



***Coordinators' report of the
Tenth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM X)
Forum for East Asia- Latin America Cooperation
Tokyo, 14- 15 January, 2010***

The Tenth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM X) of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) took place in Tokyo, Japan, on 14 and 15 January 2010.

The meeting was co-chaired by the Director General for Latin American and Caribbean Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ambassador Satoru Satoh and Counselor of the Direction of Asia and Oceania of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of the Argentine Republic, Mr. Luis Eduardo Susmann.

Delegations from the 33 member countries participated in the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam. Mongolia participated as observer.

The list of delegates is attached as Annex 1(SOM/2010/INF/1).

1. Earthquake in Haiti

The SOM observed a minute's silence to express its solidarity and sincere condolences to the people and Government of the Republic of Haiti for the devastation caused by the earthquakes of January 12, resulting in the tragic loss of human lives, injury and considerable material damages.

The SOM recommended a statement on the situation in Haiti to be issued by Foreign Ministers.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The Meeting adopted the agenda, attached as Annex 2 (SOM/2010/2).

3. Consideration on Strengthening FEALAC mechanism

The SOM considered and reached consensus on a package of measures to strengthen FEALAC mechanism jointly proposed by Japan and Korea(SOM/2010/19 Rev.), which include the establishment of the Coordinating Board as a mechanism for the follow-up and assessment of FEALAC activities, the strengthening of the role of Coordinators, the encouragement of participation or involvement of experts to the Working Groups, as well as the creation of Cyber-Secretariat. These measures will be implemented after the approval at the Fourth Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM IV) and those measures will be reviewed every two years, except the Cyber-Secretariat,.

The SOM recommended them for approval by the Foreign Ministers.

4. Preparation for Foreign Ministers' Meeting

The SOM considered the draft agenda of the FMM IV(SOM/2010/4) and the draft of the Tokyo Declaration (SOM/2010/5), and recommended approval by the Foreign Ministers.

The SOM also recommended the documents on the Bi-Regional Center for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SOM/2010/21) and Sub-Group of Tourism(SOM/2010/22) to be approved by Foreign Ministers.

5. Other Issues

1) Selection and Confirmation of New Co-chairs of Working Groups

The Senior Officials confirmed the selection of Korea and Colombia as the new co-chairs of the Politics, Culture, Education and Sport Working Group, Philippines and Ecuador as the new co-chairs of Economy and Society Working Group, and New Zealand and Brazil as the new co-chairs of the Science and Technology Working Group.

2) New membership for FEALAC

The SOM recommended to the Foreign Ministers the admission of Mongolia as a new member of FEALAC.

The SOM acknowledged the intention of the Republic of Surinam to be a new member country and confirmed to discuss this issue at the next Senior Officials Meeting (SOM XI).

The SOM discussed other issues related to membership.

3) Schedules of future FEALAC meetings

The SOM welcomed the announcement made by Indonesia, next Asian Coordinator, to host the SOM XI and three Working Groups in Indonesia in later 2010, as well as the intention expressed by Argentina, next Latin-American Coordinator, to host the FMM V in Argentina.

6. Consideration of the Coordinators' Report of the SOM X

The SOM considered and approved the present Coordinators' Report of the SOM X and decided to present it to the FMM IV, together with the Coordinators' Report on the SOM IX held in Buenos Aires in April, 2009 (SOM/2009/10/Final)

7. Acknowledgements

The SOM expressed its appreciation to the host country, Japan, for hosting the SOM X and warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegates. The appreciation is also extended to Argentina for co-chairing the meeting.