

## ***Draft Concept Notes***

### **Workshop on Post Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**

#### **Background**

The objectives of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are actually reflecting the purposes of ASEAN, as stipulated in article 1 of the ASEAN Charter, the purposes of the ASEAN which related to the MDGs are as follows:<sup>1</sup>

- a. to alleviate poverty and narrow the development gap within ASEAN through mutual assistance and cooperation;
- b. to promote sustainable development so as to ensure, among others, the high quality of life of its peoples;
- c. to develop human resources through closer cooperation in education and life-long learning; and
- d. to enhance the well-being and livelihood of the peoples of ASEAN by providing them with equitable access to opportunities for human development, social welfare and justice.

Moreover, the commitments of ASEAN member states in achieving the goals of the MDGs have been reflected in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprints, and Joint Declaration on the Attainment of the Millennium Development Goals which was adopted in Cha Am, Thailand on March 2009.

ASEAN has further reaffirmed its commitment to include human rights in the implementation of MDGs through the adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD) in 2012. The AHRD includes the MDGs as the fulfillment of human rights, especially on the rights of women and children (Article 4 of AHRD), the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical, mental and reproductive health (Article 29 Paragraph 1), right to education (Article 30), and right to development.

Globally, according to the Report of the United Nations Secretary General on the Post MDGs Agenda in 2012, human rights is considered as one of the core principles to address the Post-2015 MDGs Agenda<sup>2</sup>. Moreover, the Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) also stated that the failure of the MDGs to include human rights as important principle of the development, has resulted the unbalanced development framework; poor specification of the global goals, targets and indicators; inappropriate adaptation of global goals to the national level; non-participatory processes; weak accountability for both process and outcomes; and failure to address discrimination and increasing inequalities<sup>3</sup>.

Therefore, in line with the mandate 4.3 of AICHR, to enhance public awareness of human rights among the peoples of ASEAN through education, research and dissemination of information, and mandate 4.6, to promote the full implementation of

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<sup>1</sup> ASEAN Charter, article 1.

<sup>2</sup> the future we want for all: Report to the Secretary-General 2012, page 23

<sup>3</sup> UN System Task Team on the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda: Towards freedom from fear and want: Human rights in the post-2015 agenda 2012, OHCHR, page 8.

ASEAN Instruments related to human rights<sup>4</sup>, this workshop is important to ensure the application of human rights based approach to the Post-2015 MDGs Agenda that will also complement the realization of the ASEAN Community.

### **Objectives:**

The objectives of this workshop are as follow:

- a. to share experience and identify the achievement and challenges in implementing human rights principles in the MDGs of ASEAN Member Countries,
- b. to identify the potential emerging issues of the ASEAN countries for the agenda of the post MDGs 2015, and how a human rights based approach can be applied
- c. To consider next steps to further pursue the action of implementing rights based approach to potential post MDGs agenda.

### **Target Participants**

The workshop will be organized in the form of a panel discussion with invited panelists and time for open, interactive discussion with participants. The expected participants of this workshop are as follows:

- a. Representatives from the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights;
- b. Government agencies primarily handling MDGs and human rights issues and concerns from all ASEAN Member States;
- c. Relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies
- d. National Human Rights Institutions in ASEAN
- e. Relevant regional organisations and selected Civil Society Organisations.
- f. ASEAN Secretariat (related with MDGs)
- g. External sponsors (if necessary)

### **Date and Venue**

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<sup>4</sup> Terms of Reference of AICHR, para 4.3 and 4.6

11-12 December 2013, Jakarta

**Outcome**

The outcome will be a summary of the discussion during the workshop, which also contain recommendations [inputs] for ASEAN member states towards potential post MDGs agenda, and how human rights based approach can be applied.

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