

April 2009

Overview

14th ASEAN Summit and its Related Summits 10-12 April 2009, Pattaya, Thailand

- This year is a very special for Thailand as the current Chair of ASEAN to have the honour of hosting two ASEAN Summits and Related Summits during 18 months of our chairmanship.
- The Related Summits on 10-12 April 2009 in Pattaya are an important and integral part of the 14th ASEAN Summit held on 28 February-1 March 2009 in Cha-am Hua Hin.
- The Related Summits will involve various key Dialogue Partners of ASEAN under the framework of ASEAN+1 (with China, Japan, ROK, and India), ASEAN+3 (with China, Japan, and ROK), and the East Asia Summit or EAS (ASEAN 10 with China, Japan, ROK, Australia, India and New Zealand)

ASEAN+1 Summits (China, ROK, Japan, and India) on 11 April 2009

- The meeting will discuss two major issues with each Dialogue Partner, namely ASEAN+1 cooperation and its future direction, and an exchange of views on regional and international issues.
- **The 12th ASEAN-China Summit** - The Leaders will discuss the progress of cooperation between ASEAN and China especially in the area of economic cooperation in which trade, investment and infrastructure development will be highlighted. In addition, the Leaders will witness the signing of the ASEAN-China Investment Agreement by the Economic Ministers. With the signing of this agreement, the ASEAN-China FTA will be completed consisting of 3 major components: trade, services and investment. Presently, the ASEAN-China FTA covers the market of 1.8 billion people with the combined GDP of USD 4.5 trillion.
- **The 12th ASEAN-ROK Summit** - This year is a special year for ASEAN-ROK relation as our dialogue relations have marked its 20th anniversary. ROK plays key roles in various Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) projects. ROK has also increased its contribution from 3 to 5 million USD to the ROK-ASEAN Cooperation Fund. Beside this ASEAN-ROK Summit in April in Pattaya, ASEAN and ROK will also convene an ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit on 1-2 June 2009 in Jeju, ROK, to commemorate their 20-year ASEAN-ROK relation.



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- **The 12th ASEAN-Japan Summit** - ASEAN cooperation with Japan has been more than 30 years and covered various areas. Japan is the main contributor to assist economic integration in ASEAN. Since 1999, Japan has contributed 400 million USD to the Japan-ASEAN Cooperation Funds for development projects in ASEAN. At the upcoming Summit, it is expected that Japan will introduce its initiative to enhance economic growth and development in Asia. The role of Japan as a major contributor to the crisis-hit countries in Asia will be highlighted.
- **The 7th ASEAN-India Summit** - This year H.E. Mr. Kamal Nath, Minister of Commerce and Industry, will be the Special Envoy of H.E. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at the Summit. It is expected that the ASEAN Leaders and the Special Envoy will discuss various issues of cooperation, such as transportation linkages between South and Southeast Asia and beyond, anti-terrorism, projects and activities under the ASEAN-India Science & Technology Fund and ASEAN-India Green Fund. In addition, as India is a member of G20, the ASEAN Leaders and the Special Envoy may also discuss how to enhance coordinating efforts to mitigate the impact of the current global economic and financial crisis in line with the outcome and recommendations from the London Summit.

12th ASEAN+3 Summit on 11 April 2009

- At the 12th ASEAN+3 Summit, the Leaders of ASEAN and their three Northeast Asian partners, namely China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, are expected to focus their attention on the strengthening of regional financial cooperation under the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI), in particular the CMI Multilateralization (CMIM).
- They are expected to endorse the decision taken by the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers to expand the total size of the CMIM from US\$ 80 billion to US\$ 120 billion and to enhance the regional surveillance mechanism to monitor the regional and global economic situation.
- The ASEAN+3 Leaders are also expected to commend the on-going efforts to promote the local currency-denominated bond markets under the new Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) Roadmap. The ABMI will help not only facilitate the greater accessibility to the regional bond markets but also promote mobilization of fund for productive investment thereby addressing the macroeconomic imbalance due to “over-saving” in Asia.



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- To strengthen their regional cooperation in dealing with the crisis, the ASEAN+3 Leaders will issue a *Joint Press Statement on ASEAN+3 Cooperation in Response to the Global Economic and Financial Crisis*
- In addition, they will issue a *Pattaya Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on Food Security and Bio-Energy Development* to enhance food production capability in the region and to support the continuation of the East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve pilot project and explore possibility of establishing an ASEAN+3 Emergency Rice Reserve. The Statement will also promote trade in agriculture and bio-energy trade and technology innovation to ensure long-term viability of bio-energy in the region.

4th East Asia Summit (EAS) on 12 April 2009

- The 4th East Asia Summit (EAS) on 12 April 2009 in Pattaya is perhaps the largest gathering of the Leaders after the London Summit. As a forum for strategic dialogue, the EAS brings together the ten Leaders of ASEAN and their six key Dialogue Partners, namely Australia, India, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and New Zealand. The global economic and financial crisis is expected to dominate the discussion at this year EAS.
- As six of the 16 countries participating in the EAS are G20 members, the Leaders will ensure that what are discussed and carried out under the EAS will complement and contribute to the on-going efforts of G20, especially a need for concerted effort to restore financial stability and stimulate economic growth, a strong commitment to reject all kinds of protectionism, and a comprehensive reform of international financial system and institutions to ensure a greater voice and representation of emerging and developing economies.
- In light of the current crisis, the heads of the international organizations, including ADB, IMF, World Bank, UNCTAD and UN, will be invited to exchange their views with the EAS Leaders. This will make the EAS this year a major forum to follow-up G20 on the global economic and financial crisis.
- To express the common concern of the EAS participating countries over the current global economic and financial crisis, the Leaders will issue a *Joint Press Statement by the 4th EAS on the Global Economic and Financial Crisis*.



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- In addition, they will also issue a *Pattaya Statement on EAS Disaster Management*, reflecting an importance of developing integrated preparedness capacities for transboundary, multi-hazard disasters, end-to-end early warning systems and response capacities in the region. It also expresses EAS's intention to support efforts of an ASEAN-led coordinating mechanism and other organizations in the region, in cooperation with international organizations and the UN Specialised Agencies. Furthermore, it attaches significance to the establishment of linkages among training and research centres to leverage their resources in the implementation of capacity building programmes.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
ASEAN Department