

## Summary of the meeting

### The 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD)

1. Thailand hosted the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD) on August 1-2, 2006 at the Imperial Mae Ping Hotel, Chiang Mai. The Opening Ceremony was chaired by H.E. Police General Chidchai Vanasatidya, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice.
2. Thailand as the host country was elected to be the chairman of the 27<sup>th</sup> ASOD Meeting and Vietnam as the next host country was elected to be the vice chairman of the 27<sup>th</sup> ASOD Meeting.
3. At the Meeting, ASEAN Member Countries exchanged and distributed the information on drug seizure, trends of drug trafficking, the situation of treatment and rehabilitation, the alternative development to lessen the problem of narcotics crop cultivation, and the progress of the implementation on narcotics control in each Member Countries.
4. The Meeting was informed of the increasing trend of ketamine abuse and trafficking in the region. The Meeting was also notified about the progress of placing ketamine into the control list under the 1971 United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and ASEAN Member Countries were urged to strengthen their efforts to control ketamine under their legislation.
5. The decisions and recommendations taken during the 26<sup>th</sup> ASOD Meeting held in Singapore last year as well as the Training/Workshop Project Activities were reviewed and followed up at the Meeting as follows:
  - Singapore's Basic Training Course on Investigation in Anti-Drug Money Laundering
  - Singapore's Total Approach to Illicit Drug Control in collaboration with the Australian Federal Police
  - Thailand's ASEAN Training on Narcotics Law Enforcement HRD
6. ASEAN Secretariat reported to the Meeting the progress of relevant ASEAN Mechanisms, for example, the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC); the ASEAN Senior Law Officials (ASLOM); or the ASEAN Chief of National Police Conference (ASEANAPOL).
7. The Meeting reaffirmed its strong determination to pursue a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015.
8. In the Working Group Sessions comprising five working groups: Preventive Education chaired by the Philippines; Treatment and Rehabilitation chaired by Malaysia; Law Enforcement chaired by Thailand; Research chaired by Singapore; and Alternative Development chaired by Thailand, recommendations were made as follows:
  - Urge ASEAN Member Countries to strengthen the efforts on preventive education;
  - Encourage participation from local communities in activities of treatment and rehabilitation;
  - Promote the use of herbs as the alternative for treatment and rehabilitation;
  - Enhance the efficiency of narcotics law enforcement;
  - Promote the information sharing on drug-related researches among ASEAN Member Countries;
  - Extend the cooperation on alternative development to eliminate cannabis cultivation;

- Support capacity-building on alternative development among ASEAN Member Countries through promoting the utilization of the Royal Project foundation and Mae Fah Laung foundation as regional centre of excellence;
- Promote the information sharing on narcotics crop monitoring survey and geographical information system among Member Countries.

9. The Meeting agreed to formulate ASOD Work Plan on Drug Matters which can be built upon the existing cooperation framework under the ASEAN mechanisms relation to drugs, for example, ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime(AMM-TC), ASEAN and China Cooperation in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD).

10. The Meeting was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of cordiality and solidarity. The 28<sup>th</sup> ASOD Meeting will be held in Vietnam in 2007.

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