

1st Regional Consultation & Meeting, 24-25 September 2014

Day 1: Wednesday, September 24, 2014

Opening /Introduction

1. Welcome speech by Yap Swee Seng.¹
 - a. Yap Swee Seng provided a background on ASEAN summit.
 - b. This meeting is an early preparation for the ASEAN summit that will be hosted by the Malaysian government next year, 6 to 7 months from the present meeting.
 - c. The significance of the ASEAN People's Forum (APF) next year are as follows:
 - i. It will be APF's 10th year anniversary – thus, it is timely for all to take stock of what has happened in the past 10 years, how to collaborate (coordinate/work together) among organisations in ASEAN and evaluate how to collaborate more effectively
 - ii. Launch of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)
2. Jerald Joseph did a “wake-up” session – with a game called “Asean clap clap clap”.
3. Introduction by participants.
4. A run through of the event's agenda and documents that were handed out.

Session 1: From APF Myanmar 2014 to APF Malaysia 2015. Sharing of experiences and handing over and Follow Up Mechanism for ACSC/APF

Moderator: Atnike Sigiro

Speakers: Shine and Thin NweSoe

1. Shine and Thin NweSoe sharing the experience of APF2014.
 - a. Formed NOC last year and they had Myanmar people's forum before the APF.
 - b. Shared experience in coordinating the APF in Myanmar last year and the actual event this year.
 - c. Thin NweSoe announced that they brought books and DVDs for distribution.
2. Comments:
 - b. Corinna Lopa added that compared to Brunei, Myanmar was a bigger challenge. In the interface process it was important to adhere to a set of principles and the organising committee stuck to 4 basic principles:-
 - i. Self-selection instead of being named by the government
 - ii. Meaningful dialogues
 - iii. Mutual respect
 - iv. Advancing people's voice and advocacy
 - c. There were threats directed to the national leaders to not speak about certain issues, for example: disappearances, the Rohingyas, etc.
 - d. Joel Mark Baysa-Barredo suggested that from now until the actual APF we should be working towards statements that we want to make instead of waiting until the APF

¹ The notes list the names of participants. To view the organisation they represent, please refer to the participants' list.

issues a statement. Engagement from now on is necessary and the messaging needs to be consistent.

- e. Corinna Lopa spoke on the follow-up mechanism for ACSC/APF. After the APF, people forgot about conducting follow-ups. Follow-ups and monitoring need to be done and they were brought up in plenary discussions in Cambodia and Brunei. However, there has been no solution until Myanmar this year. (Refer to Corinna's PowerPoint slides.)
- f. Ellene Sana commented on the disconnect between regional groups and national groups. She suggested for a more consistent sharing of updates to ensure more efficient follow-up of issues.
- g. Joel Mark Baysa-Barredo brought up the sustainability of people committing to the work and how ASEAN officials prefer to continue engaging with people that they already know. Presently there is a rotation in the steering committee.
- h. Corinna Lopa commented that we need to stand firm and tell governments that we have our own process and such is the nature of civil societies.

Session 2: Proposal of way forward for ACSC/APF 2015 & Session 3: Thematic Discussion 1: Diplomatic engagement strategies for CSOs

Speaker: Jerald Joseph

Moderator: Wathshlah Naidu

1. Wathshlah Naidu stated that the proposal is a way forward for ACSC/APF 2015.
2. Jerald Joseph presented a two-page document on the ASEAN Civil Society 2015, with regards to ACSC/APF NOC on guiding principles and engagement modality (refer to attached document). A few things that were discussed were:-
 - a. Very little resources are available to work on ASEAN. It is possible that not many national organisations pay attention to ASEAN because they are disillusioned with the ASEAN process. Therefore, the 10-year review proposal was put forth.
 - b. How to get the community involved in the process and the event in itself.
 - c. APF should be modelled on substantive engagement with the government. A two-hour meeting between APF Thailand and the foreign minister of Thailand was constantly used as a reference. Symbolic engagement should be minimized. APF should be a place where foreign ministers or other government officials can engage with the people of ASEAN.
 - d. During every APF there is a dispute about the final document, yet the result is a 'short' document 20 pages long. If there has been no progress and the same issues and concerns are continuously sent out, then in order to get our issues and statements included in the summit we should get them out earlier. It is proposed to get the statement out by December 2014. The space will remain as a space for each specific issue to be brought forward. Question: can all agree for the first time to concentrate on three main issues and put them forth?
 - e. There needs to be thought on how the process of interface naming should start and agree upon it before the end of this consultation.
3. Questions/Comments:

- a. Q: What were the statements made before?
A: A long-term list was brought up during the plenary discussions and churned as statements and passed to head of states. Statements were not passed to governments for them to add to their agenda during the summit.
 - b. Corinna Lopa explained the process of ASEAN engagement.
 - c. Jerald Joseph stated that in 2015 the focus should be on the failures of previous engagements and how best to move forward. Issues are still there and likely to have remained the same. They will be brought up separately as they have been on the table for the past 10 years.
 - d. Q: Is there a space for CSO to speak during the summit?
A: Depending on the host country, a nominated representative from a country's CSO will be invited to speak for a few minutes but this is more symbolic than substantive.
 - e. Q: What tools are going to be used to say that ASEAN has failed us?
A: Suggested for all to look at the economic and political blueprint, and use it to tell governments how they have failed us.
 - f. Q: Can we get the government to respond based on the statements that have been sent?
A: How to proceed with this will be discussed within the next 2 days consultation.
 - g. Q: How do we get the people to sign on to the statement that is proposed to be ready by December?
A: There should be time to get this done as opposed to previously when statements were done during the summit itself.
 - h. Q: How do we agree to choose three hot issues to be presented?
A: It is a good idea but very difficult to do.
 - i. Jerald Joseph commented that it is possible if we can think out and beyond respective constituencies. Bear in mind that other issues will NOT lose out but rationally to agree on the three issues that we can gain traction on.
5. Jerald asked participants what they thought APF was all about. Whether it was about going to the summit to present a statement once a year and later forget about it once attendees return to their respective nations and go back to their own work; or was it advocacy that starts and gets worked on at the national level?
- a. Effective regular engagement points in country
 - b. Face to face engagement strategies
 - c. Seeking best practices within each country of advocacy that has worked
 - d. Regional engagement.
6. Reflections:
- a. How many of us do community awareness on ASEAN?
 - b. How many of us has met or tried to meet with ASEAN country representatives in our respective countries?
 - c. How many of us are working on the issues that we brought up on the national level itself?
 - d. How many of us work with the regional network to table the issues that we have?
 - e. Do we want to continue having the APF back-to-back with the summit or do we want to do it at another time and claim the space for ourselves?
 - f. How often do we talk to each other by preaching to the choir as opposed to really reaching out?

7. Corinna Lopa comments that she has been attending all the APFs and her feedback is that normally people start disappearing and it is an indication of how tired people are of bringing up the same issues again and again. It is proposed that instead of having a statement, there should be a summary of the past 10 statements.
8. Joel Mark Baysa-Barredo proposed to have a scorecard to submit to leaders of ASEAN instead of a statement.
9. Corinna Lopa suggested to guard against gate-keeping i.e. inclusivity of community/grassroots.
10. For the 2016 APF in Laos there needs to be thought on what if APF does not happen in Laos in 2016? The practice is that on the last day of the APF, there is a hand over to the following year's host. The national Laos leader who organized the APF this year has disappeared and there's no knowledge of what happened to him and his disappearance has made other activists in Laos feel jittery and unsure of their safety.
11. Jerald Joseph commented that it is a good time to reflect whether this is just a Laos issue or an ASEAN issue?
12. Pick up issues that will cut across all ASEAN countries as the three hot issues.
13. ASEAN non-interference is somewhat a barrier.
14. Maria Chin proposed to push forth some sort of mechanism to monitor human rights violations within ASEAN (like a tribunal or human rights court) in line with unity and solidarity among ASEAN countries.
15. As ASEAN is pushing for economic integration (AEC – ASEAN Economic Community), there must be effort to ensure nobody is left out especially the working class.
16. 'We (the people), them (the gov)' concept was discussed and is unclear. Discussion will continue throughout the consultation. There is a need to challenge the way the government is 'engaging' us. The democratic space is shrinking. The collusion of ASEAN governments needs to be looked into.
17. Reflection on the inclusivity of all issues versus effectiveness of bringing up agreed top three issues. Whether to create our own space or limit ourselves by fitting into available space. How to break out of the box – instead of workshops, consultations, etc – and just among us, how to be louder and more inclusive of the man on the street.
18. Jay Jay Denis suggests picking overarching issues to position the top 3 issues. For example: inequality (this will cut across economic, education, political etc.)
19. Model of engagement with government cannot be by 'luck'.

Session 4: Thematic Discussion 2: AEC: CSO preparation for ASEAN Economic Community

Speakers: Sanyu Awori and Reileen Dulay, SEA Women's Caucus on ASEAN

Charles Santiago, Monitoring Sustainability of Globalisation

Moderator: Joey Dimaandal

1. Joey Dimaandal noted the general concern among civil society of the ASEAN Economic Community.
2. Sanyu Awori and Reileen Dulay presented an overview of the AEC and the development justice model. Refer to the presentation for the details. Additional points which may not be reflected in the presentation:
 - a. AEC does not mention gender or women's rights.

- b. While there is a focus on skilled labour, the AEC does not cover rights for the informal sector.
 - c. Impact of AEC could include involuntary resettlement.
 - d. CSR is touted as a response, but is that enough? It is voluntary, and achieving social justice is not the aim.
3. Charles Santiago provided an overview of ASEAN economic integration (within region), and free trade agreements between ASEAN and other countries/regions (between regions).

Within region:

- a. AEC has been fast tracked to commence at the end of 2015.
- b. AEC is the most advance of the three ASEAN pillars. The ASEAN Secretariat has an entire unit on the AEC
- c. Three elements of AEC are:
 - ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, which is 95% realised.
 - ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services.
 - ASEAN Investment Agreement, which gives rights to ASEAN corporations to sue ASEAN governments.
- d. The AEC is governments led and business centric. Businessmen don't know about the ASEAN economic integration process. Entities like the US-ASEAN chamber of commerce are promoting AEC. There are linkage between ASEAN ministers and foreign businesses.
- e. ASEAN will become integrated production base, in order to achieve the "3Cs":
 - Competition. Government thinks we need to be more competitive with other regions.
 - Convergence. Harmonisation of rules across the region, including similar tariff, rules, regulations, and customs policy.
 - A new Constitution.
- f. At a recent meeting in Bali. A World Bank representative noted that Cambodia had met the highest number of requirements under the ASEAN economic integration. Yet Cambodia is still poor.
- g. There is no social dimension to the AEC.

Between regions:

- h. Chances are high that the TPPA will be concluded early in 2015.
- i. TPPA is binding and far-reaching. It will supersede the ASEAN integration process which is not binding.
- j. The most dangerous chapter of TPPA is the investment chapter. It's not about bringing investment to countries – it's about giving corporations rights. The investor-state dispute section gives corporation rights to discipline governments by bringing them to international tribunal. For example:
 - Uruguay wanted to introduce plain packaging for cigarettes in the interest of their people. Philip Morris brought Uruguay to an international tribunal.
 - Supreme Court of Australia said Australia could introduce plain packaging. But Philip Morris used another law, and the case is now pending. Charles says he asked the government in Parliament if Malaysia plans to introduce plain packaging. The government said we are waiting for the Australia decision. This is "regulatory chill".

- Indonesia is being sued USD 2 billion by Churchill Mining. French company Veolia is suing Egypt for introducing a minimum wages, in the World Bank arbitration court (ICSID).
- k. TPPA is not just about trade. We need trade, but it needs to be fair. This is about control about our sovereignty.
 - l. The agreement can be enforced in any part of the world. A German company was given an award against Thailand, and tried to detain a Thai plane in Germany to compensate for the award.
4. Questions/comments:
- a. Cynthia Gabriel: What about taxation, illicit outflow of funds? Who are the tax evaders? Is there an ASEAN institution that monitors this?
Charles: This includes transfer prices, illicit money, and bribes. Transfer prices is the biggest. This is where companies under-report cost of production so that they can pay less. There are groups working on tax justice in the Philippines and Indonesia.
 - b. Ellene Sana: Are people aware about this and what are their thoughts about this?
Charles: Yes the government is aware and are agreeable because they are stupid. Ministry of Trade says we need it to get investment. Other governments also think so. Trade agreements in the 50s and 60s had similar provisions, but corporations never used it. There have been 568 cases in the last 5 years. Arbitrators are for-profit and courts don't follow precedent. Another issue: intellectual property term extended from 20 years to 60 years.
Sanyu: human rights law is formed around state accountability. There is some progress – guiding principles on business and human rights have been created. But CSO needs to figure out how to position ourselves.
 - c. Ricardo Reyes: I'm concerned with two things: tax privileges and tax evasion; and tax havens.
 - d. Marjorie Pamintuan: we need to call for corporate accountability not just at the national level, but also at the multi-lateral level.
 - e. Jerald Joseph: Will this benefit consumers through lower prices? Will standardisation of labour standards possibly increase labour standards?
Sanyu Awori: we should ask whether the cheaper products come at the expense of poor standards.
Charles Santiago: It is true taxes and tariffs will come down, and government subsidies will go up. But equality is worsening: gini coefficient and wage distribution. Breast cancer treatment RM136,000 cost to treat breast cancer. Longer periods for intellectual property will also raise prices. In the TPPA, the US requires all partner to sign ILO standards, but the key is implementation.
 - f. Gia Hartman: Could the TIP process be used as model for engagement.
Charles: I was in Laos and talked to government officials and AICHR representative, who used the consensus principle to justify ignoring rights.
 - g. Marina Christina: We organised a conference to review the ASEAN community blueprints with a dimension of labour. We gathered affiliates opinions and eventually produced a report. The big problem is AEC doesn't have a labour dimension other than skilled labour. We should also think about post-2015 goals.
Sanyu Awori: CSO was not consulted that's why there is no social dimension. There must be an institutionalised engagement process.

Session 5: Strategic mapping of current cross cutting issues in ASEAN

Moderator: Jerald Joseph

1. Each participant was given three pieces of paper.
2. Participants were paired up. Each pair was asked to jointly come up with three top cross cutting issues in ASEAN.
3. After each pair had agreed on three issues, each pair was then asked to join another pair. Each new group of four people were then asked to agree on three issues.
4. After each group of four had agreed on three issues, each group was asked to join with another group. Each new group of eight people were then asked to agree on three issues.
5. Each group was then asked to share their three issues with the rest of the participants. The issues were then organised into the following clusters:
 - a. Cluster A
 - i. "Forced and irregular migration"
 - ii. "Stateless: Rohingya, migrant, refugee"
 - b. Cluster B
 - i. "Trade and economic policy: livelihoods, social protection, enforcement, and not corporate interests"
 - ii. "Socio/economic /gender justice, TPPA"
 - iii. "Corporate accountability"
 - iv. "Development justice"
 - c. Cluster C
 - i. "Climate change"
 - d. Cluster D
 - i. "Good governance"
 - ii. "Right to information"
 - iii. "Government accountability and transparency"
 - iv. "Democratisation (transparency, accountability and participation): D + Governance; protection of human rights defenders"
 - e. Cluster E
 - i. "No to the non-interference principle"
 - f. Cluster F
 - i. "Democratic processes – monitoring, accountability, and enforcement mechanisms"
 - ii. "Freedom of expression"
 - iii. "Democracy and civil society participation"
 - iv. "Review of consensus building"
 - v. "Space for human rights protection children"
 - vi. "Democratic space: HRD (race/religion, SOGI), expression, association, assembly"
 - g. Cluster G
 - i. "Non-discrimination"
 - ii. "Protection of the marginalised (ie IPs, migrants, etc)"
 - iii. "Non-discrimination (all inequalities, women and children, religion stateless, refugee, migrants)"
6. One group of eight people proposed an overall theme of "ASEAN community for the people".

7. One group noted to integrate women's and children's rights across all the themes.

Day 2: Thursday, September 25, 2014

Session 6: Theme, Objectives, Principles and Programme of APF 2015

Speaker: Jerald Joseph

Moderator: Maria Chin Abdullah

Theme of APF

1. Several themes were floated for discussion:
 - a. Towards an ASEAN community for the people (2)
 - b. Accelerating a people-centred region
 - c. A people centred ASEAN
 - d. Accelerating a people centred ASEAN
 - e. ASEAN people before profit
 - f. Securing an ASEAN community for the people
 - g. ASEAN for all, moving forward together 2
 - h. Reclaiming the ASEAN community for the people 7
 - i. Reclaiming the ASEAN for the people 1
 - j. Integrating the peoples agenda ASEAN 1
2. **The most popular theme was: "Reclaiming the ASEAN Community for the People".**
3. Questions/Comments
 - a. Q: Why is the word reclaiming used – is it to show anger to government?
A: The word reclaiming is used because the concept of the ASEAN community is developed by the government but it does not serve the interest of the people, thus the concept is being reclaimed to represent the interest of the people. The word reclaiming is not about anger but about putting the concept back on track.
 - b. Q: How will the government perceive this?
A: It's a common word and an explanation can be done by sending a letter etc. The concept is common to why the government has failed. Because the government has failed, it should be reclaimed.
A2: The word is reclaiming is not for what is lost. The rights are for the people, but the government is denying it. A bigger word like 'demand' is not being used.
 - c. Submission of the statement will be done in January and they will have four months to respond to the word reclaim.
 - d. Q: Who is being referred to when the word 'community' is used? Is it referring to the ASEAN Economic Community or to the people? The ASEAN Economic Community will make people a bit more confused about what is being talked about.
A: One of the challenges is that people do not know what ASEAN is. It must be understood that the year 2015 is not just for the ASEAN Economic Community but also the three pillars. This is communicated to the state. There is a perceived idea that the ASEAN community is already there – we are reshaping the conversation.
 - e. A suggestion was made to add more explanation to theme 8 to include a paragraph that explains what this means.

Programme of APF

4. Formerly a statement will be made in January and sent to foreign ministers.
5. **While there will be no single APF statement discussed and released during the APF, media space will still be available for thematic groups.**
6. **APF likely to be end April/early May. According to the Foreign Ministry of Malaysia, this is when the ASEAN Summit will probably be held.**
7. Q: Workshops have been done a thousand times, is there a different medium that can be utilised? What if media art and different ways to communicate were used?
 - a. A: If a public space can be obtained, there can be an installation of human rights issues.
8. **Programme: Instead of just a focus on workshops, there could be other activities like performances and protests. E.g. a public installation of human rights defenders. There could a rally in the city centre.**
9. Q: How will the APF look in terms of your issues?
 - a. A: This APF is a space where the ASEAN people can come together. Is this something that we want to reaffirm? It is hoped that this can be officially put into the program. With regards to meeting communities, Paul Sinappan's group from Kuala Selangor can be a host for a program for one day. All this is cost related – it will be listed down and this will be done by the different thematic groups in the NOC.
10. Tun Abdullah Badawi will be invited to explain what the original idea was. If the Malaysian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister will be there, it sets a new benchmark.
11. Q: What about Tun Musa Hitam? How will this be integrated into the items discussed yesterday?
 - a. A: We will need to look at how to push these issues in the APF. We have not closed a thematic group. Everyone will want their own space. We will take it as a suggestion to take this into focus areas.
12. Q: FCAA – the submission of proposal?
 - a. A: The follow-up committee can be one of the panellists.
13. Q: Why are we not engaging the former ASEAN Secretary General? We should think about Ong Keng Yong and Tun Musa Hitam. We should not just invite people for what they stood for but what they did as well.
 - a. A: Priority should be for people in position now. People who have created opportunities are considered second tier.
14. Q: How are we going about the objectives for 2015 – are we leaving it with Program Committee?
 - a. A: The objectives are the subthemes in the program. Unless you are saying that the objectives are what we want to achieve. The messages and the demand are there. Detailing it is clear. We can work on our measure for success in the next section. We will draw an action with an evaluation timeline.
15. Support was given to the idea of Day 1 because it is a nice departure from the previous APF/ACSC.
16. Q: As much as the activity would be concentrated in Malaysia, maybe different groups can organise things in their respective countries. It is something that happens as part of the socialisation of the APFs.
 - a. A: This will be included in the timeline.

17. Suggestion: something can be started collectively, such as a thunder clap or something that can become a tradition.
18. Q: Will there be a platform where representatives from each country can speak to the different CSOs?
 - a. A: Can the foreign ministry send someone who is in charge to sit and have a dialogue? Hopefully they will not be scared to speak.
 - b. It was agreed that the onus is on the people to organise the sessions, it is open and organic. No coming together needed.
 - c. A 10-year review should capture the issue. We've agreed that the focus will be on three to four big issues.
19. Q: Statements can be compiled during APF, but we can't release this as APF?
 - a. A: After 10 years and looking at it as engagement to government, they will choose the people they will select. We told them last year that this is not the way. We want solidarity from the people. We should get rid of the idea of ASEAN people solidarity. This is civil society but we often sit with the people we like. Let's get rid of these ideas. It's okay to disagree.
20. Suggestion: to link the grassroots people to these processes. There has been successful advocacy work on this. We are going to focus on migrant workers. How can we go back to the grassroots and let them know that ASEAN is for the people but not bring in people who do not have access to this?

Session 7: Budget Planning of APF 2015

Speaker: Yap Swee Seng

Moderator: Maria Chin Abdullah

1. Item 3 : to include first aid and legal aid.
2. Also to include provision for follow-up for committee and the FCAA work after.
3. Clarification: local organisations refer to the ones in Malaysia or outside?
A: Just organisations in Malaysia.
4. Q: What about volunteers for law or first aid?
A: We usually get volunteers.
5. Q: Would a welcome dinner be difficult to organise with too many people?
A: A dinner was organised in Myanmar with 3000 people attending.
6. Q: Regarding Item 5: Report preparation, does it include documentation of the APF and for the production of a booklet after the conference?
7. Q: Three regional meetings are listed but why is the meeting with foreign ministers in January not budgeted?
A : It has not been included but adjustments will be made.
8. Q: You are only accepting 1000 people. In Myanmar, we were expecting 1,500 but 3000 people turned up. What is the back-up plan if a similar situation occurs?
9. Q: Referring to Item 6, will the local council provide the items? In Myanmar local businesses wanted to lend their support. One of our principles was not to accept funding from Government.
10. Q: Is there a contingency budget?

A: This is a preliminary discussion, after getting more input it will be worked out into a more detailed budget that everyone agrees to. Those issues are important and a contingency budget will have to be thought about as well as some space to increase the numbers if necessary.

11. Q: Regarding Item 3, what is the budget for regional travel and regional resource persons? Will you be paying for accommodation for them or just travel expenses?

A: This is for actual participation in the APF. The flight and accommodation are provided for.

12. Clarification: To include regional committees it should be 550. Will you be covering them or not? Like in Myanmar last year. Are you covering their accommodation and travel?

13. Q: Who are the 50 that you are covering for?

A: There will be 5 from each country. It is an open application.

14. Q: It's going to be a messy process. Who will decide the 50? Who from the NOC will pinpoint or appoint? What are the mechanics or criteria?

A: It was done in Indonesia. There was no limitation to who can come. It did not involve any decision making for the steering committee.

15. Q: My understanding of the 50 is that it is an open space for an open application. What I understand is that there will be 5 participants from each country. As well as those who are in working committee. In Myanmar we provided funds for each country. We provided food and accommodation. If we do not put it in our budget, it will be difficult.

A: This will be looked into. We will suggest to cover the accommodation and flights for committee members to come for the APF and the resource person. 50 will be open – if everyone thinks that is a good idea, then we can work out how that can be processed in terms of the application. The idea behind this is that it can provide the opportunity for others who are not in this process but are interested in joining. Also, because they do not have funding allocations can be made for those who do not have funding.

16. Q: If there are 50 for regional, can we give the budget for that to allow for committee members? Instead, we should subsidize committee members.

17. Q: Mostly regional groups get funding. For example, Think Centre cannot accept funding from the national budget. Do we need a guideline for who we can accept funds from? There needs to be a clear cut ethical code for companies and individuals whom we can accept funds from. We are moving towards being more liberal and corrupt than where we were coming from. Guidelines are needed to develop a habit and general practices to be adopted.

18. Q: Fees for students and grassroots are too expensive. In Myanmar it was USD3.

A: The fees can be reconsidered.

19. Q: What about a general public fee?

A: A fee for general public was not thought about.

20. Q: What about fees for academics and national NGOs?

A: The fees we will charge will take into consideration the different groups.

21. Q: Is registration done online?

A: yes.

22. Q: Can a discount be provided if people register by group?

23. Q: How much space will be open to the general public?

A: In the NOC meeting, the participation of public members was not discussed. The focus was more to the networks.

24. Q: For the consideration of the NOC, the numbers doubled. A cap needs to be set. It must be decided whether the meeting will be closed or open to the public. In Singapore it was a closed meeting. When open to the public, extremist groups came in and spoke about the

Rohingya issues. By the third day, the extremist groups needed to be controlled. This must be considered: should it be an open event?

A: It should be open to people even the ones called extremist. If a closed door meeting is held, it is not opened up for dialogue.

A2: People cannot be filtered because it is uncertain whether they will cause problems.

25. Q: The registration fee for committee members has not been listed down. Is it free? In Myanmar it was free.

A: It is free for committee members.

26. Suggestion: the budget needs to be made clear that it is to cover only plenary speakers and not workshop speakers.

27. Q: Does the budget cover the pre-APF events such as trips for thematic groups?

A: This will be covered by the organisers themselves.

Session 8: Forum statement drafting framework

Speaker: Wathshlah Naidu

1. There are going to be two separate APF documents:

a. Overall CSO statement that is not longer than 3 pages and highlights only three key cross cutting issues in ASEAN. This should be ready to give ASEAN Ministers in January 2015.

b. Analytical document that reviews the past 9 CSO Statements and their implementation.

2. Priority cross-cutting issues were chosen, from the discussion in Session 5:

a. Democratic processes (participation, inclusion, meaningful and substantive engagement, safe space, protection of HRDs, enforced disappearances, strong monitoring, accountability and enforcement mechanisms addressing HR violations and ensuring access to justice)

b. Development Justice (impact of AEC, linkages with post 2015/SDGs, environment and climate change, corporate social accountability, land grabbing, integrated approach to development by all 3 pillars, self-determination)

c. Non-discrimination.

3. To check for the statement from 2009 to 2010 on the Myanmar website.

4. Proposal: something should be put in regarding labour and business in the development section.

5. Request: to articulate things in a general, strong, clear statement that addresses various concerns

4. Non-discrimination issue came out very consistently in all groups. Can it be included as non-discrimination within these factors? Take note that it is missing from this. This could be an introduction or preamble.

5. Q: Can a justification be given from the people who picked these three on why it was picked?

a. A: This was discussed yesterday

6. Q: Can an explanation be given as to why migration was chosen instead of non-discrimination? Most groups said non-discrimination.

7. Q: By January, it must be compiled and sent. Can what has been communicated in previous ASEAN statements also be included?

8. Suggestion: regarding the movement of business, goods, services and people – economic integration is important, but the governments do not focus on the impact to the people, family and children. Let's not reduce it to migration. Labourers and migrants should be included in developmental justice.
9. Q: Referring to the overarching principles – is it similar to the preamble to draw attention to specific groups of people?
 - a. A: We will include it in preamble. We will look at the inclusion of different groups. An elaboration will be made if it is understood as cross cutting and will influence the language that we use.
10. Q: Nuances were somewhat lost during the discussion yesterday. Do we push it back to the drafting community?
 - a. A: Yes.
11. Q: Will the statement and recommendation be discussed in the forum? The APF will require the draft statement. For the other participants – in the perspective of the workshop organiser, will this be in the statement? Or will this be something that is discussed in individual groups?
12. What we are also proposing is that we should be careful about the language so that it does not reinforce a paternalistic view. We should include something about the people-led processes.
13. If it's not discrimination, we need to be strategic and regarding the modality, we want to have a statement by the end of this year
14. Q: How do we organise people at the grassroots level?
15. Q: Can you clarify way to address conflict?
16. We had a discussion yesterday to reiterate that the issues are all important in ASEAN. If you are going to talk to the government, this 3-page document would catch all the issues. Every issue is important, we can have this conversation over and over again but let's try not to be too worried that our specific issues are not on the board as we are picking up people's issues. We need to keep growing the spirit. Yesterday, the spirit was there. Today we are back to regression.
17. Recommendation: that the process be that countries will nominate their representative.
18. It is not stand alone. Three cross issues were denied and the specifics will change.
19. **The first draft will come out in October.** The timeline is tentative but it will be worked on later today.

Session 9: Committee Work Planning (Programme, Media, Drafting, Finance and Fund Raising, Logistic) & Session 10: Reporting back of committees' work plan

Facilitators: Corinna Lopa and Yu Ren Chung

Update from countries

1. Cambodia:
 - a. Cambodia has not organised a national committee.
 - b. Cambodian Leaders' society, 12 NGOs.
 - c. They will organise a national process by inviting other CSOS.
 - d. Meeting planned for early November.
 - e. Representative: Pen Somony

2. Indonesia
 - a. Indonesia has not organised a national committee.
 - b. National consultation meeting scheduled for the end of September.
3. Myanmar
 - a. Myanmar's core group has 17 members out of 72 NOC members.
 - b. Representative: May May Pyong
4. Philippines
 - a. Participating in the Philippine Process are ten national organizations and three regional organizations. It is convened by the Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC).
 - b. The national organizations are : FDC, Task Force on Food Sovereignty, Tambuyog, Women's Legal Bureau, Philwomen, Rainbow Rights-SOGI, Free Burma Coalition, Nisa Ul Haqq Fi (Bangsamoro Women for Justice), Forum for Media Alternatives, Center for Migrant Advocacy (CMA), Alliance of Progressive Labor (APL), LEARN, Kampanya para sa Makataong Pamumuhay (KAMP), PKSK, Philippine Coalition for International Criminal Court (PCICC), Philippine Movement for Climate Justice, Mindanao Peaceweavers and Friends of the Bangsamoro.
 - c. The regional regional organizations are Jubilee South -Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development (JS-APMDD) , Focus on the Global South (Focus) and the Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID).
 - d. During one of its meetings before the Regional Consultation on ACSC/APF 2015, the Process decided to get more organizations into the loop.
 - e. One of its major decisions is to make an assessment of the 9 year engagement with ASEAN of the Philippine Process and contribute to the 9-Year Assessment which the ACSC/APF is about to undertake for the 2015 Meeting.
 - f. The Philippine Process submitted the following as its representatives to the various committees under ACSC/APF : FDC for the Steering Committee, Philwomen for Program Committee and TFFS and Philwomen for the Drafting Committee. Nobody yet for the Media Committee.

Updates from committees

1. Media:
 - a. Meeting attended by Pang, Ren Chung, E-Yen, Joey, Mas Elati, Rajaie, and Fajar. Pang is one of the Co-chairs of the Media Committee. Still need to choose another Co-chair.
 - b. MC is tasked with finding spokespersons for particular issues on request. MC agreed to create a list of 10 people, one for each country. MC would pass on a country specific spokesperson request to one of these people. (For example, if a reporter asks to talk to someone about women's rights in Malaysia, we would ask the Malaysian person on the list to find the appropriate spokesperson.)
 - c. MC to take over the twitter and facebook accounts from 2014. The acconts should be maintained by secretariat staff. We should create a new twitter account "aseanpeople".
 - d. If attacked on social media, use our guiding principles to respond.
 - e. MC to use online file-sharing platform, an email group, and WhatsApp.
 - f. MC looking to get more members in the committee.
 - g. A media centre to be set up at the APF. This centre would have equipment like a fax machine, computers, and assistance of MC members and volunteers. A press

conference room to be made available during lunch and tea breaks for thematic groups to hold press conferences. Sign up mechanism to be developed.

h. MC and other committees should be on standby 2 to 3 days after the APF.

2. Regional steering committee

- a. RSC amended the ToR of the Steering Committee. The new ToR would be circulated by the NOC.
- b. The SC did not select its Co-chairs as there are still SC members who need to be confirmed by the countries (i.e. Viet Nam, Cambodia) and two regional organisations who are members of the SC were not able to attend the meeting.
- c. A communication platform would be set-up for the SC members.
- d. Members of the Regional Steering Committee include (not a complete list):
 - i. IID Initiatives for International Dialogue, Mr Gus Miclat
 - ii. APWLD Asia Pacific Forum on Women Law and Development, Ms Reileen Dulay
 - iii. ARROW, Asia Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Ms Nalini Singh
 - iv. KOMAS, Jerald Joseph

7. Programme Committee

- a. The committee reviewed the terms of references for the work of the Program Committee
- b. The committee elected a co-chair: Shine. Another co-chair has to be from Malaysia, as host country.
- c. The committee drew up time-lines for what must be done by the second Regional meeting. This will be circulated.
- d. Programme Committee Representatives:
 - i. Malaysia: Maria Chin Abdullah (Alternate: Wan Saiful Wan Jan)
 - ii. Thailand: Sunsanee Sutthisunsanee (Alternate: Warunyakorn Fakthong)
 - iii. Philippines: Philwomen on the ASEAN
 - iv. Regional: Sanyu Awori (IWRAW Asia Pacific)
 - v. Regional: William Gois or Rex Varona (Migrant Forum in Asia)
 - vi. Regional: Jelen Paclarin (SEA Women's Caucus)
- e. Plan of Action for the Programme Committee:
 - i. Submit program proposals by the second Regional Coordinating Meeting.
 - ii. Ensure that by second Regional Coordinating Meeting the other country slots have representatives.
- f. Chair/Co-Chair will set up an emailing list for the Program Committee.

8. Fundraising :

- a. Khim Ohmar
- b. Yap
- c. Rabiah
- d. Atnika
- e. Ab (Thailand will send name)

9. Communication:

- a. General communication will be using SAPA
- b. Joey to compile a name list of participants using a sign-in sheet and participant name list.

Session 11: Logistics of secretariat, meetings, mode of communication, documentation, engagement process and security issues

Facilitator: Jerald Joseph

1. The next meeting will be on the 11th and 12th of December.

2. Draft will be ready by then.

3. Draft program, Malaysian NOC (Jerald will email), Charles Santiago's presentation.
4. Regarding the engagement process with MOFA, Malaysia has spoken to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
5. Regarding Laos: do not talk about Sombath and dams. No one wants to lead APF. It is not recognised. The Laos government controls the subject of workshop and statements.

Security Issues:

6. E-mails and Facebook have been hacked: people we communicate with should go through dual-verification process in Gmail and Facebook. There needs to be a guideline for security online
7. LGBT meeting in Indonesia was attacked and trapped in a hotel. They are afraid the same thing will happen here. In Indonesia, there was a public announcement. We should ask – how public are they going to make their workshops? Transgender group may come dressed as women and this may draw attention. Suggestion to set guidelines, not to stop but to advise what would be the safest option. They can dress the way they want to but bear in mind that it might draw attention of authorities. Comment that organisers should not point to the way people dress as a risk; rather organisers should to provide a safe space for all. Transgender individuals understand their safety issue more than any of us.
8. For workshops that are more sensitive, it will be prepared for before the session
9. Message: we welcome all. This is your platform.
10. Provide a free space for the crowd to take up.