

Fourth Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation Tokyo Declaration

Introduction

- 1. We, the Foreign Ministers of the member countries of the Forum for East Asia – Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), met in Tokyo, on 16th and 17th of January, 2010, to strengthen the links between the two regions and broaden the areas of our cooperation. On this occasion, we welcomed the admission of Mongolia as a new member of the Forum.
- 2. Recalling the achievements of the previous three Foreign Ministers' Meetings, we unanimously adopted this Tokyo Declaration.

10 years of FEALAC and beyond

- 3. Ten years have passed since the creation of FEALAC. We recognized that the relations between East Asia and Latin America have deepened considerably. We especially noted that the bi-regional trade between East Asia and Latin America has quadrupled, far outpacing the increase of other region-to-region trades in the world. The links between the two regions and their peoples, once described as missing, are getting broader and deeper.
- 4. We acknowledged that FEALAC has developed from its infancy to its youth in these years, by taking root as a useful forum to promote closer interactions and dialogue between the two regions. We reaffirmed that FEALAC is a unique forum that plays critical roles in promoting mutual

learning of best practices in the both regions, in multiplying mutual benefits by cooperation and exchanges among countries of the regions and in collaborating to meet common global challenges in the international community. The cooperation through FEALAC, which represents 40 % of the world population, 26% of the world economy and more than 40 % of the world trade, has global relevance.

5. In this context, we committed ourselves to further strengthening our activities and interactions through the frameworks of FEALAC, in order to make the most of the vast potential in the bi-regional cooperation as well as to jointly tackle major challenges that we face in the world of today and future.

Major challenges that FEALAC member countries face

Financial and economic crisis

- 6. We recognized that the global economy appears to have emerged from the worst stage of crisis and we are in the midst of transition from crisis to recovery although we must remain vigilant. We recognized the important role of the G20 in tackling the global financial and economic crisis. We appreciated that our experience of the past crises and our responsive fiscal and monetary policies toward the latest crisis played a key role in confronting this grave challenge and stopping the sharp decline in economic activities that the crisis could have brought.
- 7. We shared the recognition that the impact of the crisis still continues to impact negatively on both regions, hampering our effort for recovery, and, in particular, undermining the most vulnerable countries. We reaffirmed the importance of taking wise fiscal policies and prudent financial management policies to build a resilient and viable international economy and of developing strategies to mitigate the impact of the crisis and to prevent future crisis, particularly for the poor. These include, combating all forms of protectionism and promoting global trade and investment including through an ambitious and balanced conclusion of the WTO Doha Development Round Negotiations, consistent with its mandate including development goals, in the year of 2010 based on the progress already made including with

regard to its modalities. In this context, we stress the importance of accomplishing the quantified targets of IMF and the World Bank governance reform endorsed by 2009 IMF World Bank annual meeting in Istanbul, and restructuring International Financial Institutions, and undertaking actions necessary to achieve inclusive, sustainable and balanced growth. In this regard, we welcomed the Framework for Strong, Sustainable, and Balanced Growth launched at the G20 Pittsburgh Summit in September 2009. We also reiterated that the crisis of such global dimension requires the participation of all nations in the search for fair and viable solutions, in an inclusive and democratic framework, with the important role of the United Nations. We, therefore, reinforced our determination to continue working together to accelerate economic recovery by sharing our own experiences, wisdom and best practices that both regions obtained as they got over the past crises. We believe that FEALAC is an appropriate international forum to provide opportunities for such cooperation between countries of both regions.

8. We supported international and regional efforts to reduce hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity through international cooperation and investment in food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development. This includes promoting and cooperating in the research, development, including transfer, of technologies, practices and process in the agriculture sector, particularly those that improve the efficiency and productivity of agriculture systems in a sustainable manner and those that could support adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change.

Social inclusion

9. We believe that economic growth must entail social inclusion through active policies and further involvement by member countries as well as through greater international cooperation. We are acutely aware that the global financial and economic crisis affects, above all, those who live in poverty and in disadvantageous circumstances. We emphasized the importance of international cooperation in supporting national efforts for fostering individual and collective well-being, under sustainable patterns through increasing the income level of people, and

consolidating social safety nets. We also reaffirmed the importance of promoting the inclusive development that will strengthen skills of those who live in poverty and in disadvantageous circumstances and create job opportunities and provide decent work for them in order to maintain a productive and competitive workforce in the countries. We also acknowledge the importance of the migrant workers. We recommend that the working group on economy and society includes the topic in the discussion with an integrated approach. We welcome the next IV Global Forum on Migration and Development to be held in Mexico in 2010 with a constructive and successful conclusion. Moreover, we emphasize the need to further cooperate in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to enhance human progress and development, particularly in the areas of poverty reduction and food security, and thus to realize a prosperous and equitable society in our regions. We agreed on the need to consider cooperation and dialogue on social inclusion and social policies as one of the main objectives and working areas on which FEALAC should focus for the forthcoming years.

The Environment and Sustainable development

- 10. We recognize that the environmental issues, including climate change, affect all humankind, especially in developing countries and those more vulnerable among them, and require greater, concerted and coordinated action by the international community. FEALAC is a useful forum for member countries to share experiences, exchange views and promote cooperation in meeting these challenges. We shared the view that cooperation and mutual learning through sharing of experiences and technologies, capacity building, knowledge and lessons in particular the development and transfer of environmental friendly technology is beneficial and should be further promoted.
- 11. We reaffirmed the importance of tackling climate change issues and our determination to engage in efforts towards the resolution of such issues through international cooperation, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

In this context, building on the result at UN conference on climate change in Copenhagen , we recognized that much work has to be done to strengthen the climate change regime. And we reaffirmed our commitment to work constructively to ensure a successful conclusion of the 16th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the 6th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to be held in Mexico in 2010.

- We stressed the need to seek ways and means to ensure that the 12. efforts for the environmental protection are compatible with economic and social development. In this context, we recognized that coordinated global action will create new opportunities and incentives for the transfer of environmental technologies, in particular to developing countries including environmental goods and services such as organic products, energy efficient products, clean-energy transports, solar power generation and clean energy businesses. While we welcomed the inclusion by a significant number of countries of environment-related investment in their economic stimulus packages, we also acknowledged budgetary and financial restrictions hampering environment-related investment in developing countries and the current clean technology gap between these and developed ones. In view of this, we stressed the importance of ensuring favorable conditions for the development of green industries in developing countries so that they can further benefit from trade in environmental goods and services and are in a better position to contribute to global efforts for the fulfillment of the objectives enshrined in international environmental agreements. It is important that such initiatives result in net environmental benefits and are not a disquise for trade protectionism. We also stressed the importance of participating actively in the negotiation on the reduction or, as appropriate, elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to environmental goods and services in the WTO Doha Development Round Negotiations.
- 13. We shared the view that the FEALAC countries should utilize effectively their rich natural resources to implement environment-friendly measures that also realize sustainable growth to the benefit of our populations. We recognize the principle of sovereign rights of States to manage and regulate their natural resources. In this regard, we encourage the member countries to promote cooperation in areas including agroforestry, sustainable forest management and eco-tourism, as they are home to more than one third of the world's

forests. We also underlined the importance of the conservation, the sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits derived from biodiversity as a base for all the kind of human activities, particularly in Asia and Latin America that enjoy rich flora and fauna. We thus confirmed to cooperate with each other to establish action-oriented global targets beyond 2010 constructively and to conclude the negotiation of the international regime on access and benefit sharing at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan.

Other Global Challenges

Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation

- 14. We shared the necessity of strengthening our efforts in the fields of nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful use of nuclear energy. We will cooperate to ensure successful outcome of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons(NPT) so as to strengthen the Treaty's regime.
- 15. We recognized the importance of the full implementation of the September 2005 Joint Statement through early resumption of the Six-party talks.

United Nations Reform

16. We reaffirmed our strong belief in multilateralism with the United Nations at its center and the commitment to uphold the principles of the United Nations Charter. We thus reaffirmed the need for a comprehensive reform of the UN, including the Security Council, to make it more effective, democratic, accountable, efficient and transparent. We reaffirmed our commitment to the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly in October 2005 (A/RES/60/1-2005 World Summit Outcome).

Human rights

17. We reaffirmed our commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights, including through the ratification and implementation of relevant international human rights instruments.

Transnational Organized Crime

18. We express our deep concern for the threat that transnational organized crime poses to the wellbeing and development of all States and their peoples, and express our commitment to redouble our efforts in the framework of the United Nations to ensure the universality and full implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto. We express our intention to contribute with our ideas and experiences to strengthen the fight against transnational organized crime.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Management

19. We recognized that disasters continued to cause significant impact to the economy, society and well being of the people of East Asia and Latin America. We, therefore, reaffirmed the importance of further strengthening bi-regional cooperation, expanding the network of technical support and cooperation and sharing information and expertise among FEALAC members and international and regional institutions.

Response to influenza pandemic

20. We recognized that the timely information sharing and mutual cooperation at global and regional levels has played an important role in the fight against the current Influenza Pandemic (H1N1). We also stressed the need to share lessons learnt from our experience between Asia and Latin America, with a view to strengthening the preparedness for a possible future pandemic.

Prospects of FEALAC activities

21. We highly appreciated the progress made by the three FEALAC Working Groups in the cooperation in the areas specified as core programs in the Brasilia Ministerial Declaration. We also welcomed that, as described in the reports produced by the three Working Groups, a wide variety of national projects presented by each member country have contributed to deepen mutual understanding and cooperation between both regions.

- 22. We recognized that FEALAC's activities should be more focused and systematic for better coordination and effective management. We thus reaffirmed the need to carry out thorough stocktaking of the ongoing projects, properly categorize them under the relevant working groups and actively identify the areas of cooperation that reflect the common interests of East Asia and Latin America.
- 23. We therefore decided to address with a sense of urgency major challenges such as the global financial and economic crisis, sustainable development including environmental protection and climate change and social inclusion through the activities of the three Working Groups. We thus instructed the three Working Groups respectively to engage in the following priority areas in the period until the next Foreign Ministers' Meeting.
 - (1) the Politics, Culture, Education and Sport Working Group;
 - Academic, cultural and intellectual exchange,
 - Exchange of parliamentarians, policy makers and journalists
 - Promotion of environmental awareness
 - Sports as a means of social inclusion
 - (2) the Economy and Society Working Group;
 - Environment and sustainable development
 - Poverty reduction and social inclusion
 - Trade and investment promotion
 - Utilization of information and communication technology (ICT)
 - Promotion of small and medium enterprises (SMEs)
 - Tourism
 - International Migration
 - Infrastructure and integration
 - (3) the Science and Technology Working Group
 - New and renewable energy
 - Green House Gas mitigation technology
 - Disaster risk reduction and management
 - Technological innovation to strengthen the competitiveness
 - Prevention and control of infectious diseases
- 24. In this regard, we welcomed the new projects and initiatives as well as those already introduced in the Working Groups proposed by

member countries and commended those member countries for their valuable contributions to deepen and further promote cooperation and exchanges through FEALAC process.

- 25. We decided to reform the modality of Working Group meetings to make them more cost effective and sustainable by holding the three Working Group meetings consecutively in one venue. On this new modality, the Regional Coordinators will host the three Working Group meetings, SOM and FMM, unless otherwise decided by consensus.
- 26. We also decided to create the Coordinating Board which aims at making FEALAC activities more effective and consistent by establishing follow-up mechanism of the decisions taken by Foreign Ministers and SOM, as well as by improving the coordination among three Working Groups.
- 27. We decided to create the Cyber-secretariat by further developing the current FEALAC official website and eventually establishing a secretariat for the better management and promotion of the Forum. We appreciated Korea's willingness to host the Cyber-secretariat and make necessary changes to the existing website so that communication and coordination among the members could be enhanced. We also directed our respective officials to intensify their efforts in supporting Korea to achieve this objective.
- 28. We also instructed each Working Group to consider and assess cooperation offers and demands as well as needs and capacities of member countries in the areas or subjects discussed in each group. A segment for technical cooperation will thus be created with a view to optimize the utilization of the cooperation resources of both regions while respecting Member States national priorities and development policies.
- 29. We recognized that this meeting provided a timely opportunity to consolidate and strengthen FEALAC. We requested the Senior Officials to undertake a stocktake of the forum's progress, achievements, membership issues, and the forum's future direction.

Outreach

- 30. We recognized the contributions made by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in order to address major challenges in their respective regions. We also appreciated the efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) to promote bi-regional cooperation. We encouraged these organizations to play a greater role in the FEALAC process. In this regard, we instructed each Working Group to explore ways to enhance financial and technical cooperation with these organizations and others from these regions to carry out the FEALAC projects.
- 31. We appreciated an informative and constructive dialogue with the representatives of ADB, IDB and the World Bank participated in the FMM IV and recognized the importance of continuing this kind of dialogue between these international financial institutions and FEALAC.
- 32. We emphasized the necessity of promoting the publicity of FEALAC inside and outside the FEALAC member countries. We also consider it important to mobilize the private sector and other stakeholders of the member countries, as appropriate, for the FEALAC activities.

Conclusion

- 33. The next Foreign Ministers' Meeting will be held at a venue and on a date to be decided by consensus.
- 34. We expressed our appreciation to the outgoing Coordinators of FEALAC, Argentina and Japan, and welcomed the new Coordinators, Argentina and Indonesia.