

Forum for 21st century **on Visa Policy issues**

Propositions to the 2nd Draft

The ASEAN delegation is thankful to the Forum of 21st century for the given proposals. We ensure the community of our intention to continue in the negotiations towards a common solution. After carefully considering the proposals, we present our positions:

Notes

- ³⁵₁₇ We understand the need to monitor the situation in the Middle East and North Africa. The number of political refugees is expected to rise and flow mostly towards European countries. We offer our support for the receiving countries.
- ³⁵₁₇ Nationalistic tendencies occur not only in the European countries. In Asia, they are a result of territorial disputes and religious conflicts. It's important to try to conciliate the conflict groups to bring peace to the said regions.
- ³⁵₁₇ We realize the cultural, politic and economic differences between the parties of the Forum for 21st century, as well as different key problems of each territory, and the resulting difficulties in coming to an agreement. Nevertheless, we hope the parties are able to conclude a framework agreement which would establish fundamental procedures and obligations.

Goals

³⁵₁₇ The ASEAN members are fully aware of the migration problem and therefore we recognize the growing importance of the Single Visa Policy (SVP). We agree with the idea of the SVP legally binding not only for the third parties, but also for all the parties involved. We also agree with the plan of common approach to prevent the creation of potential conflicts in the future. On the other hand the ASEAN members can't accept the suggestion about the amount of the contributions. Some of the ASEAN members like Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia faced with the high levels of poverty and therefore the proposal on which the amount of the contributions should be calculated as a percentage of the country's GDP is for them unacceptable.

³⁵₁₇ The ASEAN members fully agree with the proposal to establish a body (the Visa Council) and its creation. Being one of the most developed regions of the continent, we propose that first President should come from the ASEAN member countries.

³⁵₁₇ Fast and efficient exchange of information is a crucial element of effective cooperation in global matters and therefore we fully agree with the creation of the global information system. We can offer specialists in the area to participate in its creation.

³⁵₁₇ We appreciate acceptance of our proposal to include human trafficking in the negotiations. Our members' governments seek to comply with the minimum standards of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act but there is little development in the region. The countries are often criticized for insufficient measures to prevent human trafficking of migrating persons within ASEAN. Our nationals also fall victims of human trafficking in countries like China, India, Bangladesh or South Korea. Based on our existing relations in

this matter, we call for integration of the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters among Like Minded ASEAN Member Countries and ASEANAPOL regional database into global network and for linking with the proposed information migration network.

³⁵₁₇ As for the climate migrants, we feel most responsible for accepting most of the dislocated in the future. Given the geographical proximity of the most endangered areas, it can be expected that the majority of climate migrants will naturally flow towards the member countries of ASEAN and Asian countries in general. This is why we denounce the suggestion of the quotas concerning the number of migrants compulsory to accept. Instead, we suggest creating an action plan to coordinate the flow of migrants in case of a climate emergency. It would be agreed which country would accept migrants from a given area. The number of potentially endangered migrants would be estimated and based on this number, geographical position and the ability to accept migrants, countries would be assigned a territory.

³⁵₁₇ We support the proposal to establish a fund to cover climate-migration induced expenses as part of the SVP budget.

³⁵₁₇ We recommend commencing with implementing the goals and launching the preliminary version of the Single Visa Policy as soon as possible, given the urgency of the issues we are facing. Sanctions for the case of failure in meeting the obligations should be motivating, yet not too high to discourage a country from participating in the common framework.