

Third Regional Consultation on the ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ASEAN People's Forum (ACSC/APF) 2015

Date: 23 – 24 Jan 2015

Venue: Level 15, Menara PKNS, Jalan Yong Shook Lin, Petaling Jaya

Time: 10.30am

Welcome Remarks (Jerald Joseph)

1. The theme for the 2015 APF was decided at the 1st regional consultation “Reclaiming the ASEAN Community for the People”. The focus will be on what ASEAN can be and what it can do for the people.
2. Malaysia is the ASEAN chair in 2015 and will host the 26th ASEAN summit which will be held from 26-27 Apr 2015 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. Malaysia's theme for its chairmanship is “Our People, Our Community, Our Vision.”

ASEAN Communities

3. Crucially, Malaysia is also hosting the 27th ASEAN summit from 19-21 Nov 2015 where the three ASEAN communities will be launched – the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC).
 - The one generating the most excitement is the AEC, which is expected to open up barriers to trade amongst ASEAN member states and eventually lead to an ASEAN single market.
 - The impact however of more liberalised economies on the ASEAN peoples and the benefits and disadvantages it will bring have not been fully discussed and articulated.
4. ASEAN civil society needs to focus not just on getting our voices heard at the 26th ASEAN Summit in April 2015, but also the 27th ASEAN Summit in Nov 2015, when the ASEAN Communities will be launched. We need to ensure that even after the ASEAN People's Forum (APF), we continue our work to ensure that civil society voices are included in governments' discussions.
5. In this regard, a new step has been taken this year – to prepare and finalise the APF statement three months before the forum. This will be one of the main tasks of the 3rd regional consultation. A lot of time during previous APFs have been spent finalising the statement. This time, with the statement finalised prior to the forum, we hope our views can become part of the discussion at the 26th and 27th ASEAN summits.
 - There will be a press conference on 24 Jan 2015 to release the joint statement.
 - On 27-28 Jan 2015, ASEAN foreign ministers are having a retreat in Sabah. We tried to organise a five minute slot to deliver the statement but this has not materialised.
6. Evaluation and follow-up are key. The April 2015 meeting will be the 10th APF. Nine previous statements have been produced from 2005 to 2014. However, there has been a lack of

meaningful engagement from the ASEAN governments on the issues raised.

7. With the statement finalised, this opens up more space for different thematic groups to organise their own events at APF 2015 – be it meetings, dialogues with ministers, forums or events. We also hope that ministers and leaders will be able to join us at the event and dialogue with us for at least an hour or two and take questions from the floor.
 - There will also be opportunities for field trips
 - We will evaluate the merits of the new format after this AFP.
8. We will need to spend time during this consultation deciding on our action plan between now and the forum in April 2015.
9. The APF website has gone live at aseanpeople.org.
10. The APF secretariat has been established and a full-time staff appointed – Mae Tan.
11. The venue is still being finalised and updates will be sent once we have received more information next week.
12. One of the participants from Myanmar Ko Shine was taken in by Malaysian authorities and deported to Myanmar where he was released. He has been informed that he is on a blacklist.

Introduction of participants and ice breaker (ASEAN cheer)

Finalisation of APF Statement 2015

Committee members present: Wathshlah Naidu (Co-Chair, Malaysia), Gia Hartman (Co-Chair, CAMSA), Salai Isaac Khen (Myanmar), Angging Abaw (Philippines), Bui Ba Binh (Vietnam), Shantoy Hades (Indonesia)

13. All ASEAN countries except for Singapore are represented on the drafting committee.
14. It was agreed at the last regional meeting that everyone would go back and get comments on the statement from their national processes. The deadline was 14 Jan 2015 for comments. The drafting committee received many comments on the statement. Our terms of reference are that as long as comments fit into the agreed framework, we are mandated to incorporate all comments.
15. Two decision on terminology were also made at past meetings:
 - On the term **Rohingya** – Some partners were concerned about the usage of this term. The Drafting Committee discussed this issue and also raised it with the Regional Steering Committee. It was decided that we would continue to use the term Rohingya as it is part of self-identity and is also a cross-border regional concern, and not just an issue confined to Myanmar.
 - On the term **sex workers** – Whether it properly addresses the issue of exploitation. The decision was made to retain the use of the term sex workers as it appears in the context of work and labour rights.
16. On reference to **conflicts** – it was decided at the first consultation that the statement should

mention the persecution of Rohingyas. It was also proposed that the statement should mention other forms of conflict and persecution. It was agreed that other groups would be included – Bangsamoro, Patani, Papuan. It was also proposed that reference be made to the **Montagnard Protestants** – there has been some disagreement on this inclusion from Vietnamese groups, and we will need to make a decision on this, with input from the Regional Steering Committee.

17. The framework of the statement has been maintained from past consultations comprising of:
- the preamble;
 - Regional Priorities – Development Justice; Democratic Processes, Governance and Fundamental Rights and Freedoms; Peace and Security; Discrimination and Inequality; and
 - Recommendations – Overarching recommendations and recommendations specific to the continuing regional priorities.

Adoption of APF Statement 2015

18. See **Annex 1** on changes that were proposed to the draft statement and adopted.
19. Participants were given the opportunity to read through the six-page statement. (ACSC/APF 2015_DraftStatement, v4_FINAL23Jan2015)
20. The statement was adopted by acclamation (clapping of hands).

Update on National and Regional Committee Processes

Moderator: Atnike Sigiuro, Forum Asia

Brunei Darussalam – Pengiran Datin Paduka Hajah Mariam, Member of the Regional Steering Committee ACSC/APF 2015

21. Met local civil society organisations on 8 Jan 2015 to brief them on ACSC/APF 2015 to be hosted by Malaysia. During the consultation, the CSO's network was formed, consisting of representatives of CSOs in Brunei Darussalam. We have briefed them on the outcome of the second regional consultation in December 2014 and promoted the event to encourage as many members as possible to attend ACSC/APF 2015. We have advised them to start raising funds to attend APF 2015.
22. CSO representatives who have been elected to represent Brunei Darussalam in the Regional Consultations for ACSC/APF 2015 will be doing networking to promote the event.
23. As Brunei Darussalam was the host of ACSC/APF 2013, we also plan to meet with the CSOs to discuss issues and recommendations concerning Brunei Darussalam raised during ACSC/APD 2013. We also hope to also meet with the relevant government ministries to see what has been implemented and to follow-up on some of the issues raised.

Cambodia – Prok Vanny

24. We have formed a network – the CCWA – Cambodian Civil Society Working Group on ASEAN.

25. We have instituted five activities.
- *Monthly meeting* – to update on situation of the country and provide information on ASEAN.
 - *ASEAN Coffee* – Mostly for youth participants – to update them and help them understand about ASEAN.
 - *Media and communication* – We have developed a Facebook account for ASEAN – it has more than 3,100 members; also a Facebook page (Cambodian Civil Society Working Group on ASEAN – CCWA) – with over 5,000 members.
 - *Meeting government* - Trying to dialogue with government according to themes e.g. Environment NGOs to try and meet Ministry of Environment; Women NGOs with Women's Affairs ministry. We are also negotiating with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to submit our statement to them formally, however have not received the green light from them.
 - *Workshops and networking* - We are also planning a workshop to introduce the CCWA to all NGOs in the country and negotiate with international organisations for contributions. To send information to Cambodia, each thematic group will have a network, e.g. women's groups network, so the best way is to send information through these different networks.

Indonesia – Ms Shanti Heidi

26. We held a forum on 21 Jan 2015 organised by a civil society coalition focusing on ASEAN. There were many NGOs present. They looked at the draft statement and agreed it is ok, nothing controversial. More concerned about follow-up after the statement is released. We have agreed we need to approach the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to follow-up with them on discussions during the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting and to hand in the statement from our national process.
27. We would like to engage researchers from universities or think tanks to evaluate the impact of the ASEAN Communities for Indonesian people and use the research as an advocacy tool.
28. We are most concerned about monitoring and follow-up and building communication. We will be trying to work through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We hope this is done in every ASEAN country.

Laos – Dr Maydom Chanthanasingh

29. We have prepared a document to be sent by email to Laos civil society organisations requesting them to nominate at least one representative to attend APF 2015.
30. We will be trying to raise more funds because it would be good if all Laos CSOs can be represented.
31. We will inform you of the list of participants as soon as we can.
32. We have also started talking about APF 2016 which Laos is hosting, and we are drafting a road map for our government's consideration and official approval. Also seeking financial support from different sponsors, including government.

33. Communication is being done mainly through email. (In response to question, there is no website at present).

Myanmar – Dr May Shi Sho

34. At the last consultation, we updated the group that the Myanmar CSO Working Group on ASEAN (MCSCGA) was formed comprising 17 member organisations.
35. We have nominated a moderator (Dr May Shi Sho) and a co-moderator (U Aung Myo Min) and also an executive secretariat (Gender and Development Initiative – GDI – until end April 2015). The terms of reference of committee members will be drafted and finalised at the next meeting.
36. We have started initiatives for expanding the number of the core group so that there will be representatives from all over Myanmar.
37. We had an extensive discussion on the draft statement, especially on the use of the term Rohingya. It was quite a heated discussion. We finally realised, the issue is not just a Myanmar issue, it is a regional issue, and we need to accept that. Some organisations felt it would be better to use another term for the Rohingya, but we accept that although we are not too comfortable with the usage, it has been accepted by the drafting committee, and we will go forward with that.
38. At the last meeting, we selected Ko Shine Win to be part of the media committee, to take charge of the regional meetings, and for U Nyunt Hlaing to handle the media within Myanmar.

Philippines – Eduardo Tadem

39. Met with 11 organisations from the Philippines which are part of the national process.
40. We discussed the 10-year assessment issued by the follow-up committee (FCAA). It would be helpful if guidelines were drawn up by way of questions for those doing the assessment. There was a study conducted at one of the universities in the Philippines two years ago on CSOs engagement with ASEAN, we will try to access that study. At least it will provide an eight year assessment.
41. We will need to review our processes, after 10 years of engagement, it is time to take stock of history. We will probably arrive at crucial decisions once this 10-year assessment has been made. We have been discussing in the Philippines – whether we continue to engage ASEAN in the way we have been doing, using the same methods, or whether there are other ways to engage. We will be holding focus group discussions in February to go over some of these questions and will invite organisations, individuals, CSO and academic scholars to provide input.
42. We are of the view the FCAA request to report on our government's response to the Burma 2014 statement by APF is perhaps no longer relevant considering we are already in the 2015 process. Perhaps better to concentrate on the response to the 2015 statement. There are many similarities between the two documents in terms of their recommendations.

43. The Philippines member of the high level task force to discuss ASEAN integration has been appointed – Adrian Cristobal – who is a trade undersecretary of the Philippines government. We know him personally, and we hope to have a meeting with him.

Singapore – Soe Min Than

44. A consultation was held on 19 Dec 2014 with civil society groups and individuals after the 2nd Regional Consultation. Encouraged them to input into the FCAA portion. Will follow up on that.
45. Another meeting planned in March to rally more participation. No strong interest at the moment. Will try to engage other communities e.g. artist communities. Will try to promote website now that it is up.

Thailand – Wanun

46. National consultation held in Dec 2014. Draft statement translated into Thai along with draft programme so members could provide comments.
47. Planning a workshop on ASEAN together with a university.

Vietnam, Dong Huy Cuong

48. Dong referred to the mention of Vietnam having two national processes and informed participants that Vietnam has only one national process. They have been working since 2010 with APF and have circulated the information on it widely. It is an open and democratic space for civil society.
49. Draft statement was circulated to Vietnamese civil society organisations for their comments.
50. National consultation meeting held on 9 Jan 2015 – statement was discussed as well as FCAA assessment.
51. Four working groups have been established in accordance with the four issues raised in the APF statement.
52. The programme committee just issued a tentative programme, we have provided our input, and our representative also joined the programme committee meeting via Skype.

Vietnam, Nhung – Con Dau Parishioners Association

53. Nhung read out a statement (see **Annex 2**) by Con Dau Parishioners Association and four other organisations to introduce themselves to the group and also state that they have not received any information from the Vietnamese delegation. They received information through the organisation Boat People SOS (BPSOS).
54. The organisations represented request that they be given a chance to participate in the APF either directly or through Skype.

55. They also expressed the view that the national delegation does not represent civil society and is made up of government-organised organisations (GONGOs) to suppress genuine CSOs and infiltrate ASEAN's community of CSOs.
56. Comments to the drafting committee signed by 19 civil society organisations have been submitted for inclusion into the draft statement.

Response from Pham Van Chung, Vietnam

57. Pham rejected the assertions. Information has been circulated freely through email and requests have been made that it be circulated widely to other contacts. A mailing list has been set up, comments and responses to the statement have been received. Still open for others to join.
58. Their organisations (VPDF and VUFO) have long histories and VPDF has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Continued their work since the anti-French then anti-American struggles.
59. Challenged the account of some Vietnamese individuals whom they say were tutored by Americans to be critical of the government.
60. Atnike (moderator) – Any disputes at the national level can be brought to the Regional Steering Committee and hopefully we will be able to find a resolution. We want to be able to have different positions included in the process.
61. Jerald (NOC) – The letter from the Vietnam civil society organisations was discussed at the RSC level and we agreed the spirit of the APF must be free and open. We do not necessarily need to agree but we must be open and have consultative dialogue and participation. Both sides can have their voice and their say, as has been done today. We do not intend to interfere in a national process, we are providing the space for people to provide information, not just for Vietnam, other groups have also made comments to us. We will try and provide country-specific information on the aseanpeople.org website.

Report of Regional Committees

Programme Committee (Maria Chin Abullah)

62. The draft programme has been finalised and sent out by email for comments. (See attached – **Annex 3**)
63. We are also open to receive proposals for thematic workshops. We still need to confirm the venue before we can finalise the number of workshops. We will aim for 20 concurrent workshops.
64. The aim of the thematic workshops will focus on three areas:
 - To strengthen regional solidarity and partnership among grassroots, national and regional civil society organisations and movements;
 - To evaluate ASEAN after 10 years and to move forward towards a more people-centred ASEAN;

- To advocate for greater participation and engagement between civil society and ASEAN leadership so as to strengthen peoples' strategies and actions.
65. Final deadline for submission of workshop proposals – **10 Mar 2015**. Finalisation of workshop proposals **23 Mar 2015**. The workshops should focus on the four key themes as per the statement - Developmental Justice, Democratic Process, Non-discrimination and Equality, and Peace and security.
 66. Some comments on the draft programme – for Day 1 (22 Apr 2015) – which is meant for exposure field trips, we will be making contact with groups and it will then be up to whichever group that wants to organise the trip to liaise directly with the groups they want to visit. The cost is also the responsibility of the organisers. We will not include Sabah and Sarawak as it is too far to visit in one day, unless the trip is done two to three days beforehand.
 67. With regards the proposed rally, there was a suggestion that APF should start with a rally. For organisation and security issues, it has been agreed that the rally should be moved to the last day (Day 4 – 25 Apr 2015).
 68. The rally will take place after lunch. Depending on the venue, the plan is to walk to a space/field and to have the closing ceremony there. There will be no closing dinner after the rally. Participants can disperse from there.
 69. There is also a plan to hold concurrent events other than the thematic workshops e.g. installation, game, street drama – there will also be a call for proposals for these events, once the venue is finalised.
 70. We will be trying to arrange a session during the programme where we have a dialogue with the ASEAN parliamentary caucus on human rights, perhaps on Day 2 (23 Apr 2015), prior to the opening panel. We will also try to hold a dialogue with the ASEAN secretary-general.
 71. The finalised programme will be updated and sent to everyone by next week (31 Jan 2015).
 72. Still open for suggestions for speakers for panel on day 3 (Evaluating ASEAN) and Day 4 (ASEAN Economic Community). Will send out a final email to remind people to submit suggestions.
 - Daw Seng Raw, Adviser for Metta Development Foundation proposed by May Shi Sho, Myanmar for panel on evaluating ASEAN.
 73. Fees for workshop and side events has been agreed at USD200.
 74. Workshops should take into account gender balance and geographic and organisational balance. They should also be creative and interactive. There are many cross-cutting and overlapping issues, so it is up to thematic groups to organise what workshops they want to conduct. They can combine and hold joint workshops.
 - **Equipment** provided – LCD projectors, power plugs, screen, whiteboards, two microphones, and tables and chairs. Additional equipment will be at the expense of organisers.

75. We will also ensure that there is strong internet connection so that participants can update social media as they attend workshops.
76. Question on thematic group workshops agreed at last regional consultation – are those still going ahead? (Gurmit). Maria: Yes, and still need to register in writing. About 14 topics put forward at last consultation.
77. Suggestion for every workshop to appoint someone to live-tweet. (Jac Kee)

Media Committee (Yu Ren Chung, Pang Khee Teik)

78. Media plan consists of three parts:
 - **Publicity of APF statement**– will hold a press conference on 24 Jan 2015 and release the statement. Website is now up – aseanpeople.org. The statement will go up on the website. Twitter account set up @AseanPF. And Facebook page – Asean-People's-Forum
 - **Buzz campaign** – Generate hype about the APF. Producing op-eds, writing letters to editors, interviews. Also producing a short video.
 - **Thematic writing** – produce material focusing on the four different themes. E.g. popular articles between 600 – 1,000 words. **Volunteers:** Development justice– Reileen (APWLD), Sanyu (IWRRAW), Jana (PAN-AP), Sandhi (OPPUK). Democratic processes, governance and fundamental rights and freedoms (Phil Robertson, Maria, Jo-Ann). Peace and Security (Ed Tadem, Prok Vanny, Isaac (Myanmar). Discrimination and inequality (Sanyu, Jerald, Tesh)
 - **At the conference** – To have a media centre – a place where people can go for all their media needs. Media also can go there for information about the programme, people to talk to. Can organise press conferences there. Materials from workshops can be put there for the media to access.
79. Discussion on press conferences during the event – decision to have one press conference, and offer space for anyone else to brief the press during the event. Perhaps when submit proposal for workshop – to have a section for organisers to indicate whether they want to be part of the press conference.
80. Will also invite journalists/young writers to attend the event and conduct write-ups.
81. Plenaries will be webcast live. Workshops can be recorded via video or live tweets.
82. Suggestion for interactive banners and links to be provided to include in emails/websites to publicise aseanpeople.org website.
83. Will also decide on whether journalists will have full access to the conference.

Media committee announcement – Pang Khee Teik, Malaysia

84. The media committee will be preparing short videos to promote APF and will be interviewing

participants to include in the promotional videos on what is ASEAN to you and what you hope for ASEAN.

85. Please also send your regional contact list to the media committee.

Thematic Group Discussion

86. The day ended with participants breaking up into thematic groups to discuss plans for workshops or events.

Day 2 – see next page

DAY 2 – 24 Jan 2015

NOC Updates – Jerald

87. Will be holding more workshops for NGOs that have been out of the loop. Statement will be translated and circulated.
88. Will continue engaging with foreign affairs ministry, trade ministry and tourism ministry. Will also be asking for contribution to budget for welcome dinner.
89. Meeting with Malaysia's AICHR representative who is chair this year on 17 Feb.
90. Also going to have a meeting with Malaysia's representative to the high level task force – Datuk Su Kim Bee.
91. Will try and confirm venue by next week.

Updates on Regional Steering Committee – Jerald

92. Agreed that must also focus on second summit in November (19-21) when ASEAN communities will be launched. Plan to hold two workshops after APF, linked to the second summit.
93. Discussion on post-2015 community vision and what ASEAN's direction will be.
94. Have also discussed the proposed rally – Yap to give briefing about security issues. We will do the necessary – meet police, give notification, gauge risks. We will be transparent about it, the walk will be publicised.
95. Waiting for update on whether the foreign minister will accept the statement and distribute to other ASEAN foreign ministers.

Finance update – Yap Swee Seng

96. Proposal for ASCS/APF 2015 has been prepared and circulated. It has been submitted to donors. It lists out important information on the event. Please use this in lobbying for funding.
97. The budget goes beyond APF 2015 – it also budgets for follow-up on statement and advocacy after APF 2015. Work should continue right up to the 27th Summit from 19-21 Nov 2015.
98. We are now fundraising for items 4 to 8, totaling USD498,000. Travel for ASEAN country participants (250 pax) is to be raised by national or regional NGOs – this includes air/bus ticket and accommodation, as well as the registration fee. Please use the amounts here when writing to donors. Other than that, the rest will be raised by the NOC – USD350,000.
99. Query on why workshop organisers have to contribute USD 200 to hold a workshop (Gurmit). Response from Yap – to provide for the venue, and also support for other purposes such as printing and publicity. Can co-organise workshops to share the cost.

100. Query on whether people who have not registered for the conference can attend workshops? (Gurmit) Response from Jerald – best for all attending to register for security purposes as well.
101. Each national process to inform Yap of who is the fund-raising representative.
102. Had a meeting with donors on 21 Jan 2015. SIDA, USAid, Australian embassy, UNDP, OSF, Norwegian embassy present. Presented proposal, response seems positive, will follow-up. There are also other donors that didn't attend and we will send the proposal to them.

Panel Discussion on Youth; Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change; Racial and Religious Intolerance; Territorial Disputes and Security – See Annex 5

Summary of past 9 years of ACSC/APF – Yap Swee Seng

103. Ten statements submitted to ASEAN in the past nine years. Shortest was two pages (Singapore 2007) and longest 18 pages (Jakarta – 2011). Average about 7-8 pages.
104. Plan to take stock of recommendations that have been made. Will help in formulating post-2015 community vision from civil society.
105. A summary of all recommendations have been made. We need to improve these documents further. Proposal to create a matrix and divide according to three pillars of ASEAN – Economic, Political-Security and Social-Cultural. Can add a fourth pillar on general recommendations on ASEAN. Can see which have been implemented, which not, which are in the process. We need a substantive assessment on the quality of implementation as well. E.g. we demanded a regional human rights commission – ASEAN has set up AICHR, but the quality of the implementation is a different matter.
106. To set up a team to develop this matrix. Suggestion to involve drafting team now that their work has been completed.

Planning for next three months – Jerald

107. Will create a matrix with the plans for the next three months.
108. Discussion on different national processes and regional plans for the next three months – see Action Plan APF 2015 – **Annex 6**.

Issues to finalise for APF – Ed Tadem

109. Possible venue – Wisma MCA. Near KL Convention Centre, good transport links, next to Ampang Park LRT station. MCA president can make a speech at the opening dinner. Dates may need to move APF one day earlier so that we can use the building.

Security

110. Update on security for the walk – for foreigners, according to the Peaceful Assembly Act, there is no right for them to protest. So there is the possibility of deportation – an Australian environmentalist was deported for joining a protest against a rare earth plant. Depends on

the issue – protests on the Palestine issue have proceeded smoothly with police cooperation.

- Will request for assistance from the Bar Council for urgent arrest team and a monitoring team.
- Also a possibility of outsiders barging in on events if they deal with sensitive issues.
- Everyone should be registered to participate, even if just attending workshop. In a Malaysian context, this makes it a private meeting. Everyone needs to put on name tags.

111. If there are any security issues with any particular participants, national processes to provide list to NOC.

112. Suggestion – to have a traffic light system on name tags – Red: no photos; orange: ask first; green: go ahead. (Jac Kee)

113. Also, when using a shared wifi space, there are some precautions that need to be taken. Do a digital security risk assessment as part of the security risk assessment. If there are communities that are more at risk, may need to plan around that, and have a short workshop to have training on digital security before the event. (Jac Kee)

114. Also important to have a clear sexual harassment policy. To draw up and put in folder to set out the kind of space we want to have.

115. Discussion on how safe is it for LGBTIQ to participate in the event and hold workshops.

- Jac Kee – We've held events, organised as private events, it's usually fairly safe. It's a bigger issue if linked to religion so may be a wise strategy not to heavily publicise aspects that touch on that. Advisable anyway to have an advance plan in case of anyone being targeted, or if anyone is especially at risk. Should be fine to organise issues and workshops to talk about these issues from a rights framework.
- Seksualiti Merdeka rep: How the event is promoted is important.
- Pang – concerns about security because of what has occurred in other ASEAN countries – meetings broken up by violent groups for instance. There might be some backlash here, so should look at security measures that can be put in place.

Registration

116. While encouraging participants to register early, should also leave it flexible in case some participants cannot get their funding early enough (Simitha).

117. For Myanmar refugees in Malaysia, they have asked whether they need to have an umbrella organisation to register – Response: No. They will be submitting their registrations collectively in hard copy. (Isaac) Jerald: The website has an offline form to download, fill up and send in. NGOs can also help to print the form and distribute to those without internet connection.

118. Discussion raised by Sanyu on whether AYF participants need to pay for APF. Response after input from Shantoy – AYF participants usually don't pay to attend AYF. They will collect the AYF delegates' registrations to APF and submit together, along with payment, so that they don't have to register twice for AYF and APF.

Medical

119. Need medical team on standby. Provided free for minor ailments. (Simitha)

Fourth regional consultation

120. Jerald - Will be held just after GMM Conference (10-12 Mar 2015). So the dates will be **13-14 Mar 2015**. Venue will be confirmed and emailed out. Funding – participants have to fund own transport and hotel. Will try and obtain budget for Regional Steering Committee to be here the day before. For the next APF, important to think of funding support for committee members to meet a day before to plan.

Press Conference on APF 2015 statement

121. Introductory remarks by Jerald Joseph on background to statement and drafting process. Hope that it will be part of ASEAN foreign ministers' discussions as well as 26th ASEAN Summit in April 2015. Hoping to hand over to foreign ministers who are meeting in Sabah. All 10 ASEAN countries represented in the process and at the press conference.
122. Statement will be a living document for us to speak to our governments and ASEAN agencies.
123. Wathshlah (Chair of drafting committee) went through the process of consultation – an inclusive process. Elaborated on four key themes.
124. Preamble and conclusion read out to the press.
125. Civil society would like to see a meaningful response to the statement. The ASEAN Communities will be launched in Nov 2015 and this is something new for the whole of ASEAN. We need to see whether it will make things better or worse for the more than 650 million ASEAN people.
126. APF will have about 1,000 – 1,200 people. Ten + 1 countries (10 ASEAN countries + Timor Leste). More than 1,000 groups in ASEAN involved.

Prepared by: Ding Jo-Ann
28 Jan 2015

/Ends