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# **ASEAN-U.S. Relations**

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# **ASEAN-U.S. Relations**What Are the Talking Points?

# Edited by **Pavin Chachavalpongpun**



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#### **PREFACE**

This book is the result of a workshop of the ASEAN Studies Centre (ASC) held in July 2010. The primary objective is to raise important "talking points" in ASEAN-U.S. relations, in the hope that the workshop would produce a set of recommendations on how to improve their intricate ties. The ASC hopes that any findings as a result of this workshop would be considered by ASEAN in discussions at the subsequent ASEAN-U.S. Meeting and at other ASEAN-U.S. policy forums. We came up with three crucial themes: political cooperation, strategic issues, and economic and technical assistance between the United States and ASEAN. In each session, attention was paid to contemporary issues that have generated an impact on the ASEAN-U.S. relationship, such as maritime security, the U.S. military presence in this region, the inexorable relations between the United States and China and how both powers interact with ASEAN, the Myanmar issue, as well as the U.S. technical assistance, through the ASEAN Development Vision, to the Advance National Cooperation Programme, known as the ADVANCE project.

Ambassador K. Kesavapany, Director of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), earlier shared his thoughts on why the United States mattered to ASEAN and vice versa. His thoughts partly inspired the organization of this workshop. He encouraged the ASC to make this workshop a reality, stressing that it was time

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both ASEAN and the United States take their relationship more seriously than before, considering that the regional and international environment has greatly changed since the end of the Cold War. On behalf of Ambassador Rodolfo C. Severino, head of the ASC, we would like to sincerely thank Ambassador Kesavapany for his unfailing encouragement and support. We are grateful that Ambassador Kesavapany delivered the keynote speech at the workshop, highlighting the inseparable links between ASEAN and the United States.

This book is divided into two parts. The first part hosts a collection of essays which present an overview of ASEAN-U.S. relations. The second part contains papers which discuss specific issues presented by scholars and government officials during the workshop, plus a paper by Scot Marciel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State of the United States, and U.S. Ambassador for ASEAN Affairs. This paper is based on his speech delivered at ISEAS on 9 December 2009 as part of the ASC's ASEAN Ambassadors Seminar Series.

The ASC would like to thank two other distinguished keynote speakers: Louis Mazel, Deputy Chief of Mission of the U.S. Embassy in Singapore, and Ambassador Minda Calaguian-Cruz of the Philippines Embassy in Singapore. Despite having just arrived in Singapore, Mazel agreed to give his keynote address on behalf of the U.S. Government. We are delighted to learn that his appearance at the workshop was his first official function on arriving in the city state. The ASC would like to thank Ambassador Cruz for representing the Philippines Government as the ASEAN country-coordinator for the United States. Appreciation also goes to all the paper presenters. I would particularly like to express my thanks to Michael Satin, Stephen C. Ma, Lam Peng Er, Neal Imperial, Jane Chan Git Yin, Michael Dembrosky, Yeong T. Pak, Patrick Kane, and Joshua Ho. I would also like to thank Ambassador Severino for contributing his short essay for inclusion in this volume and for spending his time to read Preface xi

the first draft of this manuscript, and Scot Marciel for allowing us to reproduce his speech in this publication. Last, but not least, I thank the East Asia Forum (EAF) for granting me permission to reproduce my article on ASEAN, the United States, and the East Asia Summit (EAS), in this book.

Pavin Chachavalpongpun Editor

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### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AADMER ASEAN Agreement on Disaster

Management and Emergency Response

ADM ASEAN Data Model

ADMM ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting

ADVANCE ASEAN Development Vision to Advance

National Cooperation and Economic

Integration

AEP ASEAN-U.S. Enhanced Partnership

AFTEX ASEAN Federation of Textile Industries
AICHR ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission

on Human Rights

APC Asia-Pacific Community

APSC ASEAN Political-Security Community
APEC Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

ARF ASEAN Regional Forum ASC ASEAN Studies Centre

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

ASG Abu Sayyaf Group ASW ASEAN Single Window

BBC British Broadcasting Corporation

BTA Bilateral Trade Agreement

CARAT Cooperation Afloat Readiness and

Training

xvi Abbreviations

COMLOGWESTPAC Command Logistics Group Western

Pacific

CSI Container Security Initiative

DoC ASEAN-China Declaration on the

Conduct of Parties in the South China

Sea

DoD Department of Defense

DPRK Democratic People's Republic of Korea

EAC East Asia Community
EAF East Asia Forum

EAS East Asia Summit

EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone
EPG Eminent Persons Group
FTA Free Trade Agreement
GWOT Global War on Terror
G-20 Group of Twenty

HADR Humanitarian and Disaster Relief
IAI Initiative for ASEAN Integration
IPR Intellectual Property Rights

ISEAS Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

JI Jemaah Islamiyah MSP Malacca Strait Patrols

NLD National League for Democracy

NSWs National Single Windows NTS Non-Traditional Security

PACOM Pacific Command

PLAN People's Liberation Army Navy
PMC Post Ministerial Conference
PRC People's Republic of China
PSI Proliferation Security Initiative
QDR Quadrennial Defense Review

RIMPAC Rim of the Pacific

RMSI Regional Maritime Security Initiative SAFSA Source ASEAN Full Service Alliance

Abbreviations xvii

SEACAT Southeast Cooperation against Terrorism

SLD Shangri-La Dialogue

SLOCs Sea Lines of Communication SME Small and Medium Enterprises

SPDC State Peace and Development Council
TAC Treaty of Amity and Cooperation
TATF Technical Assistance and Training

Facility

TIFA Trade and Investment Framework

Arrangement

UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and

Development

UNGA United Nations General Assembly
UNSC United Nations Security Council
UNSG United Nations Secretary-General

UPOV International Union for the Protection of

New Varieties of Plants

USAID U.S. Agency for International

Development

USCG United States Coast Guard USN The United States' Navy

WMD Weapons of Mass Destruction WTO World Trade Organization