



HUMAN RIGHTS RESOURCE CENTRE FOR ASEAN

HRRCA INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

The ratification of the ASEAN Charter in 2008 brought with it the historic commitment from ASEAN to establish an ASEAN human rights body. ASEAN has now fulfilled this promise by establishing the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR).

The Human Rights Resource Centre for ASEAN (HRRCA) is a genuinely regional institution of a not-for-profit nature which has been designed to support the work of the AICHR and other ASEAN bodies by focusing on awareness raising, research, capacity building as well as training and teaching on issues of human rights, the rule of law and other relevant areas in the ASEAN region.

PROGRAM FOCUS

The HRRCA's programs will be concentrated in three areas: (i) research, analysis and data collection/presentation; (ii) training and capacity-building; and (iii) support for educational programs at universities throughout the region. While the exact agenda for each component will be determined by the Governing Board of the HRRCA, it is envisioned that the work of the HRRCA will aim to encompass:

- examination of particular human rights issues of regional concern;
- capacity building for promotion and protection of human rights both amongst human rights practitioners and, in the broader sense, amongst those working in areas that require an understanding of human rights (e.g. criminal justice);
- creation of regional networks of scholars, researchers, advocates and experts in the human rights field; and
- publication of reports and training materials and the creation of resources (such as a human rights database) to assist those working in the human rights arena.

In its work, the HRRCA will focus on universal human rights, including political, economic, social, and cultural rights as well as the rule of law and good governance.

STRUCTURE

The Human Rights Resource Centre for ASEAN is a non-profit foundation under Indonesian law. The HRRCA has been established with the independence necessary to implement its own research, training, and educational agenda. While the HRRCA will be hosted at the University of Indonesia, it is an autonomous structure and has independent funding to ensure its independence and the maintenance of its regional focus. The HRRCA is a genuinely regional institution that includes a director and staff from the most capable and qualified individuals from across ASEAN.

The HRRCA encompasses a network of partner and affiliated institutions that tap into the region's rich academic research community. Current partner institutions include the University of Indonesia, Ateneo University School of Law (Philippines), the University

of Malaya (Malaysia), and the Law School of the National University of Singapore. To date, three other prominent universities have agreed to partner with the HRRCA, namely National University of Singapore, Singapore Management University, and Pannasastra University of Cambodia. The Islamic University of Indonesia, which has a strong interest in human rights education, is the HRRCA's first affiliate institution. The HRRCA offices are located at the Depok Campus of the University of Indonesia.

Through collaboration with these partner and affiliated university-based institutions across ASEAN, the HRRCA's research, training, and capacity building projects will contribute to the development of human rights throughout the region.

DIRECTOR AND GOVERNING BOARD

The HRRCA is headed by Marzuki Darusman as Chairman/Director and includes a core research staff with direct experience in leading regional projects in human rights training, research, and education.

The Chairman/Director is responsible for the development and implementation of the HRRCA's programs and for ensuring its success in fulfilling its goals. The Chairman/Director reports to a Governing

Board of nine persons. The Chairman/Director need not be a member of the host institution of the HRRCA or a national of the country where the HRRCA is located but must be an ASEAN citizen. The HRRCA staff will be selected by the Director in consultation with the Governing Board and need not be members of the host institution or nationals of the country where it is located.

The Governing Board will, in consultation with the Chairman/Director, define the strategic agenda for the activities of the HRRCA and the Partner Institutions. The Governing Board shall also be responsible for ensuring the integrity, independence, regional focus, and excellence of the HRRCA.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The financing of the HRRCA shall operate through an independent foundation established in Indonesia. The Governing Board will be responsible for fundraising and ensuring the financial transparency of the HRRCA's financial structure. The salaries of the Director and staff of the HRRCA as well as the funding of the HRRCA's programs and projects shall be provided through the foundation. The HRRCA will also seek out grants and other project work to support its programmes and activities. University of Indonesia will provide support "in-kind" to the HRRCA through the provision of office space, IT infrastructure, library and database access, and other support to be arranged.

Highlight should be given to the support provided by the ASEAN-US Technical Assistance and Training Facility (the Facility) for the centre's establishment, fundraising efforts, office support as well as for the rule of law for human rights study, which is the first research project of the HRRCA.

LEGAL ESTABLISHMENT

The HRRCA and its foundation were officially registered by the Ministry of Law and Human Rights on 31 March 2010 (*Keputusan Menteri Hukum dan Hak Asasi Manusia Republik Indonesia Nomor: AHU.1173.AH.01.04.Tahun.2010*)

RECENT STUDY

The Centre has launched a study to analyse the legal framework supporting human rights in ASEAN. The study will include country reports on all ten ASEAN Member States and is the Centre's first research project. The USAID through ASEAN-US Technical Assistance and Training Facility (the Facility), the Canadian International Development Agency through SEARCH and the Embassy of Switzerland to Indonesia have contributed for this very important study.

The HRRCA would like to the following for their generous support:



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



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Development Agency**



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