



**SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
И МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

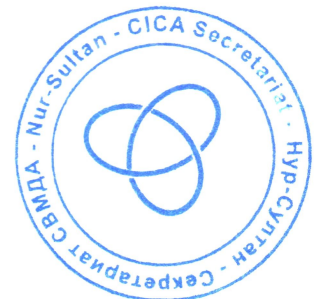
№17-1/810

*Enclosure:
as stated,
on 9 p.*

The Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) presents its compliments to the CICA Member States and has the honour to forward, on behalf of the Chairmanship, in accordance with paragraph 6.2 (b) of the Guidelines for CICA's External Relations of 2007, reports on the potential benefits of establishing partnerships between CICA and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and between CICA and the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), which will be presented at the meeting of the Senior Officials Committee on 8 December 2021.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the CICA Member States the assurances of its highest consideration.

Nur-Sultan, 3 December 2021



**MEMBER STATES
OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES
IN ASIA**



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*Приложение:
на 9 л.*

Секретариат Совещания по взаимодействию и мерам доверия в Азии (СВМДА) свидетельствует свое уважение государствам-членам СВМДА и от имени Председательства, в соответствии с пунктом 6.2 (b) Положения о внешних связях СВМДА от 2007 года, имеет честь направить доклады о потенциальных преимуществах установления партнерских отношений между СВМДА и Ассоциацией государств Юго-Восточной Азии (АСЕАН) и Евразийской экономической комиссией (ЕЭК), которые будут представлены на заседании Комитета старших должностных лиц 8 декабря 2021 года.

Секретариат пользуется случаем, чтобы возобновить государствам-членам СВМДА уверения в своем весьма высоком уважении.

город Нур-Султан, 3 декабря 2021 г.

**ГОСУДАРСТВА-ЧЛЕНЫ
СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ И
МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**



Қосымша: 9 п.

Азиядағы өзара іс-қимыл және сенім шаралары кеңесінің (АӨСШК) Хатшылығы АӨСШК мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын білдіре отырып, Төрағалық атынан 2007 жылғы АӨСШК Сыртқы байланыстар ережелерінің 6.2 (b) тармағына сәйкес АӨСШК мен Оңтүстік-Шығыс Азия елдері ассоциациясы және Еуразиялық экономикалық комиссиясы (ЕЭК) арасындағы әріптестік орнатудың әлеуетті артықшылықтары туралы баяндамаларды жолдай отырып, 2021 жылғы 8 желтоқсанда Аға лауазымды тұлғалар комитеті отырысында ұсынылатынын хабарлауды өзіне мәртебе санайды.

Хатшылық осы мүмкіндікті пайдалана отырып, АӨСШК мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын тағы да растайды.

Нұр-Сұлтан қаласы, 2021 жылғы 3 желтоқсан

**АЗИЯДАҒЫ ӨЗАРА ІС-ҚИМЫЛ ЖӘНЕ
СЕНІМ ШАРАЛАРЫ КЕҢЕСІНІҢ МҮШЕ
МЕМЛЕКЕТТЕРІ**



REPORT

on the prospects of establishing partner relations between CICA and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

ASEAN is one of the most successful and credible regional organizations (established in 1967). The organization has considerable experience in terms of integrating Southeast Asia and establishing cooperation with international partners.

Currently, one of the key goals of the Association is to establish the ASEAN Community, anchored on three community pillars: Political-Security Community, Economic Community, Socio-Cultural Community. The key objective of this aspect is also to narrow the gap in the development of the ASEAN Member States. The Association's activities are generally based on the principles of consensus, good neighbourliness and non-interference in the internal affairs.

The foreign policy of ASEAN and its Member States is based on the building of a well-balanced international relations system, where the Association and the ASEAN-centric mechanisms (ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), East Asia Summit, ADMM Plus) have the central role in maintaining equal, indivisible and inclusive security in the Asia-Pacific region.

The ASEAN Summits are held twice a year; the ASEAN Leaders' Meetings with international partners, East Asia Summit, ASEAN Ministerial Meetings, ASEAN +1, ASEAN+3, ARF, ADMM Plus are held annually.

ASEAN also has such forms of cooperation as informal meetings of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and partner organizations, like SAARC and a number of integration associations of Latin America.

The ASEAN headquarters and its Secretariat are located in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Secretariat is headed by the Secretary General, appointed for 5-year term (without extension) from among the citizens of the Member States based on a rotational basis in alphabetical order. The current Secretary General is Dato Lim Jock Hoi since 1 January 2018. There are four deputies that are appointed to support the Secretary General in his activities.

There is the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN based in Jakarta.

MEMBER STATES

Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam.

OBSERVER STATES

Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Dialogue Partnerships: Australia, Canada, China, European Union, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation, United States, United Kingdom.

Sectoral Dialogue Partnerships: Norway, Pakistan, Switzerland, Turkey.

Development Partnerships: Chile, France, Germany, Italy.

A close dialogue has been established with the United Nations; partner relations are being developed with a number of regional integration associations, including the EAEU and the SCO.

POTENTIAL AREAS AND FORMS OF COOPERATION

At this stage, establishing relations between the Secretariats of the two organizations may be of significant interest to CICA in order to hold consultations and information exchanges aimed at enhancing the productivity of the CICA Secretariat. CICA is likely to be interested in the practical experience of ASEAN on the rotation of coordinating states in various areas of interaction in the framework of the Association.

This work could then be extended by signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the two Secretariats. The ASEAN Secretariat signed such documents with the Secretariats of ESCAP (2002), SCO (2005), ECO (2006), GCC (2009), Mekong River Commission (2010).

It would be advisable to invite ASEAN experts to participate in specialized events of CICA, since the areas of ASEAN cooperation covers almost all aspects of interaction in politics and security, economic and socio-cultural areas. Cross-sectoral cooperation is another area of extensive development that may be of interest to CICA in terms of its evolution.

However, at an early stage, the most “convenient” (least controversial) areas of cooperation between CICA and ASEAN would be culture, tourism, disaster prevention and disaster management, youth exchanges.

When considering the matter of establishing partnerships with ASEAN, it is essential to take into consideration the positions of certain CICA Member States in relation to the building of common architecture of cooperation and security in Asia, where ASEAN and ASEAN-centric mechanisms have the key role.



REPORT

on the potential benefits of establishing relations between the CICA Secretariat and the Eurasian Economic Commission

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

On 25 August 2008, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the CICA Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Integration Committee of the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC), which reflected the desire of the parties to establish and develop mutually beneficial and constructive cooperation between CICA and EurAsEC.

However, on 10 October 2014, the heads of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan signed the Agreement on the Termination of the EurAsEC Activities due to the fact that **the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)** was signed on 29 May 2014 to enter into force on 1 January 2015.



The EAEU is an international organization of regional economic integration and has international legal personality.

MEMBER STATES

The Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation



OBSERVER STATES

The Republic of Moldova, the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Republic of Cuba.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE EAEU

The main objectives of the EAEU are:

- to create proper conditions for sustainable economic development of the Member States in order to improve the living standards of their population;
- to seek the creation of a common market for goods, services, capital and labour within the Union;
- to ensure comprehensive modernization, cooperation and competitiveness of national economies within the global economy.

In accordance with the Procedure for International Cooperation of the EAEU (*approved by decision No. 99 of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council of 23 December 2014*), the international cooperation of the Union is carried out by the EAEU bodies – the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council, the Eurasian Intergovernmental Council, the Eurasian Economic Commission and the Court of the Union.

EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION



The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) is a permanent regulatory body of the EAEU, which has been functioning since 2 February 2012 (*note: the governing bodies of EurAsEC continued their activities*).

The EEC is headquartered in the city of Moscow (Russian Federation).

The main purpose of the Eurasian Economic Commission is to ensure proper conditions for the functioning and development of the EAEU, and to devise proposals for the further development of integration.

The executive body of the Commission is the EEC Board, which consists of 10 members (*2 members from each Member State*), one of whom is the Chairman of the Board. All decisions are taken by the EEC on a collegial basis.

For reference: since 1 February 2020, Mikhail Vladimirovich Myasnikovich (from the Republic of Belarus) has been the Chairman of the EEC Board.

The main areas of activity of the EEC include:

- Assignment and distribution of import customs duties, customs tariff and non-tariff regulation, as well as customs administration;
- Establishment of trade regimes for third parties;
- Statistics of foreign and mutual trade;
- Macroeconomic, competitive, energy, currency and other policies;
- Industrial and agricultural subsidies;
- Natural monopolies;
- State and/or municipal procurement;
- Mutual trade in services and investments;
- Transport and transportation;
- Security and protection of intellectual property and the means of branding goods, works and services;
- Labour migration;
- Financial markets (banking, insurance, the currency market, the securities market);
- Information and communication technologies;
- Technical regulation;
- Circulation of medicines and medical devices;
- etc.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE EEC

The EEC takes an active position in the international arena to represent the Eurasian community's activities and engage key partners from the European and Asia-Pacific regions into integration processes.

The Commission's international cooperation is carried out in accordance with the *Main Directions of the Union's International Activities*, which are developed based on proposals from the Member States and approved annually by the EAEU Supreme Council.

According to the *Main Directions of the Union's International Activities for 2021 (approved by decision No. 15 of the EAEU Supreme Council dated 11 December 2020)*, the Union is interested in developing cooperation with

regional integration associations and international organizations, including through the conclusion of memoranda of cooperation (interaction).

In the field of international activities, the Union is currently focused on the development of existing cooperation mechanisms with such Asian countries as **Bangladesh, Cambodia, Jordan, Indonesia, Mongolia, Singapore, Thailand**. The EAEU also has an agreement on trade and economic cooperation with **China** and free trade agreements with **Viet Nam** and **Singapore**. In 2018, the EAEU and **Iran** signed the Interim Agreement enabling formation of a free trade area between them.

Along with the above, the EAEU seeks to deepen ties with countries such as the **Philippines, Laos, Egypt, Israel, India**, as well as international organizations – the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)**, the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)** and the **Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS)**.

COMMON OBJECTIVES AND GOALS

CICA and the EAEU were established in full compliance with the UN Charter and principles, as well as generally recognized norms of international law.

The analysis of their activities shows that one of the main objectives of CICA and the EAEU is to promote the development of economic cooperation between the Member States and improve the living standards of the peoples.

Along with this, the strategic documents of the EAEU increasingly focus on the social area, the development of human capital, transport infrastructure, digital technologies, and food security.

In addition, the 2025 Strategic Directions for the Development of the Eurasian Economic Integration (*approved by decision No. 12 of the EAEU Supreme Council dated 11 December 2020*) identify such new areas of cooperation of the EAEU Member States as science, education, healthcare, tourism, sports and others.

Therefore, the strategic directions of the EAEU activities correspond to the priority areas of cooperation of the CICA Member States in the economic and human dimensions.

POTENTIAL AREAS OF COOPERATION

Based on the analysis of the strategic directions of the EAEU development and the CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures, the following can be identified as the most promising areas of cooperation:

- Economy and finance;
- Trade and investment;
- Transport corridors and multimodal transportation;
- Digitalization and information and communication technologies
- Development of SMEs;
- Agriculture;
- Tourism;
- Environment and environmental protection;
- Energy saving, energy efficiency and renewable energy sources;
- Human dimension;
- Food security;
- Epidemiological safety, public health and pharmaceuticals;
- Other areas of mutual interest.