

Country Paper Presentation
on
Implementation of SEA-PAC Action Plan (2017-2019)
at
13th SEA-PAC Meeting “Prospects and opportunities to Strengthen Cooperation”
27-29 November 2017
Manila, Philippines

The objective of the SEA-PAC Action Plan (2017-2019) is to strengthen collaborative efforts among the members to prevent and combat corruption. Based on Article 4 of the original MOU dated 15 December 2004, the SEA-PAC Action Plan has specified Action Plans 1 and 2.

Action Plan 1: Implementation of Chapters 2 and 5 of the UNCAC – **Preventive Measures** and **Asset Recovery** respectively – Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) Myanmar would like to inform the Meeting the recent updates. After the ratification of the UNCAC on 20 December 2012, a series of events followed starting with the enactment of the new Anti-Corruption Law in August 2013; the establishment of the Anti-Corruption Commission on 25 February 2014; and the forming of the ministry-level Office of the Commission on 28 August 2014.

The motto of the Commission: “No Corruption for Prosperous Nation”.

Myanmar has close cooperation with UNODC. There are 5 Sub-programs under UNODC Country Program for Myanmar 2014-2017 and Sub-program 2 focuses Anti-Corruption. The present Country Program has been extended until the end of 2019. UNODC’s cooperation includes providing technical assistance in UNCAC Implementation Review Process and also technical and financial support for related meetings, workshops and capacity-building programs.

Myanmar has fulfilled its obligations under the UNCAC by undergoing the Review of the Implementation of the Convention for the first cycle and completing the country review report last year. We were one of the reviewers for Cambodia and Thailand and Burundi were reviewers for

Myanmar. The recommendations under the Country Review Report are well noted and submitted to the policy level.

The Extradition Law was enacted in 2017. We are revising the Anti-Corruption Law.

We are working towards having the National Anti-Corruption Strategy in cooperation with UNODC and UNDP.

For the UNCAC second cycle review, Myanmar is a reviewing state party for Nigeria with Cote d'Ivoire as other reviewing state party. Country visit to Nigeria was done in May 2017. Myanmar's Self-Assessment Checklist (SAC) is already for peer review by Iraq and Uzbekistan as the reviewers. It has been sent to the UNODC Secretariat in October 2017.

For both UNCAC Implementation Reviews, a steering committee at the national level, an expert group at the senior official level and working groups at the working levels are formed among the relevant ministries/departments. The ACC chairman is also the chair of the Steering Committee and the ACC takes the lead coordinating role.

To name some of the meetings and workshops we hosted in collaboration with UNODC Myanmar Office during the period 2014 to 2017 include (i) Regional meeting on ASEAN Framework for Collaboration on Accountable Governance and Anti-Corruption; (ii) Training Workshop for Focal Point, Governmental Experts and Stakeholders Participating in the Review Mechanism for the UNCAC; (iii) Meeting on Myanmar's Country Review Report for UNCAC Implementation Review – Cycle 1; (iv) Training Workshop for Focal Point, Governmental Experts and Stakeholders Participating in the Review Mechanism for the UNCAC Second Cycle; (v) Asset Recovery Workshop and (vi) Workshop for training needs assessment for investigators.

Action Plan 2: Implementation of the MOU on Cooperation for Preventing and combating Corruption. As regards bilateral cooperation, we have built some platforms based on the SEA-PAC. The Anti-Corruption Commission Myanmar and the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam concluded a bilateral MOU for cooperation in preventing and combating corruption on 15 October 2015. Exchange of visits at the Chairman level took place in 2015.

The MOU for International Cooperation on Combating Corruption between ACC Myanmar and National Anti-Corruption Commission Thailand was signed on 1 February 2017.

MOU on Bilateral Cooperation is under negotiation between ACC Myanmar and State Inspection and Anti-Corruption Authority Lao PDR. We are looking forward to finalizing the MOU within the next few weeks.

The Accreditation of SEA-PAC as an Entity Associated with ASEAN: The possibility to include SEA-PAC as an entity under ASEAN was deliberated and agreed at the 10th SEA-PAC Meeting in December 2014. With the initiative of Malaysia ACC, a working group was formed to study it. The process for the accreditation of the SEA-PAC to be an Entity Associated with ASEAN started in May 2015 and it was approved by the ASEAN Secretariat on 8 February 2017. The SEA-PAC is now listed in Annex 2 of the ASEAN Charter and has become an Entity Associated with ASEAN.

SEA-PAC was invited to the Forum of Entities Associated with ASEAN which was held at the ASEAN Secretariat on 4 May 2017.

ACC Myanmar, as the chair of the 12th SEA-PAC Meeting and the 13th SEA-PAC Secretariat Meeting for 2016-2017 participated in the Forum on behalf of SEA-PAC.

As one of the ASEAN Member States (AMS), we will strengthen and enhance cooperation with other AMS in preventing and combating corruption in line with the vision of the SEA-PAC – “Together against Corruption”.

Thank you.