



## Concluding Statements

**The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the South East Asia National Human Rights Institutions Forum (SEANF)**

**6-7 November 2014**

**Werdhapura Village Center, Bali, Indonesia**

### Preamble

The South East Asia National Human Rights Institutions Forum (SEANF) consisting of the National Human Rights Commission of Indonesia [Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (KOMNAS HAM)], the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia [Suruhanjaya Hak Asasi Manusia Malaysia (SUHAKAM)], the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC), the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines (CHRP), the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT) and the Provedoria for Human Rights and Justice of Timor Leste (PDHJ) and held the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of SEANF in Bali, Indonesia, from 6 November to 7 November 2014.

The objectives of the meeting are to strengthen cooperation between SEANF members as enshrined in the Bali Declaration of Cooperation of 2007, and with other human rights institutions to promote and protect human rights at the national, regional and international levels, deliberate the SEANF's Strategic Plan and Permanent Secretariat.

Appreciates the participation and contribution of Independent Expert, Dr Nur Hassan Wirajuda.

The delegations of NHRIs thank the Chairperson, Commissioners and Secretariat of Komnas HAM for their efforts and hospitality in organizing this annual meeting.

### Conclusions

1. Adopts the Agenda of the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SEANF as amended.
2. Welcomes the Discussion of Human Rights, Peace and Security and notes the following important issues :
  - a. Recognizes the role of NHRIs in conflict prevention and reconciliation.

- b. Recognizes the importance of NHRIs and SEANF as a group of important actors that could contribute to the efforts in nurturing a culture of peaceful conflict resolution, the respect of human rights and strengthening peace oriented values.
    - c. With respect to the recent political situation in Thailand, SEANF supports the work of NHRCT and calls on the Government of Thailand to ensure the independence of NHRCT in implementing its mandate, bearing in mind that the spirit of democracy in the ASEAN Charter must be upheld.
3. Welcomes the discussion of the ASEAN Community 2015 and notes important points as follows:
  - a. The ASEAN Community that SEANF envisions is a community of democratic governments whose policies are anchored on human rights standards and principles, adhering to the rule of law and good governance, the principles of democracy and constitutional government.
  - b. Emphasizes the necessity to ensure that ASEAN is a balanced community that respects cultural diversity, yet unified in the mandate to work for the promotion and protection of human rights.
4. Welcomes and notes the review of the Summary of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SEANF in Dili, Timor Leste, in 2013.
5. Welcomes and notes Komnas HAM's Report on the activities of the TWG Meetings in Indonesia.
6. Recalls the decision of the 9th Annual Meeting of SEANF in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in 2012; Encourages all SEANF members to integrate the 5 thematic projects and adopt Business and Human Rights as the overarching theme.
7. Agrees on the initial establishment of an interim Secretariat of SEANF in the office of Komnas HAM, Jakarta, Indonesia.
8. Recalls the decision of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of SEANF, in Dili, Timor Leste, in 2013; to develop a comprehensive proposal on the establishment of a SEANF Permanent Secretariat which will be located in Jakarta.
9. Agrees to conduct the next Technical Working Group of SEANF in January 2015, in Malaysia.
10. Realizing that the current relationship between SEANF and AICHR is on ad hoc basis, decides to strengthen the relationship towards the promotion and protection of human rights in ASEAN region.
11. Agrees to take initiative to review of the Terms of References of AICHR toward enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights in the next ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM).

12. Agrees to convene a Sub Regional Workshop of Business and Human Rights in 2015, in Malaysia.
13. Welcomes the discussion on the Rights of Older Persons and notes important points as follows:
  - a. The rights of older persons should be a priority in human rights agenda
  - b. SEANF should push for an ASEAN Convention on Older Persons to ensure that no group of individuals are subjected to ageism and age discrimination
14. On the principle of rotation, the next chairmanship of the SEANF is SUHAKAM.
15. The meeting thanks and expresses its appreciation to the chairmanship of Komnas HAM.

**Bali, 7 November 2014**