



RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 3rd ASEAN-CHINA RECTORS' CONFERENCE

“ASEAN-China: Sharing Wisdom, Bridging People’s Minds”

30 - 31 March 2010

University of Malaya

Port Dickson, Malaysia

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the Plan of Actions to implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity signed at the 7th ASEAN-China Summit on 8 October 2003 in Bali, Indonesia, the ASEAN University Network (AUN) and Chinese participating universities agreed to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) entitled *“Towards an Enhanced ASEAN-China Academic Partnership”* at the 2nd ASEAN-China Rectors' Conference on 16 March 2007 in Hanoi. Under the MOU, both sides agreed to continue the implementation of the ASEAN-China Academic Cooperation and Exchange Programme, and to promote greater scope of cooperation between the two regions.

The 3rd ASEAN-China Rectors' Conference convened in Port Dickson, Malaysia, on 30-31 March 2010. The Conference was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education, the Presidents, Rectors, Vice Chancellors and delegates of the 15 universities from P.R. China and the 22 AUN Member Universities from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat and the AUN Secretariat were also in attendance. The Conference was hosted by the University of Malaya and partially funded by the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund under the theme *“ASEAN-China: Sharing Wisdom, Bridging People’s Minds”*, which highlighted the collaborative activities under the ASEAN-China Academic Cooperation and Exchange Programme and the proposed framework to promote identity and solidarity in the region.

The Conference participants agreed to:

- 1) Promote student mobility activities between ASEAN and China by implementing summer study programmes and other credit or non credit programmes on themes that are of particular interest to ASEAN and China;

- 2) Strengthen academic partnership by convening joint activities, such as academic conferences and workshops, on topics of particular interest and relevance to China and ASEAN, for examples:
 - Climate change
 - Water resource management
 - Infectious diseases
 - Energy
 - Crisis and disaster management
 - Human capital development
 - Cultural diversity
 - Language and linguistics Education management
 - Agriculture
 - Traditional medicine

- 3) Foster research collaboration and exchange of PhD students in the future.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In achieving the concrete outcome of the ASEAN-China cooperation, the Conference recommended the joint actions as the following:

- 1) The AUN Secretariat and Chinese focal points shall draft a Joint Action Plan including timelines and disseminate to the AUN and Chinese participating universities for consideration and endorsement.
- 2) The governments of ASEAN and P.R. China shall be urged to provide the financial support to the programmes/ projects/ activities initiated and developed under the ASEAN-China Academic Cooperation and Exchange Programme.
- 3) The AUN Secretariat shall seek additional funding from external funding agencies for ASEAN-China Academic Cooperation and Exchange Programme.

The Conference suggested these recommendations to be submitted for consideration at the 1st ASEAN-China Ministers of Education Round Table Meeting in P.R. China in August 2010, as agreed upon at the 12th ASEAN-China Summit in October 2009, and the 6th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASEM) on 31 January – 3 February 2011, in Brunei Darussalam:

The Conference welcomed the National University of Singapore to host the 4th ASEAN-China Rectors' Conference in 2012.

Agreed upon by the representatives of the AUN and China participating universities at the 3rd ASEAN-China Rectors' Conference, on 31st March 2010, Port Dickson, Malaysia.