organizations. Participants discussed relevant aspects of the Vientiane Action Plan and other ASEAN agreements on food, agriculture, and forestry. Recommendations were made on developing specialized working groups on wildlife crime investigation, capacity building, and communications and fund raising, and a Strategic Plan of Action of ASEAN-WEN (2007–2012) was discussed.

**For information, see:** <http://www.dephut.go.id/informasi/PHPA/PHKA/rep2-AseanWen.pdf>

97. **ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**

**Date:** May 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ASEAN SOM, along with the ASEAN Standing Committee, support the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in its efforts to oversee ASEAN's community-building efforts, external relations, strategic policy, and development cooperation. In 2007, the SOM continued to be engaged with the key issue of preserving ASEAN's centrality in the evolving regional strategic architecture, particularly concerning ASEAN+3 cooperation, the ASEAN Regional Forum, and the East Asia Summit.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/ar07.pdf>

98. **ASEAN Workshop on Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons; ASEAN Joint Experts Working Group on Trafficking in Persons**

**Date:** May 22–25, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

99. **ASEAN Workshop on Small Arms Control**

**Date:** May 22–25, 2007

**Location:** Phnom Penh, Cambodia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Participants at this ASEAN workshop recommended strengthening cooperation and coordination among existing ASEAN bodies involved in small arms and light weapons (SALW) control; the establishment or improvement of domestic laws on controls; and the restriction of illicit trade, transfer, and proliferation in SALWs in ASEAN. Other recommendations included the establishment of hotline contact points, the promotion of information and intelligence exchange and sharing of best practices, and capacity building on investigative skills for law enforcement and defense agencies.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

[http://www.interior.gov.kh/news\\_content.asp?NewsID=188](http://www.interior.gov.kh/news_content.asp?NewsID=188)

100. **ARF Defense Officials Dialogue**

**Date:** May 23, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

ARF defense officials recognized the complex and transnational nature of regional maritime security issues such as piracy, illegal trafficking of drugs and people, maritime terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction at sea, and maritime disasters. Participants emphasized the importance of regional maritime cooperation not only in ensuring the peace,

stability, and economic development of individual countries but also in promoting trust and confidence among ARF member countries. Participants considered cooperation through coordinated patrols, joint maritime exercises, and information sharing. Participants encouraged greater collaboration in institutional linkages; environmental cooperation on techno-scientific research, education, and training; and a focus on multifaceted, multilayered, and multipronged responses that proceed by consensus at a pace comfortable for all.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=zE0MUyX6g6U%3d&tabid=66&mid=940>

101. **4th ARF Security Policy Conference**

**Date:** May 24, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

The ARF Security Policy Conference, a dialogue mechanism to exchange views on current and emerging issues, has increased transparency and understanding and has facilitated the establishment of networks among ARF countries. The conference acknowledged that despite the overall stable security situation, the ARF region still faces common traditional and nontraditional threats, including terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, transnational crime, territorial disputes, natural disasters, and environmental concerns. Participants noted the role of the ARF in building trust and confidence among member countries to better address security threats. To enhance existing security cooperation, the conference called for more frequent military exchanges and exercises and better sharing of information, technology, and experience. The conference specifically addressed terrorism, emphasizing cooperation and clear lines of responsibility between military and police. Participants also called for the development of legal frameworks for the deployment of peacekeeping forces, focusing on interoperability of security forces and coordination between forces and international organizations.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=W1zwBb%2bzDSA%3d&tabid=66&mid=940>

102. **Senior Economic Officials Consultations with Pakistan (SEOM-Pakistan), Russia (SEOM-Russia), Australia (SEOM-AUSTR), and the European Union (SEOM-EU)**

**Date:** May 24, 2007

**Location:** Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

103. **ASEAN+3 Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** May 24, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/5-2007.htm>

104. **ARF Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** May 25, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

ARF officials exchanged views on recent regional and international issues. They noted that security challenges have become more complex and diverse and that regional and global commitment was required in order to address security challenges, including nontraditional security issues. The discussions covered a broad range of issues, including the importance of

interfaith and intercultural dialogue; support for the establishment of nuclear-weapons-free zones; progress in the Six-Party Talks; political developments in Timor Leste; concerns over the situation in Myanmar; security challenges facing the Pacific Island countries; the status of developments in Thailand, Afghanistan, and Iran; and energy security. They also reviewed Track 1 activities on preventive diplomacy, disaster recovery, and transnational crime and discussed preparations for the 14th ARF later in the year.

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

105. **8th APEC Energy Ministerial Meeting**

**Date:** May 27–30, 2007

**Location:** Darwin, Australia

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

APEC energy ministers produced the Darwin Declaration, “Achieving Energy Security and Sustainable Development through Efficiency, Conservation and Diversity.” Ministers emphasized the need to strengthen emergency preparedness and participate in measures to manage the risks and consequences of short-term energy supply disruptions. They also recognized the importance for the longer-term energy future of pursuing policies and technologies to promote the development of cleaner energy and the improvement of energy efficiency and conservation. They determined that addressing the challenges of energy security and sustainable development should be based on well-functioning markets. They reported on ways in which APEC might further contribute to policies and technologies that promote the development of cleaner energy and the improvement of energy efficiency, thereby enabling economies to meet increasing energy needs with a lower environmental impact and to address climate change objectives.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apec.org/apec/ministerial\\_statements/sectoral\\_ministerial/energy/2007\\_energy.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/ministerial_statements/sectoral_ministerial/energy/2007_energy.html)

106. **Policymakers Forum on Economic Policy and Financial Innovation for Investment in Forest Environmental Services**

**Date:** May 28–29, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Environment and Development Division

Climate change adds a new element of economic risk to land-use changes. However, the unsustainable use of forest resources and conversion of forest lands continues—a result of conflicting policy and the attractiveness of immediate economic gains presented by alternative land uses such as cash crop production. Regional dialogue on these issues has largely been confined to those already working in the environmental sector. This workshop was intended to give those with the economic policy and decision-making power an opportunity to increase the range of economic instruments at their disposal to support investments in forest environmental services, and consequently, more environmentally sustainable economic growth patterns. Participants included policymakers from throughout Asia Pacific, as well as from such countries as India and Iran and from international agencies.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unescap.org/esd/environment/services/meeting/2007\\_05\\_28/index.asp](http://www.unescap.org/esd/environment/services/meeting/2007_05_28/index.asp)

107. **8th ASEM Foreign Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** May 28–29, 2007

**Location:** Hamburg, Germany

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)



The foreign ministers of the 45 ASEM member states gathered in Hamburg, where they agreed to intensify regional cooperation on global issues and on resolving international conflicts. One of the main themes of the conference was tackling climate change. Participants reinforced their belief that only joint decisive action can save the world from the consequences of advancing global warming. The ASEM members therefore supported a comprehensive global follow-up regime to the Kyoto Protocol, which expires in 2012. This follow-up program is intended to take account of the common but differentiated responsibility of the international community for global warming. The EU high representative for the common foreign and security policy took part in the meeting as a guest for the first time, underlining ASEM's growing security-policy dimension.

**For information, see:** [http://www.eu2007.de/en/News/Press\\_Releases/May/0530AAASEM.html](http://www.eu2007.de/en/News/Press_Releases/May/0530AAASEM.html)

108. **11th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (AWGMEA); AWGMEA Cluster Meetings; Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI) Dialogue on Climate Change**

**Date:** May 28–31, 2007

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the 11th meeting of the AWGMEA, which promotes cooperation among ASEAN member countries with regard to multilateral environmental agreements in order to reach a common ASEAN approach, where appropriate, in the negotiation and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements. It also allows ASEAN member countries to strengthen cooperation among themselves in the implementation of existing international environmental instruments or agreements; identify and address problems that prevent ASEAN countries from participating in or implementing international environmental agreements or instruments; promote and support the effective participation of ASEAN countries in the negotiation, implementation, review, and governance of international environmental agreements; exchange views and information on new or revised multilateral environmental agreements; and upgrade ASEAN's capacity to negotiate multilateral environmental agreements.

**For information, see:** <http://www.nea.gov.vn/mme/IAMME/IAMME7.html>

109. **26th Session of the Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement**

**Date:** May 29–30, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

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

The purpose of this meeting was to deliberate on the modalities of the fourth round of negotiations, to discuss expansion of the membership of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), and to finalize the agenda for the second session of the Ministerial Council of the APTA. Participants also discussed the certification and verification procedures of certificates of origin.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/ba26th.asp>

110. **NARBO Thematic Workshop on Water Rights**

**Date:** May 29–31, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO); Asian Development Bank (ADB); National Water Resources Board; Japan Water Agency; ADB Institute

In light of the fact that water rights concerns are of particular interest to most of the member countries of NARBO, the organization held a series of four workshops on water allocation and water rights between December 2005 and January 2007. The series of workshops resulted in draft action plans to address water allocation challenges in each attendant's country and the sharing of experiences and practices. Following the completion of those workshops, the NARBO Secretariat proposed to hold a fifth workshop focused on water rights.

In this workshop, participants held in-depth discussions on water rights and finalized a technical paper on the subject that will be useful to NARBO members. The workshop aimed to gather inputs from participants regarding specific country cases and experiences, with recommendations on how to take the water rights agenda forward into implementation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.narbo.jp/narbo/event/materials/announce\\_for\\_the\\_thematic\\_ws\\_on\\_water\\_rights.pdf](http://www.narbo.jp/narbo/event/materials/announce_for_the_thematic_ws_on_water_rights.pdf)

111. **5th Focal Point Meeting for the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS)**

**Date:** May 30–31, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The AFSIS project is an ASEAN-Japan initiative with participation open to China and Korea. The project ran from 2003 to 2007 and was intended to facilitate food security planning and implementation in member countries through the systematic collection, analysis, and dissemination of food security information. It was led and coordinated by Thailand and funded by Japan through the ASEAN Trust Fund.

The Focal Point Meeting was the decision-making mechanism of the project and was held at least once a year. At the fifth meeting, participants discussed and reached decisions on the following matters: (1) project activities at the regional and national levels, (2) the 2007 project work plan, and (3) the second phase implementation plan. The meeting was attended by representatives nominated as project focal points from each member country, as well as representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat; the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan; the Japan International Cooperation Agency; the East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve Project; and other concerned agencies.

**For information, see:** [http://afsis.oae.go.th/doc/PDF%202007/1/Meeting%20Information\\_5th\\_FPM\\_2007.pdf](http://afsis.oae.go.th/doc/PDF%202007/1/Meeting%20Information_5th_FPM_2007.pdf)

## **June**

112. **27th Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force**

**Date:** June 4, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the 27th meeting of the IAI Task Force, which meets regularly to review the implementation of the projects under the IAI program. That program addresses infrastructure development, human resource development, information and communications technology, and promotion of regional economic integration among Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam.

**For information, see:** [http://www.40amm.org.ph/amm\\_moreinfo\\_5.asp](http://www.40amm.org.ph/amm_moreinfo_5.asp)

113. **6th Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Foreign Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** June 4–5, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ACD; hosted by the Government of South Korea

The sixth ACD addressed regional matters such as the progress of the 19 ACD cooperation projects in the information technology sector, the setting up of standards for accession to the ACD, the establishment of an ACD High-Level Study Group to consider the future of the ACD, the North Korean nuclear issue, and energy security. Members adopted the Seoul Information Technology (IT) Declaration and promoted IT cooperation on energy diplomacy with seven Middle East nations, Russia, and three Central Asian nations, all of which possess enormous amounts of energy resources. In addition, bilateral talks were held with the foreign ministers of Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Thailand. The ACD also received visits from foreign ministers of Singapore, Lao PDR, and Russia. All of these were expected to strengthen bilateral relations with the respective nations.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofat.go.kr/index.jsp>

114. **11th Meeting of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C) Sub-Sector Network of the ASEAN Energy Cooperation**

**Date:** June 6, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE)

Topics discussed included a review of the Board of Judges Evaluation Meeting of the ASEAN EE&C Best Practices Competition 2005, a Board of Judges Evaluation Meeting of the ASEAN Energy Management in Building and Industry Competition 2007, a report of the Promotion of Energy Efficiency and Conservation projects, and a report on the progress of the ASEAN Energy Manager Accreditation System, as well as ACE progress in ASEAN member countries.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/reports/energy\\_organisation/eec-ssn/Final%20Report%2011th%20Meeting%20EE&C-SSN%202007.pdf](http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/reports/energy_organisation/eec-ssn/Final%20Report%2011th%20Meeting%20EE&C-SSN%202007.pdf)

115. **APEC Health Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** June 6–8, 2007

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

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

The health ministers of APEC met to further their commitment to cooperation, coordination, and collaboration on serious public health issues affecting the 2.6 billion people in the region. Under the theme “Building on Our Investment: A Sustainable and Multisectoral Approach to Pandemic Preparedness and Emerging Health Threats,” the meeting focused on the interface between economics and health issues, while also canvassing the impact that new health threats might have on people’s lives. Leaders acknowledged the effective work of the Health Task Force in elevating health to be a significant part of APEC’s deliberations and in coordinating implementation of the APEC Action Plan on the Prevention and Response to Avian and Influenza Pandemics. Leaders also endorsed the “APEC Functioning Economies in Times of Pandemic Guidelines” as a resource for member economies and as a pivotal step in acknowledging the importance of improving regional capacity for appropriate emergency management and response planning.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apec.org/apec/ministerial\\_statements/sectoral\\_ministerial/health/2007\\_health.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/ministerial_statements/sectoral_ministerial/health/2007_health.html)

116. **2nd Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Development Cooperation Forum (IDCF)**

**Date:** June 12, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Under the theme “Towards Developing New Strategies for Narrowing the Development Gap in ASEAN,” the second IDCF sought to discuss suitable strategies and coordinating activities for continuing the implementation of the IAI in particular and bridging the development gap within ASEAN in general. The ultimate objective is to help build a fully integrated ASEAN by 2015.

**For information, see:** <http://army.qdnd.vn/vietnam.Policy-Society.pnews.7168.qdnd>

117. **5th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC)**

**Date:** June 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Phnom Penh, Cambodia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; chaired by the Government of Singapore

The AWGESC was formed in 2003 to develop strategies and action plans to drive the Regional Environmentally Sustainable Cities Programme, which focuses on urban environmental management and governance in ASEAN cities. The AWGESC is chaired by Singapore and it aims to develop a framework for sustainable cities in ASEAN that accommodates the prevailing but varied circumstances among ASEAN cities, to promote the sharing of information and expertise in environmental protection and management to further enhance environmental sustainability in ASEAN cities, to recommend common targets and indicators to assess sustainability for cities in ASEAN, to facilitate and organize seminars and workshops to promote intercity environmental cooperation and facilitate transfer of know-how and expertise, and to foster better understanding and closer cooperation among relevant agencies of ASEAN member countries and international and community-based organizations in the area of urban environmental management and monitoring.

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

118. **Trilateral Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of China, Japan, and South Korea**

**Date:** June 17–18, 2007

**Location:** Jeju, South Korea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Hosted by the Government of South Korea; Governments of China and Japan

At the first trilateral foreign ministers meeting held independently from other multilateral occasions, the three countries agreed to continue this meeting on a regular basis. The three foreign ministers exchanged views on a wide range of issues including ways to further expand substantial trilateral cooperation among the three countries, the Six-Party Talks, and situations in Northeast Asia. They agreed to expand and promote cooperation in such areas as trade and investment, environmental protection, climate change, culture, and people-to-people exchanges. Furthermore, the three foreign ministers agreed to make efforts for early implementation of the Six-Party Talks agreements (September 19, 2005, and February 13, 2007). They also shared views on the importance of establishing a multilateral security regime based on mutual confidence building and agreed to continue cooperation in future discussions on a peace and security regime in Northeast Asia.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/eas/report0711.pdf>

119. **3rd Chiang Mai Initiative Task Force for Multilateralization Meeting**

**Date:** June 18, 2007

**Location:** Dalian, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the third meeting of the Chiang Mai Initiative Task Force, comprised of deputy finance ministers. The task force meets regularly to study various possible options toward an advanced framework of regional liquidity support.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/regional\\_financial\\_cooperation.htm#CMI](http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/regional_financial_cooperation.htm#CMI)

120. **3rd East Asia Summit (EAS) Energy Cooperation Task Force Meeting**

**Date:** June 19–20, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** EAS; hosted by the Government of Japan

The third EAS Energy Cooperation Task Force Meeting was held in Tokyo. The meeting was attended by Japanese officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and officials in charge of each EAS participant country's energy policy. This meeting featured a wide-ranging discussion on concrete measures to enhance energy security in the East Asia region. Japan also held an EAS Energy Efficiency and Conservation Conference, which aimed at sharing Japan's experience in energy efficiency and conservation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/6/1174067\\_850.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/6/1174067_850.html)

121. **14th Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Ministerial Conference**

**Date:** June 19–21, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asian Development Bank

Ministers from Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam met to review the progress of the GMS Program, provide guidance on its future direction, and commemorate its 15th anniversary. Participants discussed the progress that has been made in implementing the plan of action, which comprises high-priority initiatives in nine sectors, and focused especially on the transport, energy, telecommunications, trade, tourism, and agricultural sectors.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/14th-Ministerial-Conference/joint-ministerial-statement.pdf>

122. **3rd Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution**

**Date:** June 20, 2007

**Location:** Jambi, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) recognized the urgency and importance of regional preparedness to tackle land and forest fires and transboundary haze pollution in the next dry season. The participants expressed satisfaction over the significant progress on the operationalization of Indonesia's Plan of Action and noted the collaboration between Indonesia and Singapore in Jambi Province, including a master plan that has been jointly developed to tackle land and forest fires in Muaro Jambi Regency. The MSC also noted that the collaboration between Indonesia and Malaysia in Riau Province covers capacity building, fire prevention, peatland management, and socialization and awareness in dealing with land and forest fires and transboundary haze pollution.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/MSC3.doc>

123. **20th ASEAN-US Dialogue**

**Date:** June 21, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/6-2007.htm>

124. **3rd APEC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM III) Meeting**

**Date:** June 22–July 3, 2007

**Location:** Cairns, Australia

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

At the APEC SOM III, participants discussed trade and investment liberalization and business facilitation; structural reform; anticorruption and transparency; economic and technical cooperation; enhancement of human security, including counterterrorism, health issues, emergency preparedness, and energy; and APEC reform.

**For information, see:** [http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2007/SOM/SOM3/07\\_som3\\_summary.doc](http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2007/SOM/SOM3/07_som3_summary.doc)

125. **7th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) and related meetings**

**Date:** June 25–28, 2007

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The seventh SOMTC endorsed the institutionalization of the SOMTC Working Group on Counter-terrorism as well as Singapore's framework on capacity building for enforcement against cybercrime.

**For information, see:** <http://www.gov.ph/news/default.asp?i=18453>

[http://www.mha.gov.sg/news\\_details.aspx?nid=1139](http://www.mha.gov.sg/news_details.aspx?nid=1139)

126. **4th Dialogue on Environmental Education as a Measure to Address Global Warming**

**Date:** June 26–27, 2007

**Location:** Kitakyushu, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD); hosted by the Government of Japan

This dialogue was convened by the ACD to focus on Education for Sustainable Development, with this year's theme being environmental education as a measure to address global warming. The objectives were to reach a common understanding among ACD member countries to address global warming, enhance understanding of the contribution of Asian countries, and promote public awareness on the issue. Representatives of ACD member countries presented mitigation measures taken by their respective governments and national agencies to address environmental problems. Within the framework of the dialogue, ACD member countries presented their experiences and best practices and discussed the lack of awareness of environmental concerns in the Asia Pacific region and the necessity for increased public participation, the transfer of technology and scientific knowledge from developed countries to developing countries, and ways to improve the Clean Development Mechanism framework.

**For information, see:** [http://www.acddialogue.com/news/news\\_detail.php?ID=96](http://www.acddialogue.com/news/news_detail.php?ID=96)

127. **7th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** June 26–28, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the seventh regular meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter. As part of its consultations with ASEAN groups, the task force also met with human rights institutions of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand on June 26. As part of the charter, the task force considered including a provision for the establishment of an ASEAN Human Rights Commission.

**For information, see:** [http://www.40amm.org.ph/main\\_overview.asp](http://www.40amm.org.ph/main_overview.asp)  
<http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/hltf-advances-with-asean-charter-draft.html>

128. **ASEAN Four Meeting on Human Rights**

**Date:** June 28, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Four is composed of the Human Rights National Commission of Indonesia (KOMNAS HAM), Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM), Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines, and the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (Khamakarn Sit)

The meeting of representatives of national human rights commissions from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand, known as the ASEAN Four, concluded with the signing of a declaration of cooperation. In the declaration, the ASEAN Four formally pledged to have a regional strategy in enforcing the promotion and protection of human rights, including determining how to advise their respective governments on the steps that can be taken in establishing an ASEAN human rights mechanism. The declaration also recognized the efforts of ASEAN and the Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism. The ASEAN Four agreed to carry out activities on human rights issues of common concern, including the suppression of terrorism while respecting human rights; human rights aspects of human trafficking; protection of the human rights of migrants; implementation of economic, social, and cultural rights and the right to development; and enhancement of human rights education.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/asean-four-signs-declaration-of-cooperation.html>

129. **Ad Hoc Consultations of East Asia Summit 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

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Various meetings of senior officials and ministers were held, including the Meeting of the SEANWFZ, which consisted of preparations for the adoption of two documents: (1) Stocktaking of the Implementation of the SEANWFZ Treaty, and (2) Plan of Action to Strengthen the Implementation of the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone. These documents were reviewed by foreign ministers at the 40th ASEAN Ministerial meeting in late July 2007.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kln.gov.my/?m\\_id=26&vid=494](http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26&vid=494)

130. **Tripartite E-wastes Transboundary Movement Control and Management Workshop**

**Date:** June 29–30, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

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

Based on the Joint Communiqué of the 8th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting, the ministers agreed to take joint efforts to fight against the illegal transboundary movement of toxic and hazardous waste. At the Tripartite E-wastes Transboundary Movement Control and Management Workshop, the three countries agreed to enhance tripartite cooperation in cracking down on illegal transboundary movement of e-wastes.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/eas/report0711.pdf>

## ***July***

### **131. Prevention and Crisis Management of Chemical and Biological Terrorism**

**Date:** July 2–6, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan; Government of Malaysia; Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism

This seminar on chemical and biological terrorism was attended by 36 participants from Brunei, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. During the seminar, participants exchanged views and conducted an exercise on how they would respond to a terrorist attack. Other themes included chemical and biological threat evaluation and prevention, countermeasures, and coordination among agencies to assure proper responses in cases of chemical and biological terrorism.

**For information, see:** [http://www.searcc.gov.my/site1/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=12&Itemid=26](http://www.searcc.gov.my/site1/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=12&Itemid=26)

### **132. 17th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity**

**Date:** July 3–4, 2007

**Location:** Brunei

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Topics on the agenda included the status of an ASEAN Framework Agreement on Access to Biological and Genetic Resources, the ASEAN Heritage Parks Program, the Heart of Borneo Initiative, a review of the ASEAN Agreement on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources; the creation of an ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, the ASEAN-ROK Flagship Project on Restoration of Degraded Forest Ecosystem in the Southeast Asian Tropical Regions Phase II, an ASEAN regional action plan on trade in wild fauna and flora, and implementation of the Vientiane Action Plan.

**For information, see:** [http://www.pawb.gov.ph/uploaded\\_files/17th%20AWGNCR%20REPORT1.pdf](http://www.pawb.gov.ph/uploaded_files/17th%20AWGNCR%20REPORT1.pdf)

### **133. 36th ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Investment (CCI)**

**Date:** July 3–5, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was a regular meeting of the CCI, a committee set up by the ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council to assist it in the performance of its functions. The CCI comprises senior officials responsible for investment and other senior officials from relevant government agencies and meets regularly four to five times a year to oversee policy coordination and implementation, discuss regional investment matters, and coordinate investment promotion. The CCI reports to the AIA Council through the Senior Economic Officials Meeting.

**For information, see:** [http://moit.gov.vn/vsi\\_portlets/UserFiles/Docman/Upload/Agreement%20on%20AIA.doc](http://moit.gov.vn/vsi_portlets/UserFiles/Docman/Upload/Agreement%20on%20AIA.doc)

### **134. APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade**

**Date:** July 4–6, 2007

**Location:** Queensland, Australia

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

The APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade met to promote dynamism in the Asia Pacific region, continue support for the multilateral trading system under the WTO, and create an enabling



environment for economic growth through trade and investment liberalization and facilitation. Specifically, they focused on regional economic integration, including the possibility of developing a Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific in the long term; promoting greater consistency and coherence among the existing regional trade agreements/free trade agreements; and endorsing APEC's second Trade Facilitation Action Plan, which sets out a framework and timetable for achieving the goal of another 5 percent reduction in trade transaction costs by 2010. Other topics discussed included intellectual property rights and the digital economy, investment, transparency and anticorruption, improving the business environment, and structural reform. Finally, the ministers discussed the need to ensure that APEC is responsive to the changing needs of the Asia Pacific community.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/apec/2007/mrt0707.pdf>

**135. 11th ASEAN–Republic of Korea Dialogue**

**Date:** July 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Kuantan, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ASEAN-ROK Dialogue is a consultative body for discussions on ways to promote ASEAN-ROK cooperation in various areas such as politics, economy and trade, culture, labor, and tourism. At this meeting, participants discussed the recent situation on the Korean Peninsula, progress in the ROK-ASEAN Comprehensive Cooperation and Partnership, and the establishment of the ROK-ASEAN Center.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofat.go.kr/english/econtrade/pressrelease/index.jsp>

**136. 2nd ASEAN Security Community Plan of Action Coordinating Conference (ASCCO)**

**Date:** July 10–11, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

As part of its community building process, ASEAN developed a Plan of Action for an ASEAN Security Community. At this meeting, the Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism submitted an update of its activities. The ASCCO also held a dialogue with the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/2nd-asean-security-community-plan.html>  
<http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

**137. 9th ASEAN+3 Directors-General Meeting**

**Date:** July 10–11, 2007

**Location:** Guiyang, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** [www.aseansec.org/7-2007.htm](http://www.aseansec.org/7-2007.htm)

**138. 6th Meeting of ACCORD Task Force III on Law Enforcement; 5th Meeting of ACCORD Task Force IV on Alternative Development; 3rd Meeting of the Regional Initiative Against ATS-Related Crime**

**Date:** July 11–13, 2007

**Location:** Yangon, Myanmar

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ASEAN and China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD) has established several task forces. Task Force III seeks to strengthen the rule of law by an enhanced network of control measures and improved law enforcement cooperation and

legislative review. Task Force IV seeks to eliminate the supply of illicit drugs by boosting alternative development programs and community participation in the eradication of illicit crops. Additionally, a regional initiative was created to combat crime related to amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), including methamphetamine and ecstasy.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/645.htm>

139. **Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM) Consultations with the Republic of Korea, Japan, China, +3, and India; SEOM–Closer Economic Relations Consultations**

**Date:** July 12–13, 2007

**Location:** Vietnam

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/7-2007.htm>

140. **ASEAN Workshop on Preventing Bio-terrorism**

**Date:** July 12–13, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The workshop was aimed at establishing strategies to combat potential terrorist acts using biological weapons. Participating in the workshop were high-ranking law enforcers from 10 ASEAN member countries and bioterrorism experts from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Criminal Police Organization, the Singapore Police Force, and the Hong Kong Police. The law enforcers shared their experiences in preventing bioterrorism threats and worked to cooperate in dealing with terrorist acts.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ppatk.go.id/berita\\_eng.php?nid=1547](http://www.ppatk.go.id/berita_eng.php?nid=1547)

141. **Dialogue between the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter and the ADB**

**Date:** July 13, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; Asian Development Bank (ADB)

As part of the task force deliberations on the drafting of an ASEAN Charter, it held a dialogue with the ADB.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

142. **4th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials of the 38th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (SEOM 4/38) and Consultations**

**Date:** July 16–19, 2007

**Location:** Danang, Vietnam

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Officials endeavored to finalize the draft of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint and its Strategic Schedule for submission to the 39th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting.

**For information, see:** [http://www.dephut.go.id/files/Annex\\_05\\_Updates%20on%20ASEAN%20Economic%20Integration.pdf](http://www.dephut.go.id/files/Annex_05_Updates%20on%20ASEAN%20Economic%20Integration.pdf)

143. **ASEAN-China Symposium on Progress of Human Infection with Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Prevention and Control**

**Date:** July 17–18, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

China hosted a symposium to review the progress made in prevention and control of human infection with HPAI. To assist in this endeavor, China proposed to establish a China-ASEAN mechanism for regular information sharing on communicable diseases and public health emergencies. China is also training 20 professionals in this field for ASEAN.

**For information, see:** <http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/wjdt/zyjh/t290185.htm>

**144. Six-Party Talks (6th Round, 1st Session)**

**Date:** July 18–20, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Governments of China, Japan, North Korea, Russia, South Korea, and the United States

The first session of the sixth round of the Six-Party Talks resumed in Beijing in July. The parties reviewed the work and progress, expressed satisfaction with the constructive efforts made by all parties to advance the Six-Party Talks process, and welcomed the fact that productive bilateral consultations and coordination were conducted to enhance mutual trust and improve relations. In a joint statement issued on July 20, the six parties recommitted themselves to the Joint Statement of September 19, 2005, and the agreement of February 13, 2007. North Korea confirmed that it would disclose all nuclear programs and disable all facilities related to its nuclear programs. Five working groups were to meet before August to discuss plans for the implementation of the general consensus, and talks were to resume in September to hear the report of the working groups and develop a roadmap for implementing the general consensus.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofat.go.kr/index.jsp>

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/n\\_korea/6party/press0707.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/n_korea/6party/press0707.html)

**145. 8th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** July 22–31, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the eighth regular meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter. During the meeting, task force members discussed inserting an ASEAN human rights mechanism into the charter. The task force had intended to finish its draft in July to submit at the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting, but unable to reach a consensus, the members referred the matter to the foreign ministers to resolve the issue. The foreign ministers agreed to include a provision mandating the creation of the human rights mechanism.

**For information, see:** <http://www.hurights.or.jp/asia-pacific/049/02.html>

<http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

**146. 7th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources Management**

**Date:** July 23–25, 2007

**Location:** Penang, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; ASEAN-US Technical Assistance & Training Facility

The ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources Management convened to review the status of the ASEAN Strategic Plan of Action on Water Resources Management. Significant progress was reported for four of the ten priority project concepts. Results of the meeting were endorsed by the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment at their meeting in mid-August, which included agreements on five project concepts: Urban Demand Management Learning Forum, led by Singapore to be held in June 2008; Demand Management Learning Forum on Irrigation, led by Thailand, to be conducted in December 2008; ASEAN Water Data Management and Reporting System Design activity, led by Malaysia, which will span 24 months and be

launched in 2008; and Risks and Impacts from Extreme Events, co-led by Indonesia and Thailand, which is to be split into separate proposals, one on flooding and one on drought.

**For information, see:** [http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PDACK751.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACK751.pdf)

[http://www.penang.gov.my/index.php?ch=1&pg=93&ac=633&lang=eng  
&format=](http://www.penang.gov.my/index.php?ch=1&pg=93&ac=633&lang=eng&format=)

147. **WIPO/ESCAP High-Level Forum on Intellectual Property Rights and Trade**

**Date:** July 23–25, 2007

**Location:** Macao, China

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

The objective of this meeting was to promote debate among Asia-Pacific government policymakers on the links between development and the trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights and to devise a common regional approach to meet the challenges. Related topics of discussion included public health; competition and investment; the WTO dispute settlement mechanism; regional/bilateral trade and investment agreements; and aspects of biodiversity, genetic resources, and traditional knowledge in intellectual property rights.

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

148. **Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering Annual Meeting 2007 and Technical Assistance Forum**

**Date:** July 23–27, 2007

**Location:** Perth, Australia

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

At this meeting of the APG, participants discussed, evaluated, and publicized results of mutual evaluation reports, and assessed anti-money laundering efforts and systems to combat terrorist financing in its member countries.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aba.org.tw/images/upload/newsletter/Newsbriefs200710.pdf>

149. **28th Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force**

**Date:** July 26, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the 28th meeting of the IAI Task Force, which meets regularly to review the implementation of the projects under the IAI program. The program addresses infrastructure development, human resource development, information and communication technology, and promotion of regional economic integration among Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam.

**For information, see:** [http://www.40amm.org.ph/amm\\_moreinfo\\_5.asp](http://www.40amm.org.ph/amm_moreinfo_5.asp)

150. **Meeting on Enhancing ASEAN-UN Relations; ASEAN Standing Committee Meeting; ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty; Ad Hoc Consultations of East Asia Summit Senior Officials; Senior Officials Troika Meeting with Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism; ASEAN Ministerial Meetings (AMM) Informal Working Dinner**

**Date:** July 26–29, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The AMM began with a series of dialogues. An informal working dinner for the ASEAN SOM with the ASEAN secretary-general was held on the 26th, as were a meeting on enhancing relations between ASEAN and the United Nations and a meeting of the ASEAN Standing Committee. The formal SOM was held on the 27th and 28th.

The SEANWFZ Treaty was the focus of meetings as it had been in force for 10 years and was therefore up for review. Under the treaty, ASEAN countries agreed not to develop, acquire, manufacture, or control nuclear weapons or stations, or to test or use these weapons of mass destruction. A nuclear-free ASEAN was one of the major topics to be discussed.

Meetings were also held in preparation for the East Asia Summit and between the Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism and the SOM Troika. In the latter meeting, the working group recommended the formation of a joint task force composed of ASEAN senior officials, working group representatives, civil society groups, and women and children's rights experts to draft the appropriate instrument to establish the commission on the promotion and protection of the rights of women and children.

**For information, see:** [http://www.40amm.org.ph/main\\_overview.asp](http://www.40amm.org.ph/main_overview.asp)

<http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/gains-for-human-rights-reported.html>

151. **40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM); AMM Retreat; Special ASEAN+3 Deputy Directors General Working Group Meeting; ASEAN+3 SOM; East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers Lunch; 8th ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** July 29–August 2, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The theme of the 40th AMM was “One Caring and Sharing Community.” During the meeting, the ASEAN foreign ministers discussed the first draft of the ASEAN Charter and reviewed the progress of overall regional cooperation among ASEAN countries and with their ASEAN dialogue partners. They also reviewed developments pertaining to regional and international issues that may have political, economic, and sociocultural impact on ASEAN. The foreign ministers welcomed Singapore’s proposal to focus on “Energy, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development” as a key theme of discussions at the 13th ASEAN Summit (November 2007).

As part of the 40th AMM, the ASEAN+3 foreign ministers met to exchange views on regional and international issues. The ministers discussed the situation in Afghanistan and reaffirmed their support for the Six-Party Talks. They noted with satisfaction that ASEAN+3 cooperation has expanded in the areas of women, poverty alleviation, disaster management, and minerals. Participants discussed an East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA), including the outcomes of the study of the Expert Group on EAFTA; Japan’s proposal to establish an Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia; and South Korea’s proposal to conduct a second phase of an in-depth analysis of the EAFTA.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kln.gov.my/?m\\_id=26&vid=494](http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26&vid=494)

<http://www.gov.ph/news/default.asp?i=18466>

[http://www.40amm.org.ph/main\\_newscontent.asp?category=news&newsid=1002](http://www.40amm.org.ph/main_newscontent.asp?category=news&newsid=1002)

152. **14th APEC Finance Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** July 30–August 3, 2007

**Location:** Queensland, Australia

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

Under Australia’s APEC 2007 theme of “strengthening our community, building a sustainable future,” the finance ministers of the APEC economies discussed the key economic and financial

issues that are shaping the region's future prosperity. Ministers considered the medium-term challenges of ensuring that sufficient well-targeted investment occurs to underpin sustainable economic growth and of ensuring that energy markets operate efficiently and transparently to deliver long-term energy security. Ministers also considered two policy themes: managing fiscal risks and the need to deepen private capital markets to create new economic opportunities. The meeting's ongoing objective is to realize the APEC region's economic potential by drawing together the interests of member economies and exploring opportunities for cooperation and capacity building.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apec.org.au/docs/07\\_FMM\\_JMS.pdf](http://www.apec.org.au/docs/07_FMM_JMS.pdf)

153. **5th Meeting of the Southwest Pacific Dialogue**

**Date:** July 31, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Officials from Australia, Indonesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, and Timor Leste gathered after the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting for the fifth Meeting of the Southwest Pacific Dialogue. The participants exchanged views on developments in their subregion. They lauded the commitment of the Southwest Pacific countries to maintaining democratic principles and pursuing good governance. In this light, the participants commended the recent conduct of credible and orderly elections in Timor Leste and Papua New Guinea and expressed the hope that the political process would help advance those countries' development. The meeting expressed appreciation to countries—including Australia, New Zealand, and the Philippines—that are providing assistance to enhance security in Timor Leste through the International Security Force and the UN. Other topics included further cooperation in the areas of education and culture, transnational crime and terrorism, interfaith dialogue, maritime issues, avian influenza and HIV/AIDS, and prevention of natural disasters.

**For information, see:** [http://www.dfat.gov.au/asean/joint\\_media\\_statement.html](http://www.dfat.gov.au/asean/joint_media_statement.html)

154. **8th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME)**

**Date:** July 31–August 1, 2007

**Location:** Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the eighth meeting of the AWGCME, which oversees ASEAN cooperation on the protection of the coastal and marine environment. The AWGCME focuses on the promotion of regional policies and activities for the prevention and control of marine pollution and on the management of ASEAN coastal zones as generally identified in the Hanoi Plan of Action (1999–2004) and the Vientiane Action Programme (2004–2010).

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/10080.htm>

155. **6th Meeting of ACCORD Task Force I on Civic Awareness**

**Date:** July 31–August 1, 2007

**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; hosted by Brunei's Narcotics Control Bureau

Nearly 50 delegates from ASEAN member countries, China, and the UN took part in this two-day meeting. Participants argued that a priority in the fight against drugs should be prevention by helping people free themselves from drug dependence and getting them back into society. They discussed preventive drug education efforts in disseminating drug awareness to the community as well as other demand-reduction strategies. They presented national country

reports on civic awareness and demand reduction as well as on experiences in monitoring public awareness campaigns, treatment methods, protocols, and other treatment-related issues. **For information, see:** [http://www.brunei.gov.bn/hotnews/year%202007/0807/01/NCB\\_ACCORD.htm](http://www.brunei.gov.bn/hotnews/year%202007/0807/01/NCB_ACCORD.htm)

## **August**

156. **Regional Expert Meeting on Using Space Technology for Avian Influenza Monitoring and Early Warning in Asia**

**Date:** August 1–3, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); UN Office for Outer Space Affairs; co-sponsored by the China National Space Agency and the Geo-informatics and Space Technology Development of Thailand

The objective of this meeting was to discuss and formulate a regional framework and work plan toward the establishment of a regional network for joint development of the space IT-enabled highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) monitoring and early warning model in Asia, which would serve as the technical basis for a future operational system for HPAI prevention and control. The meeting was attended by 37 policymakers from national HPAI coordinating bodies and relevant ministries and departments and experts from technical support institutions of 16 countries. Representatives of international organizations, including the office of UN System Influenza Coordination, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the World Health Organization, were also present at the meeting.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/icstd/space/Workshops/2007/em-avian-influenza/>

157. **ASEAN Post Ministerial Conferences (PMC)+1 with Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Russia, the EU, and the United States**

**Date:** August 1, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At the PMC+1 conferences, progress was made on the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership, the ASEAN-Canada Joint Cooperation Work Plan, the Nuremberg Declaration on ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership, the ASEAN–New Zealand Framework for Cooperation 2006–2010, the ASEAN–Australia/New Zealand Free Trade Area, the ASEAN-Russia Comprehensive Program of Action to Promote Cooperation 2005–2015, the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership Financial Fund, the ASEAN-Russia Agreement on Cultural Cooperation, the ASEAN-US Commemorative Summit, and the ASEAN-US Science and Technology Agreement. ASEAN encouraged its partners to accede to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia. An ASEAN PMC+10 working lunch included all of the above, along with China, Japan, South Korea, and India. The participants welcomed the positive developments in the Six-Party Talks and expressed support for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/20828.htm>

<http://www.aseansec.org/Bulletin-Jul-07.htm>

158. **14th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); ARF Defense Officials Meeting**

**Date:** August 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ARF

The 14th meeting of the ARF was attended by the foreign ministers of all ARF participants, as well as the EU high representative for common foreign and security policy. The ministers welcomed the admission of Sri Lanka as the 27th participant in the ARF. The ministers expressed their support for the ASEAN Security Community Plan of Action adopted at the 10th ASEAN Summit and reaffirmed the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, welcoming the accession of France, Timor Leste, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh. Ministers discussed the security situation on the Korean Peninsula, recent developments in Myanmar, elections in Timor Leste, and an upcoming referendum of the recently drafted constitution in Thailand.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=RbahNhjo2E8%3d&tabid=66&mid=940>

159. **Expert Group Meeting: Promoting Trade between Asian Subregions**

**Date:** August 1–3, 2007

**Location:** Kunming, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Trade and Investment Division; Research Office, Government of Yunnan Province, China

ESCAP convened a meeting of trade experts for a three-day meeting that sought to examine the current situation, challenges, and opportunities of trade between Asian subregions; increase awareness among the public and private sectors on the role and importance of trade facilitation, agriculture, and innovation in promoting trade between Asian subregions; identify efficient ways and best practices for promoting trade between Asian subregions; promote participation of SMEs in global and regional supply chains; and promote cooperation among Asian subregions in trade facilitation, agriculture, and innovation.

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

160. **18th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN); 4th Meeting of ASOEN+3**

**Date:** August 6–9, 2007

**Location:** Boraquay, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At the 18th ASOEN meeting, participants discussed various initiatives to overcome environmental problems facing the region, including climate change. The meeting recalled that the framework agreement on access to, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of, biological and genetic resources was drafted to facilitate coordinated actions by ASEAN member countries on access and benefit sharing (ABS) in view of the shared biodiversity resources, and that the framework agreement will help to support national policies and regulations on ABS and assist in capacity building. Participants also noted that any further delay could render the agreement outdated, and they stressed the need to complete the signing process as soon as possible in view of the importance of this matter for regional cooperation and the ongoing international negotiations on ABS.

**For information, see:** [www.nea.gov.vn/mme/IAMME/IAMME6.html](http://www.nea.gov.vn/mme/IAMME/IAMME6.html)

161. **5th Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference (PACC); 31st Pacific Armies Management Seminar (PAMS)**

**Date:** August 6–10, 2007

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** US Army, Pacific (USARPAC)



Senior army leaders from around the Asia Pacific and Indian Ocean regions met under the theme “Developing Security/Land Forces Leaders for the 21st Century.” Army chief-of-staff equivalents from 19 countries met for PACC V, which is a biennial, multinational, executive defense forum. PACC fosters military-to-military cooperation, develops interpersonal relationships, and contributes to regional dialogue and stability. PAMS is a multinational military seminar that provides a forum for senior-level officers from the Asia Pacific’s regional ground forces to exchange views and ideas. It is not only a forum to enhance understanding of the subjects studied; it also provides an opportunity for the future leaders of the region’s armies to establish and cultivate a set of strong interpersonal relationships. The long-term objective of both PACC and PAMS is to promote peace and stability in the Asia Pacific and Indian Ocean regions through mutual understanding, dialogue, and friendship.

**For information, see:** <http://www.usarpac.army.mil/news/PAMS2007Closing.asp>

162. **The Benefits of Regional Cooperation: An Exchange Learning Program between CAREC and the GMS**

**Date:** August 6–10, 2007

**Location:** Hue, Vietnam

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) program has endorsed capacity building and knowledge as fundamental for regional economic cooperation. The ADB has designed a learning exchange program between CAREC and the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) to explore lessons learned and to study continuing issues and challenges in the key areas of transport infrastructure, trade, and investment. Through the program, participants familiarized themselves with an overview of GMS and regional cooperation, the concept of transport and economic corridors, the cross-border transport agreement, and trade facilitation measures including single stop inspections. Senior officials from CAREC participating countries (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan) and Turkmenistan joined in the program along with representatives from Vietnam, Lao PDR, and the ADB.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Exchange-Learning-Program/default.asp>

163. **9th Asia-Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers**

**Date:** August 6–12, 2007

**Location:** Sentosa, Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University

The ninth annual meeting of senior military officers marked the first participation by Botswana and Sri Lanka in the program, showing the growing interest among defense officials throughout the world in this type of cooperative seminar. A total of 61 officers from 26 countries participated in 2007. Distinguished speakers from Singapore and around the world were invited to share their expertise on various policy-relevant topics. They addressed subjects such as the situation in Iraq, civil-military relations, the future of warfare, the role of armed forces today, terrorism and international security, new dimensions in international security, strategy and military leadership, the changing place of Asia in American national security policy, the evolution in military affairs, the media and international conflict, the role of the military in internal conflicts, and defense networking. In addition to the theoretical and practical discussions, the participants joined a number of events designed to promote interaction with one another.

**For information, see:** [http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past\\_conf.html#](http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past_conf.html#)

164. **3rd Regional High-Level Officials Meeting on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries**

**Date:** August 8, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Regional Forum on Environment and Health (secretariat: UN Environment Programme and World Health Organization)

High-level officials from 14 participating countries attended this meeting. The meeting updated participants on the regional and national activities since the previous meeting, finalized the Thematic Working Group workplans, and discussed the proposed Bangkok Declaration on Environment and Health.

**For information, see:** [http://www.environment-health.asia//fileupload/00\\_HL3\\_MR.pdf](http://www.environment-health.asia//fileupload/00_HL3_MR.pdf)

165. **1st Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health**

**Date:** August 9, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Regional Forum on Environment and Health (secretariat: UN Environment Programme and World Health Organization); hosted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Public Health, Government of Thailand; Chulabhorn Research Institute

The ministers of the environment and health agencies of the forum's member countries—Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam—met for the first time to launch a new ministerial-level meeting on environment and health. The forum provided overall guidance for strategic directions and supervision of the Regional Initiative on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries. At the meeting, participants adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Environment and Health. They discussed and adopted the Charter of the Regional Forum, including regional priorities for 2007–2010, institutional structure, and six Thematic Working Groups (air quality; water supply, hygiene, and sanitation; solid and hazardous waste; toxic chemicals and hazardous substances; climate change, ozone depletion, and ecosystem change; and contingency planning, preparedness, and response to environmental health emergencies).

**For information, see:** <http://www.wpro.who.int/NR/rdonlyres/729FC3E2-561D-4561-BF1B-01375C033436/0/ReportFirstMinisterialRegionalForum.pdf>

166. **ASEAN Bond Market Initiative (ABMI) Working Group and Ad Hoc Support Team for Focal Group Meetings; 4th Chiang Mai Initiative Task Force for Multilateralization Meeting**

**Date:** August 13–14, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

There are currently four ABMI working groups—creating new securitized debt instruments, credit guarantee and investment mechanisms, foreign exchange transactions and settlement issues, and rating systems—as well as a technical assistance coordination team and an Ad Hoc Support Team for the Focal Group (ASTFG). These various groups met to discuss progress and make recommendations for future work. The working group on securitized debt instruments continued its efforts to introduce new debt instruments and encourage issuances of local currency denominated bonds in ASEAN+3. Significant progress was reported and they adopted a draft final report of a study on “ASEAN+3 Regional Basket Currency Bonds.” Asian Development Bank consultants presented their final research paper on the credit guarantee and

investment mechanism at the meeting of the second working group, while the ratings systems working group considered the final report of a study on “Enhancing Comparability and Harmonization among the Local CRAs [credit ratings agencies] in the Region, which found that the rating scales used are similar across local CRAs in Asia but that local CRAs should follow some common minimum rating standards. At the ASTFG meeting, members agreed to submit mandatory self-assessment reports on their domestic bond market development twice a year (in association with the AFDM+3 in April and November).

**For information, see:** [http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/regional/asean\\_plus\\_three\\_asian\\_bond\\_market\\_initiatives/overview.php](http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/regional/asean_plus_three_asian_bond_market_initiatives/overview.php)  
[http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/regional\\_financial\\_cooperation.htm](http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/regional_financial_cooperation.htm)

167. **12th High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration**

**Date:** August 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the 12th meeting of the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration, which makes recommendations on steps to realize the ASEAN Economic Community, such as those contained in the Bali Concord I and II. Recommendations have included fast-track integration of priority sectors, faster customs clearance and simplified customs procedures, elimination of barriers to trade, and accelerated implementation of the Mutual Recognition Arrangements for key sectors.

**For information, see:** <http://www.ucm.es/BUCEM/revistas/cps/16962206/articulos/UNIS0606230049A.PDF>

168. **7th ASEAN Capital Market Forum**

**Date:** August 16, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ASEAN Capital Market Forum was established to focus on the development of regional capital markets. Comprised of heads of national securities commissions, the group discussed progress in national and regional objectives for securities and capital markets. An overarching goal of the forum is to harmonize standards that would facilitate integration such as disclosure standards, distribution rules, accounting and auditing standards, and cross-recognition of qualifications of capital market professionals.

**For information, see:** [http://aric.adb.org/updates/ear%20updates/main%20report/Finalization%20Workshop/Session2\\_Report%20Chapter%204\\_J.Corbett\\_29oct07.doc](http://aric.adb.org/updates/ear%20updates/main%20report/Finalization%20Workshop/Session2_Report%20Chapter%204_J.Corbett_29oct07.doc)  
<http://www.adb.org/ReformAgenda/ma-jan-dec07/ma200702.asp>

169. **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of SCO Members Meeting**

**Date:** August 16, 2007

**Location:** Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

**Organizers/Sponsors:** SCO

In addition to the heads of SCO member states, representatives of the SCO observer states (India, Iran, Mongolia, and Pakistan), and guests of honor of the host state (the presidents of Afghanistan and Turkmenistan and the UN deputy secretary-general) were also in attendance. In accordance with the agreement reached at the anniversary summit of the SCO Heads of State Council (2006), the heads of state signed a treaty among the member states on good neighborly relations, friendship, and cooperation. The leaders of the six states signed the Bishkek Declaration and approved an action plan on ensuring international information security. Plenipotentiary

representatives of the member states of the organization also signed an agreement among the governments of the SCO member states on cooperation in the field of culture.

**For information, see:** <http://www.sectsc.org/html/01721.html>

170. **29th Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force**

**Date:** August 20–21, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the 29th meeting of the IAI Task Force, which meets regularly to review the implementation of the projects under the IAI program. That program addresses infrastructure development, human resource development, information and communications technology, and the promotion of regional economic integration among the Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/8-2007.htm>

171. **8th FEALAC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM VIII)**

**Date:** August 20–21, 2007

**Location:** Brasilia, Brazil

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Forum for East Asia–Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC)

The FEALAC SOM VIII considered a report on the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Economy and Society, which was presented by Japan and Argentina. Singapore emphasized the importance of sharing expertise and best practices on port management and operations, airport terminal operations and management, civil aviation management, environmental protection and health management, water supply and distribution management, and urban planning and environment management. Chile announced a new project on migrant workers, consisting of new social policies. Brazil highlighted the need to establish a specific subgroup on trade and investment. The Venezuelan delegate called attention to the need for joint efforts to alleviate poverty and promote social consciousness in the areas of health and education.

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

172. **4th Meeting of the ASEAN+3 Directors-General Working Group; 10th Meeting of the ASEAN+3 Directors-General**

**Date:** August 20–21, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Topics covered in the 10th Meeting of the ASEAN+3 Directors-General included coordination and implementation of measures in the East Asia Study Group Final Report, identification of regional priorities for East Asia cooperation, coordination of East Asia cooperation under the ASEAN+3 process, and promotion of functional cooperation in East Asia. The meeting reports to the ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers Meeting.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/ASEAN+3Database.pdf>

173. **Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) of the 25th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM); 25th AMEM; 4th AMEM+3; 8th SOME–Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Consultation; 5th SOME+3 Consultations; 5th Meeting of the East Asia Summit Energy Cooperation Task Force (ECTF)**

**Date:** August 20–23, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At the SOME of the 25th AMEM, officials discussed the energy-related measures of the draft ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint. Participants noted that the trans-ASEAN gas pipeline project is on schedule and recommended a final draft of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on an ASEAN power grid to the 25th AMEM for signing. The purpose of the MOU was to provide a broad cooperative framework to ASEAN member countries for the development of a common ASEAN energy policy on power interconnection and trade, and ultimately the realization of the ASEAN power grid.

At the 25th AMEM, ministers discussed various measures to promote greater energy stability, security, and sustainability as a pathway to the ASEAN Community 2015. The ministers considered ways to respond to the increasing world oil prices and oil dependency, as well as the region's broader energy supply and demand challenges. The ministers signed the MOU recommended by the SOME, in principle agreed to the establishment of an ASEAN Nuclear Energy Safety Sub-Sector Network to explore nuclear safety issues, and noted the progress in finalizing the new ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/reports/energy\\_organisation/ameem/26th%20AMEM.pdf](http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/reports/energy_organisation/ameem/26th%20AMEM.pdf)  
<http://www.aseansec.org/20843.htm>

174. **28th Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Drugs (ASOD); 5th Meeting of ACCORD Joint Task Force; 3rd Meeting of Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) +3 Working Group on Narcotics**

**Date:** August 20–24, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At the 28th ASOD meeting, national heads of drug control agencies of ASEAN member countries made presentations on the progress of their respective national efforts on drug control. They shared the assessment that, despite the significant success in the eradication of opium poppy production, the drug situation in the region remains grave, particularly due to the emergence of new synthetic drugs, an increasingly complex web of illicit drug trafficking, and the severe impact on society. In this regard, ASEAN member countries agreed that a comprehensive approach to drug control that involves all elements of society and enhanced cooperation at the national, subregional, regional, and international levels is critical, including the sharing of information and best practices on drug control. The ACCORD Joint Task Force and the SOMTC+3 also held meetings to discuss combating illicit drug trafficking.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aspacngo.org/Asod%202550/Report%20of%20the%20twenty-eighth%20meeting.pdf>

175. **ASEAN Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM) Consultations with Republic of Korea, +3, India, Canada; SEOM–Closer Economic Relations Consultations; 10th ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council; ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council**

**Date:** August 21–22, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Senior ASEAN economic officials met together and with dialogue partners in preparation for the upcoming ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting. In addition, the AIA Council met to review recent developments and to discuss policy options for attracting more foreign direct investment into ASEAN. The council was pleased to note that ASEAN FDI flows for 2006 had reached US\$52.4 billion, a 28 percent increase from the previous year. To further attract FDI to the region, the AIA Council agreed to revise the Framework Agreement on the ASEAN Investment

Area and combine it with the ASEAN Agreement on the Promotion and Protection of Investments into a single ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement.

At the 21st AFTA Council meeting, the ministers discussed the progress made in the implementation of the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) Scheme for AFTA, elimination of nontariff barriers, reform of the Rules of Origin for AFTA, and enhancement of the CEPT Agreement.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/20834.htm>  
<http://www.aseansec.org/20856.htm>

176. **3rd FEALAC Foreign Ministerial Meeting (FMM III)**

**Date:** August 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Brasília, Brazil

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Forum for East Asia–Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC)

Participants at FEALAC's FMM III adopted the Brasília Declaration, which gave priority to actions and initiatives that focus on the enhancement of friendly relations and mutual understanding between East Asia and Latin America; that promote cooperation in trade and investment; and that emphasize the importance of the international democratic order, based on the principles of respect for national sovereignty and for human rights, the promotion of sustainable development, and the strengthening and perfecting of multilateralism. Foreign ministers adopted statements on the hostage situation in Afghanistan and on solidarity with the people of Peru.

A business meeting and an academic seminar were held alongside the FMM III. These side events brought together the business community and academic research institutions of the two regions and also stimulated the participation of the media and NGOs.

**For information, see:** <http://www.focalae.org/user/office/View.asp?txtidx=57>

177. **1st East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (EMM1)**

**Date:** August 23, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** East Asia Summit (EAS)

At the EMM1, the ministers shared the view that the EAS is an important component of the emerging regional architecture and community-building efforts. The ministers acknowledged the stated goal of the Cebu Declaration on East Asian Energy Security, which stresses close cooperative efforts to enhance energy security for the region in order to ensure the supply of reliable, adequate, and affordable energy for sustainable economic growth and to enhance competitiveness. The ministers agreed to move forward on the Cebu Declaration and produce concrete results through greater cooperation and coordination of measures and activities. They welcomed its Cooperation Initiative for Clean Energy and Sustainable Growth and Japan's energy cooperation package that focuses on promoting energy efficiency, biomass, and utilization of clean coal.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/energy/joint0708.html>

178. **39th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM); AEM Consultations with China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, +3, India, and Canada; AEM-Closer Economic Relations Consultations (AEM-CER); ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation Meeting**

**Date:** August 23–27, 2007

**Location:** Makati City, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At their 39th meeting, the ASEAN economic ministers endorsed the text of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint and its Strategic Schedule and the text of the Declaration on the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint for signing by the ASEAN Leaders at the 13th ASEAN Summit in November 2007. In addition, the ministers endorsed the Roadmap for ASEAN Integration of the Logistics Services Sector as the 12th priority sector for ASEAN integration, and signed the ASEAN Sectoral Integration Protocol for Logistic Services Sector.

Following the 39th AEM, the ASEAN economic ministers met with their counterparts from Australia, China, South Korea (as part of the AEM+3), Japan, and New Zealand on August 25–26. The ASEAN ministers also convened a meeting of the ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation participants on August 27.

During the AEM+3 meeting, ministers exchanged views on the global economic situation and recent economic developments in ASEAN and the Northeast Asian countries. They noted the progress in economic integration in the region and particularly the expanded trade volume. The ministers shared a sense of urgency with regard to accelerating the multilateral negotiation process in order to conclude the Doha Round negotiations in 2007.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/20868.htm>

<http://www.aseansec.org/Bulletin-Aug-07.htm>

179. **ARF Roundtable Discussion on Stocktaking Maritime Security Issues**

**Date:** August 24–25, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); co-chaired by the Governments of China and Indonesia

Maritime security issues discussed at this ARF roundtable included sea piracy and armed robbery, transnational crime, terrorism, capacity building, and information sharing. The participants agreed on a number of international principles and on the importance of employing a comprehensive approach in addressing international threats. Recurring themes included the key role that maritime security plays in regional stability and the need for common understanding of the definition of maritime security. Lessons learned included the important function of interagency technical cooperation in addressing threats and the importance of sharing of information/intelligence, plans, and objectives; learning each others' cultures, processes, procedures, requirements, capabilities, and limitations; complementing instead of competing with each others' efforts; understanding and implementing plans, policies, and operational activities; and integrating training/exercise plans with cooperative education programs and legal cooperation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=ftXo0H%2bGVEs%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

180. **9th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** August 24–26, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the ninth regular meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

181. **ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**

**Date:** August 27–28, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ASEAN Ministerial Meeting is supported by the ASEAN Standing Committee and the ASEAN SOM in its efforts to oversee ASEAN's community-building efforts, external relations, strategic policy, and development cooperation. In 2007, the SOM continued to be engaged with the key issue of preserving ASEAN's centrality in the evolving regional strategic architecture, particularly concerning ASEAN+3 cooperation, the ASEAN Regional Forum, and the East Asia Summit.

**For information, see:** [www.aseansec.org/8-2007.htm](http://www.aseansec.org/8-2007.htm)

182. **28th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation**

**Date:** August 27–30, 2007

**Location:** Yogyakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Representatives from national intellectual property offices in ASEAN and international partners discussed regional strategies for the development of intellectual property.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ecap-project.org/activitiesevents/at\\_regional\\_level/28th\\_meeting\\_of\\_the\\_asean\\_working\\_group\\_on\\_intellectual\\_property\\_cooperation\\_awgipc\\_27\\_30\\_august\\_2007\\_yogyakarta\\_indonesia.html](http://www.ecap-project.org/activitiesevents/at_regional_level/28th_meeting_of_the_asean_working_group_on_intellectual_property_cooperation_awgipc_27_30_august_2007_yogyakarta_indonesia.html)

183. **3rd ASEAN Workshop on Control and Eradication of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)**

**Date:** August 28–31, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; in collaboration with Asian Development Bank (ADB); Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE); hosted by Department of Agriculture, Government of the Philippines

Under an agreement with ASEAN, the ADB provided a grant from the Regional Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza in Asia and the Pacific Project to assist the ASEAN Secretariat in implementing ASEAN's Framework for the Control and Eradication of Avian Influenza in ASEAN. The framework covers eight strategic areas: disease surveillance, effective containment measures, stamping out and vaccination, diagnostic capabilities, establishment of disease-free zones, information sharing, emergency preparedness plans, and public awareness. The framework has been discussed and updated during three workshops that took place in Jakarta (October 2006), Kuala Lumpur (March 2007), and now Manila. This workshop aimed to facilitate the sharing of information and experiences in the implementation of the ASEAN regional framework on HPAI with a focus on public awareness and communication, and on the recovery of poultry export capacity. Participants included representatives from the ADB and other international organizations, as well as representatives from the ministries of agriculture of ASEAN member countries.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Control-Eradication-HPAI/default.asp>

### **September**

184. **Concluding APEC Senior Officials Meeting (CSOM)**

**Date:** September 2–3, 2007

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

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

At the CSOM for the 19th APEC Ministerial Meeting, participants discussed trade/investment liberalization and facilitation; structural reform; economic and technical cooperation; enhancing



human security, including counterterrorism and emergency preparedness; and APEC reform. In addition to endorsing a number of reports and papers for submission to the APEC ministers, the chair asked for final comments on the senior officials' report to the ministers, and provided an update on three draft statements for the APEC Economic Leaders Meeting, including a statement on the WTO Doha Round; a statement on climate change, energy security, and clean development; and a general leaders statement on other issues.

**For information, see:** [http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2007/SOM/CSOM/07\\_csom\\_summary.pdf](http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2007/SOM/CSOM/07_csom_summary.pdf)

185. **34th Meeting of the APEC Energy Working Group**

**Date:** September 3–7, 2007

**Location:** Hong Kong SAR

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

APEC country representatives heard reports from the APEC Secretariat, the chair of the Energy Business Network, and the 8th Meeting of APEC Energy Ministers. Delegates also discussed the APEC Energy Security Initiative, including a joint oil data initiative, issues on maritime security, a real-time emergency information sharing system, energy emergency responses, energy investment, natural gas trade, energy efficiency, renewable energy, clean fossil energy, alternative transportation fuels, nuclear energy, and hydrogen and fuel cells.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ewg.apec.org/assets/documents/apecinternet/EWG34\\_Sum220071018164647.pdf](http://www.ewg.apec.org/assets/documents/apecinternet/EWG34_Sum220071018164647.pdf)

186. **6th ASEAN+3 Environment Ministers Meeting (EMM); 10th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (IAMME)**

**Date:** September 3–7, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At the 6th EMM, China indicated its aim to enhance environmental cooperation between China and ASEAN; Japan stressed the importance of promoting dialogue on climate change policies, including capacity building and the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under the ASEAN+3 framework; Indonesia supported the proposal to extend a flagship ASEAN-Korea Environmental Cooperation Project (AKECOP) on the Restoration of Degraded Forest Ecosystems in Southeast Asian Tropical Regions into a third phase; and Thailand and Cambodia proposed to link the AKECOP project to the CDM. Brunei sought support and cooperation from the Plus Three countries for implementation of the ASEAN Environmental Education Action Plan 2008–2012, which was adopted at the 10th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment.

At the 10th IAMME, the ministers noted the urgency of ratifying the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity; urged the relevant member states to consider expediting their national processes for signing the draft ASEAN Framework Agreement on Access and Benefit Sharing; exchanged views regarding the ratification of the 1985 ASEAN Agreement on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources; and adopted the ASEAN Environmental Education Action Plan (2008–2012). The ministers also agreed to confer an ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable City Award annually beginning in 2008.

**For information, see:** <http://www.nea.gov.vn/mme/EMM/EMM1.html>

<http://www.nea.gov.vn/mme/IAMME/IAMME2.html>

187. **3rd Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution**

**Date:** September 3–7, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At this meeting, senior officials from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam noted the outcome of the stocktaking and review of relevant regional activities that support the implementation of the haze agreement, and discussed the following five priority areas: implementation of the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy; implementation of activities to further promote zero burning and controlled burning practices; conduct of table-top and simulation exercises to enhance joint emergency response; capacity building for law enforcement, investigation, and prosecution; and regular forums/dialogues with international donor community and other stakeholders to promote the implementation of the haze agreement.

**For information, see:** <http://www.nea.gov.vn/mme/COP.html>

188. **5th OPCW Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Asia**

**Date:** September 4–6, 2007

**Location:** Doha, Qatar

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW); co-hosted with the Government of Qatar

The OPCW held its 5th Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Asia. The meeting, which was attended by 65 participants from 26 states parties, provided an opportunity for national authorities to share experiences, develop contacts, and enhance subregional and regional cooperation for the full and effective implementation of the chemical weapons convention. As of 2007, there were only two non-states parties in Asia—Myanmar and North Korea.

The meeting, which marked the 10th anniversary of the convention, served as a forum for states parties to present their need for assistance and indicate what assistance they could offer to other states parties. It also provided an opportunity to discuss issues relating to the identification of declarable Article VI activities under the Chemical Weapons Convention and the enhanced quality of the declarations submitted by states parties, as well as the role of customs authorities in carrying out the import and export provisions of the convention. Bilateral meetings with 20 of the 26 participating states parties were also held.

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

189. **14th Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) Ministerial Meeting and Senior Officials Meeting; 4th Governors and Chief Ministers Forum**

**Date:** September 4–6, 2007

**Location:** Songkhla, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Hosted by the Government of Thailand; supported by Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The 14th IMT-GT Ministerial Meeting and Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) produced fruitful discussions and agreements on strengthening the implementation of the IMT-GT Roadmap, which is aimed at achieving the development vision of the IMT-GT subregion. Participants agreed to accept several provinces in Thailand as new members of the IMT-GT. The SOM noted the progress in establishing the Center for IMT-GT Cooperation, which will enable the strengthening of coordination mechanisms and processes among IMT-GT institutions and the facilitation, implementation, and monitoring of priority projects.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/14th-IMT-GT-Ministerial-Meeting/default.asp>

190. **19th APEC Ministerial Meeting**

**Date:** September 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

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

Under the theme of “strengthening our community, building a sustainable future,” participants reviewed developments in the region and concluded that the Asia Pacific region remains the engine of world growth. Incomes are rising, poverty is declining, employment is growing, investment is increasing, and trade is expanding. Growth in the past year was solid and was expected to continue in 2008. The challenges ahead include global trade imbalances, protectionism, urbanization, demographic changes, environment, energy, food safety, terrorism, crime, governance, women’s empowerment, pandemics, and 21st century skills. By facilitating economic growth, intensifying economic and technical cooperation, strengthening integration, and enhancing a sense of community, participants hoped to create greater prosperity in the region. The ministers also discussed ways to enhance regional human security in the areas of terrorism and secure trade, food and product safety, emergency preparedness, health, and energy security and sustainability. They also discussed ways to ensure that APEC is dynamic and responsive to developments in Asia Pacific.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apec.org/apec/news\\_\\_\\_media/2007\\_media\\_releases/060907\\_aus\\_ammjms.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/news___media/2007_media_releases/060907_aus_ammjms.html)

**191. ASEAN Workshop on the Establishment of the ASEAN Maritime Forum**

**Date:** September 7–8, 2007

**Location:** Batam, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This workshop was held to help implement the ASEAN Security Community Programme Areas and Measures of the Vientiane Action Programme, specifically on the promotion of ASEAN maritime security cooperation and the establishment of an ASEAN maritime forum.

**For information, see:** <http://www.iisd.ca/vol25/enb2550e.html>

**192. 15th APEC Economic Leaders Meeting**

**Date:** September 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

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

APEC leaders met under the theme “Strengthening Our Community, Building a Sustainable Future” to discuss efforts to promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation toward the enhancement of regional economic cooperation and integration in the Asia Pacific region. A key issue at the meeting was the connections between climate change, energy security, and clean development, which participants recognized as being fundamental and interlinked challenges for the APEC region. A separate declaration was produced on this issue that outlined an APEC Action Agenda.

The Doha Round was another key issue, and the meeting produced a separate statement setting out the urgent need for progress and pledging APEC’s commitment to the successful conclusion of these negotiations. In addition, the leaders discussed ways to further economic integration in the region and to improve economic efficiency and the business environment; ways to enhance human security, focusing on the challenges of terrorism, pandemics, illicit drugs, contaminated products, and natural disasters; and ways to strengthen APEC.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apec.org/apec/leaders\\_\\_declarations/2007.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/leaders__declarations/2007.html)

**193. 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN-Japan Counter Terrorism Dialogue**

**Date:** September 10–11, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

The 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN-Japan Counter Terrorism Dialogue was held in collaboration with the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with 58 delegates from all the ASEAN countries and the secretariat participating. The dialogue is intended as a forum for exchange of views between Japan and ASEAN to strengthen counterterrorism cooperation in the ASEAN region by effectively utilizing the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund and the Grant Aid for Cooperation on Counter-Terrorism and Security Enhancement. Japan expressed its support for deeper cooperation in areas such as border control and sharing of information on lost and stolen passports.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/9-2007.htm>

194. **10th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** September 10–13, 2007

**Location:** Chiang Mai, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the 10th regular meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter. Topics discussed included gender equality in the selection of ASEAN officers, the creation of an ASEAN parliament, and support for disadvantaged groups.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

<http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/philippine-HLTF-member-bares-draft.html>

195. **Ad Hoc ASEAN+3 Directors-General Working Group Meeting; Ad Hoc ASEAN+3**

**Directors-General Meeting**

**Date:** September 10–15, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

ASEAN+3 directors-general held ad hoc meetings in support of the work of the ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers Meeting.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/ASEAN+3Database.pdf>

196. **36th Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistics Seminar (PASOLS 36)**

**Date:** September 11–13, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** US Pacific Area Command (PACOM)

PASOLS is an annual meeting sponsored by PACOM. It is an apolitical, multinational forum for senior logistics officers from the Asian, Pacific, and Indian Ocean regions to exchange and discuss new ideas and review logistics initiatives introduced by their regional neighbors. At the 36th PASOLS, 91 participants from 23 member nations and 5 observer nations met under the theme “Logistics Support for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HA/DR) Operations.” Four panels discussed pre-crisis planning, immediate response, and post-crisis operations. Other initiatives included a Pacific Area Cataloging System, a *Mutual Logistics Support Handbook*, and an HA/DR checklist and warehouse.

**For information, see:** <http://www.pasols.org/pasols36/36%20pasols%20final%20report.pdf>

197. **4th Session of the Committee on Managing Globalization (Part 1)**

**Date:** September 12–14, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

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

ESCAP's Committee on Managing Globalization seeks to help manage the impacts of globalization effectively by formulating and implementing effective policies to seize new opportunities while minimizing the inevitable costs. In particular, the meeting focused on regional preparations for the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries. Additionally, the meeting discussed trade and investment issues including aid for trade and public-private partnerships; emerging trade policy analysis and analytical needs of the region; and the Asia-Pacific Business Forum. With regard to transport and tourism, the meeting considered the organization and format of a forum of Asian ministers of transport; an international integrated intermodal transport and logistics system for Asia and the Pacific; and improving road safety on the Asian Highway.

**For information, see:** <http://unescap.org/cm/2007/CMG4-I/index.asp>

198. **High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003–2012**

**Date:** September 19–21, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

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

The Asia Pacific region is the home to two-thirds of the 650 million persons with disabilities in the world. In order to ensure greater recognition of their rights, governments and other stakeholders in Asia Pacific have taken a number of measures. Through a resolution in 2002, ESCAP extended the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons for another decade (2003–2012). Since then, a number of initiatives have been launched, including the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-Based Society in Asia and the Pacific (adopted in October 2002). In a 2005 resolution on the midpoint review of the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework, ESCAP requested the executive secretary to hold a high-level intergovernmental meeting on the midpoint review of the Decade in 2007. The report and recommendations of this meeting, “Biwako Plus Five,” supplements the Biwako Millennium Framework. It provides additional actions in the seven priority areas, reconfigures the four strategy areas into five areas (with 25 additional strategies), and adds three strategies under “cooperation and support” and “monitoring and review.”

**For information, see:** [http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/disability/bmf/APDDP2\\_2E.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/disability/bmf/APDDP2_2E.pdf)

199. **ARF Seminar on Narcotics Control**

**Date:** September 19–21, 2007

**Location:** Xian City, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

With the theme of “social participation in narcotics control,” the seminar aimed at promoting exchanges on government policies and experiences in mobilizing social sectors to combat illicit drugs and at strengthening future dialogues and cooperation among ARF members on narcotics control. The meeting praised the commitments of the ARF participants to developing viable and sustainable economic options in addressing the root causes of illicit drugs such as building roads, irrigation systems, clean water facilities, schools, and hospitals. Many participants emphasized the prominent challenges posed by the lack of knowledge and understanding about crimes related to amphetamine-type stimulants. The participants shared their experiences and best practices in encouraging public participation in such areas as drug prevention education, law enforcement, drug treatment and rehabilitation, and alternative development.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=B%2FLFncVkluQ%3D&tabid=66&mid=1009>

200. **2007 ASEAN Day for Disaster Management Seminar: Challenges Ahead and the Way Forward**

**Date:** September 24–25, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM)

The ACDM organized this seminar to review disaster risk reduction efforts in ASEAN in the last 40 years and to discuss the current disaster situation in the region, the threats and challenges ahead, and how ASEAN as a community would achieve the vision of a disaster-resilient and safer community by the year 2015 given these challenges. As part of the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of ASEAN, this seminar brought together about 70 participants from the ASEAN member countries, representatives from relevant international and regional organizations, experts on relevant subject matters, and observers from the relevant national and local government agencies in Thailand.

**For information, see:** [http://acdm-online.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=46&Itemid=66](http://acdm-online.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=46&Itemid=66)

201. **WTO/ESCAP High-Level Asia Pacific Regional Consultations on the Doha Development Agenda Negotiation Issues**

**Date:** September 24–28, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Trade and Investment Division; World Trade Organization (WTO)

The main objective of the High-Level Asia-Pacific Regional Consultations was to provide an opportunity for senior officials from Asia Pacific economies to further reflect on the meaning of the development and trade discussions of selected items of the Doha Work Program. These consultations also provided a forum for an exchange of views on national, regional, and multilateral trade-related activities and initiatives. This event highlighted the potential contribution of trade toward achieving the objectives in the Doha Work Program. The consultations focused on selected substantive issues of the Doha Development Agenda Negotiations, namely development issues, trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPS), agriculture, nonagricultural market access, rules, services, trade facilitation, the WTO, and regional trade agreements.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/tid/projects/ddani07.asp>

202. **20th Meeting of the ASEAN Crisis Communication Team**

**Date:** September 25, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Singapore reported on the development of the ASEAN Crisis Communication Framework and related action plans.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mots.go.th/ewt\\_news.php?nid=771&filename=index\\_\\_EN](http://www.mots.go.th/ewt_news.php?nid=771&filename=index__EN)

203. **11th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** September 26–27, 2007

**Location:** New York, USA

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the 11th meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter. Participants also met with ASEAN foreign ministers at the Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on September 27.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

**204. Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting**

**Date:** September 27, 2007

**Location:** New York, USA

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

An Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting was convened at the United Nations Headquarters. The ASEAN foreign ministers discussed the third progress report of the High-Level Task Force on the ASEAN Charter. Ministers also discussed outstanding ASEAN matters and agreed that the chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee would issue a statement on the current situation in Myanmar. The foreign ministers of ASEAN later witnessed the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding on ASEAN-UN Cooperation by the secretaries-general of ASEAN and the UN following a meeting at which they discussed ways to enhance ASEAN-UN cooperation.

Foreign ministers also attended a meeting with US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, where they discussed progress in ASEAN-US dialogue relations and reviewed regional and international affairs. A reception was hosted by the minister of foreign affairs of Malaysia at the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the UN in New York. The reception was held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Malaysia's membership to the UN.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mfa.gov.bn/news/20070927a.htm>

**205. 5th Chiang Mai Initiative Task Force for Multilateralization Meeting**

**Date:** September 27–28, 2007

**Location:** Hong Kong SAR

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the fifth meeting of the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) task force, comprised of deputy finance ministers. The task force meets regularly to study various possible options toward an advanced framework of regional liquidity support. It is developing Bilateral Swap Arrangements to obtain short-term sources of financing to increase cooperation in times of regional crisis. This fifth meeting was intended to compile the initial preferences of each member country on several key elements of Phase II of CMI Multilateralization, which includes (1) the size of the commitments and additional resources, (2) the borrowing quotas and terms of lending, and (3) the activation and surveillance mechanism. The initial preferences of each member country were submitted to the meeting of deputy ministers of finance and central bank deputies in November.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/calendar2007.htm#9-2007>

**206. Six-Party Talks (6th Round, 2nd Session)**

**Date:** September 27–30, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Governments of China, Japan, North Korea, Russia, South Korea, and the United States

At the second session of the sixth round of the Six-Party Talks, working groups presented their reports to the parties and received their endorsement. The parties issued a joint statement on October 3, 2007, confirming the implementation of the initial actions of the agreement of February 13, 2007, and expressing their commitment to advance the process of the Six-Party Talks. The DPRK agreed to disable all nuclear facilities subject to the September 2005 Joint Statement and the February 13 Agreement. They also agreed to provide a complete declaration

of all nuclear programs by the end of the year. The DPRK and the United States agreed to increase bilateral exchanges and enhance mutual trust. The United States agreed to remove the designation of the DPRK as a state sponsor of terrorism in parallel with the DPRK's actions. The DPRK and Japan agreed to hold intensive consultations to make sincere efforts to normalize their relations in accordance with the Pyongyang Declaration. In accordance with the February 13 agreement, economic, energy, and humanitarian assistance were to be provided to the DPRK.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofat.go.kr/index.jsp>

207. **Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** September 28, 2007

**Location:** Chiang Rai, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ADB

GMS senior officials met in Chiang Rai to discuss and review the new GMS Plan of Action 2008–2012, which was called for by the 14th Ministerial Meeting in June 2007. The senior officials agreed that a brief, strategic plan of action should be developed for consideration by the 3rd GMS Leaders Summit in Vientiane in March 2008. They discussed ADB's proposed three-year rolling program of investments and non-lending products and services to the GMS Program (2008–2010). This includes new priority GMS initiatives such as the Mekong Water Supply and Sanitation Project, which aims to enhance economic and social conditions in communities along GMS economic corridors. The meeting produced key agreements to address issues associated with the timely completion of deliverables for the 3rd GMS Summit.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/Mekong/Proceedings/SOM-MEETING-SUMMARY-Sept07.pdf>

208. **ACD Ministers Meeting at the Sidelines of the 62nd Session of the United Nations**

**General Assembly**

**Date:** September 28, 2007

**Location:** New York, USA

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD); hosted by the Government of South Korea

The ACD Ministers Meeting generated constructive outcomes, particularly on cultural dialogue within the ACD framework. Ministers and high-level representatives put their weight behind enhancing cultural cooperation in order to form a solid foundation for more comprehensive relations among the ACD member countries. The meeting provided an opportunity for ministers and high-level representatives to exchange views on regional and international issues of common interest. They expressed concerns regarding the situation on the Korean Peninsula and unrest in Myanmar. The meeting also took note of the results of the first meeting of an ACD high-level study group that was organized by Thailand in August 2007.

**For information, see:** [http://www.acddialogue.com/news/news\\_detail.php?ID=115](http://www.acddialogue.com/news/news_detail.php?ID=115)

**October**

209. **2007 Global Initiative to Fight Trafficking: East Asia and the Pacific Regional Workshop on Criminal Justice Responses to Trafficking in Persons—Ending Impunity and Securing Justice**

**Date:** October 2–4, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Government of Thailand; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); technical assistance from Asia Regional Trafficking in Persons (ARTIP)



The three-day conference considered the investigation, prosecution, and adjudication of trafficking in persons cases and effective and coordinated support to the criminal justice response. Recommendations included the development of the following initiatives: a comprehensive legal framework in compliance with international standards; an effective specialist investigation function within law enforcement agencies; efforts to help front line law enforcement officials understand the crime of trafficking, their powers, and their responsibilities to provide an effective initial response; systems and procedures to enable effective cross-border, regional, and international investigative cooperation on trafficking cases; protection and support of victims of trafficking; and effective international legal cooperation on trafficking in persons cases.

The workshop was attended by delegations from Australia, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Palau, the Philippines, South Korea, Thailand, Tonga, and Vietnam. Observers included representatives from international organizations and UN agencies, governments, and NGOs.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unodc.un.or.th/publications/UN.GIFT%20Report%20of%20the%20Chairperson.pdf>

210. **12th Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** October 3–6, 2007

**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the 12th regular meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

211. **Ministerial Conference on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development**

**Date:** October 5, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Ministry of Planning and Budget of South Korea; Korea Development Institute; supported by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

During this conference, ministers and representatives highlighted their problems, objectives, experiences, and policy initiatives related to the development of public-private partnerships (PPPs) for infrastructure development in the Asia Pacific region. The delegations emphasized the crucial and leading role of improved infrastructure in supporting economic growth, social development, and poverty reduction, and they adopted the Seoul Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific. The ministerial conference was held in conjunction with a High-level Expert Group Meeting and the Asia-Pacific Business Forum on PPPs.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/common/TPT/ppp/egm\\_ppp\\_oct07.asp](http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/common/TPT/ppp/egm_ppp_oct07.asp)  
<http://www.ppp2007.org/>

212. **Meeting on the ASEAN-Australia Plan of Action; Seminar on ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations**

**Date:** October 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Brisbane, Australia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ASEAN-Australia Plan of Action (2008–2013) is intended to implement the Joint Declaration on the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership signed in August 2007. In implementing this plan of action, ASEAN member countries and Australia have committed to

support ASEAN integration—including narrowing the development gap—to attain the end goal of the establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015, and to support enhanced Australian engagement with the region. The purpose of this meeting was for the ASEAN Secretariat and Australia to mutually develop a schedule and projects for the implementation of the plan of action.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/21373.htm>

213. **5th Conference of Asian Constitutional Court Judges**

**Date:** October 9–12, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); co-organized by the Constitutional Court of Korea

This dialogue brought together roughly 25 of the region's top judicial officials to focus on the development of constitutional jurisdiction, the rule of law, and other legal issues in the framework of democratic statehood. This year's dialogue began with a session on constitutional standards for civil, political, and socioeconomic rights. Discussions outlined the constitutional standards for the implementation, interpretation, and reservation of civil, political, and socioeconomic rights that currently exist in the represented countries. The second session looked at the standards of review in constitutional jurisdiction, while the third session examined important decisions in recent years, and the fourth featured deliberations on the establishment of an Association of Asian Constitutional Courts.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/-/-/veranstaltung\\_id-26658/\\_](http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/-/-/veranstaltung_id-26658/_)  
<http://www.ccourt.go.kr/home/english/introduction/events.jsp>

214. **7th ARF Inter-sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief**

**Date:** October 11–12, 2007

**Location:** Helsinki, Finland

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); co-chaired by the European Union (EU) and the Government of Indonesia

Representatives from most ARF nations attended this Inter-sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief. Delegates heard from a representative of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, who recommended the use of established international standards and UN methodologies; a European Commission representative, who gave an overview of the humanitarian aid efforts of the EU's office for humanitarian assistance; and a representative from the ASEAN Secretariat, who provided a briefing about evolving ASEAN cooperation on disaster management. To further cooperate in disaster management, ARF delegates discussed general guidelines for disaster relief cooperation, standard operating procedures for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, a disaster relief exercise, standby arrangements, and the environmental aspects of relief operations.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=8cnXM6vsQk8%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

215. **38th Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)**

**Date:** October 16–18, 2007

**Location:** Vava'u, Tonga

**Organizers/Sponsors:** 38th Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)

Forum leaders held a plenary session and then traveled to the northern island of Vava'u for a retreat. The leaders noted that two years after the launch of the Pacific Plan, which seeks to address the challenges facing Pacific Island countries through a framework of greater regional

cooperation and integration, considerable progress had been made in the implementation of initiatives across all four of the plan's pillars—economic growth, sustainable development, good governance, and security. Challenges, however, remain, and the leaders agreed on a number of key commitments in order to move the plan forward over the next year. One key product of the talks was the Vava'u Declaration on Pacific Fisheries Resources, "Our Fish, Our Future."

Members of the Pacific Islands Forum also concluded the first-ever plenary session with their 14 post-forum dialogue partners in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, following the conclusion of the 38th Leaders Summit.

**For information, see:** <http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2007/38th-pacific-leaders-forum-opens-tonga.html>  
[http://www.forumsec.org/\\_resources/article/files/2007%20Forum%20Communique,%20Vava'u%20-%20Final%20Version.pdf](http://www.forumsec.org/_resources/article/files/2007%20Forum%20Communique,%20Vava'u%20-%20Final%20Version.pdf)

216. **4th ARF Seminar on Cyber Terrorism**

**Date:** October 16–19, 2007

**Location:** Busan, South Korea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

The seminar provided a venue for ARF countries to exchange practical experiences and constructive ideas in effectively combating cyberterrorism. The participants recognized the need to focus further efforts on expediting implementation and yielding more substantive, concrete, and practical outcomes. Discussions included the sharing of major national policies on cyberterrorism; a review of recent terrorist attacks and the evolving nature of cyberterrorism; discussions on countermeasures against cyberterrorist attacks on critical infrastructure; and strengthening cooperation on cyber security within the ARF framework. The meeting also featured a hacking simulation and exhibition of high-tech equipment.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=BY0U41CrM9E%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

217. **4th Informal ASEAN-ROK Joint Planning and Review Committee**

**Date:** October 17–18, 2007

**Location:** Gyeongju, South Korea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The formal ASEAN-ROK Joint Planning and Review Committee between the ASEAN Country Coordinator for ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations, South Korea, and the ASEAN Secretariat is held annually. Its activities include planning development cooperation activities between ASEAN and South Korea, approving the project proposals and reviewing their progress and effectiveness, and managing the ASEAN-ROK Special Cooperation Fund and the ASEAN-ROK Future-Oriented Cooperation Projects Fund. This was an informal meeting between sessions.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/ASEAN+3Database.pdf>

218. **WTO/ESCAP Advanced Regional Seminar for ESCAP Economies on Multilateral Negotiations under the GATS**

**Date:** October 17–19, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Trade and Investment Division; World Trade Organization (WTO)

This meeting brought together roughly 30 senior officials from the region's trade and commerce ministries to review recent developments in the WTO's Doha Round negotiations on services, to deepen participants' understanding of issues of particular relevance to the

negotiations, and to assess implications of trade liberalization in selected services sectors important for the region. Issues covered at the seminar included the history and the developmental importance of the GATS; the modal structure of the GATS; preferential trade agreements and other departures from most-favored treatment; the application of GATS to telecommunications and financial services; interpretation of existing schedules; negotiations on domestic regulation; developments in services trade; GATS provisions in the light of recent dispute rulings; regional agreements and services trade liberalization; and issues surrounding the ongoing GATS negotiations and the current state of play.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/tid/projects/gats07.asp>

219. **2nd ASEAN Defence Senior Officials Meeting (ADSOM)**

**Date:** October 17–19, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** [www.aseansec.org/10-2007.htm](http://www.aseansec.org/10-2007.htm)

220. **Final Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter**

**Date:** October 18–20, 2007

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the final meeting of the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter. The charter was finalized and signed at the ASEAN Summit in November.

**For information, see:** [http://www.40amm.org.ph/main\\_overview.asp](http://www.40amm.org.ph/main_overview.asp)  
<http://www.aseansec.org/HLTF-Activities.pdf>

221. **ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting Working Group (SOM WG) Meeting; East Asian Summit (EAS) Ad Hoc Working Group Meeting**

**Date:** October 21–23, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

These preparatory meetings were held in advance of senior officials meetings that began on October 24.

**For information, see:** [www.aseansec.org/10-2007.htm](http://www.aseansec.org/10-2007.htm)

222. **ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (ARDEX-07) Evaluation Meeting; 10th ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Meeting**

**Date:** October 22–26, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

ARDEX-07 involved over 300 participants and observers and specialized search and rescue teams from ASEAN member countries. The simulation featured events that included a high number of casualties requiring medical triage and evacuation, trauma care for victims on-site, rescue of victims trapped under piles of concrete rubble and heavily flooded areas, and the use of acoustic and optical search equipment to detect the location of other trapped victims. An evaluation meeting was then held to examine the results of ARDEX-07 and provide guidance and lessons for the operationalization of the ASEAN Standby Arrangements and Standard Operating Procedures guided by the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response. The objective was to facilitate a close and effective collaboration among member countries in tackling a massive national disaster. The ACDM, which consists of heads

of national agencies or organizations responsible for disaster management in ASEAN member countries, held its 10th meeting to coincide with the ARDEX-07 exercise.

**For information, see:** <http://disaster.go.th/html/english/News/Ardex%202007/simulation%20exercise.html>

223. **Working Group on Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ)**

**Date:** October 23, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This ASEAN working group focuses on the SEANWFZ, which was established in 1995 as a component of ASEAN's Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN).

**For information, see:** [www.aseansec.org/10-2007.htm](http://www.aseansec.org/10-2007.htm)

224. **27th Session of the Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement**

**Date:** October 24–25, 2007

**Location:** Goa, India

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

The purpose of the 27th session of the Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement was to discuss current issues under the agreement, including the certification and verification procedures of certificates of origin, the third round results, the launch of the fourth round, and membership expansion. Preparations were also made for the second session of the ministerial council.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/ba27.asp>

225. **East Asia Summit Ad Hoc Working Group Meeting; East Asia Summit Ad Hoc Senior Officials Meeting Consultations (EAS SOM); ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting/Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SOM/SEOM); Joint Cooperation Meeting**

**Date:** October 24–25, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; East Asia Summit (EAS)

At the EAS SOM, a concept paper outlining proposed areas of cooperation on disaster management under the EAS framework was tabled and endorsed for submission to the 3rd EAS. The ASEAN Secretariat was to coordinate further comments from EAS participating countries on the draft concept paper. Other meetings of the EAS officials and ASEAN officials were also held during this two-day period.

**For information, see:** [http://72.14.235.104/search?q=cache:nNj8pzmdy9EJ:disaster.go.th/html/english/12th%2520ACDM%2520Meeting/Info%2520papers%2520to%2520be%2520printed/DOC3%2520Agenda%25204.2%2520Relevant\\_Decision\\_of\\_ASEAN\\_Meetings-rev2.doc+Ad-Hoc+Consultations+of+East+Asia+Summit+\(EAS\)+Senior+Officials&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=3&gl=jp&client=firefox-a](http://72.14.235.104/search?q=cache:nNj8pzmdy9EJ:disaster.go.th/html/english/12th%2520ACDM%2520Meeting/Info%2520papers%2520to%2520be%2520printed/DOC3%2520Agenda%25204.2%2520Relevant_Decision_of_ASEAN_Meetings-rev2.doc+Ad-Hoc+Consultations+of+East+Asia+Summit+(EAS)+Senior+Officials&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=3&gl=jp&client=firefox-a)

226. **15th BIMP-EAGA Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); 12th BIMP-EAGA Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** October 24–26, 2007

**Location:** Mindanao, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The purpose of these annual meetings is to serve as a platform for regional economic cooperation and to set guidelines and directions to accelerate development in the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA). Participants included signing ministers for the BIMP-EAGA, officials from the four national secretariats, other government officials, and members of the BIMP-EAGA Business Council.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/12th-BIMP-EAGA-Ministers-Meeting/default.asp>

227. **2nd Session of the Ministerial Council of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement**

**Date:** October 26, 2007

**Location:** Goa, India

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

The Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), previously known as the Bangkok Agreement, is the oldest preferential trade agreement among developing countries of the Asia Pacific region. Current members are Bangladesh, China, India, Lao PDR, South Korea, and Sri Lanka. At the second session of the ministerial council, ministers from the participating states met to supervise and coordinate the implementation of the agreement, provide overall direction for its future development, and adopt a ministerial declaration. APTA members launched the fourth round of negotiations (scheduled for completion by October 2009), which covers deepening and widening tariff concessions and includes other areas such as nontariff barriers, trade facilitation, services, and investment.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/tid/apta/mc2.asp>

228. **2nd Round of Japan-China-ROK Senior Foreign Affairs Officials Consultation**

**Date:** October 28, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Hosted by the Government of South Korea

The second round of the Japan-China-ROK Senior Foreign Affairs Officials Consultation was attended by deputy ministers for foreign affairs. This consultation was held to enhance communication and coordination among the three countries on common major political and diplomatic issues as well as international and regional issues. The meeting followed an agreement reached at the 7th China-Japan-ROK Summit, held in January 2007.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/10/1175872\\_858.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/10/1175872_858.html)

229. **6th Chiang Mai Initiative Task Force on Multilateralization; ASEAN Bond Market Initiative (ABMI) Working Group Meeting; ASEAN+3 ABMI Focal Group Meeting**

**Date:** October 29–30, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the sixth meeting of the Chiang Mai Initiative task force, comprised of deputy finance ministers. The task force meets regularly to study various possible options toward an advanced framework of regional liquidity support. It is developing bilateral swap arrangements to obtain short-term sources of financing to increase cooperation in times of regional crisis. Meetings were also held of the ABMI Working Group and the ASEAN+3 ABMI Focal Group.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/regional\\_financial\\_cooperation.htm#CMI](http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/regional_financial_cooperation.htm#CMI)

230. **ASEM Senior Officials Meeting**  
**Date:** October 29–30, 2007  
**Location:** Guilin City, China  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

The ASEM Senior Officials Meeting is 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 to summarize the main conclusions of the meeting. The conclusions are also reported to foreign ministers.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/OfficialsMeetings/?id=215>

231. **24th Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM); 13th ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting; and associated meetings**  
**Date:** October 29–November 2, 2007  
**Location:** Singapore  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

During their three-day meeting, senior transport officials from the 10 ASEAN countries discussed issues such as transport infrastructure development and enhancing transport linkages and connectivity in the region. Significant progress was made on issues such as the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of Air Travel Sector (RIATS) and a roadmap for an integrated and competitive maritime transport sector in ASEAN. In conjunction with the meeting, the ASEAN member countries also met with their dialogue partners, China and Japan, to discuss cooperation initiatives to enhance transport facilitation and integration between ASEAN and the two Asian giants. The ASEAN and Japan senior transport officials endorsed the ASEAN-Japan Regional Roadmap for Enhancing Aviation Security. Issues considered at this meeting were then tabled at the 13th ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting.

**For information, see:** [http://www.sg/Yrbook2008/Transportation\\_InternationalRelations.html](http://www.sg/Yrbook2008/Transportation_InternationalRelations.html)

232. **10th Asia-Pacific Chiefs of Defense Conference**  
**Date:** October 30–November 2, 2007  
**Location:** Kapolei, Hawaii, USA  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** US Pacific Command

Senior military leaders from nations in the Asia Pacific region met to discuss mutual security challenges, improve mutual relationships, and foster security cooperation at the 10th annual Chiefs of Defense Conference. The theme of the conference was "Charting a Course Toward Stability and Mutual Prosperity." The group heard presentations on topics such as maximizing regional multinational operations, mitigating the impact of energy issues on regional security, and military support to law enforcement. The conference host and location change each year, alternating between US Pacific Command in Hawaii and a partner nation in the Asia Pacific region.

**For information, see:** <http://www1.apan-info.net/Default.aspx?alias=www1.apan-info.net/chods>  
<http://www.pacom.mil/articles/articles2007/071102story1.shtml>

233. **ARF Defense Officials Dialogue**  
**Date:** October 31, 2007  
**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); co-chaired by Brunei and Canada

In recent years, this meeting has focused on transnational security challenges such as terrorism, maritime security, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The ARF defense establishments expressed interest in moving beyond dialogue to a more concrete form of

defense cooperation such as capacity building, training, and exercises. Participants agreed that the roles of the armed forces have expanded from defending their own countries to include peacekeeping, disaster relief, and humanitarian assistance. On this note, the capability, interoperability, and readiness of the armed forces should be improved to contribute effectively in a multilateral cooperation network. The dialogue participants also stressed the need for improving professionalism in working with international partners, particularly in the elements of information and intelligence sharing as well as training. In improving defense cooperation, the dialogue suggested looking into community and communication, logistic systems and procedures, sharing of experiences, enhancing its roles, and peace support operations.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=rqS31DztiPY%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

### **November**

234. **29th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF)**

**Date:** November 1, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At the 29th AMAF, ministers reaffirmed that cooperation in the food, agriculture, and forestry sectors can play a vital role in food security, by strengthening joint positions at international fora, expediting the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community, and enhancing the long-term competitiveness of ASEAN's food, agriculture, and forestry products. To realize these objectives, the ministers continued to push toward further capacity building, use of modern technology, and adoption of international standards and practices. Among the topics covered at the meeting were disease control programs in livestock and aquatic animals, including the progress in the implementation of the Regional Framework for Control and Eradication of HPAI in ASEAN; sustainable forestry, including measures to strengthen law enforcement with regard to illegal logging and trade in lumber; and ways to enhance relations with various dialogue partners.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/21030.htm>

235. **23rd ASEAN-Japan Forum**

**Date:** November 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At the ASEAN-Japan Forum, participants discussed an overview of ASEAN-Japan relations, touching on the ASEAN-Japan Centre, the ASEAN-Japan Eminent Person's Group, East Asia regional cooperation (including the ASEAN+3 Summit and East Asia Summit), environmental issues, cooperation to combat international terrorism and transnational crime, maritime security and navigation safety, cooperation against pandemic influenza, energy cooperation, disaster management cooperation, preparations for the 11th ASEAN-Japan Summit, and the future direction of ASEAN-Japan relations.

**For information, see:** <http://myanmargeneva.org/NLM2007/eng/11nov/n071106.pdf>

236. **ARF Inter-sessional Meeting on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy**

**Date:** November 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)



Representatives of all ARF participants discussed the overall regional security situation, with particular attention to the Korean Peninsula, Thailand, the South China Sea, Myanmar, Timor Leste, and the South Pacific. They also discussed the Middle East, Afghanistan, Iran, and Iraq as broader international concerns. Nontraditional security issues discussed included terrorism, transnational crime, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, maritime security, disaster relief, energy, and climate change. ARF also met with ASEAN-ISIS, CSCAP, and Pacific Forum CSIS.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=hY9H0YQ3GZQ%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

237. **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of SCO Members Meeting**

**Date:** November 2, 2007

**Location:** Tashkent, Uzbekistan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

At a regular meeting of the Council of Heads of SCO Member States, the delegates discussed a wide range of pressing issues concerning the development of trade, economic, and cultural cooperation in the SCO framework, and the strengthening of peace, stability, and security in the region. Representatives from the SCO observer states—India, Iran, Mongolia, and Pakistan—along with Afghanistan, were in attendance. In light of the achievements of the Bishkek summit, the heads of government considered measures aimed at deepening interaction among the SCO member states in various fields, including the economy, investment, science and technology, education, and culture. The parties reached an agreement to hold their next meeting in 2008 in Kazakhstan.

**For information, see:** [http://www.sectSCO.org/news\\_detail.asp?id=1881&LanguageID=2](http://www.sectSCO.org/news_detail.asp?id=1881&LanguageID=2)

238. **5th ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**

**Date:** November 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Moscow, Russia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

**For information, see:** [www.aseansec.org/11-2007.htm](http://www.aseansec.org/11-2007.htm)

239. **3rd 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:** November 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This was the final meeting between the task force assigned to draft the ASEAN Charter and officials attending the SOC-COM.

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

240. **15th Meeting of the ASEAN Task Force on AIDS (ATFOA)**

**Date:** November 5–7, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ATFOA meeting focused on issues such as cooperation with international partners and organizations and approval of an ATFOA meeting report. The participants met with representatives of international organizations that have provided ASEAN member countries with HIV/AIDS technical and financial assistance in order to improve their national responses.

Since its inception in 1992, ATFOA has undertaken a wide range of activities, including setting up a regional information system and conducting scientific research on the impact of the pandemic on socioeconomic development in the region.

**For information, see:** [http://english.china.com/zh\\_cn/health/news/11020771/20081103/15168009.html](http://english.china.com/zh_cn/health/news/11020771/20081103/15168009.html)

<http://www.mediaforfreedom.com/ReadArticle.asp?ArticleID=12283>

241. **6th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC); 3rd AMMTC+3**

**Date:** November 6–8, 2007

**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

This biennial meeting was attended by ASEAN ministers responsible for security matters including transnational crime, and was followed by the 3rd AMMTC+3. The members endorsed the Report on Vision, Benchmarks and Recommendation towards Achieving Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 and also agreed that in achieving a drug-free ASEAN 2015 within the broader ASEAN community, cross-sectoral linkages among existing regional and extraregional mechanisms need to be further strengthened and coordinated. Specific areas where this should be done include strengthening the regional framework, mainstreaming drug concerns in other relevant ASEAN bodies, and supporting and sustaining alternative development efforts. The meeting also agreed to explore the possibility of developing an ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/21038.htm>

242. **Regional Seminar on Anticorruption**

**Date:** November 7–9, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Fifty-nine participants from the governments of Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam, as well as ADB representatives attended the seminar. Discussions focused on such topics as fraud and corruption awareness and anticorruption policy; governance, anticorruption, and development effectiveness; financial management guidelines and requirements; and the public procurement process and bribery patterns in Indonesia.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Anticorruption-Seminars/default.asp>

243. **6th ASEAN Committee on Women Meeting (ACW)**

**Date:** November 7–9, 2007

**Location:** Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW)

Functioning as the main development mechanism for women in the region, the ACW aims (1) to provide a forum to discuss emerging issues concerning women, such as trafficking in women and children, violence against women, women's economic empowerment, as well as the promotion of women's participation and leadership in all fields; (2) to determine regional directions on women's affairs and cooperation; and (3) to promote and reinforce cooperation and solidarity among ASEAN member countries.

The theme of this meeting was "Promoting Women's Participation and Leadership," and the objective was to discuss the situation of ASEAN women in power and decision-making positions; the participation of women in politics; the leadership, policies, national plans,

strategies, and practices in place for promoting women's participation and leadership; and directions toward regional cooperation.

A Regional Workshop on a Micro-credit Program for ASEAN Women was also organized to promote women's participation and leadership in the economic realm, as was a meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women Plus Three.

**For information, see:** <http://www.chiangmai-mail.com/246/community.shtml>

244. **Policy Dialogue on International Migration and Development in East and Southeast Asia**

**Date:** November 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

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

The Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration Including Human Trafficking is undertaking an analysis in collaboration with ESCAP on the situation of international migration in East and Southeast Asia. They plan to publish the research as a report, with a view to making it available to policymakers and practitioners as a comprehensive body of reference material and policy recommendations. The publication will provide an overview of the multidimensional aspects of international migration, including the scope and status of knowledge on the issue. The report was to be published in the first half of 2008.

Using the information gathered for that publication, ESCAP organized this November workshop. Resource persons delivered lectures on a wide range of migration issues, and participants presented country overviews. Attended by senior government officials from 12 countries in the region, the meeting offered a venue for enhancing understanding of migration issues and promoting constructive dialogue and the exchange of good practices.

**For information, see:** [http://74.125.45.104/search?q=cache:1JxKpy3McRMJ:lib\\_user5.unescap.org/EDC/English/Commissions/E64/E64\\_16E.pdf+2007+Regional+Thematic+Working+Group+on+Migration,+Including+Human+Trafficking&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=5&gl=us&client=safari](http://74.125.45.104/search?q=cache:1JxKpy3McRMJ:lib_user5.unescap.org/EDC/English/Commissions/E64/E64_16E.pdf+2007+Regional+Thematic+Working+Group+on+Migration,+Including+Human+Trafficking&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=5&gl=us&client=safari)

245. **7th ASEM Customs Directors-General/Commissioners Meeting**

**Date:** November 12–13, 2007

**Location:** Yokohama, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

Approximately 100 participants, including directors-general, commissioners, and other senior officials of customs administrations from 37 ASEM countries, met to discuss common issues facing customs administrations of Asia and Europe. Following a report on customs-related intersessional developments in ASEM, participants discussed customs approaches to the securing and facilitation of trade and the protection of intellectual property rights, as well as approaches to environmental issues, customs cooperation, and capacity building. The participants considered priorities for the future work of ASEM in this field and adopted the Yokohama Declaration, which proclaimed that ASEM Customs will actively make efforts to secure and facilitate trade, enforce intellectual property rights, protect its societies and environment, fight against fraud, and strengthen cooperation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/OfficialsMeetings/?id=221>

246. **2nd ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM)**

**Date:** November 13–15, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

During the 2nd ADMM, the ministers discussed a broad range of security issues, including the threat of terrorism, challenges of disaster relief, and regional maritime security. As a symbol of the ADMM's commitment to enhancing regional peace and stability, the ministers also signed an ADMM Joint Declaration, which outlined the institutional framework for the ADMM, adopted a three-year work program, and called for the establishment of the ADMM-Plus.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mindef.gov.sg/imindef/mindef\\_websites/topics/admm/media\\_release/14nov07\\_nr.html](http://www.mindef.gov.sg/imindef/mindef_websites/topics/admm/media_release/14nov07_nr.html)

247. **10th Meeting of the Governing Council of the ACE**

**Date:** November 14, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE)

Topics discussed included ASEAN cooperation with Australia, the European Union, Germany, and Japan; Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME)+3 energy cooperation; and ACE cooperation with the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, the Asian Institute of Technology, ESCAP, and the US Agency for International Development.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/reports/ace\\_gov/10th%20ACE-GC.pdf](http://www.aseanenergy.org/download/reports/ace_gov/10th%20ACE-GC.pdf)

248. **International Seminar on Sanitation**

**Date:** November 15–16, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** CITYNET; City Government of Makati; Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The ADB views sanitation as an urgent priority for governments in Asia. Its call to action—“Dignity, Disease, and Dollars”—focuses attention on three areas where stakeholders need to see results: better facilities for individuals so they can regain their dignity, disease prevention and a healthy environment for the wider community, and the financial viability and affordability of sanitation services.

As part of these efforts, CITYNET (a network of local authorities committed to promoting sustainable urban improvement initiatives in the region) and ADB held a seminar to assist local governments and other Asia Pacific partners in addressing the region's sanitation challenge. The seminar aimed to mobilize local governments to advance their sanitation agenda in response to issues concerning environment and public health, develop mechanisms and approaches for sustainable sanitation, and disseminate best practices on sustainable sanitation. Mayors, local chief executives, policymakers, civil servants, and local government unit representatives participated in the event. Other concerned stakeholders from national agencies, NGOs, civil society, and sanitation experts from international agencies and donor organizations were also invited.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/documents/events/2007/Sanitation/default.asp#Participants>

249. **37th ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Investment (CCI)**

**Date:** November 15–16, 2007

**Location:** Lombok, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council established the CCI, which is comprised of senior officials responsible for investment and other senior officials from relevant government agencies. The committee meets regularly four to five times a year to oversee policy

coordination and implementation, discuss regional investment matters, and coordinate investment promotion.

**For information, see:** [http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=1160074](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1160074)

250. **4th BIMP-EAGA Summit**

**Date:** November 19, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The leaders of the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) met for their fourth summit, where they discussed how to intensify cooperation among the BIMP-EAGA member countries in the areas of trade facilitation, transport, tourism, environment, and in the social and cultural areas. Noting the steady progress in the implementation of the BIMP-EAGA Roadmap to Development 2006–2010, the leaders supported the decision to conduct a comprehensive mid-term review of the roadmap in 2008. The leaders urged their customs, immigration, quarantine, and security agencies to continue strengthening their cooperation, applauded the conduct of the 1st Heads of Customs Meeting, and urged the heads of immigration, quarantine, and security to organize similar meetings. Sustainable development and climate change were also discussed, and the leaders commended the signing of the Declaration of the Heart of Borneo Initiative as the basis for development in that region. They also endorsed the adoption of the economic corridor concept, which gives priority to areas with greater economic activities and connectivity.

**For information, see:** <http://www.articlearchives.com/international-relations/international-organizations-bodies/1595005-1.html>

251. **Informal Consultations of the ASEAN Economic Ministers and the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (AEM-METI Consultations)**

**Date:** November 19, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

At the AEM-METI Consultations, ministers welcomed the fact that ASEAN and Japan had reached agreement in principle on the major elements of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership, which would provide for comprehensive arrangements covering a wide range of economic activities. The ministers finalized the agreement, which was then concluded at the ASEAN-Japan Summit on November 21.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/20865.htm>

252. **3rd Summit of the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT)**

**Date:** November 19, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Hosted by the Government of Singapore

Heads of the governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand met to discuss cooperation, progress, and development prospects in the IMT-GT subregion. They exchanged views on issues of common interest and concern, including globalization, trade liberalization, increasing energy prices, rapid technological advancement, growing regional integration, emerging markets, and growing needs for competitiveness. The leaders resolved to accelerate economic cooperation in energy, environment, infrastructure, transportation, and logistic connectivity, tourism and human resource development, along with cooperation in security and in social and cultural areas. Cognizant of the socioeconomic development gaps within the IMT-GT areas, the leaders also agreed to intensify implementation of the relevant measures that would

enhance development partnership among states and provinces of the IMT-GT in order to narrow development disparities consistent with the ASEAN Vision 2020. In line with the IMT-GT Roadmap, leaders agreed to accelerate the implementation of programs and projects especially situated on the five economic connectivity corridors.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/35.php?id=18952>

253. **6th ASEM Immigration Directors Meeting**

**Date:** November 19–20, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); hosted by Korea Immigration Service

The meeting was attended by about 200 participants, including government representatives from 43 ASEM countries (27 European and 16 Asian nations). The purposes of the meeting were to come up with cooperative measures to prevent illegal entry and human trafficking, to share and discuss information and technology with the aim of enhancing immigration inspection, and to strengthen the international cooperative network in the immigration area. In addition to plenary sessions, regional meetings, roundtables, and bilateral and multilateral meetings, an Immigration Policy Forum was convened for overseas preeminent scholars and international experts to discuss immigration policy-related issues.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/OfficialsMeetings/?id=204>

254. **4th Session of the Committee on Managing Globalization (Part 2)**

**Date:** November 19–21, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

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

At this second part of the 4th session of ESCAP's Committee on Managing Globalization, the committee members focused on Asia Pacific approaches to addressing climate change and sustainable development, and on current issues and future directions in Asia Pacific with regard to globalization and information, communication, and space technology. They also discussed future program plans and evaluation.

**For information, see:** <http://unescap.org/cm/2007/CMG4-II/index.asp>

255. **Japan–China–Republic of Korea Three-Party Committee Meeting**

**Date:** November 20, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

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

This meeting served as a preparatory meeting to pave the way for the summit meeting on November 22. The committee, headed by the respective foreign ministers, discussed a wide range of issues, including the Six-Party Talks. South Korea and China stated that they hoped to see progress in Japan–North Korea relations, including the issue of the abductions, and they stated that they intended to cooperate in that regard.

The committee adopted a “2007 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation” among China, Japan, and South Korea, which covered the various ministerial and officials meetings, the Six-Party Talks, a potential trilateral FTA, a trilateral investment agreement, air transport, maritime transport and logistics, environmental protection, energy security dialogue, science and technology cooperation, ICT, financial cooperation, customs, transnational crime, health, cultural exchange, education, and regional cooperation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/fm\\_press/2007/11/1120.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/fm_press/2007/11/1120.html)

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/eas/report0711.pdf>

256. **13th ASEAN Summit; 11th ASEAN+3 Summit; 6th ASEAN-India Summit; 11th ASEAN-China Summit; 11th ASEAN–Republic of Korea Summit; 11th ASEAN-Japan Summit**  
**Date:** November 20–21, 2007  
**Location:** Singapore  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The summit was convened under ASEAN's 40th anniversary theme of "One ASEAN at the Heart of Dynamic Asia," and the substantive theme was "Energy, Environment, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development." These issues represent a serious global challenge that must be addressed in a comprehensive manner through individual, regional, and international action. The summit addressed the need to explore alternative sources of energy. Emphasizing equitable economic development and reduction of poverty and socioeconomic disparities, the summit urged that the benefits of economic integration be quickly accrued to all people of ASEAN through timely implementation of the provisions of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint. Attention was also given to the need to enhance education and to hone the skills and talents of the peoples of ASEAN.

At the ASEAN-China Summit, the leaders acknowledged China's important role in regional and global affairs and welcomed China's continued support for ASEAN's leading role in the regional processes as well as its commitment to an open and inclusive approach to regional ASEAN integration in order to realize the ASEAN Community. Leaders agreed to include the environment as the 11th priority area of cooperation between ASEAN and China and noted the progress toward establishing the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area.

ASEAN leaders and the president of South Korea welcomed the recent progress made at the Six-Party Talks and expressed support for continued momentum toward the early denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. They noted that ASEAN could play a constructive role to build bridges to North Korea, such as through the ASEAN Regional Forum. The ASEAN leaders expressed appreciation to South Korea for its support of ASEAN's efforts in accelerating ASEAN integration and narrowing the development gap.

ASEAN leaders also welcomed Japan's sustained contribution to ASEAN integration at the ASEAN-Japan Summit. The leaders welcomed the successful conclusion of the negotiations for the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, which includes fields such as trade in goods, trade in services, investment, and economic cooperation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/21093.htm>  
<http://www.aseansec.org/21105.htm>  
<http://www.aseansec.org/21141.htm>  
<http://www.aseansec.org/21130.htm>

257. **1st ACD Expert Meeting on Disaster Preparedness and Response**

**Date:** November 20–22, 2007

**Location:** Moscow, Russia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD); Ministry for Civil Defense, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM) in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia

Representatives of 12 ACD member countries took part in this meeting, which was convened by the Russian Federation. The meeting included presentations by EMERCOM functional departments, and participants were given a demonstration of EMERCOM resources and capabilities in emergency response, forecasting, prevention, warning, and management; of activities aimed at providing natural and man-made disaster relief; as well as of EMERCOM's training and education techniques. Foreign experts showed interest in obtaining detailed information about Russia's system of education in civil defense and disaster prevention and relief. Participants confirmed the urgency and vital importance of setting up cooperation in the

area of disaster relief and response and hoped to eventually expand that cooperation to the entire region. There was also a common understanding that in the future it would be expedient for other countries to join Russia's efforts in promoting such cooperation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.acddialogue.com/calendar/Summary%20russian%20meeting.doc>

258. **3rd East Asia Summit**

**Date:** November 21, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** East Asia Summit (EAS); chaired by Singapore

Representatives of ASEAN, China, Japan, Korea, India, Australia, and New Zealand exchanged views on regional and international issues, as well as on the growing areas of cooperation within the EAS framework. Participants welcomed recent progress made at the Six-Party Talks. They also reiterated strong support for the 13th session of the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 3rd Conference of the Parties Serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to be held in Bali in December. The resulting Singapore Declaration on Climate Change, Energy and the Environment stressed the need for all countries to address the issue of climate change and outlined areas for EAS member state cooperation. Recognizing the potential of the EAS to build a united, stable, and prosperous East Asia, the participants reaffirmed their determination to continue developing the EAS as an important forum for strategic dialogue and regional cooperation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.41amm.sg/amm/index.php/web/layout/set/print/press\\_room/13th\\_asean\\_summit\\_document\\_archive/speeches\\_statements/chairman\\_s\\_statement\\_of\\_the\\_3rd\\_east\\_asia\\_summit](http://www.41amm.sg/amm/index.php/web/layout/set/print/press_room/13th_asean_summit_document_archive/speeches_statements/chairman_s_statement_of_the_3rd_east_asia_summit)

259. **Workshop to Develop a Protocol for Communication and Information Sharing on Emerging Infectious Diseases in the ASEAN+3 Countries**

**Date:** November 21–23, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; Chinese Ministry of Health

China's Ministry of Health and the ASEAN Secretariat conducted this workshop as a response to the dearth in guidelines on what information to share. The protocol provides the basic guidelines to the ASEAN+3 countries for institutionalizing a fully functional information-sharing mechanism for issues related to prevention and control of emerging infectious diseases (EID). In addition to improving the existing regional network and strengthening trust and collaboration among the countries through its implementation, the guidelines will also serve as a basis for the reconstruction of the web-based information-sharing platform on EIDs. The protocol was endorsed by the ASEAN Expert Group on Communicable Diseases on December 12, 2007, and adopted at the Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development on December 13–14.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aseanplus3-eid.info/dl.php?f=/newsfiles/29\\_f1.pdf&n=PROTOCOL+for+Communication+and+Information+on+EIDs+in+ASEAN%2B3+Countries+\(approved+and+endorsed+Dec2007\).pdf](http://www.aseanplus3-eid.info/dl.php?f=/newsfiles/29_f1.pdf&n=PROTOCOL+for+Communication+and+Information+on+EIDs+in+ASEAN%2B3+Countries+(approved+and+endorsed+Dec2007).pdf)

260. **ASEAN-EU Commemorative Summit**

**Date:** November 22, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN, European Union

To mark the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-EU relations, summit participants discussed ASEAN-EU relations and endorsed two important documents, the Joint Declaration on the ASEAN-EU Commemorative Summit and the Plan of Action to Implement the Nuremburg Declaration on



the ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership. The latter sets out the framework and direction of comprehensive cooperation between the two sides, encompassing cooperation in such areas as the political and security fields; counterterrorism and transnational crime; trade and investment promotion; energy, environment, and climate change; people-to-people contact; public health; disaster management; and science and technology. Both sides also agreed to move forward with negotiations on an ASEAN-EU Free Trade Agreement. On climate change, both sides concurred on the need to set targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and to ensure global participation in order to address this problem. On Myanmar, they shared the same goal of democracy and respect for human rights.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/21120.htm>

[http://www.delkhm.ec.europa.eu/en/whatsnew/november\\_22\\_2007\\_2.htm](http://www.delkhm.ec.europa.eu/en/whatsnew/november_22_2007_2.htm)

261. **1st NARBO Thematic Workshop on Water-Related Disaster Management**

**Date:** November 26–29, 2007

**Location:** Yogyakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO); supported by Asian Development Bank (ADB)

As part of its Action Plan for 2006–2007, NARBO held a series of thematic workshops for middle- to senior-level officials from NARBO member organizations on water-related disaster management, focusing on managing and mitigating the effects of water-related disasters. These included field visits to assess damaged sites, recovery conditions, and initiatives for water-related disaster prevention, and to evaluate the recovery measures of community organizations and other stakeholders. The workshops aimed to develop organizational capacity for water-related disaster management by first identifying basic concepts and principles in water-related disaster management, and then by sharing country-level issues, challenges, and strategies and formulating a country action plan. This first thematic workshop aimed to identify and analyze the characteristics and issues of water-related disaster management and formulate strategies and solutions to address these issues.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Water-Related-Disaster-Management/default.asp>

262. **ASEAN Regional Workshop on Multi-sectoral Coordination in Pandemic Preparedness and Response**

**Date:** November 29–30, 2007

**Location:** Halong Bay, Vietnam

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; US Agency for International Development (USAID)

The workshop brought together members of the ASEAN Expert Group on Communicable Diseases, the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM), and representatives of the National Coordinating Committee on Pandemic Preparedness. The primary objectives were to arrive at a common understanding of the multisectoral approach to pandemic preparedness and response at the national and regional levels, to identify the roles and responsibilities of the relevant stakeholders, to discuss and identify the key activities in addressing the gaps in pandemic preparedness and response, and to provide a venue for sharing best practices and lessons learned. Participants explored how the three pre-existing regional initiatives—the Standby Agreement of ACDM, Panstop Stockpile of Tamiflu and PPE (personal protective equipment), and the East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve—could be utilized in times of a pandemic. They then shared best practices and lessons learned through two country presentations on national multisectoral pandemic preparedness in Cambodia and Singapore.

**For information, see:** [http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PNADK749.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNADK749.pdf)

263. **Informal and Formal ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meetings (AFDM+3)**  
**Date:** November 29–30, 2007  
**Location:** Lijiang, China  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Vice ministers of finance and deputy governors of central banks of ASEAN member countries discussed the effectiveness of policy dialogues and reviews of economic conditions in ensuring economic and financial stability and sustainable growth in the region. Ministers in particular focused on the ASEAN+3 Asian Bond Markets Initiative, which aims to develop efficient and liquid bond markets in Asia, enabling better utilization of Asian savings for Asian investments. At the meeting, progress was made in efforts to create new debt instruments, including issuing bonds in local currencies, and to complete a phase II study on the credit guarantee and investment mechanism.

**For information, see:** [http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/documents/Progress\\_Report\\_ABMI\\_Nov\\_2007.pdf](http://asianbondsonline.adb.org/documents/Progress_Report_ABMI_Nov_2007.pdf)

### **December**

264. **1st Asia-Pacific Water Summit**  
**Date:** December 3–4, 2007  
**Location:** Oita Prefecture, Japan  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** Asia-Pacific Water Forum; supported by the Government of Japan

The 1st Asia-Pacific Water Summit was organized as one of the key activities of the Asia-Pacific Water Forum, an independent, nonprofit, nonpolitical network dedicated to solving water and sanitation problems in the Asia Pacific region. Ten regional heads of state and representatives from over 35 Asia Pacific countries, as well as leaders from institutions involved in water and sanitation met to mobilize the political will and commitment required to put water higher up on the region's national agendas. Participants attended a series of thematic panel sessions on water financing and capacity development, water-related disaster management, water for development and ecosystems, climate change, sanitation, developing knowledge and lessons, increasing local capacity, increasing public outreach, and monitoring of investments and results. In parallel to the summit, an open forum was held with civil society stakeholders, multilateral organizations, and many others.

**For information, see:** [http://www.reg-clinkage.jp/apws/eng/archive/documents/press/APWS\\_Press\\_Release\\_No1\\_December\\_3\\_2007AM\\_rev.pdf](http://www.reg-clinkage.jp/apws/eng/archive/documents/press/APWS_Press_Release_No1_December_3_2007AM_rev.pdf)

265. **Regional Meeting for ASEAN States Party on Assistance and Protection against Chemical Weapons**  
**Date:** December 3–5, 2007  
**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** Malaysian National Authority; Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

This meeting, which commemorated the 10th anniversary of the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention, addressed issues related to article X on assistance and protection of the convention. The meeting provided a platform for the ASEAN states party to the convention to discuss the technical needs for training, measures to further enhance cooperation, and the need for capacity building. Additionally, the meeting was intended to increase relationships and networking between the states party within the ASEAN region. An exhibition was also organized by government agencies under the Malaysian National Authority

to increase awareness among the public on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling, transfer, or use of chemical weapons.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kln.gov.my/?m\\_id=26&vid=557](http://www.kln.gov.my/?m_id=26&vid=557)

266. **9th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM)**

**Date:** December 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Toyama, Japan

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Government of Japan

The TEMM is a regional mechanism among the environment ministers of China, Japan, and South Korea. In the joint communiqué released after this meeting, the three countries expressed their appreciation for the efforts made within the framework of the Northeast Asia Environment Partners Forum (NOWPAP) and its marine litter activity, while recognizing the importance of further collaboration on marine litter and other areas related to marine and coastal environmental protection. It was the first time that a TEMM session was held outside the capitals of the three countries, which was intended as a signal to encourage more local involvement.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofat.go.kr/english/econtrade/environmentenergy/issues/index.jsp>

267. **9th Centre for Democratic Institutions Pacific Parliamentary Dialogue: The Role of Parliament in Managing Conflicts**

**Date:** December 11–13, 2007

**Location:** Goroka, Papua New Guinea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Centre for Democratic Institutions (CDI), Australian National University (ANU); support from the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea and the Eastern Highlands Provincial Government; funding from AusAID, NZAID, and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

CDI's 9th Pacific Parliamentary Dialogue brought together leading political figures from the Pacific Island countries, Australia, and New Zealand to explore ways to address contentious issues in conflict-affected societies and thereby strengthen and enhance the political governance of Pacific Island countries. This year, parliamentarians from Papua New Guinea (PNG), Bougainville, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, New Zealand, Australia, and, for the first time, Timor Leste met to discuss the role of parliaments in managing conflicts and to learn about political developments in PNG. This focus permitted dialogue on difficult issues, including the gap between PNG's abundant natural resources and its low levels of human development, the worrying political situation in post-coup Fiji, and the need for better relations between Australia and the Pacific Island countries.

**For information, see:** [http://www.cdi.anu.edu.au/asia\\_pacific\\_region/2007-08/2007\\_12\\_PAC\\_PRO\\_9thPacPD\\_GKA.htm](http://www.cdi.anu.edu.au/asia_pacific_region/2007-08/2007_12_PAC_PRO_9thPacPD_GKA.htm)

268. **3rd ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum; 11th Meeting of the Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM); 3rd DGICM + Australia Consultation**

**Date:** December 12–13, 2007

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

Top ASEAN immigration officials met for the 3rd ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum, held annually and back-to-back with meetings of the directors-general of immigration departments and heads of consular divisions of ministries of foreign affairs (DGICM) of ASEAN and ASEAN+Australia.

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

269. **5th COMMIT Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); 2nd COMMIT Inter-ministerial Meeting (IMM2)**  
**Date:** December 12–14, 2007  
**Location:** Beijing, China  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative Against Trafficking (COMMIT); UN Inter-agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Subregion (UNIAP)

During the 5th COMMIT SOM, senior officials from Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam met to review the status of the implementation of the first COMMIT Subregional Plan of Action (SPA 2005–2007) and the achievements of the COMMIT process over the previous three years. Following months of collaborative development, the senior officials endorsed a follow-up action plan, the 2nd COMMIT SPA (2008–2010), which takes forward the activities in the first SPA in the focus areas of policymaking and capacity building in the areas of law enforcement and criminal justice, prevention, protection, and recovery and reintegration of victims of trafficking. In addition, the senior officials finalized the Joint Declaration on the COMMIT Process in preparation for the 2nd Inter-ministerial Meeting.

At the IMM2, ministers met to coordinate their strategy to combat transnational human trafficking. The meeting reviewed the implementation of the MOU on strengthening cooperation between Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) countries in cracking down on human trafficking signed at the first meeting, and the plan of action on combating transnational crime. Ministers discussed and passed the second-phase action plan and signed a joint declaration on the process of cracking down on human trafficking in the GMS.

**For information, see:** [http://www.no-trafficking.org/content/COMMIT\\_Process/COMMIT\\_som5.htm](http://www.no-trafficking.org/content/COMMIT_Process/COMMIT_som5.htm)  
<http://www.humantrafficking.org/events/227>

270. **28th Meeting of the ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board (AFSRB)**  
**Date:** December 12–14, 2007  
**Location:** Singapore  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board (AFSRB)

The 28th Meeting of AFSRB considered and supported a recommendation for the establishment of a new ASEAN+3 Emergency Rice Reserve Agreement as a legal foundation for a future permanent scheme of the East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve (EAERR) to undertake activities that are now being carried out by the pilot project. The participants further agreed that key issues such as institutional arrangements, technical aspects, and financial arrangements should be further addressed. The AFSRB meeting was attended by all board members from ASEAN countries, representatives of the AFSRB Secretariat, the ASEAN Food Security Information System, and EAERR. As a follow-up to the AFSRB decision, EAERR will work together with the AFSRB Secretariat and the ASEAN Secretariat to come up with a detailed proposal for further consideration and discussion at the AFSRB and other relevant ASEAN/ASEAN+3 meetings.

**For information, see:** [http://www.eaerr.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=59](http://www.eaerr.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=59)

271. **3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Experts Group on Communicable Disease (AEGCD); 4th Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (SOM-HD); 3rd Meeting of the SOM-HD Working Group Project Development**  
**Date:** December 12–14, 2007  
**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR  
**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN

The Protocol for Communication and Information Sharing on Emerging Infectious Diseases in the ASEAN+3 Countries was endorsed by the AEGCD during their meeting on December 12, and was adopted during the SOM-HD on December 13–14.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aseanplus3-eid.info/dl.php?f=/newsfiles/55\\_f1.pdf&n=2007+Annual+Report+\(ASEAN%2B3+EID+Programme\).pdf](http://www.aseanplus3-eid.info/dl.php?f=/newsfiles/55_f1.pdf&n=2007+Annual+Report+(ASEAN%2B3+EID+Programme).pdf)

272. **Committee on Poverty Reduction, 4th Session**

**Date:** December 12–14, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Sponsors:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Poverty and Development Division and Statistics Division

Governmental and UN representatives gathered to discuss strategies for poverty reduction. The committee urged all stakeholders to broaden and deepen the positive impact of microfinance and welcomed the regional Millennium Development Goal roadmap. In the ESCAP region, the committee suggested ways to improve ODA through the use of innovative mechanisms such as debt swaps. Other topics discussed included increased public accountability and transparency in aid effectiveness; the growing challenge of urban poverty; improved measurements of the working poor and a clear definition of disability in order to produce operational recommendations for these issues; and requests for further statistical training and forums for sharing experiences and best practices among statistical and census offices.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/pdd/CPR/CPR2007/index.asp>

273. **3rd Session of the Senior Officials Committee of the Inter-governmental Collaborative Mechanism on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia**

**Date:** December 13–14, 2007

**Location:** Jeju, South Korea

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

Senior officials from Russia, Mongolia, and South Korea met to discuss regional energy cooperation in Northeast Asia. They endorsed issues submitted by the Working Group on Energy Planning and Policy (WG-EPP), such as the Northeast Asia Energy Outlook Report and Government-Business Dialogue (GBD) Summary. Moreover, a five-year strategy and funding arrangement were discussed. Experts from China, Japan, Mongolia, South Korea, and Russia offered presentations on the energy outlook and energy cooperation in Northeast Asia. A report on the 1st GBD focused on the development of a cooperation mechanism between the government and the business sector to foster regional energy cooperation. Participants then discussed and endorsed the activities of the WG-EPP for 2008, including a 2nd GBD.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esd/energy/dialogue/cooperation/soc3/document/s/update/SOC3-report.pdf>

274. **ASEAN-ILO Workshop on the Prevention of HIV in the Workplace**

**Date:** December 13–14, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Sponsors:** ASEAN; International Labour Organization (ILO)

This workshop addressed HIV prevention, which is one of a wide range of topics being addressed under the ILO-ASEAN Cooperation Agreement.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/download/apissues/issue08\\_02.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/download/apissues/issue08_02.pdf)

275. **3rd Roundtable Discussion on Human Rights in ASEAN: Building Human Rights in an ASEAN Community**

**Date:** December 17–18, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism; co-organized with the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines and the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines

The newly adopted ASEAN Charter calls for the establishment of a regional human rights body. The terms of reference (TOR), which will define the mandate and structure of the body, are to be crafted at a later date by the ASEAN foreign ministers. Realizing that the TOR is the first step toward the formation of the regional human rights body, the Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism held a roundtable discussion on this issue. The roundtable brought together representatives from the governments of all ASEAN member states and their national human rights institutions, and observers from partner funding agencies.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/work-terms-of-reference-for-human-rights.html>

276. **Inaugural Meeting of the Group of Friends of the Secretary-General on Myanmar**

**Date:** December 19, 2007

**Location:** New York, USA

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Office of the UN Secretary-General

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon convened the first meeting of a group of 14 nations to assist him in his efforts to spur change in the troubled Southeast Asian nation of Myanmar. The Group of Friends of the Secretary-General on Myanmar is a consultative forum for developing a shared approach in support of the implementation of the secretary-general's good offices mandate. Consisting of Australia, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Vietnam, the group planned to meet as needed in an informal format.

**For information, see:** <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=25140&Cr=myanmar&Cr1>

277. **2nd ROK-China-DPRK Working-Level Meeting on Economic and Energy Assistance to the DPRK**

**Date:** December 25–27, 2007

**Location:** Pyongyang, North Korea

**Organizers/Sponsors:** Chaired by the Government of South Korea

Top representatives from China, South Korea, and North Korea gathered for a working-level meeting on economic and energy assistance to the DPRK. Discussions were held regarding the provision of non-heavy fuel oil assistance to the DPRK, as determined by the October 3 Agreement of the Six-Party Talks. The three delegations had bilateral meetings with one another on December 25, and on December 26 there were further bilateral and trilateral discussions. The participants at this meeting discussed details on the modalities and items of equipment and materials to be sent to the DPRK and succeeded in narrowing gaps among them on those issues to a considerable extent.

**For information, see:** [http://www.korea.net/News/news/newsView.asp?serial\\_no=20071228008&part=101&SearchDay=2007.12.27&source=Ministry%20of%20Foreign%20Affairs%20&%20Trade](http://www.korea.net/News/news/newsView.asp?serial_no=20071228008&part=101&SearchDay=2007.12.27&source=Ministry%20of%20Foreign%20Affairs%20&%20Trade)

## Track 2: Multisectoral Policy Meetings

### January

#### 1. 10th Regional Outlook Forum

**Date:** January 4, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

Researchers from around the Asia-Pacific region gathered for the annual Regional Outlook Forum. Participants examined regional security issues such as the relationships between and among the United States, China, and East Asia; the nuclear weapons challenge in Northeast Asia; and major powers and the strategic future in East Asia. Economic issues were also examined as participants discussed the growth projections for ASEAN economies and the economic and business environment in the countries of Southeast Asia. Other topics included haze and sustainable development; the domestic political situation in Thailand, Malaysia, and Myanmar; and the threat of terrorism in Southeast Asia. Based on this forum, ISEAS publishes both a forum summary and its *Regional Outlook: Southeast Asia* series each year.

**For information, see:** <http://nettv.1-net.com.sg/iseas/forum2007/>

#### 2. Inaugural Meeting of the Consortium on Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia

**Date:** January 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University

The Consortium on Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia) was established in 2007, with its secretariat based at RSIS. With a network of 14 regional institutes and think tanks, NTS-Asia provides a platform to further develop the process of networking among scholars and analysts working on NTS issues in the region; to build long-term and sustainable regional capacity for research on NTS issues; and to mainstream and advance the field of nontraditional security studies in Asia.

The January meeting not only officially launched the consortium but also brought together network members to discuss current NTS challenges facing the region and possible policy responses. Sessions were organized around Asian subregions. Discussions also focused on advancing the consortium's activities, in particular its annual convention, regional workshops, research fellowship program, and curriculum development.

**For information, see:** [http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past\\_conf.html](http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past_conf.html)

<http://www.rsis-ntsasia.org/ourConsortium/inaugural-meeting.html>

#### 3. US-Japan-China Tri-Lat on Confidence and Security Building Measures

**Date:** January 10–11, 2007

**Location:** Honolulu, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies; co-sponsored by the Stanley Foundation

Twenty-one representatives from China, Japan, and the United States participated in the first meeting of this multiphase project. Participants developed a tentative consensus on where to focus the efforts of the national teams in order to establish concrete and realistic confidence- and security-building measures that can be implemented to help reduce the dangers of misunderstanding, miscalculation, and conflict, and to address the misapprehension of military

activities. The working group made progress toward developing a common language and understanding on which to base discussions between the three countries, established a list of both traditional and nontraditional confidence- and security-building measures for the national teams to explore, and produced a timeline for future activities.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics\\_conference.htm#2006](http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics_conference.htm#2006)

#### **4. 8th East Asian Development Network (EADN) Annual Forum**

**Date:** January 12–13, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** East Asian Development Network (EADN); co-organized by Thailand Development Research Institute; Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies; Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; and the Global Development Network

The 8th EADN Annual Forum brought together 46 scholars and experts from EADN members and other institutions. The forum, which immediately preceded the 8th Annual Global Development Conference (see below), featured presentations of the results of EADN individual and regional research projects. Some of the presentation topics included corporate governance, risk management, and bank performance; monetary transmission in Vietnam; the linkages between trade and financial integration and output volatility in East Asia; Philippine economic zones; linguistic and religious influences on foreign trade; and political transition and economic development. A research plan was also presented for a regional project on the economic and social impact of market liberalization, using the China-ASEAN Early Harvest Arrangement as a case study. Discussions on future activities were held as well.

**For information, see:** <http://www.eadn.org/2006conference.htm>

#### **5. 8th Annual Global Development Conference: The Rise of Asia and its Implications**

**Date:** January 12–19, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Co-organized by the Global Development Network (GDN); Beijing Municipal Government; and Peking University

The GDN's 8th Annual Global Development Conference attracted nearly 600 participants from 93 countries, who gathered for a week of workshops and plenary and parallel sessions. The meeting's key theme was "Shaping a New Global Reality: The Rise of Asia and its Implications," and participants sought to explore the prospects and challenges of Asian development, considering the continent's most recent past but particularly focusing on its present and expected future. Particular interest was paid to the implications of Asia's rise for other regions of the world, including Latin America, the Middle East, and Africa, and the transition countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Central/Eastern Europe. Opportunities for sustainable development and poverty reduction were the underlying theme in all these discussions, culminating in a separate plenary session on "Moving Out of Poverty."

**For information, see:** <http://www.eadn.org/2006conference.htm>

#### **6. 1st Asia-Pacific Programme for Senior National Security Officers (APPSNO)**

**Date:** January 14–20, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Centre of Excellence for National Security (CENS), Nanyang Technological University; National Security Co-ordination Secretariat (NSCS), Singapore Prime Minister's Office

CENS and the NSCS co-organized the inaugural Asia-Pacific Programme for Senior National Security Officers (APPSNO), which is intended to provide participants from the Asia-Pacific



region and beyond with a program that fosters interaction and offers opportunities to learn about developments related to national security matters. International experts on homeland security spoke on topics such as the challenge of homeland security in the 21st century; protecting the city, with observations and lessons from New York; developing a whole-of-government approach to homeland security; from SARS to bioterrorism to pandemics—new tools and old medicine to protect the public; and communications and national resilience in crises. The APPSNO aims to become an important tool for promoting the analytical frameworks, mindsets, and skills needed for effective national security management. The program also comprised a closed phase on national security issues of current relevance to local officers.

**For information, see:** [http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference\\_reports/APPSNO\\_Conf\\_Report.pdf](http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/APPSNO_Conf_Report.pdf)

**7. 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

**Organizers/Supporters:** Hosted by the Government of Japan; International Recovery Platform (IRP) Kobe; Asian Disaster Reduction Center; Hyogo Prefectural Government; in partnership with the Governments of Switzerland and Italy, UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, UN Development Programme, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, International Labour Organization, World Bank, International Federation of the Red Cross, and UN-Habitat

About 300 participants from 34 countries and 20 international organizations—comprised of dignitaries, government officials, experts on disaster reduction and recovery, and representatives of various stakeholders—attended the forum, seeking to help achieve the goals of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). More specifically, the goals of the forum were to present important perspectives on post-disaster recovery, promote exchanges of lessons and sharing of experience; and provide feedback from countries on their respective implementation of the HFA priorities of action. The forum highlighted the importance of advancing international cooperation in disaster risk reduction, promoting build-back-better principles, and addressing issues of governance, institutional arrangements, education, and local culture in the recovery process.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/forum0701.html>

**8. 1st Trilateral Workshop of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Research Institutes**

**Date:** January 19, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Policy Research Institute, Ministry of Finance of Japan; Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; and Korea Institute for International Economic Policy

This was the inaugural workshop of a trilateral project on mid- to long-term economic and fiscal challenges common to Asia. Participants are engaged in joint research that will contribute to the formulation of policy on these issues. The workshop took up the themes of disparity, external imbalances, and the environment.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mof.go.jp/english/soken/confer/chinakorea200701.htm>

**9. Roundtable on US-Japan-India Relations**

**Date:** January 20–22, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); Confederation of Indian Industry; Japan Institute of International Affairs

Recognizing the need to explore the parameters for broader trilateral cooperation in an unofficial setting, the CSIS organized a series of informal roundtables with eminent persons from all three nations. CSIS hosted the first meeting in Washington in June 2006 and found that there was intense interest in developing a trilateral agenda in the areas of security, energy security, the environment, and economics. This second session was held in Tokyo. Following the meeting, the group called on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and other government officials. A third and final meeting was held in July 2007, also in Tokyo.

**For information, see:** [http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/070816\\_us\\_j\\_ireport.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/070816_us_j_ireport.pdf)

#### **10. 15th Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum**

**Date:** January 21–26, 2007

**Location:** Moscow, Russia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF)

The APPF is an annual forum that provides opportunities for national parliamentarians of the Asia Pacific region to identify and discuss matters of common concern; deepen their understanding of the policy concerns of the countries of the region; examine the critical political, social, and cultural developments resulting from economic growth and integration; and encourage and promote regional cooperation at all levels on matters of common concern.

Plenary sessions at the 2007 meeting focused on political and security matters (e.g., strengthening regional and subregional political and security cooperation; terrorism, illegal drug traffic, and organized crime; and the Middle East peace process), economic and trade matters (e.g., strengthening regional and global economic cooperation, energy security, and APEC), regional cooperation in the Asia Pacific on a broad range of issues (interfaith dialogue, cooperation in disaster management and emergency responses, transport logistics, ecology and health, poverty eradication in Asia Pacific), and the future work of the APPF. The meeting concluded with the signing of a joint communiqué.

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

#### **11. Community of Democracies Asia Roundtable**

**Date:** January 23–26, 2007

**Location:** Taipei, Taiwan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Taiwan Foundation for Democracy

The Community of Democracies is a US-led grouping of democratic governments and NGOs dedicated to the promotion of democracy throughout the world that acts as a caucus within the United Nations. The Community of Democracies Asia Roundtable was the first event in the region to discuss progress toward the goals of the Community of Democracies Ministerial Meeting, which was to be held at the end of 2007. The Asia Roundtable was attended by 35 civil society activists, academics, journalists, and political party representatives from 25 countries' democracy promotion organizations from around the Asia Pacific region and featured presentations on democratic progress in Asia on issues such as rule of law, press freedom, election standards, gender equality, education for democracy, freedom of association, and the link between free enterprise and democracy.

The meeting was followed by a conference on "Transformations in New Democracies" and by a public event, the "Global Forum on New Democracies."

**For information, see:** [http://www.cdi.anu.edu.au/\\_further\\_activities/2006-07/2007\\_01\\_FA\\_ASIA\\_BR\\_Taipei.htm](http://www.cdi.anu.edu.au/_further_activities/2006-07/2007_01_FA_ASIA_BR_Taipei.htm)

**12. 5th Shanghai Workshop on Global Governance: Current Situation and Future Prospects of Asia-Europe Security Cooperation**

**Date:** January 23–24, 2007

**Location:** Shanghai, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Shanghai Institute for International Studies; Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

The Shanghai Workshop on Global Governance is an Asian-European forum on foreign and security policy that features open political dialogue at the nongovernmental level and aims to contribute to Asian and Eurasian exchange and cooperation. The workshop invites participants from China and Germany, as well as selected other Asian and European countries.

EU-Asian relations have been gradually tightened and today involve cooperation in an increasing number of sectors. Still, there are divergences in interests, perceptions, definitions, and policies on both sides. The fifth workshop reviewed recent developments and common issues: characteristics and prospects of regional security orders in Asia and Europe, regional security cooperation strategies of major Asian and European countries and organizations, Asia-Europe cooperation and Sino-European relations, and Asia-Europe security cooperation and global governance.

**For information, see:** [www.fes-globalization.org/events/download/the-fifth-shanghai\\_en.doc](http://www.fes-globalization.org/events/download/the-fifth-shanghai_en.doc)

**13. 1st Asian Biotechnology, Innovation and Development Initiative (ABIDI)**

**Date:** January 25, 2007

**Location:** New Delhi, India

**Organizers/Supporters:** Research and Information System for Developing Countries; Government of India

During the 2006 Asian Conference on Biotechnology and Development, it was agreed that Asian countries should launch an initiative to develop an analytical framework for policymakers in the area of biotechnology. The idea is to collect policy-relevant statistics for analyzing trends in investment, public allocation, availability of manpower, and private-sector activities. This should be done in the context of overall socioeconomic requirements in the region. It is expected that the statistics will provide clarity about the governance of biotechnology and will inform policy responses. This was the inaugural meeting of such an initiative.

**For information, see:** <http://www.ris.org.in/>

**14. 10th ASEF Talks on the Hill: (In)Secure Societies—Redefining Civil Liberties in a Changing Security Environment**

**Date:** January 28–30, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Since the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001, and with each subsequent attack, concerns about security at airports, at international organizations, on public transportation, and in other public places have increasingly been at the forefront of governmental and public discourse and policies. Globally, steps have been taken to increase vigilance, and significant investments have been made in x-ray machinery, closed circuit cameras, mobile phone tracking systems, and other methods of monitoring people, packages, and vehicles. In some countries, old debates have reopened about issues such as identity cards with biometric data to the legality of releasing private information. Increasingly, many segments of populations are questioning the increasing encroachment into privacy and personal information. The 10th ASEF Talks on the Hill examined such questions as how have the spheres of private life and public life been redefined, and what are the implications of these measures for civil liberties.

**For information, see:** [http://www.civdialogue.asef.org/TalksontheHill\\_PastTalks.htm](http://www.civdialogue.asef.org/TalksontheHill_PastTalks.htm)

**15. Expert Group Meeting on Developing Eco-efficiency Indicators (EEI) of Economic Growth**

**Date:** January 30–31, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Environment and Development Division; supported by the Government of Korea

As part of ESCAP's program to promote the "green growth" approach to sustainable development, it is developing indicators of the eco-efficiency of economic growth. In January 2007, ESCAP organized an expert group meeting on this topic. More than 30 experts attended from think tanks, NGOs, the private sector, international and UN organizations, and ministries of planning.

The ESCAP EEIs are being developed to fill the gaps left by other indicator initiatives, which often fail to establish linkages between the economic, environmental, and social dimensions of sustainable development and often have little relevance for policymaking. The ESCAP EEIs measure how the environment is used for economic activity and how it is affected by economic activity needed to reduce persistent poverty in the region. They are highly policy relevant since they are being created in consultation with academics and policymakers from the region who have been using indicators to evaluate national and international policymaking.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esd/sustainable/eei/meeting/Jan2007/index.asp>

**February**

**16. A Rising Asia and the International System**

**Date:** February 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; with the support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Carnegie Endowment organized a conference that brought together diplomats and academics from seven countries (China, France, Germany, India, Japan, the United States, and the United Kingdom) to participate in discussions on the implications of the rising Asian region for the international system. Besides discussing questions of sovereignty and democracy in the international system, the conference examined the ongoing global power shifts and the resultant impact on the international system. The participants also debated the shape of the future security architecture in Asia, the impact of a rising Asia on transatlantic relations, and the future US and European roles in the international system.

**For information, see:** <http://www.carnegieendowment.org/events/index.cfm?fa=eventDetail&id=960&&prog=zch,zgp&proj=zdl,zsa,zusr>

**17. 10th US-China-Japan Trilateral Dialogue Conference**

**Date:** February 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Foundation; China Institute of International Studies; Japan Institute of International Affairs

This trilateral conference series, which has been running continuously since an initial planning session in 1998, provides an opportunity for an exchange of views among key officials and scholars in the American foreign policy community and their Japanese and Chinese counterparts. At the 2007 meeting, participants discussed four key topics in the trilateral relationship: prospects for political and economic cooperation in East Asia, competition and

cooperation on energy issues, the impact of environmental policy on trilateral relations, and prospects for collaboration on economic development and poverty alleviation.

**For information, see:** <http://stage.asiafoundation.org/country/overview/japan>

**18. China, Korea and Japan Joint Symposium: In Search of New Cooperation and Sub-Regional Identities**

**Date:** February 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Fukuoka, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Kyushu University, Asia Center; Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; Dongguk University

In much of the recent discussion on an East Asian Community, there is an expectation that Japan, China, and South Korea should form the core of such a community. The prospects for such an arrangement, however, are diminished by the tense relations that existed between Japan and China and between Japan and South Korea through 2006.

In the belief that there will be no bright future in the East Asian region unless these three countries can deepen their mutual understanding and cooperation and develop a future-oriented, friendly relationship, institutions in each country jointly held an open symposium to explore and develop new cooperation mechanisms and subregional identities. The symposium was attended by researchers and journalists from Japan, China, and South Korea. Sessions focused on popular culture and cultural foundations, industrial cooperation, medicine and bioethics, and issues related to aging societies.

**For information, see:** [http://asia.kyushu-u.ac.jp/eng/event/symposium070201-02/seisakuteigen\\_e/symposium070202e.html](http://asia.kyushu-u.ac.jp/eng/event/symposium070201-02/seisakuteigen_e/symposium070202e.html)

**19. 2nd Meeting of ARF Experts and Eminent Persons**

**Date:** February 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); co-chaired by the Philippines and South Korea

This meeting of the ARF experts and eminent persons (EEPs) focused on multilateral security cooperation in Northeast Asia. The meeting was organized into four sessions: the overall security situation in Northeast Asia, nontraditional security issues in Northeast Asia, lessons from other regional security cooperation arrangements and their implications for Northeast Asia (EU and ASEAN cases were presented), and enhancement of multilateral security cooperation in Northeast Asia. The EEPs were drawn from both Track 1 and Track 2 levels. Track 1 members are composed of foreign ministry officials, while Track 2 members included former ambassadors, academics, and experts from regional security think tanks.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=UKUrXkAOt84%3D&tabid=66&mid=940>

**20. 2007 Northeast Asia International Conference for Development in Niigata**

**Date:** February 5–7, 2007

**Location:** Niigata, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia

Policymakers and policy analysts from Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, and Mongolia gathered for a two-day conference that examined economic development in Northeast Asia. The conference began with discussions of transport and tourism, including the Tumen River transport corridor and joint strategies for tourism development in Northeast Asia. The second session looked at issues of energy and the environment, including prospects for regional

cooperation. The third session addressed trade and investment, focusing on economic promotion measures and their effect on the attraction of capital, as well as free trade agreement strategy in Northeast Asia in the era of the East Asian Community. The participants then agreed on a “Vision for the Economic Development of Northeast Asia,” which called for greater multilateral coordination by central governments, greater efforts to alleviate political and security constraints that are hindering economic cooperation, and strict adherence to open regionalism.

**For information, see:** <http://www.erina.or.jp/en/Publications/er/pdf/Er75.pdf>

**21. Investing in Asia’s Urban Future**

**Date:** February 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB); German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

The conference gathered high-level officials from national and local governments, civil society, business, academia, and international organizations to discuss ways to support sustainable urban development and continue addressing poverty in Asian cities. Specifically, the conference aimed to provide a platform for exchange among national and local governments, the private sector and civil society from urban areas in Asia, the ADB, and German and other international cooperation agencies. It also sought to formulate strategic priorities and goals for development financing in the area of urban development in Asia and to reach an agreement on the establishment of an Asian Cities Development Initiative between cities, governments, and donors.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/asia-urban/default.asp>

**22. 3rd Roundtable on Managing for Development Results**

**Date:** February 5–8, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank; hosted by the Government of Vietnam; sponsored by the African Development Bank, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development’s Development Assistance Committee; Inter-American Development Bank; International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Development Programme, and World Bank

Government officials and development experts from more than 40 developing countries and from donor agencies, private companies, and NGOs concluded their third Roundtable on Managing for Development Results with a call for stronger action to improve the number and quality of development results achieved with countries’ own public funds and with international aid. The Hanoi Roundtable reaffirmed the importance of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness—a high-level commitment made in 2005 that set out an ambitious international agenda to improve aid practices and effectiveness that was designed to help developing countries achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Central to this agenda is that all countries and donors should improve their management of resources to achieve better, verifiable development results, guided by a commitment to mutual accountability.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mfdr.org/RT3/>

**23. General Forum of the Solidarity for Asian Peoples Advocacy**

**Date:** February 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Solidarity for Asian Peoples Advocacy (SAPA); organized by FORUM-ASIA; Southeast Asian Committee for Advocacy; Migrant Forum in Asia; Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia; Focus on the Global South; Third World Network

The SAPA concluded its 2007 general forum with a set of clear action plans on effective advocacy for Asian civil society and people's movements. The two-day forum was attended by more than 100 representatives from national and regional NGOs, people's organizations, and trade unions, who discussed cross-sectoral challenges for the Asian civil society movement in Asia. Participants considered strategies for action, engagement, and advocacy with intergovernmental bodies. Issues addressed included democracy and human rights; sustainable development and the environment; globalization, trade, finance, and labor; and peace and human security. Militarization and nuclear weapons proliferation were also discussed, as was the lack of a regional human rights mechanism at the subregional level.

The forum also provided an opportunity for meetings of the SAPA Working Groups (WG) on ASEAN and on migration and labor. Following consultations on February 2–3, a new SAPA WG was created to focus on the UN human rights mechanism, and a SAPA WG on Northeast Asia was also launched to strengthen the campaign initiated by Peace Boat in Japan to promote peace and human security in the region.

**For information, see:** [http://www.iidnet.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=165&Itemid=86](http://www.iidnet.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=165&Itemid=86)

#### **24. Fostering International Dialogue on Korean Security, 4th Meeting**

**Date:** February 9, 2007

**Location:** London, UK

**Organizers/Supporters:** International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS); support from the Korea Foundation

The IISS hosted the fourth workshop of its ongoing Korean security program, which provides a forum for frank discussion and debate among a broad group of government officials, academics, and journalists from numerous countries engaged in Korean security issues. The workshop provided a timely opportunity to analyze the dynamics of the Six-Party Talks, which had restarted the previous day. Topics examined during the workshop included the evolution of US and Chinese policy toward North Korea after its nuclear test in October 2006, the efficacy of sanctions, the possibility of a regional security architecture emerging in Northeast Asia in the wake of the Six-Party Talks, the role and utility of the United Nations, and how Korean security may be affected by the internal politics of each of the Six-Party states.

**For information, see:** <http://www.iiss.org/programmes/non-proliferation-and-disarmament/recent-non-proliferation-conferences/korean-security-dialogue-2007/>

#### **25. 3rd CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Export Controls (XCXG)**

**Date:** February 9–10, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); CSCAP Korea, USCSCAP, CSCAP Japan; Japan Institute of International Affairs

The XCXG was created to assess national export control programs, identify vulnerabilities, and develop recommendations. In 2007, some 37 participants from 13 CSCAP member committees and other institutions attended. The meeting began with a review of developments in the global nonproliferation regime. Some of the key issues included the North Korean missile and nuclear weapons tests in 2006, the controversy surrounding Iran's nuclear program, international nuclear cooperation with India, the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism signed by the United States and Russia, regional efforts to support nonproliferation norms, UN Security Council Resolution 1540 and its implications, and the role of customs in enforcing export controls.

The XCXG is part of the broader CSCAP WMD Study Group, which is developing an *Asia Pacific Handbook and Action Plan to Prevent the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass*

*Destruction*. The XCXG is developing the chapter on export controls, and participants also discussed language and principles for their chapter.

**For information, see:** [http://www.cscap.ca/Export\\_Controls\\_EG.html](http://www.cscap.ca/Export_Controls_EG.html)

**26. East Asian Democracy and Political Development in China**

**Date:** February 9–10, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore; Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

How China's political system evolves in the next decade or so is a critical factor that will shape China's own future and define its place in the world in the 21st century. After a sustained period of rapid economic growth and social transformation, political and institutional pressures are building up for real reforms in the political arena. The leadership has started to address the issue of political reform, but will China democratize in the near future? This conference attempted to address this question by first examining lessons learned from Southeast Asian experiences with democratization. Scholars from the region and China began by looking at broad perspectives on democratization and at the experiences of democratization in Thailand, Myanmar, Indonesia, Vietnam, Taiwan, and South Korea. The discussions then turned to political reform and democratic change in China. The conference resulted in a 2008 publication, *East Asian Democracy and Political Changes in China: A New Goose Flying?*

**For information, see:** <http://www.eai.nus.edu.sg/List%20of%20EAI%20Conferences%202007.doc>

**27. 9th Asian Security Conference**

**Date:** February 9–10, 2007

**Location:** New Delhi, India

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute for Defence Studies & Analyses

The Asian Security Conference is an annual event that draws participants from over 35 countries around the world. The 2007 conference focused on the evolving security dynamic in Southeast Asia. The conference aimed to highlight a wide spectrum of security issues that confront the region and to examine these issues in the broader context of their ramifications for Asia Pacific in particular and the world in general.

The meeting featured six sessions: perspectives on Southeast Asian security; terrorism and the rise of religious fundamentalism; energy and maritime security issues (including disaster management and civilian nuclear energy); regionalism and multilateralism in Southeast Asia; Southeast Asia and external powers (China, the United States, Japan, and others); and India and Southeast Asia. The proceedings of this conference were published in book form.

**For information, see:** <http://www.idsa.in/9ascmain.htm>

**28. 5th CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Countering the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD Study Group)**

**Date:** February 11–13, 2007

**Location:** San Francisco, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); CSCAP Korea and USCSCAP; funding from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, US Department of Energy, US Department of State, and the Ploughshares Fund

The study group meeting was attended by more than 80 people from 20 CSCAP member committees and other institutions, including more than 25 government officials and several UN agencies. In addition, 25 Pacific Forum Young Leaders were also present. All participants took part in their private capacities.



The meeting began with a review of developments in the global nonproliferation regime and a discussion on the rising demand for nuclear energy. The next session examined the Additional Protocol, which grew out of the discovery after the first Persian Gulf War that Iraq was considerably further along in its nuclear weapons program than the rest of the world suspected. The next session was to deal with Korean Peninsula developments, but news of an agreement in the Six-Party Talks came just as the session began and specifics were not yet revealed, so participants were unable to determine what it might mean. The second day of the meeting was devoted to a study of UN Security Council Resolution 1540.

**For information, see:** [http://www.cscap.ca/WMD\\_SG.html](http://www.cscap.ca/WMD_SG.html)

## **29. Nuclear North Korea and the Future of Northeast Asian Security**

**Date:** February 13, 2007

**Location:** San Francisco, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Society of Northern California; Asia Foundation; Business Executives for National Security; UC Berkeley; Japan Society of Northern California; National Committee on North Korea; Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center of Stanford University; USF Center for the Pacific Rim; World Affairs Council of Northern California

North Korea's emergence as a nuclear state poses dramatic new challenges to the Asia Pacific region. Thirteen experts from the United States, South Korea, Japan, and China shared their views on what has happened in North Korea in recent years and how the United States and its allies can best respond. Participants examined just how different the interests, perceptions, and strategies are among the parties to the negotiations—especially China, South Korea, and Japan. They discussed what concessions the Bush administration might be willing to offer North Korea, what the October 2006 nuclear test did to the credibility or effectiveness of South Korea's "sunshine policy," how much leverage the PRC holds over the North, and what line Japan's new administration under Shinzo Abe was likely to take.

**For information, see:** [http://www.asiasociety.org/visit/sanfrancisco/nuclear\\_nk\\_event.html](http://www.asiasociety.org/visit/sanfrancisco/nuclear_nk_event.html)

## **30. Regional Workshop on Capacity-Building for Development of Bond Markets in ESCAP Member States**

**Date:** February 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); funded by the Government of South Korea

This two-day workshop attracted delegates from Bangladesh, Japan, Mongolia, Pakistan, South Korea, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, including policymakers from the region's central banks, ministries of finance, and treasury departments, as well as representatives of public and private institutions. As part of the workshop, participants shared experiences and opinions on the development of bond markets, which could mobilize resources efficiently and provide low-cost capital necessary for sustained economic development.

The development of corporate bond markets in local currencies will facilitate the raising of long-term and large-scale funds, the experts stressed. They also agreed that the issuance of bonds in a country's local currency would reduce dependence on foreign currency bonds and could contribute to the elimination of excessive currency mismatches, a common problem in the region.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2007/feb/g01.asp>

**31. 3R Workshop on Effective Waste Management and Resource Use Efficiency in East and Southeast Asia**

**Date:** February 15–16, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB); United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; United Nations Centre for Regional Development; Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

As national and municipal governments in the region struggle to cope with the waste by-products of rapidly rising economic production and consumption, several international efforts have arisen to address these challenges. The countries of the G8 established in 2004 the global “3R Initiative” to encourage application of the principles of “reduce, reuse, and recycle” in waste management. At a 3R Ministerial Conference in 2005, the ADB agreed to prepare a review of these issues in the Asia Pacific context as an input to improved decision making.

Two subregional consultation meetings were then held—the first, in 2006, focused on South Asia, while this second workshop focused on the situation in East and Southeast Asia. The meeting allowed government and private sector representatives to review and share experiences on key issues relating to resource efficiency and effective waste management, including urban and post-consumer waste management; waste management in industry; investment opportunities for improved waste management; international trade in waste products; and national strategic planning for achieving the 3Rs.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Effective-Waste-Management/default.asp>

**32. Emerging Asian Regionalism: Ten Years after the Crisis**

**Date:** February 19–20, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This workshop aimed to gather the study team for the project on Emerging Asian Regionalism, comprised of ADB staff and external consultants. Another aim of the workshop was to finalize the structure and content of a related report that was to be launched at the ADB Annual Meeting in May 2008. At the end of the workshop, participants had familiarized themselves with the structure and content of the ADB report related to the chapters on “Turning Crisis into Opportunities,” “Deepening Asian Integration,” “Managing Macroeconomic Interdependence,” “Harnessing Productivity and Competitiveness,” and other key elements of regional dynamism. They also identified background and analytical papers in support of the analysis conducted in the ADB report.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Emerging-Asian-Regionalism/default.asp>

**33. Friends of the Helsinki Process Workshop on Human Trafficking: Enhancing Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships and International Cooperation**

**Date:** February 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Chiang Mai, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Government of Thailand

Thailand has attached great importance to promoting multistakeholder partnership in the fight against human trafficking. It has served as the facilitator country for the roadmap on human trafficking of the Friends of the Helsinki Process, a forum initiated by Finland and Tanzania to enhance multistakeholder cooperation in solving global problems. In this connection, Thailand hosted a workshop aimed at achieving the following objectives: (1) to explore the complexity

of combating human trafficking in terms of policy implementation; (2) to strengthen the international dialogue on human trafficking by exchanging national experiences on development and implementation of national plans of action; (3) to raise awareness on the threat of human trafficking to human rights and human security; and (4) to promote international and regional multistakeholder partnership. The workshop brought together approximately 100 experts, including senior officials and representatives of academia, NGOs, international organizations, and Thailand's government agencies.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/35.php?id=17943>

**34. Advancing East Asian Economic Integration: Building the Institutional and Financial Foundations of Economic Growth and Integration in East Asia**

**Date:** February 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Fiscal Policy Research Institute, Ministry of Finance, Thailand; Australian National University, Canberra; East Asian Bureau of Economic Research

Highlighting critical issues and challenges faced by East Asian countries in pushing forward regional economic integration and suggesting key policy recommendations for action were among the main objectives of this meeting, which was attended by high-level government officials, business leaders, and academics from East Asia and Australia. Speakers shared their views during four sessions on a range of major policy issues facing East Asian countries.

Session one provided strategies for micro-policy management and relevant institution building in East Asia. Session two focused on lessons learned from the financial crisis that erupted a decade ago and its implications for economic cooperation and financial integration in East Asia. Also in that session, the participants discussed micro-policy measures to reform East Asia's financial sector, such as financial safety nets. Session three looked at key progress in and potential for East Asian capital market integration. The final session proposed future directions, policy formulations, and strategies to promote East Asian economic integration.

**For information, see:** [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)

**35. 3rd ROK-US-Japan Security Workshop**

**Date:** February 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Honolulu, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Korea Institute for Defense Analyses; Institute for Defense Analyses; National Institute for Defense Studies

The ROK-US-Japan Security Workshop is conducted as a Track 1.5 meeting. Research institutes of the three countries host the workshop, and defense ministry and joint chiefs of staff working-level officers from each country participate in the workshop. The 2007 workshop was held at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Hawaii. Participants gathered for extensive discussions on trilateral cooperation to deal with nonconventional security threats, including natural disasters.

**For information, see:** [http://kida.re.kr/eng/cooperation/cooperation\\_03.htm#07](http://kida.re.kr/eng/cooperation/cooperation_03.htm#07)  
<http://www.ida.org/upload/research%20notes/07-extendingtrilateralcoop.pdf>

**36. 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

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies; Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace

Mainland Southeast Asia states have identified the difficulty of controlling their borders as a major security concern. Forty participants from Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Lao PDR, New Zealand, Thailand, the United States, Uruguay, and Vietnam participated in this conference, examining how various levels of interagency officials in the governments of Southeast Asia nations coordinate and share information to delineate and control borders and to deal with all forms of trafficking challenges—human, drug, weapons, animal, as well as terrorist transits and disease control.

Breakout group discussions specifically addressed management techniques, procedures, technology, and organizations related to efforts conducted by governments and NGOs in mainland Southeast Asia. There was general consensus that sufficient political will and government processes were in place to address these threats, but the lack of financial and technical resources were the primary inhibitors to better threat management and mitigation. A follow-on FY2008 event will be held with a focus on maritime borders and related challenges.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apcss.org/core/Conference/CR\\_ES/Cambodia%20Exec%20Sum%2020Mar%2007.doc](http://www.apcss.org/core/Conference/CR_ES/Cambodia%20Exec%20Sum%2020Mar%2007.doc)

## **March**

### **37. 10th Academic Forum on East Asian Economy (2nd East Asia-Pacific Forum)**

**Date:** March 1, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA); China Development Institute (CDI); Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research (CIER); Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP)

NIRA held the 10th Academic Forum on East Asian Economy as part of the East Asia-Pacific Forum. This meeting, the successor to the Conference on the South China Economy, considers the potential for the development of an East Asian Community and is co-hosted by NIRA, CDI, CIER, and KIEP almost every year. In its early days, the forum provided an opportunity for researchers from Japan, China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan to hold discussions based on a strong conviction that increasing interdependence in the South China Economic Area would act as a driving force for the establishment of an East Asian Community. South Korea has participated since the sixth forum, and the scope of the forum has broadened to encompass closer economic relations in Northeast Asia. Discussions at this year's forum focused on three regions—South China, Taiwan, and Northeast Asia. Detailed consideration was given to the present status and specific problems of each region, and the status of the movement toward an East Asian Community was the subject of comprehensive discussions.

**For information, see:** <http://www.nira.or.jp/past/newse/events/forum/index.html>

### **38. East and Southeast Asia MDG Forum**

**Date:** March 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Supporters:** Government of Vietnam; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; United Nations Development Programme; Asian Development Bank

Representatives from government, NGOs, media, and international organizations gathered to discuss progress toward meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the East and Southeast Asian region. A high-level panel began by reflecting on the major findings of the second MDG Report; specific strategies pursued by countries to achieve the MDGs; policies, measures, and instruments adopted to improve service delivery; and strategies for multistakeholder collaboration on development strategies for achieving the MDGs. A plenary session focused on ongoing efforts to improve the effectiveness of the UN in support of the MDGs, while six breakout

sessions were organized around themes contained in the Millennium Declaration and MDGs that are of high priority for East and Southeast Asia. Each breakout session developed a plan of action, and a consolidated plan was formulated on day two of the forum.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mdgasiapacific.org/index.php?q=node/95>

**39. The Expansion of China and India: Impact and Consequences for Japan, UK, and the World Economy**

**Date:** March 2, 2007

**Location:** London, UK

**Organizers/Supporters:** Chatham House; Japan Economic Foundation

This workshop focused on the expansion of China and India and its implications for Japan, the United Kingdom, and the global economy. By bringing the Japanese perspective to Europe, it was possible to generate a very useful exchange of ideas and experience. The aim of the workshop was to devise key lessons for Japan and Europe on how to best benefit from and work with these new rising economic powers and how to maintain a competitive edge. Panel discussions focused on trade, investment, and development strategies of India and China; the sustainability of India's and China's current growth rates; and the impact and implications for Europe and Japan.

**For information, see:** [http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/files/7143\\_020307prog.pdf](http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/files/7143_020307prog.pdf)

**40. Non-Traditional Security Challenges in Asia: What Role for Multilateralism?**

**Date:** March 5, 2007

**Location:** New York, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Consortium of Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia); International Peace Academy; Ford Foundation; Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University

This meeting was part of the third phase of the Ford-IDSS Project on Non-Traditional Security Issues. The project is funded by the Ford Foundation and led by the IDSS of Singapore. NTS-Asia is a network of research institutes in Asia that aims to advance networking among scholars and analysts working on nontraditional security issues. The meeting began with a session on threats to human security, followed by sessions on transnational armed groups and the UN and regional organization in Asia. Speakers included members of the consortium.

**For information, see:** [http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference\\_reports/NTS-IPA%20report\\_050307.pdf](http://www.idss.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/NTS-IPA%20report_050307.pdf)

**41. Public Diplomacy in Japan and the Asia Pacific**

**Date:** March 6, 2007

**Location:** Canberra, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Australian National University, Crawford School of Economics and Government; supported by the Toshiba International Foundation and the Embassy of Japan in Canberra

The public diplomacy research group at the Crawford School of Economics and Government hosted a conference on public diplomacy in Japan and the Asia Pacific. Various scholars in Japan and Australia presented their papers on the public diplomacy of Japan, Australia, China, and the United States. Participants also included diplomats, government officials, and other professionals in Canberra. The conference was one of the first research-based conferences on public diplomacy—an increasingly important policy area in international relations. To provide a framework for the conference, Richard Woolcott (former secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia) and Shinichi Kitaoka (University of Tokyo; former Japanese ambassador to the United Nations) gave keynote addresses on the role of public diplomacy.

**For information, see:** [http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/research\\_units/ajrc/conferences.php](http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/research_units/ajrc/conferences.php)

**42. Expert Workshop on Security Sector Reform: Lessons to Be Learned from Northeast and Southeast Asia**

**Date:** March 7–9, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung; Institute for Strategic and Development Studies; Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces

Security sector reform (SSR) has become an important feature in national and international politics and one that has attracted the attention of scholars, policymakers, and practitioners alike. Research and relevant policy discourses on this subject have rapidly expanded since the late 1990s, yet with a strong bias toward the situation in Africa, Europe, and Latin America. There had been no comprehensive, comparative study on SSR in East Asia, despite the fact that countries such as Indonesia, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand had implemented, or were implementing, SSR programs in the broader context of democratic transition. The objective of this workshop, and of the publication resulting from it, was to contribute to developing a better understanding of Northeast and Southeast Asian experiences in SSR and how these experiences can inform the regional and global discourse on SSR.

**For information, see:** [http://www.dcaf.ch/news/\\_diarydetailskms.cfm?lng=en&id=29095&nav1=2](http://www.dcaf.ch/news/_diarydetailskms.cfm?lng=en&id=29095&nav1=2)

**43. Regional Thematic Working Group on Migration, Including Human Trafficking**

**Date:** March 8, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

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

ESCAP and IOM are the current co-chairs of this working group, 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. This was the first of four meetings held in 2007.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2007/jun/g25.asp>

**44. Living with China: Dynamic Interactions between Regional States and China**

**Date:** March 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University

Much of the debate regarding the “China problem” has been not only Western centric but also heavily theory driven. There have been conspicuously few regional voices in the debate, despite the fact that they are arguably most qualified to discuss their relationship with a rising China. Accordingly, more than a dozen scholars from East Asia, South Asia, and the United States gathered to discuss the interactions between China and its neighbors. The discussions focused on five major points: (1) How have regional states reacted to some of China’s major policy initiatives or behaviors? (2) Have there been major turning points or merely minor adjustments in regional states’ policies toward China? (3) How do regional states’ policy elites assess their own countries’ China policy? (4) How has China reacted to some of the major policy changes or initiatives from regional states? (5) What are the implications for the region of these dynamic interactions with China?

**For information, see:** [http://www.ntu.edu.sg/rsis/publications/conference\\_reports/Living%20with%20China.pdf](http://www.ntu.edu.sg/rsis/publications/conference_reports/Living%20with%20China.pdf)

**45. OECD/UNDESA/ESCAP Workshop on Developing Sustainability Strategies in Asia**

**Date:** March 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA); United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Rapid economic growth in Asia Pacific has come at a heavy environmental cost, and countries in the region urgently need to develop policies with a long-term perspective. This workshop reviewed national sustainable development strategies in countries in Asia Pacific and their relationship to national development plans and poverty reduction strategies with a view to better integration. Sessions focused on sustainability and development in Asia Pacific, governance approaches to national sustainable development strategies in Asia Pacific, and the role of stakeholders in sustainability strategies. This workshop drew regional participants from Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Thailand, Tuvalu, and Vietnam. They joined colleagues from the 30 industrialized member countries of the OECD and representatives of UNEP, the UNDP, the IMF, the World Bank, and APEC.

**For information, see:** <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/34/61/37762264.pdf>

**46. Asia Pacific Agenda Project (APAP) Research Meeting: The Development of Trilateral Cooperation among East Asia, North America, and Europe in Global Governance—Prospects and Challenges**

**Date:** March 10–11, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Japan Center for International Exchange

APAP is a multinational consortium of policy research organizations that works to strengthen networks and enhance joint research and dialogue among institutions and intellectual leaders in the Asia Pacific region. APAP research in FY2006 focused on regional community building in East Asia and the ways in which East Asia, North America, and Europe can work together to address pressing global problems. There has been growing momentum behind the formation of a regional community in East Asia. But at the same time, the incredible diversity and heightened nationalist sentiments in the region have led many to realize that the path to community building will not be a smooth one. In light of these developments, this project examined how national and regional governance might be improved through East Asian regional initiatives and how this can foster stronger cooperation with other regions of the world and ultimately contribute to better global governance. The papers were published in 2008 as *East Asia at a Crossroads*.

**For information, see:** [www.jcie.or.jp/thinknet/apap/trilatcoop.html](http://www.jcie.or.jp/thinknet/apap/trilatcoop.html)

**47. Enhancement of Safety of Navigation and Environmental Protection of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore**

**Date:** March 13–14, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Co-hosted by the Maritime Institute of Malaysia; Nippon Foundation; S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University; Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Indonesia

This symposium brought together about 200 people from the littoral states, Japan, and China. Participants discussed estimated future traffic values of the straits with cost-benefit analyses of necessary projects such as the maintenance of aids to navigation. At the end of the symposium, the host organizations announced a consensus document that called for the establishment of a “Malacca Straits Fund” to provide a mechanism for shipping companies and other users of the straits to voluntarily provide financial support. The four host organizations are going to present the consensus document at the next International Maritime Organization meeting in Singapore.  
**For information, see:** <http://www.sof.or.jp/en/monthly/pdf/200703.pdf#page=24>

**48. ASEAN+3 Research Group Meeting**

**Date:** March 15, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN

The ASEAN+3 Research Group was proposed by Japan at the Informal ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Deputies’ Meeting in November 2002 and agreed upon by ASEAN+3 in August 2003. The research group aims to explore ways to further strengthen financial cooperation and promote financial stability in the region by soliciting academic input from researchers and research institutes in ASEAN+3 countries.

There were two themes on the 2006–2007 agenda: (1) Toward Greater Financial Stability in the Asia Region: Exploring Steps to Create Regional Monetary Units, and (2) Financial Conglomeration in the East Asian Region: Recent Trends and Implications for Regional Financial Market Development. The findings of these studies were presented at this March meeting in Tokyo.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

**49. Energy Security in the North Pacific**

**Date:** March 20, 2007

**Location:** Honolulu, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** East-West Center

This conference was designed to provide independent insight on the most pressing strategic issues facing the North Pacific energy industry and to facilitate productive, off-the-record discussions on significant issues in the energy business among leading energy experts and the industry’s top executives. The conference was expected to provide a thought-provoking vision of the strategic issues affecting the energy business. The meeting was part of collaborative research activities with the Korea Energy Economics Institute, South Korea’s national think tank on energy policy.

**For information, see:** [http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class\\_call=view&conf\\_ID=995&mode=view](http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class_call=view&conf_ID=995&mode=view)

**50. High-Level Policy Dialogue on Regional Cooperation for Infrastructure Development and Financing in Asia-Pacific**

**Date:** March 21–22, 2007

**Location:** New Delhi, India

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); Research and Information System for Developing Countries

This policy dialogue was a follow-up to the 2006 Jakarta Declaration on Enhancing Regional Cooperation in Infrastructure Development. Infrastructure plays a crucial role in enhancing and sustaining economic growth and the pace of poverty reduction. Although the Asia Pacific region has made remarkable gains on both these fronts over the years, inadequate infrastructure will be



a major constraint to its continuation. The main objectives of the policy dialogue were to discuss the findings of a study by India on regional cooperation for infrastructure financing in Asia, to assess investment needs and priorities of ESCAP member countries, to identify issues relating to infrastructure development and financing and discuss how they could best be addressed, to draw lessons from global and regional players; and to explore innovative regional mechanisms for financing infrastructure in the Asia Pacific region. The meeting was attended by ministers, senior government officials, private sector CEOs, and academics and other experts.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unescap.org/pdd/calendar/infrastructure/infrastructure\\_mar07.asp](http://www.unescap.org/pdd/calendar/infrastructure/infrastructure_mar07.asp)

**51. Regional Workshop on Mainstreaming Environment for Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Growth in Asia and the Pacific**

**Date:** March 26–28, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Environment Programme; in partnership with Asian Development Bank and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

The rapid economic growth in Asia Pacific in the past decades has put enormous pressure on the environment. Poverty as a direct result of environmental degradation has been identified as a major obstacle toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the region. A number of strategies have been implemented at the national level to address the economic, social, and environmental developments, but the environment pillar has been weak due to inadequate consideration and budgetary provisions. The environment needs to be mainstreamed into the decision-making process. Key experts from national governments, civil society organizations, business, UN agencies, and donor communities attended this three-day workshop to learn from different country experiences and traditions in mainstreaming environment into national development processes, budgets, sectoral plans, and subnational processes. Participants drafted concrete recommendations and action plans for mainstreaming poverty reduction and sustainable growth in selected countries in the coming year.

**For information, see:** <http://www.rrcap.unep.org/projects/nsds/press.cfm>

**52. Economic Reform and Regional Cooperation in East Asia**

**Date:** March 27, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** East Asia Bureau for Economic Research; hosted by China Development Research Foundation

Roughly 30 experts from China, Australia, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines, representing government, academia, business, and media, gathered as part of a conference series on “Institutional Strategies for Improving the Microeconomic Foundations: Country Policy Meetings.” The meeting began with perspectives on micro policy reform and regional integration. The first session looked at regional experiences with institutional foundations and economic reform. Discussions next turned to the Chinese experience in economic reform and finally examined the implications for regional cooperation in APEC.

**For information, see:** [http://www.eaber.org/intranet/documents/89/876/PEK\\_Conference\\_Summary\\_2007.pdf](http://www.eaber.org/intranet/documents/89/876/PEK_Conference_Summary_2007.pdf)

**53. Politics of Regret: Collective Memory in Northeast Asia**

**Date:** March 27–28, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Hiroshima Peace Institute

This was the final workshop of a two-year research project that brought together US and Northeast Asian researchers to explore the dynamic interplay between worldviews, ethos, and memories of the peoples of Asia who are still grappling with the past glories and wounds. This project's broader purpose is to clarify current debates and agreements about the past, within and between nations, and to assess how the findings bear on the current state of collective memory scholarship. Behind these problems is the cultural and historical context in which the field of collective memory now plays itself out.

**For information, see:** <http://serv.peace.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/English/>  
[http://harp.lib.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/bitstream/harp/959/2/news28\\_e.pdf](http://harp.lib.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/bitstream/harp/959/2/news28_e.pdf)

**54. Meeting between the High-Level Task Force on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter and Civil Society and Other Stakeholders**

**Date:** March 27–29, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN

At the 11th ASEAN Summit, held in 2005, ASEAN Leaders signed the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the Establishment of the ASEAN Charter. The declaration, among other things, tasked the ASEAN foreign ministers with establishing a high-level task force to carry out the drafting of the ASEAN Charter, which was to be based both on the declaration and on the recommendations of the Eminent Persons Group on the ASEAN Charter. The task force held a series of meetings between January and October 2007 and included one meeting with civil society and other stakeholders in order to understand their concerns.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/3-2007.htm>

**55. Expert Group Meeting on Disability in the Pacific: Strengthening Implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework**

**Date:** March 28–30, 2007

**Location:** Nadi, Fiji

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

The Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-Free and Rights-Based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific (BMF) was adopted in 2002 by 28 governments and is the regional policy guideline for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003–2012. It promotes a paradigm shift from a charity-based approach to a rights-based approach to disability.

This meeting considered initiatives taken in Pacific countries to implement the BMF, addressed issues related to disability, prepared a consolidated input from the Pacific to the Mid-Term Review of the BMF (September 2007), and considered ways to improve regional coordination. In addition to experts from countries in the Pacific, representatives of the UN High Commission for Human Rights, Pacific Islands Forum, and the Pacific Disability Forum led discussions as well. Participants provided summaries of the implementation of the BMF in their respective countries.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/epoc/meetings/egm%2Ddisability/index.asp>

## **April**

### **56. Workshop on Aid Effectiveness and Gender Equality in Southeast Asia**

**Date:** April 2–3, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** World Bank; Department for International Development, Government of the United Kingdom; United Nations Development Fund for Women; hosted by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee

The purpose of the workshop on aid effectiveness and gender equality in Southeast Asia was to deepen mutual understanding among development practitioners of the challenges and opportunities for implementation of gender equality objectives through the Paris Declaration in Southeast Asia. The two-day workshop brought together about 40 development practitioners—a mix of government, civil society, and donor representatives—to reflect on the opportunities and constraints they face in their different working environments. Workshop outputs included recommendations on how to strengthen the achievement of gender equality objectives within specific aid effectiveness initiatives discussed at the workshop. The workshop also sought to contribute to other social policy and aid effectiveness initiatives, including the Asia Regional Aid Effectiveness Action Plan.

**For information, see:** <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:21276397~menuPK:64256349~pagePK:2524753~piPK:51421526~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

### **57. 5th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Asia Pacific Leadership Forum on HIV/AIDS and Development**

**Date:** April 2–3, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

The Asia Pacific Leadership Forum on HIV/AIDS and Development (APLF) was established in 2002, stemming from the first Asia Pacific Ministerial Meeting hosted by the Australian government in Melbourne, Australia, in 2001. The UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Asia and Pacific is tasked with managing the APLF, while a Steering Committee comprised of Asia Pacific leaders from government, the private sector, and NGOs provides strategic guidance to the APLF team. This was the fifth meeting of that steering committee.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/4-2007.htm>  
<http://www.aplfaids.com/index.php?p=home>

### **58. Regional Meeting for Asian Global Compact Focal Points**

**Date:** April 2–4, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; Global Compact; Fundació Forum Universal de les Cultures

The UN Global Compact is a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with 10 universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labor, environment, and anticorruption. By doing so, business, as a primary agent driving globalization, can help ensure that markets, commerce, technology, and finance advance in ways that benefit economies and societies everywhere. This meeting concentrated on enabling a real commitment to internalize the 10 principles and to contribute to the broader development goals of the United Nations, and understanding the value of assessing and

sharing of information on progress toward those goals. The workshop was intended to apply both to small companies and to multinational firms.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/agc\\_focalpt.asp](http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/agc_focalpt.asp)

**59. Meeting of the NEAT Working Group on East Asian Financial Cooperation**

**Date:** April 7–8, 2007

**Location:** Shanghai, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT)

This NEAT working group meeting was attended by scholars and experts from 12 of the ASEAN+3 countries. (Brunei was absent.) The meeting consisted of panel discussions on five themes: (1) an assessment of the latest development of East Asian financial cooperation; (2) post-Chiang Mai mechanism: objectives and roadmap; (3) East Asian bond market: domestic building and regional cooperation; (4) institution building and risk prevention in regional financial cooperation; and (5) other aspects of financial cooperation. The summary report is available online.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat\\_05wg02.pdf](http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_05wg02.pdf)

**60. Asian Economic Panel Meeting**

**Date:** April 9–10, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Global Economy and Development Program, Brookings Institution; 21st Century Center of Excellence at Keio University; Earth Institute, Columbia University; Korea Institute for International Economic Policy; Institute of Governmental Affairs, University of California, Davis

The Asian Economic Panel, founded in April 2001, brings together prominent economists from around the world who gather twice yearly to discuss economic issues that are of vital importance to Asian economies, collectively or individually. The Brookings Institution's Global Economy and Development Group hosted two days of roundtable discussion on issues of vital importance to Asian countries. The 2007 focus was on the 10-year anniversary of the Asian financial crisis with special sessions on Asian trade and Asia's new economic giants, China and India. Among the presentation topics were Indonesia's meltdown and slow recovery; an ASEAN perspective on East Asian regionalism; whether Chinese, Japanese, and Korean exports are diverted in the major regional trading blocks; and a structural and institutional perspective on China's exchange rate and external imbalance.

**For information, see:** <http://www.brookings.edu/global/asian-economic-panel.aspx>

**61. 2nd Northeast Asia Trilateral Forum**

**Date:** April 15–16, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Nikkei Inc.; Xinhua News Agency; JoongAng Ilbo

The 2nd Northeast Asia Forum was sponsored by three media organizations—Japan's Nikkei Inc. (which publishes the daily *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*), the publishers of South Korea's *JoongAng Ilbo*, and China's Xinhua News Agency—and convened experts for in-depth discussions on the forms of energy cooperation that Japan, South Korea, and China might undertake, arguing that promoting practical cooperation in the energy field is not only essential for the three nations' energy policies but would also help to build trust among them. Some participants expressed interest in the idea of a Northeast Asian "energy and environment community," and there was also a proposal that the three nations could build up joint oil reserves to enable them to serve as a source of shared supply in times of emergency.

**For information, see:** <http://www.japanecho.co.jp/sum/2007/340310.html>

**62. 1st CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Oceania**

**Date:** April 15–17, 2007

**Location:** Wellington, New Zealand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); CSCAP New Zealand; CSCAP Australia; CSCAP Indonesia; CSCAP Papua New Guinea; CSCAP Philippines; and CSCAP Thailand

At the December 2006 CSCAP Steering Committee meeting in New Zealand, a number of CSCAP members expressed concern at the crisis of governance unfolding in several states in Oceania—e.g., the breakdown of law and order in the Solomon Islands in April 2006, the rioting in Tonga in November 2006, and the military coup carried out in Fiji just days before that meeting. In light of these concerns, a Study Group on Oceania was created to address the critical governance and security situation of these Oceanic states and the implications for the Asia Pacific region. Specific issues included the consequences of resource exploitation, public management of disorder in times of political transition, and relations with other Asia Pacific states. A report on this meeting is available online.

**For information, see:** [http://www.cscap.ca/Oceania\\_SG.html](http://www.cscap.ca/Oceania_SG.html)

**63. US-Japan-ROK Relations for the 21st Century**

**Date:** April 16–18, 2007

**Location:** Honolulu, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Pacific Forum CSIS; Institute for Defense Analysis; Korea Economic Institute; Academy of East Asian Studies, Sungkyunkwan University

The United States, Japan, and South Korea should have a strong trilateral relationship. The three countries are advanced industrial economies whose trade, investment, and commerce are deeply intertwined. They share fundamental values—respect for human rights, democracy, and the rule of law—and all three governments share regional security concerns. The societies themselves have become deeply intermingled. And yet, tensions between the three countries now seem to prevail over shared interests.

It is tempting to argue that relations are fraying because of very particular circumstances: the specific policies and actions taken by the leadership in the three capitals. Are the problems in the various bilateral and trilateral relationships really attributable to the short-term policies of each government? Or are there other, more deep-rooted, structural, and long-term factors at work? If so, what can be done to remedy them? To answer those questions, 46 experts and 20 Pacific Forum Young Leaders gathered to explore US-Japan-ROK relations in the 21st century.

**For information, see:** [http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights\\_v07n05.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights_v07n05.pdf)

**64. APEC Second Track Dialogue**

**Date:** April 17, 2007

**Location:** Canberra and Melbourne, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Australian Institute of International Affairs

The APEC Second Track Leadership Development Program was developed by the Australian Institute of International Affairs to meet three goals: to build capacity among current and emerging leaders in international relations in the region; to strengthen and foster international ties among counterpart institutes of international affairs; and to contribute to progress on key regional policy issues through the current areas of focus for APEC.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apec.org.au/docs/07\\_AIIA\\_ASTPD.pdf](http://www.apec.org.au/docs/07_AIIA_ASTPD.pdf)

**65. 4th ASEAN Leadership Forum: Shaping ASEAN's Future**

**Date:** April 17–18, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI); ASEAN Secretariat; Center for Strategic and International Studies

ASLI and the ASEAN Secretariat initiated the ASEAN Leadership Forum series in 2001 to facilitate interaction among leading public- and private-sector leaders from the United States, China, Japan, Korea, and ASEAN, as well as other global leaders. Since 2007 marks the 40th anniversary of ASEAN's inception, the 2007 ASEAN Leadership Forum brought together key stakeholders in ASEAN's future from business, government, civil society, and academia to discuss the key leadership challenges facing ASEAN over the next 10 years and to search for viable solution to those challenges. Sessions at this conference examined the ASEAN Charter, the regional economic and political trends, the challenges in building the ASEAN social and security community, the challenges facing the next generation of ASEAN's leaders, and women entrepreneurs in ASEAN.

**For information, see:** [http://www.asli.com.my/documents/4th\\_Asean\\_Leadership.pdf](http://www.asli.com.my/documents/4th_Asean_Leadership.pdf)

**66. Energy Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific**

**Date:** April 17–19, 2007

**Location:** Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies; Japan Institute for International Affairs

This conference sought to enhance security cooperation in the Asia Pacific region and establish a forum where collective measures can be taken to promote energy security. More than 40 participants and observers from Australia, China, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Panama, South Korea, Russia, and the United States met to develop a framework for characterizing dimensions of Asia Pacific energy security, to identify areas for coordinating institutional and policy action, to reexamine and reformulate regional approaches to energy management, and to articulate effective strategies for sustained cooperative action. The conference provided a unique venue for robust and candid discussion of various national perspectives and policy options among senior security practitioners and energy experts.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apcss.org/core/Conference/CR\\_ES/OutreachExecRpt-Apr07Energy%20Conf19%20Apr.doc](http://www.apcss.org/core/Conference/CR_ES/OutreachExecRpt-Apr07Energy%20Conf19%20Apr.doc)

**67. 2007 APEC Study Centers Consortium Conference (ASCC)**

**Date:** April 18–20, 2007

**Location:** Melbourne, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

The ASCC 2007 Annual Conference focused on the topic of "Driving Growth—APEC's Destiny." The event was attended by 150 participants from 21 APEC member economies. The meeting consisted of two parts, the first being the APEC Centres Symposium and the second being the Business Program. On the first day, the symposium examined the questions of whether an APEC free trade agreement is feasible, what the gains are from trade facilitation, how to shape APEC, and how to ensure trade security. The following day took up the issues of intellectual property and innovation, aging populations in APEC and the impacts on pensions, and the threat to human health in APEC.

The Business Program examined risks and forecasts for Asian growth, energy and climate change in APEC, the carbon market and emissions trading, global imbalances in financial flows, China's impact on the global economy, and whether the Asia Pacific region can adjust.

**For information, see:** <http://www.apec.org.au/event2.asp?event=47>

**68. Ten Years after the Asian Crisis: Assessing the Economic and Political Landscape in Southeast Asia**

**Date:** April 19–21, 2007

**Location:** Siem Reap, Cambodia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung; Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace

The year 2007 marked the 10th year since the currency crisis hit Asian economies. Ten years later, Asian economies have charted a strong recovery. Vulnerability to a 1997-style financial crisis in the region is much reduced, but have the weaknesses that caused the crisis been successfully tackled? What challenges still lie ahead for Southeast Asian countries to achieve sustainable economic growth and democratic consolidation?

This conference examined the political and economic landscape in Southeast Asia 10 years after the crisis. After taking stock of the current situation, discussions focused on the economic and political changes that were triggered by the crisis, measures taken to address the causes of the crisis, and further challenges that lie ahead for the Southeast Asian region to achieve sustainable growth and democratic consolidation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.cicp.org.kh/download/Program2007/Ten%20Years%20After%20the%20Asian%20Crisis.pdf>  
[http://www.fesspore.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=6&Itemid=13](http://www.fesspore.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=6&Itemid=13)

**69. Boao Forum for Asia 2007: Asia Searching for Win-Win**

**Date:** April 19–22, 2007

**Location:** Boao, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Boao Forum for Asia (BFA)

More than 1,400 politicians, business leaders, and intellectuals from Asia and around the globe attended the BFA 2007 gathering, now in its seventh year. The theme of the conference was “Asia Winning in Today’s Global Economy—Innovation and Sustainable Development.” Topics included energy security in Asia, green issues in the real estate industry, and the evolution of the Asian economy. The meeting witnessed frank discussions and fierce clashes of views. Questions such as property prices in China, corporate social responsibilities of Asian entrepreneurs, drawbacks in the banking system, and environmental protection were heatedly debated. Even the topic of harmonious development in Asia, which was supposed to be smooth going, ended up in severe disagreements. Particularly divisive was the moderator’s question, “Does the rise of China and India make your country feel better or worse?”

**For information, see:** <http://www.boaoforum.com/AC2007/indexE.asp>

**70. Global Climate Policy after 2012: ASEM’s Contribution**

**Date:** April 23, 2007

**Location:** Copenhagen, Denmark

**Organizers/Supporters:** European Environment Agency; Asia-Europe Foundation

A one-day panel discussion gathered experts on climate change policy from the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) countries to discuss the current situation of climate change policies and issues as well as the directions that could be available in light of a post-2012 climate policy regime. It featured about 10 experts with different specializations all sharing inputs on the different perspectives of the challenges and options ahead.

This panel built on the Asia-Europe Environment Forum’s work on climate change strategies by encouraging a multistakeholder discussion in order to enrich and animate the debate on climate change strategies. It addressed issues including the cost and benefits of a

global climate policy, the roles of governments and societies in global climate policy, and the experiences of stakeholders with the clean development mechanism.

**For information, see:** [http://env.asef.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=23&Itemid=32](http://env.asef.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=23&Itemid=32)

**71. 1st CSCAP Study Group on Asia Pacific Cooperation for Energy Security**

**Date:** April 23–24, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); CSCAP India; CSCAP Singapore

The South Asian and East Asian economies' growing demand for energy resources is focusing greater attention on the economic, political, and security concerns over assuring a continuous and adequate supply of energy to these economies at reasonable prices. The unprecedented growth in oil consumption in India and China, in particular, is making the already competitive oil market even more competitive, resulting in a shift in economic interests, political alignments, and regional security strategies. This newly created CSCAP study group is considering how increasing demand for oil in South Asia and East Asia is changing the regional economics of energy supply and demand, how it is renewing the search for alternative sources and more efficient uses of energy, and how Asia Pacific political alignments and regional security strategies are shifting as a result. A report on the first meeting is available online.

**For information, see:** [http://www.cscap.ca/EnergySecurity\\_SG.html](http://www.cscap.ca/EnergySecurity_SG.html)

<http://www.cscap.ca/Energy%20Security%20SG%20-%201st%20Meeting%20Report.pdf>

**72. Collective Security in Space: Asian Perspectives**

**Date:** April 23–24, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Space Policy Institute, George Washington University; cosponsored by the Center for Non-Proliferation of the Monterey Institute of International Studies; Research Institute for Peace and Security; supported by John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Almost 50 space analysts, industry representatives, and government officials from Japan, South Korea, China, India, Malaysia, Australia, and the United States met in Tokyo to discuss their varying perspectives on how best to make space access and use secure for all who would use the space environment for peaceful purposes. This workshop was part of the Space Policy Institute's "Collective Security in Space" project, which seeks to broaden the global community of analysts and government officials discussing the best ways to assure space security and to promote increasing consensus on ways to achieve a space environment free of threats to peaceful uses of space. Workshop papers were to be published.

**For information, see:** <http://www.gwu.edu/~spi/events.html#Tokyo>

**73. 2nd Pacific Regional Workshop on Urban Management**

**Date:** April 23–25, 2007

**Location:** Nadi, Fiji

**Organizers/Supporters:** Pacific Operations Centre, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; in collaboration with Commonwealth Local Government Pacific Project, and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

The 2nd Pacific Regional Workshop on Urban Management was attended by 32 urban management practitioners and experts from 13 Pacific Forum Island countries. Delegates took



the opportunity to share in-country information and experiences on urban management and planning. The first meeting on Pacific urban management was held in 2003, where a “Pacific Urban Agenda” was formulated. The purpose of this workshop was to review progress of the Agenda’s implementation and refine priorities for urban management consistent with the mandate of the Pacific Plan. The workshop resolved that urban poverty can be addressed through better access to land, low-cost housing, water, sanitation, health, and education. It also recognized that the issue of squatter settlements needs to be addressed, as political tension often arises in such instances.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2007/apr/g11.asp>

#### **74. Strategic Goals for US-China-Japan Relations**

**Date:** April 25–27, 2007

**Location:** Nanjing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Pacific Forum CSIS; supported by the United States–Japan Foundation; CNA Corporation; Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; Hopkins-Nanjing Center, Nanjing University

The Pacific Forum convened 22 scholars and 17 Pacific Forum Young Leaders to examine a range of political, security, and economic challenges facing China, Japan, and the United States. Relations among these nations have experienced profound swings over the past decade. At the time of this meeting—the 11th round of this conference series—the various bilateral relationships were all on upswings: Japan and China were celebrating the successful visit of Premier Wen Jiabao to Japan weeks before; relations between the United States and Japan were strong; and US-China relations were solid, with high-level dialogues proceeding. Nonetheless, positive relations among the three countries have not translated into a solid trilateral relationship. The triangle is still composed of three distinct sets of relationships and there has been little successful effort at forging three-way discussions or cooperation. This conference sought to remedy that shortcoming by focusing on the fundamental concerns of the three countries and exploring ways they could work together to realize shared interests.

**For information, see:** [http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights\\_v07n06.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights_v07n06.pdf)

#### **75. Regional Perceptions of Asian Powers for Global Change**

**Date:** April 26–27, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

In recent years, the growth of countries such as China and India has reshaped the classical North-South division into a more complex dynamic structure. Their rapid economic development has resulted in greater clout on the regional and global level, and some have predicted that the rise of China and India will have as profound an impact on the international order as did the Industrial Revolution and the subsequent rise of the United States.

Extensive research has been done on the new *global* role of China and India, but the focus of this dialogue was on the *regional* perspective. It examined relations and perceptions between big and small countries in the Asian region. Several questions guided the dialogue: Do smaller countries perceive the big powers as dominant actors or as benevolent hegemonies? Do the rising nations perceive themselves as regional spokesmen? Do smaller countries in the region benefit from the rise in terms of gaining clout on the global scene?

**For information, see:** <http://www.fesspore.org/media/publications/dialogue+cooperation/2-2007/editorial.pdf>

**76. APEC High-Level Public-Private Policy Dialogue on the Policy Framework for Investment**

**Date:** April 26–27, 2007

**Location:** Melbourne, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

Participants at this high-level public-private dialogue gathered to consider how APEC's member economies might make use of the OECD's Policy Framework for Investment (PFI) to improve investment climates. The dialogue was endorsed by APEC's Investment Experts Group (IEG) in 2006, and was held against the broader context that the APEC region is underperforming in investment growth and that many economies in the region are significant exporters of capital despite huge domestic needs.

The main purpose of the dialogue was to educate government officials and other opinion leaders in APEC member economies about the PFI and the effective use of that tool in domestic reform efforts. Discussion of the PFI brought focus to the Busan Business Agenda and the need to improve the regional business environment. It also constituted a significant step toward the implementation of the Hanoi Action Plan. The dialogue also played an integral role in reinforcing the collaboration between the IEG, business, and international organizations.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apec.org/apec/publications/free\\_downloads/2007.MedialibDownload.v1.html?url=/etc/medialib/apec\\_media\\_library/downloads/committees/cti/pubs/2007.Par.0014.File.v1.1](http://www.apec.org/apec/publications/free_downloads/2007.MedialibDownload.v1.html?url=/etc/medialib/apec_media_library/downloads/committees/cti/pubs/2007.Par.0014.File.v1.1)

**77. 3rd Meeting of the NEAT Working Group on Energy Security Cooperation in East Asia**

**Date:** April 27, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT); East Asian Institute, Singapore National University

The third meeting of the NEAT Working Group on Energy Security Cooperation in East Asia brought together scholars and experts from the ASEAN+3 countries. The first meeting of the WG was held in 2005 and focused on the energy outlook in the region and maritime security in energy transport. The second meeting, held in 2006, looked at energy efficiency and energy conservation. The focus for this third meeting was energy diversification in the ASEAN+3 countries, and participants examined the issue, potential challenges and problems, and possible areas for regional cooperation. The meeting was timely in the wake of continuing volatility in oil prices, growing uncertainty over long-term energy supply, and rising concerns over the environmental impact of fossil fuels use. The report and recommendations of the working group were presented at the annual NEAT conference and are available online.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat\\_05wg06.pdf](http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_05wg06.pdf)

**78. Building Multi-Party Capacity for a WMD-Free Korean Peninsula**

**Date:** April 27, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis (IFPA); in cooperation with the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations and the East Asia Foundation; funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York

Foreign policy specialists and government officials from six nations gathered for a one-day workshop in Beijing to discuss near-term prospects for strengthening the Six-Party process in order to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue. The gathering was the third and final workshop of a three-year IFPA project. Policymakers and academics from the United States, China, South Korea, Japan, Russia, and Australia explored various options for developing a

viable framework for regional collaboration aimed at eliminating nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction (WMD) from the Korean Peninsula, while at the same time contributing to the establishment of an effective peace and security mechanism in Northeast Asia. During the workshop, participants also broke out into smaller discussion groups focused on key negotiating areas—peace and security, nuclear dismantlement and verification, and economic and energy cooperation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.ifpa.org/confwrkshp/Beijing0407.htm>

## **May**

### **79. 17th General Meeting of Pacific Economic Cooperation Council**

**Date:** May 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC), hosted by AUSPECC

This was the first time that PECC convened its general meeting in Australia since its inaugural meeting in September 1980. The theme for PECC XVII was “Managing the Challenges of Growth,” symbolizing a continuing positive outlook across the region, especially the momentum flowing from economies such as China, as well as the challenges to effective economic management that come with sustained growth.

**For information, see:** <http://auspecc.anu.edu.au/conference.php>

### **80. 1st ASEAN Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) Consultative Forum on Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development**

**Date:** May 2–4, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN Secretariat; supported by Hanns Seidel Foundation, USAID, ASEAN-US Technical Assistance & Training Facility, Global Environment Centre (GEC)

Two years ago, the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment agreed to support a consultative forum for environmental NGOs to explore mechanisms for more formal and regular interaction with ASEAN intergovernmental bodies. The ASEAN-US facility and the GEC, a Malaysian NGO, helped organize and hold this first consultative forum for CSOs operating in ASEAN, which brought together lawyers, foresters, teachers, researchers, and others from CSOs to exchange ideas on key environmental issues facing the region, to share experiences, and to develop mechanisms and modalities for regular interaction, collaboration, and consultation among ASEAN national CSOs and between CSOs and the ASEAN environmental bodies.

By the end of the forum, participants had reached consensus on approaches and identified four key issues around which to create task forces: climate change, loss of biodiversity, transboundary haze, and environmental education and awareness in the Mekong Region countries. The group agreed to immediately begin work to establish an official ASEAN CSO for environment and sustainable development and formed an interim secretariat, temporarily dubbed the Southeast Asian Civil Society Environment Alliance, chaired by the GEC.

**For information, see:** <http://www.tei.or.th/tbcsd/reports/20070502-04-ASEAN%20CSO%20meeting%20Report.pdf>

[http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PNADJ315.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNADJ315.pdf)

**81. Asian Development Bank 40th Annual Meeting**

**Date:** May 3–6, 2007

**Location:** Kyoto, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The ADB 40th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors provided valuable insights into how the ADB can evolve with a changing Asia. Gathering in Kyoto for the four-day program were more than 2,500 participants, including government ministers, financiers, academics, media, and representatives of international organizations and civil society. The annual meetings are occasions for the governors of ADB members to provide guidance on ADB administrative, financial, and operational directions.

In addition to three business sessions, the annual meeting included a seminar series that addressed such topics as clean energy, Asia 10 years after the crisis, aging Asia, a global economy in transition, regional cooperation and integration, and urbanization. The program for civil society representatives featured an open forum on the ADB's energy strategy, a meeting with the ADB's president and senior management, and discussions on the ADB's safeguards update. The meeting also reviewed the report of an Eminent Persons Group convened to advise on future trends and challenges facing the region. The report is expected to provide an important input into the current review of the ADB's long-term strategic framework to 2015.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/AnnualMeeting/2007/program-events.asp>

**82. The Rise of Asia's National Oil Companies: Competitive Issues and Geopolitical Implications**

**Date:** May 3–4, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR); support from ExxonMobil, Chevron Corporation, ConocoPhillips, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and National Defense University

Asia's rising oil demand and growing dependence on imported supplies have driven the increasing global role and prominence of Asia's national oil companies (NOC). As Asia's oil-importing countries expand their quest for long-term energy security, the governments view NOCs as an important tool to fulfill national energy security strategies. Asia's NOC activities seem destined to build important new geopolitical relationships and alliances that have potentially significant implications for US influence in key regions.

In order to explore these important issues in greater depth, the NBR organized a conference to examine the role of Asian NOCs in the energy security strategies of their home governments and assess the major geopolitical and competitive implications of the NOCs' global expansion. Participants came from across Asia and North America, bringing a broad spectrum of expertise in the global energy industry, economics, and strategic affairs.

**For information, see:** <http://nbr.org/publications/specialreport/pdf/SR14.pdf>

**83. 14th ASEAN-ISIS Colloquium on Human Rights (AICOHR)**

**Date:** May 4–5, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

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

The 14th AICOHR examined the theme "A Regional Human Rights Mechanism as an Imperative for Building an ASEAN Security Community." Some 50 participants from Southeast

Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Europe, representing human rights commissions, civil society groups, and think tanks, exchanged ideas and insights on this issue.

In session one, the speakers focused on the evolution of the concept of a regional human rights mechanism in Southeast Asia. They emphasized that while there have been some gains in connection with the establishment of an ASEAN human rights mechanism, more still needs to be done. The next session focused on regional human rights mechanisms in other regions, including Africa, Europe, and the Americas. The next three sessions offered country perspectives on human rights and the establishment of an ASEAN human rights mechanism, with presentations from Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, Lao PDR, and Vietnam. The final session focused on the prospects and problems of establishing such a mechanism in ASEAN.

**For information, see:** [http://www.isdsphilippines.org/pdf/14th\\_AICOHR\\_Narrative\\_Report.pdf](http://www.isdsphilippines.org/pdf/14th_AICOHR_Narrative_Report.pdf)

#### **84. 1st APEC Public-Private Sector Forum on Bond Market Development**

**Date:** May 8, 2007

**Location:** Melbourne, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Advisory Group on APEC Financial System Capacity Building; APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC); in cooperation with Australian Treasury and Australian APEC Study Centre

In September 2006, APEC finance ministers welcomed a proposal submitted by ABAC that the Advisory Group, together with ABAC, facilitate in-depth discussions with individual economies on how the public and private sectors can collaborate to develop their respective bond markets. These will take the form of a series of one-day sessions, each focused on three or four developing member economies' bond markets. The objective is to hold a dialogue among interested economies, private sector market players, and experts from international public and private sector organizations, aimed at identifying aspects in the policy and regulatory areas that can be addressed by authorities to enhance the environment for bond market development.

The first forum was held back-to-back with the 2nd APEC Senior Finance Officials Meeting (SFOM) and focused on the bond markets of Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam. Following a review of these results, the Advisory Group and ABAC endorsed the holding of a second forum in conjunction with the 4th APEC SFOM in Peru in 2008.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apec.org/etc/medialib/apec\\_media\\_library/downloads/events/2008.Par.0024.File.tmp/08\\_fmp\\_abac\\_BondMktSem\\_Agenda.pdf](http://www.apec.org/etc/medialib/apec_media_library/downloads/events/2008.Par.0024.File.tmp/08_fmp_abac_BondMktSem_Agenda.pdf)

#### **85. International Conference on Transparency and Governance**

**Date:** May 10–11, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Centre on Asia and Globalisation, National University of Singapore

The Centre on Asia and Globalisation hosted an international conference at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy to advance the public debate in Asia on openness and public accountability. The conference brought together leading practitioners and analysts to provide insights into whether, how, and when greater openness serves public interests, and how to bring about beneficial forms of transparency. The conference was held in association with the launch of a new book, *The Right to Know: Transparency for an Open World*, which distills the lessons of many nations' experiences and provides careful analysis of transparency's impact on governance, business regulation, environmental protection, and national security. The conference was attended by 100 people from Singapore and around the world.

**For information, see:** <http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/CAG/Handler.ashx?path=Data/Site/SiteDocuments/Transparency-Conference-Rationale.pdf>  
<http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/cag/Webcasts.aspx>

**86. Workshop on the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution**

**Date:** May 11, 2007

**Location:** Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Singapore Institute of International Affairs; Centre for Strategic and International Studies Indonesia; World Wide Fund for Nature Indonesia

This workshop focused on the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, with the aim of engaging stakeholders in Indonesia in better understanding and determining the practical implementation of the agreement, should it be ratified by Indonesia. The majority of participants came from NGOs and civil society groups based in Indonesia that are working on fire prevention, community approaches to haze prevention, and forest conservation issues. Members of parliament and local officials from affected areas also provided their perspectives, and NGOs from Singapore and Malaysia added a regional perspective and demonstrated the solidarity of Indonesia's neighbors in tackling the issue.

Most NGO participants felt that the agreement should be ratified, especially since it would make funding and support more available and accessible from other ASEAN countries to address the haze problem. However, they also were clear that the haze agreement was not a panacea, and that whether or not it was signed, many practical actions on the ground that were already taking place should be acknowledged and supported, while other efforts needed to be deepened and strengthened.

**For information, see:** <http://www.siaaonline.org/?q=events/asean-agreement-transboundary-haze-pollution-indonesia-has-neighbours-support-tackle-haze-pro>

**87. 2nd SEAWUN Convention on Management Capacity Building and Performance Improvements for Southeast Asian Water Utilities**

**Date:** May 14–16, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** South East Asian Water Utilities Network (SEAWUN); Malaysian Water Association; with support from Malaysia's Ministry of Energy, Communication, and Water and Asian Development Bank

SEAWUN was established in 2002 as a regional network for water and sanitation services utilities and national water associations. SEAWUN held an inaugural convention on water and wastewater in 2005 to promote the exchange and management of knowledge among SEAWUN members and key water sector stakeholders. In 2007, SEAWUN held its second convention, which aimed to promote an exchange of best practices in management capacity building and performance improvements among regional water utilities; review the results to date of SEAWUN's programs on performance benchmarking, full cost recovery, nonrevenue water reduction, and human resources development; and discuss and finalize the SEAWUN Vision and Action Plan. More than 100 representatives from ASEAN countries attended, including representatives from SEAWUN members, government agencies, water supply and sanitation companies, donors and foreign aid organizations, private sector consultancies and companies, and journalists.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/water/SEAWUN/2007/2nd-convention/default.asp>

**88. Regional Symposium on Managing Labour Migration in East Asia: Policies and Outcomes**

**Date:** May 15–18, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** International Labour Organization; Wee Kim Wee Centre of Singapore Management University; supported by the European Union

Representatives from 13 East Asian economies took part in a high-level symposium on managing labor migration in the region. Those participating in the three-day event included representatives of governments and of workers' and employers' organizations from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The workshop supported recent ASEAN initiatives to improve labor migration, notably as laid out in its Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers. The agenda included discussions on the causes and characteristics of East Asia's labor shortages, irregular migration, and policies for governing labor emigration and immigration. In addition, regional experts presented case studies highlighting some current issues, such as labor shortages in Japan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, and South Korea; managing labor recruitment and migration in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam; and handling undocumented foreign workers in Malaysia and Thailand.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ilo.org/asia/info/public/pr/lang-en/WCMS\\_BK\\_PR\\_182\\_EN/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/asia/info/public/pr/lang-en/WCMS_BK_PR_182_EN/index.htm)

**89. 17th Asian Corporate Conference: Coming Together, Moving Ahead—Asian Economies Lead through Integration and Innovation**

**Date:** May 16–18, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Society; co-organized by the Wall Street Journal, Nippon Keidanren; supported by AIG, Carlyle Group, Nomura, Philip Morris International, BNP Paribas, Chevron, Shinsei Bank, Morgan Stanley, Toyota, Mitsubishi Corporation, et. al.

Over 1,000 senior government and business leaders from 16 countries throughout Asia and the world gathered in Tokyo to explore Japan's economic resurgence and Asia's rise in the global economy. Participants examined the trends driving the world's second largest economy and the forces shaping Asian economic integration. Conference sessions explored topics such as how Japanese and Asian corporate giants are innovating to compete globally; how Asia will meet its growing energy demands; the effects of aging and demographic issues on Asian economies; the potential of corporate responsibility and technology in Japan and Asia to address the environmental crisis; and the role of China, India, and Japan as engines of regional economic growth.

**For information, see:** <http://www.asiasociety.org/conference07/agenda.html>

**90. Maritime Security Conference: The South China Sea—The Long Road Towards a Cooperative Management Regime**

**Date:** May 16–17, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University

About 35 participants from Singapore, Australia, the Philippines, the United States, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, England, and Canada gathered to discuss cooperative management of the South China Sea. The meeting began with a discussion on the historical and geopolitical context of the South China Sea disputes. In the second session, experts examined the environmental aspects of the South China Sea, including fisheries management and

cooperative development of energy resources. The third session examined the strategic significance of the South China Sea, while the fourth and fifth panels examined “good order at sea in the South China Sea” and best practices.

**For information, see:** [http://www.rsis.edu.sg/publications/conference\\_reports/South\\_China\\_Sea\\_Report.pdf](http://www.rsis.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/South_China_Sea_Report.pdf)

**91. 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

**Organizers/Supporters:** Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars; Sasakawa Peace Foundation; Center for Economic and Policy Research

The year 2007 marked 10 years since the onset of the Asian financial and economic crisis, a critical event in contemporary economic history that had a profound impact on the people, the economies, and the stability of the Asian region. The Asian financial crisis was not only a financial crisis, but also a human crisis and a crisis of globalization. Decades of economic progress in East and Southeast Asia were jeopardized, as daunting levels of poverty, unemployment, and social inequality beset the most affected countries—Indonesia, Thailand, Korea, the Philippines, and Malaysia. Ten years onward, it is imperative to reexamine the debates on free capital mobility in developing countries, the role of international financial institutions, the structural flaws in domestic banking and financial sectors, and the macroeconomic policy framework that was used to respond to the Asian financial crisis. This conference sought to expand these debates in light of the significant global changes and developments that have occurred as a result of economic and financial globalization over the last decade.

**For information, see:** [http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=events.event\\_summary&event\\_id=235143](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=events.event_summary&event_id=235143)

**92. Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2007: At the Crossroads between Asia and Europe: Harnessing the Possibilities of Central Asia**

**Date:** May 18–19, 2007

**Location:** Almaty, Kazakhstan

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Central Asia’s location at the crossroads of Asia and Europe and its increasing integration in the global economy create both opportunities and challenges for sustainable economic growth. The Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2007 discussed how to grasp the opportunities and meet the challenges of globalization. Issues for discussion included diversification of exports, trade competitiveness, regional cooperation, the contribution of business to development, business and the health sector, and strategies to improve the business climate. About 250 key business leaders, senior government officials, academics, and civil society representatives from Central Asia and across the Asia-Pacific participated in the forum, which was organized back-to-back with the 63rd annual ESCAP Commission Session to ensure the presence of senior government officials and ministers.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/tid/apbf/apbf07.asp>

**93. Economic Integration in East Asia and its Implications for Japan and the United States**

**Date:** May 21, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Keizai Koho Center (Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs); Brookings Institution, Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies



This symposium began with keynote speeches by Hiromasa Yonekura (Nippon Keidanren and Sumitomo Chemical) and Mitoji Yabunaka (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), which were followed by panel sessions featuring Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and US intellectuals, who discussed trade and investment issues in Asia and the future of economic integration in East Asia. In the afternoon sessions, panelists discussed the sustainability of the Chinese economy, foreign and trade policies of the United States, and the 2008 US presidential election. A total of 220 people attended the symposium.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kkc.or.jp/english/activities/discuss7.html#2007\\_5](http://www.kkc.or.jp/english/activities/discuss7.html#2007_5)

**94. 5th Asia-Europe Roundtable (AER): Sustaining the Peace through Post-Conflict Reconstruction**

**Date:** May 23–25, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung; Asia-Europe Foundation

The AER is a series of meetings to examine Asia-Europe experiences and cooperation in tackling common challenges such as region building, conflict prevention, and conflict resolution. The 2007 AER examined economic reconstruction and institution building in post-conflict societies. The meeting was intended to deepen the understanding of the post-conflict reconstruction processes, to identify some key challenges, and to offer lessons and solutions. Studies were commissioned, and 50 participants from different backgrounds—policymakers, academics, practitioners, civil society activists, and donor organizations—gathered for two days of discussions. Participants examined (1) institution-(re)building, which focused on institutions for security, political stability, and transitional justice; (2) the economics of reconstruction, centered on the promotion of economic recovery; and (3) the actors involved, including both reformers and “potential spoilers” in the process, with a focus on regional-level and civil society protagonists.

**For information, see:** [http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com\\_project&task=view&id=206](http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=206)

**95. The Future of Asia 2007—13th Nikkei International Conference**

**Date:** May 24–25, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Nihon Keizai Shimbun; with the cooperation of The Straits Times (Singapore); Kompas (Indonesia); New Straits Times (Malaysia); Bangkok Post (Thailand); Vietnam News Agency (Vietnam); People’s Daily (China); JoongAng Ilbo (South Korea); Maeil Business Newspaper (South Korea); CNBC Asia Pacific

“The Future of Asia” is an annual forum held by the Nihon Keizai Shimbun where government leaders and top business executives from throughout the Asia Pacific region present their latest ideas for generating positive and lasting change in the region. The 13th Future of Asia conference took as its theme “Deepening Cooperation toward a True Community.” Panelists and participants from throughout the Asia Pacific region discussed such issues as pan-Asian community and the future of economic integration, the prospects for India and Vietnam as new centers of growth, current East Asian affairs and efforts toward promoting stability in the region, the future of Asian currencies and a reflection on the decade since the financial crisis, and energy and the environment in the context of sustainable growth.

**For information, see:** <http://www.nni.nikkei.co.jp/FR/NIKKEI/inasia/future/2007/>

**96. 8th Asia Pacific Migration Research Network International Conference**

**Date:** May 26–29, 2007

**Location:** Fuzhou, Fujian Province, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Pacific Migration Research Network (APMRN)

The central focus of the APMRN is the long-term role of migration and increased ethnocultural diversity as major factors in the social transformation of the societies of the Asia Pacific region. The aim is to build an international research network that will carry out interdisciplinary research on social and political aspects of international migration and growing ethnocultural diversity in the region. The work is carried out by a number of partner institutions or networks in the various countries and will initially concentrate on Southeast Asia, South Asia, East Asia, the Pacific, and Australasia. It is designed to build research capabilities, develop empirical knowledge, further theoretical and methodological work in the social sciences, and provide broadly based and reliable information and options for policymakers at the national and international levels.

**For information, see:** [http://www.no-trafficking.org/inet\\_eventcalendar/event\\_detail.aspx?event\\_id=90](http://www.no-trafficking.org/inet_eventcalendar/event_detail.aspx?event_id=90)

#### **97. HIV and AIDS Global Media Strategies**

**Date:** May 28, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development; Institute of Strategic and International Studies Malaysia

A total of 135 media professionals gathered for a conference on global media strategies for HIV and AIDS. Concerted action by the media is a necessary and important step to reduce the rate of infections, which now stands at more than 11,000 a day. There is a need to imbue HIV/AIDS-related messages in all types of programming. The declaration that emerged from the conference laid the foundation for an Asia-Pacific Media AIDS Initiative. Membership is based on the commitment of members to (1) offer substantial time (broadcasters) or space (print and online media); (2) use different genres for discussing issues related to HIV/AIDS; (3) provide coverage of local, national, and global issues related to HIV/AIDS; (4) take active steps to make sure that the coverage is factually correct and socially just; (5) share content with other members by declaring it rights free; (6) actively support training of journalists, reporters, and producers on issues related to HIV/AIDS; and (7) formulate and put in place a workplace policy on HIV.

**For information, see:** [http://download.aibd.org.my/papers/AMAI/AMAI\\_Declaration.pdf](http://download.aibd.org.my/papers/AMAI/AMAI_Declaration.pdf)  
[http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/files/25288/11890773901Report\\_Conference\\_on\\_Global\\_Media\\_Strategy.pdf/Report%2BConference%2Bon%2BGlobal%2BMedia%2BStrategy.pdf](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/files/25288/11890773901Report_Conference_on_Global_Media_Strategy.pdf/Report%2BConference%2Bon%2BGlobal%2BMedia%2BStrategy.pdf)

#### **98. Regional Biosecurity Workshop**

**Date:** May 28–30, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** National University of Singapore, Centre on Asia and Globalisation; Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland School of Public Policy, University of Maryland

The Centre on Asia and Globalisation and the Center for International and Security Studies hosted a workshop to bring together government, scientific, international security, and industry experts from the Pacific region to examine the opportunities and challenges posed by advances in the life sciences. Topics included the challenges of biosecurity from Japan's perspective; managing the promise and danger of biotechnology; emerging viral disease in Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific; WHO perspectives on life, science research, and global health security; biosecurity—securing pathogens against loss and theft; biotechnology, weapons, and humanity; the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology's vision for a code of conduct for scientists; the Philippine perspective on strengthening oversight

on dual use biotech research in Asia; biosafety in Japan; and the Indonesia/Australia Biological Weapons Convention regional workshop process.

**For information, see:** <http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/cag/Handler.ashx?path=Data/Site/SiteDocuments/Transparency-Conference-Rationale.pdf>

**99. 2nd Regional Consultation for Developing the GMS Energy Strategy**

**Date:** May 28–29, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank; Integriertes Ressourcen Management (IRM-AG)

Forty-two representatives from the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) governments, civil society organizations, private sector, academe, and other international development organizations participated in a discussion regarding the current progress of the Energy Strategy Study. IRM-AG of Austria, the project consultant for the study, presented the initial results of the least-cost analyses for various scenarios using the planning model MESSAGE (Model of Energy Supply Systems Alternatives and their General Environmental Impacts). Representatives from the governments and other stakeholders provided feedback regarding the assumptions and data used. Inputs on how to further improve the study were also given by the participants and the next steps for the project were discussed.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Second-Regional-Consultation-GMS/default.asp>

**June**

**100. 6th IISS Asia Security Conference (Shangri-La Dialogue)**

**Date:** June 1–3, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** International Institute for Strategic Studies

The Shangri-La Dialogue is an annual event for defense and security diplomacy for the region. Since its inaugural meeting in 2002, the dialogue has become a recognized part of the architecture of Asian defense diplomacy. The 2007 meeting was the biggest yet, with strong delegations from all participating countries—Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Thailand, Timor-Leste, UK, the United States, and Vietnam. The 2007 dialogue featured many on-the-record events including a keynote address, five plenary sessions, and press conferences. Off-the-record events included three breakout groups that allowed delegates to focus on more sensitive subjects in depth. Issues addressed at the plenary sessions included the United States and Asia Pacific security, China and India—building international stability, nuclear challenges, securing regional waters, and security cooperation in Asia. Breakout groups explored the themes of intervening in fragile states, new challenges for security sector reform, and progress in counterterrorism.

**For information, see:** <http://www.iiss.org/conferences/the-shangri-la-dialogue/shangri-la-dialogue-2007>

**101. East Asia Roundtable 2007: Community Building in Diversity**

**Date:** June 2–4, 2007

**Location:** Kyoto, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU); support from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan; in collaboration with ASEAN Secretariat

This three-day event included a seminar for students and members of the public on the theme of “Community Building in Diversity: Regional Trends towards East Asian Integration and Local Community Initiatives.” Approximately 100 students and invited guests observed a panel discussion between government officials and executives from ASEAN nations. On June 3–4, an expert group meeting was held. Following a brief overview of the regional initiatives toward integration, sessions focused on strengthening collaboration in four critical functional areas: “mega-infrastructure” development, global environmental management, enhancing trans-border cultural exchanges, and managing cross-border movements of people. On the second day, four parallel workshops and a wrap-up plenary session reviewed the above discussions.

The meeting concluded with an Intergenerational Exchange, as student teams from APU that had met separately on these issues from May–June 2007 presented their findings at a seminar for comment by the participants of the Expert Group Meeting.

**For information, see:** <http://www.ritsumeit.ac.jp/eng/newsletter/fall2007/page11.shtml>

### **102. 27th CSCAP Steering Committee Meeting**

**Date:** June 4, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

CSCAP is administratively guided by a steering committee made up of representatives from each member country. Two elected persons—one from an ASEAN country, the other from a non-ASEAN member—chair the steering committee, which meets twice annually.

**For information, see:** [http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events\\_recent](http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_recent)

### **103. 21st Asia Pacific Roundtable**

**Date:** June 4–8, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute of Strategic and International Studies Malaysia; ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies; supported by Canadian International Development Agency

The Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR) series was launched in 1987 to promote trust and confidence in the Asia Pacific region. As a Track 2 forum, the APR brings together think tanks, academics, media representatives, and senior government officials acting in their personal capacity to engage in candid dialogue on the major security challenges confronting the region. The 2007 event brought together over 250 participants and observers for three days of meetings. Plenary sessions focused on the reinvention, challenges, and prospects for ASEAN at 40; US foreign and security policy after the midterm elections; the global strategic balance and competition among the major powers in East Asia; the campaign against terrorism; Islam and the West dialogue; the security impact and responses to climate change; and ensuring productive synergy between ASEAN+3, the East Asia Summit, and APEC. Breakout sessions examined such topics as Japan as a “normal state”; managing scarcity of resources, energy security, and nuclear energy; and sustaining momentum in the Six-Party Talks.

**For information, see:** [http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events\\_recent](http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_recent)

**104. 2nd ASEM HIV/AIDS Workshop**

**Date:** June 4–5, 2007

**Location:** Stockholm, Sweden

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); organized by Government of Sweden, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, and National Board of Health and Welfare; co-sponsored by Governments of the Netherlands, Vietnam, and the Philippines

Stigmatization and discrimination are the two largest obstacles to developing work on HIV and AIDS, while good leadership at all levels is the most important helping factor. This was the overall conclusion at an international workshop held in Stockholm. The purpose of the workshop was to find ways for practical cooperation, using the experiences of the roughly 100 government and civil society participants from 23 countries in Europe and Asia.

At the fifth ASEM meeting in 2004, ASEM leaders expressed their concern that the global HIV/AIDS epidemic constitutes a global emergency and agreed that the fight against HIV/AIDS should feature in the framework of ASEM cooperation. As a result, the first ASEM Workshop on HIV/AIDS was launched in 2005. The title of this second workshop, “Learning from Each Other and Moving Forward—Asia and Europe Together in the Fight against HIV/AIDS,” highlighted the need for cooperation and collaboration on HIV/AIDS as a part of a regional response to effectively confront the epidemic.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=208>

**105. What Future for the Multilateral Trading System?—Development Perspectives from Asia**

**Date:** June 4–5, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES); World Trade Organization (WTO)

The current multilateral trading system is under continuous pressure for further reforms in favor of the interests of developing countries. The Doha “Development” Round was initiated in 2001 in order to correct some of the existing imbalances and to integrate developing countries better into the multilateral trading system. But the protracted and seemingly deadlocked negotiations have resulted in greater challenges for the multilateral trading system and the WTO. Against this backdrop, the FES and the WTO organized a dialogue with stakeholders from Asia to discuss the future of the multilateral trading system. The dialogue examined the current state of play in the Doha negotiations, the challenges for Asia in this respect, and the role of the system’s stakeholders in the negotiating processes. Participating in the conference were representatives from the WTO, government officials, and representatives from business, civil society organizations, trade unions, and academia from approximately eight Asian countries and Europe.

**For information, see:** [http://www.fes-globalization.org/geneva/documents/4-5\\_June07\\_Programme.pdf](http://www.fes-globalization.org/geneva/documents/4-5_June07_Programme.pdf)

**106. 3rd Green Growth Policy Dialogue: The Greening of Business and the Environment as a Business Opportunity**

**Date:** June 5–7, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; CMP Media Thailand; Joint Graduate School of Energy and Environment

This was the third in a series of policy dialogues on green growth. Earlier dialogues focused on themes pertaining to a green tax and budget reform, and the role of public policy in providing sustainable consumption choices. The 2007 meeting focused on greening business,

recognizing the need for consumers and policymakers alike to realize the hidden potential of the environment as an increasingly lucrative business opportunity.

The opening session laid the foundation for subsequent discussions by raising overview questions: Will rising oil prices, the scarcity of natural resources, and climate change become the drivers for eco-efficiency and the greening of businesses in Asia Pacific? How can we widen the market for more green products? How can we support and promote the greening of the mainstream business in the region? Thematic discussions were then held on the specific roles of the three major actors: public sector, private sector, and consumers.

**For information, see:** <http://www.greengrowth.org/GG2007/gg07-index.asp>

**107. ESCAP/APCD High-Level Stakeholders' Workshop on Empowerment of People with Disabilities and a Barrier-Free Society through Networking and Collaboration**

**Date:** June 6–8, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD); United Nations Compensation Committee

The objectives of this workshop were to share the outcomes of the APCD's activities and to consider the APCD's future direction. The workshop consisted of three main parts: (1) statements by the Government of Japan and the Royal Thai Government concerning the APCD project; (2) reports of the outcomes of APCD activities, including field visits; and (3) the future direction of the APCD's collaboration with the international, subregional, national, and grassroots organizations. The workshop was attended by representatives of the APCD's national focal points from Cambodia, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vanuatu, and Vietnam, 22 associate organizations, as well as international NGOs.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apcdproject.org/publications/2007/newsletter20/unescap\\_apcd.html](http://www.apcdproject.org/publications/2007/newsletter20/unescap_apcd.html)

**108. ASEAN Economic Community Coordinating Conference**

**Date:** June 7–8, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN

Representatives from economic agencies and institutions, as well as from the private sector, joined to discuss the draft ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint and its strategic schedule. The conference provided a venue for enhanced communication and dialogue between stakeholders from the government, business, and the peoples of ASEAN.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseansec.org/20678.htm>  
<http://www.aseansec.org/Fact%20Sheet/AEC/2007-AEC-001-2.pdf>

**109. 1st Meeting of the NEAT Working Group on Enhancement of East Asian Cultural Exchange**

**Date:** June 7–9, 2007

**Location:** Jeonju, Jeollabuk-do Province, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT); sponsored by the Korean Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

The first meeting of the NEAT Working Group (WG) on Enhancement of Cultural Exchange brought together 18 participants from all ASEAN+3 countries for an active and productive discussion on the important role of cultural exchange in the building of the East Asian

Community. Since it was the inaugural meeting, discussions included more general agendas such as the current state of cultural exchange in East Asia, general directions and basic principles for enhancing cultural exchange, and the necessary institutional arrangements for enhancing cultural exchange. The WG also identified specific priority sub-areas to be addressed under the larger topic of cultural exchange: media, popular culture and cultural festivities, education, people-to-people exchange, and performing arts and cultural exhibitions. The WG emphasized that there should be a change in attitudes toward cultural exchange, not only among political leaders and serious practitioners (e.g., researchers, journalists, intellectuals, and other specialists) but also among the people in general.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat\\_05wg04.pdf](http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_05wg04.pdf)

**110. Interdependent Koreas: Engagement for Peace in Bilateral, Regional, and Global Contexts**

**Date:** June 8–9, 2007

**Location:** New York, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Hiroshima Peace Institute

This meeting brought together American, Korean, Japanese, and Taiwanese researchers who are participating in a project to examine 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. North Korea's nuclear test, however, has complicated inter-Korean relations. This project aims at appraising whether or not the original goal of South Korea's engagement policy has been achieved and, if not, what is required. For this purpose, the project involves an analysis of Korean interdependence in various contexts: domestic, bilateral, regional, and global. An edited volume will be produced.

**For information, see:** <http://serv.peace.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/English/>

**111. Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific**

**Date:** June 11, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Environment and Development Division; Economic Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean (ECLAC); UN-HABITAT

This meeting was organized to gain input on the scope and strategy of the "Eco-efficient and sustainable urban infrastructure development in Asia and Latin America" project, to be jointly implemented by ESCAP, ECLAC, and UN-HABITAT in 2008/2009. The meeting gathered 35 experts from 11 countries in the region, including senior local and national government officials concerned with infrastructure development, experts in sustainable infrastructure development, urban planners, as well as representatives from the private sector, universities, research centers, and international organizations.

Participants discussed the economic, social, and environmental challenges faced by urban areas in Asia Pacific and recognized the critical role that infrastructure systems play for sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It was pointed out that despite remarkable economic growth, Asia Pacific is home to two-thirds of the world's poor. In order to continue the economic growth needed to reduce poverty and achieve the other MDGs, it is necessary to change economic growth patterns, to improve eco-efficiency, and pursue green growth.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esd/environment/infra/egm.asp>

**112. Pacific Health Summit 2007**

**Date:** June 12–14, 2007

**Location:** Seattle, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** National Bureau of Asian Research; Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center; Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Every June, the Pacific Health Summit welcomes global health leaders to Seattle to discuss how to connect science and policy for a healthier future. Roughly 250 experts from government, business, academia, and nonprofit organizations gathered for the 2007 meeting, which addressed the theme of “Pandemics: Working Together for an Effective and Equitable Response.” Participants gathered for two days of discussion focusing on avian influenza and other potential communicable and noncommunicable pandemics. Informing the summit discussion was the underlying desire to develop and encourage appropriate policies for the prevention, early detection, and early treatment of all disease. Special emphasis was placed on the issue of developing and stockpiling pre-pandemic H5N1 vaccines.

**For information, see:** <http://pacifichalthsummit.org/downloads/Summit%202007/Report.pdf>

**113. Ten Years after the Crisis: Evolving East Asian Financial System and Challenges Ahead**

**Date:** June 12, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Policy Research Institute, Ministry of Finance of Japan; Asian Development Bank Institute

The 1997–1998 financial crisis had significant negative economic and social impacts on East Asian economies and highlighted various vulnerabilities across sectors in the crisis-hit countries. A decade has passed, and the situation has changed dramatically. East Asian economies have implemented financial sector restructuring and institutional reforms in corporate and financial sectors and have initiated regional cooperation efforts to enhance financial stability, such as the Chiang Mai Initiative and the Asian Bond Markets Initiative. The hardest-hit economies have now recovered, and with the rapidly growing Chinese economy, East Asia is once again attracting the world’s attention. Nonetheless, a number of challenges still must be faced.

This conference revisited how financial and corporate sectors have been transformed and how international flows of capital and trade have changed in East Asia in the last decade. Participants discussed the remaining challenges for increasing financial stability and sustaining economic development in the region in the coming decades.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mof.go.jp/jouhou/soken/kenkyu/h19/adbi070612/e.htm>

**114. 21st Pacific Science Congress**

**Date:** June 12–18, 2007

**Location:** Okinawa, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Pacific Science Association (PSA); University of the Ryukyus; support from Science Council of Japan; Science Council of Asia; co-organized by Science Council of Japan, Ecological Society of Japan, Japanese Coral Reef Society, Japanese Society for Marine Biotechnology, Japanese Society of Tropical Medicine, Association of Japanese Geographers, Botanical Society of Japan, Geological Society of Japan, Human Geological Society of Japan, Japanese Society for Oceanic Studies, Japanese Society of Fisheries Science, Oceanographic Society of Japan, Zoological Society of Japan, and Japan Society of Island Studies

Founded in 1920, the PSA is a regional, nongovernmental, scholarly organization that seeks to advance science and technology in support of sustainable development in the Asia Pacific. It



holds congresses every four years to facilitate interdisciplinary and international research and collaboration in the Asia Pacific region. The meetings draw between 1,000 and 2,500 participants. The theme of the organization's 2007 annual congress was "Diversity and Change: Challenges and Opportunities for Managing Natural and Social Systems in Asia-Pacific." Topics discussed at the meeting included maintaining natural diversity; technology for sustainable societies (biotechnology, energy, assessing natural hazards); human diversity (origins of Pacific peoples, indigenous knowledge); cultural and linguistic diversity; threats, challenges, and hazards (climate change, natural hazards, chronic and infectious diseases, and hazardous waste); and science and society.

**For information, see:** <http://www.pacificscience.org/congress2007.html>

**115. Meeting of the NEAT Working Group on Overall Architecture of Community Building in East Asia**

**Date:** June 13–14, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT)

The NEAT Working Group (WG) on Overall Architecture of Community Building in East Asia met in Tokyo with 21 participants from the 13 NEAT member countries. The participants focused on "Building Regional Architecture for Non-traditional Security Issues" and were divided into three panels on transnational crime, environmental protection, and pandemic diseases. The WG envisions the effective utilization of the ASEAN+3 framework to promote functional cooperation among member countries and sees a leading role for the ASEAN Secretariat in initiating, coordinating, and realizing regional cooperation. The meeting report was submitted to the 5th Annual Conference of NEAT, held in Singapore in August 2007.

**For information, see:** <http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/070613program.pdf>

**116. 3rd Working Group Meeting on Energy Planning and Policy**

**Date:** June 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Chiang Mai, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); 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 was established to identify possible future energy cooperation activities.

At the third meeting of the working group, participants focused on strategies toward the development of the Energy Outlook of Northeast Asia, reviewing the progress of country reports, discussing transboundary energy cooperation initiatives, and looking at the issues and constraints in moving forward. They also discussed strategies toward a business-government dialogue and a trust fund on energy cooperation in Northeast Asia. In addition to government delegations from North and South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia, presenters included ESCAP representatives and experts from academia and business.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esd/energy/dialogue/cooperation/epp3/index.asp>

**117. 1st Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) Asia-Pacific Inter-Regional Forum**

**Date:** June 15–19, 2007

**Location:** Da Nang, Vietnam

**Organizers/Supporters:** GPPAC; Peace Boat

The GPPAC is a civil society–led network aiming to build a new international consensus on peacebuilding and the prevention of violent conflict. The GPPAC is structured through 15 regions, each of which has its own regional action agenda and work plan. Peace Boat hosted the inaugural GPPAC Asia Pacific Forum in Da Nang, Vietnam, onboard its ship, bringing together 20 GPPAC members from the four subregions of Asia Pacific—Northeast Asia, Pacific, Southeast Asia, and South Asia—to examine current barriers to peace as well as ways to share information and work together more effectively in building peace across the region. Discussions covered such urgent issues as the nuclear arms and missile proliferation and geopolitical power struggles in Northeast Asia and South Asia, along with crises of democracy, self-determination, human security, and cultures of violence in the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

The event also included a cultural event that allowed delegates to interact with 2,000 young people, as well as meetings between delegates and civil society representatives from Da Nang.

**For information, see:** <http://www.gppac.net/page.php?id=1505#par1710>

### **118. Williamsburg Conference**

**Date:** June 15–18, 2007

**Location:** Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Society; co-hosted by the Mongolian Development and Strategy Institute

The Williamsburg Conference was founded by John D. Rockefeller 3rd in 1971 to encourage discussions among top leaders from Asia and the United States. In 2007, the conference was held for the first time in Mongolia, which was the ideal setting for a discussion on the theme of “Changing Asia, Changing World: Challenges and Opportunities of Economic Growth.” The four-day conference brought together 60 top leaders from 15 countries and economies across the Asia Pacific region from government, business, civil society, academia, and the media.

The opening session introduced two very different scenarios for the future: an integrated Asia or an increasingly fragmented region. Although Asia is experiencing an upward swing of integration, delegates agreed that the forces of fragmentation are very real, including corruption, environmental degradation, poverty, and uneven development. Participants discussed how energy needs are increasing insecurity and tension in the region with potentially great environmental costs. Discussions also touched on economic development and the new geopolitics of the region, as well as governance and Asia’s multilateral institutions.

**For information, see:** [http://www.asiasociety.org/policy\\_business/williamsburg07.pdf](http://www.asiasociety.org/policy_business/williamsburg07.pdf)

### **119. 3rd ASEM Interfaith Dialogue**

**Date:** June 19–21, 2007

**Location:** Nanjing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); co-hosted by the governments of China and Italy; co-sponsored by the governments of Austria, Denmark, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Spain, and Thailand

This event was built upon the outcomes from the previous Interfaith Dialogues held in Indonesia in 2005 and in Cyprus in 2006. The theme of this 3rd Interfaith Dialogue was “Deepening Interfaith Dialogue for Peace, Development and Harmony.” It was further concentrated into four topics that were discussed in parallel working groups: (1) Interfaith Dialogue and Globalization, (2) Interfaith Dialogue and Peace, (3) Interfaith Dialogue and Social Cohesion and Development, and (4) Interfaith Dialogue and the Promotion of Cultural and Educational Cooperation. Participants reached agreement on several understandings and actions to be taken for furthering the ASEM Interfaith Dialogue, as delineated in the Nanjing Statement on Interfaith Dialogue.

In the immediate run-up to the dialogue, the Asia-Europe Foundation also organized the 5th ASEF Journalists' Colloquium, which examined economic and sociocultural dimensions in interfaith relations as well as practical measures to achieve diversity in the newsroom.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=200>

**120. 4th Jeju Peace Forum: Peace and Prosperity in Northeast Asia—Exploring European Experiences**

**Date:** June 21–23, 2007

**Location:** Jeju, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** Co-hosted by East Asia Foundation; Jeju Special Self-governing Province; International Peace Foundation; co-sponsored by Jeju Free International City Development Center; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, South Korea; Ministry of Information and Communication, South Korea; Ministry of Construction and Transportation, South Korea; Jeju Development Institute; Cheju National University; Presidential Committee on Northeast Asian Cooperation Initiatives; Co-organized by Center for International Studies, Yonsei University; Jeju Development Institute; Asia-Pacific Institute of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, People's University, China; Institute of World Economy and International Relations of Russian Academy of Sciences; Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies of Johns Hopkins University

The 4th Jeju Peace Forum attracted 140 participants, including former heads of state, policymakers, diplomats, scholars, and businesspeople. The three-day meeting focused on whether Asian countries should consider the experience of European countries as a role model as they conceive a move toward regional integration. The event consisted of six general meetings and five roundtable sessions that covered a wide range of subjects including security issues and economic development. An East Asia–OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe] Forum allowed European participants to share their experiences—particularly with the Helsinki Process—with their Asian counterparts, while a Northeast Asian IT Community Forum discussed the expanding role of IT in government and diplomatic processes. A World Leaders Session focused on the regional impact of the North Korean nuclear crisis and on the possibilities of stronger economic cooperation within the region, while another session discussed the future of Jeju Island as a geopolitical center and business hub. The forum ended with a joint declaration expressing hope for the creation of a Northeast Asian multilateral security regime that would mirror earlier European efforts in the Helsinki Process.

**For information, see:** [www.keaf.org/htm/pm\\_st\\_jpf02.htm?lmenu=pm2&PHPSESSID=a9356eca77f32ce51d3d88d491e8534d](http://www.keaf.org/htm/pm_st_jpf02.htm?lmenu=pm2&PHPSESSID=a9356eca77f32ce51d3d88d491e8534d)

**121. Sharing Experiences on Implementing Biotechnology and Biosafety Policies and Regulations**

**Date:** June 23–27, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The ADB is conducting a project to strengthen capacity and regional cooperation for biotechnology, biosafety, and related food safety in Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) countries, thereby contributing to sustainable agricultural growth in the region. This international forum was organized as part of that project to help GMS countries in implementing their biotechnology and biosafety policies and regulations by learning from the experiences of other countries, particularly in the area of regional cooperation. The participants shared the experiences of various countries in Asia and other parts of the world in dealing with issues such as environmental risk assessment, food safety, risk communication, and public participation in implementing their regulations and policies. Participants were senior policy implementers as well as senior scientists and researchers involved

in biotechnology and biosafety policy formulation and implementation from Cambodia, China (Yunnan Province), Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Biotechnology-Biosafety-Policies/default.asp>

**122. World Economic Forum on East Asia 2007: The Leadership Imperative for an Asian Century**

**Date:** June 24–25, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** World Economic Forum; in partnership with the Singapore Economic Development Board

The World Economic Forum on East Asia brought over 300 business, government, and civil society leaders from 26 countries for a two-day meeting to discuss the key challenges facing East Asia. During the closing session, panelists discussed the results of a survey of participants aimed at identifying the top priorities for East Asia. Selecting one priority for each of the meeting's four sub-themes, participants shaped an agenda to guide further discussions on regional and global issues: (1) Asian leadership—building a common agenda shared by China, Japan, India, Korea, and ASEAN on key regional challenges; (2) risk management—putting energy and environmental issues at the top of the agenda of regional institutions; (3) sustainable growth—Improving energy security and efficiency in major consuming countries in Asia; and (4) competitiveness—adapting to the continued growth and rising economic influence of China and India.

**For information, see:** <http://www.weforum.org/en/events/ArchivedEvents/WorldEconomicForumEastAsia2007/index.htm>

**123. The Asian Financial Crisis 10 Years Later: What Have We Learned?**

**Date:** June 25–26, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University

What have we learned from the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis? Do Thailand's recent problems suggest that some countries have not learned the appropriate lessons or implemented sufficiently corrective measures? Are there potential new problems on the horizon that could pose different challenges? To answer these questions, this conference convened a distinguished group of East Asian and American individuals from government, the private sector, international organizations, and academia. Specific issues addressed included an overview of developments in the countries affected by the 1997 crisis; lessons learned and corrective measures taken in those countries; lessons learned by regional and international actors; how domestic, regional, and international politics have affected the outcomes; and the identification of potential future problems and levels of preparedness. By convening senior policymakers and decision makers who were in office at the time of the crisis, the discussions revealed several events and facts that had never come to light before.

**For information, see:** <http://www.isn.ethz.ch/isn/Digital-Library/Publications/Detail/?ots591=0C54E3B3-1E9C-BE1E-2C24-A6A8C7060233&lng=en&id=46252>

**124. 4th Meeting of the Kitakyushu Initiative Network**

**Date:** June 25–26, 2007

**Location:** Kitakyushu City, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; Institute for Global Environmental Strategies; in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, and the Kitakyushu City Government

The fourth meeting of the Kitakyushu Initiative Network was attended by representatives from 20 local governments in the Asia Pacific region, as well as representatives from the private sector, local organizations and research institutes, and international organizations. Participation by representatives of national governments (mainly those invited to the Asia Cooperation Dialogue, held back-to-back in Kitakyushu), was promoted through a special joint program arranged on the second day of the meeting.

The meeting was held to implement better urban environmental management and socioeconomic development policies by providing an opportunity to learn from each other's experiences and to share innovative approaches. A number of presentations of best practices by local governments as well as other relevant approaches were introduced and discussed during the two-day meeting.

**For information, see:** [http://kitakyushu.iges.or.jp/docs/network\\_meetings/kin4/final\\_summary.pdf](http://kitakyushu.iges.or.jp/docs/network_meetings/kin4/final_summary.pdf)

#### **125. APEC 12th Women Leaders Network Meeting**

**Date:** June 25–27, 2007

**Location:** North Queensland, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** APEC

More than 400 women leaders from APEC economies, representing business, government, academia, and civil society, met to consider issues critical to building a sustainable future. Leaders discussed in-depth issues of importance that affect not only them as business leaders but also the broader APEC region and globally. Issues were addressed through the core focus areas of globalization, climate change, labor mobility, sustainable trade, and technology and business practices. Key themes included women in business, women and strengthening capacity, women and global challenges, women and information and communications technology, and women in trade. Among the recommendations the participants made to the APEC leaders was the necessity of ensuring the engagement and participation of women in debating issues such as climate change, trade liberalization, labor mobility, enterprise development, and overcoming the digital divide.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ofw.facs.gov.au/apec\\_wln/women\\_leaders\\_network\\_meeting\\_07.html](http://www.ofw.facs.gov.au/apec_wln/women_leaders_network_meeting_07.html)

#### **126. Asia Clean Energy Forum: Policy and Finance Solutions for Energy Security and Climate Change**

**Date:** June 26–28, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank; United States Agency for International Development; supported by US Department of State, and Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation

About 400 experts from 36 countries gathered to share best practices in clean energy policy and finance and to discuss the scaling-up of clean energy technologies. Through 6 plenary and 15 break-out sessions on such issues as renewable energy, energy efficiency, cleaner coal, sustainable transport, carbon markets, and knowledge management, the forum identified challenges faced by public- and private-sector institutions related to project development and finance and highlighted effective policies and finance strategies to promote greater use of clean energy in Asia Pacific.

The participants represented a diverse group of stakeholders from governments, national and multinational banks, carbon and clean energy investment funds, project developers and service providers, academe, civil society, and development partners and other international organizations.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Asia-Clean-Energy-Forum/default.asp>

**127. Bridging Strategic Asia: The United States, Japan, and India**

**Date:** June 28–29, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** International Security Program and South Asia Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); Japan Institute of International Affairs

A two-day meeting on “Bridging Strategic Asia” sought to continue the process of interaction among the United States, Japan, and India through dialogue on international security issues among a select number of younger US, Japanese, and Indian foreign policy and security specialists. Separate sessions focused on each country’s overall strategic vision and perspectives toward China, nonproliferation, and energy security. The meeting was the first of two meetings to discuss international issues of mutual concern to the three countries. A corollary purpose of the initiative was to facilitate contact among a younger generation of experts to build a network that may form the basis for continued interaction and dialogue in the future.

**For information, see:** [http://www.csis.org/component/option,com\\_csis\\_events/task,view/id,1332/](http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_events/task,view/id,1332/)

**128. 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

**Organizers/Supporters:** Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry

Ten years after the Asian financial crisis and 10 years after the establishment of ASEAN+3, which is now the main vehicle for regional integration in East Asia, this conference gathered policymakers and other participants from Japan and abroad to discuss the current state of the crisis-prevention mechanism within the Asian regional framework, along with its roadmap. Discussion focused on two key areas: lessons from the Asian crisis and the promotion of regional integration. In the area of trade, progress has been made toward the establishment of an East Asian free trade agreement, which is the target for ASEAN+3. In the financial area, multilateralization of the Chiang Mai Initiative was agreed upon at the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Meeting in Kyoto in May 2007. While this development was extremely important, the adequacy of the current crisis-prevention mechanism in this region remained a pressing issue. The conference sought to clarify this area and consider the most desirable roadmap to Asian regional integration.

**For information, see:** <http://www.rieti.go.jp/en/events/07062901/info.html>

***July***

**129. 1st ASEAN+3 Human Security Symposium on Women and Poverty Eradication**

**Date:** July 5–9, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan; Association for Human Rights of Women

Gender experts from the ASEAN+3 region were invited to participate in a two-day meeting and a public symposium at which Dr. Muhammad Yunus, managing director of the Grameen Bank, delivered a statement entitled “Women and Poverty Eradication.” This event provided an important opportunity for governmental and NGO participants to exchange information and experiences on their national strategies, programs, and efforts to reduce the feminization of poverty. At the end of the meeting, the recommendations were adopted on how ASEAN+3 might alleviate the feminization of poverty by taking steps relating to poverty reduction

policies, data collection, access to resources and services, capacity building, and international cooperation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/speech/un2007/un0710-6.html>

**130. PECC Pacific Food System Outlook Group 2007 Meeting**

**Date:** July 10, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC); hosted by China National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation

Asian experts on economics and agriculture gathered for the annual meeting of PECC's Pacific Food System Outlook project team to discuss the forecast for 2007–2008. Discussions focused on linkages between growing urban markets and rural development, including transportation infrastructure, and commercial linkages and modern supermarkets. The final report, which is available online, examines the policy implications of these changes in the food system.

**For information, see:** <http://www.pecc.org/publications/papers/PFSO-2007-2008.pdf>

**131. 14th Annual Workshop of the Framework on Regional Cooperation for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Asia-Pacific Region**

**Date:** July 10–12, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

The focus of this 14th annual workshop was on human rights and extreme poverty, but participants also reviewed progress on issues discussed at the 13th workshop, held in 2005—namely, the national Human Rights Action Plans, national human rights institutions, human rights education, and the right to development. The meeting also considered the future of the Asia-Pacific Framework in the context of a paper, “In Search of the Rights Track,” that was presented at the 13th annual meeting.

**For information, see:** <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/services/international-regional/un/asia-pacific-workshops/14th/>

**132. 4th ROK-US-Japan Joint Workshop**

**Date:** July 11, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Korea Institute for Defense Analyses; Institute for National Strategic Studies, US National Defense University; National Institute for Defense Studies

This workshop was formulated by adding Japan to an already existing ROK-US security workshop. This workshop contributes to the security cooperation among the three countries through the promotion of dialogue on security-related current issues and political-military games.

**For information, see:** [http://kida.re.kr/eng/cooperation/cooperation\\_03.htm#07-0](http://kida.re.kr/eng/cooperation/cooperation_03.htm#07-0)

**133. Meeting of the NEAT Working Group on East Asian Investment Cooperation**

**Date:** July 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT)

The NEAT Working Group Meeting on East Asian Investment Cooperation brought together scholars and experts from 12 of the ASEAN+3 countries. (Brunei was absent.) The meeting was held concurrently with the 3rd East Asia Investment Forum, and the two events shared an

opening session and keynote speeches. The NEAT Working Group Meeting then had panel discussions on four themes: progress and the current situation of East Asian investment cooperation, opportunities and prospects for East Asian investment cooperation, problems and obstacles in East Asian investment cooperation, and proposals and suggestions for furthering East Asian investment cooperation. The summary report is available online.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat\\_05wg03.pdf](http://www.ceac.jp/e/pdf/neat_05wg03.pdf)

**134. 3rd East Asia Investment Forum 2007**

**Date:** July 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Network of East Asian Think-tanks; China National Association for International Studies; China Foreign Affairs University; Chongqing Foreign Economic Relation and Trade Commission

More than 300 officials, scholars, and entrepreneurs from China, Japan, South Korea, and ASEAN participated in the 3rd East Asia Investment Forum, which focused on overseas development strategies for Chinese enterprises. China pays close attention to regional economic cooperation, has signed a number of agreements with ASEAN, and will set up a free trade zone with ASEAN in 2010. Economic and trade exchanges between China and East Asian countries have been growing rapidly, with the combined trade volume reaching US\$502.4 billion in 2006, accounting for 32.5 percent of China's foreign trade for the year. Although China has an overall foreign trade surplus, it had a deficit of US\$87.5 billion in 2006 with East Asian countries.

**For information, see:** [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2007-07/15/content\\_5435925.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2007-07/15/content_5435925.htm)

**135. 6th Workshop on the ASEAN Regional Mechanism on Human Rights**

**Date:** July 16–17, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Co-organized and co-hosted by the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs; Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines; Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism

This workshop was attended by participants representing governments of ASEAN member countries; the ASEAN Secretariat; the national human rights institutions of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand; and members of civil society organizations. The workshop was divided into seven sessions: (1) stocktaking of efforts to establish an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism, (2) efforts of national human rights institutions in advancing an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism and issues of common concern in ASEAN, (3) efforts to help establish a Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children, (4) the ASEAN Charter, (5) initiatives to help elaborate an ASEAN Instrument on Migrant Workers, (6) efforts to help promote education on human rights in ASEAN, and (7) a plenary discussion on the conclusions and recommendations to be submitted to ASEAN during the 40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Manila.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanhrmech.org/downloads/6th%20WS%20Summary%20of%20Proceedings.Session.pdf>

**136. ARTNeT Consultative Meeting on Trade and Investment Policy Coordination**

**Date:** July 16–17, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; International Development Research Centre



This meeting was intended to provide a regional forum for discussion of the need for more coordination among trade, investment, and other policies at the national level as well as the need for cross-border harmonization of investment rules in particular through investment provisions in preferential trade agreements. Discussions were based on draft research papers and preliminary findings resulting from the implementation of the ARTNet Research Programme 2007.

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

**137. 6th Japan-ASEAN Dialogue: The Challenges Facing Japan and ASEAN in the New Era**

**Date:** July 17–19, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Global Forum of Japan, Japan Forum on International Relations, ASEAN Institute of Strategic and International Studies; supported by Japan-ASEAN Exchange Projects

The 6th Japan-ASEAN Dialogue was attended by 109 participants, including 12 panelists from ASEAN countries. Participants discussed the ASEAN Community and future of the Japan-ASEAN relationship, including the process of drafting the ASEAN Charter. Topics for discussion included developing the political will for integration and the urgency for ASEAN to improve energy efficiency and develop recyclable energy, as well as a caution regarding the conflicts between local and national interests in China.

**For information, see:** <http://www.gfj.jp/eng/dialogue/24/cp.pdf>

**138. Integrating Asian Economies: Ten Years after the Crisis**

**Date:** July 18, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB); Ministry of Finance, Thailand; in collaboration with Thailand Development Research Institute

The conference aimed to review how Asian countries underwent two decades of dramatic change, from the rapid economic growth of the mid-1990s, to the large setbacks during the crisis, to the renewed sustained expansion a decade later. The conference reviewed how countries were able to transform crisis into opportunities; analyzed issues related to the financial, trade, and investment sectors; and discussed the future of Asia and perspectives for deepening regional cooperation and integration. More than 200 representatives from government, think tanks, academe, NGOs, media, and ADB staff attended.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Integrating-Asian-Economies/default.asp>

**139. International Conference on Happiness in Global Perspectives & Local Interpretations: The Implication for Alternative Development Paradigms and Public Policy**

**Date:** July 18–19, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); Public Policy Development Office, Government of Thailand

The Public Policy Development Office, a new policy and research unit within the Government House in Bangkok, worked with ESCAP to convene an international conference on “Happiness and Public Policy.” Though the focus is global, the gathering takes advantage of the current interest in Thailand among policymakers and civic leaders in making human wellbeing the basis of a new development paradigm. The conference provided a platform for debating interesting ideas on a new development paradigm that contributes to happy societies and more meaningful

development measurements with implications for sustainable development. Participants examined five sub-themes: (1) happiness in global perspectives: why we need a new paradigm; (2) conceptualization of happiness and indicators; (3) local interpretation on national happiness; (4) happiness and socioeconomic policy; and (5) technology and happiness.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ppdoconference.org/about\\_ppdo\\_conference.php](http://www.ppdoconference.org/about_ppdo_conference.php)

**140. Workshop on Business Models and Financial Frameworks to Scale Up Responses to Climate Change, Clean Energy, and Sustainable Development**

**Date:** July 18–19, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; Department for International Development, Government of the United Kingdom; Korean Environment Institute; 136 Environment CEO Forum

This two-day conference brought together government policymakers, private sector leaders, academics, and representatives of NGOs from across the region to focus on developing business and financial frameworks that promote clean energy and reduce the impact of global warming. The objectives of the meeting were to discuss how policies, financial instruments, and domestic/international frameworks can assist in increasing the scale of a sustainable development response to climate change; to identify how scaling up responses can be developed and strengthened with carbon market continuity measures; and to share views on policies, measures, and instruments to increase the synergies of domestic and global responses to climate change. Issues discussed included the need for a shift toward a low-carbon society and how to bolster responses to changes in climate.

**For information, see:** [http://unescap.org/esd/climatechange/workshop/2007\\_07\\_18/](http://unescap.org/esd/climatechange/workshop/2007_07_18/)

**141. Emerging Asian Regionalism: Ten Years after the Crisis**

**Date:** July 19–20, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This workshop gathered the study team of an ADB project on “Emerging Asian Regionalism: Ten Years after the Crisis.” The workshop aimed to review how Asian countries underwent two decades of dramatic change—from the rapid economic growth of the mid-1990s, to the large setbacks during the crisis, up to today’s renewed expansion, a decade after the 1997–1998 Asian financial crisis—with a focus on Asian regionalism.

Fifty international economic experts; heads of Asian, North American, and European think tanks; and ADB staff participated. One aim was to finalize the structure and content of the related ADB report that was to be launched at the ADB Annual Meeting in May 2008.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/TARs/REG/40249-REG-TAR.pdf>

**142. Reviewing the Poverty Impacts of Regional Economic Integration (REI)**

**Date:** July 19–20, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This workshop brought together researchers from Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam, as well as ADB colleagues, in order to analyze research results and policy recommendations on the impacts and outcomes of REI on the poor in border provinces in the Greater Mekong Subregion. The two-day meeting discussed the findings and recommendations emerging from research that had been undertaken under a regional technical assistance project.

Some of the main findings of the research were that labor migration is the greatest opportunity for the poor from REI as well as the greatest threat, and that labor migration is the single largest source of direct benefits to the poor households in the subregion, with estimated earnings of cross-border workers as high as US\$5.4 million per month in one province of Cambodia alone. Participants called for coordinated efforts to strengthen the legal status of cross-border migrant workers and reduce their exploitation and abuse.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Poverty-Impacts/default.asp>

**143. 3rd Asia-Pacific Ministerial Meeting on HIV/AIDS**

**Date:** July 23, 2007

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Australian Agency for International Development; Asia Pacific Business Coalition Against AIDS

In an effort to further strengthen the response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the region, business and government representatives joined in the 3rd Asia-Pacific Ministerial Meeting on HIV/AIDS. The meeting was convened to build on the goals expressed by ministers from the region through the previous two ministerial meetings to promote high-level leadership and partnership among key stakeholders in combating AIDS in the region. The impact of AIDS on the private sector was a central theme of the discussions, with lessons being drawn from the effects seen in Africa. Issues highlighted were the rising costs related to AIDS on businesses, including absenteeism due to illness or attending funerals, burial costs, health care benefits, and recruitment and training of new labor to replace that lost to AIDS.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unaids.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Resources/FeatureStories/archive/2007/20070724\\_MinisterialMeeting.asp](http://www.unaids.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Resources/FeatureStories/archive/2007/20070724_MinisterialMeeting.asp)

**144. Preventing the Trafficking of Women and Children and Promoting Safe Migration in the GMS**

**Date:** July 25–27, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This workshop brought together representatives of governments from the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), UN representatives, NGOs, and researchers in order to discuss the issue of human trafficking in the GMS and the most relevant approaches to combating it. At the end of the workshop, the participants had developed a better understanding of the causes of vulnerability to human trafficking and the various levels at which it needs to be combated. Guidelines were finalized for the ADB and governments to address the risks of human trafficking more effectively.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Women-Trafficking/default.asp>

**145. Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration, Including Human Trafficking**

**Date:** July 26, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

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

ESCAP and the 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. This was the second of four meetings held in 2007.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2007/jun/g25.asp>

**146. Making New Partnership: A Rising China and its Neighbors**

**Date:** July 26–27, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)

CASS held an international conference on the theme of “Making New Partnership: A Rising China and its Neighbors,” which gathered scholars from the United States, Russia, India, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, Kazakhstan, and China. Participants discussed the issues of Chinese relations with Northeast Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Russia, Central Asia, and the United States.

**For information, see:** <http://iaps.cass.cn/english/news/showcontent.asp?id=298>

**147. Roundtable on US-Japan-India Relations**

**Date:** July 27–29, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); Confederation of Indian Industry (CII); Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA)

Recognizing the need to explore the parameters for broader trilateral cooperation in an unofficial setting, CSIS organized a series of informal roundtables with eminent persons from all three nations. CSIS hosted the first meeting in Washington in June 2006 and found that there was intense interest in developing a trilateral agenda in the areas of security, energy/environment, and economics. A second session was held in Tokyo in January 2007. The group reconvened in Tokyo in July to discuss security cooperation, cooperation on energy security and environmental issues, and economic cooperation. They agreed at that meeting to issue a set of recommendations to all three governments through a joint CSIS/CII/JIIA publication.

**For information, see:** [http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/070816\\_us\\_j\\_ireport.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/070816_us_j_ireport.pdf)

**148. 3rd Workshop on Political Transitions and Political Change in Southeast Asia**

**Date:** July 30–31, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University; Konrad Adenauer Stiftung; Centre for Strategic & International Studies, Jakarta

Participants at this workshop reflected on the challenges of the political transitions taking place in Southeast Asian countries and examined their implications on political change and development, as well as their impact on domestic and regional stability.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kas.de/upload/auslandshomepages/singapore/30-07-07\\_singapore.pdf](http://www.kas.de/upload/auslandshomepages/singapore/30-07-07_singapore.pdf)

**149. Capital Flows, Financial Markets and Economic Integration in Asia**

**Date:** July 30–31, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Claremont McKenna College; Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies (Bologna Campus); Singapore Centre for Applied and Policy Economics

This meeting marked the inauguration of what is intended to be an annual event organized jointly by academic centers in the United States, Italy, and Singapore. The workshop discussed monetary and financial issues and policies in Asia (e.g., the region's exchange rate regime, international reserves, monetary policies, and capital flows), as well as monetary and financial cooperation in Asia (e.g., optimum currency area, exchange rate coordination, and monetary policy coordination). The meeting also featured a public lecture by Prof. Barry Eichengreen of the University of California at Berkeley on "Corporate Governance in Asia."

**For information, see:** <http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/ecs/scape/forum/index.html>

**150. ASEAN 40th Anniversary Conference: Ideas and Institutions—Building an ASEAN Community?**

**Date:** July 31–August 1, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES); S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Singapore

FES and the RSIS joined together to hold this research conference in honor of ASEAN's 40th anniversary. Participants were high-ranking politicians, academics, and civil society representatives. Recent developments in ASEAN imply a commitment on the part of leaders to remake not only the operational norms and principles of their association but its institutional character as well. Significantly, this is not only proceeding at the intergovernmental level but equally at the unofficial and civil society level. Together, these top-down initiatives and bottom-up pressures are gradually molding a regional culture of participatory regionalism. Yet, despite these positive developments, ASEAN still faces many major impediments. The conference therefore examined such questions as the economic, political, and societal challenges ASEAN is confronted with today; ways in which Southeast Asian political actors have responded to the given challenges in terms of institutionalization; and the driving forces of and resistance to institutionalization.

**For information, see:** [http://www.fesspore.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=6&Itemid=](http://www.fesspore.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=6&Itemid=)

**151. 17th Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change: Good Governance for Climate and Development**

**Date:** July 31–August 3, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Ministry of the Environment, Japan; Australian Greenhouse Office; Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; and Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan

Japan's Ministry of the Environment has convened the Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change since the early 1990s in support of regional efforts to address climate change. The seminar has been steadily growing in significance as a regional forum to promote awareness and exchange experiences on different issues of common interest for Asia Pacific countries. Participants include officers and researchers from international organizations, NGOs, academia, and businesses in the Asia Pacific region. This year, the main theme of the seminar was "Good Governance for Climate & Development." 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 from a practical point of view.

**For information, see:** <http://www.ap-net.org/seminar/h01.html>

## August

### **152. Towards the Development of the Trans-Asian Energy System: Inception Meeting**

**Date:** August 2–3, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

With a growing appetite for energy and unstable global energy markets, the Asia Pacific region clearly has a need for greater energy security. While the region has a large share of global energy resources, they are concentrated in a few countries, leaving other countries dependent on imports. Intraregional trade in energy is one way to address this problem. The Environment and Sustainable Development Division of ESCAP hosted a meeting in Seoul on the trans-Asian energy system. The event sought to facilitate energy trading within the region. More specifically, the meeting attempted to further conceptualize the trans-Asian energy system and the modalities for its implementation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unescap.org/unis/What\\_s\\_Ahead/2007/07-Aug/Aug\\_07.asp](http://www.unescap.org/unis/What_s_Ahead/2007/07-Aug/Aug_07.asp)

### **153. International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS) 5: Sharing a Future in Asia**

**Date:** August 2–5, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** ICAS Secretariat; Institute of Occidental Studies and the Institute of the Malay World and Civilisation, both based at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

More than 300 panels in 22 concurrent sessions were convened during ICAS 5. The majority of the nearly 1,500 participants were Asia scholars from the social sciences and humanities—researchers, graduate students, and representatives of civil society at large—although the interdisciplinary and interregional nature of the convention also drew a large number of natural scientists from medical and health studies, environmentalists, and engineers whose research specializations are in Asia.

ICAS 5 themes included such topics as political implications of international expositions and art festivals, urban dilemmas in Asia, education through the ages, colonialism and the development of nationalism, causes and cures in healthcare in Asia, crime and the state in South Asia, and exploring women's agency in religion and culture. All panels included a cross-disciplinary, border-transcending approach.

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

### **154. 8th Asia Pacific Forum, Awaji Conference 2007**

**Date:** August 3–4, 2007

**Location:** Awaji, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Pacific Forum, Awaji Conference Japan

The 8th Asia Pacific Forum Awaji Conference was held on the theme "Asia, Struggling with Energy Issues." The conference discussions reflected radical changes in the global political and economic environments pertaining to energy. The event began with an international symposium attended by participants from 11 countries, which featured a lecture on "overall energy policy in China," followed by a panel discussion that addressed current energy consumption in the Asia Pacific region, current measures, and activities of governments and the private sector.

On the second day, the forum, attended by roughly 60 participants, began with three keynote proposals, followed by discussions. The participants formulated a conference

statement that stressed the need for industrially advanced nations and developing nations to cooperate and build relations of trust and for Japan and other industrially advanced nations to provide energy and environmental technologies to developing nations and to develop eco-friendly alternative energies. For this to be achieved, it is important for governments, businesses, and people to demonstrate a new environmental consciousness.

**For information, see:** [http://www.hemri21.jp/awaji-conf/e\\_main4.html](http://www.hemri21.jp/awaji-conf/e_main4.html)

**155. ASEAN Think-Tank Forum: ASEAN at 40—Achievements and Challenges**

**Date:** August 6–7, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA); Institute of Policy Studies, Singapore

At the ASEAN Think Tank Forum, prominent members of ASEAN think tanks and NGOs came together to discuss ASEAN's achievements to date. In the first panel, participants took stock of ASEAN and agreed that while ASEAN has accomplished much as a regional organization, there are enormous challenges ahead. The second panel examined the rise of China and India and the implications of this phenomenon for ASEAN's economy. Participants stated that ASEAN should strive toward the creation of a single market, an ASEAN Economic Community, to ensure the efficient allocation of resources for higher welfare and sustainable development in ASEAN as a whole and to enable ASEAN to compete with China and India on a more equal footing. Other panels considered the proposed ASEAN Charter, the ASEAN Security Community, the environment, and ASEAN's external relations.

**For information, see:** <http://www.siiainline.org/?q=news/asean-think-tank-forum-6-7-august-2007>

**156. 2007 Senior Policy Seminar**

**Date:** August 6–8, 2007

**Location:** Honolulu, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** East-West Center

The East-West Center gathered 28 diplomats, analysts, scholars, and business leaders for a seminar that examined security, economics, the US role in the Asia Pacific region, China-US relations, and "soft power."

**For information, see:** <http://www.eastwestcenter.org/seminars-and-journalism-fellowships/policy-dialogue/senior-policy-seminar/>

**157. Agricultural and Rural Development for Reducing Poverty and Hunger in Asia: In Pursuit of Inclusive and Sustainable Growth**

**Date:** August 9–10, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI); Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Despite recent progress, Asia continues to be home to two-thirds of the world's poor. Looking toward the future, what role will agriculture and rural development play in alleviating poverty and hunger? What are the emerging challenges and opportunities for agriculture and rural non-farm activities on the livelihoods of the poor and hungry in this rapidly changing region?

This high-level policy forum brought together about 70 key policymakers, development partners, and researchers from all over Asia to discuss these important issues. The objectives were to facilitate focused exchange on the current situation with regard to poverty and hunger in rural Asia and the challenges affecting the farm and non-farm economies, discuss strategies for rural growth including at the macro level (trade, foreign direct investment, market access,

and institutional reforms) and micro level (technology adoption, improved natural resources management, and climate change adaptation), and focus on investment priorities to promote rural inclusive growth.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Agricultural-Rural-Development/default.asp>

**158. Conference on Globalization, Asian Economic Integration, and National Development Strategies: Challenges to Asia in a Fast-Changing World**

**Date:** August 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Forum on Debt and Development (FONDAD); in collaboration with Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia; supported by Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy, International Monetary Fund, and World Bank

FONDAD organized this conference in collaboration with ISIS Malaysia to examine national development strategies in an integrating Asia, with reference to China, Malaysia, and Indonesia; forms and pace for regional economic integration in Asia; the sequencing of regional economic integration in Asia; strategies available to Asia for confronting global imbalances and preventing crises and the need for a new global architecture.

**For information, see:** [http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events\\_recent](http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_recent)

**159. PECC Regional Institutional Architecture Reference Group Meeting**

**Date:** August 17–19, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC)

Existing regional processes in the Asia Pacific for economic and political cooperation are increasingly under question. APEC and the ASEAN Regional Forum, once conceived of as embryos of the Asia Pacific regional architecture, are now viewed by some as losing relevance. Greater attention is now focused on East Asian regional arrangements, leading to the question of whether the basic, common understanding for how regional cooperation will proceed, and whether it will remain transpacific in nature.

The objective of this project is to assess the value and potential of current institutional arrangements for Asia Pacific cooperation and to propose reforms and new initiatives as may be needed. The project has two levels of contributors, an authors group and the reference group. This meeting convened the latter group.

**For information, see:** <http://www.pecc.org/architecture/default.htm>

**160. 8th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP)**

**Date:** August 19–23, 2007

**Location:** Colombo, Sri Lanka

**Organizers/Supporters:** International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) hosted by the Government of Sri Lanka; sponsored by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; AIDS Society of Asia and the Pacific

The 8th ICAAP brought together more than 3,000 delegates from some 60 countries to discuss critical issues on AIDS in the region such as stigma and discrimination, access to HIV prevention and treatment, and the importance of sustained political commitment on AIDS. The theme of the eighth ICAAP was “Waves of Change, Waves of Hope.” “Waves of change”



signified the many things happening and the work required to battle against HIV/AIDS, while a globally cohesive commitment formed the “waves of hope.”

The conference was organized around four tracks: political and community leadership and partnerships for change; basic and clinical sciences and epidemiology; scaling up prevention, treatment, care, and support; and socioeconomic, religious, and cultural barriers and ways forward. In addition, a number of crosscutting themes were examined: human rights and human security, gender and sexuality, and GIPA (greater involvement of people living with AIDS).

**For information, see:** <http://www.icaap8.lk/index.htm>

[http://www.unaids.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Resources/FeatureStories/archive/2007/20070820\\_ICAAP2007.asp](http://www.unaids.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Resources/FeatureStories/archive/2007/20070820_ICAAP2007.asp)

#### **161. 2nd Regional Dialogue on Transboundary Haze**

**Date:** August 20, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Singapore Institute of International Affairs; co-organized with Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta; Institute of Strategic and International Studies of Malaysia

This dialogue brought together some 30 representatives of regional NGOs, think tanks, and academic institutions from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Japan, and Australia. Participants called attention to the impact of the fires and haze in the region on deforestation and climate change. While the haze had not affected major cities in the region badly yet in 2007, they noted this was mostly because of weather; the main policy gaps and economic drivers for the fires and haze remained to be addressed. Participants called for further action by Indonesia and for deeper cooperation at provincial and district levels. Some of the key issues covered in the dialogue included the unsustainable development of deep peat lands for palm oil plantations, the potential role of the ASEAN Summit 2007 to provide political will and coordinated responses across different agencies, and the need for greater coordination among regional and international NGOs and ASEAN.

**For information, see:** <http://www.siiionline.org/?q=hazewatch/second-regional-dialogue-transboundary-haze-chairmans-statement>

#### **162. 5th Annual NEAT Conference; 7th Country Coordinators' Meeting**

**Date:** August 20–22, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT); co-chaired by NEAT Singapore (host) and NEAT Malaysia; East Asia Institute, Singapore National University

Around 60 representatives and experts from the 13 ASEAN+3 nations participated in this annual gathering. The conference participants heard reports on the results of the activities from six working groups—East Asian Financial Cooperation, Overall Architecture of Community Building in East Asia, East Asian Cooperative Framework for Migrant Labor, Enhancement of East Asian Cultural Exchange, Energy Security Cooperation in East Asia, and East Asian Investment Cooperation—which was followed by a lively discussion involving all members.

Based on the key recommendations of the six working groups, the Country Coordinators Meeting, NEAT's highest decision-making body, put together policy recommendations to be submitted by NEAT to the ASEAN+3 heads of state summit, held in Singapore in November.

**For information, see:** <http://www.ceac.jp/e/neat.html>

[http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events\\_recent](http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_recent)

**163. 10th ASEAN Food Conference: Food for Mankind—Contribution of Science and Technology**

**Date:** August 21–23, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN; organized by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Malaysia; in collaboration with the Federation of Institutes of Food Science and Technology in ASEAN, Malaysia Agricultural Research and Development Institute, Malaysian Institute of Food Technology, and University Putra Malaysia

The 10th ASEAN Food Conference was attended by around 750 participants from 38 countries, including representatives from the private sector and international organizations (e.g., the United Nations Children’s Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization). Ministers, senior government officials, representatives of international organizations, and renowned food technologists delivered keynote speeches, presenting insights on national and international efforts to address food scarcity, the need to strategize food industries in ASEAN, global issues in food standards, and technology trends in food industries. A total of 135 papers and 350 posters were presented at the conference, covering a range of topics such as enhancing food safety through risk assessment, food service and entrepreneurship, food processing and engineering, standards and regulations, halal food (i.e., food that is permissible according to Islamic laws and customs), and functional food.

**For information, see:** <http://www.astnet.org/index.php?name=Main&file=events&eid=70>

**164. ASEAN 100 Leadership Forum**

**Date:** August 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Inc. Forum

The ASEAN 100 Leadership Forum focuses explicitly on new and emerging leaders in Southeast Asia, men and women who are expected to play key leadership roles in government, business, and civil society in the next 5 to 10 years. At the 2007 forum, participants began by debating “The Way Forward for ASEAN,” including the continued relevance of the ASEAN model of regionalism as it has evolved and the need for radical reinvention. The following session discussed the policy implications of climate change, asking whether a decisive response to climate change requires slowing economic growth in the developing world. Concurrent discussions were then held on whether ASEAN can compete with China and India, whether political Islam is compatible with modernization, whether a country can be managed like a company, and whether ASEAN savings are adequate to finance ASEAN infrastructure needs. Next, a forum discussion was held on the global economy, including an open discussion led by Asian business leaders. The final dinner dialogue addressed the theme, “In Pursuit of an ASEAN Community: Are We Where We Should Be?”

**For information, see:** [http://www.asean100forum.com/a100\\_programs\\_2007.php](http://www.asean100forum.com/a100_programs_2007.php)

**165. 1st Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institute Meeting**

**Date:** August 23–24, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University

The RSIS proposed the establishment of a Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutes (NADI) as an informal meeting for discussing issues and proposals relevant to the ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM). At the NADI inaugural meeting, representatives of ASEAN defense and security think tanks and defense ministry institutes agreed that NADI is a relevant and useful forum in the ongoing process of creating an ASEAN Security Community.

Moreover, NADI can also build confidence and familiarity among the ASEAN think tanks and recommend proposals for enhancing defense and security cooperation to the ADMM for consideration. The host for NADI meetings will rotate in alphabetical order and will coincide with the ASEAN country hosting the ADMM.

**For information, see:** [http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past\\_conf.html#](http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past_conf.html#)  
[http://www.srithailand.org/joomla/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=67%3Anadi&catid=3%3Anewsflash&lang=en](http://www.srithailand.org/joomla/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=67%3Anadi&catid=3%3Anewsflash&lang=en)

**166. 19th UN Conference on Disarmament Issues**

**Date:** August 27–29, 2007

**Location:** Sapporo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations; hosted by the Government of Japan and the City of Sapporo; Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs

The 19th UN Conference on Disarmament Issues was opened by the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Sergio Duarte. Approximately 60 participants from governments, academic institutions, think tanks, international and nongovernmental organizations, and the media attended the conference in their personal capacities. In view of the growing threats to global and regional security arising from nuclear proliferation risks, the conference addressed challenges facing the nuclear nonproliferation regime and strengthening of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and discussed a new vision for a world free from nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. Regional issues in relation to nuclear testing and nuclear proliferation were also discussed, and a special session was devoted to chemical weapons and chemical terrorism 12 years after the Tokyo subway sarin attack.

**For information, see:** <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2007/dc3080.doc.htm>

**167. Asia-Pacific Security Forum 2007: Economic Security in the Asia-Pacific**

**Date:** August 30–31, 2007

**Location:** Taipei, Taiwan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute for National Policy Research (Taiwan); Pacific Forum CSIS (USA); Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (Philippines); 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 2007 meeting focused on five themes: (1) the rise of China—economic power and challenges to the world order; (2) the other side of China's rise—energy security and environmental security; (3) American and Northeast Asian perspectives on China's rise; (4) Southeast Asian and EU perspectives on China's rise; and (5) "a tale of two cities—Taipei and Beijing."

**For information, see:** <http://www.tp.org.tw/events/detail.htm?id=20000210>

**September**

**168. 2nd Policy Consultation Forum of the Seoul Initiative Network on Green Growth: Application of Economic Instruments for Green Growth**

**Date:** September 3–5, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); in collaboration with Ministry of Environment of South Korea; Korea Institute of Public Finance

Among this forum's participants were senior officials from ministries and agencies of economic development, environment, finance, forestry, natural resources, and planning, as well as experts and representatives from academia, international and regional organizations, and other UN agencies. The three-day forum featured sessions on concepts of economic instruments and the current status in Asia Pacific; experiences with implementing such economic incentives as financial incentives, environmental charges, and deposit-refund systems; on opportunities and perspectives for green tax and budget reforms; providing incentives for climate action; and the successful application of economic instruments for green growth in Asia Pacific.

The meeting was intended to review the current types of economic instruments used for environmental protection, exchange views and experiences regarding the implementation of economic instruments, provide practical guidance to policymakers, identify capacity-building needs, and identify the national-level activities of the Seoul Initiative that could translate the green growth approach into action.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unescap.org/esd/environment/mced/singg2/documents/Summary%20of%20the%20Forum\\_final.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/esd/environment/mced/singg2/documents/Summary%20of%20the%20Forum_final.pdf)

**169. 10th Steering Group Meeting of the ADB-OECD Anticorruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific**

**Date:** September 3–5, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB); Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

The 10th Steering Group Meeting had two 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 November 2006 and reform projects that countries have completed or plan to undertake under the action plan's second and third implementation cycles; (2) to conclude the steering group's second policy review on mutual legal assistance and extradition in corruption cases. Representatives from more than 20 nations in Asia Pacific met together with civil society experts who comprise an advisory group to the project.

**For information, see:** [http://www.oecd.org/document/25/0,3343,en\\_34982156\\_34982385\\_39339353\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/25/0,3343,en_34982156_34982385_39339353_1_1_1_1,00.html)

**170. 7th Asian International Forum in Fukuoka**

**Date:** September 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Fukuoka, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Fukuoka Prefecture; Fukuoka City; Organizing Committee of the Asian International Forum in Fukuoka

This forum was established in 2001 in commemoration of the Kyushu-Okinawa G8 Summit's Fukuoka Finance Ministers Meeting in 2000. The forum is held annually and brings scholars from Asian, European, and US research institutes together to debate various issues, share knowledge and expertise, and promote development and prosperity as well as mutual understanding in Asia.

The theme in 2007 was "Globalization and Asia in Transformation." Following a keynote address on promoting regional cooperation in East Asia, panel discussions were held on expanding the global labor market, the bridging effect of popular and youth culture, and globalization and Asian agriculture. The meeting concluded with a roundtable.

**For information, see:** [http://www.urc.or.jp/summit/city/more\\_e.php?id=2&apcs\\_mbr=13rc8c2lm74coavnbjpkbia240lhqm9j](http://www.urc.or.jp/summit/city/more_e.php?id=2&apcs_mbr=13rc8c2lm74coavnbjpkbia240lhqm9j)

**171. APEC Business Summit 2007**

**Date:** September 6–7, 2007

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

With the theme, “Strengthening Our Community, Building a Sustainable Future,” the APEC Business Summit provided opportunities for strategic engagement and networking with business leaders, international opinion setters, policymakers, and leaders of APEC member economies. The two-day forum formed part of the APEC meetings hosted by the Australian government in 2007. In interactive sessions, panelists addressed some of the most significant issues facing the region: the facilitation of efficient, reliable, and sustainable energy in an increasingly consumption-driven environment affected severely by climate change; the challenges and opportunities for trade and growth in both the region and the world; and major international trends and issues for the coming decades and their implications for Asia Pacific businesses. Sessions also covered the macroeconomic and financial outlook for the region; the role of education for future regional prosperity; and strategies and obstacles for facilitating skills development and innovation within the Asia Pacific population.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apec.org/apec/business\\_resources/apec\\_ceo\\_summit.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/business_resources/apec_ceo_summit.html)

**172. Institute for Security & Development Policy and RSIS Energy Conference 2007: Spotlight on Asia’s Energy and Security Challenges—A Multilateral Response**

**Date:** September 7–8, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute for Security & Development Policy; S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University

Nearly 70 experts from Asia, the United States, and the EU participated in a two-day conference on regional energy security. Sessions focused on Asia’s energy profile and security, feeding Asia’s energy demand, the nuclear option and environmental concerns, views from outside the region, and the prospects for regional cooperation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past\\_conf.html#](http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/past_conf.html#)

**173. CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Security in the Malacca and Singapore Straits**

**Date:** September 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); CSCAP Indonesia; CSCAP Malaysia; and CSCAP Singapore

In 2005, a high-level conference on ways to improve the safety, security, and environmental protection of the Malacca and Singapore straits resulted in the Jakarta Statement on Enhancement of Safety, Security and Environmental Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore. Another conference held in 2006 determined that user states should contribute on a voluntary basis to the navigational safety and marine environmental protection in the straits. Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore tabled six projects that could be funded by user states, but no agreement was reached on how to share the costs of these projects. In March 2007, the creation of a Malacca Straits Fund using voluntary contributions from user states and other stakeholders was proposed. This study group, a sub-group of the CSCAP Study Group on Facilitating Maritime Cooperation, will address the concerns of the littoral states and stakeholders, identify common interests among them, and establish where and how further cooperation might be achieved.

**For information, see:** [http://www.cscap.ca/Malacca&SingaporeStrts\\_SG.html](http://www.cscap.ca/Malacca&SingaporeStrts_SG.html)

**174. 15th Environment Congress for Asia and the Pacific (ECO Asia 2007)**

**Date:** September 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Fukuoka, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Ministry of Environment of Japan

Environment ministers and senior officials of Asia Pacific countries, representatives of international organizations, local governments, research institutes, and NGOs gathered for ECO Asia 2007. The meeting began with a session on international collaboration among national and local governments concerning waste management and recycling. Topics discussed included emerging types of wastes and recyclables, regional cooperation to enhance national capacity on waste management and recycling, national policy to promote and support local action, dissemination of good practices, and the role of the private sector in promoting 3R (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) activities in the Asia Pacific region.

The second session focused on issues related to opportunities for regional cooperation to address climate change. Issues covered included ways to achieve a low-carbon society in the region, financing of adaptation in the region, the ability of the market mechanism to solve climate change, and the role of Asia Pacific in developing a more desirable post-2012 framework.

**For information, see:** <http://www.env.go.jp/en/earth/ecoasia/index.html>

**175. J-Global Forum 2007: Northeast Asian Community—Is It Feasible?**

**Date:** September 9–10, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** JoongAng Ilbo; support from Pohang Iron and Steel Company (POSCO)

The J-Global Forum is an annual gathering of leading newspaper editors and journalists. Initiated in 1996 as the Asia Press Forum, it was expanded to include European journalists in 2000. In 2007, it was renamed J-Global Forum to coincide with the new focus on global issues, and it convened 33 academics, journalists, and policymakers from Japan, Korea, China, and Southeast Asia to discuss the feasibility of establishing a Northeast Asian regional community.

Why is it that Northeast Asia, a region marked by enormous economic growth in recent decades, has been unable to come up with a formula for multilateral cooperation? Why has Southeast Asia, through ASEAN, had 40 years of diplomatic cooperation on common goals through its alliance? These were questions participants grappled with at this one-day international conference. The experts gathered were nearly unanimous in saying that historical tensions in the region will be difficult to overcome.

**For information, see:** <http://www.jconference.org/Eng/JGlobal/history.asp>

**176. Expert Group Meeting on Policy Coherence for Managing Globalization**

**Date:** September 11–12, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Trade and Investment Division

The objective of this expert group meeting was to discuss the need for greater policy coherence to ensure that developing countries benefit from trade and investment liberalization initiatives taking place at various levels—unilateral, bilateral, regional, and multilateral.

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

**177. 4th Working Group Meeting on Energy Planning and Policy**

**Date:** September 12–13, 2007

**Location:** Irkutsk, Russian Federation

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

In 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. At the fourth meeting of the working group, participants focused on the natural gas trade in Northeast Asia, the regional energy outlook, preparations for the Northeast Asia Government-Business Dialogue, funding arrangements for energy cooperation, and the future workplan of the working group. In addition to government delegations from North and South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia, presenters included ESCAP representatives and experts from academia and business.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esd/energy/dialogue/cooperation/epp4/index.asp>

**178. 2nd KAS/CDI Asia-Pacific Political Parties Workshop: Political Parties and the Youth in Asia**

**Date:** September 12–15, 2007

**Location:** Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); Centrist Democrat International (CDI) Asia Pacific

This series of KAS/CDI Asia-Pacific Political Parties Workshops were launched in Manila in 2005 to promote cooperation among centrist parties in the Asia Pacific region. Each event focuses on specific issues relevant to the participating parties.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/-/-veranstaltung\\_id-25917/](http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/-/-veranstaltung_id-25917/)

**179. Workshop on Female Labor Migration in Globalizing Asia: Translocal/Transnational Identities and Agencies**

**Date:** September 13–14, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Research Institute and Asian Metacentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis, National University of Singapore; supported by Wellcome Trust (UK)

Over the past decades, the globalizing economies of Asia have undergone dramatic growth. This has been accompanied by a rise in labor migration within the region that is increasingly commercialized, irregular, and feminized. Understanding these trends is important for policymaking in the region and for furthering critical theory on gender and globalization. This workshop aimed to explore the mutual interactions of global and local discourses and practices that shape female migration and labor in and across Asia, particularly in East and Southeast Asia, as well as Asian migrant women workers' experiences, identities, and agencies.

Workshop panels included the following: (1) Victims or Survivors? Migrant Domestic Workers' Identities and Agency; (2) Female Factory Workers: Cross-Border Mobility and Spatial Identities; (3) Working Wives and Mothers: Negotiating Work, Family, and Migrant Identity; (4) Global Care Work: Households, Communities, and Gender Roles & Ideologies; (5) Life Stories of Migration: Situated Meaning and Experience; (6) Enhancing Agency through Communication Skills and Technology; and (7) Collective Agency, Rights, and Activism.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events\\_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=613](http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=613)

**180. 2nd CSCAP Study Group on Asia Pacific Cooperation for Energy Security**

**Date:** September 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Goa, India

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); CSCAP India; CSCAP Singapore

The South Asian and East Asian economies' growing demand for energy resources, principally oil, is focusing greater attention on the economic, political, and security concerns over assuring a continuous and adequate supply of energy to these economies at reasonable prices. The unprecedented growth in oil consumption in India and China, in particular, is making the already competitive oil market even more competitive, resulting in a shift in economic interests, political alignments, and regional security strategies.

This study group considers how increasing demand for oil in South Asia and East Asia is changing the regional economics of energy supply and demand, how it is renewing the search for alternative sources and more efficient uses of energy, and how Asia Pacific political alignments and regional security strategies are shifting as a result.

**For information, see:** [http://www.cscap.ca/EnergySecurity\\_SG.html](http://www.cscap.ca/EnergySecurity_SG.html)

**181. 6th ENVforum Roundtable: The Energy Sustainability Challenge—Fueling Greater Cooperation between Asia and Europe**

**Date:** September 18–19, 2007

**Location:** Dublin, Ireland

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); co-organized by the Asia-Europe Foundation, the Hanns Seidel Foundation, the Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Korea Environment Institute (KEI), the United Nations Environment Programme and the Institute for International and European Affairs, Dublin; supported by the European Commission

A roundtable discussion among 40 participants from ASEM countries was held over two days in Dublin. The roundtable focused on the following issues relevant to sustainable energy: What are the implications of increasing energy consumption and economic growth for Asia and Europe? How has each region reacted to calls for greater sustainable energy policies? What opportunities are available for Asia and Europe in ensuring the sustainability of energy while tackling climate change? How can the two regions work closer to promote clean and affordable energy? What are the enabling policies? How could Asia and Europe harness cleaner fuels? In what forms can cooperation take place? How can Asia and Europe work together to tackle the challenges for further cooperation?

**For information, see:** [http://env.asef.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=blogcategory&id=73&Itemid=30](http://env.asef.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=73&Itemid=30)

**182. Mobilizing Aid for Trade: Focus Asia and the Pacific**

**Date:** September 19–20, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank; World Trade Organization; in association with Government of the Philippines

This conference brought together nearly two dozen trade and finance ministers, as well as key donors and private sector representatives to focus collectively on the trade capacity and infrastructure challenges facing the Asia Pacific region. Developing Asia's blistering economic



growth has captured global attention and has shown that adoption of outward-oriented development strategies can help to harness trade as an engine of growth and alleviate poverty. But some economies in the region have lagged behind and face significant challenges.

This conference—one of three “Aid for Trade” meetings worldwide—aimed to stimulate a dialogue among Asia Pacific economies and donor countries on how to boost economic infrastructure; focus on productive capacity building; and boost capacity to formulate, negotiate, and implement trade policy and related agreements. Officials at the meeting pledged to help small and weak states in Asia Pacific build and strengthen capacity to benefit from trade and spur economic growth to alleviate poverty.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Mobilizing-Aid-Trade/default.asp>

**183. High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003–2012**

**Date:** September 19–21, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

In 2002, members of ESCAP decided to extend the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons for another decade, from 2003 to 2012. The Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-Free and Rights-Based Society in Asia and the Pacific was adopted as its defining policy guideline, promoting the paradigm shift from a charity-based approach to a rights-based approach to disability.

The Emerging Social Issues Division of ESCAP organized this meeting as the culmination of the midpoint review of this second decade, bringing together high-level representatives of the ESCAP member and associate member countries, UN bodies and agencies, the Pacific Islands Forum, and many NGOs. The objectives of the meeting were twofold; to review the progress and challenges in implementing the Biwako Framework and to consider and adopt the “Biwako Plus Five: Further Efforts towards an Inclusive, Barrier-Free and Rights-Based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific,” a supplement to the Biwako Framework.

**For information, see:** <http://www.worldenable.net/bmf5/finalreport.htm>

**184. Asian Financial Forum 2007**

**Date:** September 21, 2007

**Location:** Hong Kong SAR

**Organizers/Supporters:** Government of Hong Kong SAR; Hong Kong Trade Development Council

The Asian Financial Forum 2007 was one of the major events celebrating the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong SAR. This forum offered a platform for roughly 600 respected members of the global financial and business community—including central bankers, senior officials, and top executives of international financial institutions—to discuss developments and trends in the dynamic Asian financial markets.

A plenary session in the morning was followed by three concurrent panel sessions in the afternoon focusing on asset and wealth management, the development of Asian treasury and bond markets, and corporate fundraising options. Experts in the financial services fields served as panel conveners and speakers.

**For information, see:** <http://www.asianfinancialforum.com/eng/index.htm>

**185. Regional Informal Workshop on Labor Migration in Southeast Asia: What Role for Parliaments?**

**Date:** September 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Philippine Office; Migrant Forum in Asia

Participants at this informal workshop on labor migration included former and sitting members of parliament and parliamentary staff from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, as well as government officials, representatives from international organizations, migrant NGOs and associations, trade unions, and academia based in the region. The objectives of the workshop were to exchange views on the issues of labor migration in Southeast Asia and to look at how parliamentarians and parliaments can increase their role in addressing labor migration at various levels—national, bilateral, and regional. Participants developed a list of action points and possible interventions. Key recommendations were to conduct a briefing at the parliaments' committee level on the results of the conference with a view to involving more parliamentarians and to look into ways in which a more regular exchange among parliamentarians and joint policy work could be organized.

**For information, see:** [http://www.fes.org.ph/2007%20conferences/FINAL%20Documentation%20FES\\_MFA\\_Parliament\\_Migration\\_Sept07.pdf](http://www.fes.org.ph/2007%20conferences/FINAL%20Documentation%20FES_MFA_Parliament_Migration_Sept07.pdf)

**186. 12th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions**

**Date:** September 24–27, 2007

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; hosted by Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

The 12th gathering of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) began with closed sessions of the Asia Pacific Forum (APF) Advisory Council of Jurists (ACJ) and the Senior Executive Officer Network. The second day featured sessions of the APF Forum Councillors and the APF Annual General Meeting. Day one of the APF Conference was open to all APF member institutions and registered observers from the UN, government, and NGOs. The day's sessions included reports from APF member institutions, a discussion on regional cooperation among NHRIs and reports from Asia Pacific governments and NGOs. The second day of the APF Conference focused on the role of NHRIs in promoting and protecting the rights of people with disabilities. It also included the presentation of the ACJ interim report on human rights and the environment. The day concluded with the adoption of a conference statement.

**For information, see:** <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/about/annual-meetings/12th-australia-2007>

**187. International Conference on Europe Meets Asia: Regional Cooperation and Integration Ten Years After the Crisis**

**Date:** September 25, 2007

**Location:** Berlin, Germany

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank; German Institute of Economic Research; European Commission

The aim of this conference was to convene 50 representatives from government, think tanks, business, academia, NGOs, and media to review the emergence of regionalism in Asia and its relevance to Europe. The conference participants discussed how the 1997–1998 Asian financial crisis triggered a regional response in Asia and presented a current model of regional interdependence with a focus on macroeconomic policy and financial and monetary

integration issues. It also analyzed the challenges ahead for Asian integration and how to cope with internal differences based on the European experience.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Europe-Meets-Asia/default.asp>

**188. 8th ASEM Informal Seminar on Human Rights**

**Date:** September 26–28, 2007

**Location:** Siem Reap, Cambodia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); hosted by Government of Cambodia; organized with support from Government of Japan; co-organized by Asia-Europe Foundation, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Sweden

The ASEM Informal Seminar on Human Rights aims to promote better mutual understanding and cooperation among the countries of Asia and Europe in the area of political dialogue, particularly on human rights issues, between government officials, academics, and civil society participants of the 43 ASEM countries. This year's meeting was centered on the theme "freedom of expression." Working groups focused on political rights; cultural rights; roles and relations of state, civil society, and international relations; and the impact of information and communication technology.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/Calendar/Activities/?id=207>

**189. How to Build an East Asian Community**

**Date:** September 28, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Keizai Koho Center (Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs)

This symposium on building an East Asian community began with keynote remarks from the chairman of the Committee on Promotion of Economic Partnerships of Nippon Keidanren, who stressed the importance of negotiating and concluding comprehensive, high-quality EPAs with ASEAN and other strategically important countries, especially in East Asia. In the panel discussions, scholars from Japan, China, and Thailand discussed the prospects for East Asia community building. It was noted that the competition between Japan and China has become obvious in regional issues and that "political will" is key to the success of the regional process in East Asia. Regarding economic issues, it was noted that Japan must resolve the politically sensitive farm trade protection issue or risk being unable to take the initiative in the global effort for trade liberalization.

**For information, see:** <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nb20071013d1.html>

**October**

**190. High-Level Expert Group Meeting on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development; Asia-Pacific Business Forum on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development; Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development**

**Date:** October 2–5, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); Government of the Republic of Korea; Korea Development Institute

A three-part meeting was held to address the critical role of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in advancing the necessary investment in infrastructure that is required for the socioeconomic development of Asia Pacific. The meeting began with a High-Level Expert Group Meeting on October 2–4, followed by the Asia-Pacific Business Forum on PPPs on October 4. The event ended with a Ministerial Conference on October 5, organized and hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea. The conference adopted the Seoul Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/common/TPT/ppp/egm\\_ppp\\_oct07.asp](http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/common/TPT/ppp/egm_ppp_oct07.asp)

**191. 2nd Berlin Conference on Asian Security: The Internal Stability and Cohesion of Asian States—Consequences for Intra-regional and International Relations**

**Date:** October 3–5, 2007

**Location:** Berlin, Germany

**Organizers/Supporters:** German Institute for International and Security Affairs; in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Defence, Germany, and Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta

The second meeting of the “Berlin Group” Conference on Asian Security gathered participants from Europe, the United States, and Asia to discuss aspects of the internal stability and cohesion of Asian states. The first session examined the interrelationship between internal and external stability. The second focused on nontraditional risks and regional cooperation related to Indonesia. The third session examined the potential instability in North Korea; while the fourth examined Pakistan, WMD, and South Asian security; the fifth focused on instability and security in Central Asia; and the sixth looked at China’s internal stability. A final panel discussion considered the consequences of the findings for the major players in the region.

**For information, see:** [http://www.swp-berlin.org/de/common/get\\_document.php?asset\\_id=4508](http://www.swp-berlin.org/de/common/get_document.php?asset_id=4508)

**192. 11th Full Plenary Session of the Expanded Senior Panel of the Limited Nuclear Weapons Free Zone for Northeast Asia (LNWFZ-NEA)**

**Date:** October 3–6, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy, Sam Nunn School and Ivan Allen College, Georgia Tech; co-hosted by Teikyo University

Diplomatic, military, and academic specialists from Argentina, China, Finland, France, Japan, Mongolia, South Korea, Russia, and the United States met to continue in-depth discussions on the concept of the LNWFZ-NEA. This forum is a means to build confidence in Northeast Asia and to support and reinforce the Six-Party Talks. A lively and candid exchange of views was held on a wide range of security and economic issues.

The meeting concentrated on the current progress of the Six-Party Talks, discussions to develop confidence and security building measures for the region, and economic incentives for DPRK progress on denuclearization. All attendees of this Track 2 meeting acted in their personal capacity, and some of the participants trace their involvement in this process back to March 1992, when the idea of a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone for Northeast Asia was first proposed. This meeting took place in the midst of both the release of the Second Phase Actions for the Implementation of the Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks on North Korea’s Nuclear Programs and the 2007 Inter-Korean Summit.

**For information, see:** <http://www.cistp.gatech.edu/Programs/NuclearNonprolif/index.htm>

**193. Mainstreaming Human Security: The Asian Contribution**

**Date:** October 4–5, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Chulalongkorn University; Konrad Adenauer Stiftung; in cooperation with Asian Public Intellectuals (API Fellowship Program); Gender and Development Studies, Asian Institute of Technology; Global Collaboration Center, Osaka University; Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies, Waseda University; Institute of Philippine Culture, Ateneo de Manila University; Mekong Program on Water, Environment and Resilience; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Thailand; Office of Human Rights Studies and Social Development, Mahidol University; Osaka University of Economics and Law ; Southeast Asia Regional Cooperation in Human Development, Canada ; Tata Institute of Social Sciences; Third World Studies Center, University of the Philippines

The concept of human security has led to healthy debates on linkages between freedom from fear and freedom from want. It has also extended the debate over security from state to individuals and communities as actors concerned with new security threats to human welfare and wellbeing. The debate on human security also has important implications for international development and development studies. However, the concept is not well understood conceptually or practically in an Asian context.

Accordingly, Chulalongkorn University organized this conference to examine the status of human security in Asia, to provide an Asian debate on the theoretical aspects of human security, and to look at the practical implications of the concept in terms of policy implementation. The conference took a regional approach both in terms of problems and policies and in terms of research networks. The program was divided into three areas: conceptualizing human security in an Asian context; addressing human security issues and challenges in Asia; and the response to those challenges in terms of policies, programs, and impacts.

**For information, see:** <http://humansecurityconf.polsci.chula.ac.th/>

**194. 9th EU–East Asia Think-Tank Dialogue: Global Governance in the 21st Century and the Role of Europe, East Asia and the United States**

**Date:** October 4–7, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); Japan Center for International Exchange; and Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISDS Philippines)

The EU–East Asia Think-Tank 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. The 2007 conference was held in Tokyo for the first time. The central conference theme was global governance in the 21st century, and nearly 30 senior policy analysts from throughout Asia and Europe gathered to discuss common global challenges, such as energy security and how regional institution-building efforts might be managed to contribute to better global governance. A public forum featuring a keynote address by incoming ASEAN Secretary-General Surin Pitsuwan was held on “Global Governance in the 21st Century and Common Challenges for East Asia and Europe.”

**For information, see:** [http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2007/month-10/veranstaltung\\_id-25919/index.html](http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2007/month-10/veranstaltung_id-25919/index.html)

**195. 2nd Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit**

**Date:** October 5–7, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia Society

This annual summit brings together some 200 dynamic, next-generation leaders from Asia Pacific and the United States to explore imaginative ways to address the most critical issues facing the Asia Pacific community today, develop common approaches to addressing these shared challenges, and cultivate the long-term relationships necessary for developing responses. Leading figures from across the fields of business, politics, civil society, media, arts and culture, and academia attend a variety of keynote speeches, plenary sessions, and breakout sessions in an effort to develop new ideas for building a stronger Asia Pacific community.

Discussions in 2007 focused on how to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth in the region, and participants later paired up on public service projects that encouraged collaboration across sectors and even across countries.

**For information, see:** <http://www.asiasociety.org/asia21/summit.htm>

**196. SCAPE-EABER Workshop on Intra-Asia Trade and Factor Flows: Trends, Determinants, and Implications**

**Date:** October 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** East Asian Bureau of Economic Research; Singapore Centre for Applied and Policy Economics; Australian National University; Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore

This one-and-a-half day workshop featured experts from throughout East Asia and from major government and international organizations who presented their research findings on intraregional equity and debt flows, labor flows, services trade, and technology and trade flows in Asia.

**For information, see:** <http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/ecs/scape/events.html>

**197. Inclusive Growth and Poverty Reduction in the New Asia and Pacific**

**Date:** October 8–9, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

An international forum on inclusive growth and poverty reduction gathered over 150 participants, including 70 influential policymakers and experts from government, academia, civil society, and international and bilateral aid organizations. Participants discussed issues such as pro-poor infrastructure needs, the role of urban and rural development, the financing and delivery of social services including social protection, environmental poverty, geographical targeting, and how the ADB can address social exclusion.

The forum's outcomes are expected to contribute to the ongoing review of the ADB's Long-Term Strategic Framework and discussions concerning replenishment of the Asian Development Fund. The overall conclusion was that there is a pressing need for transformation within ADB and better alignment of inclusive growth as a strategic goal with the operational activities and internal capabilities so that the institution can continue to play an important role in supporting Asia's socioeconomic development. Papers presented at the forum are available online.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Inclusive-Growth-Poverty-Reduction/default.asp>

**198. Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on School Education and Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Date:** October 8–10, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)

Over 270 participants from government, international organizations, NGOs, schools, and the media attended this workshop, an initiative developed by UNISDR's Education Task Force as a first step to demonstrate its long-term commitment to integrating disaster risk reduction into the education sector. This three-day workshop was part of a longer-term regional strategy that aims at raising awareness of the need to integrate disaster risk reduction and school safety construction programs as part of education curricula.

The third day of the workshop benefited from the participation of ministers of education and highlighted the Bangkok-based joint celebrations of the International Day for Disaster Reduction and ASEAN Disaster Management Day. The workshop's conclusions served as the regional contribution for the Asia Pacific region to the International Conference on Education for Disaster Risk Reduction that was organized in November 2008.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unisdr.org/eng/public\\_aware/world\\_camp/2006-2007/iddr/2007-iddr-asia.html](http://www.unisdr.org/eng/public_aware/world_camp/2006-2007/iddr/2007-iddr-asia.html)

### **199. Environmental Challenges in Southeast Asia**

**Date:** October 11, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA); Shell Companies, Singapore

The Shell-SIIA Expert Roundtable gathered representatives from government, NGOs, academic institutions, and multinational corporations to assess environmental challenges, including the impact of rapidly increasing car ownership in Southeast Asia. The roundtable discussed strategies for sustainable development and touched on how nations, corporations, and individuals can participate to curb climate change. The first panel topic was Southeast Asia and climate change, and participants offered an update on the impact and costs of global climate change in terms of the day-to-day livelihoods in the region and beyond and considered steps that can be taken to prepare for that impact in the coming years. During the second panel discussion on sustainable cities, urban planning, and mobility, panelists called on the authorities to consider planning the way people live, work, and play so as to reduce the need for transportation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.siiainline.org/?q=events/environmental-challenges-southeast-asia>

### **200. International Conference on Climate Change and Security**

**Date:** October 11–12, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University; Geneva Centre for Security Policy; Swiss Embassy in Singapore

The International Conference on Climate Change and Security is one of the key activities organized by the RSIS program on nontraditional security in Asia. The discussions among Asian and European experts at this policy forum served to highlight the complex challenges of climate change in Asia and their salience beyond the region. For Asia and Europe, there are at least three reasons why climate change must be placed on top of their security agenda: the severe consequences of climate change, the need for concrete Asian action on mitigating its impact, and the emerging initiatives that are coming out of both regions in responding to the challenges of climate change.

Panels addressed a range of issues related to climate change and security and to energy security. Presenters offered papers on Australian, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and global perspectives on climate change; the environment factor in human (in)security; legal issues related to the Kyoto climate deal; and comprehensive environmental security strategies.

Recommendations were compiled and presented to policymakers at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change meeting in December 2007.

**For information, see:** <http://www.rsis.edu.sg/nts/Events/Climate%20Change%20and%20Security%20Conference.html>

**201. Regional Workshop on the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities and their Families in Asia and the Pacific**

**Date:** October 11–13, 2007

**Location:** Shanghai, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); China Disabled Persons Federation

The objectives of this regional workshop were twofold: to identify issues of persons with intellectual disabilities as well as their families in the region and to identify good practices of policies and support systems for these individuals and their families. During the last five years, the importance of these issues has been recognized within a global discourse on disability—in particular, during the drafting process of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. There are, however, many issues that still require attention. For example, according to the 2006 ESCAP publication, *Disability at a Glance: A Profile of 28 Countries and Areas in Asia and the Pacific*, some governments in the region still do not clearly differentiate persons with intellectual disabilities from persons with psychosocial disabilities in their categorizations of persons with disabilities.

This regional workshop sought to raise awareness on these issues and explore policy and programmatic solutions. The workshop was held in Shanghai, China, where the Special Olympics World Summer Games were held in October 2007.

**For information, see:** <http://www.worldenable.net/shanghai2007/>

**202. Workshop on Managing China-Japan-US Relations and Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation**

**Date:** October 14–16, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

In 2007, JCIE launched a two-year study and dialogue project aimed at developing a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics of the China-Japan-US trilateral relationship, identifying the issues central to managing stable and cooperative relations, and examining ways of promoting more meaningful cooperation on key challenges. This project brings together a multi-country team of leading experts to analyze the dynamics of the trilateral relationship. It is designed to encourage top policymakers in all three countries to gain a deeper understanding of this key relationship and a greater commitment to trilateral cooperation. One senior participant and three emerging intellectual leaders have been selected from each country, and these team members are analyzing a wide range of topics—including the emergence of regional community, financial cooperation, and tensions in the Taiwan Straits—in the context of the trilateral relationship. This meeting was the first major gathering of the paper writers.

**For information, see:** <http://www.jcie.or.jp/thinknet/chinajapanus/>

**203. 17th New Generation Seminar: Education Challenges in the 21st Century**

**Date:** October 14–28, 2007

**Location:** Honolulu, USA; Hiroshima, Japan; and Shanghai, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** East-West Center; supported by Freeman Foundation



Each year the East-West Center invites rising young leaders from the United States and Asia Pacific to 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 and international leaders. The program opens with a one-week seminar in Honolulu, followed by a one-week study tour. This year's group traveled to Hiroshima and Shanghai to examine education challenges as countries throughout the world adjust to meet the needs of their societies in an increasingly interconnected world.

**For information, see:** [http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class\\_call=view&conf\\_ID=975&mode=view](http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class_call=view&conf_ID=975&mode=view)

#### **204. ASEAN-US Symposium**

**Date:** October 15–16, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute of Policy Studies; Institute of Southeast Asian Studies; Center for a New American Security

The ASEAN-US Symposium in Singapore marked the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-US relations. It was attended by 35 participants representing ASEAN countries and the United States from government, business, media, and the academic community. The conference took stock of ASEAN's many achievements over the last three decades, explored how best to anticipate and manage the challenges ahead, and brainstormed on new ideas that could elevate the ASEAN-US relationship to a new peak. The conference addressed important themes, such as ASEAN at 40—achievements and new vision; understanding the strategic landscape and regional architecture—the role of the United States in ASEAN; and opportunities for cooperation between ASEAN and the United States and the pursuit of peace, stability, and prosperity.

**For information, see:** <http://www.ips.org.sg/events/conf/Asean-us/index.htm>

#### **205. Integration of East Asia—Problems and Prospects**

**Date:** October 16, 2007

**Location:** Shanghai, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies; APEC Research Center

The participants at this conference on East Asian integration held discussions on such topics as the impetus for integration of East Asia, the main obstacles to integration, ways to promote integration, and the relationships among great powers in integration. Most participants held that although in the past 20 years the integration of East Asia has witnessed rapid development, regional cooperation still remains at a low level compared with Europe. The old scores among great powers and the conflicts of political and economic interests in this region form serious obstacles to integration. The participants paid special attention to the different pursuits of great powers and focused on whether the rise of China would challenge the leading role of the United States in this region. The participants also pointed out that the integration of East Asia might develop gradually—moving from efforts to create a unified market to cooperation in politics and security—but this would be a long process.

**For information, see:** <http://english.sass.org.cn/newsevents/?newstype=0053006A007C0078004A007B006A007300790078&newsid=003A003C003D>

**206. New Power Dynamics in Southeast Asia: Changing Security Cooperation and Competition**

**Date:** October 18–20, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Stanley Foundation; S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University

This meeting, part of a project funded by the Stanley Foundation, brought together 30 scholars and practitioners for a discussion on the changing Asian political, economic, and security environment—with a focus on Southeast Asia—and the impact of new developments on US policy. Appreciating how the new trends are eroding extant political and security alignments and creating new ones can help policymakers and analysts propose and craft policies that will contribute to the continued stability and prosperity of the region. Participants engaged in roundtable discussions on issues such as changing power competition in Southeast Asian security, terrorism, new and nontraditional security issues, traditional security issues, and the changing regional security architecture. Policy recommendations were to be produced.

**For information, see:** [http://www.rsis.edu.sg/publications/conference\\_reports/RSIS\\_NEW\\_POWER\\_DYNAMICS\\_IN\\_SOUTHEAST\\_ASIA\\_Final\\_editable.pdf](http://www.rsis.edu.sg/publications/conference_reports/RSIS_NEW_POWER_DYNAMICS_IN_SOUTHEAST_ASIA_Final_editable.pdf)

**207. 2nd Global Public Policy Network (GPPN) Conference: Globalizing Asia or Asian Globalization?**

**Date:** October 22–23, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

The GPPN is comprised of Columbia University, the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, the London School of Economics and Political Science, and Sciences Po, Paris. Singapore played host to the network's second conference, which brought together representatives from more than 40 public policy institutions from around the world.

Asia has benefited greatly from the accelerating processes of globalization. The rapid growth and success of Asian societies also means that Asian societies will play a bigger role in shaping the future processes of globalization. Asians will go from being passengers on the bus of globalization to becoming the co-drivers. But to where will they drive this bus? The Singapore conference attempted to address some of these larger global challenges. It looked into the likely impact of Asia on the global economic and financial architecture and on the new political architecture of global governance.

**For information, see:** <http://www.igloo.org/gppn2007/>

**208. 3rd Southeast Asia Water Forum**

**Date:** October 22–26, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Malaysian Water Partnership and Malaysia's Department of Irrigation and Drainage; support from the Asian Development Bank

Southeast Asia is a water-rich region, but it is also one of the most populated regions. It is home to three of the largest megacities in the world, and rapid urbanization brings its own set of problems, from the lack of water supply to excess untreated wastewater and proliferation of water-borne diseases. The third Southeast Asia Water Forum provided an opportunity for participants from government and development agencies, along with other water experts, to explore the different ways by which these water issues can be addressed.

The meeting theme was "Consolidating Actions towards Effective Implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM): What Have We Done? What More Shall

We Do?" The goal was to take stock of the implementation of IWRM in the member countries and share experiences in the implementation of IWRM. The forum involved parallel sessions on network and partnerships for implementing integrated water resources management; urban water management; monitoring of investments in IWRM and results; and water management in the Mekong Basin—sustainable sanitation systems, water resources, and river basin.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/documents/events/2007/Third-SEAWF/default.asp#Venue>

**209. Asia 2012: Security Challenges and Opportunities for Development**

**Date:** October 23, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** American Enterprise Institute (AEI)

The Asia Pacific region is undergoing continuous change as China, India, and Japan emerge as great powers with a wide array of political, economic, and military interests. How will these emerging powers compete with each other—and the United States—for primacy in Asia? Will economic growth sustain the rise of these economic powers, or will unexpected economic fault lines shatter ambitions for ever-growing GDPs? How will Asia's burgeoning regional organizations respond to the array of transnational threats in the region? AEI hosted leading scholars and policymakers in a one-day seminar to address these and other questions concerning the challenges and opportunities that Asia will face over the next five years.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aei.org/events/eventID.1591,filter.all/event\\_detail.asp](http://www.aei.org/events/eventID.1591,filter.all/event_detail.asp)

**210. 2nd BIMP-EAGA Chief Ministers, Governors and Heads of Local Government Forum**

**Date:** October 23–24, 2007

**Location:** Mindanao, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank

Representatives of local governments, central governments, and the private sector from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines (BIMP) attended this forum. The goal of the gathering was to increase awareness of local governments in the East ASEAN Growth Area (EAGA) of the concepts, benefits, opportunities, and potential risks of regional cooperation and integration to local economic development and improve local participation in EAGA activities. The meeting updated the local government units on EAGA developments and enabled them to define their specific roles in the EAGA and make use of opportunities provided by subregional cooperation. Participants also discussed and agreed on measures to advance EAGA trade, investment, and tourism initiatives on a multilateral, bilateral, and port-to-port basis.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/2nd-BIMP-EAGA-Chief-Ministers/default.asp>

**211. 6th ASEAN People's Assembly (APA): ASEAN at 40—Realizing the People's Expectations**

**Date:** October 23–26, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS)

Representatives from Southeast Asian civil society groups, think tanks, and academia called for stronger civil society involvement with ASEAN as a response to recent developments in the region during its 40th year. Movements in the ASEAN Charter, the Myanmar situation, and human rights were among those actively discussed during the sixth APA. Plenary and panel presentations and discussions were conducted on a range of issues and concerns affecting

peoples of Southeast Asia, including terrorism and transnational security problems, peace and social conflict, media and press freedom, a regional human rights mechanism, human security and human development, security sector reform and governance, and ASEAN community building, among others. The 2007 APA also focused on good practices in people-centered community building in various parts of Southeast Asia and beyond.

**For information, see:** <http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/asean-peoples-assembly-greater-participation.html>

#### **212. 16th Northeast Asia Economic Forum**

**Date:** October 25–26, 2007

**Location:** Toyama, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF); Hokuriku Economic Federation; Hokuriku Around Japan Sea Economic Exchange Conference (AJEC); Toyama Prefecture; Toyama City; Institute for International Studies and Training; with cooperation of Japan Committee for the Promotion of the Asian Energy Community; Northeast Asia Project Development Center; University of Toyama; University of California, Berkeley East Asia Program (US); Tianjin Municipal Government (China); BOGO Economic Research Institute (Korea); Beijing Institute for Frontier Science (China); Korea Energy Economics Institute; China Asia Pacific Institute; Korea Asia Pacific Institute; University of Hawaii College of Social Sciences (US)

Leading researchers and government experts attended the 16th NEAEF, which focused on regional cooperation on environmental protection; energy cooperation for efficiency, conservation, and sustainability; and transportation and logistics. The session on the environment confirmed the importance of “sustainable economy and society” as a common agenda for the countries in Northeast Asia, while other sessions stressed the important role of energy for economic development and security in Northeast Asia and the need to pursue common strategies of transportation and logistics and to promote complementary transportation systems. The participants also recognized the need to examine and coordinate the construction of a new comprehensive logistics system in Northeast Asia through cooperation among the countries in the region.

**For information, see:** <http://www.neaef.org/pubs/neaef16/neaef16-dl.html>

#### **213. 2nd Kyoto Seminar on Sustainable Growth in the Asia-Pacific Region: Deepening Economic Interdependence and Risk Management**

**Date:** October 25–26, 2007

**Location:** Kyoto, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan; Kyoto University

The second Kyoto Seminar on Sustainable Growth in the Asia-Pacific Region was attended by about 40 experts from governments, research institutes, and academic and business societies in the Asia Pacific economies, as well as representatives from regional and global organizations. Participants discussed wide-ranging regional issues including structural changes in the supply chain, trade and investment patterns, future obstacles and risks for economic growth, information gaps emerging from globalization, and indicators related to sustainable growth.

Participants agreed that while the Asia Pacific region has achieved rapid economic growth, there are significant potential risks and challenges to future sustainable regional growth—infrastructural and regulatory weaknesses, insufficient technology transfer, excess liquidity in some economies, accelerating environmental challenges including climate change, and natural disasters. Governmental policy and regional and international cooperation are of primary importance to managing these risks, but they require greater

information sharing. The participants therefore discussed the design and potential benefits of an "Economic Information Sharing Mechanism of the Asia-Pacific (EiSMAP)."

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/eismap/index.html>

**214. United States Relations with ASEAN at Thirty**

**Date:** October 26, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** East-West Center; Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The purpose of this daylong conference was to reflect on 30 years of relations between the United States and ASEAN and to look ahead at ways of cooperating further. Panelists included a delegation of prominent Southeast Asian policymakers and specialists under the auspices of the Singapore-based ISEAS as well as DC-based experts and government officials.

**For information, see:** [http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class\\_call=view&conf\\_ID=1249&mode=view](http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class_call=view&conf_ID=1249&mode=view)

**215. ASEAN Civil Society Conference 2007**

**Date:** October 26–28, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Singapore Institute of International Affairs; ASEAN

The ASEAN Civil Society Conference 2007 was an effort to present civil society views to the ASEAN Summit 2007 as part of the increasing engagement between ASEAN and civil society. The conference brought together some 50 representatives from all ASEAN member countries. The participants were drawn from regional NGOs, think tanks, and civil society organizations that had participated in larger meetings and networks among their counterparts in preparation for the ASEAN Summit. Observers from ASEAN governments and international organizations also attended. The secretary-general of ASEAN delivered a keynote address and agreed to bring the conference statement to the attention of the ASEAN Summit.

**For information, see:** <http://www.siiionline.org/?q=news/asean-civil-society-conference---october-26-28-2007>

**216. 12th International Conference of the Pacific Basin Consortium: Environment and Health in the 21st Century—Challenges & Solutions**

**Date:** October 26–29, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Pacific Basin Consortium; sponsored by National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences, USA; World Health Organization; East-West Center; Institute for Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences; International Copper Association; Global Environment and Energy in the 21st Century; University of Arizona, Tucson; Institute for Health and the Environment at the University at Albany

Nearly 200 scientists, engineers, policymakers, students, and government representatives from more than 20 countries participated in this four-day meeting. The primary objectives of the conference were to (1) present research related to environmental pollutants, advances in reducing the generation of hazardous chemical pollutants, and the ecology and health effects of climate change; (2) increase interdisciplinary and international cooperation in understanding and addressing threats to human and environmental health in the region; and (3) discuss ways to reduce risks to human and environmental health within a larger context that recognizes the importance of addressing development, poverty, equity, and sustainability.

A pre-conference training workshop on children's environmental health (CEH) was also conducted on October 26 by an international team of experts to highlight key children's environmental health issues and present the WHO Training Package on CEH for the Health Sector. **For information, see:** <http://pbc.eastwestcenter.org/2007ConferenceSummary.html>

**217. The Situation on the Korean Peninsula and the Security of Northeast Asia**

**Date:** October 27–28, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies and Center for Regional Security Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)

CASS brought together scholars from the United States, Russia, South Korea, and China for a conference that examined the current situation on the Korean Peninsula and its implications for the security of Northeast Asia.

**For information, see:** <http://iaps.cass.cn/english/news/intro.asp?page=5>

**218. 3rd East Asian Institutes Forum: East Asian Economic Integration—Recent Development and Key Agenda**

**Date:** October 29, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP)

The KIEP held the third East Asian Institutes Forum, an initiative that was created to offer a platform in which the heads of leading think tanks in East Asia could gather and discuss fundamental issues for further economic integration and promote greater research cooperation between leading think tanks in the region. Since 2005, about 20 think tank heads and other prominent scholars throughout the region have participated.

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

**219. International Conference on Gender, Rights and Empowerment in Southeast Asia**

**Date:** October 30–31, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Women's Action & Resource Initiative (WARI)

WARI's 2007 conference focused on both the practical application and the theoretical aspect of gender in Southeast Asian societies. Policymakers, scholars and researchers, activists, and representatives from women's organizations, NGOs, donor agencies, and gender focal points gathered to analyze women's socioeconomic roles, their changing contexts and opportunities, and the efforts made by governments and NGOs to enhance their contributions. Specifically, the objectives of the two-day gathering were to analyze gender issues and the socioeconomic role of women in the traditional and modern sectors; to provide data on opportunities and constraints on women, including the status of women in education, health, politics, natural resources, and civil society; to document lessons learned from governmental and NGO programs; to suggest policy measures to improve education and opportunities to enable women to participate in the new economic order effectively; and to set a new tone of discussion on globalization and development.

**For information, see:** <http://geocities.com/wari9/conference2006.htm>

**220. 1st CSCAP Study Group on Preventive Diplomacy and the Future of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)**

**Date:** October 30–31, 2007

**Location:** Brunei Darussalam

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); co-chaired by USCSCAP and CSCAP Singapore; support from US Department of State

The first meeting of this CSCAP study group met immediately prior to the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group (ISG) on Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) and Preventive Diplomacy. All ISG participants were invited and encouraged to attend the CSCAP meeting in their private capacities. About 80 individuals participated in the study group, including representatives from CSCAP member committees, ARF members, and Pacific Forum CSIS Young Leaders.

Sessions provided an overview of preventive diplomacy and the ARF, examined the relationship between preventive diplomacy and confidence building, and considered case studies on preventive diplomacy in Aceh, Mindanao, and the South China Sea. A session on reinvigorating the ARF looked at ways to improve the organization's performance and make it more relevant, while another session turned to the Six-Party Talks and their relevance to preventive diplomacy. The discussions confirmed the view that the time has come to review the ARF, its status, its successes, and its shortcomings. Participants generally agreed that the ARF has served as an important and successful vehicle for promoting security cooperation and building confidence among its members, but the evolution from the promotion of CBMs to the promotion of preventive diplomacy measures has been slow.

**For information, see:** [http://www.cscap.ca/Preventive\\_Diplomacy\\_SG.html](http://www.cscap.ca/Preventive_Diplomacy_SG.html)

**221. Asian Energy Security Workshop 2007**

**Date:** October 31–November 2, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Nautilus Institute; in collaboration with the Beijing Energy Training Center, Tsinghua University

The Asian Energy Security (AES) Project emphasizes collaborative research, involving groups from each of the countries of Northeast Asia, on both national and regional approaches to energy security concerns. In 2007, the project expanded its focus to also include energy experts from Vietnam, Indonesia, and Australia.

A main focus of the AES 2007 project meeting was on different "paths" for nuclear power development in those countries in the region where nuclear power is used. The AES project meeting started with a day of updates from participants on the overall energy, energy policy, and energy security situations in their countries, as well as updates on their work in modeling different energy futures (including paths that incorporate regional energy cooperation strategies) for their countries using a common energy/environmental analysis software tool. The second and third days focused on special project topics, including discussions of future energy paths, nuclear fuel-cycle issues, and planning for future collaborative project activities.

**For information, see:** <http://www.nautilus.org/energy/2007/beijingworkshop/index.html>

**November**

**222. 5th East Asia Forum**

**Date:** November 1, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** East Asia Forum (EAF)

The EAF is an international organization established following a proposal in the reports of the East Asia Vision Group and the East Asia Study Group, which were established at the request of the ASEAN+3 Summit. The Korean government took the initiative in establishing the EAF and held the first meeting in 2003. While the Network of East Asian Think-Tanks aims to promote the networking of think tanks and act as a source of research information to assist in building an East Asian community, the EAF assembles business, academia, and government representatives from ASEAN+3 countries and provides a knowledge base for regional integration in East Asia. The fifth EAF featured two sessions, one on the topic of “Enhancing Regional Investment” and another on “Further Strengthening Environmental Cooperation.”

**For information, see:** <http://www.ceac.jp/e/exchangEaf.html>

### **223. Emerging Asian Regionalism: Ten Years after the Crisis**

**Date:** November 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This was the third workshop of a project on Emerging Asian Regionalism, and the study group members sought to finalize the structure and content of a report that was to be launched at the ADB Annual Meeting in May 2008. Participants reviewed how Asian countries underwent two decades of dramatic change—from the rapid economic growth of the mid-1990s, to the large setbacks during the crisis, up to the renewed expansion a decade after the 1997–1998 Asian financial crisis—with a focus on Asian regionalism. Roughly 50 international economic experts, heads of Asian, North American, and European think tanks, and ADB staff participated.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Asian-Regionalism/default.asp>

### **224. Asia-Pacific Conference**

**Date:** November 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Japan Economic Foundation; Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

A small gathering of economic experts, including policymakers and researchers from ASEAN nations, Japan, China, and Australia, was held on the theme, “A New Age of Trade in Asia.” The first session considered the recent free trade agreement (FTA) movements in the East Asia region and future prospects for an integral FTA in the region. In the second session, participants discussed how to deal with the different proposals for creating an FTA in the East Asia region as a whole. The final session focused on the Korea-US FTA and its implications for East Asia and Europe.

**For information, see:** [http://www.jef.or.jp/en\\_act/act\\_asia.asp?acd=111](http://www.jef.or.jp/en_act/act_asia.asp?acd=111)

### **225. Expert Group Meeting on Energy Security and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific**

**Date:** November 1–2, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

At the 63rd session of ESCAP in May 2007, the commission decided that the topic for its 64th session (Bangkok, 2008) would be “energy security and sustainable development.” The study will result in a publication assessing the current status of energy security in Asia and the Pacific region and identifying policy options. The Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Energy Security and Sustainable Development was held to critically review the draft of the research plan for a study on energy security and sustainable development in Asia Pacific that is designed to enhance the



quality and ensure the accuracy of information and data. The EGM reviewed the overall structure and provided general comments relevant to energy security issues, as well as providing detailed comments on each chapter of the initial draft.

The EGM was attended by expert representatives from China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, and the United States. It was also attended by representatives and experts from international agencies and research institutes.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esd/newsletters/documents/NewsletterDec2007.pdf>

**226. 15th Conference of the East and Southeast Asia Network for Better Local Governments**

**Date:** November 1–4, 2007

**Location:** Gumi, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** East and Southeast Asia Network for Better Local Governments; (ESEA) Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

The primary objective of 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 15th meeting of the network included the participation of local administration experts and representatives of ESEA. The theme for the meeting was the role of local governments in promoting international tourism and foreign investment.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2007/month-11/veranstaltung\\_id-25918/index.html](http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/year-2007/month-11/veranstaltung_id-25918/index.html)

**227. Regional Seminar on Gender, Poverty and Infrastructure**

**Date:** November 4–6, 2007

**Location:** Dhaka, Bangladesh

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This seminar focused on integrating gender issues in the implementation of ongoing projects in the following sectors: rural and urban infrastructure, water supply and sanitation, water resources management, transport, and energy. The objectives of the seminar were to showcase gender-inclusive ADB loan projects currently achieving results and build the gender and development capacity of project staff implementing ADB-financed loan projects.

Fifty-five participants attended from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Canada, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Norway, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam. Participants concluded that infrastructure projects can reduce poverty and gender inequality because poverty often has a “woman’s face.” However, projects can also have negative impacts on poor men and women. Key elements for successful gender mainstreaming include adopting holistic approaches and proper sequencing of the preparation and implementation of a gender-inclusive project design and a Gender Action Plan that identifies specific targets, activities, and resources to ensure women will participate in and benefit from infrastructure projects.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Gender-Poverty-Infrastructure/default.asp>

**228. Expert Group Meeting on Emerging Issues in Rural Poverty Reduction: The Role of Participatory Approaches**

**Date:** November 6–7, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Poverty and Development Division

ESCAP views poverty as a complex and multidimensional condition having three closely interrelated aspects: the lack of regular income, employment, and productive assets; the lack of access to services (e.g., social safety nets, water, and sanitation); and the lack of power or opportunity to participate. Participatory development approaches, which address the third aspect of poverty, have become core components in many rural poverty reduction programs. However, it is clear that different conditions and circumstances require different approaches to participation.

This meeting discussed key issues concerning participatory approaches, poverty reduction, and rural development in Asia Pacific. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences on topics such as typologies of participation and their suitability for different situations, the importance of context, the nature of the state and decentralization, participatory development and poverty, the challenges of scaling up, and participatory governance.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/pdd/calendar/EGM-pr/index.asp>

**229. Carbon Forum Asia 2007**

**Date:** November 6–7, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** International Emissions Trading Association; Koelnmesse; in partnership with Japan Bank for International Cooperation, Asian Development Bank, Sustainable Energy Association of Singapore

Carbon Forum Asia 2007 brought together 106 exhibitors from 26 countries, 110 specialized regional and international speakers, and 1,071 participants from 46 countries to generate new business opportunities for emissions reductions, exchange opinions on how best to use these new opportunities, and engage with key players in the Asian carbon market.

The conference program gathered regional and international speakers from a wide scope of private and public sectors such as industrial companies, insurance companies, technology providers, banks and legal advisors, and project developers. The final plenary focused on the path forward for the development of a clean development mechanism (CDM) in Asia.

**For information, see:** [http://www.koelnmesse.com.sg/CarbonForumAsia/CFA-07-Conference\\_Program.pdf](http://www.koelnmesse.com.sg/CarbonForumAsia/CFA-07-Conference_Program.pdf)

**230. 2nd Korea-ASEAN Cooperation Forum**

**Date:** November 6–7, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS), Korea Foundation; Institute of International Relations (Vietnam)

The second Korea-ASEAN Cooperation Forum was held on the theme of “The Future of Korea-ASEAN Cooperation and East Asian Cooperation.” The first forum was held in Indonesia in November 2006. The chancellor of IFANS headed the Korean delegation, which was comprised of experts from various sectors, while representatives from the 10 ASEAN member countries joined the forum from the ASEAN side. Participants discussed subjects such as the evaluation of regional circumstances and prospects for the future, Korea-ASEAN economic cooperation, and the promotion of regional cooperation in East Asia.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kf.or.kr:8080/eng/program/new\\_forum13.jsp](http://www.kf.or.kr:8080/eng/program/new_forum13.jsp)

**231. 2nd Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Date:** November 7–8, 2007

**Location:** New Delhi, India

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction; hosted by the Government of India; side events sponsored by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Economic and Social Council for the Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP); World Health Organization; United Nations International Children Emergency Fund; World Bank; Asian Development Bank; US Agency for International Development; Asian Disaster Reduction Centre, Kobe; Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; Asia Disaster Preparedness Centre, Bangkok; South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

Approximately 500 participants, including 35 ministers dealing with disaster risk management and development issues, high level delegations, scientists, practitioners, civil society members, and representatives from the UN and international and regional organizations, participated in the ministerial meeting and adopted the Delhi Declaration for Disaster Risk Reduction 2007 which, as one major achievement, institutionalizes the biannual Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction as a major political forum in the Asia Pacific region.

The ministers and heads of delegations made statements at four high-level roundtables on the themes of mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in national policies and programs, promoting a regional cooperation mechanism on disaster reduction, integrating disaster reduction into rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, and enhancing public-private partnership in disaster risk reduction. Side events included an expanded International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) Asia Partnership Meeting, a SAARC-Japan Workshop on Regional Cooperation on Disaster Risk Reduction, meetings on regional cooperation in disaster management in ASEAN and in Central Asia; and a session on Meeting the Challenges of Disaster Risk Reduction in Communities and Cities. Other sessions covered issues unique to island countries, risk financing and insurance, and preparedness for professional disaster response management systems.

**For information, see:** [http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-docs/Delhi\\_Declaration.pdf](http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/ap-docs/Delhi_Declaration.pdf)  
<http://nidm.gov.in/amcdrr/index.asp>

**232. Shanghai International Maritime Forum**

**Date:** November 7–9, 2007

**Location:** Shanghai, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Maritime Safety Administration of the People's Republic of China and the Shanghai Maritime Safety Administration

The Shanghai International Maritime Forum 2007, organized by the Maritime Safety Administration of the People's Republic of China and the Shanghai Maritime Safety Administration, brought together senior officials from international organizations, NGOs, governmental agencies, maritime industries, and worldwide experts in the field of oil transportation, emergency response, insurance, oil pollution compensation, and other relevant areas. Various issues related to the theme of "Global Focus on the Oil Transportation and Marine Environment Protection" were addressed, such as high-quality management of oil transportation by ship, the implementation of international conventions related to marine environment protection, emergency response strategies for serious incidents and accidents, clean-up techniques, and legal issues on liability and compensation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ipieca.org/activities/oilspill/gi\\_workshops.php](http://www.ipieca.org/activities/oilspill/gi_workshops.php)

**233. 6th High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration: Agenda for the East Asia Summit**

**Date:** November 12–13, 2007

**Location:** New Delhi, India

**Organizers/Supporters:** Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS); Institute of Southeast Asian Studies; Institute of Developing Economies; Sasakawa Peace Foundation

RIS launched this conference series in 2003 to contribute to the process of regional economic integration in Asia. The conference was attended by over 90 senior think tank experts, policy-makers, business leaders, journalists, and other stakeholders from East Asia Summit (EAS) countries. Participants considered economic, strategic, and business perspectives on the relevance of Asian economic integration in the EAS framework and the specific issues concerning integration of trade and investment regimes, as well as regional monetary and financial cooperation against the background of Asia's emerging importance in the world economy.

The conference welcomed the evolution of the EAS as an annual forum for dialogue on regional issues among members of the ASEAN10 and their six dialogue partners. The participants felt that, instead of diffusing the agenda to cover diverse issues, the EAS should concentrate on taking visible, concrete steps toward economic integration. They suggested key priorities for the EAS to promote regional cooperation in select areas: (1) the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Arrangement of East Asia; (2) the Asian monetary and financial architecture; (3) cooperation and coordination among networks of Asian think tanks; and (4) institution building for educational, cultural, and media exchanges. The conference report was submitted to chair of the EAS.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ris.org.in/conf\\_asian\\_eco\\_int\\_report.htm](http://www.ris.org.in/conf_asian_eco_int_report.htm)

**234. Northeast Asia Cooperation Dialogue: Envisioning a Peace and Security Mechanism for Northeast Asia**

**Date:** November 12–14, 2007

**Location:** Moscow, Russia

**Organizers/Supporters:** University of California, San Diego; financial support provided by the East Asia Foundation (Korea), Ploughshares Fund, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of South Korea, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, and the US Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration, with principal support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York

The Northeast Asia Cooperation Dialogue (NEACD) met to explore how to establish a permanent Northeast Asia security and peace regime. The goal was to come up with practical, consensus-based proposals that would help to inform the deliberations of the Six-Party Talks Working Group on the Northeast Asia Peace and Security Mechanism. A one-day workshop, "Envisioning a Future Peace and Security Mechanism for Northeast Asia," was held in advance of the NEACD plenary session. Government officials from all countries involved in the Six-Party Talks attended the workshop and the plenary meeting along with leading academics.

The discussions examined comparative insights from other parts of the world, key objectives of the future multilateral security regime, and institutional design. Participants agreed that the best approach to building a future permanent Northeast Asia multilateral security regime is an evolutionary one based on the Six-Party Talks.

**For information, see:** [http://igcc.ucsd.edu/regions/asia\\_pacific/NEACD18.php](http://igcc.ucsd.edu/regions/asia_pacific/NEACD18.php)

**235. ASEM Workshop on Avian Influenza Control**

**Date:** November 12–14, 2007

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); hosted by Ministry of Agriculture of China

First proposed at the 6th ASEM Summit, the ASEM Workshop on Avian Influenza Control was held to promote highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) prevention and control through a sharing of experiences on policy, regulations, and technical measures, and to explore cooperation mechanisms for ASEM countries. Government officials, experts, and professional researchers from ASEM nations attended the event. They discussed HPAI rapid testing, monitoring, and emergency treatment; experiences and practices on development and application of an HPAI vaccine and other prevention and control materials; the possibility of establishing a cooperation mechanism on HPAI prevention and control among ASEM members; and the latest scientific and technological research progress on HPAI prevention and control.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aseminfoboard.org/content/documents/070928\\_WkshpAvianFlu\\_CN.pdf](http://www.aseminfoboard.org/content/documents/070928_WkshpAvianFlu_CN.pdf)

**236. 14th Asia Pacific Security Seminar: Prospects for Regional Security Cooperation—Confidence Building Measures and Security Frameworks in the Asia-Pacific Region**

**Date:** November 12–16, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** National Institute for Defense Studies

Participants from 21 Asia Pacific countries gathered to discuss the prospects for security cooperation. Following a keynote speech entitled, “Strengthening Asia Pacific Security: Confidence Building and Security Architecture,” participants addressed three issues: assessing potential threats and/or destabilizing factors in the region (i.e., territorial disputes, arms build-up, WMD proliferation, international terrorism, poor governance, piracy, pandemics, natural disasters, illegal immigration, transnational organized crimes, ethnic conflict and separatism, resource competition, poverty, socioeconomic disparity, and environmental degradation); understanding each country’s confidence-building policy; and exploring future security cooperation.

At the wrap-up discussion, participants discussed areas in which multilateral frameworks might be built, whether the UN can be more effective, and the roles major powers should play in order to maintain stability. The results of the meeting were to be reported at the next ARF Meeting of the Heads of Defense Universities/Colleges/Institutions.

**For information, see:** [http://www.nids.go.jp/english/exchange/researchexchange/index\\_e.html](http://www.nids.go.jp/english/exchange/researchexchange/index_e.html)

**237. Thrust and Parry in the Global Game: Emerging Asian Corporate Giants and the World Economy**

**Date:** November 13–14, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Tokyo Club Foundation for Global Studies

This conference was organized into three sessions: Asian economies engaging abroad, Asian firms engaging abroad, and impacts and responses to emerging Asian giants. Participants discussed foreign direct investment, structural and institutional perspectives on the RMB and China’s external imbalance, the challenge for Europe from the outward expansion of Chinese and Indian firms, outward direct investment by Chinese and Indian enterprises, the opportunities presented by the Chinese market, outsourcing, and trading with Asia’s giants.

**For information, see:** <http://www.tcf.or.jp/seminars/2007/20071113-14.html>

**238. The Dynamic Economies of India and China: What Lessons for Others?**

**Date:** November 13–18, 2007

**Location:** Salzburg, Austria

**Organizers/Supporters:** Salzburg Global Seminar

With their abundant supplies of low-cost labor, natural resources, and highly educated elites, India and China have experienced rapid economic success over the last decade and are emerging as two of the world's most powerful economies. Interestingly, India and China have managed this growth by relying on drastically different economic models and development strategies. By examining India and China's different paths to global economic power and the potential sustainability challenges facing both countries in the future, this meeting sought to identify practical lessons for other emerging economies. Session participants, including representatives from banks, investment firms, government ministries, economic policy centers, NGOs, and academia, examined both the positive and negative impacts of India and China's rise to economic power and sought to identify new strategies for sustainable economic growth. **For information, see:** [http://www.salzburgseminar.org/2009/sessions.cfm?IDSpecial\\_Event=1270](http://www.salzburgseminar.org/2009/sessions.cfm?IDSpecial_Event=1270)

**239. Regional Counterparts Collaboration Workshop**

**Date:** November 14–16 2007

**Location:** Hawaii, USA

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

This workshop was designed as a collaborative, multinational workshop of presiding officials from security studies institutes across the Asia Pacific region to address shared major regional and global security issues. The intent of the workshop was to identify collaboration interfaces related to educational and leadership development concepts and means, research partnering, and faculty exchanges. Specifically, the 29 participants sought to identify opportunities in the areas of virtual participation and curriculum enhancement via video teleconferencing; create partnerships to co-host or facilitate outreach events in a conference, workshop, or research project format; enlist regional experts to participate in select APCSS events; and explore adjunct faculty opportunities, potential joint publications, and research projects.

**For information, see:** <http://www.apcss.org/core/APCSS%20News/releases/2007/RegionalCounterparts.htm>

**240. 11th Regional Consultative Meeting on Good Urban Governance**

**Date:** November 15, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Poverty and Development Division

Good governance has become, implicitly or explicitly, a core concept in most strategies implemented by the United Nations and its partner organizations. From the Millennium Declaration to the UN Convention against Corruption, good governance 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 Regional Consultative Meeting is open to any organization working on urban governance issues in Asia Pacific. The purpose of the meeting was to update partner agencies on current and future regional activities and to find mechanisms for complementing or reinforcing each other's work for the promotion of good urban governance and eradication of urban poverty.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/pdd/calendar/rcm/gg/good-govern.asp>

**241. Northeast Asia Partnership Forum**

**Date:** November 15, 2007

**Location:** Vladivostok, Russia

**Organizers/Supporters:** UN Development Programme (China/Tumen Secretariat); Boao Forum for Asia

The Northeast Asia Partnership Forum was one of three main events in the framework of the Greater Tumen Initiative (GTI). This forum brought together about 80 regional and international policymakers and other experts to exchange views and recommendations to further strengthen interregional cooperation in Northeast Asia and establish a stronger GTI partnership network. The forum followed the ninth meeting of the GTI Consultative Commission, an intergovernmental cooperation mechanism among China, North Korea, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia. The decision by governments at that meeting to create a Business Advisory Council, an Energy Board, a Tourism Council, and an Environmental Framework were received with great interest at the forum.

The Northeast Asia Partnership Forum included sessions on prospects and challenges of cooperation in Northeast Asia; why GTI matters as a gateway to Northeast Asia cooperation; energy security and development; and tourism, the environment, and climate change.

**For information, see:** <http://www.tumenprogramme.org/news.php?id=494>

#### **242. Energy and Security in Northeast Asia: Towards a Northeast Asian Energy Cooperation Council**

**Date:** November 16–17, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** Korean Association of International Studies; Seoul National University

Experts from Northeast Asia and the United States gathered for a two-day meeting to discuss regional cooperation on energy and security. Participants began by examining the current status and prospects in intergovernmental collaboration mechanisms for energy cooperation in Northeast Asia, as well as Russian, Japanese, US, and Chinese energy diplomacy and energy security. Subsequent sessions focused on the record and prospects for energy cooperation and security. Participants assessed past attempts at international cooperation and the lessons these provide for future efforts at regional energy cooperation. The second day's discussions focused on the requirements for organizing a Northeast Asian Energy Cooperation Council—the mission, structure, and method of operation—as a new framework for facilitating regional cooperation.

**For information, see:** <http://tongil.snu.ac.kr/tboard/view.php?id=com022&page=1&sn1=&divpage=1&sn=off&ss=on&sc=on&sp=on&no=110&PHPSESSID=87878ed3e4052acef8ee2651eab5a93a>

#### **243. 2007 ASEAN Business and Investment Seminar**

**Date:** November 16–18, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN Business Advisory Council

The 5th ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (ASEAN-BIS) met first in a session titled “Future of ASEAN: In Discussion with Eminent Persons,” in which delegates engaged in a dialogue with an illustrious panel of speakers. The session marked the start of three days of public-private sector dialogue and collaboration to discuss the way forward for ASEAN businesses as ASEAN turns 40. Topics included dynamic Asia; ASEAN integration in the Asian landscape; the rise of ASEAN and Asian multinational corporations; and ASEAN integration—its opportunities and challenges.

The ASEAN-BIS has been held annually since 2003 and is the ASEAN Business Advisory Council's premier platform for private sector feedback and interaction with the region's political leaders to facilitate the creation of the ASEAN Economic Community.

**For information, see:** [http://www.41amm.sg/amm/index.php/web/press\\_room/news\\_archive/asean\\_can\\_look\\_forward\\_with\\_confidence\\_optimism\\_channel\\_newsasia](http://www.41amm.sg/amm/index.php/web/press_room/news_archive/asean_can_look_forward_with_confidence_optimism_channel_newsasia)

**244. In and Out of Asia—Migrating Talent, Globalising Cities**

**Date:** November 19–21, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Migration Research Cluster, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

In today's highly globalized economy, many countries and their globalizing cities are increasingly turning to global talent for economic development, especially in high-growth sectors. Current migration trends show that global talent flows are growing and moving mainly to the European Union, the United States, Canada, and Australia. Asia, as the world's fastest growing economic region, has joined in the global competition for talent, both in terms of talent outflows from home countries to other Asian countries and other parts of the world and of talent inflows from the rest of the world to Asia

This international conference aimed to explore the intertwining economic, social, cultural, and socio-psychological issues of global talent in-migration in Asia, with a focus on the following themes: (1) the attractions of places and policies; (2) socio-psychological dimensions of global talent management (e.g., issues of behavioral and psychological adaptation of expatriates' relocation, job performance, work relations with local colleagues, etc.); and (3) cultural politics of everyday encounters.

**For information, see:** [http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events\\_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=643](http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=643)

**245. Regional Meeting: Towards a Joint Regional Agenda for the Alleviation of Poverty through Agriculture and Secondary Crop Development**

**Date:** November 21–22, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops' Development in Asia and the Pacific (CAPSA)

The 1990s saw a general decline in the prominence of agriculture in development circles, leading to consistent decreases in public allocations to agriculture throughout the region. Recently, however, there has been renewed pressure to reinvent the role of agriculture in the alleviation of poverty. It has also become quite clear that poverty in Asia Pacific is centered in rural areas, with 70 percent of the region's poor being dependent on agriculture or related services. It was against this background that the CAPSA conducted a regional meeting that brought together more than 30 researchers, development practitioners, and government officials from ESCAP member countries and international institutions to share information and to create a regional agenda for research and development priorities on poverty alleviation through agriculture.

**For information, see:** <http://www.uncapsa.org/Document/RegionalSeminar.pdf>

**246. International Conference on Air Quality Management in Southeast Asia**

**Date:** November 21–23, 2007

**Location:** Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

**Organizers/Supporters:** Southeast Asia Urban Environmental Management Applications Project; Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology

This three-day event brought together a diverse pool of researchers, experts, policymakers, and development organizations to tackle crucial issues related to improving air quality in urban areas across Southeast Asia. Conference participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam, among others, tackled seven



priority themes: air quality management and modeling, air quality management and policy issues, socioeconomic considerations in air quality management, sustainable transport planning and energy systems, impact monitoring and an integrated assessment approach to urban air quality, gender and social equality concerns in air quality improvement, and health risks related to air quality deterioration in Asian cities.

**For information, see:** <http://www.cleanairnet.org/caiasia/1412/article-71642.html>

**247. Responding to Recent Changes in the Global Security Environment**

**Date:** November 22, 2007

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute for National Security Strategy (INSS)

The INSS strives to lay the foundation for developing Korea's national strategy and to explore policy alternatives in the area of national security. To this end, it convened a multinational and interdisciplinary group of experts to consider changes in the global security environment, addressing such themes as dealing with North Korean weapons of mass destructive and the globalization of organized crime. Participants also considered security challenges and responses in Northeast Asia, analyzing the Northeast Asia security environment, and the emerging risks of large-scale attacks and cyber-terrorism in Northeast Asia.

**For information, see:** [http://www.inss.re.kr/app/board/view.act;jsessionid=0C8D5791497834D1F02779F8089B372A?metaCode=en\\_news&boardId=923be9f505236f262d1ded06](http://www.inss.re.kr/app/board/view.act;jsessionid=0C8D5791497834D1F02779F8089B372A?metaCode=en_news&boardId=923be9f505236f262d1ded06)

**248. 3rd Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA) Congress: Asian Conceptions of Justice**

**Date:** November 23–25, 2007

**Location:** New Delhi, India

**Organizers/Supporters:** APISA; University of Delhi; Jamia Milia Islamia University; Centre for Policy Research

The theme of the third APISA Congress was "Asian Conceptions of Justice." The concept of justice that lies at the core of normative political theory has today become central to international relations (transnational justice), public policy (social justice), feminist theory (gender justice), and economics (distributive justice). The meeting addressed this theme in four concurrent panels that incorporated key research question. These included conceptions of transnational justice, humanitarian aid, international human rights organizations, cosmopolitanism, global civil society, just wars, distributive justice, resource transfers (taxation), pensions, social security, social policy, labor and peasant insurance, affirmative action policies, welfare policies, normative conceptions of justice, Asian conceptions of justice, feminist conceptions of justice, subaltern perspectives on justice.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apisanet.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=56&Itemid=61](http://www.apisanet.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=56&Itemid=61)

**249. Expert Workshop on Assessing National Security Policy in Southeast Asia**

**Date:** November 23–25, 2007

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung; Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces

This workshop was the third in a series of workshops on the role of ASEAN parliaments in security sector governance and reform, launched in February 2006. The second gathering, held in March 2007 in Manila, brought parliamentarians and their staff together with security

officials and representatives of civil society and media from several ASEAN countries to examine security policy review and the role that ASEAN parliaments should play in this regard.

National security policy (NSP) review is an important starting point for security sector reform as well as for regional confidence building. Given this background, this follow-up workshop in Bali sought to provide an overview on the state of NSPs in ASEAN member states. Participants considered relevant policy documents, examined formulation and implementation of the policies, and provided recommendations for further action, with particular emphasis on the role of parliamentarians. Background papers on Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand were prepared by think tank experts but presented at the workshop by parliamentarians from the respective countries.

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

**250. 6th Asian Public Intellectuals Workshop: Asian Transformations in Action**

**Date:** November 25–29, 2007

**Location:** Davao, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Nippon Foundation

The sixth Asian Public Intellectuals (API) Workshop was a forum for showcasing the ideas, practices, and voices of 2006–2007 API Fellows who are located in varied geographical and sociocultural settings, professional worlds, and schools of thought. Participants in the workshop shared their understandings of the social transformations occurring in the region, seeking to understand the social conditions from which transformative actions emerge, the medium and practices of social transformation, and the outcome of such practices. Papers were discussed in parallel sessions on such topics as the intermingling of the specificities of globalization, civil society's mediations, circles of power and counterbalances, and blurred borders and social integrations. A synthesis and plenary discussions were held on the fourth and final day.

**For information, see:** <http://www.api-fellowships.org/body/newsletter/issue16.pdf>

**251. Fostering International Dialogue on Korean Security, 5th Meeting**

**Date:** November 26, 2007

**Location:** London, UK

**Organizers/Supporters:** International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)

The IISS hosted the fifth workshop of its ongoing Korean Security program. The workshop brought together a broad group of government officials, academics, and journalists from numerous countries concerned about Korean security issues. Participants discussed the recent progress of the Six-Party Talks, as well as North Korean denuclearization, prospects for North Korean economic development, engagement initiatives including academic exchanges, and broader regional security issues in Northeast Asia. Two representatives of the North Korean Institute for Disarmament and Peace attended the workshop.

**For information, see:** <http://www.iiss.org/programmes/non-proliferation-and-disarmament/recent-non-proliferation-conferences/korean-security-dialogue-november-2007/>

**252. 1st Meeting of the Commission on AIDS in the Pacific**

**Date:** November 26–27, 2007

**Location:** Nadi, Fiji

**Organizers/Supporters:** Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); Commission on AIDS in the Pacific

In 2007, UNAIDS set up an independent Commission on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific with a view to obtain appropriate policy recommendations directed toward the governments in the areas of prevention, care, and impact mitigation. In order to develop a comprehensive viewpoint in these areas, the commission needs to conduct a review of existing data and carry out new studies to better understand the epidemic and the trends, the vulnerability and risk behaviors, the potential of the epidemic under different response scenarios, and the socioeconomic and developmental impact.

Based on the results of this first meeting, the commission was to spend the next 12 months deliberating on various issues relating to the spread of HIV/AIDS in the region and then issue their findings and recommendations in an authoritative report for Pacific Island leaders, government officials, and regional opinion leaders.

**For information, see:** [http://www.aidscommissionpacific.com/events\\_calendar.html](http://www.aidscommissionpacific.com/events_calendar.html)  
<http://www.thebody.com/content/news/art44117.html>

### **253. Asia-Pacific Regional Implementation Meeting for the 16th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development**

**Date:** November 26–27, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

The objective of this meeting was to articulate regional concerns at the 16th and 17th sessions of the Commission for Sustainable Development by assessing progress toward achieving the goals identified in international commitments to sustainable development, and identifying priority areas for policy attention. Participants from the Asia Pacific region included representatives from ministries working in the thematic areas, planning officials, national sustainable development councils, economic and social development boards and councils, relevant civil society organization, and international organizations. Thematic reports were prepared on agriculture and land, rural development, desertification, and drought. A special report on climate change and its implications for agriculture and rural development was also prepared. The outcome of the meeting, including a review of the international action programs and policy options to address key challenges, was presented in a report to the commission.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esd/rim/16th/index.asp>

### **254. Committee on Emerging Social Issues 4th Session**

**Date:** November 26–28, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Emerging Social Issues Division

The Asia Pacific region faces new and continuing challenges from global and regional development trends that impact deeply on individuals, families, and communities. Threats to “human security,” as well as new regional challenges have an impact on overall socioeconomic development. The Committee on Emerging Social Issues is responsible for helping ESCAP members design and implement 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 of the committee featured discussions on financing for social development, population and social integration, gender and development, and health and development. Committee members also discussed issues of program planning and evaluation.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esid/Committee2007/index.asp>

**255. Middle East & Asia Energy Summit**

**Date:** November 28–29, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Gulf Research Center; in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Trade & Industry of Singapore; S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies; IBC Gulf Conferences

The Middle East has 60 percent of worldwide oil reserves and 40 percent of worldwide gas reserves, and about two-thirds of its energy exports go to Asia, a dynamic industrious region that faces a striking lack of energy resources. Thus the dependence is mutual and the chances for cooperation manifold. The Middle East & Asia Energy Summit offered the opportunity to get firsthand knowledge from senior speakers and industry insiders about issues such as whether the Middle East will be able to quench Asia's growing oil thirst; the challenges of enhanced oil recovery; prospects of trade in liquefied natural gas; country assessments for Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iran, and Iraq; petrochemicals and refining; tanker shortages, pipeline projects, and the transport of refined products; strategic storage solutions; and choke points and the management of geopolitical risk. This two-day summit addressed these concerns and placed them within the context of the international marketplace and its future development.

**For information, see:** [http://www.grc.ae/index.php?frm\\_system\\_action=&PK\\_ID=220&frm\\_page\\_no=&frm\\_action=show\\_event&frm\\_module=events&frm\\_useraction=&frm\\_eventtype=FK\\_EVENTTYPES&sec=events&frm\\_tseats=0&sec\\_type=d&op\\_lang=&override=Event+Detail](http://www.grc.ae/index.php?frm_system_action=&PK_ID=220&frm_page_no=&frm_action=show_event&frm_module=events&frm_useraction=&frm_eventtype=FK_EVENTTYPES&sec=events&frm_tseats=0&sec_type=d&op_lang=&override=Event+Detail)

**256. 2007 International Expert Group Conference on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia**

**Date:** November 28–29, 2007

**Location:** Vladivostok, Russia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Korea Energy Economics Institute; JoongAng Ilbo; Primorsky Territory Government

The 2007 International Expert Group Conference on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia was organized to provide energy experts and government officials from Northeast Asia with a forum to share their perspectives on bilateral and multilateral energy cooperation measures in order to effectively strengthen regional energy security in a dynamically changing environment.

The 2007 conference focused on opportunities and challenges and was organized into four plenary sessions: history and vision, feasible regional energy cooperation projects (oil and gas vision), feasible regional energy cooperation projects (electricity vision), and implementation issues in promoting regional energy cooperation in Northeast Asia.

**For information, see:** [http://www.keei.re.kr/web\\_keei/en\\_news.nsf/mainV/61F63A9114623BDC492574340036208A?OpenDocument](http://www.keei.re.kr/web_keei/en_news.nsf/mainV/61F63A9114623BDC492574340036208A?OpenDocument)

**257. 1st ASEAN and Asia Forum 07**

**Date:** November 30, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Singapore Institute of International Affairs; in collaboration with Stanford University; Singapore Institute of Management; Japan External Trade Organization; University of Cambodia; International Foundation for Arts and Culture; Hanns Seidel Foundation

The first-ever ASEAN and Asia Forum 07 was held in Singapore. The forum included a panel discussion with Ong Keng Yong, the secretary-general of ASEAN, and Simon Tay, chairman of SIIA, as well as a dialogue with Surin Pitsuwan, the incoming ASEAN secretary-general. Panels focused on four themes: (1) "From Crisis to Community and Beyond," which offered

perspectives on the most recent summit, the ratification of the ASEAN Charter, ASEAN's post-crisis performance, and its outlook for the future; (2) new and emerging issues, which discussed climate change, energy security, the political upheaval in Myanmar, and whether the human rights body in the ASEAN Charter should extend beyond a consultative role; (3) the economies of Indonesia and Vietnam in the context of ASEAN; and (4) the nexus between security, democracy, and regionalism in East Asia.

**For information, see:** <http://www.siiionline.org/?q=events/asean-and-asia-forum-2007>

**258. Capital Flows, Macroeconomic Management and Regional Cooperation in Asia**

**Date:** November 30, 2007

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP)

While Asian economies have recovered well from the financial and economic crisis of 1997–1998 and have seen a resurgence in international capital flows, they continue to face enormous challenges in macroeconomic management. This KIEP workshop consisted of four sessions on various monetary and financial issues in Asia. A common theme across most papers related to exchange rate management in Asia, an issue that is of paramount interest to the region specifically, but also to an unbalanced global macroeconomy. Session one examined capital account liberalization and capital flows in Asia. Session two focused on the issue of liquidity management by Asian economies in the presence of persistent balance of payment surpluses and consequent reserve accumulations. Session three moved to the issue of policy coordination issues in East Asia and the impact of exchange rate regimes. Regional monetary cooperation in Asia was the focus of a panel of distinguished economists in the concluding session.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kiep.go.kr/eng/std\\_data\\_view.asp?num=181330&sCate=013003&sSubCate=&ITp=r&nowPage=1&listCnt=10](http://www.kiep.go.kr/eng/std_data_view.asp?num=181330&sCate=013003&sSubCate=&ITp=r&nowPage=1&listCnt=10)

**December**

**259. Bilateralism Versus Multilateralism in Southeast Asia**

**Date:** December 1, 2007

**Location:** Hiroshima, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Hiroshima Peace Institute; Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

This was the first gathering of researchers from Japan, Southeast Asia, the United States, and Europe who are working on a research project to examine a number of high profile cases of bilateral tensions between ASEAN member states to determine the causes of persistent bilateral tensions. After elaborating the reasons, the next stage of the research will examine how the tensions were eventually resolved. Researchers are examining why countries with bilateral tensions did not choose ASEAN or its institutions as the vehicle for dispute resolution and what the role of ASEAN is for dispute settlement in the context of bilateral disputes.

Nine sets of important relationships were chosen: Vietnam-Cambodia, Vietnam-Lao PDR, Myanmar-Thailand, Malaysia-Thailand, Indonesia-Malaysia, Indonesia-Philippines, Malaysia-Philippines, Malaysia-Singapore, and Indonesia-Singapore. These relationships are a reasonable sampling of the entire region, which in itself is indicative of the pervasiveness of bilateral tensions in the region. In order to frame the research within the international and regional contexts, there will also be papers on the nature of international relations and of Southeast Asian international relations in particular.

**For information, see:** <http://serv.peace.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/English/>

<http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/ month-12/year-2007/index.html>

**260. 2nd ASEAN GO-NGO Forum**

**Date:** December 3, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN; Government of Vietnam; International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW)

Representatives from ASEAN member states and NGOs gathered in Hanoi for the 2nd ASEAN GO-NGO Forum to share experiences in social welfare and make recommendations to their government leaders. The forum examined two major consultation papers commissioned for the meeting: “trafficking and related labor exploitation in the ASEAN region” and “social protection in ASEAN: issues and challenges for ASEAN and its member countries.” In addition, the meeting heard reports on the key national and regional challenges for policy development and implementation to provide better services and opportunities, within a rights-based framework, for people with disabilities.

The GO-NGO Forum endorsed continuing the forum on an annual basis. It also recognized the need to undertake more national-level government-NGO dialogue on the issues identified in the lead-up to next year’s forum in Manila. The recommendations committed each ICSW National Council member and the relevant social welfare and development department in each ASEAN country to meet at least twice over the next eight months to prepare for the adoption of recommendations at the next forum.

**For information, see:** <http://www.mofa.gov.vn/en/nr040807104143/nr040807105001/ns071204091512>  
<http://www.icsw.org/region/seap.htm>

**261. 5th East Asia Congress: Mapping the Second Decade of East Asian Community Building**

**Date:** December 3–4, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute of Strategic and International Studies 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 dedicated to formulating initiatives for the future. Participants at the fifth congress discussed the implications of the shift in economic gravity to East Asia; East Asia’s relations with the United States and Europe under new leaderships; comprehensive economic partnerships (“East Asia, East Asia Plus, or Asia Pacific?”); balancing the economic, social, and political considerations of cross-border people flows; East Asia’s financial stability; deepening the political and social agenda of East Asian cohesion; and mapping the second decade of East Asian community building.

**For information, see:** [http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events\\_ASEAN\\_TT2](http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_ASEAN_TT2)

**262. New Modes of Governance in the Asia-Pacific: Transparency and Accountability**

**Date:** December 3–4, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** National University of Singapore Centre on Asia and Globalisation; Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University

New modes of governance in the provision of public goods in areas ranging from labor standards to security are either emerging in Asia Pacific, or pressures are being exerted for the adoption of such modes. This includes informal policy networks, new hybrid public and private partnerships, and new regulatory regimes involving standard-setting organizations. The very understanding of “public” goods is also at stake in these developments.

Comprehending these changes and the underlying dynamics responsible for them was the purpose of this workshop. Toward that end, participants addressed the following questions: What new modes of governance have emerged or are in the process of emerging? Do these modes transcend traditional divides between national and international boundaries or reinforce them? What political coalitions are driving these new modes of governance? Are these coalitions sustainable or are they facing, or likely to face, political resistance? Are these new modes of governance enhancing or diminishing political accountability or democratic representation?

**For information, see:** [http://wwwarc.murdoch.edu.au/projects/nmogap\\_events.html](http://wwwarc.murdoch.edu.au/projects/nmogap_events.html)

**263. ASEAN Roundtable 2007: Building a Robust Regional Financial Architecture in East Asia**

**Date:** December 3–4, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

The ASEAN Roundtable 2007 examined the economic and financial reforms that had been undertaken by crisis-affected countries since the 1997 Asian financial crisis. The roundtable also identified the policy challenges that lie ahead to build a robust regional financial architecture in East Asia. An edited volume was to be published based on the papers presented at the roundtable.

**For information, see:** [http://www.iseas.edu.sg/iframes/iframe\\_res.htm](http://www.iseas.edu.sg/iframes/iframe_res.htm)

**264. 2nd US-Japan-China Tri-Lat on Confidence and Security Building Measures**

**Date:** December 4–6, 2007

**Location:** Hawaii, USA

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS); funded by the Stanley Foundation

This workshop, developed in coordination with the Stanley Foundation, was a follow-on, trilateral, Track 1.5 working group that sought to develop concrete and realistic confidence and security building measures (CSBMs) that can contribute to reducing the dangers of misunderstanding, miscalculation, and conflict, as well as of the misapprehension of military activities. There were 21 participants representing China, Japan, the United States, the Stanley Foundation, the US Pacific Command, the Pacific Air Forces, and the APCSS. Workshop participants drafted a consensus-based paper with concrete CSBM recommendations for their respective governments.

**For information, see:** [http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics\\_conference.htm#2006](http://www.apcss.org/graphics/graphics_conference.htm#2006)

**265. Meeting of the NEAT Working Group on East Asian Labor Migration**

**Date:** December 5–6, 2007

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT); jointly hosted by NEAT Malaysia and NEAT Philippines

The NEAT Working Group Meeting on East Asian Labor Migration convened scholars and experts from eight ASEAN member countries (Brunei and Cambodia were absent) as well as China, Japan, and South Korea. The meeting was organized around five panels: recent studies on labor migration in East Asia, recruitment of migrant workers, safety and welfare of migrant workers, undocumented workers in East Asia, and repatriation of migrant workers. Sessions looked at the relevant policies and best practices. The report, produced by NEAT Malaysia and NEAT Philippines, was to be submitted to the sixth NEAT Annual Conference in 2008.

**For information, see:** [http://www.neat.org.cn/english/hzdten/contentshow.php?content\\_id=100](http://www.neat.org.cn/english/hzdten/contentshow.php?content_id=100)

**266. Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration, including Human Trafficking**

**Date:** December 6, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

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

ESCAP and the IOM are 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. This was the last of four meetings held in 2007.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2007/jun/g25.asp>

**267. High-Level Expert Meeting on Reducing Poverty by Promoting Industrial Development through Trade Facilitation**

**Date:** December 6–7, 2007

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Trade and Investment Division; Ministry of Industry and Commerce of Lao PDR

Fourteen experts from government, international organizations, and research institutions throughout Asia Pacific gathered to develop recommendations for tackling obstacles related to trade transactions and promoting regional cooperation on trade facilitation. The first session of the meeting examined the importance of trade facilitation to industrial development and poverty reduction. Subsequent sessions addressed the challenges and opportunities of trade facilitation in Asia, the implementation of trade facilitation measures, and ways to strengthen regional cooperation on trade facilitation. The final session was a roundtable discussion on the establishment of an Asia Pacific Forum for Efficient Trade.

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

**268. 6th CSCAP General Conference; 28th CSCAP Steering Committee Meeting**

**Date:** December 6–8, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); hosted by CSCAP Indonesia; with support from AusCSCAP, CSCAP Japan, CSCAP Singapore, and CSCAP China

The sixth CSCAP General Conference was convened on the topic of “Great Power Relations and Regional Institution Building in Pacific Asia.” Approximately 280 participants from more than 15 member countries attended. The CSCAP General Conference is a biannual event where high-ranking officials and security experts from the Asia Pacific region meet to discuss security issues of relevance and to seek new ideas in response to evolving developments in Asia Pacific security. The conference lasted two days, with the first day devoted to the strategic and macroeconomic relationship among China, Japan, and the United States, gauging their respective views regarding one another’s roles and intentions in the region and then exploring how to build a sustainable regional order. Day two of the conference addressed specific issues and threats regarding peace and security in the region, including the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, peacekeeping and peace building, maritime security in the Malacca Straits, terrorism, and the security implications of climate change. At



the sidelines of the conference, CSCAP launched the first annual *CSCAP Regional Security Outlook*, which was subtitled “Security through Cooperation—Furthering Asia Pacific Multilateral Engagement.”

**For information, see:** [http://www.csis.or.id/events\\_past\\_view.asp?id=150&tab=2](http://www.csis.or.id/events_past_view.asp?id=150&tab=2)

**269. ASEAN-China Trade Relations: 15 Years Development and Prospects**

**Date:** December 6–8, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Supporters:** Centre for ASEAN and China Studies; sponsored by the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund

This conference reviewed the multilateral trade relations between ASEAN and China as well as bilateral trade relations between ASEAN countries and China since ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations were established in 1991. Two scholars from each ASEAN country and four scholars from China were invited to participate. Participants exchanged views on several topics: (1) developments in ASEAN-China trade relations over the last 15 years (in terms of trade of goods, trade of services, and foreign direct investment); (2) forecasts of developmental trends in the ASEAN-China trade relationship; and (3) initiatives and recommendations to promote the development of ASEAN-China trade relations through 2020.

**For information, see:** [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2007-12/08/content\\_6307475.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2007-12/08/content_6307475.htm)

**270. Asian Economic Panel Meeting**

**Date:** December 7–8, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Brookings Institution, Global Economy and Development Program; 21st Century Center of Excellence at Keio University; Earth Institute, Columbia University; Korea Institute for International Economic Policy; Institute of Governmental Affairs, University of California, Davis

The Asian Economic Panel, founded in April 2001, brings together prominent economists from around the world who gather twice yearly to discuss economic issues that are of vital importance to Asian economies, collectively or individually. Some of the topics on the agenda at the December meeting included the substitution among the exports of Taiwan, China, and other areas in US imports; dissecting offshore outsourcing and research and development; quantitative estimates of the economic impacts of the Korea-US FTA; poverty in rural Cambodia; market access implications of the ASEAN-China FTA for Malaysian manufacturing exports; the progress of securitization in Japan; and US-China trade—where are the exports? A special session also focused on issues related to the renminbi.

**For information, see:** <http://www.brookings.edu/global/asian-economic-panel.aspx>

**271. Regional Biosecurity Workshop**

**Date:** December 7–9, 2007

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Organizers/Supporters:** Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland School of Public Policy, University of Maryland

Following up on a May workshop in Singapore, the Center for International and Security Studies hosted a workshop to bring together government, scientific, international security, and industry experts from the Pacific region to examine the opportunities and challenges posed by advances in the life sciences. Papers presented at the workshop addressed such themes as life science research and global health security, strengthening of oversight over dual-use research

in Asia; country-specific perspectives and policies on dual-use research; the national biosafety framework in Nepal; and managing of the promise and danger of biotechnology.

**For information, see:** <http://www.cissm.umd.edu/projects/pathogens.php>

**272. 6th CSCAP Study Group Meeting on Countering the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction**

**Date:** December 9–10, 2007

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

**Organizers/Supporters:** Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP); co-chaired by CSCAP Vietnam and USCSCAP; logistical support from CSCAP Indonesia and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies; funding from Carnegie Corporation of New York, Department of Energy of the United States, Department of State of the United States, and the Ploughshares Fund

Thirty-three participants from 17 member committees attended this CSCAP study group gathering, along with members of the Pacific Forum CSIS Young Leaders program. The conference began with an assessment of the outlook for the global nonproliferation regime. The key concern of this meeting was “rehabilitating” the nonproliferation treaty (NPT) after the failed 2005 Review Conference. There was a long list of substantive issues: disarmament, nonproliferation, restrictions on withdrawal from the NPT, compliance with the treaty, and regional nuclear weapons free zones, especially in the Middle East. Sessions looked at the regional nuclear energy outlook, the Six-Party Talks on North Korea’s nuclear program, and the implementation of plurilateral initiatives to promote nonproliferation.

**For information, see:** [http://www.cscap.ca/WMD\\_SG.html](http://www.cscap.ca/WMD_SG.html)

**273. 1st Southeast Asian Forum on Islam and Democracy**

**Date:** December 10, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS); Philippine Council for Islam and Democracy; Magbassa Kita Foundation

This gathering brought together a delegation of Muslim experts, scholars, advocates, and leaders from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and the Philippines to exchange views and share experiences on Islam and democracy. The forum also sought to address the pervading image of terrorism and extremism in Islam. Participants noted that Islamic extremism has taken the spotlight in the media, as opposed to the other facets of the Muslim faith. While most believed that the Muslim mainstream in Southeast Asia can be described as progressive, extremist movements also need to be taken seriously.

The Southeast Asian region is home to the largest Muslim community in the world with more than 200 million adherents of Islam. The Philippines alone hosts a large Muslim minority, standing at 5 percent of the Filipino population. The KAS Philippines office has been working with Muslim civil society groups in its effort to develop Muslim civil society, promote inter-religious dialogue and understanding, and further deepen democracy in the Philippines.

**For information, see:** [http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/69/2/-/-/veranstaltung\\_id-28268/](http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/69/2/-/-/veranstaltung_id-28268/)

**274. Research Workshop on Emerging Trade Issues for Developing Countries in Asia-Pacific Region**

**Date:** December 10–11, 2007

**Location:** Macao, China

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; World Trade Organization; International Development Research Centre (Canada)

This workshop brought together regional policymakers and regional and international researchers and analysts to (1) identify areas of future research and policy dialogue on trade and on economic and trade policy coherence, and (2) discuss future collaborative work on the interplay between trade, investment, and governance in order to contribute to sound policies to the region's development. The workshop featured sessions that examined new versus old paradigms of trade and their relevance for developing countries in Asia Pacific, trade in components and parts and foreign direct investment in East Asia, advances in measuring the impacts of trade on distribution and poverty, systemic issues in law and economics, advances in measuring trade barriers in services and non-tariff barriers, assessments of impacts of preferential trade agreements, and "life after Doha—multilateralizing regionalism."

**For information, see:** <http://unescap.org/tid/projects/tradeissue.asp>

#### **275. 1st Northeast Asia Government-Business Dialogue**

**Date:** December 11–12, 2007

**Location:** Jeju, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** Korea Energy Economics Institute

The first Northeast Asia Government-Business Dialogue took up the theme of "Challenges of and Vision for Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia." The dialogue is intended to serve as a forum for government officials and business executives involved in the energy sector of the subregion to come together and discuss the issues hindering transborder energy trade, accelerate energy infrastructure development, and hold bilateral and multilateral discussions to foster exchanges in investment and technology. Participants in the dialogue comprised government officials and business executives from Russia, Mongolia, China, and South Korea.

After the opening session, government representatives outlined their national policies on energy cooperation, while ESCAP representatives delivered a comprehensive presentation on Northeast Asian energy cooperation. Sessions were then held on the oil, gas, coal, and electricity sectors in the region, during which experts explained ongoing projects in those sectors and the impediments to their realization. Discussions then focused on how to mitigate those obstacles. On the second day of the dialogue, government-business partnership strategies were discussed.

**For information, see:** [http://www.keei.re.kr/web\\_keei/en\\_news.nsf/BymainV/EE241F173B4DE9784925743400359E63?OpenDocument](http://www.keei.re.kr/web_keei/en_news.nsf/BymainV/EE241F173B4DE9784925743400359E63?OpenDocument)

#### **276. 1st Government-Business Dialogue on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia**

**Date:** December 11–12, 2007

**Location:** Jeju, South Korea

**Organizers/Supporters:** United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; Korea Energy Economics Institute

As decided by the second Senior Officials Committee Meeting of the Inter-governmental Collaborative Mechanism on Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia in 2006, the first Government-Business Dialogue (GBD) was held as one of the 2007 activities within the framework of the Working Group on Energy Planning and Policy (WG-EPP). The first dialogue was attended by government officials, senior business representatives, and experts from the oil, gas, coal, and electricity sectors of China, Mongolia, South Korea, and the Russian Federation. The objectives were to enhance opportunities to facilitate energy cooperation, in particular collaboration between the government and business sectors through multilateral channels to promote and enhance energy development and trade within Northeast Asia; and identify intraregional cooperation measures to facilitate trade and joint development of energy resources.

The GBD deliberated on the following items: (a) overview and policies of Northeast Asian countries toward energy cooperation, including policies on trade, investment, and infrastructure development; (b) ongoing or potential cooperation projects briefing; (c)

impediments to energy cooperation and options to mitigate these impediments; and (d) consensus on government-business partnership strategies.

**For information, see:** <http://www.unescap.org/esd/energy/dialogue/cooperation/soc3/documents/update/SOC3-report.pdf>

**277. International Symposium on Security Affairs 2007: North Korea's Nuclear Issues—  
Toward Peace and Security in Northeast Asia**

**Date:** December 13, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** National Institute for Defense Studies

Distinguished experts from the United States, China, Russia, South Korea, and Japan explored the political and military implications of North Korea's nuclear issues for regional security in general and Japan's security in particular. North Korea's nuclear test in October 2006 heightened tensions in Northeast Asia and raised international concerns about nuclear proliferation, culminating in the adoption of UN security resolutions condemning Pyongyang's provocations. Participants debated whether providing energy aid would be enough incentive to convince Pyongyang to abandon all its nuclear programs and discussed the potential impact of upcoming presidential elections in South Korea and in the United States on the Six-Party Talks process.

**For information, see:** <http://www.nids.go.jp/english/dissemination/other/symposium/2007/symposium-19/symposium-19.pdf>

**278. Regional Conference on Legal Empowerment for Women and Disadvantaged Groups**

**Date:** December 13–14, 2007

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Organizers/Supporters:** Asian Development Bank (ADB); Asia Foundation

This two-day regional conference held at ADB headquarters in Manila marked the completion of a three-country technical assistance project on Legal Empowerment for Women and Disadvantaged Groups. The conference featured presentations and panel sessions in which participants representing the ADB-Asia Foundation project team and their partners from Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Pakistan; government officials and civil society leaders; and specialists in legal empowerment from other regions and donor agencies discussed issues and experiences in legal empowerment and future opportunities.

**For information, see:** <http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2007/Legal-Empowerment-Women/default.asp>

**279. ARF Workshop on Management and Security of Stockpiles of Small Arms and Light Weapons Including Their Ammunition**

**Date:** December 13–14, 2007

**Location:** Phnom Penh, Cambodia

**Organizers/Supporters:** ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

The ARF representatives as well as representatives from such NGOs as the Cambodian Mine Action Center, Cambodian Red Cross, and Japan Center for Conflict Prevention attended a workshop that took place in the framework of the Project on SALW [Small Arms and Light Weapons] Control and Improved Safe Storage of Ammunition and Explosives in Cambodia. The objective of the workshop was to provide guidance and exchange views on the effective management and security of public stockpiles of SALWs including their ammunition and also explore measures for regional cooperation. The participants agreed that safety and security of SALWs requires political intervention, will, and commitment in terms of providing the necessary resources and proper legislation, adequate training doctrines, and appropriate

technology. The workshop participants stressed that any effort to ensure the safety and security of SALWs would need to address links to transnational crime, such as drug smuggling and cross-border illicit trade. This requires extraregional and international cooperation with the assistance of the police, customs, and law enforcement officers. Joint land border and maritime patrols were also highlighted as examples.

**For information, see:** [http://www.41amm.sg/amm/index.php/web/layout/set/print/info\\_for\\_delegates/statements/chairman\\_s\\_statement\\_15th\\_asean\\_regional\\_forum\\_24\\_july\\_2008\\_singapore](http://www.41amm.sg/amm/index.php/web/layout/set/print/info_for_delegates/statements/chairman_s_statement_15th_asean_regional_forum_24_july_2008_singapore)

**280. 13th Asia Pacific Agenda Program (APAP) Forum: East Asia and a Rising India—Prospects for the Region**

**Date:** December 14–15, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

Nearly two dozen experts from around East Asia gathered in Singapore for the 13th APAP Forum on “East Asia and a Rising India: Prospects for the Region.” The participants gathered to explore the implications of India’s growing interactions with East Asia and how to involve India in East Asia community-building initiatives. Discussions were based on the findings of a JCIE joint study. Leading policy experts from East Asian countries and India had been meeting in workshops to discuss the implications of India’s inclusion in the region, the question of how to best manage a regional order characterized by the involvement of multiple large powers, and the interests and concerns that India has regarding community building in East Asia. This study was being coordinated as part of the Asia Pacific Agenda Project.

**For information, see:** [www.jcie.or.jp/thinknet/apap/forums/13th.html](http://www.jcie.or.jp/thinknet/apap/forums/13th.html)

**281. 8th Trilateral Commission Pacific Asia Regional Meeting**

**Date:** December 15–17, 2007

**Location:** Singapore

**Organizers/Supporters:** Trilateral Commission; Japan Center for International Exchange

The Trilateral Commission was formed in 1973 by private citizens of Japan, Europe (European Union countries), and North America (United States and Canada) to foster closer cooperation among these core democratic industrialized areas of the world with shared leadership responsibilities in the wider international system. Over time, in the belief that its framework needed to be widened to reflect broader changes in the world, the Japan Group has become the Pacific Asian Group, and the North American and European groups have also expanded their membership.

In addition to convening an annual plenary, each regional group carries out some activities of their own. The Pacific Asian Group held its eighth meeting in 2007. Members met to discuss the role of ASEAN in global governance, the evolution of ASEAN as a regional architecture, the challenge of environmental security for Asia, and the global impact of the Asian financial crisis.

**For information, see:** <http://www.trilateral.org/PAGP/REGMTGS/07singapore.htm>

**282. Towards an East Asia Community: Beyond Cross-Cultural Diversity—Inter-cultural, Inter-societal, Inter-faith Dialogue**

**Date:** December 17, 2007

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Organizers/Supporters:** Japan Foundation; Waseda University Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

In addition to economic integration, experts from ASEAN countries discussed an East Asia community focusing on the cultural, societal, and religious diversity in the region. To explore a common platform on which people in the region can build a sense of identity, 30 young intellectuals from countries in East Asia (ASEAN, Japan, South Korea, China, India, Australia, and New Zealand) also contributed to these dialogues.

**For information, see:** <http://www.jpf.go.jp/e/jenesys/intel/exchange/sympo07.html>

**283. PAFTAD 32: The Impact of International Arrangements and Organizations on Development in Asia and the Pacific**

**Date:** December 17–19, 2007

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Organizers/Supporters:** Pacific Trade and Development Forum (PAFTAD)

PAFTAD conferences are generally held on an annual basis. PAFTAD's International Steering Committee, with the assistance of major research and academic institutions in the host country, sets a theme, defines research plans, and commissions research papers. Researchers are given up to two years to carry out their research before presentation for discussion and refinement at the PAFTAD conference. Through discussion and debate at the conference, papers are refined and prepared for publication as part of the PAFTAD Conference series.

PAFTAD 32 focused on the impact of international arrangements and organizations on development in Asia Pacific. Research presented included work on international public goods; the rationale, evolution, achievements, and potential of APEC; making the international system work for the platinum age; the effects of GATT/WTO on Asia's trade performance; the International Monetary Fund and East Asia: the legacy of the 1997–1998 crisis and actions for the future; and the evolution of the World Bank and its implications for the Asian Development Bank.

**For information, see:** <http://www.eaber.org/intranet/publish/paftad/conferences.php>

# Preliminary List of Dialogues (January–June 2008)

## *January*

### **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) Workshop on Irregular Migration**

**Date:** January 7–9, 2008

**Location:** Malaysia

<http://www.asia-alliance.org/index.php?q=workshop/workshop-series-workshop-20072008>

### **4th US-Japan-China Trilateral Conference**

**Date:** January 7–9, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

[www.jcie.org/archives.html](http://www.jcie.org/archives.html)

### **11th Regional Outlook Forum**

**Date:** January 8, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.iseas.edu.sg/7jan08a.pdf>

### **Japan–East Asia Dialogue: Cooperation in Environment and Energy**

**Date:** June 9–10, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.gfj.jp/eng/dialogue/28/cp.pdf>

### **ASEAN High-Level Meeting on Good Practices in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Reporting and Follow-Up**

**Date:** January 14–15, 2008

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

### **Japan-Mekong Foreign Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** January 16, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/12/1176851\\_862.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/12/1176851_862.html)

### **Special Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General**

**Date:** January 16–18, 2008

**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

### **International Conference on EU-Asia Relations**

**Date:** January 17, 2008

**Location:** Venice, Italy

[http://www.ifri.org/frontDispatcher/ifri/manifestations/interventions\\_\\_\\_l\\_ext\\_rieur\\_1042052171194/publi\\_P\\_fn\\_conf\\_venise\\_\\_\\_1209552301618](http://www.ifri.org/frontDispatcher/ifri/manifestations/interventions___l_ext_rieur_1042052171194/publi_P_fn_conf_venise___1209552301618)

### **Sentosa Roundtable on Asian Security 2008**

**Date:** January 17–18, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

[http://www.spf.org/e/project/2008/a3\\_06e.html](http://www.spf.org/e/project/2008/a3_06e.html)

**Mekong-Japan Foreign Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** January 18, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/mekong/meet0801.html>

**1st Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials of the 39th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (SEOM 1/39)**

**Date:** January 19–22, 2008

**Location:** Baguio City, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/AR-08.pdf>

**16th Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum**

**Date:** January 20–25, 2008

**Location:** Auckland, New Zealand

<http://www.appf.org.pe/meeting/sixteen/JointCommunique.pdf>

**29th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation**

**Date:** January 21–22, 2008

**Location:** Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

**Conference on the India-China-USA Triangle**

**Date:** January 21–23, 2008

**Location:** Kerala, India

[http://www.cicir.ac.cn/tbscms/zhuye/readnews\\_public.asp?rid=xsjl\\_en&no=6&sign=9gaAtEqmGRX9KjaSeWJs0JYnks8118/u](http://www.cicir.ac.cn/tbscms/zhuye/readnews_public.asp?rid=xsjl_en&no=6&sign=9gaAtEqmGRX9KjaSeWJs0JYnks8118/u); <http://www.scmgroup.org/pgdm/html/conference1.htm>

**1st APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Meeting of 2008**

**Date:** January 21–23, 2008

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.abaconline.org/v4/download.php?ContentID=4235>

**2nd Japan-US-Asia Dialogue: An East Asian Community and the United States**

**Date:** January 22, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.gfj.jp/eng/dialogue/27/main.pdf>

**Seminar on the Promotion of Accession to the International Counter-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols**

**Date:** January 22–23, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/terrorism/state0801.html>

**1st Meeting of the ASEAN Nuclear Energy Safety Sub-Sector Network**

**Date:** January 22–23, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

[http://www.ugm.cl/portal-corea/pdf/11-ASEAN-Plus-3\\_Statements.pdf](http://www.ugm.cl/portal-corea/pdf/11-ASEAN-Plus-3_Statements.pdf)

**1st Regular Meeting of 2008 of the Advisory Group on APEC Financial System Capacity Building**

**Date:** January 23, 2008

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.abaconline.org/v4/download.php?ContentID=4195>



**Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction Brainstorming Meeting**

**Date:** January 23–24, 2008

**Location:** Kobe, Japan

[http://www.adrc.or.jp/events/RTFmeeting20080130/PDF\\_Presentations/RTF-URR\\_Flyer.pdf](http://www.adrc.or.jp/events/RTFmeeting20080130/PDF_Presentations/RTF-URR_Flyer.pdf)

**ASEAN Workshop on Forging Cooperation among Anti-Terror Units**

**Date:** January 23–24, 2008

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

**UN Regional Forum on Bioenergy Development**

**Date:** January 23–25, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2008/jan/n02.asp>

**6th Meeting of the ASEAN Expert Group on Food Safety**

**Date:** January 23–25, 2008

**Location:** Makati City, Philippines

<http://www.aseanfoodsafetynetwork.net/EventMeetingDetail.php?EMId=59>

**9th Project Steering Committee Meeting for the East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve Pilot Project**

**Date:** January 24–25, 2008

**Location:** Xiamen, China

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

**ASEAN Foreign Ministers Session at the World Economic Forum**

**Date:** January 25, 2008

**Location:** Davos, Switzerland

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

**2nd Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Environment Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** January 28–29, 2008

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/Second-GMS-Environment-Meeting/default.asp>

**ASEAN Infrastructure Financing Mechanism Working Level Meeting**

**Date:** January 28–29, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

**7th Senior Officials Meeting on Energy+3 (SOME+3) Energy Policy Governing Group; 6th ASEAN+3 Energy Forum; 5th ASEAN+3 Oil Market Forum; 6th ASEAN+3 Oil Stockpiling Forum; 6th East Asia Summit Energy Cooperation Task Force Meeting**

**Date:** January 28–30, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

**2nd Workshop on ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network Task Force and Working Group Development**

**Date:** January 28–30, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

**Northeast Asian Network 2008**

**Date:** January 29, 2008

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

[http://annals.yonsei.ac.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=302;](http://annals.yonsei.ac.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=302)

<http://www.mofat.go.kr/english/press/speech/minister/index.jsp>

**Working Group on Zone of Peace Freedom and Neutrality/Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone**

**Date:** January 29, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

**2nd Working Group on the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement**

**Date:** January 29–31, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

**4th Regional Dialogue of Air Quality Management Initiatives and Programs in Asia**

**Date:** January 30–31, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.cleanairnet.org/caiasia/1412/article-72366.html>

**3rd ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**

**Date:** January 30–31, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/1-2008.htm>

***February*****4th Meeting of the Track II Study on the Feasibility of a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Arrangement for East Asia**

**Date:** February 1–2, 2008

**Location:** New Delhi, India

<http://www.newasiaforum.org/pb33.pdf>

**15th International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections Asia Pacific Congress**

**Date:** February 3–6, 2008

**Location:** Dubai

<http://www.cdcnpin.org/scripts/Display/ConfDisplay.asp?ConfNbr=6362>

**5th ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**

**Date:** February 4, 2008

**Location:** Moscow, Russia

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2008.htm>

**10th Asian Security Conference: Asian Security in the 21st Century**

**Date:** February 5–7, 2008

**Location:** New Delhi, India

<http://www.idsa.in/10ASCmain.htm>

**8th ASEAN Capital Markets Forum**

**Date:** February 8, 2008

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.thanhniennews.com/politics/?catid=1&newsid=35841>

**19th Working Committee on Financial Services Liberalization under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services**

**Date:** February 11, 2008

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2008.htm>

**ASEAN Workshop: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Control and Eradication**

**Date:** February 13–15, 2008

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/Highly-Pathogenic-Avian-Influenza/default.asp>

**ASEAN Regional Workshop on Gender Equality Legislation**

**Date:** February 13–15, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2008.htm>

**4th ROK-US-Japan Security Workshop**

**Date:** February 18–19, 2008

**Location:** Jeju Island, Korea

[http://kida.re.kr/eng/cooperation/cooperation\\_03.htm](http://kida.re.kr/eng/cooperation/cooperation_03.htm)

**ASEAN Foreign Ministers Retreat**

**Date:** February 19–20, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2008.htm>

**3rd East Asian Symposium on Environmental and Natural Resource Economics**

**Date:** February 19–21, 2008

**Location:** Kunitachi, Japan

<http://www.soc.nii.ac.jp/seeps/meeting/eas3/EAS3-program.pdf>

**1st APEC Senior Officials Meeting and Related Meetings**

**Date:** February 19–March 3, 2008

**Location:** Lima, Peru

<http://www.pecc.org/calendar.htm>

[http://www.apec.org/apec/news\\_\\_\\_media/media\\_releases/030308\\_pe\\_som1workplan.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/news___media/media_releases/030308_pe_som1workplan.html)

**Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO) 3rd General Meeting**

**Date:** February 20–22, 2008

**Location:** Solo/Surakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.narbo.jp/narbo/event/index.htm>

**6th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime**

**Date:** February 21–22, 2008

**Location:** Semarang, Indonesia

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=jfS8oGMR3lk%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

**Asian Bond Markets Initiative Working Group and Focal Group Meetings**

**Date:** February 25–26, 2008

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2008.htm>

**3rd Working Group on the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement**

**Date:** February 25–27, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2008.htm>

**30th Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force**

**Date:** February 26, 2008

**Location:** Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2008.htm>

**9th East Asian Development Network (EADN) Annual Forum**

**Date:** February 28–29, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.eadn.org/2007conference.htm>

**UNESCAP/ITC High-Level Consultation on Trade in Services for Regional Integration**

**Date:** February 28–29, 2008

**Location:** Macao, China

<http://www.unescap.org/tid/projects/tradeservice.asp>

**Special Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity**

**Date:** February 28–29, 2008

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2008.htm>

**Chiang Mai Initiative Task Force for Multilateralisation Meeting; ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies Working Group Meeting**

**Date:** February 28–March 1, 2008

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.aseansec.org/2-2008.htm>

**March**

**ASEM Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** March 2–3, 2008

**Location:** Bled, Slovenia

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2008.htm>

**9th ASEAN-China Joint Cooperation Committee and Working Group Meeting**

**Date:** March 3–5, 2008

**Location:** Chongqing, China

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2008.htm>

**2nd ARF Peacekeeping Experts Meeting**

**Date:** March 4–6, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

[http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=cP%2bbpKLW3KE%3d&t  
abid=66&mid=1009](http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=cP%2bbpKLW3KE%3d&t<br/>abid=66&mid=1009)

**2nd Meeting of the Committee under the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution; 1st Meeting of the Technical Working Group on Transboundary Haze Pollution in the Mekong Sub-Region**

**Date:** March 4–7, 2008

**Location:** Chiang Mai, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2008.htm>

**ADB-OECD Expert Meeting on Beneficial Private Sector Participation in Water and Sanitation**

**Date:** March 5, 2008

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/events/2008/ADB-OECD/default.asp>

**35th Meeting of the APEC Energy Working Group**

**Date:** March 5–6, 2008

**Location:** Iquitos, Peru

[http://www.ewg.apec.org/index.cfm?event=object.showContent&objectID=085456BA-  
A0BB-FD2A-04C05CB060B10276](http://www.ewg.apec.org/index.cfm?event=object.showContent&objectID=085456BA-<br/>A0BB-FD2A-04C05CB060B10276)

**A New Nuclear World Order: Asian Perspectives**

**Date:** March 6–7, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

[http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/cag/Past\\_Events.aspx](http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/cag/Past_Events.aspx)

**Rising Asia: The Next 10 Years**

**Date:** March 10, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.siaaonline.org/?q=events/rising-asia-the-next-10-years>

**Joint Conference on European and Asian Integration: Achievements and Challenges**

**Date:** March 10, 2008

**Location:** Brussels, Belgium

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/European-Asian-Integration/default.asp>

**2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials of the 39th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (SEOM 2/39)**

**Date:** March 10–12, 2008

**Location:** Siem Reap, Cambodia

<http://www.dav.gov.vn/DesktopModules/VietTotal.Documents/DownloadAttachment.aspx?&AttachmentId=272>

**28th Session of the Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement**

**Date:** March 12–13, 2008

**Location:** Colombo, Sri Lanka

<http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/ba28.asp>

**1st Meeting on the Drafting of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint**

**Date:** March 12–13, 2008

**Location:** Thailand

[http://thailand.prd.go.th/view\\_inside.php?id=3228](http://thailand.prd.go.th/view_inside.php?id=3228)

**ARF Workshop on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy in Asia and Europe**

**Date:** March 12–14, 2008

**Location:** Berlin, Germany

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=Y2kd0VgXDmQ%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

**Asia Europe Economic Forum 2008**

**Date:** March 13, 2008

**Location:** Brussels, Belgium

<http://www.bruegel.org/Public/SimplePage.php?depthStatus=3&ID=8459&parentID=1156>

**43rd Southeast Asian Ministers of Education (SEAMEO) Council Conference; 3rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Education (ASEM)**

**Date:** March 13–15, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.seameo.org/vl/library/DLWelcome/Publications/report/seamec/43mc08/43mc08-Proceeding.html>

**Asian Mediation Retreat 2008**

**Date:** March 15–17, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

<http://www.ciis.org.cn/en/newsevents2.asp?NewsID=20080328120310486&ClassName=Conferences>

**Forum on Clean Energy, Good Governance and Regulation**

**Date:** March 16–18, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/cag/News.aspx>

**3rd Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum**

**Date:** March 17–19, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.unctd.or.jp/env/est/docs/Press-release-3rd-Regional-EST-Forum-1Nov07.pdf>

**11th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM); 2nd ACDM+3 Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** March 17–19, 2008

**Location:** Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2008.htm>

**1st Meeting of Japan-ASEAN Eminent Persons Group**

**Date:** March 18, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2008/3/0310.html>

**Regional Symposium on Regional Disaster Management Support System—Satellite Information Access Mechanism**

**Date:** March 19–21, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

[http://www.unescap.org/icstd/space/workshops/2008/Regional\\_DMSS/index.asp](http://www.unescap.org/icstd/space/workshops/2008/Regional_DMSS/index.asp)

**4th Working Group on the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement**

**Date:** March 19–21, 2008

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2008.htm>

**Northeast Asia Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation Expert Group Meeting and 13th Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** March 20–21, 2008

**Location:** Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

<http://www.neaspec.org/som13.asp>

**4th ASEAN+3 Natural Resources Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Forum**

**Date:** March 20–21, 2008

**Location:** Seoul, Korea

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2008.htm>

**Tokyo Peacebuilders Symposium 2008: Peacebuilding Experience and Knowledge from Asia to the World**

**Date:** March 24–25, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/un/pko/symposium0803.html>

**3rd Meeting of the CSCAP Study Group on Asia Pacific Cooperation for Energy Security**

**Date:** March 24–26, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

[http://www.cscap.ca/Energy\\_Security\\_SG\\_3rd\\_Meeting\\_Report.pdf](http://www.cscap.ca/Energy_Security_SG_3rd_Meeting_Report.pdf)

**14th ASEAN-China Senior Officials Consultations (SOC); 3rd ASEAN-China SOC on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea**

**Date:** March 24–28, 2008

**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2008.htm>

**PECC-ABAC Conference: Demographic Change and International Labor Mobility in the Asia Pacific Region—Implications for Business and Cooperation**

**Date:** March 25–26, 2008

**Location:** Seoul, Korea

<http://www.pecc.org/labor/seoul-conference.htm>

### **3rd Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group**

**Date:** March 25–27, 2008

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2008.htm>

### **East Asia Forum Dialogue**

**Date:** March 26, 2008

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

<http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/events/calendar/more.php?id=199>

### **East Asia Workshop on Transparency and Integrity in the Water Sector**

**Date:** March 27–28, 2008

**Location:** Mandaluyong City, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/East-Asia-Workshop/default.asp>

### **World Bank Workshop on Meeting the 2015 Regulatory Challenge for Cambodia–Lao PDR–Myanmar–Vietnam**

**Date:** March 27–28, 2008

**Location:** Phnom Penh, Cambodia

<http://www.aseansec.org/3-2008.htm>

### **1st Official Meeting for the East Asia Summit (EAS) Environment Ministers Meeting and 1st ASEAN-Japan Environment Dialogue**

**Date:** March 28, 2008

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.nea.gov.vn/mme/EASMME/som1.html>

### **3rd Greater Mekong Subregion Summit**

**Date:** March 30–31, 2008

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/3rd-GMS-Summit/default.asp>

## **April**

### **12th Japan-US-China Trilateral Security Conference**

**Date:** April 1–2, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

[http://www.rips.or.jp/from\\_rips/seminar/us\\_china.html](http://www.rips.or.jp/from_rips/seminar/us_china.html)

### **ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meeting (AFDM); Informal and Formal ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meetings+3 (AFDM+3); 12th ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting (AFMM) and Retreat**

**Date:** April 1–4, 2008

**Location:** Da Nang, Viet Nam

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2008.htm>

### **2nd Meeting of the (Renewed) Study Group on Facilitating Maritime Security Cooperation**

**Date:** April 2–3, 2008

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

[http://www.cscap.ca/Maritime\\_Cooperation\\_SG.html](http://www.cscap.ca/Maritime_Cooperation_SG.html)



### **5th Disaster Management Practitioners Workshop**

**Date:** April 2–4, 2008

**Location:** Phnom Penh, Cambodia

[http://www.jtic.org/en/jtic/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=338&Itemid=90](http://www.jtic.org/en/jtic/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=338&Itemid=90)

### **ARF Intersessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy; ARF Defence Officials Dialogue**

**Date:** April 2–4, 2008

**Location:** Ottawa, Canada

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=GtwuWlmbQjs%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

### **Asia-Pacific Water Forum 2nd Meeting of the Regional Water Knowledge Hubs Network**

**Date:** April 2–5, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/APWF-Khubs-Meeting/default.asp>

### **Williamsburg Conference: The Role of Islam in Multi-Cultural Asia & the Changing Role of the United States in the Region**

**Date:** April 3–6, 2008

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

[http://www.asiasociety.org/policy\\_business/williamsburg08.pdf](http://www.asiasociety.org/policy_business/williamsburg08.pdf)

### **Micro-Economic Foundations of Economic Policy Performance in Asia**

**Date:** April 3–4, 2008

**Location:** New Delhi, India

[http://www.eaber.org/intranet/publish/get\\_content.php?pid=10&name=NCAER-EABER\\_Programme\\_3-4april2008.pdf](http://www.eaber.org/intranet/publish/get_content.php?pid=10&name=NCAER-EABER_Programme_3-4april2008.pdf)

### **6th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Conference on Counter Terrorism**

**Date:** April 3–4, 2008

**Location:** Madrid, Spain

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2008.htm>

### **Joint Roundtable Discussion on the Promotion and Protection on the Rights of Women and Children**

**Date:** April 7–8, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2008.htm>

### **4th Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution**

**Date:** April 8, 2008

**Location:** Putrajaya, Malaysia

[www.aseansec.org/21458.htm](http://www.aseansec.org/21458.htm)

### **ARF Seminar on Anti-Personnel Mines**

**Date:** April 8–10, 2008

**Location:** Penang, Malaysia

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=yVij0o%2b5f9U%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

**13th High Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration**

**Date:** April 9–10, 2008

**Location:** Ho Chi Minh, Viet Nam

<http://www.aseansec.org/21467.htm>

**Financing Village-Level Energy for Development in Asia and the Pacific Region**

**Date:** April 9–11, 2008

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/Financing-Village-Energy/>

**10th ASEAN-US Informal Coordinating Mechanism**

**Date:** April 10–11, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2008.htm>

**5th United States Asia Pacific Council Conference: New Challenges in a Changing Environment**

**Date:** April 11, 2008

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

[http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class\\_call=view&conf\\_ID=1427&mode=view](http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/past-east-west-center-events/?class_call=view&conf_ID=1427&mode=view)

**The 1st Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Forum on Energy Security**

**Date:** April 11–12, 2008

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

[http://www.asem7.cn/misc/2008-05/13/content\\_45870.htm](http://www.asem7.cn/misc/2008-05/13/content_45870.htm)

**Boao Forum for Asia 2008: Green Asia—Moving Towards Win-Win Through Changes**

**Date:** April 11–13, 2008

**Location:** Boao, Hainan, China

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90002/93786/index.html>

**4th Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT) Working Group Meeting on East Asian Financial Cooperation**

**Date:** April 12–13, 2008

**Location:** Shanghai, China

[http://www.neat.org.cn/english/hzdten/contentshow.php?content\\_id=103](http://www.neat.org.cn/english/hzdten/contentshow.php?content_id=103)

**2nd Asia-Pacific Programme for Senior National Security Officers**

**Date:** April 14–18, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

[http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/view\\_day.asp?id=736&view\\_date=14-April-2008](http://www.idss.edu.sg/networking/view_day.asp?id=736&view_date=14-April-2008)

**2nd ARF Seminar on Energy Security**

**Date:** April 15–17, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=HspCKDnpYHI%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

**Joint Thematic Working Group Meeting of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries**

**Date:** April 18, 2008

**Location:** Jeju, South Korea

[http://www.environment-health.asia/userfiles/file/EH\\_TWG2\\_MR%20without%20e-mail\(1\).pdf](http://www.environment-health.asia/userfiles/file/EH_TWG2_MR%20without%20e-mail(1).pdf)

**BIMP-EAGA Regional Environment Program Inception Meeting**

**Date:** April 18–19, 2008

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/BIMP-EAGA-REP/default.asp>

**US-Japan Workshop on the Co-benefits of Climate Actions in Asia**

**Date:** April 22, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.iges.or.jp/en/cp/activity21.html>

**13th ASEAN-India Working Group, 10th ASEAN-India Joint Cooperation Committee, 10th ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** April 22–24, 2008

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2008.htm>

**Conference on Key Development Issues in Asia**

**Date:** April 24, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.adbi.org/event/2518.key.development.issues.asia/>

**Dialogue among APEC Economies, Business Community, and Key International and Regional Partners on Emergency Preparedness**

**Date:** April 24–25, 2008

**Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

<http://www.monre.gov.vn/monrenet/default.aspx?tabid=259&idmid=&ItemID=43240>

**64th Session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)**

**Date:** April 24–30, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.unescap.org/64/>

**5th Asian Senior-Level Talks on Nonproliferation**

**Date:** April 25, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.cistec.or.jp/english/service/inter.html>

**PECC Regional Institutional Architecture Task Force Meeting**

**Date:** April 25, 2008

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

<http://www.pecc.org/>

**Experts Workshop on Future Scenarios of East Asia**

**Date:** April 25, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2008.htm>

**21st Meeting of the ASEAN Crisis Communications Team**

**Date:** April 25, 2008

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2008.htm>

**Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2008: Energy Security—Opportunities through Regional Energy Cooperation and Public-Private Partnerships**

**Date:** April 27, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.unescap.org/apbf/APBF2008-Outcomes.pdf>

**ASEAN Special Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** April 27–29, 2008

**Location:** Putrajaya, Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/4-2008.htm>

**3rd Northeast Asia Forum**

**Date:** April 28, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

[http://www.china.org.cn/international/conferences/2008-04/29/content\\_15033959.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/international/conferences/2008-04/29/content_15033959.htm)

**2nd Meeting on the Drafting of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint**

**Date:** April 28–30, 2008

**Location:** Luang Prabang, Lao PDR

[http://www.mfa.gov.bn/diplomatic\\_calendar/index.htm](http://www.mfa.gov.bn/diplomatic_calendar/index.htm)

**2008 Energy Security Conference: Opportunities and Constraints—Prospects for Russian Oil and Gas Supply to Asia**

**Date:** April 29–30, 2008

**Location:** Washington DC, USA

<http://nbr.org/programs/cass/ESConference08.html>

**May**

**15th ASEAN-ISIS Colloquium on Human Rights**

**Date:** May 1–2, 2008

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

<http://www.aseanhrmech.org/news/human-rights-advocates-discuss-hr-body.html>

**ARF Desktop Exercise on Disaster Relief**

**Date:** May 1–2, 2008

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=shFUjZP%2bIG4%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

**The Experiments with Democracy in East and Southeast Asia: Two Decades After**

**Date:** May 2–3, 2008

**Location:** Hong Kong

[http://www.hku.hk/cas/sem\\_intlconf.html](http://www.hku.hk/cas/sem_intlconf.html)

**ASEAN Economic Ministers Retreat**

**Date:** May 2–3, 2008

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/21498.htm>

**11th ASEAN+3 Ministers Meeting; ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meeting; ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Meeting; 8th Trilateral Finance Ministers Meeting among China, Japan and Korea**

**Date:** May 3–4, 2008

**Location:** Madrid, Spain

<http://www.aseansec.org/21502.htm>; <http://www.aseansec.org/21508.htm>

[http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/080504joint\\_message.htm](http://www.mof.go.jp/english/if/080504joint_message.htm)

**41st Asian Development Bank (ADB) Annual Meeting**

**Date:** May 3–6, 2008

**Location:** Madrid, Spain

<http://www.adb.org/AnnualMeeting/2008/default.asp>

**6th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Development and Planning**

**Date:** May 7–8, 2008

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); ASEAN+3 SOM; East Asia Summit Ad Hoc SOM Consultations**

**Date:** May 5–8, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**5th Meeting of the Working Group on Energy Planning and Policy**

**Date:** May 7–8, 2008

**Location:** Chiang Mai, Thailand

[http://www.keei.re.kr/web\\_keei/en\\_news.nsf/frame.htm?ReadForm&url=/web\\_keei/en\\_news.nsf/mainV/C94B3519C5E2F3E3492574A40029D06E?OpenDocument](http://www.keei.re.kr/web_keei/en_news.nsf/frame.htm?ReadForm&url=/web_keei/en_news.nsf/mainV/C94B3519C5E2F3E3492574A40029D06E?OpenDocument)

**6th ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting (SLOM) and SLOM+3; 20th ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM) and ALMM+3**

**Date:** May 7–8, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.aseansec.org/21543.pdf>

**5th ARF Security Policy Conference; ARF Defence Officials Dialogue and Meeting**

**Date:** May 7–9, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=brz2KBWoSfU%3d&tabid=66&mid=1009>

**7th Asian Disaster Preparedness Center Regional Consultative Committee Meeting on Disaster Management**

**Date:** May 8–10, 2008

**Location:** Colombo, Sri Lanka

<http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific/events/v.php?id=1623>

**NEAT Working Group Meeting on East Asian Investment Cooperation**

**Date:** May 9–10, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

[http://www.neat.org.cn/english/hzdten/contentshow.php?content\\_id=105](http://www.neat.org.cn/english/hzdten/contentshow.php?content_id=105)

**Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia: Structures, Institutions, and Agency**

**Date:** May 9–10, 2008

**Location:** Hong Kong

<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/searc/>

**21st ASEAN-US Dialogue**

**Date:** May 10, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**East Asia Investment Forum 2008: East Asia Investment Cooperation in the Context of Global Financial Turbulence**

**Date:** May 11, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

<http://www.isis.org.my/research.htm>

**2nd APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Meeting**

**Date:** May 12–14, 2008

**Location:** Moscow, Russia

[http://www.apec.org/apec/business\\_resources/apec\\_business\\_advisory.html/](http://www.apec.org/apec/business_resources/apec_business_advisory.html/)

**5th ASEAN-Canada Dialogue**

**Date:** May 12–14, 2008

**Location:** Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam

<http://www.aseansec.org/21539.htm>

**Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change Impacts and Related Natural Disasters in East Asia**

**Date:** May 13–14, 2008

**Location:** Makati, Philippines

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:21851697~menuPK:34482~pagePK:2524753~piPK:51421526~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

**2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Nuclear Energy Safety Sub-Sector Network**

**Date:** May 13–14, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**Women's Forum Asia (Women's Forum for the Economy and Society)**

**Date:** May 15–17, 2008

**Location:** Shanghai, China

[http://www.ifri.org/frontDispatcher/ifri/manifestations/interventions\\_\\_\\_l\\_ext\\_rieur\\_1042052171194/publi\\_P\\_conf\\_asie\\_womensforum\\_1210166203484](http://www.ifri.org/frontDispatcher/ifri/manifestations/interventions___l_ext_rieur_1042052171194/publi_P_conf_asie_womensforum_1210166203484)

**Workshop on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights**

**Date:** May 15–17, 2008

**Location:** Bali, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**Special ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** May 19, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/21556.htm>

**3rd Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Forum**

**Date:** May 19–21, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

<http://www.ciis.org.cn/en/newsevents2.asp?NewsID=20080625095859894&ClassName=Conferences>

**2nd APEC Senior Officials Meeting and Related Meetings**

**Date:** May 20–29, 2008

**Location:** Arequipa, Peru

[http://www.apec.org/webapps/events\\_calendar/1024/events\\_calendar.php](http://www.apec.org/webapps/events_calendar/1024/events_calendar.php)

**Seminar on Southeast Asian Trade Security and Sea Routes**

**Date:** May 21, 2008

**Location:** Shanghai

<http://english.sass.org.cn/newsevents/?newstype=0053006A007C0078004A007B006A007300790078&newsid=003C00380035>

**2nd GMS Development Dialogue on Climate Change (Public-Private Partnerships)**

**Date:** May 21, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/Mekong/2008.asp>

**22nd ASEAN-Australia Forum**

**Date:** May 22, 2008

**Location:** Canberra, Australia

<http://www.aseansec.org/21577.htm>

**Financial Market and Ageing in APEC**

**Date:** May 22–23, 2008

**Location:** Samsung, South Korea

<http://www.eastasianet.org/>

**The Future of Asia 2008—14th Nikkei International Conference**

**Date:** May 22–23, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.nni.nikkei.co.jp/FR/NIKKEI/inasia/future/2008/>

**2nd ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting Working Group on the ASEAN Political Security Community Blueprint**

**Date:** May 22–23, 2008

**Location:** Medan, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**7th Meeting of the CSCAP Study Group on Countering the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Asia Pacific**

**Date:** May 25–26, 2008

**Location:** Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

[http://www.csis.org/component/option,com\\_csis\\_events/task,view/id,1647/](http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_events/task,view/id,1647/)

**Workshop on Changing Interactions between China and Southeast Asia at the Turn of the 21st Century**

**Date:** May 25–27, 2008

**Location:** Xiamen, China

[http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/-/-/veranstaltung\\_id-30757/](http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/73/2/-/-/veranstaltung_id-30757/)

**New Energy Forum for Sustainable Environment**

**Date:** May 25–27, 2008

**Location:** Kyoto, Japan

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**28th ASEAN Chiefs of Police Conference (ASEANAPOL)**

**Date:** May 25–29, 2008

**Location:** Jerudong, Brunei Darussalam

<http://www.aseansec.org/21619.htm>

**3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN)**

**Date:** May 26–27, 2008

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

[http://www.ditjenphka.go.id/news\\_file/3rd%20ASEAN%20WEN%20report%20-%20FINAL%202008.pdf](http://www.ditjenphka.go.id/news_file/3rd%20ASEAN%20WEN%20report%20-%20FINAL%202008.pdf)

**12th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Multilateral Environmental Agreements**

**Date:** May 26–28, 2008

**Location:** Malaysia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**2nd PECC Seminar on Water Management in Islands, Coastal, and Isolated Areas**

**Date:** May 26–29, 2008

**Location:** Nouméa, New Caledonia

<http://www.pecc.org/water/papers/2008-Noumea-Conclusion-Paper.pdf>

**25th Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM)**

**Date:** May 27–29, 2008

**Location:** Cebu, Philippines

<http://www.aseanstom25.org/>

**11th Steering Group Meeting of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific**

**Date:** May 27–28, 2008

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/11th-ADB-OECD-AntiCorruption/default.asp>



**ASEAN-EU Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**

**Date:** May 27–28, 2008

**Location:** Phnom Penh, Cambodia

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**18th Asian Corporate Conference**

**Date:** May 28–30, 2008

**Location:** Tianjin, China

<http://www.asiasociety.org/conference08/>

**Southeast Asia Bioterrorism Workshop: Multi-Sectoral Policy Responses To International Bioterrorism**

**Date:** May 28–30, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

[http://www.searccct.gov.my/site1/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=12&Itemid=26](http://www.searccct.gov.my/site1/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=12&Itemid=26)

**Synergy Conference for Regional Organizations on the Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons**

**Date:** May 28–30, 2008

**Location:** Brussels, Belgium

<http://www.aseansec.org/5-2008.htm>

**29th Session of the Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement**

**Date:** May 29–30, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.unescap.org/tid/mtg/ba29.asp>

**11th ASEAN+3 Directors-General Meeting**

**Date:** May 30, 2008

**Location:** Kyoto, Japan

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2008/5/1180515\\_934.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2008/5/1180515_934.html)

**7th International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Asia Security Conference (Shangri-La Dialogue)**

**Date:** May 30–June 1, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.iiiss.org/conferences/the-shangri-la-dialogue>

**APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade**

**Date:** May 31–June 1, 2008

**Location:** Arequipa, Peru

[http://www.apec.org/apec/ministerial\\_statements/sectoral\\_ministerial/trade/2008\\_trade.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/ministerial_statements/sectoral_ministerial/trade/2008_trade.html)

**June**

**29th CSCAP Steering Committee Meeting**

**Date:** June 1–2, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur

<http://www.cscap.ca/>

**Asia's Strategic Challenges: In Search of a Common Agenda**

**Date:** June 2–4, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.iiss.org/conferences/asias-strategic-challenges-in-search-of-a-common-agenda/>

**22nd Asia Pacific Roundtable**

**Date:** June 2–5, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

[http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events\\_recent](http://www.isis.org.my/events.htm#events_recent)

**Asia Clean Energy Forum 2008: Investing in Solutions that Address Climate Change and Energy Security**

**Date:** June 2–6, 2008

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/events/2008/ACEF/>

**Meeting of the SCO Commission of Senior Officials in Charge of Trade and Economic Cooperation**

**Date:** June 3–5, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

<http://www.sectesco.org/html/02235.html>

**31st Meeting of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Task Force**

**Date:** June 4, 2008

**Location:** Jakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.aseansec.org/21636.pdf>

**8th NEAT Country Coordinators Meeting**

**Date:** June 7, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

[http://www.neat.org.cn/english/hzdten/contentshow.php?content\\_id=106](http://www.neat.org.cn/english/hzdten/contentshow.php?content_id=106)

**Japan-US-Australia Trilateral Strategic Dialogue Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** June 9, 2008

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2008/6/1180669\\_1020.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2008/6/1180669_1020.html)

**ASEM Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** June 9–10, 2008

**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

[http://ec.europa.eu/external\\_relations/asem/docs/calendar\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/asem/docs/calendar_en.pdf)

**13th Poverty and Environment Partnership Meeting**

**Date:** June 9–11, 2008

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

<http://www.adb.org/documents/events/2008/13th-PEP-Meeting/default.asp>

**3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials of the 39th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (SEOM 3/39)**

**Date:** June 10–12, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/AR-08.pdf>

**APEC Education Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** June 11–13, 2008

**Location:** Lima, Peru

[http://www.apec.org/apec/ministerial\\_statements/sectoral\\_ministerial/education/2008\\_education.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/ministerial_statements/sectoral_ministerial/education/2008_education.html)

**Korea and Southeast Asia: Expanding Relations and New Challenges**

**Date:** June 12, 2008

**Location:** Seoul, Korea

<http://www.asiafoundation.org/news/?m=200806>

**Special Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint**

**Date:** June 12–13, 2008

**Location:** Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2008.htm>

**7th Workshop on Human Rights Mechanism for ASEAN**

**Date:** June 12–13, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.siaonline.org/?q=events/7th-workshop-human-rights-mechanism-asean>

**2nd Trilateral Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Japan, China, and the Republic of Korea**

**Date:** June 14, 2008

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2008/6/1180628\\_936.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2008/6/1180628_936.html)

**8th ASEM Financial Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** June 14–17, 2008

**Location:** Jeju Island, Korea

<http://www.asem2008fnmm.org/>

**ASEM Conference: Asia, Europe and the Future of Regional Economic Integration**

**Date:** June 15, 2008

**Location:** Jeju Island, Korea

[http://ec.europa.eu/external\\_relations/asem/docs/calendar\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/asem/docs/calendar_en.pdf)

**World Economic Forum on East Asia 2008: Responding to New Uncertainties**

**Date:** June 15–16, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.weforum.org/en/events/ArchivedEvents/WorldEconomicForumonEastAsia2008/index.htm>

**Pacific Health Summit 2008: The Global Nutrition Challenge—Getting a Healthy Start**

**Date:** June 16–18, 2008

**Location:** Seattle, Washington, USA

<http://pacifichealthsummit.org/downloads/2008%20Summit/2008SummitChallenge.pdf>

**8th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime**

**Date:** June 16–20, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v3/news.php?id=339731>

**17th Meeting of ASEAN Customs Directors-General**

**Date:** June 17–19, 2008

**Location:** Vientiane, Lao PDR

<http://www.aseansec.org/Bulletin-Jul-08.htm#Article-2>

**New Power Dynamics in Southeast Asia: Issues for US Policy**

**Date:** June 18, 2008

**Location:** Honolulu, Hawaii, US

[http://www.csis.org/component/option,com\\_csis\\_events/task,view/id,1648/](http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_events/task,view/id,1648/)

**15th BIMP-EAGA Senior Officials Meeting; 12th BIMP-EAGA Ministers Meeting**

**Date:** June 18–19, 2008

**Location:** Kuala Belait, Brunei

<http://www.pia.gov.ph/default.asp?m=12&r=&y=&mo=&fi=p080619.htm&no=26>

**Sino-US-Japan-ROK Seminar on East Asian Security: Challenge, Trend and Prospect**

**Date:** June 19, 2008

**Location:** Shanghai

<http://english.sass.org.cn/International/?newsid=003D0036003E&newstype=004E00730079006A0077007300660079006E0074007300660071>

**International Workshop on Buddhism and the Crises of Nation-States in Asia**

**Date:** June 19–20, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

[http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events\\_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=777](http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=777)

**APEC Studies Centers Consortium Meeting**

**Date:** June 19–21, 2008

**Location:** Piura, Peru

[http://www.apec.org/apec/enewsletter/may\\_vol16/upcomingevents.html#0009](http://www.apec.org/apec/enewsletter/may_vol16/upcomingevents.html#0009)

**UNESCO-IHE, PUB, ADB Cooperation on Developing Water Knowledge and Lessons: Workshop on New Concepts in Integrated Management of the Urban Water Cycle**

**Date:** June 22–27, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/UNESCO-PUB-ADB-Workshops/default.asp>

**5th Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution**

**Date:** June 23, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/21685.htm>

**8th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources Management**

**Date:** June 23–25, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2008.htm>

**International Workshop on Autonomy and Armed Separatism in South and Southeast Asia**

**Date:** June 26–27, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

[http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events\\_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=757](http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=757)

**Asia-Pacific Water Forum Regional Consultation Meetings on Climate Change Adaptation and Water-Related Disaster Management**

**Date:** June 26–27, 2008

**Location:** Singapore

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2008/APWF-Consultation-Meeting/default.asp>

**7th East Asia Summit Energy Cooperation Task Force Meeting**

**Date:** June 26–27, 2008

**Location:** Korea

<http://www.aseansec.org/6-2008.htm>

**3rd Japan-US-Australia Trilateral Strategic Dialogue**

**Date:** June 27, 2008

**Location:** Kyoto, Japan

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/australia/joint0806-2.html>

**Energy Future in East Asia**

**Date:** June 29, 2008

**Location:** Seoul, South Korea

[http://www.keei.re.kr/web\\_keei/en\\_news.nsf/frame.htm?ReadForm&url=/web\\_keei/en\\_news.nsf/mainV/C94B3519C5E2F3E3492574A40029D06E?OpenDocument](http://www.keei.re.kr/web_keei/en_news.nsf/frame.htm?ReadForm&url=/web_keei/en_news.nsf/mainV/C94B3519C5E2F3E3492574A40029D06E?OpenDocument)

**Workshop on Managing China-Japan-US Relations and Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation**

**Date:** June 29–30, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

<http://www.jcie.or.jp/thinknet/chinajapanus/>

**ASEM Senior Officials Meeting**

**Date:** June 29–30, 2008

**Location:** Beijing, China

[http://www.asem7.cn/misc/2008-07/04/content\\_50246.htm](http://www.asem7.cn/misc/2008-07/04/content_50246.htm)

## Publications

This section offers an illustrative list of works published in 2007 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 2007 onward. 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. 2007 APEC Economic Policy Report** APEC

As tariffs, quotas, and other trade barriers at the border have declined in the APEC region, the focus of APEC has gradually shifted to the structural and regulatory obstacles that inhibit cross-border trade by creating "behind-the-border barriers" to improving business performance. In 2004, APEC Leaders gave the Economic Committee a mandate to promote the benefits of structural reform in APEC economies. The Leaders Agenda to Implement Structural Reform towards 2010 (LAISR 2010) aims to facilitate cooperation and dialogue in five priority areas: public sector management and governance, regulatory reform, economic and legal infrastructure, competition policy, and corporate governance.

The *APEC Economic Policy Report* is the main publication of the Economic Committee, and this year's report focuses on public sector governance. The first chapter establishes a range of generalized high-level principles for good public sector governance and identifies key tensions in public sector governance and the processes that have evolved to overcome these challenges. The second chapter focuses on how domestic institutions can contribute to the reform process, characteristics of effective institutions, and how effective institutions can be developed. The third chapter reviews individual economies' domestic public sector governance reform activities over the last 10 years and identifies key priorities and challenges for the future.

**Available online**

[http://www.apec.org/etc/medialib/apec\\_media\\_library/downloads/committees/ec/pubs/2007.Par.0001.File.v1.1](http://www.apec.org/etc/medialib/apec_media_library/downloads/committees/ec/pubs/2007.Par.0001.File.v1.1)

### **2. 2007 APEC Senior Officials' Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation** APEC

In 1996, APEC Ministers adopted the Framework for Strengthening Economic Cooperation and Development to further strengthen economic and technical cooperation (ECOTECH) in APEC. The Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) Steering Committee on ECOTECH (SCE) was given the mandate to strengthen the prioritization and effective implementation of ECOTECH activities by various APEC fora. The SCE met on three occasions in 2007 to oversee ECOTECH initiatives across APEC fora and implement the reforms agreed upon in 2006. The first meeting addressed the 2007 workplan and policy criteria. The second meeting addressed ways to move forward on the reform agenda. From 2007 onward, the SCE will report on progress toward the 10 ECOTECH priorities endorsed in 2006, when ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the Manila Declaration. This report covers the 2007 meetings; offers a simple analysis of the implementation of the ECOTECH projects; and outlines the key outcomes of ECOTECH,

including cross-cutting issues such as sustainable development and private sector development, and the key achievements of the SCE fora.

**Available online**

[http://www.apec.org/apec/publications/free\\_downloads/2007.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/publications/free_downloads/2007.html)

**3. 7th Asian-European Editors Forum: India-China-Japan: The New Power-Triangle in Asia**

Werner vom Busch

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

This book brings together a collection of presentations and discussions derived from the 7th Asian-European Editors' Forum. Held in Singapore in October 2006 and organized by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in cooperation with the *Straits Times*, the contributions primarily discuss the phenomenal rise of China and India as major regional and global powers and the potential geopolitical implications. Leading policymakers, academics, editors, journalists, and businessmen assess how the rise of China and India is likely to affect the economic and political balance of power in the region. The speakers and delegates also critically engage with some of the potential domestic and international problems associated with rapid economic growth and social change. A leading editor's overview of the October 1, 2006, coup in Thailand supplements this publication.

[http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/130/2/-/dokument\\_id-10458/](http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/130/2/-/dokument_id-10458/)

**4. Access to Basic Services for the Poor: The Importance of Good Governance**

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

This publication elaborates on the need for good governance to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and eradicate extreme poverty in the context of the Asia Pacific region. It argues that achieving the MDGs is not simply about money. It is about removing physical, legal, financial, sociocultural, and political barriers to basic services for all, in particular for poor and disadvantaged groups. This report presents a number of strategies for removing such barriers, including broadening the range of service providers to include the formal and informal private sector, civil society organizations, and other institutions. Their involvement as service providers, however, requires a review and, where necessary, a revision of the framework that regulates the provision of basic services. Paramount, however, is an adherence to good governance and the principles of inclusiveness and equity. In this respect, this report adopts a rights-based approach to development as the guiding principle. This approach reminds governments of the need to be inclusive and to ensure that all people have access to basic services and share in the benefits of development.

**Available online**

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1212>

**5. Achieving the Health Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Policies and Actions within Health Systems and Beyond**

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

Enjoying good health, remaining free from disease, and having access to healthcare are basic human rights. The inclusion of health targets in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) supports the contention that good health is important for overcoming poverty and achieving the wider goal of socioeconomic development. While all MDGs are in some way related to health, three refer to it specifically: (1) goal 4 on reducing child mortality; (2) goal 5 on improving maternal health; and (3) goal 6 on combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases. Despite the significant improvements that have been made in income indicators over the last decade, with most countries in Asia Pacific having reduced the number of people below the poverty line (goal 1,

target 1), large segments of the population in the region continue to be without access to basic services such as healthcare, education, clean water, or sanitation. This report examines what is needed to overcome that situation and achieve the MDGs.

**Available online**

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1221>

**6. *America and China: Asia-Pacific Rim Hegemony in the Twenty-First Century***

Randall Doyle

Rowman & Littlefield

This book explores the remarkable changes in international relations taking place in this region during the first decade of the 21st century. While many institutions established after World War II are being re-examined, the United States' key allies in the region—Australia, Japan, and South Korea—publicly acknowledge that their relations with the United States are still strong. However, the balance of power has shifted dramatically in the region as China has experienced a meteoric rise in economic clout and military power. Randall Doyle examines this epic transition within the Asia Pacific Rim region by drawing on the research and thought of regional analysts, politicians, scholars, and think tanks.

<http://selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=42571>

**7. *America's Strategy in Southeast Asia: From the Cold War to the Terror War***

James A. Tyner

Rowman & Littlefield

Geography encompasses everything from the local—where human beings live, work, and travel—to metageographies like nations and regions. The author of this study contends that the construction of Southeast Asia as a geographic entity has been a crucial component in the creation of the American empire. He discusses the history of American involvement in Southeast Asia, from colonial rule in the Philippines through to the region's role today in the US-led war on terror to demonstrate the US government's "political use of metageographies."

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=40945>

**8. *ASEAN***

Rodolfo C. Severino

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

Since its founding in 1967, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has been an increasingly large part of the life of Southeast Asia, although most people in the region know very little about it. ASEAN has helped bring peace and stability to the region. It has successfully engaged the world's major powers in East Asia and beyond. ASEAN has taken steps to integrate the regional economy as an important means of cooperatively improving the region's competitiveness, attracting investment, generating jobs, raising incomes, and lowering costs and prices. ASEAN has also formed networks for dealing with regional problems like communicable diseases, environmental degradation, and transnational crime.

An essential part of the ISEAS Southeast Asia Background Series, this book seeks to shed some light on what ASEAN is all about. Chapters cover the beginnings and expansion of the organization, its role in regional security, its role in the regional economy, its facilitation of efforts to work for the common good, relations with the rest of the world, and steps toward building a community.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/SEAB10/>



**9. ASEAN and Its Security Offspring: Facing New Challenges**

Sheldon W. Simon

Strategic Studies Institute of the US Army War College

On the 40th anniversary of ASEAN, it is appropriate to take stock of ASEAN and project its future. How effectively have ASEAN and its organizational offspring functioned as a security community? Have the association's members been able to aggregate their security interests? Have they presented a united security front to other states? Do they collaborate to resolve internal security problems and protect one another against external security challenges?

This monograph argues that ASEAN is pursuing an engagement strategy in the 21st century, bringing the great powers (the United States, China, India, Japan, and the European Union) into Southeast Asia's political and economic discussions. While these large deliberative arrangements provide regular opportunities to keep one another informed of intentions, they have been too unwieldy to effect major changes in political and economic relations. Nevertheless, ASEAN's symbolic importance to the United States was acknowledged in 2006, when Washington announced it would appoint an ambassador to the association. America's future multilateral security relationships with Asia must take a more active ASEAN into account. This monograph is intended to help US military and defense leaders understand the key role that Southeast Asia-centered organizations are playing in Asian security.

**Available online**

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=793>

**10. ASEAN-Korea Relations: Security, Trade and Community Building**

Ho Khai Leong, ed.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

This book examines the growing interdependence between ASEAN and Korea and the political and economic realities governing the relationship. Leading experts from ASEAN and Korea discuss emerging issues in areas of domestic and regional security environments, nontraditional security, regional trade arrangements, Korean relations with the new ASEAN member states, and prospects for community building, with special reference to the roles of Korea and ASEAN. It also provides a serious and thought-provoking evaluation of future ASEAN-Korea relations in light of the growing trend toward East Asian regionalism.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/PIC153/>

**11. ASEAN's Quest for a Full-Fledged Community**

CSIS Department of International Relations

Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Jakarta

Written by the research staff of CSIS's Department of International Relations, the book's topics range from the theoretical basis for a security community within ASEAN, to analysis of the historical development of the idea of an ASEAN security community, to the practical challenges of establishing such a community. This assessment meets a critical need for comprehensive analysis of ASEAN as it meets new challenges and adopts a new charter at the dawn of its fifth decade. In conjunction with the book release, CSIS held a seminar and discussion on the ASEAN security community.

[http://www.csis.or.id/events\\_past\\_view.asp?id=151&tab=0](http://www.csis.or.id/events_past_view.asp?id=151&tab=0)

**12. Asia, America and the Transformation of Geopolitics**

William H. Overholt

Cambridge University

American security and prosperity now depend on Asia. RAND scholar William H. Overholt offers an iconoclastic analysis of developments in each major Asian country, in Asian international relations, and in US foreign policy. Drawing on decades of political and business experience, he argues that obsolete Cold War attitudes tie the US increasingly to an otherwise isolated Japan and obscure the reality that a US-Chinese bicondominium now manages most Asian issues. Military priorities risk polarizing the region unnecessarily, weaken the economic relationships that engendered American preeminence, and ironically enhance Chinese influence. As a result, US influence in Asia is declining. Overholt disputes the argument that democracy promotion will lead to superior development and peace and forecasts a new era in which Asian geopolitics could take a drastically different shape.

<http://www.cambridge.org/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9780521720236>

**13. *The Asia-Europe Meeting: The Theory and Practice of Interregionalism***

Alfredo C. Robles

Routledge

Focusing on the economic, developmental, political, and cultural issues of its member states, this book offers a critical assessment of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process, which now brings together all 27 EU members, the European Commission, and 16 East Asian states. The underlying theme of the book is that ASEM should be analyzed as an instance of international dialogue rather than as a manifestation of two regions acting jointly to perform specific functions at an “interregional” level. The conclusion is that with the exception of the discussion on the fight against international terrorism and the cultural dialogue, the Asia-Europe dialogue rarely meets the ideal conditions for international dialogue. The way forward proposed by the book in the conclusion involves a new approach combining the European practices of multilevel governance, variable geometry, and varying timeframes.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/The-Asia-Europe-Meeting-isbn9780415452236>

**14. *Asia Future Shock: Business Crisis and Opportunity in the Coming Years***

Michael Backman

Palgrave Macmillan

Michael Backman’s book argues that Asia-related forecasts are staggering: Within 10 years, funds under management in China will grow to at least US\$1.5 trillion; 100 million mainland Chinese tourists will pour out of China annually; Singapore will be a major haven for hidden offshore funds; Thai hospitals will be major providers of healthcare in Asia, the Middle East, and for under-insured Americans; and shortages of management talent in India and China will be even more acute. Within 20 years, 1 billion more people will live in Asia’s cities than do already, China will be a major sophisticated weapons exporter, and Malaysia will have almost run out of oil. Within 25 years, Japan’s population will have shrunk by 20 million, there will be 250 million more men than women in India and China, half the world’s nuclear reactors will be in Asia, the world’s biggest community of English speakers will be in China, and Asia-wide water shortages will mean big hikes in food prices. *Asia Future Shock* is designed for strategists and scenario builders, to alert them to these and other major shifts and to identify the opportunities and risks.

<http://www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?PID=276219>

**15. *The Asia-Pacific Security Lexicon (2nd edition)***

David Capie and Paul Evans

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The end of the Cold War opened a new debate across the Pacific about the meaning of security and the new regional multilateral institutions that were beginning to emerge. The first edition of the *Asia-Pacific Security Lexicon*, published in 2002, identified and defined the key concepts and ideas central to security discourse in the region. This second edition updates all of the entries and examines the origins and meanings of some of the new terms in common usage in a different historical setting, among them “terrorism,” “pre-emption,” “preventive war,” “à la carte multilateralism,” “coalition of the willing,” and China’s “peaceful rise.” And it looks at how concepts such as “human security” and “nontraditional security” have evolved and found new adherents.

Both a diplomatic handbook and theoretical exploration, the *Lexicon* is based on the analysis of more than 3,000 books, articles, conference reports, and speeches. It does not aim to resolve the disagreements about how words are used. Rather, it makes their evolution clearer for academics and practitioners seeking consensual knowledge.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/SEC29/>

**16. *Asia Pacific Security Survey 2007***

Jim Rolfe  
East-West Center

This report, part of an annual series, brings together and compares responses from a variety of perspectives and nationalities to a set of questions on Asia Pacific regional security. The report presents the results of a survey completed by 104 security analysts from 17 countries across the Asia Pacific region as well as European specialists in this field.

**Available online**

<http://www.eastwestcenter.org/pubs/2139>

**17. *Asia-Pacific Security: US, Australia and Japan and the New Security Triangle***

William Tow, Mark Thomson, Yoshinobu Yamamoto, and Satu Limaye, eds.  
Routledge

The aim of this book is to explore the implications stemming from the recent upgrading of Australia-Japan-US security interactions and the implications for Asia-Pacific regional security that these represent. While a fully functioning trilateral security alliance binding Australia, Japan, and the United States is unlikely to materialize or supplant existing bilateral arrangements, the convergence of the strategic interests of these three states makes it imperative that the full range of such interests and the policy ramifications flowing from them be extensively investigated. The need to do so is particularly compelling given that the “trilateral security dialogue” is one of several contending recent approaches to reshaping Asia-Pacific regional security architecture and mechanisms for confronting new strategic challenges in a post-Cold War and post-9/11 environment.

Key issues to be considered in this volume include the theoretical and empirical context of “trilateralism”; the evolving history of the Australia-Japan-US trilateral security relationship; its connection to and impact on the US bilateral alliance network in Asia; how domestic politics in each country relates to regional security politics; Sino-Australian and Sino-Japanese bilateral security ties; and issues of arms control, maritime security, and the “economic security nexus.”

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Asia-Pacific-Security-isbn9780415417105>

**18. *Asian Development Outlook 2007***

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This 19th edition of *Asian Development Outlook* examines trends and prospects in Central Asia, East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific in the context of global economic

movements. It throws a spotlight on a variety of structural issues in developing Asia and the development prospects over the next few decades.

The chapter on growth amid change in developing Asia shows that those countries that have sustained fast growth in developing Asia have both successfully industrialized and expanded services. In most Asian countries, fostering both industry and services is the only viable development model. Another chapter examines the links between education and changes in the structure of the economy.

**Available online**

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/ADO/2007/default.asp>

### **19. *Asian Voices in Europe***

Axel Berkofsky, ed.

European Policy Centre

In 2006, the European Policy Centre and the Tokyo-based Sasakawa Peace Foundation launched the first Asian Voices in Europe lecture series. (A similar initiative was launched eight years earlier in Washington DC.) Under this initiative, six high-profile Asian speakers from China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, and Thailand were invited to Brussels to participate in debates on Asian economic, political, and security issues and various aspects of EU-Asia relations.

India's economy, the state of play of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), Japan's tense relations with North Korea and China, Thailand's current political crisis, China's political and social challenges, and the nuclear crisis on the Korean Peninsula were debated over a period of nine months between June 2006 and March 2007. The Asian speakers who took part certainly made their voices heard through interesting and thought-provoking presentations. They did not shy away from controversy, stimulating lively and challenging debates with panelists, including European and American analysts and scholars and EU officials. *Asian Voices in Europe* includes reports on all these events as well as the transcripts of the keynote speeches given at each of them.

<http://www.epc.eu/pdf/ave.pdf>

### **20. *Asian Water Development Outlook 2007***

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

In recent years, water has steadily gravitated toward the top of the national agendas of the ADB's developing member countries. This greater focus is desirable because water is an essential requirement for human and ecosystem survival. In addition, water is a critical component for most development needs. Without adequate quantity and quality of water, it will not be possible to ensure the food, energy, or environmental security of nations.

*Asian Water Development Outlook* (AWDO) is aimed at Asia Pacific leaders and policymakers and those interested in understanding the complexities and dimensions of the current and the future water problems and how these can be addressed successfully in policy terms. Its main objective is to raise awareness of water-related issues and to stimulate an informed debate on how best to manage Asia's water future. *AWDO 2007* is the ADB's first attempt to make a forward-looking assessment of the region's possible water future.

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/AWDO/2007/default.asp>

### **21. *Asia's Energy Future: Regional Dynamics and Global Implications***

Kang Wu and Fereidun Fesharaki, eds.

East-West Center

Concerns about energy security affect economic performance and political stability all over the world. Yet nowhere is this issue more critical than in Asia Pacific. The United States and Asia

have much in common in terms of their basic energy situation. Both regions have substantial coal reserves, but both must import large quantities of oil and natural gas, creating a worrying level of dependency on the volatile Middle East. The environmental implications of energy use are also of growing concern in both regions. Both share a common stake in an assured supply of oil and natural gas, price stability in international energy markets, efficient and sustainable use of oil and gas products, and the development of technologies and fuel alternatives that can alleviate energy security and environmental concerns.

This volume, prepared by a team of Asia Pacific specialists, provides the factual information needed for clear understanding, informed policy dialogue, and effective cooperation on issues related to energy security.

[http://www.eastwestcenter.org/publications/search-for-publications/browse-alphabetic-list-of-titles/?class\\_call=view&pub\\_ID=2461&mode=view%20](http://www.eastwestcenter.org/publications/search-for-publications/browse-alphabetic-list-of-titles/?class_call=view&pub_ID=2461&mode=view%20)

**22. *Asia's New Regionalism***

Ellen Frost

Lynne Rienner

As the political drive to establish closer ties among Asian governments continues to gain momentum, there has been much debate about the realities of Asian regionalism. Do the community-building activities in fact signal the birth of "Asia Major"? What are the obstacles to integration? And is integration a positive trend for the region and for external actors? Sifting rhetoric from fact, Ellen Frost offers a nuanced analysis of the political, economic, and strategic issues at stake.

A central theme in *Asia's New Regionalism* is the link between integration driven by governments for political and security reasons and integration fueled by ethnic, cultural, and economic ties. Frost's exploration of these sometimes mismatched dynamics highlights critical implications for policies both in the region and globally.

[http://www.rienner.com/title/Asia\\_s\\_New\\_Regionalism](http://www.rienner.com/title/Asia_s_New_Regionalism)

**23. *Australia as an Asia-Pacific Regional Power: Friendships in Flux?***

Brendan Taylor

Routledge

During recent years, in its traditional role as an important Asia-Pacific regional power, Australia has had to cope with a rapidly changing external security environment and a series of new challenges, including a rising China, an increasingly assertive United States, and most notably the global war against terror.

This book considers the changing nature of Australia's identity and role in the Asia Pacific and the forces behind these developments, with particular attention to security alignments and alliance relationships. It outlines the contours of Australia's traditional role as a key regional middle power and the patterns of its heavy reliance on security alignments and alliances. Taylor goes on to consider Australia's relationships with other regional powers including Japan, China, Indonesia, and India, uncovering the underlying purposes and expectations associated with these relationships, their evolving character, and their likely future directions. He discusses the implications for the region of Australia's new "Pacific doctrine" of intervention, whether Australia's traditional alliance preferences are compatible with the emergence of a new East Asian security mechanism, and the impact of new, transnational, and nontraditional security challenges such as terrorism and failed states.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Australia-as-an-Asia-Pacific-Regional-Power-ISBN9780415404211>

**24. *The Balance of Power in Asia-Pacific Security: US-China Policies on Regional Order***

Liselotte Odgaard  
Routledge

Investigating the dynamics of balancing patterns in Asia Pacific, this book focuses particularly on the contribution of great powers and middle powers to regional stability. Taking the United States and China as great powers, and using ASEAN, Russia, Australia, and South Korea as examples of middle powers, the author addresses the following questions: Do middle powers influence balancing patterns in Asia Pacific? Are the United States and China balancing each other in Asia Pacific, and if so, by which means? What is the contribution of the English school to understanding balance-of-power dynamics?

*The Balance of Power in Asia-Pacific Security* makes a persuasive contribution to the debate on the US-China relationship. Interviews with policy practitioners and academics in the region offer a systematic analysis of the complexities of Asia Pacific security. Providing conceptual insights, this book gives a fresh understanding of the mechanisms necessary to maintain regional stability and explains the implications of US-China power balancing for global security.

[http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/The-Balance-of-Power-in-Asia-Pacific-Security-  
isbn9780415415910](http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/The-Balance-of-Power-in-Asia-Pacific-Security-isbn9780415415910)

**25. *Brick by Brick: The Building of an ASEAN Economic Community***

Denis Hew Wei-Yen, ed.  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

Against the backdrop of significant developments in regional economic cooperation and integration over the past decade, this book presents some of the key challenges facing ASEAN as it embarks on a bold and ambitious project to establish an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015. Organized under the auspices of the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program's Regional Economic Policy Support Facility, the book brings together authoritative studies written by prominent experts and academics on issues pertaining to ASEAN economic integration.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/BM329/>

**26. *Building an Open and Inclusive Regional Architecture for Asia***

Stanley Foundation and CSIS

This report presents an overview of the history of Asia Pacific regionalism, drawing from discussions held at a two-day conference in Maryland in November 2006 to explore the frameworks and contested issues that will shape the future of Asian regional architecture. It concludes with several specific policy recommendations for how, as a new Asia Pacific architecture emerges, Washington can most effectively realize the interests of the United States and its friends in the region.

[http://www.csis.org/media/csis/events/070314\\_csis\\_stanley\\_asia.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/events/070314_csis_stanley_asia.pdf)

**27. *Bush and Asia: America's Evolving Relations with East Asia***

Mark Beeson, ed.  
Routledge

The United States is now the most powerful nation in history, and this power has grown since September 11, 2001, forcing nations around the globe to re-evaluate their relationships with the unipolar superpower. Nowhere is this re-evaluation more important than in East Asia, a region that has been defined by American power since the Second World War. Indeed, despite America's physical distance from East Asia, the United States has been a key player in the

region since the 19th century, when it played a major role in opening up both Japan and China to the West.

This book details the changing nature of power relations in East Asia and includes case studies on China, Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Korea, and Australia. Across the region, countries are being forced to come to terms with and accommodate America's dominant position and its increasingly assertive foreign policy. History and contingent contemporary circumstances mean that the precise nature of bilateral relationships will be different. But whether the Bush Doctrine is having a salutary or destructive effect on the region or specific countries, it is something East Asia and the rest of the world will have to learn to live with.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Bush-and-Asia-isbn9780415444088>

**28. *Challenges to the Global Trading System: Adjustment to Globalization in the Asia-Pacific Region***

Sumner La Croix and Peter A. Petri, eds.

Routledge

International trade continues to expand robustly in East Asia and elsewhere, but global trade negotiations have collapsed and globalization is widely criticized. In this book, the participants in the 13th Pacific Trade and Development Conference—including the then-Director General of the World Trade Organization and leading government officials, academics, and executives from a dozen major Pacific Rim economies—debate whether global negotiations have ended once and for all or are suffering temporarily from “globalization fatigue”; whether East Asia's new regional partnerships will advance or undermine the global trading system; and whether the region's trade tensions with the United States will intensify or subside. They provide new empirical evidence on how trade affects the distribution of income, the location of pollution-intensive industries, the causes of “outsourcing,” the structure of the intellectual property regime, and international security. And they probe the implications of adjustment to globalization: how can countries reap the benefits of trade while controlling the risks faced by the poor and, perhaps more importantly, the politically strong?

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Challenges-to-the-Global-Trading-System-isbn9780415429863>

**29. *Children Caught in Conflicts: The Impact of Armed Conflict on Children in Southeast Asia***

Gary Risser

Asian Research Center for Migration, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University

This report stems from a study initiated by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) East Asia and Pacific Regional Office. The project, which began in mid-2002 and ran until mid-2004, involved collaboration between UNICEF and four academic institutions: the Asia Research Center for Migration of Chulalongkorn University's Institute of Asia Studies in Thailand, the Center for Population and Policy Studies of Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia, the Psychosocial Trauma and Human Rights Program of the University of the Philippines, and the Refugee Studies Centre of York University in Canada. The objective of the study was threefold: to improve the knowledge base on children affected by armed conflict, to devise protection strategies for children in situations of low-intensity conflict, and to involve participation of children and young people.

<http://www.arcm.ias.chula.ac.th/Downloads/Abstract/B44-A.pdf>

**30. *China, the United States, and Southeast Asia: Contending Perspectives on Politics, Security, and Economics***

Sheldon W. Simon, Evelyn Goh, eds.  
Routledge

China's emergence as a great power is a global concern that can potentially alter the structure of world politics. Its rise is multidimensional, affecting the political, security, and economic affairs of all states that comprise the world's fastest developing region of the Asia Pacific. Most of the recently published studies on China's rise have focused on its relations with its immediate neighbors in Northeast Asia: Japan, the Koreas, Taiwan, and Russia. Less attention has been given to Southeast Asia's relations with China. To address these issues, this volume offers a wide range of perspectives on the nature of China's rise and its implications for Southeast Asian states as well as US interests in the region.

[http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/China-the-United-States-and-South-East-Asia-  
isbn9780415429450](http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/China-the-United-States-and-South-East-Asia-isbn9780415429450)

**31. *Climate Change and Economic Development: SEA Regional Modeling and Analysis***

Jamie Sanderson and Sardar M. N. Islam  
Palgrave Macmillan

The impacts of climate change on economic development have the potential to be unevenly distributed around the globe. This book focuses on Southeast Asia with respect to the economics of climate change and the relationship between climate change and economic development. The book examines the region's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and forecasts the environmental and economic outcomes for the region arising from its vulnerability and also the opportunities these factors provide for policy actions toward alleviating climate change vulnerability, particularly through adaptation.

<http://www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?PID=280200>

**32. *The Coming China Wars—Where They Will Be Fought and How They Can Be Won***

Peter Navarro  
Pearson

An economist and business professor at the University of California, Irvine, has written this alarming and undoubtedly provocative study of what he views to be the likely dark outcomes of the rapid rise and industrialization of China. International warfare over oil, copper, steel, food, water, and air are foreseen. China, with its superpower strength in ruthless imperialism, nuclear power, and piracy, is also seen as spiraling into chaos. The author's convictions underline the urgency of many issues that are now probably only low on the world's agendas.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=40550>

**33. *The Community of Asia: Concept or Reality?***

Urvashi Butalia, Jong Won Lee, Masaaki Ohashi, Karina A. Bolasco, eds.  
Anvil Publishing

The essays in this book address the multilayered and transdisciplinary agenda facing the region today while re-examining the identity of Asia as a hybrid entity with diverse and pluralistic values from both a conceptual and practical standpoint. The hope is that the growing solidarity of Asian public intellectuals will lay the foundation for the future of Asia's regional unity in diversity. The book poses fundamental questions on the validity of constructions of Asia, within Eurocentric, Orientalist, and Asian discourse.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/PPG4/>



**34. *Competition Policy in East Asia***

Erlinda Medalla, ed.  
Routledge

*Competition Policy in East Asia* clarifies the key issues and provides a framework for understanding competition policy, looking in-depth at a number of regulated sectors for additional perspectives. Until two or three decades ago, competition and consumer protection policies were the preserve of the major developed economies like the United States, the United Kingdom, and some European countries. Now competition issues are at the top of the international agenda as globalization spreads and as the operations of the World Trade Organization, the World Bank, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum and other organizations have brought about a realization that regulatory reform—and in many economies the creation for the first time of regulatory instruments for competition and consumer protection—is an imperative.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Competition-Policy-in-East-Asia-ISBN9780415435994>

**35. *Constructing Regional Community and Order in Europe and Southeast Asia***

Bahar Rumelili  
Palgrave Macmillan

Can Turkey become a member of the European Union? Does Australia qualify as an Asian country? Regional organizations such as the EU and ASEAN engage in practices that promote a sense of collective identity among their members, yet these practices often entail the differentiation and exclusion of certain states as outsiders. *Constructing Regional and Global Order* develops an original theoretical framework that outlines how regional organizations construct and interact with difference and investigates the implications of these interactions for regional and global order. Through detailed empirical analysis, it compares the EU and ASEAN in terms of the nature of their collective identities and their interactions with outsider states, such as Morocco, Turkey, and Australia. Building on case studies including Greek-Turkish and Australian-Indonesian relations, the book contends that regional organizations can promote conflict beyond their boundaries, if and when they construct outsider states as threats to their identities.

<http://www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?PID=276248>

**36. *Contemporary Maritime Piracy in Southeast Asia: History, Causes and Remedies***

Adam J. Young  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

This book explores contemporary maritime piracy in Southeast Asia, demonstrating the utility of using historical context in developing policy approaches that will address the roots of this resurgent phenomenon. The depth and breadth of historical piracy help highlight causative factors of contemporary piracy, which are immersed in the sociocultural matrix of maritime-oriented peoples to whom piracy is still a thinkable option. The threats to life and property posed by piracy are relatively low but significant, given the strategic nature of these waterways that link the Pacific and Indian Oceans, and because piracy is emblematic of broader issues of weak state control in the littoral states of the region. Maritime piracy will never be completely eliminated, but with a progressive economic and political agenda aimed at changing the environment from which piracy is emerging, it could once again become the exception rather than the rule.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=41402>

**37. *Continent, Coast, Ocean: Dynamics of Regionalism in Eastern Asia***

Ooi Kee Beng and Ding Choo Ming, eds.  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

This collection of articles takes a long look at the dynamics of regionalism in Eastern Asia and shows how although the past limits the future, its hold on our possibilities for peaceful coexistence is not as strong as we think. What makes this volume unique is that Taiwanese scholars are brought together with Malaysian scholars to discuss a subject that is vital to the future of both East and Southeast Asians.

Japan's diplomatic history as well as the heritage of its conquest of Eastern Asia is examined alongside China's cultural geography, paradigmatic dynamics, and intraregional economics. Ties between East Asia and Southeast Asia, as well as the influence of American military power and European integration are also thoroughly dealt with. The end result is multidisciplinary perspectives on present and future regional trends.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/BM322/>

**38. *Covering Maritime Piracy in Southeast Asia***

Werner vom Busch  
Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

While maritime piracy has been existent in Southeast Asia for the past few centuries, piracy attacks have risen dramatically following the growth of maritime trade in the wake of post-Cold War economic globalization. In addition, in the current political climate of high alert, the potential threat of a maritime terrorist act along the Straits of Malacca is posing additional security concerns to the littoral states. The increasingly complex criminal and security concerns that piracy poses to Southeast Asia also challenge journalists in their quest to provide the public with an accurate account of events.

This book presents the findings of a workshop entitled "Covering Maritime Piracy in Southeast Asia," which was hosted by the Media Programme Asia of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Singapore, and which took place in Kuala Lumpur in July 2006. The collection of articles by journalists and maritime experts sheds light on various topics related to piracy such as its social causes as well as its often-declared possible relation to maritime terrorism. The contributions in this book focus, in particular, on the problems and challenges that journalists face when trying to objectively report on the topic.

**Available online**

[http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/130/2/-/dokument\\_id-10478](http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/130/2/-/dokument_id-10478)

**39. *Crisis Preparedness: Asia and the Global Governance of Epidemics***

Stella R. Quah, ed.  
Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center

Throughout history, nations have waged war against epidemics, from bubonic plague to pulmonary tuberculosis. Today, we confront HIV/AIDS, SARS, and avian influenza, among other major infectious diseases. The failure to contain HIV/AIDS, the longest contemporary pandemic, and the difficulties in dealing with the threat posed by avian influenza, show that the world is not well prepared for the next health crises. Because preventing and controlling these infectious diseases is a race against time, scientists around the world scrutinize viruses and bacteria more intently than ever. Yet while scientific advances are crucial, they are insufficient.

Using Asia as a case study, this book addresses the urgent need to study the governance of infectious disease epidemics and argues that the battle must be fought on two fronts simultaneously—within the laboratory and in a wider social context that involves ordinary

individuals, groups, communities, legislators, and the state. The international contributors to this volume present perspectives from the fields of social science, epidemiology, and public health and collectively seek to answer the pressing question: How can we prepare for the next global epidemic?

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/books/clientpr/aprc/crisispreparedness.htm>

**40. *Critical Security in the Asia-Pacific***

Anthony Burke and Matt McDonald, eds.

Manchester University Press

In the wake of 9/11, the Asian crisis, and the 2004 tsunami, traditional analytical frameworks appear increasingly unable to explain the ways in which individuals and communities are rendered insecure or to advance individual, global, or environmental security. This innovative new book challenges these limitations and addresses the missing problems, people, and vulnerabilities of the Asia Pacific region, while also turning a new, critical eye on traditional interstate strategic dynamics.

<http://www.palgrave-usa.com/catalog/product.aspx?isbn=0719073057>

**41. *Cross Currents: Regionalism and Nationalism in Northeast Asia***

Gi-Wook Shin and Daniel C. Sneider, eds.

Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center

Northeast Asia stands at a turning point in its history. The key economies of China, Japan, and South Korea are growing increasingly interdependent, and the movement toward regionalism is gaining momentum. Yet interdependency, often set in a global context, also spurs nationalism in all three countries and elsewhere in East Asia. Northeast Asia today feels the presence of all three complex forces—national, regional, and global—connecting, competing, and colliding in myriad ways.

The authors of this book assess current interactions of national and regional forces in Northeast Asia in the context of the US presence in the region. These seemingly contradictory forces must be considered together; the sparks they generate have important policy implications for the United States and for the region as a whole. Constructive reformulation of these interactions is one of Northeast Asia's most pressing contemporary challenges.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/books/clientpr/aprc/crosscurrents.htm>

**42. *CSCAP Regional Security Outlook 2007: Security through Cooperation—Furthering Asia Pacific Multilateral Engagement***

Brian Job, ed.

CSCAP

There is a real and urgent need for multilateral cooperation and institution building to manage traditional and nontraditional security threats in Asia Pacific. This is the consensus of the nine prominent regional experts presented in the first annual *CSCAP Regional Security Outlook 2007 (CRSO)*. The CRSO will be an annual publication to highlight regional security concerns and to promote informed policy-relevant outputs to advance regional security cooperation at official (Track 1) levels.

A distinguished group of regional scholars addressed such topics as the imperative of multilateral security cooperation; prospects for a Northeast Asian security mechanism; restoring and reorienting the nonproliferation regime; Southeast Asia's battle against terrorism and insurgency; the gaps in Asia's pandemic preparedness; climate change and insecurity in the Asia Pacific; regional initiatives to address emerging threats; peacekeeping, post-conflict

reconstruction, and regional security; the regional security ramifications of Oceania's internal conflicts; and what Afghanistan and Iraq mean for the rest of Asia.

Available online

<http://www.cscap.ca/CRSO.html>

**43. *Cultures and Contexts Matter: Understanding and Preventing HIV in the Pacific***

Carol Jenkins and Holly Buchanan-Aruwafu

ADB

This publication examines in rich detail the cultural and contextual issues that have shaped HIV transmission in the Pacific. Based on their extensive experience in the region, authors Carol Jenkins and Holly Buchanan-Aruwafu also discuss the implications of contexts and cultures for designing and implementing HIV prevention and treatment programs. This publication aims to fill a knowledge gap by providing insight into the diversity of cultures and traditions in the Pacific; the changes that these cultures have undergone; and the similarities and contrasts in contexts, ideologies, attitudes, and practices that might be facilitating HIV epidemics.

Available online

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Cultures-Contexts-Matter/default.asp>

**44. *Dancing with Giants: China, India and the Global Economy***

L. Alan Winters and Shahid Yusuf, eds.

World Bank and Institute of Policy Studies

China is now the world's fourth largest economy and growing very fast. India's economic salience is also on the rise. Together, these two countries will profoundly influence the pace and nature of global economic change. Drawing upon the latest research, this volume analyzes the influences on the rapid future development of these two countries and examines how their growth is likely to impinge upon other countries. It considers international trade, industrialization, foreign investment, and capital flows, and the implications of their broadening environmental footprints. It also discusses how the two countries have tackled poverty, inequality, and governance issues and whether progress in these areas will be a key to rapid and stable growth.

[http://www.ips.org.sg/publications/pub\\_Dancing\\_with\\_Giants.htm](http://www.ips.org.sg/publications/pub_Dancing_with_Giants.htm)

<http://publications.worldbank.org/e-commerce/catalog/product?context=drilldown&item%5fid=5926350>

**45. *Democracy and Diversity: Political Engineering in the Asia-Pacific***

Benjamin Reilly

Oxford University Press

Is there an Asia Pacific model of democracy? Over the past two decades, more than a dozen Asian and Pacific states have made the transition to democratic rule. But many of these states are also ethnically, linguistically, and regionally diverse, creating real challenges for effective government.

This book explains how the Asia Pacific's political reformers responded to the twin challenges of democracy and diversity through ambitious and often innovative political engineering. Far-reaching reforms to electoral, parliamentary, and party systems have seen the emergence of a distinctive regional model of democracy. Benjamin Reilly analyzes this new approach to the design of political institutions, and its consequences for democratic governance in the Asia Pacific and other regions of the world.

<http://www.oup.com/uk/catalogue/?ci=9780199286874>

**46. *Developing the Mekong: Regionalism and Regional Security in China-Southeast Asian Relations (Adelphi Papers 387)***

Evelyn Goh

International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)

In Southeast Asia, China's growing economic and political strength has been accompanied by adept diplomacy and active promotion of regional cooperation, institutions, and integration. Southeast Asian states and China engage in "strategic regionalism": they seek regional membership for regime legitimation and collective bargaining; and regional integration to enhance economic development, regarded as essential for ensuring national and regime security. Sino-Southeast Asian regionalism is exemplified by the development plans for the Mekong River basin, where ambitious projects for building regional infrastructural linkages and trade contribute to mediating the security concerns of the Mekong countries. However, Mekong regionalism also generates new insecurities. Developing the resources of the Mekong has led to serious challenges in terms of governance, distribution, and economic externalities. Resource allocation and exploitation conflicts occur most obviously within the realm of water projects. While such disputes are not likely to erupt into armed conflict, they exacerbate Southeast Asian concerns about China's rise and undermine Chinese rhetoric about peaceful development. But the negative security consequences of developing the Mekong are also due to the shared economic imperative and the Southeast Asian states' own difficulties with collective action due to existing intramural conflicts.

<http://www.iiss.org/publications/adelphi-papers/2007-adelphi-papers/developing-the-mekong>

**47. *Development of Environmental Policy in Japan and Asian Countries***

Tadayoshi Terao and Kenji Otsuka, eds.

Palgrave Macmillan

This book examines the issues of environmental policy formation and implementation linked to economic development by reviewing Japanese experiences and examples from other Asian countries. This exploration reveals factors that could mutually influence effectiveness in environmental policy, factors of dynamism between environmental policy and social change in a domestic, regional, and global context.

Part one reexamines Japanese experiences in environmental pollution control, while part two focuses on the dynamism of the environmental policy in process in Asia, with chapters examining such issues as air pollution abatement in China; industrial pollution control in Indonesia; democratization, decentralization, and environmental policy in Taiwan; and environmental cooperation in East Asia.

<http://www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?is=0230004709>

**48. *Development of Health Systems in the Context of Enhancing Economic Growth towards Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific***

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

Each country in the ESCAP region faces specific challenges in its quest to achieve the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These challenges can only be met by adopting a comprehensive health systems approach to deliver universal coverage of a minimum package of health services and by addressing the determinants of health that lie beyond the direct purview of the health sector. Given the interconnected nature of the MDGs, it is essential to develop and implement strategies and policies that recognize the significance of the social determinants of health and the multiplicity of sectors affecting health.

**Available online**

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1209>

**49. *Disease & Security: Natural Plagues and Biological Weapons in East Asia***

Christian Enemark  
Routledge

Focusing on East Asia, this book sets out a framework for analyzing infectious disease threats in security terms. It covers the security significance of naturally occurring disease outbreak events such as SARS and avian influenza, the development and use of biological weapons by state and nonstate actors, and the security risks associated with laboratory research on pathogenic microorganisms. Christian Enemark devises a conceptual framework for securitization that is useful for policymakers by using the overlaps and synergies between different infectious disease threats. The book draws heavily on material from public health and scientific literature to illustrate the cross-disciplinary requirements for addressing infectious disease challenges in security terms. Fast-moving, naturally occurring disease threats are of increasing concern to governments and individuals, and it is therefore important to recognize their close relationship to the security challenges posed by biological weapons and pathogen research.

<http://www.routledge.com/books/Disease-and-Security-isbn9780415422345>

**50. *The Dragon Looks South: China and Southeast Asia in the New Century***

Bronson Percival  
Praeger Security International

The role and relative importance of all components of China's comprehensive strategy for Southeast Asia, including the political, economic, and "soft power" dimensions of China's multifaceted relationships both with individual states and the region as a whole, are analyzed in this book. Percival, a former diplomat and a professor at the US Naval War College, also clarifies and prioritizes current American interests in Southeast Asia, an essential first in assessing the implications for the United States of China's new role in Southeast Asia. China has made extraordinarily rapid gains in Southeast Asia since it turned its old confrontational policy on its head in 1997. This book focuses closely on the past five years and reviews China's relations with all Southeast Asian states. Percival also distinguishes between China's goals in mainland and maritime Southeast Asia, deals with all of the major external players in Southeast Asia, and contends that various international relations "schools of thought" may or may not be relevant to Chinese–Southeast Asian relationships.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=41994>

**51. *An East Asian Community and the United States***

Ralph A. Cossa and Akihiko Tanaka, eds.  
Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Seven prominent scholars clarify the roots, background, and theoretical framework of the emerging East Asian community and provide a policy perspective on how the United States should participate in that framework—taking the intents and strategies of Asian countries into particular consideration. The complex issues involved include balancing national interests with global concerns, problems of political reconciliation, and relationships with the region's other multilateral organizations and initiatives.

The volume is the result of a three-year research project undertaken by the Council on East Asian Community and supported by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. The contributing authors offer analyses of the relations between a future East Asian community and the United States and suggest how the East Asian region should cooperate with the United States to achieve ongoing peace, prosperity, and progress in the region.

<http://www.csisbookstore.org/index.asp?PageAction=VIEWPROD&ProdID=186>

**52. *East Asian Regional Cooperation in the Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria***

Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

This report summarizes the discussions at a July 2006 conference in Beijing, China, on regional responses to three of the world's most deadly diseases, which was jointly organized by the Friends of the Global Fund, Japan; the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention; and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. In addition to analyses of the spread of communicable diseases in China and worldwide, the report examines how East Asian nations are working together in border areas and on the regional level to stem the spread of AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis. It focuses on exemplary cases of regional and cross-border cooperation that can serve as models for deeper and more meaningful regional cooperation, and it recommends ways of increasing regional and cross-border cooperation and making it more effective.

**Available online**

<http://www.jcie.or.jp/fgfj/e/Beijingconference.html#report>

**53. *An East Asian Renaissance: Ideas for Economic Growth***

Indermit S. Gill and Homi Kharas, eds.  
World Bank

This book explores the future of East Asia's middle-income countries. Without the advantages of low wages or high skills, and with limited natural resources, East Asian economies are following a new path of regional integration led by China. Along this path, policymakers must manage a migration of 2 million people per month to East Asian cities, a sharp and unprecedented increase in income inequality, and growing discontent with corruption. This new agenda of domestic integration is the main challenge facing East Asia.

<http://publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/catalog/product?context=drilldown&item%5fid=5990700>

**54. *East Asian Security: Two Views***

Gilbert Rozman and Chu Shulong  
Strategic Studies Institute of the US Army War College

This volume examines the need for a new security framework for Northeast Asia that can cope with the legacy of six decades of frequent changes in the region's great power relations. To realize the goals of the Joint Agreement in the Six-Party Talks, multilateralism is becoming more important. US leadership faces challenges from the Sino-US rivalry, which is better managed because of cooperation over North Korea; the Russo-US rivalry that has intensified; Sino-Russian partnership, which has drawn closer in response to the nuclear crisis but could be tested by conflicting national interests; North Korean belligerence, which is unlikely to end even if the nuclear crisis is brought under control; South Korean balancing; and Sino-Japanese rivalry, which remains the main barrier to regionalism. The authors argue that a US regional strategy is needed that addresses all of these challenges in the context of the Six-Party Talks.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=800>

**55. *East Asian Strategic Review 2007***

Jun Tsunekawa, ed.  
National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS; Japan)

The *East Asian Strategic Review* is the flagship publication of the NIDS. This annual report includes analysis of the strategic environment of East Asia and the issues of critical importance concerning regional security. The report presents analysis from a Japanese viewpoint and

provides topics for open discussion. 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.

**Available online**

<http://www.nids.go.jp/english/dissemination/east-asian/e2007.html>

**56. *East Asian Visions: Perspectives on Economic Development***

Indermit S. Gill, Yukon Huang, Homi Kharas, eds.  
World Bank

Despite the diversity in income levels, languages, culture, resource endowments, and political systems, the countries of East Asia are more integrated now than they have ever been. Goods, money, and ideas are being traded across the region. East Asia is redefining itself from a collection of disparate nations that looked mainly to markets in the West, to a more self-reliant, innovative, and networked region. Countries in this region are strengthening ties with each other and seeking more strategic partnerships with the rest of the world.

*East Asian Visions* is a collection of essays that convey how some of the most influential thinkers in East Asia view these challenges. The writers are eminent policymakers, statesmen, and scholars. They write about how competition with the West has bred success, how crises in the region have provoked introspection, and how the rise of China is catalyzing change.

<http://publications.worldbank.org/ecomerce/catalog/product?context=drilldown&item%5fid=5915809>

**57. *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2007: Surging Ahead in Uncertain Times***

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

The 2007 edition of UNESCAP's annual survey discusses the region's impressive growth in 2006 amidst rising risks, evaluates subregional performances led by East and Northeast Asia, projects an outlook for 2007 of continuing dynamism, identifies key economic issues to be watched, and considers the economic cost of gender inequality.

**Available online**

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1205>

**58. *Economic Dynamism of Asia in the New Millennium: From the Asian Crisis to a New Stage of Growth***

Yoshinori Shimizu, ed.  
World Scientific

This book is a compendium of papers by Asian scholars on various new movements that emerged after the Asian financial crisis, which led to Asia becoming the enhanced growth center of the world. Beginning with the analysis of the Asian crisis and the subsequent capital flight, the book goes on to study the impact of these events on the Hong Kong economy, the role of the government in Indonesia, and financial restructuring in Thailand. The book then explores the new movement of regional cooperation, such as free trade agreements and financial cooperation and integration. On the real side of the economy, the book delves into issues such as cooperation between Japan and China, development of the Greater Mekong sub-region, the growth of China, fiscal coordination in Korea, technological networks in East Asia, and growth and inequality in Vietnam.

<http://www.worldscibooks.com/economics/6187.html>



**59. *Energy for All: Addressing the Energy, Environment, and Poverty Nexus in Asia***  
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

This study focuses on access to energy for all while keeping in view the energy, environment, and poverty linkages. Issues covered include the current global and Asian energy situations, availability and utilization of resources, prospects for meeting future demand, as well as price and affordability issues. Asian countries need to urgently find ways of addressing these issues if they are to join the ranks of the more developed and prosperous countries.

**Available online**

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Energy-for-All/default.asp>

**60. *Enhancing the Environmental Cooperation in Northeast Asia in a New Dimension: Regional Cooperation on the Kyoto Mechanisms (ERINA Booklet Vol. 5)***

Toshihiko Nakamura, Shagdar Enkhbayar, and Shoichi Itoh, eds.  
Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia (ERINA)

This report is the result of an ongoing project that has been conducted by ERINA since FY2004, which seeks to promote reductions in greenhouse gases through the Kyoto Mechanisms. Drawing on a network of connections in related institutions and groups throughout the region, ERINA has conducted research into the status of progress in relation to CDM/JI (clean development mechanism/joint implementation) in Northeast Asia. In addition to this report, the findings were presented for discussion at a subcommittee meeting during the 2007 Northeast Asia International Conference for Economic Development in Niigata.

**Available online**

<http://www.erin.or.jp/en/Publications/booklet/pdf/bl5-e.pdf>

**61. *The Environmental Dimension of Asian Security: Conflict and Cooperation over Energy, Resources, and Pollution***

In-Taek Hyun and Miranda Schreurs, eds.  
S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University

Northeast Asia is a region with highly disparate levels of industrialization and political systems. It also contains some very troubling security flashpoints—the Taiwan Strait, the Korean Peninsula, and the East China Sea. China's rapacious quest for energy and rapid industrial expansion have led to intense international competition with Japan and the United States, and internal instability as well. North Korea poses two distinct environmental security threats: "famine refugees" and the regime's use of "nuclear blackmail" for subsidized energy. Yet there is very little regional cooperation, despite the need to manage disputes over energy, natural resources, and pervasive pollution. The *Environmental Dimension of Asian Security* examines these issues through a "regional environmental security complex" that explores the potential for greater intersubjective understandings of regional environmental and natural resource problems and greater institutional collaboration and management.

<http://bookstore.usip.org/books/BookDetail.aspx?productID=134288>

**62. *Equality in Asia-Pacific: Reality or a Contradiction in Terms?***

Phil C. W. Chan, ed.  
Routledge

In 1948, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Nonetheless, as presented by the insightful papers in this collection (published initially as a special issue of the *International Journal of Human Rights*) dedicated to exploring the place of equality in Asia Pacific societies, evidence suggests that although progress is being

made, the right of equality has not yet fully materialized in law or in reality in the world's most populous region. Many factors, particularly entrenched cultural heritage and practices, the lingering effects of colonialism and newly found independence, and above all, pervasive ignorance and prejudices, continue to impede the recognition, development, and protection of equality in this region. Of course, equality has not been fully achieved in societies outside the region either. Such neocolonial thinking in fact perpetuates and assists in the subjugation of the right of equality in the Asia Pacific Region as a matter of relevance and concern only to Western countries. Accordingly, this volume seeks to shed light and generate reflections on the relevant realities outside the region as well.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Equality-in-Asia-Pacific-isbn9780415373296>

**63. *Ethnic Diasporas and Great Power Strategies in Asia***

Robert G. Wirsing and Rouben Azizian, eds.  
India Research Press and Tara Press

A significant portion of the world's population consists of ethnic diasporas. These are the dispersed, migrant, or (in some cases) "overseas" communities which, because they may claim a national homeland not currently the one in which they are domiciled, enjoy a status in the newer homeland distinct from other "indigenous" ethnic minorities. Varying in size, socioeconomic standing, and also in the degree of surviving cultural identity and group cohesion, they differ enormously among themselves in terms of both the character and the importance of the roles they now occupy in their adopted homelands.

This book brings together a dozen regional specialists to assess the importance of overseas, migrant, or "diaspora" ethnic minorities in the strategic calculations of three Asian great powers—India, China, and Russia. Drawing in part on papers presented at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Hawaii, the book provides both fresh descriptive data on overseas ethnic minorities as well as analyses of how these three Asian giants seek to take advantage of the diaspora phenomenon in their regional and global foreign policies.

[http://www.apcss.org/Publications/Edited%20Volumes/ethnic\\_diaporas/preface.htm](http://www.apcss.org/Publications/Edited%20Volumes/ethnic_diaporas/preface.htm)

**64. *Failed Diplomacy: The Tragic Story of How North Korea Got the Bomb***

Charles L. Pritchard  
Brookings Institution

North Korea's development of nuclear weapons raises fears of nuclear war on the peninsula and the specter of terrorists gaining access to weapons of mass destruction. It also represents a dangerous and disturbing breakdown in US foreign policy. *Failed Diplomacy* offers an insider's view of what went wrong and allowed this isolated nation to develop nuclear weapons. Pritchard was intimately involved in developing America's North Korea policy under Presidents Clinton and Bush. Here, he offers an authoritative analysis of recent developments on the Korean Peninsula and reveals how the Bush administration's mistakes damaged the prospects of controlling nuclear proliferation. Although multilateral negotiations continue, Pritchard proclaims the Six-Party Talks as a failure. While *Failed Diplomacy* offers a stinging critique of the Bush administration's manner and policy in dealing with North Korea, on a more hopeful note, it suggests what can be learned from missed opportunities.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/Books/2007/faileddiplomacy.aspx>

**65. *A Gender Agenda: Asia-Europe Dialogue 3—Economic Empowerment for Gender Equality***

Chia Siow Yue, ed.  
Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) and Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF)

This is the third and final volume produced through a project entitled “A Gender Agenda: Asia-Europe Dialogue,” which was co-organized by ASEF and JCIE beginning in 2001. This volume examines the economic empowerment of women through entrepreneurship development at the grassroots level. Six case studies are presented on initiatives in France, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, the Philippines, and Greece and Turkey. This unique analysis sheds light on the key factors that can hinder or enable economic empowerment and considers how to link economic empowerment of women to social change and gender equality. This volume also includes keynote speeches that were delivered by Magdalena Sroda, Polish plenipotentiary for equal status of women and men, and Senator Loren Legarda of the Philippines, at the final conference of the project held in October 2005 in the Philippines.

[www.jcie.or.jp/books/abstracts/G/gender3.html](http://www.jcie.or.jp/books/abstracts/G/gender3.html)

**66. *Global Multilevel Governance: European and East Asian Leadership***

Cesar de Prado

United Nations University

Since the end of the Cold War, European and East Asian states have enhanced a series of regional and transboundary structures and agreements. The European Union has grown into a remarkable model of peaceful supranational cooperation, and countries in Southeast and Northeast Asia are gradually developing the ASEAN+3 process into an East Asian community.

This book examines opportunities to sustain peace and prosperity through dynamic, multilevel governance in which individual states better engage in global processes and institutions via broad and hyperlinked regional regimes. De Prado presents four case studies of political, advisory, economic, and social multilevel governance centered in Europe and East Asia. These cases examine government actors advancing traditional agendas through formal regional institutions and flexible intergovernmental processes, Track 2 processes, dynamic economic cooperation through the information and telecommunications sectors, and broader social advancement through regionally and globally educated human resources. The author concludes that the convergence of European and East Asian political, economic, and social agendas could spur the United States and others to better engage in global multilevel governance and reinvigorate organizations such as the United Nations through effective engagement with these dynamic regional and interregional regimes.

<http://www.unu.edu/unupress/catalog/UNUPressCatalogue2006-7.pdf>

**67. *Globalization and Change in Asia***

Dennis A. Rondinelli and John M. Heffron, eds.

Lynne Rienner

*Globalization and Change in Asia* explores three decades of adjustment on the part of governments, civil society, and the private sector to the complex new forces of international competition. Recognizing that the benefits of globalization have not accrued equally to all Asian countries, nor to all strata of society, the authors seek lessons that can help shape development policy to effect the greatest good. Thus, they focus on the essential ingredients of the most broadly successful globalization strategies—strategies that can most optimally respond to the economic, social, and technological challenges that lay ahead.

[http://www.rienner.com/title/Globalization\\_and\\_Change\\_in\\_Asia](http://www.rienner.com/title/Globalization_and_Change_in_Asia)

**68. *Handbook of ASEAN and Regional Cooperation: 12th Summit and Beyond***

Prabhas Chandra Sinha

Pentagon Press

A detailed overview of the contemporary situation of ASEAN and the issues of regional cooperation it is facing is offered in this substantial handbook published to coincide with the 2007 Cebu ASEAN Summit. Part one deals with ASEAN action programs, priority sectors, and dispute settlement. Part two is on partnership and dispute settlement, and part three explores ASEAN sectoral integration protocols and road maps.

[http://www.pentagon-press.com/product\\_details.asp?ImgName=389](http://www.pentagon-press.com/product_details.asp?ImgName=389)

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=41853>

**69. *A Handbook of Terrorism and Insurgency in Southeast Asia***

Andrew T. H. Tan, ed.

Edward Elgar

This timely book seeks to explain the deep-seated complexities of terrorism and insurgency in Southeast Asia. In the aftermath of 9/11, this region has been designated by the United States to be the “second front” in the war on terrorism. Yet despite the emergence of this “new” global terrorism, the authors argue that armed rebellion in Southeast Asia is a phenomenon that predates Al-Qaeda and the global Jihadist movement and that much can be learned from the motivations behind it. Written by a group of leading Western and emerging Southeast Asian scholars, this extensive volume demonstrates the difficulty and diversity of rebellion in Southeast Asia and explores its intricate historical, political, social, and economic roots. The book provides an empirical and regional guide to the complex problem of insurgency in Southeast Asia and also contributes to a more educated understanding that could provide the basis for appropriate counterterrorism strategies in this important part of the world.

[http://www.e-elgar-publicpolicy.com/Bookentry\\_DESCRIPTION.lasso?id=3966](http://www.e-elgar-publicpolicy.com/Bookentry_DESCRIPTION.lasso?id=3966)

**70. *Handbook on the Northeast And Southeast Asian Economies***

Anis Chowdhury and Iyanatul Islam, eds.

Edward Elgar

The *Handbook on the Northeast and Southeast Asian Economies* provides a broad overview of economic and social developments in the places covered (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, North Korea, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam). The analytical narratives on the economic transformation of these economies draw on existing literature and highlight the interactions of sociopolitical factors. They examine the role of economic policies and the influence exerted by historical and political circumstances.

[http://www.e-elgar-asia.com/Bookentry\\_Main.lasso?id=3555](http://www.e-elgar-asia.com/Bookentry_Main.lasso?id=3555)

**71. *Harmony and Development: ASEAN-China Relations***

Lai Hongyi and Lim Tin Seng, eds.

World Scientific Publishing

This book celebrates the 15th anniversary of China-ASEAN dialogue, which has captured the limelight as a key development in international relations in the Asia Pacific. The contributions discuss a wide range of complex and challenging issues concerning ASEAN-China relations. The first part of the volume begins with an introduction and three speeches. The second and third parts discuss the political, security, and economic aspects of ASEAN-China relations. Some of the specific issues covered in the book include China’s rise and its implications for ASEAN, China’s political and economic relations with ASEAN, and China’s relations with Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Myanmar, and the Philippines. Contributors include leading scholars and analysts from these countries.

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/NUSinfo/EAI/Books.htm#harmony>

72. ***Health without Borders: Improving Health and Reducing HIV/AIDS Vulnerability among Long-Distance Road Transport Workers through a Multisectoral Approach***  
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Long-distance road transport workers are vulnerable to an array of health risks. Substance use, unprotected sex, unsafe roads, poor diets, long working hours, and long absences from home are but some of the documented factors that lead to numerous communicable and noncommunicable diseases and accidents. Importantly, the rapid spread of HIV across communities, countries, and continents is a testimony to the linkages between mobile and migrant groups—exemplified by road transport workers—and the growing epidemic.

Available online

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1217>

73. ***IDSA Asian Strategic Review 2007***

S. D. Muni, ed.

Academic Foundation

Divided into four sections, this volume deals with strategic developments pertaining to Asia. Recognizing the diverse “push” and “pull” factors impinging on a country’s strategic posture, the volume begins with issues of more immediate relevance. Accordingly, the first section on international security issues has articles analyzing India’s responses to the global energy security challenges, the resurgent Russia, the emerging military technologies and their security implications for India, the “global war on terror,” and issues concerning the nuclear nonproliferation regime. The next three parts contain in-depth analyses of major events in South, East, West, and Central regions of Asia. The wide range of issues includes, for example, the evolving partnership between India and the United States, changes in the contours of the Sino-Indian and Sino-Japanese relationships, an evaluation of the India-Pakistan peace process, the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka, Pyongyang’s nuclear brinkmanship, Iran’s nuclear program, and the role of major powers in Central Asia. The volume also presents a statistical appendix containing defense and conflict-related data for important countries in Asia.

<http://www.idsa.in/books.htm>

[http://www.easternbookcorporation.com/moreinfo.php?txt\\_searchstring=15451](http://www.easternbookcorporation.com/moreinfo.php?txt_searchstring=15451)

74. ***India & China in the Asian Century: Global Economic Power Dynamics***

P. Jegadish Gandhi

Deep & Deep

The rise of India and China as economic powerhouses capable of exerting enormous global influence has been the talk of economists and politicians the world over. The key question is whether the two giants will be partners or rivals, and accordingly, how international peace and stability can be secured and areas of conflict resolved. In this commemorative volume published to mark the 10th anniversary of the Vellore Institute of Development Studies of India, economists, diplomats, and researchers contribute a number of papers that examine the problems and opportunities of this new Asian socioeconomic order. Broadly divided into four areas, the authors discuss the dynamics of the Asian Century, the different dimensions of China’s economic growth, India’s coming of age, and the global economic power dynamics of the two countries.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=41248>

75. ***The Islamist Threat in Southeast Asia: A Reassessment***

John Sidel

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

In recent years, a steady stream of reportage and commentary has spotlighted a dangerous “Islamist threat” in Southeast Asia. This study, by contrast, offers a very different account. In descriptive terms, this study suggests that such an alarmist picture is highly overdrawn, and it traces instead a pattern of marked decline, demobilization, and disentanglement from state power in recent years for Islamist forces in Southeast Asia. This trend is evident both in the disappointments experienced in recent years by previously ascendant Islamist forces in Indonesia and Malaysia, and in the diminished position of Muslim power brokers in southern Thailand and the Philippines after more than a decade of cooperation with non-Muslim politicians in Manila and Bangkok. A fuller appreciation of aggression by anti-Islamists and non-Muslims, and of the insecurity, weakness, and fractiousness of Islamist forces themselves, helps to explain the nature, extent, and limitations of Islamist violence, aggression, and assertiveness. This overarching alternative framework not only provides a very different explanation for the “Islamist threat” in Southeast Asia but also suggests very different policy implications from those offered by specialists on terrorism working on the region.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/PS37/>

**76. *Japan and Asia in Transition: East Asia Insights 2006–2007***

Hitoshi Tanaka

Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)

This volume is a compilation of the first two years of JCIE’s *East Asia Insights* policy brief series, authored by former Japanese diplomat Hitoshi Tanaka. The briefs were edited and compiled as a single volume in December 2007. These nine essays analyze the course of East Asian regional integration and propose an active Japanese role in strengthening regional community building and establishing an East Asia security forum. Taken together, they map out a vision for East Asia’s future, based on the conviction that, in a rapidly evolving region, there is a need to build habits of cooperation among East Asia’s major powers.

[www.jcie.or.jp](http://www.jcie.or.jp)

**77. *Japan’s Security Policy & the ASEAN Regional Forum: The Search for Multilateral Security in the Asia-Pacific***

Takeshi Yuzawa

Routledge

Based on primary resources, including documents and extensive interviews with Japanese policymakers, this book provides a comprehensive and detailed empirical analysis of Japan’s involvement in Asia Pacific security multilateralism after the end of the Cold War, with special reference to the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). Giving an in-depth account of new developments in Japan’s post–Cold War security policy, Yuzawa also examines Japan’s initial motivations, expectations, and objectives for promoting regional security multilateralism; Japan’s diplomacy for achieving these objectives and experiences in the ARF since its formation; the effectiveness and limitations of the ARF with regard to national and Asia-Pacific security; the effects of Japan’s experiences in the ARF on its initial conception of regional security multilateralism and the implications of this for the direction of its overall security policy; and problems and difficulties that arose as a result of Japan’s post–Cold War security policy of simultaneously pursuing two different security approaches—namely the strengthening of regional security institutions and the Japan-US alliance. By examining Japan’s experiences in security institution building in the region, this study illuminates the future direction of Japan’s security policy and questions the validity of contending theoretical perspectives in understanding the role and effectiveness of the ARF.

<http://www.routledge.com/books/Japans-Security-Policy-and-the-ASEAN-Regional-Forum-ISBN9780415403375>

**78. *Joint ADB-BFA Annual Report on Regional Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific***

Asian Development Bank (ADB), Boao Forum on Asia (BFA)

The BFA annual report for 2007 looks at the progress of regional cooperation and integration in Asia and the Pacific in recent years to see how that can contribute to fostering greater physical connectivity, expanding trade and investment, developing financial systems and maintaining macroeconomic and financial stability, and improving environmental, health, and social conditions. Chapter one gives an overview of recent macroeconomic developments in the region, chapters two to five deal individually with each of the four issues noted above, and chapter six attempts to project the prospects for future economic cooperation and integration in Asia and the Pacific.

**Available online**

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Reports/Boao-Forum-2007/default.asp>

**79. *Key Indicators of Developing Asian and Pacific Countries 2007: Inequality in Asia***

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The *Key Indicators of Developing Asian and Pacific Countries 2007* is the 38th edition of the ADB's flagship economics statistical data book. It features 30 regional tables of socioeconomic and financial indicators for 45 developing member countries of the ADB; 8 Millennium Development Goals tables; 45 country tables, with 18-year time series on such data as population, labor force and employment, production, energy, price indices, external trade, etc.; and a special chapter that focuses on inequality in Asia.

**Available online**

[http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Key\\_Indicators/2007/default.asp](http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Key_Indicators/2007/default.asp)

**80. *Know Your ASEAN***

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

*Know Your ASEAN* sets down, in clear and simple language, the basic facts about ASEAN. It does so in the form of 40 questions and their answers. It is among the contributions of ISEAS to the observance of the 40th anniversary of ASEAN's founding. The booklet provides facts on ASEAN's establishment, membership, financing, and decision making. It recalls the association's contributions to regional security. It explains what ASEAN is doing to integrate the regional economy and promote regional cooperation on the environment, infectious diseases, counterterrorism, poverty reduction, and natural disasters. It clarifies such issues as noninterference and human rights. It touches on ASEAN's relations with other countries and international institutions.

Through this booklet and its other work, ISEAS hopes to contribute to the expansion of public understanding about ASEAN, recognizing the fact that regional solidarity, integration, and cooperation will be possible only with sufficient public support.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/BM328/>

**81. *Korea in the New Asia: East Asian Integration and the China Factor***

Françoise Nicolas, ed.

Routledge

Since the late 1980s, a number of regional developments have affected South Korea's political and economic standing in Asia. China's spectacular growth and closer integration with its neighboring economies, along with its more assertive political and diplomatic activity, have deeply altered the economic and political East Asian environment. Simultaneously, the 1997–1998 financial crisis

catalyzed a process of increased regional cooperation in East Asia. China's rise has imposed a leadership problem that may constitute a major obstacle on the road to deeper regional integration, as well as add force to the need for collective action, and it is this paradox that may give South Korea a key role in the reorganization of the region. Moreover, inter-Korean relations and Korea's future security environment may also feel the effects of the rise of China.

Written by an international team of experts, *Korea in the New Asia* seeks to analyze to what extent and how South Korea may contribute to, and take advantage of, the new regional configuration in East Asia.

[http://www.ifri.org/frontDispatcher/ifri/publications/ouvrages\\_1031930151985/publi\\_P\\_publ\\_asie\\_fnroutledge\\_\\_\\_1182182370085?language=us](http://www.ifri.org/frontDispatcher/ifri/publications/ouvrages_1031930151985/publi_P_publ_asie_fnroutledge___1182182370085?language=us)

**82. *Korean Security in a Changing East Asia***

Terence Roehrig, Jungmin Seo, Uk Heo  
Praeger Security International

Since its partition in the 1950s, the Korean Peninsula has directly or indirectly shaped the broader security relations between regional powerhouses. Japan, feeling increasingly threatened by the North Korean regime and China's extravagant military expenditures, has begun questioning Article 9 of its constitution, which renounces war and the maintenance of armed forces. Its neighbors, still haunted by Japanese atrocities during World War II, are fearful of a new nuclear arms race in the region. The United States, for its part, has adopted unprecedented hard-line policies in response to 9/11, going so far as to condemn North Korea as part of an "axis of evil." It has strengthened its alliance with Japan and alienated its long-time strategic partner, South Korea. Add to this the economic entanglements of each of these countries both with each other and with the rest of the world, and the regional security issues become even more paramount.

This study makes sense of these complex alliances and frictions and offers perspectives on the future of the region, the potential for military conflict and a new arms race, and the ways to maintain peace and stability.

<http://www.greenwood.com/catalog/C9834.aspx>

**83. *Legacies of World War II in South and East Asia***

David Koh Wee Hock, ed.  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

Sixty years after the end of World War II, the political and social fallout from the war is alive and divisive, as scholars in this volume show. One example is how former Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's visit to the Yasukuni Shrine prevented China, Japan, and South Korea from sitting down together to talk about Northeast Asian integration and wider Asian integration. Another example is the question of comfort women. Former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's statement that there is no evidence that Japan's government or army forced women to work in military brothels during the war appeared to go back on a 1993 apology for the comfort women. How such issues of history are dealt with by countries of this region has an effect on contemporary relations among the major powers contending for leadership in East Asia.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/PIC162/>

**84. *Maritime Security in Southeast Asia***

Kwa Chong Guan and John Skogan, eds.  
Routledge



This book confronts both the maritime security challenges and responses. In Southeast Asia, maritime security has taken on a much greater importance over the last 20 years due to the Law of the Sea Convention, which has resulted in 200-nautical-mile Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs). In addition to traditional security threats to maritime security, there has also emerged a range of nontraditional threats, such as those emanating from piracy and international terrorism that spill over into the maritime domain. Events such as September 11, and the designation of Southeast Asia as a “second front” in the war against terrorism have resulted in the growing realization that multilateral security cooperation is required in order to better manage emerging security threats.

Expert contributors to this book identify the nature of the maritime security problem and critically evaluate the various responses with an eye to improving the management of prevailing and emerging security threats.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Maritime-Security-in-Southeast-Asia-isbn9780415413886>

**85. *The Millennium Development Goals: Progress in Asia and the Pacific 2007***

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

The *Millennium Development Goals: Progress in Asia and the Pacific 2007* report is the latest in the Asia-Pacific MDG Study Series under the tripartite initiative of the UNESCAP, the Asian Development Bank, and the United Nations Development Programme. This report is a midpoint review of the MDG progress in this region, with a special focus on countries and groups of people within countries that are “left behind” in achieving the goals.

Available online

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1233>

**86. *Natural Disaster Reduction: Global Perspectives, South East Asian Realities and Global Strategies***

Dilip Kumar Sinha  
Anthem Press

In the aftermath of considerable seismic unrest caused by the tsunami in the Indian Ocean, this volume focuses on exposing the coastal vulnerability of the region. Despite a plethora of enquiries into natural disasters in different parts of the globe, there is now a more conspicuous concern than ever for the Southeast Asian region. This global concern has become all the more prevalent since the Hyogo Declaration in January 2005 and the recent Asian Summit in Indonesia.

The purpose of this treatise is to bring the characteristics of the disastrous events of the region to the fore, seeking to present not only the continuing fatalities and fragilities of the area but also the possibilities for coping with natural disasters. The book’s layout is specifically shaped by the nature of the damage and threat caused by these disasters, particularly concerning the communities at risk and their responses.

[http://atlantis.terrassl.net/anthempress.com/product\\_info.php?&products\\_id=252&osCsid=fvabteulitbf9aqb4mek1ge23](http://atlantis.terrassl.net/anthempress.com/product_info.php?&products_id=252&osCsid=fvabteulitbf9aqb4mek1ge23)

**87. *The New Asian Power Dynamic***

Maharajakrishna Rasgotra, ed.  
Sage

This volume examines the unfolding relationships among the five great powers in Asia—the United States, China, India, Japan, and Russia. While the central theme is how China, the rising power, and the United States, the sole superpower, will deal with each other, their

policies and interactions will need to factor in the other three powers that will play significant roles in defining peace and stability in Asia. Led by Maharajakrishna Rasgotra, the chairman of India's National Security Advisory Board, academics and diplomats contribute essays that analyze the changing power equations between the powers from India's point of view. The contributors identify competing and converging political, security, and economic interests, outline India's foreign policy options, and argue that India's relations with the United States should receive the highest priority.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=41631>

**88. *A New East Asia: Toward a Regional Community***

Kazuko Mori and Kenichiro Hirano, eds.  
Singapore University Press

East Asia is normally identified as a group of countries lying along the Western edge of the Pacific Ocean, but in recent years scholars have begun thinking about a new East Asia that is a community rather than a set of sovereign states. This regional community is a theoretical notion variously defined on the basis of economic or political relations, philosophical orientations, language, or other criteria, with each standard producing a different set of boundaries. This book looks at the new East Asia from a Northeast Asian perspective, considering it both as a theoretical construct and a practical reality.

The authors are Asian studies specialists, mainly from Japan but with contributions from Korea and the United States as well, and they consider the trade and economic interaction, diplomacy, and security arrangements of East Asia. Prepared as part of a five-year research program conducted by Waseda University's 21st Century Center of Excellence for the Creation of Contemporary Asian Studies, the essays are published here in English for the first time.

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/sup/9971-69-382-4.html>

**89. *Nuclear Proliferation in Northeast Asia: The Quest for Security***

Andrew O'Neil  
Palgrave Macmillan

To what extent does the failing strategy of nonproliferation pose serious challenges for Northeast Asia's security environment? Are there alternative strategies for managing nuclear weapons in the region? Should the presence of nuclear weapons in Northeast Asia necessarily be seen in exclusively negative terms, as many experts believe?

This volume examines Northeast Asia's security order, the failing strategy of nuclear nonproliferation, whether a nuclear armed North Korea can be managed, whether nuclear coexistence is possible between China and Japan, and the nuclear future of the region.

<http://www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?PID=283253>

**90. *Pacific Asia in Quest of Democracy***

Roland Rich  
Lynne Rienner

What does democracy look like in Pacific Asia? Can democratic governance in the region survive the challenges of corruption, violence, and soft authoritarianism? What impact are economic pressures likely to have? These are among the broad questions tackled in *Pacific Asia in Quest of Democracy*, a comparative study of democratic structures and practices in Indonesia, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand.

Roland Rich, executive director of the United Nations Democracy Fund, offers an original approach to a series of traditional topics: the institutions and legal underpinnings of democracy, the roles of political parties and politicians, and the significance of a changing

political culture. He also draws on his long experience living and working in the region to explore the public conversations taking place and the media that facilitates them. His elegantly written work suggests that, although the countries of Pacific Asia lack a long democratic tradition, much more significant are the innovative democratic design and the enthusiasm for democratic participation exhibited there.

[http://www.rienner.com/title/Pacific\\_Asia\\_in\\_Quest\\_of\\_Democracy](http://www.rienner.com/title/Pacific_Asia_in_Quest_of_Democracy)

**91. *Pacific Century: The Emergence of Modern Pacific Asia (3rd edition)***

Mark Borthwick  
Westview Press

The Asia Pacific region is rapidly emerging as the global economic and political powerhouse of the 21st century. Looking at both Southeast and East Asia, this richly illustrated volume stresses broad, crosscutting themes of regional history, with an emphasis on the interactions between cultures and nations. In this updated third edition, Mark Borthwick provides a significantly revised introduction, which places the contemporary rise of China within the context of the political, cultural, and economic evolution of the region since ancient times. He then considers more recent developments in their historical context, balancing national and international factors underlying Asia Pacific economic growth and political change. New areas receiving attention in the third edition include Japan's recovery from economic stagnation, Japan's new political landscape, China's economic transformation and leadership in East Asian regionalism, the North Korean crisis, and the Asia Pacific impact on the global economic system. The book also provides chronological updates for Cambodia, Vietnam, and Indonesia. Borthwick concludes with an examination of the key domestic and international issues facing the nations of Pacific Asia and the growing influence of these nations on North America and the world economy.

[http://www.amazon.com/Pacific-Century-Emergence-Modern-Asia/dp/0813343550/ref=pd\\_bbs\\_sr\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1201276739&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Pacific-Century-Emergence-Modern-Asia/dp/0813343550/ref=pd_bbs_sr_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1201276739&sr=1-1)

**92. *Pacific Food System Outlook 2006–2007: The Future Role of Biofuels***

Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC)

The Pacific Food System Outlook's 10th anniversary report examines the current status of and future prospects for biofuels in the region. Current ethanol and biodiesel production in the PECC region is quite modest, even in the United States and China where programs are most advanced. Yet many economies across the region are developing biofuel programs to reduce dependence on imported petroleum; mitigate harmful emissions, including greenhouse gases; and boost rural economies. In the energy programs of most nations, biofuels will likely play an expanding but modest role as part of a broad-based portfolio of solutions to high oil prices. In addition to biofuels, that portfolio may include conservation, more efficient energy use, and expanded production of oil, nonconventional fossil fuels, and other alternatives. Biofuels' future role will be even more significant with the commercialization of cellulosic ethanol.

**Available online**

[http://www.pecc.org/food/pfso-singapore2006/PECC\\_Annual\\_06\\_07.pdf](http://www.pecc.org/food/pfso-singapore2006/PECC_Annual_06_07.pdf)

**93. *Peace in the Pacific: Confronting the Issues***

Stephen Leong, ed.  
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

This volume encompasses selected papers from the 20th Asia Pacific Roundtable conference that took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 2006. The roundtable, launched in 1987, 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.

[http://www.isis.org.my/html/publicns/pub\\_books.htm](http://www.isis.org.my/html/publicns/pub_books.htm)

**94. *The Peninsula Question***

Yoichi Funabashi  
Brookings Institution

In October 2002, the United States confronted North Korea with suspicions that Pyongyang was enriching uranium in violation of the Agreed Framework that the nations had worked out during the Clinton administration. North Korea subsequently evicted international monitors and resumed its nuclear weapons program. *The Peninsula Question* chronicles the resulting second Korean nuclear crisis.

Japanese journalist Yoichi Funabashi, informed by interviews with more than 160 diplomats and decision makers from China, Japan, Russia, South Korea, and the United States, provides a behind-the-scenes look at the negotiations to denuclearize the peninsula. *The Peninsula Question* provides a window of understanding on the historical, geopolitical, and security concerns at play on the Korean peninsula since 2002.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/Books/2007/peninsulaquestion.aspx>

**95. *Persistent and Emerging Issues in Rural Poverty Reduction***

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

It is estimated that around 70 percent of the poor in Asia Pacific live and work in rural areas. This is a clear indication that there is a need for renewed attention to the unique rural dimensions of poverty and greater efforts to reduce rural poverty. Beyond issues of agricultural productivity, the rural poor face multiple deprivations from lack of assets, isolation, alienation, dependence, powerlessness, vulnerability, and lack of freedom of choice. This publication examines efforts being made to alleviate rural poverty and future challenges in tackling rural poverty given the rapidly changing rural conditions in the region. It contains the report of the Expert Group Meeting on Rural Poverty Reduction and also reports on the outcome of other UNESCAP activities related to rural poverty reduction.

**Available online**

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1199>

**96. *Political and Security Dynamics of South and Southeast Asia***

Daljit Singh, ed.  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

Security and economic imperatives are increasingly intertwining the destinies of Southeast and South Asia, making it necessary for scholars on both sides to deepen their understanding of each other's regions. This collection of papers, first presented at a dialogue between ISEAS in Singapore and the Observer Research Foundation of India in March 2006, provides perspectives from India and Singapore on some of the major security and political issues facing the two regions. The subjects covered include regional integration trends as symbolized by the first East Asia Summit, the roles of the major powers, maritime security and naval deployments in the Indian Ocean region, and political and security developments within Southeast Asia.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/PIC163/>

**97. *The Political Economy of the SARS Epidemic***

Grace Lee and Malcolm Warner  
Routledge

This book discusses the political economy of the SARS epidemic and its impact on human resources in East Asia, as it occurred in 2003. The epidemic spread from the People's Republic of China to Hong Kong, Singapore, and Taiwan, among other countries in East Asia, and as far away as North America, the EU, and elsewhere. The book looks first at earlier precedents, such as the Black Death, and the way in which the potential threats of the recent epidemic were diffused across the world in "instant news" reports. It examines why SARS was dubbed the first "global epidemic" due to its media coverage and how far the threat started a psychological "tsunami" of fear and panic. Next, it examines the anticipated economic consequences arising from this phenomenon and how it affected the business of everyday life, market behavior, and human resources in the Chinese and overseas Chinese economies. It concludes with a discussion of the issues involved and lessons to be learned and draws conclusions both for theory and practice vis-à-vis future pandemics that may threaten the global economy in the coming decade and the public policy issues involved.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/The-Political-Economy-of-the-SARS-Epidemic-ISBN9780415394987>

**98. *A Politico-economic Approach to Northeast Asian Regional Cooperation: Search for a New Model and Korea's Strategies***

Hyungdo Ahn and Jehoon Park

Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP)

The purpose of this report is to present a new model of Northeast Asian regional integration from a political economy approach that considers political security factors, social and cultural factors, and economic factors together. This approach is based on the recognition that regional integration may not be solely explained by economic factors. To that end, this report first examines major regional communities— AFTA, EU, MERCOSUR, and NAFTA—and their current state of integration. How these communities have historically developed is studied with regard to functional economic integration, social and cultural circumstance, political security, and institutional integration. Factors that contribute to and hinder integration are also studied. The report proposes a new Northeast Asian regional integration model, the Northeast Asian Way.

**Available online**

[http://www.kiep.go.kr/eng/std\\_data\\_view.asp?num=180516&sCate=013001&sSubCate=&ITp=r&nowPage=1&listCnt=10](http://www.kiep.go.kr/eng/std_data_view.asp?num=180516&sCate=013001&sSubCate=&ITp=r&nowPage=1&listCnt=10)

**99. *Power and Security in Northeast Asia: Shifting Strategies***

Byung-Kook Kim and Anthony Jones, eds.

Lynne Rienner

As China's influence rises and the United States attempts to retain its primacy in Northeast Asia, the countries of the region are reconsidering their own security needs and availing themselves of new opportunities. *Power and Security in Northeast Asia* explores the complexities of current security strategies in the region, revealing motivations and policies not often considered by traditional international relations analyses.

[http://www.rienner.com/title/Power\\_and\\_Security\\_in\\_Northeast\\_Asia\\_Shifting\\_Strategies](http://www.rienner.com/title/Power_and_Security_in_Northeast_Asia_Shifting_Strategies)

**100. *Public Health in Asia and the Pacific***

Milton J. Lewis and Kerrie L. MacPherson, eds.

Routledge

The Asia Pacific region has not only the greatest concentration of population but is, arguably, the future economic center of the world. Epidemiological transition in the region is occurring much faster than it did in the West, and many countries face the emerging problem of chronic

diseases at the same time as they continue to grapple with communicable diseases. This book explores how disease patterns and health problems in Asia Pacific, and collective responses to them, have been shaped over time by cultural, economic, social, demographic, environmental, and political factors. With 14 chapters, each devoted to a country in the region, the authors take a comparative and historical approach to the evolution of public health and preventive medicine and offer a broader understanding of the links in a globalizing world between health on the one hand and culture, economy, polity, and society on the other. *Public Health in Asia and the Pacific* presents the importance of the nonmedical context in the history of human disease, as well as the significance of disease in the larger histories of the region.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Public-Health-in-Asia-and-the-Pacific-isbn9780415359627>

**101. *Reasserting the Rural Development Agenda: Lessons Learned and Emerging Challenges in Asia***

Arsenio Molina Balisacan and Nobuhiko Fuwa, eds.  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The agricultural sector's perceived importance in the international development circle waned dramatically after the 1980s, and investments in rural development and agricultural research and development declined sharply. This volume reasserts the role of agricultural and rural development in the economic development debate. By revisiting the evolution of ideas, paradigms, and empirical evidence, and by drawing on Asian experiences, the book intends to set a reinvigorated agenda on agricultural and rural development both for research and policy discussions in the coming decades.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/PIC157/>

**102. *Reassessing Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific: Competition, Congruence, and Transformation***

Amitav Acharya and Evelyn Goh, eds.  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Since the 1990s, Asia Pacific countries have changed their approaches to security cooperation and regional order. The end of the Cold War, the resurgence of China, the Asian economic crisis, and the events of September 11, 2001, have all contributed to important changes in the Asia Pacific security architecture. In addition to the traditional bilateral security arrangements based on the US "hub and spokes" alliance system, there has been an increase in multilateral efforts, including the ASEAN Regional Forum, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Shangri-la Dialogue, and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. But because of their varying membership, scope, and mandates, these new arrangements have suffered from a lack of coordination.

This volume reassesses security cooperation in the region in light of such recent developments as the emergence of new roles for existing institutions, the rise of new institutions, challenges to existing norms of regional interaction, increasing formalization or legalization of regional institutions, the reconstruction of modes of security cooperation that were once seen as mutually exclusive, and the creation of ad hoc and informal security approaches.

<http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?type=2&tid=10657>

**103. *Regional Cooperation in South Asia and Southeast Asia***

Kripa Sridharan  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The general view about regionalism seems to be that it is better to have regionalized and faltered than never to have regionalized at all. Inspired by this observation, this study aims to provide a comparative sketch of regionalism in South and Southeast Asia in light of recent regional developments. Since regionalism is both a pervasive and amorphous phenomenon, a straightforward account of its similarities and differences cannot be easily set down. But the broad patterns of behavior of the regional actors who gather under a regional roof can be captured and compared. To compare is not only to understand but also to improve and avoid the avoidable. This book analyzes the highs and lows of regional experience mainly in South Asia (SAARC) and Southeast Asia (ASEAN), interspersed with references to the EU where relevant. The book argues that regionalism is here to stay and both imitation and innovation are the preferred strategies for sustaining the process. It points out that economic integration requires certain prior conditions to be fulfilled and does not happen merely because governments wish it to happen.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/>

**104. *Regional Integration in East Asia From the View of Spatial Economics***

Masahisa Fujita

Palgrave Macmillan

With the globalization of economic activity bringing about the expansion of markets and deepening of economic interdependency beyond state borders, a new political challenge arises: how to effectively integrate the interdependent economies into a harmonious unity through the creation of new super-state institutions. This book applies a spatial economics perspective to the understanding of the recent dynamism of the global economy, with particular focus on East Asia. In addition, it examines the prospects of regional integration in East Asia.

<http://www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?PID=276646>

**105. *Regional Order in East Asia: ASEAN and Japan Perspectives***

Jun Tsunekawa, ed.

National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS), Japan

This book aims at presenting perceptions of the emerging regional order in East Asia from ASEAN 5 (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Singapore) and Japan. Jusuf Wanandi offers a concise overview of the strategic developments in the Asia Pacific region, which is followed by papers that deal with the challenges and the roles of ASEAN and Japan in establishing a regional order in the current complex regional situation.

The writers are the main contributors to the Defense Research Exchange Program with Southeast Asian Nations hosted by the NIDS. Their chapters examine such issues as the search for regional order in East Asia; the institutionalization of the regional order; building the new East Asia; ASEAN and major powers in the new emerging regional order; mainland Southeast Asia, ASEAN, and the major powers in the regional order; and the relationship between an East Asia Community and Japan.

**Available online**

[http://www.nids.go.jp/english/dissemination/joint\\_research/series1/pdf/series1-1.pdf](http://www.nids.go.jp/english/dissemination/joint_research/series1/pdf/series1-1.pdf)

**106. *Regional Outlook Forum 2007: Summary Report***

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

This summary report of the 10th Regional Outlook Forum (ROF), organized by ISEAS on January 4, 2007, is the inaugural summary of proceedings of an ROF. It records the most significant points raised by the speakers at the ROF and is intended to serve as a guide for action. Issues addressed at the forum include strategic trends in East Asia; the dynamics of regional economics;

religious extremism in Southeast Asia; economic and social ramifications of the haze in the region; political trends in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Myanmar; and terrorism.  
<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/PIC159/>

**107. *Regional Outlook: Southeast Asia 2007–2008***

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. In the 2007–2008 edition, thematic highlights include the United States and Southeast Asia, China's relations with Southeast Asia, India's strategic engagement with Southeast Asia, implications of the crude oil move, East Asian regionalism, Asian currencies and globalization, and Thailand's financial and corporate sector reforms and consequences.  
[http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/RO\\_07/](http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/RO_07/)

**108. *Regionalism and Globalisation in East Asia: Politics, Security & Economic Development***

Mark Beeson  
Palgrave Macmillan

This book examines the distinctive character and evolution of political systems, economic structures, and security relationships of East Asia, a dynamic region that will profoundly influence global developments in the 21st century. Mark Beeson places East Asian development in the unique historical circumstances that have underpinned its remarkable rise to prominence over the last few decades. This multidimensional analysis provides the basis for an assessment of current efforts to develop a unified East Asian region.  
<http://us.macmillan.com/regionalismandglobalizationineastasia>

**109. *Religious Pluralism in Democratic Societies: Challenges and Prospects for Southeast Asia, Europe, and the United States in the New Millennium***

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Singapore, and the Malaysian Association for American Studies

This book critically examines the concept of religious pluralism in democratic societies in the context of globalization, and the challenges and prospects for Southeast Asia, Europe, and the United States. Part one specifically deals with the characteristics, problems, and challenges of religious diversity and coexistence in Southeast Asia and the United States, and how immigration has played a key role in contributing to multiculturalism and religious coexistence. Part two specifically focuses on the growing problems and challenges of religious diversity in Europe. Part three attempts to link democracy and the separation of religion and state to the problems and prospects for conflict resolution in increasingly pluralistic environments. The conclusion offers perspectives and proposals for multireligious coexistence under conditions of globalization and in the post-9/11 era.  
[http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/73/2/year-2007/dokument\\_id-10142/index.html](http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/73/2/year-2007/dokument_id-10142/index.html)



**110. *Report on an APEC High-Level Public-Private Policy Dialogue on the Policy Framework for Investment***

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

In April 2007, Melbourne, Australia, hosted a High-Level Public-Private Policy Dialogue on the Policy Framework for Investment (PFI) to consider how APEC's member economies might make use of the OECD's PFI to improve investment climates. The dialogue was held against the broader context that the APEC region is underperforming in investment growth and that many economies in the region are significant exporters of capital despite huge domestic needs. It also occurred as APEC's Investment Experts Group is finalizing analysis of behind-the-border barriers to investment including intellectual property rights, transparency, governance, taxation, competition policies, business mobility, poor physical and legal infrastructure, and the need to improve human capital. The main purpose of the dialogue was to educate government officials and other opinion leaders in APEC member economies about the PFI and the effective use of that tool in domestic reform efforts. The report contains the presentations made at the meeting and a summary.

Available online

[http://www.apec.org/apec/publications/free\\_downloads/2007.html](http://www.apec.org/apec/publications/free_downloads/2007.html)

**111. *The Rise, the Fall, and the Recovery of Southeast Asia's Minidragons: How Can Their History Be Lessons We Shall Learn During the Twenty-First Century and Beyond?***

David Hollingsworth  
Lexington Books

*The Rise, the Fall, and the Recovery of Southeast Asia's Minidragons* offers a comprehensive study of recent Asian economic history. As the global economy adjusts to an increasing Asian presence, Hollingsworth examines specific case models from the 1990s to draw conclusions, create paradigms, and prepare guidelines for the future. With studies ranging from Taiwan to Malaysia and an in-depth analysis of the Asian financial crisis of 1997–1998, this is one of the most in-depth studies of contemporary Asian economic history. With clear focus and a wide range, Hollingsworth shows the relevance of recent history to the current economic situations.

<http://www.lexingtonbooks.com/Catalog/SingleBook.shtml?command=Search&db=^DB/CAT ALOG.db&eqSKUdata=0739119818>

**112. *Rising Star: China's New Security Diplomacy***

Bates Gill  
Brookings Institution

China's diplomatic strategy has changed dramatically since the mid-1990s, creating both challenges and opportunities for other world powers. Through a combination of pragmatic security policies, growing economic clout, and increasingly deft diplomacy, China has established productive and increasingly solid relationships throughout Asia and around the globe. Yet US policymakers have only just begun to comprehend these critical changes. Noted China analyst Bates Gill offers a comprehensive and far-reaching analysis of the transformation in China's security diplomacy, persuasively making the case for a more nuanced and focused policy toward Beijing.

Over the past decade, China's approach to regional and global security affairs has become more proactive, practical, and constructive, a trend favoring US interests in many ways. At the same time, China's new strategy has also bolstered its international influence and may enhance its ability to resolve thorny issues—such as Taiwan's future—on its own terms. In exploring these dynamics, Gill focuses on Chinese policy in three areas: regional security mechanisms, nonproliferation and arms control, and questions of sovereignty and intervention. Looking to

the future, he offers specific recommendations for a balanced and realistic approach that emphasizes what China and the United States have in common, rather than what divides them.  
<http://www.brookings.edu/press/Books/2007/risingstar.aspx>

**113. *The Role of Knowledge Communities in Constructing Asia-Pacific Security: How Thought and Talk Make War and Peace***

Tan See Seng  
Edwin Mellen Press

This study is an effort to address the dearth of critical and post-positivist perspectives in security studies of and about the Asia Pacific region. It demonstrates how regional communities of security specialists and intellectuals, including knowledge communities such as ASEAN-ISIS and CSCAP have contributed to just such a state-centric, political image at the expense of alternative ideas and, in so doing, have promoted and legitimized their own identities as authorities on regional security. This work shows how post-positivist analysis, contrary to what its many detractors may think, is neither prolix nor self-indulgent. Rather, it invites critical reflection on the conditions that produce particular “urgent questions” (albeit at the expense of other questions) of international relations, such as the question of Asia Pacific regional security.

<http://www.mellenpress.com/mellenpress.cfm?bookid=6981&pc=9>

**114. *Russia, America, and Security in the Asia-Pacific***

Rouben Azizian, ed.  
Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) and Far Eastern National University  
(Vladivostok)

Published in both Russian and English, this book represents both US and Russian perspectives on key issues in the Asia Pacific region. Written by a group of leading specialists on international relations in the Asia Pacific region, each topic is represented by two papers—one authored by an American and the other by a Russian expert—which allows the reader to assess and compare Russian and American approaches to major issues of regional politics. The study is intended to assist Asia Pacific security practitioners and policymakers in identifying both impediments and opportunities, closing gaps, narrowing differences of opinion, and stimulating better cooperation between the two countries.

<http://www.apcss.org/core/APCSS%20News/releases/2006/azizanpub.htm>

**115. *The Second Bush Administration and Southeast Asia***

Richard P. Cronin  
Henry L. Stimson Center

For the rest of its term, the Bush administration will continue its current policy toward Southeast Asia based on the assumption that the region will remain an area of peace, stability, economic growth, relatively free and open trade, and comparatively low priority to US global interests. The administration has achieved significant results in promoting antiterrorist cooperation with Southeast Asian countries but otherwise its policies have shown neither a strategic vision nor a consistent focus. The preoccupation of senior officials with the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan and a mismatch of desired objectives and resources have been important sources of inconsistency. The administration has made some modest policy adjustments in the past several years that should keep US involvement with the region generally on an upward path, but follow-through remains a problem. The administration has belatedly responded to China’s rising role and influence with several low-cost initiatives designed to signal greater support for ASEAN. On the other hand, the administration’s efforts to

respond to the ever expanding “noodle bowl” of low quality and preferential free trade agreements (FTAs) in Southeast Asia have been hampered in part by a “one-size-fits-all” policy of using regional FTA negotiations to promote a global trade agenda.

<http://www.stimson.org/pub.cfm?id=446>

**116. *Securing Japan: Tokyo’s Grand Strategy and the Future of East Asia***

Richard Samuels  
Cornell University

For the past 60 years, the US government has assumed that Japan’s security policies would reinforce American interests in Asia. The political and military profile of Asia is changing rapidly, however. What is the next step for Japan’s security policy? Will confluence with US interests—and the alliance—survive intact? Will the policy be transformed? Or will Japan become more autonomous?

Samuels demonstrates that over the last decade, a revisionist group of Japanese policymakers has consolidated power. The Koizumi government of the early 2000s took bold steps to position Japan’s military to play a global security role. It left its successor, the Abe government, to further define and legitimate Japan’s new grand strategy, a project well underway—and vigorously contested both at home and in the region. *Securing Japan* begins by tracing the history of Japan’s grand strategy. Samuels shows how the ideological connections across these wars and agreements help explain today’s debate. He then explores Japan’s recent strategic choices, arguing that Japan will ultimately strike a balance between national strength and national autonomy, a position that will allow it to exist securely without being either too dependent on the United States or too vulnerable to threats from China.

[http://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/cup\\_detail.taf?ti\\_id=4739](http://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/cup_detail.taf?ti_id=4739)

**117. *Securing Southeast Asia: The Politics of Security Sector Reform***

Mark Beeson and Alex Bellamy  
Routledge

This book uniquely applies the security reform agenda to Southeast Asia. It investigates recent developments in civil-military relations in the region, looking in particular at the impact and utility of the agenda on the region and assessing whether it is likely to help make the region more stable and less prone to military interventions.

It provides a historical overview of the region’s civil-military relations and goes on to explore the dynamics of civil-military relations within the context of the security sector reform framework, focusing on the experiences of four of the region’s militaries: Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, and Indonesia. It argues that although regional militaries have not necessarily followed a “Western model,” significant developments have occurred that are broadly in keeping with the security sector reform agenda, and which suggest that the prospects for stable civil-military relations are brighter than some skeptics believe.

<http://www.routledgeasianstudies.com/books/Securing-Southeast-Asia-isbn9780415416191>

**118. *Security Dynamics in a Changing East Asia: Views from the Next Generation (Issues & Insights Vol. 7, No. 10)***

Pacific Forum CSIS

In September 2006, the Asia-Pacific Security Forum (APSF) held its 10th meeting, bringing together academics and analysts from Southeast Asia, Taiwan, the United States, and Europe. The APSF focused on three themes: (1) nationalism, democracy, and security in East Asia; (2) the search for energy and resources in the Asia Pacific; and (3) regional security organizations in the 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. Not only did they engage actively in discussions and debate with senior participants, but they also collaborated among themselves to write the essays in this volume.

**Available online**

[http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/issuesinsights\\_v07n10.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/issuesinsights_v07n10.pdf)

**119. Southeast Asian Affairs 2007**

Daljit Singh and Lorraine Carlos Salazar, eds.  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

Southeast Asian Affairs 2007 provides an informed and readable analysis of the events and developments in the region in 2006. In the regional section of this volume, the first two articles provide the political and economic overview of Southeast Asia, while the third and fourth examine the character of political development in the region. Eleven country reviews as well as five special theme articles follow, delving into domestic political, economic, security, and social developments during 2006 and their implications for countries in the region and beyond.

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg/bookmarks/SEAA07/>

**120. State of the Region 2007–2008**

Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC)

The Asia Pacific region will experience slower economic growth in 2008 but is likely to avoid a sharp downturn due to the sub-prime mortgage crisis in the United States, according to PECC's annual *State of the Region* report. PECC forecasters expect 4.9 percent real GDP growth for the region as a whole in 2008, rising to 5.2 percent in 2009, assuming that the United States does not enter into a recession and that a recovery in the housing sector takes place in the second half of 2008.

The report includes the findings of PECC's annual survey of opinion leaders in the Asia Pacific region. Respondents identified high energy prices, water pollution, and global warming as the top three risks to economic growth in the region. The survey also found considerable dissatisfaction with the current state of regional organizations. In general, APEC and ASEAN were rated more highly than their younger siblings, the East Asia Summit and ASEAN+3. Opinion leaders were split, however, on whether APEC remains as important today as it was in 1989. Respondents overwhelmingly agreed with the idea that Asian economies should play a bigger role in multilateral institutions like the IMF and the World Bank.

<http://www.pecc.org/sotr/>

**121. Strategic Asia 2007-08: Domestic Political Change and Grand Strategy**

Ashley J. Tellis and Michael Wills, eds.  
National Bureau for Asian Research (NBR)

Written by some of America's leading specialists, this book examines the varied political transitions and internal changes occurring in pivotal Asian states and evaluates the impact on Asian foreign policymaking and strategy. Through a combination of country, regional, and topical studies, the book assesses the patterns of political development, the drivers of internal change, the character of governance, and prospects for political stability in the region, and draws implications for Asia and the United States.

<http://www.nbr.org/publications/book.aspx?ID=449>

**122. Strategic Goals in US, Japan, and China Relations (Issues & Insights vol. 7, no. 6)**

Brad Glosserman, rapporteur  
Pacific Forum CSIS

Relations among the United States, Japan, and China have experienced profound swings throughout the decade of trilateral meetings that the Pacific Forum CSIS has hosted with partners from Japan and China. This report summarizes the 11th round of discussions, which took place in April 2007. At the time, the various bilateral relationships were all on upswings. Japan and China were still celebrating the successful visit of Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao to Japan weeks before; relations between the United States and Japan were strong; and US-China relations were solid, with high-level dialogues proceeding and cooperation continuing. Most important, there were no apparent obstacles to current solid bilateral relations.

Nonetheless, positive relations among the three countries have not translated into a solid *trilateral* relationship. The triangle is still composed of three distinct sets of relationships and there has been little effort at forging three-way discussions or cooperation. The discussions summarized here addressed the fundamental concerns of the three countries and explored ways they could work together to realize shared interests.

**Available online**

[http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights\\_v07n06.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issuesinsights_v07n06.pdf)

### **123. Study on National Coordination Mechanisms for Trade and Transport Facilitation in the UNESCAP Region**

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

Facilitation of international trade and transport involves many government agencies and authorities as well as public and private entities. Efficient and effective coordination among all relevant government agencies and authorities, and good collaboration between the public and private sectors are crucial for the formulation and implementation of facilitation measures. The aim of the study is to provide (1) global and regional overviews of activities undertaken with regard to the national trade and transport facilitation coordination, (2) good practices in establishing new mechanisms and strengthening existing coordination mechanisms, and (3) guidelines and recommendations for establishment or strengthening of national coordination mechanisms for trade and transport facilitation in the Asia Pacific region.

**Available online**

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1251>

### **124. Sustainable Infrastructure in Asia**

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

Asia now has 71 percent of the global population that is without access to improved sanitation and 58 percent of those without access to safe drinking water. In the coming decades, a growing population and increased urbanization requires Asian countries to build the water, energy, waste management, and transport infrastructure that will support their needs. At the same time, “green growth” calls for continued economic growth while ensuring that resources are used sustainably. Yet the region’s environmental infrastructure is insufficient, and as a result, environmental carrying capacities throughout the region are being overwhelmed. Many countries in Asia often face challenges of developing sustainable infrastructure due to institutional, technological, and financial insufficiency. What are the fundamental and essential factors to facilitate and accelerate this shift toward green growth? As home to some of the world’s fastest growing economies, one of the most important issues for the region’s policymakers to consider is that of sustainable infrastructure. New innovations and the incorporation of eco-efficient principles into the infrastructure development process play a critical role in improving environmental sustainability.

**Available online**

<http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1227>

**125. *The Talibanization of Southeast Asia: Losing the War on Terror to Islamist Extremists***

Biveer Singh

Praeger Security International

Long before the terrorist attacks of September 11 awakened the United States and the Western world to the heightened level of the terrorist threat, Southeast Asia had been dealing with this threat. The bombing in Bali that killed 202 people was by no means the region's first experience with Islamic extremism, which can be traced back to the 1940s. The most recent group to emerge is Al-Jama'ah Al-Islamiyah, the most potent Islamic terrorist organization to date in the region and the group behind the Bali bombing. Prior to 9/11, the terrorist challenge was essentially national in character, with groups attempting either to secede from the central government to form a new state or to force the central government to adopt policies that would support the *raison d'être* of these extremist groups. Essentially, this involved the establishment of a political system that was more Islamic in character, either nationally or within a specific territory of a national state. This book analyzes the increasing Talibanization of Southeast Asia, a relatively new phenomenon that involves the adoption of Islamist doctrines, ideologies, and values that are largely militant in character, and that for some groups includes the adoption of violence to achieve their goals.

[http://www.greenwood.com/psi/book\\_detail.aspx?sku=C9995](http://www.greenwood.com/psi/book_detail.aspx?sku=C9995)

**126. *Ten Years After: Revisiting the Asian Financial Crisis***

Bhumika Muchhala, ed.

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

The year 2007 marked 10 years since the onset of the Asian financial and economic crisis, a critical event in contemporary economic history that had a profound impact on the people, the economies, and the stability of the Asian region. This volume is a report from an event held on May 16, 2007, by the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington DC to re-evaluate the Asian financial crisis. That crisis was not only a financial crisis, but also a human crisis and a crisis of globalization. Decades of economic progress in East and Southeast Asia were jeopardized, as daunting levels of poverty, unemployment, and social inequality beset the most affected countries. Ten years onwards, it is imperative to re-examine the debates on free capital mobility in developing countries, the role of international financial institutions, the structural flaws in domestic banking and financial sectors, and the macroeconomic policy framework that was used to respond to the Asian financial crisis. The publication also addresses fundamental issues such as financial liberalization and impacts on regional economic change.

[http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/pubs/Asia\\_TenYearsAfter\\_rpt.pdf](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/pubs/Asia_TenYearsAfter_rpt.pdf)

**127. *Toward an East Asian Exchange Rate Regime***

Duck-Koo Chung and Barry Eichengreen, eds.

Brookings Institution

East Asian exchange rates have become a global flashpoint. US policymakers blame artificially low Asian currency values for global imbalances, including America's ballooning current account deficit. The solution, they argue, lies in some combination of greater exchange rate flexibility and the appreciation of Asian currencies against the dollar. Asian officials recognize the need to let their exchange rates rise, but they fear that would hamper growth and cut sharply into the value of their dollar reserves.

*Toward an East Asian Exchange Rate Regime* offers a timely and comprehensive analysis of the resulting debates, drawing on expertise from China, Japan, South Korea, and the United States. The introduction reviews the issues at stake, sketches a variety of proposed exchange rate regimes, and discusses comparisons between East Asia and the West. Subsequent chapters

examine the connection between global financial imbalances and East Asian monetary cooperation, China's potential role in regional coordination, the relationship between monetary and trade integration, and different paths toward regional cooperation.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/books/towardaneastasianexchangerateregime.htm>

**128. *Trade Policy and the Role of Regional and Bilateral FTAs: The Case of New Zealand and Singapore***

Rahul Sen, ed.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

The Agreement between New Zealand and Singapore for a Closer Economic Partnership (ANZSCEP) that came into force in January 2001 assumes important significance as it is the first comprehensive bilateral FTA that was signed involving Singapore, and also the first bilateral FTA of an ASEAN member, thus initiating the process of "new regionalism" in Asia. Since ANZSCEP is the only Singapore FTA that has been in force for more than five years now, the time is ripe to study some early effects of the FTAs between Singapore and New Zealand on bilateral economic relations, if any. In this context, the New Zealand High Commission in Singapore hosted a one-day Trade Policy Seminar on May 10, 2007. This book, a collection of three papers presented at that seminar by experts on the subject, provides a deeper understanding about motivations of New Zealand and Singapore to enter into other bilateral FTAs and some of the visible impacts observed since their implementation.

<http://www.selectbooks.com.sg/getTitle.cfm?SBNum=43126>

**129. *Understanding Contemporary Asia Pacific***

Katherine Palmer Kaup, ed.

Lynne Rienner

Covering China, Japan, the Koreas, and all ASEAN member states, *Understanding Contemporary Asia Pacific* provides a comprehensive introduction to one of the most complex and rapidly changing regions in the world today. This accessible, up-to-date volume is designed to be used as a core text for introductory courses on Asia and Asian politics and also as a supplement in a variety of discipline-oriented curricula. The authors cover history, politics, economics, and international relations, as well as such topics as the role of the military, population and urbanization, environmental issues, women and development, ethnicity, and religion.

[http://www.rienner.com/title/Understanding\\_Contemporary\\_Asia\\_Pacific](http://www.rienner.com/title/Understanding_Contemporary_Asia_Pacific)

**130. *The United States and ASEAN-China Relations: All Quiet on the Southeast Asian Front***

Ian Storey

Strategic Studies Institute of the US Army War College

While the overall security situation in Southeast Asia is something of a mixed bag, with grounds for both optimism and pessimism, one of the most encouraging trends in recent years has been the development of ASEAN's relations with major external powers. Relations between China and ASEAN in particular have demonstrated a marked improvement over the past decade, thanks to a combination of burgeoning economic ties, perceptions of China as a more constructive and responsible player in regional politics, and Beijing's "charm offensive" toward Southeast Asia. Overall, the development of ASEAN-China relations poses few security challenges to the United States today: good relations between China and ASEAN enhance regional stability, and a stable Southeast Asia is clearly in America's interests, especially with Washington focused on events in the Middle East. However, although ASEAN-China relations are very positive, this does not necessarily mean the United States is losing influence in Southeast Asia or that ASEAN members are "bandwagoning" with China—in fact, they are

hedging by keeping America engaged and facilitating a continued US military presence. While ASEAN-China relations are relatively benign today, in the future several sources of potential friction could create problems in Sino-US relations: Taiwan, Burma, and the South China Sea dispute. This monograph examines each of these potential flashpoints in turn.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=812>

**131. *US-Japan-ROK Relations for the 21st Century (Issues & Insights Vol. 7, No. 5)***

Brad Glosserman, ed.

Pacific Forum CSIS

The United States, Japan, and the Republic of Korea *should* have a strong trilateral relationship. The three countries are advanced industrial economies whose trade, investment, and commerce are deeply intertwined. They share fundamental values: respect for human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. Tokyo and Seoul have been US allies for more than half a century and all three governments share regional security concerns. The societies themselves have become deeply intermingled. US-Japan trade has reached US\$207 billion annually, and US-ROK trade is now US\$78 billion per year. And yet, tensions between the three countries now seem to prevail over shared interests.

Are the problems in the various bilateral and trilateral relationships really attributable to the short-term policies of each government? Or are there other, more deep-rooted, structural and long-term factors at work? If so, what can be done to remedy them? This report presents the findings of a meeting conducted by the Pacific Forum CSIS, the Institute for Defense Analysis, the Korea Economic Institute, and the Academy of East Asian Studies, which brought together 46 experts and 20 Pacific Forum Young Leaders to explore in detail US-Japan-ROK relations in the 21st century.

**Available online**

[http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/issuesinsights\\_v07n05.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/issuesinsights_v07n05.pdf)

**132. *Water and Energy Futures in an Urbanized Asia: Sustaining the Tiger***

Erik R. Peterson and Rachel Posner, eds.

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

This report addresses the problems of water shortages in Asia, noting that, in spite of Asia's bleak environment picture, there are opportunities for actualizing sustainable development in the region, especially in the fields of technology and governance. The paper also proposes new approaches to environmental governance that can be implemented in China and neighboring developing countries.

**Available online**

[http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/071231\\_petersonwaterenergy-web.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/071231_petersonwaterenergy-web.pdf)



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