

**Report**  
**Civil Society Committee for Organizing ASEAN Civil Society**  
**Conference/ASEAN Peoples' Forum 2012**  
**14-16 November 2012 at Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

**Tuesday, November 13, 2012**

Activists and grass-roots network in Cambodia and ASEAN countries in the thousands. Have gathered at Phnom Penh.

The activity "ASEAN People's Assembly grassroots" or "(ASEAN Grassroots People's Assembly - AGPA)" organized by the "Cambodia Cross-Sector Network" will be held for four days from Tuesday. To the summit with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) or the ASEAN and the ASEAN People's Assembly, as part of a grass roots movement by the people in the Southeast Asian region. To participate in the formulation of government policy.

Opening Ceremony of "grassroots ASEAN People's Assembly" with the participants about a thousand people. It is a suburban area of Phnom Penh today. Event was thwarted by state officials. It is not to be used to cut power to the area of the venue. However, participants also performed the opening ceremony. Read the statements. And the activities and cultural performances to non-amplification. The ceremony ended in the evening and there came to arrest or disperse any assembly of officers. Issues and countries in Southeast Asia, Cambodia is facing. The poor condition of employment. Receiving low wages. Employment in the formal sector and the informal economy. And youth unemployment. ASEAN People's Assembly grassroots participants. Together to discuss trade and investment agreements. And discuss how they will be affected in agriculture and food security, however. The other. The debate will be raised, including labor resources. And living. Including human rights and democracy

Wednesday, November 14 2012

## Civil Society Committee for Organizing ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ASEAN Peoples' Forum 2012



### Opening Ceremony

Welcoming and opening speech by Mr. Sok Sam Oeun, the Chairperson of the Steering Committee

On Nov 14, the organizer of the "ASEAN Civil Society Conference / ASEAN People's Government" (ASEAN Civil Society Conference / ASEAN Peoples' Forum 2012) or ACSC / APF SOVANN KOMAR Center outskirts of Phnom Penh. The open day is Executive Director Sok Sam Oeun Cambodian Defenders Project.



During the opening ceremony, Mr. Sok Sam Oeun'm sorry to say that events moved several times. The owner of the organizers to cancel the contract. To find a new place, he said, "the laws of Cambodia. No laws prohibit this merger. Both the workshops or meetings with Cambodia, but illegal assembly. But today is not a managed assembly. We present a discussion and discuss

only "

Issues, problems and demands. In Cambodia and countries in Southeast Asia, "people have called on the government of Cambodia. And governments in Asia to get problems. These issues are the subject land, the land lease charges repeal. Infringement of human rights. Including food security and independence. Trade and investment policies. It urges governments in ASEAN. Not only the government of Cambodia. Bring these issues to be responsible. It also calls for the suggestion. They offer a solution. To put into action ".

The proposal with Asian leaders and the superpowers at the ASEAN Summit this weekend then. ASEAN. ASEAN leaders urge. Recognize and listen to that. States are required by the community. Not only the decision of the government. Therefore, for the development of ASEAN as a regional community. Both the economic and the social services. Must come from the decisions and the participation of the public"

Throughout the three days of meetings and dialogues with the main stage. Seminar topics will be divided into multiple sub-issues, natural resources and human rights, the rights of ethnic groups. The issue of sexual diversity. Gender equality, education, youth, peace, stability, free and fair elections in the States. And on the last day of the meeting issued a joint statement which will be collected from the proposal stage of the meeting. In this Friday, will be presented to the ASEAN Declaration on Human Rights residents. And a mechanism to monitor and police the proposals from the public.

**Workshop on ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD)  
ASEAN Grassroots People's Assembly (AGPA)  
“Final ASEAN Human Rights Declaration: Challenges and Civil Society’s  
Response”  
Phnom Penh-Cambodia, 14 November 2012, 2.00pm-5.00pm**



**How civil society should respond to the final ASEAN Human Rights Declaration? Proposal of strategy and actions**

62 grassroots, national, regional, and international civil society groups are calling upon ASEAN Member States to postpone the adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, which is not worthy of its name. The organizations vow to reject the Declaration if it is adopted with its current text. Instead, they urge ASEAN Member

States to send the draft back to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) with instruction to revise it so that it accords with international human rights law.

The Declaration as it stands now unquestionably fails to meet existing international human rights standards, let alone add value to them. It flies in the face of the international consensus on human rights principles that have been in place for more than six decades. Of utmost concern are specific provisions in the Declaration’s General Principles, which tear at the heart of long accepted human rights precepts. Under these provisions, the enjoyment of the rights provided in the Declaration is to be “balanced with the performance of duties” (GP 6), subjected to “national and regional contexts” and to considerations of “different cultural, religious and historical backgrounds” (GP 7). Moreover, all of the rights provided in the Declaration would be subject to restriction on a wide array of grounds including “national security” and “public morality” (GP 8).

No other universal or regional instrument applies a “balance” between the enjoyment of rights and freedoms against duties and responsibilities. On the contrary, these instruments are founded upon the idea that human rights are the birthright of all persons, not some kind of commodity that must be earned. International law and practice do not permit such broad restrictions that could, in effect, serve to excuse the violation of the rights guaranteed elsewhere in the Declaration. Finally, international law imposes on all ASEAN Member States the duty, regardless of their “national and regional contexts,” to respect and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms. Civil society groups have repeatedly expressed grave concerns over both the drafting process and the substance of the Declaration since the initiative began. The AICHR met with regional civil society only towards the very end of the process and ignored most of their recommendations.

Some individual AICHR representatives held consultations with civil society groups nationally, but such meetings were mostly ineffective. In some countries, no consultations were held at all. Most of the drafting process was conducted in secret and texts were rarely shared and never publicized.

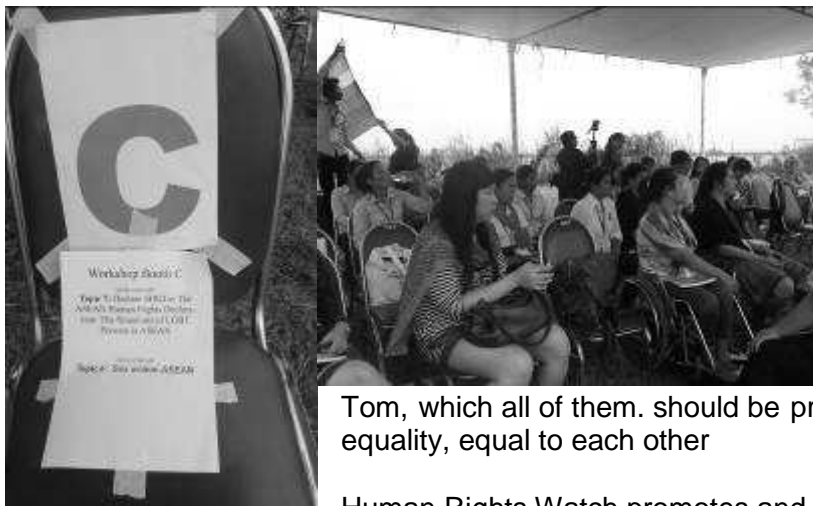
For the Government of Cambodia, the adoption of this fundamentally flawed Declaration during the 21st ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh will conduct a drafting exercise in a transparent manner and invite grassroots, national, regional, and

international civil society to participate meaningfully in the process. If the ASEAN Member States decline to continue the drafting process and proceed with the adoption of the Declaration in its current form, the organizations will reject the Declaration and condemn its adoption. The people of the region and the international human rights community and stakeholders will continue to rely primarily upon existing international instruments for human rights protection in the ASEAN.

**Thursday, November 15 2012**

## **PARALLEL WORKSHOPS**

### **Topic 7: Declare SOGI in the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration: The Situations of LGBT Persons in ASEAN**



Gender equality and the rights of the existing. It is not just the two male and female, but in fact, present a gender identity different than that of the gay king gay queen Brighton and Hove Visual shemale transgender

Tom, which all of them. should be protected by the right to equality, equal to each other

Human Rights Watch promotes and protects the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people worldwide. Some 76 countries have laws against same-sex sexuality. We research issues like the arrest and torture of gay men in Egypt, violence against lesbians in South Africa, and the murder of transgender people in Honduras. We document discrimination faced by LGBT people in employment, health, and education, and the abuses they experience, including rape, murder, and arbitrary arrest. LGBT people are often denied the rights to freedom of assembly, expression, and association. We fight for a world free from discrimination and violence against LGBT people.

Laws affecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people vary greatly by country or territory—everything from legal recognition of same-sex marriage or other types of partnerships, to the death penalty as punishment for same-sex romantic/sexual activity or identity.

LGBT rights are human rights and civil rights. LGBT rights laws include, but are not limited to, the following: government recognition of same-sex relationships (such as via same-sex marriage or civil unions), LGBT adoption, recognition of LGBT parenting, anti-bullying legislation and student non-discrimination laws to protect LGBT children and/or students, immigration equality laws, anti-discrimination laws for employment and housing, hate crime laws providing enhanced criminal penalties for prejudice-motivated violence against LGBT people, equal age of consent laws, and laws related to sexual orientation and military service.

Anti-LGBT laws include, but are not limited to, the following: sodomy laws penalizing consensual same-sex sexual activity with fines, jail terms, or the death penalty, anti-'lesbianism' laws, and higher ages of consent for same-sex activity.

In 2011, the United Nations Human Rights Council passed its first resolution recognizing LGBT rights, which was followed up with a report from the UN Human Rights Commission documenting violations of the rights of LGBT people, including hate crime, criminalization of homosexuality, and discrimination. Following up on the report, the UN Human Rights Commission urged all countries, which had not yet done so, to enact laws protecting basic LGBT rights

Gender refers to the physical characteristics of men and women in the sense of the Congress. Correlated with reproductive organs. Sex is a natural thing that happens between a man and a woman only. (Sex for procreation).

Sex for recreation. Late 20th century, a new meaning of sex has become widely accepted by one or more of the sex that is the subject of leisure.  
Sex with a discussion of the ideas behind the first two. (Leisure and heart).

Sex as a social burden. Must be something sexual. Sex is an expression of love that has excellent quality. Is to make love or sex for social bonding, which is different from the idea of providing services under the mind.

Male and female gender by the values of social and cultural differences and practices that should be feminine or masculine gender is the social structure or social structure of society.

People to follow the concept of gender has been a major component of the sexual desire and identity. Gender and sex are determined by the constraints and how man should love this one. Sex is a language that speaks to the theme. Male and female homosexuality is not just a male or female, human and gender should be a source of sex is a matter of presentation. Humans did not come from the society itself. But the human body has been prepared by the idea of sex. (Women should be given the shape of the body) at the physical point is that we want others to see us. Women or men. Strictly for those who do not wear a pink shirt, etc. result in physical, sexual identity through the presentation.

Sex is a matter of courtesy, to say the attitude of the verb. It is related to social background and gender identity. Depending on how people see themselves.

Sex is a matter of definition as to what the subject of sex. In the normal and abnormal sex

Group of people with diverse sexuality and LGBT or abbreviation in English deer, which is the first letter of lesbians are gay, bisexual, and transgender / transsexual LGBT is from 90 "LGB" phrase used. Many in the gay community in a variety of sex. I feel that these people correctly describe as described above. In modern usage refers to a variety of sexual and gender characteristics of the LGBT society. And sometimes refers to a group of people who are not heterosexual. Instead of being identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender.

Sexual orientation is meant to be the basis of emotion, libido and / or sexual relationships with men, women or both sexes. Or not the sex or gender of one-third of the American Psychological Association, the orientation information is available. And may be referred to. Sense of personal identity and social identity. Interesting

point of view. The release behavior. And a member of the society in which they live.

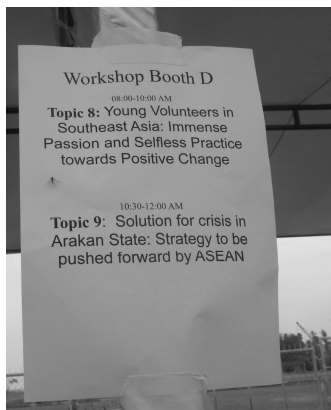
Sexual orientation, gender identity discrimination is what people perceive sex as well as others who might these differences have sex with them separately. In most cases, the orientation will be divided into three categories: sex is heterosexual and homosexual sexual orientation became known four.

Gender is what is the difference between male and female characteristics. World Health Organization, means that "the nature of men and women in the construction of social behavior and social characteristics have been considered to be a man or a woman," is the term given to a person's biological sex. The share of females and males.

Sexual health is not just a male and female anatomy, physiology alone. It also is determined by the society and culture of women - a relationship between gender roles (fixed males) and changes in sexual identity over time.

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind. (The mind), thought processes and behavior of humans and the scientific process. Emotion, personality, behavior and interpersonal relationships.

### **Topic 9: Solution for crisis in Arakan State: Strategy to be pushed forward by ASEAN**



Because of the ethnic violence in western Burma's anxiety issues for the region of Southeast Asia. Dozens of people were killed. And more than 100,000 people homeless. Attack of the clash

between the Rakhine Buddhists. The Muslim Rohingya.

Since June, the State of Rakhine the problem is an issue of concern to the ASEAN countries. Burma and Indonesia especially hopes to be able to deal with problems in a positive way. In a similar way to the democratic process, the the latest in Rakhine State. The Myanmar government has appointed a commission of inquiry to determine the total 27. The Myanmar government has rejected the demand of the United Nations. And human rights activists who want to investigate. I see that as a problem in Burma.

Myanmar clarify international conflict that took place in Arakan State, not genocide. But the conflict between communities. And has made it law.

The recent violence between the Rohingya. To the Arakan and Burma. Rakhine State has not received any spatial resolution. Apart from the United Nations to the previous. Government is also not allowed to Human Rights. This is a testament to human rights. It is considered an insult. And racial discrimination. Not recognized as citizens. Despite the Rohingya migrants arrived in the area over a hundred years. ASEAN's role is still very limited. ASEAN Secretary-General Surin Pitsuwan said that although every effort will be. However, Myanmar still has a strong position in the

meeting of Foreign Ministers. And the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration. The story was much criticized when the issue of ASEAN. Need time to adapt to the country and to solve the humanitarian mechanisms. And the area as quickly as possible before. To solve the problem as soon as possible. It's not just a matter of religion. It's about life. And as a human being difficult. But I never have. The fact that he is not religious. But the violence of the "politics of democracy, human rights and the Constitution," the violence that took place at Rakhine. The inequality and violations of humanitarian law. That should be corrected. The AEC must offer a way to study the cooperation with Myanmar. Which is a member of ASEAN.

Political parties in Burma have chosen to adapt to the political environment changes, such as Aung San Suu Kyi suddenly playing catch up with the leaders in Burma. Therefore, reforms in Myanmar. Its social justice can not truly into Burmese society.

And the issue of the Rohingya in Burma. May be identified with the issue of nationalism and religion. And the people of the Rohingya people. In addition, the history of the nation of Burma. And the Burmanization. The Burmese military regime since the coup of General Ne Win. Was the exclusion of other non-ethnic Burmese from Myanmar as well.

Prospects for resolving the conflict in Arakan State.

In the Rakhine State, Arakan Rohingya people are paranoid. And land use issues. To increase the population of the Rohingya. And the fear of losing cultural accumulation and penetration of strategic areas.

However, both groups have helped to resolve. By the Rakhine, Rohingya people to talk to. However, it is a variable. Rakhine people to shake hands with Myanmar to the bargaining power of the higher self. The Rohingya Muslim countries had to rely on the support. However, some Muslim countries have strong ties with the Burmese government. The fear that the conflict will be resolved with the endless trails. It is the poor people who were abused or are victims of violence. Whether Muslim Rohingya. Or any of the Rakhine Buddhist ".

Friday November, 16 2012

**[Statement] JOINT STATEMENT OF the 2nd ASEAN Civil Society Conference/  
ASEAN People Forum (ACSC/APF) 2012 Phnom Penh, 16 November 2012**



A key discussion that took place over the course of the event was ASEAN member states' failure to produce an ASEAN Human Rights Declaration that matches or even exceeds existing international human rights standards. As such, we the delegates of the ACSC/APF, refuse to endorse the Declaration and instead, will continue to use standards set in international human rights instruments, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to measure progress in the region.

ASEAN professes to be people-centered, however, the conduct of the Cambodian government in response to ACSC/APF has demonstrated that this principle has not been translated into action. As a result of intimidation by Cambodian authorities, two venue hosts reneged their agreements, in an attempt to curtail the constitutionally-guaranteed rights to freedom of speech and freedom of

assembly.

ASEAN member states, in particular, those that do not currently hold elections, must commit to periodic free and fair elections with the presence of both citizen observers and international observers. Only then can we begin to fulfill ASEAN's potential to promote good governance, democracy and rule of law.

ASEAN is not just made up of governments but the people they serve. We the people take this role very seriously, because it affects our lives and the lives of future generations. Realizing the objectives laid out in the ASEAN Economic Blueprint has been the priority of ASEAN, which has been moving ahead with little regard to the citizens who will be most affected by it. ASEAN needs to open space, including genuine freedom of association and speech, for citizens to participate, take ownership and lessen the impact of negative consequences. ASEAN must embrace the key principles of the respect for human rights and the international human rights standards that all ASEAN countries adhere to. Sustainable and equitable economic development will only be achieved if ASEAN transforms into a genuinely people-centered community. That is why we are here today. Therefore we urge the adoption of the following recommendations:

**ECONOMICS AND ENVIRONMENT**

Food security, land and ocean grabbing Ocean Grabbing and Food Sovereignty In view of this, we call for the following:

1. Review the economic model being pursued by ASEAN which emphasizes more trade liberalization and increased investment by corporations in the fishery, coastal and agriculture resource industries. ASEAN should consider pursuing a model which protects and recognises the resource rights of vulnerable farmers and fishers.



2. Stop land, ocean and other resource grabbing in the region. ASEAN and national governments should adopt regional agreements and policies that reduce widespread private investment in and privatization of land, coastal, freshwater and fishery bodies;
3. For the governments of ASEAN member states to adopt policies that give farmers and fishers secure tenure, ownership, control and management of their land, freshwater and coastal/fishery resources.
4. For all fishers to be able to participate actively and substantially in decision-making in agriculture and fishery policies and specifically in the negotiations of the Food and Agriculture Organization instrument on fishery resource access, including the Fishers Code of Conduct.
5. For the governments of ASEAN member states to support programs of community management of coastal, freshwater and other fishery resources.

### **Natural Resources Extractive Industry**

Recommendations:

1. ASEAN member states should adopt the EITI;
2. ASEAN should create a legal framework on extractive industries;
3. All ASEAN member states should adopt access-to-information laws;
4. Develop multi-stakeholders mechanism to promote good governance and transparency in extractive industries and natural resource management.
5. Guarantee transparency through frequent, perhaps monthly, financial and progress reports by the extractive industry.
6. To ensure transparency in oil, gas and mining revenues, countries should develop and adopt a legal framework and policy for domestic and international investment companies.

### **Regional Integration and its Implication for Women from a Gender Perspective**

In fact, the contrary is true. The pillars have been formulated in isolation without consideration of their collective impact. The political emphasis has been on the economic community/blueprints, which pose huge threats to people's access to their means of subsistence. Without mechanisms to include serious participation by its people, ASEAN can expect increasing violations of fundamental human rights, women's rights, environmental sustainability, social injustice and gender injustice and inequality.

We recommend ASEAN member states adopt mechanisms to:

1. Ensure that the voices of those affected are integrated into the collective policy of the ASEAN communities.
2. Ensure all measures and policies of member states protect human rights, women's rights, indigenous people's rights and the rights of marginalized and vulnerable peoples.
3. Uphold the principle of non-discrimination for age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, class, nationality, religion, ability or any other distinction.
4. Adopt the ASEAN Framework Instrument on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, which protects all migrant workers, skilled and unskilled, documented and undocumented, and their families.
5. Ensure that economic and investment policies do not result in land grabbing that uproots lives, especially those of women and the marginalized, through forced eviction and involuntary resettlement.
6. Provide effective remedies for violence against women. Protect sexual and reproductive rights, the right to a healthy environment and other rights guaranteed by international treaties and standards.
7. Ensure that women are involved in all levels of decision-making nationally and internationally.

8. Adopt and ratify the ILO Convention 189 on Domestic Workers.
9. Guard against extensions of intellectual property rights in national or regional trade agreements that restrict access to medicines and undermine public health

### **Trade Unions, Labor Rights and Workers Labor Trend on ASEAN**

#### **Recommendations:**

1. Protect workers' rights in ASEAN
  - Ensure decent salaries for workers and employees;
  - Ensure occupational safety protection for workers in construction and other sectors;
  - Workers should work no longer than 8 hours a day and 5 days a week.
  - Ensure the rights of trade unions to be able to negotiate collectively
  - Reduce the prevalence of short term contracts and sub-contractors
  - Ensure migrant workers are protected by relevant laws and related agencies.
2. Implement a mechanism to ensure risk prevention and prevent other related violations against employees and migrant workers
  - The promulgation of a new labor law within ASEAN;
  - The implementation of policy, legal framework and others mechanisms in relation to this topic.
  - All ASEAN member states must adopt a Memorandum of Understanding to protect migrant workers who work within their countries.
  - ASEAN member states must guarantee the rights of migrant women, including marriage migrants, and put in place mechanisms to ensure women"s empowerment.
  - ASEAN member states must include protection mechanisms for women and families abandoned by migrant workers.
3. The creation of a legal framework within ASEAN
  - Set up a transparency committee, sector, and adopt a transparent approach to all sectors;
  - Create a national and regional migration protection law to ensure the safety of migrants; and
  - Provide a mechanism for the people of ASEAN members to raise concerns within the region in relation to labor issues.

### **SOCIAL-CULTURAL**

Labor and sex trafficking Modern-day slavery in and from ASEAN

We recommend that ASEAN member states:

1. Enact national anti-trafficking-in-persons laws and policies that meet international standards including the Palermo Protocol;
2. Provide sufficient resources for the investigation, prosecution, and conviction of perpetrators, especially in cases where such perpetrators are corrupt government officials or their accomplices;
3. Discontinue labor export and recruitment policies and practices that facilitate human trafficking;
4. Engage with and provide resources for CSOs to provide services and protection for victims of sex trafficking as well as workers who have been held in debt bondage or slave-like conditions (labor trafficking);
5. Enact immigration and labor laws that provide victims, especially migrant workers, with the right to reside and work legally until such time as they are willing and able to be repatriated safely;

6. Embark upon robust nation-wide campaigns to bring awareness about human trafficking, targeting factors that are likely to lead potential victims into trafficking as well as prejudicial and stereotypical views about migrant workers;
7. ASEAN should ensure that both sending and receiving countries be held jointly responsible to promote and uphold the rights of women migrants of due recognition to their contribution to the respective countries' development.

## **Human Rights**

A Review of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)

The review of the Terms of Reference of AICHR process in 2014 under Myanmar's chairmanship will provide an opportunity to identify challenges and opportunities and a plan for the future. Civil society organizations and others want ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) to evolve into a credible, independent, responsive and accessible regional human rights mechanism in ASEAN.

Recommendations:

1. There should be more transparency in the recruitment for AICHR. To reflect this transparency, the term inter-governmental within AICHR should be changed to independent. Principles of the TOR concerning non-interference and sovereignty should be changed. The principle of impartiality should be adopted.
2. AICHR needs to have a human rights protection mechanism, as well as a mechanism to engage all relevant stakeholders, in particular CSOs, in ASEAN.
3. CSOs need to have a clear idea of what AICHR should achieve in the next three years and bring it to the attention of the foreign ministers of each member state.
4. CSOs need to be more creative about how they lobby for change. AICHR must increase public awareness so that everyone in the region understands its role.

## **Indigenous and ethnic minority and human rights**

IP/EM in ASEAN community: Promote and Protect rights to Land, Territory, Natural Resources and Development of IP/EM

Recommendations:

1. ASEAN member states should establish and reinforce effective redress mechanisms and access to justice for damages from past and current projects in which indigenous peoples were not consulted. This should include legal pluralism approaches rooted in traditional cultures
2. Local, national and regional governments should establish mechanisms by indigenous peoples participate in all decision-making processes including in matter of governance of state.
3. ASEAN member states need to ratify and immediately implement the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and International Labor Organization Convention 169. They must reviewing and repealing national laws and policies that discriminate against IPs&EM.
4. Each member state should immediately implement its Universal Periodic Review recommendations regarding IPs&EM. In the second cycle, IPs&EM should be included in preparation of the state report as key stakeholders. States should also accept recommendations relating to IPs&EM.
5. To build an ASEAN community by 2015 that is consistent with UNDRIP, member states should designate an indigenous peoples focal person within the AICHR to set up a working group for the respect, promotion and protection of indigenous peoples.

### **Sex Worker Rights Sex worker-ASEAN**

1. Guarantee that all ASEAN peoples can migrate and travel safely, with equal access to services including health and legal services, regardless of occupation. This must include an end to discriminatory immigration policies and practices that restrict the movement of sex workers.
2. Ensure sex workers receive equal protection and benefits under the law; and freedom from abuse by police and other state and non-state actors, including religious bodies.
3. Reform public health programming to provide sex workers with the highest standards of health services, especially HIV prevention.
4. The ASEAN Tourism Plan proposes to offer education and skills to tourism workers. Sex workers call on ASEAN Tourism Ministers Committee to create a fund available to sex workers and their organizations for education, skill training and other opportunities for other non-direct sex-related vocations.

### **LGBT Rights**

1. Include SOGI provision into the ASEAN Declaration on Human Rights, specifically inclusion of reference to „gender identity“ and „sexual orientation“ in Article 2.
2. Immediately repeal laws that directly and indirectly criminalize SOGI, recognize LGBTIQ rights as human rights, and harmonize national laws, policies and practices with the Yogyakarta Principles.
3. Establish national-level mechanisms and review existing regional human rights instruments (e.g. AICHR, ACWC) to include the promotion and protection of the equal rights of all people regardless of SOGI with the active engagement of the LGBTIQ community.
4. Depathologize SOGI and promote psychological wellbeing of people of diverse SOGI in accordance with World Health Organization (WHO) standards and ensure equal access to health and social services.

### **Youth and Development**

Young Volunteers in Southeast Asia: Immense Passion and Selfless Practice towards Positive Change

Recommendations:

1. Promote volunteerism to all sectors in ASEAN community.
2. Have youth volunteer policies; provide more opportunities and strengthen the volunteer network for youth to contribute to society.
3. Provide both financial support and effective mechanisms.
4. Include volunteerism in the curricula of ASEAN educational institutions.
5. Establish a volunteer visa service for those who want to volunteer in Southeast Asia.

### **POLITICS AND SECURITY**

Recommendations:

1. The government should review the 1982 Nationality Law in consultation with both Rohingya and Rakhine communities to develop a mutually agreeable solution.
2. The government should take appropriate action to establish rule of law to stop the violence, and in such a way that does not violate human rights.
3. The government should allow humanitarian agencies unfettered access to affected Rohingya and Rakhine communities and internally displaced persons in Arakan state.
4. The government should allow foreign journalists access to Arakan state.

5. National media should refrain from inflammatory reporting and provide objective coverage of the situation.
6. All victims of the violence in Arakan state should receive treatment for trauma and extensive measures should be taken by both state and non-state actors to ensure restoration of lasting peace, security, livelihood and development.

### **ASEAN Free and Fair Elections**

We encourage all ASEAN member states, their Election Management Bodies (EMBs) and civil society members to endorse the Bangkok Declaration on Free and Fair Elections. Created by civil society members and EMBs from across Asia, the declaration addresses, in a practical way, many of the challenges concerning elections in the ASEAN region. By endorsing and then implementing the Bangkok Declaration's principles by 2015, ASEAN governments can prove their full democratic legitimacy to become of the people, by the people and for the people they serve.

1. Have a complete electoral/legal framework that ensures universal participation of citizens and functional independence for Election Management Bodies.
2. The framework should empower minorities, marginalized citizens and other people with special challenges while promoting the full participation of women in elections and facilitating voting for citizens living abroad.
3. Systems for Electoral Dispute Resolution must ensure that all complaints and electoral disputes are settled in a timely and impartial manner with adequate investigation and neutral resolution mechanisms.
4. Voter lists must be accurate so as to ensure the right to vote for all citizens. Voter registration must be simple, convenient, accessible, available and conducted in a timely manner that results in an accurate, complete voter list.
5. The electoral campaign should be peaceful, free and fair. Media should be impartial.
6. There should be proper oversight of parties' campaign finances and no misuse or abuse of government resources or interference by security services.
7. Fair voting operations must include professional polling station management.
8. Both citizens and election officials must have adequate training and education to perform their roles reliably and responsibly.
9. Citizen Election Observers should be fully recognized, accredited, and included in elections.

Citizen observers can promote the integrity and transparency of the entire election process.

We urge ASEAN and/or its member states to utilize and benefit from the rich electoral experience found across Asia. We recommend they turn the documents into action and work together to build and ensure free and fair elections across the region.

**By: Ms.Apanee Mitthong**