

**SOM 2 Coordinators' Report of the Second Meeting  
of Senior Officials from East Asia and Latin America  
Santiago, Chile, 16 –18 August 2000**

The second meeting of senior officials was held at the Carrera Hotel, Santiago, Chile on 16-18 August 2000. The Opening Ceremony was held on 16 August 2000. The Opening remarks of H.E. Jose Miguel Insulza, Minister of Interior of Chile, and the speech by the leader of the delegation of Singapore, H.E. Bilahari Kausikan, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore.

The Meeting was attended by officials of the 27 countries, namely Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Mario Artaza, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile, and H.E. Bilahari Kausikan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The Meeting adopted the agenda.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS**

**AGENDA ITEM 3: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, SUCH AS:**

Challenges and opportunities of globalisation.

Exchange of views between the respective regions and relations between East Asia and Latin America.

Strengthening of the Economic Liberalisation process through the development of the complementarities between VVTO, APEC, MERCOSUR, AFTA and FTA'S.  
Consensus building at the political level as an instrument towards convergence.

The meeting had a substantive exchange of views on regional developments and the challenges and opportunities of globalisation. It was generally agreed that the process of globalisation was inexorable. It was noted that globalisation and the rapid advance of technology impacted on all sectors, from political security to socio-economic to cultural identity.

The meeting noted that globalisation presented many challenges, as well as opportunities, and that countries needed to look for ways to maximise the benefits arising out of globalisation. The meeting also discussed ways in which the two regions could deal with globalisation, including strengthening inter-regional co-operation. It was agreed that this agenda item could be included in the agenda for the Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

#### AGENDA ITEM 4: DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF THE FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT FOR EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF)

The Meeting considered the draft framework document. There was a substantive discussion and various suggestions were made on the document. The Meeting took note of the discussion paper prepared by Chile on membership.

It was agreed that Singapore would prepare a revised framework document to be circulated to members by September 2000. Further comments on this draft could be submitted to Singapore by 5 Jan 2001.

#### AGENDA ITEM 5: REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) DELIVERABLES

Several delegations reported on the implementation of the projects they had proposed at the inaugural meeting in Singapore. Some delegations also proposed new projects. The Meeting noted that there was some duplication with regards to several proposed projects. For this reason, it was agreed that the co-coordinators would rationalise all the projects under separate themes or areas of co-operation.

#### AGENDA ITEM 6: DISCUSSION ON EAST ASIA~LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) MODALITIES

The Meeting elected Colombia and the Philippines as the deputy co-ordinators for the forum.

##### i) Roles and Functions of the Co-ordinators

The Meeting considered the non-paper prepared by Chile on the Roles and Functions of the Co-ordinators. The Meeting agreed to the following:

The co-ordinators, one from each region, would be assisted by deputy co-ordinators from the two regions. The co-ordinators and deputy co-ordinators would be elected by consensus.

The Ministerial meeting could be convened at regular intervals of approximately 2 years.

The term of office for the co-ordinators starts at the end of each Ministerial Meeting and continue till the next Ministerial Meeting.

The co-ordinators would be responsible for hosting the senior officials and Ministerial meetings.

The Ministerial Meeting should alternate between the two regions.

The co-ordinators could represent EALAF at other regional and international meetings with the consensus of all EALAF members.

##### ii) EALAF Secretariat

The Meeting agreed that there was no necessity for an EALAF Secretariat at this stage. The role of the Secretariat would be undertaken by the co-ordinators.

##### iii) Discussion on Appellation

The meeting had an exchange of views on the appellation of the forum. It was suggested that apart from EALAF-FALAE, several other appellations could be considered. These included:

- EALAF+2
- Forum for Dialogue and Co-operation
- Extended EALAF, EACERLAF
- Singapore Group
- Singapore-Santiago Forum

The meeting agreed that EALAF-FALAE would continue to be the working name of the forum, pending decision by the Foreign Ministers.

#### AGENDA ITEM 7: SCHEDULING OF THE THIRD EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) MEETING, AND THE FIRST EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

It was proposed that the First EALAF Foreign Ministers Meeting could be held in the first two weeks of April 2001 in Santiago, Chile, and be preceded by the 3rd EALAF SOM. Chile, as host, will propose two or three alternative dates within the first two weeks of April 2001 for the consideration of members.

#### AGENDA ITEM 8: AGENDA FOR AN EAST ASIA-LATIN AMERICA FORUM (EALAF) FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

The Meeting had a preliminary discussions on the proposed agenda for the EALAF Ministerial Meeting. In this connection, the Meeting took note of the draft agenda circulated by Japan. It was agreed that the co-ordinators would prepare a draft agenda taking into account the views expressed at this meeting. The co-ordinators would circulate a draft agenda for further comments in due course.

#### AGENDA ITEM 9: OTHER MATTERS

No other substantive matters were raised.

#### AGENDA ITEM 10: CONSIDERATION OF THE COORDINATORS' REPORT OF THE MEETING

The Meeting adopted the Report of the Meeting.