



ASEAN TRANSPORT GEARS UP FOR ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

3 April 2007

FACT SHEET

2007/AEC/003

The presence of an efficient, secure and integrated transport system in the region is crucial for ASEAN to remain a competitive market and plugged into the global economy.

ASEAN recognises that the transportation sector provides the logistical and service support critical for the development of regional and international trade. To-date, the ASEAN Member Countries have concluded several regional transport agreements which enable:

- the mutual recognition of commercial vehicle inspection certificates;
- the development of the ASEAN Highway Network;
- the facilitation of goods in transit and its six implementing protocols;
- multimodal transport facilitation;
- air freight services liberalisation; and
- expanded liberalisation in air transport services.

Facilitating the Movement of Goods

An integrated multimodal transport system significantly contributes towards regional economic integration. ASEAN has worked to:

- facilitate the movement of goods in transit among ASEAN countries, for instance, through the simplification of all transit transport procedures and requirements, and minimising unnecessary delays or restrictions (*ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit*);
- facilitate cross-border movement of goods vehicles and public service vehicles within the region through the mutual recognition of each ASEAN Member Country's commercial vehicle inspection certificates (*Agreement on the Recognition of Commercial Vehicles Inspection Certificates of Goods Vehicles and Public Service Vehicles*); and
- facilitate the door-to-door delivery of goods, using various modes of transport, under a single transport document (*ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multimodal Transport*).

An agreement on inter-state transport facilitation is also currently being finalised and when completed, will further facilitate the movement of goods to support greater trade and bring about closer economic integration.

Boosting Tourism

ASEAN is looking to strengthen the integration of tourism and transportation services through joint programmes and activities in air travel, cruise tourism and the facilitation of land travel. ASEAN is also committed towards implementing open-skies arrangements in order to enhance travel, as well as trade and investment opportunities in the region.

Working with Partners

ASEAN has actively engaged private sector associations comprising freight forwarders, airlines, ports, ship-owners and shippers' councils in the substantive work activities of the transport sector.

With countries such as China, India and Japan, ASEAN has implemented joint activities in the transport sector and is looking to engage the European Union, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and the United States of America in the future. ASEAN has also built partnerships with international and regional organisations such as the Asian Development Bank, International Civil Aviation Organisation, and International Maritime Organisation.

Future Steps

Moving forward, ASEAN will continue to enhance transport facilitation and logistics services; strengthen multimodal transport infrastructure linkages and connectivity; and promote liberalisation opportunities in the air and maritime transport sectors.*

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Please visit www.aseansec.org for the full text of the various agreements referred to in this fact sheet.