

**Report of the Coordinators of the Sixth Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM VI)
of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation
Manila, 28 and 29 January 2004**

The Sixth Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM VI) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) took place in Manila, Philippines, on the 28th and 29th of January 2004.

The Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs for Policy of the Philippines, the Regional Coordinator for East Asia, H.E. Sonia Cataumber Brady and the Coordinator for Asia, Africa and Oceania of Colombia, the Regional Coordinator for Latin America, H.E. Pio Garcia, jointly chaired the SOM VI.

Delegations from 30 member countries participated in the Meeting: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Vietnam.

The list of delegates is attached as Annex 1.

1. Adoption of Agenda

The Meeting adopted the agenda, attached as Annex 2.

2. Consideration of proposed FEALAC document format and numbering system

The SOM recommended for approval by the Foreign Ministers the proposed FEALAC document numbering system and the proposed FEALAC document format, which are attached as Annex 3.

3. Consideration of the Report of the Working Group on Education, Science and Technology

The SOM expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Co-Chairs of the Education, Science and Technology Working Group, Costa Rica and Australia.

The SOM recommended for the approval by the Ministers the projects in progress, and those proposed for implementation or under development, as enumerated in the report.

4. Consideration of transfer of Education function from Education, Science and Technology working Group to Politics and Culture Working Group.

At the SOM V, held in San Jose, Costa Rica on 13 and 14 August 2003, the Co-Chair, Colombia, proposed the transfer of the Education function of the Education, Science and Technology Working Group to the Working Group on Politics and Culture.

The SOM recommended to the Foreign Ministers that the Education function be thus transferred, and that the appellation of the Working Group be changed to Working Group on Politics, Culture and Education.

5. Selection of new Co-Chairs of the Working Groups

The SOM agreed that while the principle of rotation would be upheld, given the unique circumstances in FEALAC at this early stage of the Forum's development, due consideration should also be given to continuity.

The Senior Officials therefore recommended the following set of Working Group Co-Chairs: Politics, Culture and Education: Colombia and Singapore; Economy and Society: Argentina and Japan; Science and Technology: Costa Rica and its Co-Chair, to be selected by SOM VII.

It was also agreed that the terms of these coordinators would be up to the FMM III.

6. Consideration of Agenda for Second Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM II)

The SOM endorsed to the Foreign Ministers the provisional agenda for the FMM II for their consideration and approval.

7. Consideration of draft Manila Plan of Action

The SOM considered the draft of the Manila Plan of Action, contained in Annex 4, and recommended approval by the Foreign Ministers.

8. Other Matters

No other matters were discussed

9. Consideration of Report of the Coordinators of the SOM IV, V, and VI

The SOM received the present Report of the Coordinators and reiterated the recommendations made to the foreign ministers at the SOM IV, held in Bogota, Colombia on 26 to 28 November 2002 and the SOM V, held in San Jose, Costa Rica, on 13 and 14 August 2003, and SOM VI held in Manila, Philippines on 28 and 29 January 2004.

Attached as Annex 5 are the reports of the SOM IV and SOM V, with supporting documents.

10. Acknowledgement

The SOM also expressed its appreciation to the host country, the Philippines, for its generous hosting of the SOM VI and for the excellent arrangements as well as the warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegates.