



THE COLOMBO PLAN

For Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific

**Proceedings and Conclusions of the
41st Consultative Committee Meeting**

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

21 – 22 August 2008



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Member Countries

Afghanistan	Iran	Myanmar	Sri Lanka
Australia	Japan	Nepal	Thailand
Bangladesh	Korea	New Zealand	United States of America
Bhutan	Lao PDR	Pakistan	Vietnam
Fiji	Malaysia	Papua New Guinea	
India	Maldives	Philippines	
Indonesia	Mongolia	Singapore	

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41st Consultative Committee Meeting



Group Photograph of the 41st Consultative Committee Meeting

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RECORD OF CONCLUSIONS

A. FORMALITIES AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. The 41st Consultative Committee Meeting of the Colombo Plan (CCM) was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from Thursday, 21 to Friday, 22 August 2008. It was inaugurated on 21 August 2008. H.E. Dato' Dr. Ali bin Hamsa, Deputy Director-General, Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia was the Secretary-General of the 41st CCM.

2. The Meeting was attended by delegates from twenty-one member countries, observers from four international and regional organisations and observers from three non-member countries. A list of delegates and observers is included in Annex XXI. The President of the Colombo Plan Council, the Secretary-General and staff of the Colombo Plan Secretariat and the Director-General of the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education also participated in the Meeting.

Welcome Address

3. H.E. Dato' Dr. Ali bin Hamsa, leader of the Malaysian delegation delivered the welcome address which is included in Annex I.

Keynote Address

4. The Honourable Tan Sri Amirsham bin A. Aziz, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia delivered the keynote address which is included in Annex II.

5. In his keynote address, the Honourable Tan Sri Amirsham bin A. Aziz acknowledged the capacity building roles undertaken by the Colombo Plan, from that of scholarship provider in the early days to enhancing human resource development today. He also reiterated that the 'Self-Help and Mutual Help' philosophy of the Colombo Plan remains as a catalyst for effective South-South Cooperation. In this regard, Malaysia as a proponent of South-South

Cooperation, has been active in providing technical assistance through its Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP), both to MTCP member countries as well as Colombo Plan member countries. He emphasised that the success of the Colombo Plan was leveraged on the extraordinary spirit of generosity of developed member countries and called for the continuous support of all donor countries. He pointed out that the focus of the meeting was Strategic Vision of the Colombo Plan 2025, the Work Plan for 2008 as well as Technical Cooperation and South-South Cooperation. He expressed confidence on continuing cooperation among members and wished the meeting to reach a successful and productive conclusion.

Response to the Keynote Address

6. Dr. Anup K. Pujari, head of the delegation of India, conveyed his gratitude to the Chief Guest for his gracious presence and for formally inaugurating the 41st CCM, on behalf of all present. He also thanked the Leader of the Malaysian delegation for his warm welcome. In response to the Chief Guest's address, he expressed hope that the statement of Colombo Plan's objectives of providing scholarships and human resource development would be taken to a higher level. With regard to the South-South Cooperation mentioned, he stressed the need for strong financial support and hoped this 41st CCM will make this a concrete actualisation.

Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

7. H.E Dato' Dr. Ali Hamsa, the Deputy Director-General of the Economic Planning Unit, was elected as Chairman of the 41st CCM, proposed by India and seconded by Sri Lanka. Dr Anup K. Pujari, the head of the delegation of India, was elected Deputy Chairman, proposed by Afghanistan and seconded by the Philippines.

Appointment of the Drafting Committee

8. The 41st CCM appointed the following as members of the Drafting Committee:

- Mr. Koh Tin Fook from Singapore (Chairman),
- Dr. Chitriya Pinthong from Thailand,
- Dr. Hussain Niyaz from the Maldives,
- Dr. Sonam Tenzim from Bhutan, and
- Mdm. Norani Ibrahim from Malaysia.

Introduction of Delegates and Observers

9. The Chairman started the meeting by inviting all delegates and observers to introduce themselves.

Adoption of the Agenda

10. The 41st CCM adopted the agenda with some minor amendments. The revised agenda is in Annex III.

B. THE COLOMBO PLAN ACTIVITIES

The Colombo Plan's Strategic Work Plan

11. The Secretary-General of the Colombo Plan Secretariat (CPS) presented the Colombo Plan Vision

2025 and reported the strategic Work Plan for 2008. After bilateral discussions with member countries, new programmes would be implemented on a cost-sharing basis and existing programmes reinforced.

12. The Strategic Work Plan 2008 includes the establishment of an Advisory Committee by CPS, comprising of eminent persons including those from the academia, who were well-versed in technical cooperation, South-South Cooperation and other areas of regional cooperation. The Advisory Committee would meet frequently to provide guidance and direction.

13. Member countries supported the Strategic Work Plan 2008 and proposed that focus be given to skills and vocational training. It was pointed out that for the plan to be implementable, sufficient funding must be made available for the success of the programmes. As such, there is a need to identify innovative methods to raise funds apart from relying on voluntary pledges. Furthermore, the CPS would also need to be strengthened to effectively implement such programmes.

14. The 41st CCM approved the Colombo Plan Vision 2025 and noted the Strategic Annual Plan for 2008.

Annual Reports of the Colombo Plan for 2005/2006 and 2006/2007

15. The Secretary-General of the CPS presented the Annual Reports of the Colombo Plan for 2005/2006 and 2006/2007. The 41st CCM considered and adopted the reports. Member countries acknowledged the new initiatives and contributions made by the CPS.

Annual Reports of the Governing Board of the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) for Technician Education for 2005/2006 and 2006/2007

16. The Director-General of the CPSC presented the Biennial Report on the CPSC and outlined the major innovations and operational highlights.

17. A total of 45 programmes was conducted in the FY 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 involving a total of 1,076 personnel. Thrust areas in training were Sustainable Development, Competency-based Curriculum, e-Learning, Change Management, Skills Development, Accreditation and Certification and Emerging Technology.

18. In order to address some constraints including limited resources, the Director-General sought the proactive support of participating countries to second faculty to CPSC. This will help in enhancing the sharing of cross-cultural experiences and quality of academic programmes. As a way to move forward, CPSC will pursue more innovative programmes on cost-sharing basis and request willing Governments for voluntary funding of skills development projects.

19. The 41st CCM considered and adopted the reports of the Governing Board of CPSC for 2005/2006 and 2006/2007. Member countries expressed appreciation and support for the valuable training opportunities afforded by the CPSC.

Annual Membership Fee of the Colombo Plan

20. The 41st CCM approved the proposal by CPS to increase the mandatory annual membership fee from its present level of US\$14,500 to US\$17,400 from FY 2008/2009. With the increase, the 41st CCM noted that the CPS was expected to implement its programmes and activities more cost-effectively and efficiently.

21. The 41st CCM reiterated that current principle of equal membership fee by member countries would remain.

Moratorium to Myanmar

22. The 41st CCM considered the request by Myanmar for a 3-year moratorium for payment of annual membership fee. After due consideration, the 41st CCM decided that the issue be considered by the Council.

People's Republic of Bangladesh: Request for waiver of arrears of membership subscriptions and temporary exemption from payment of the increase in annual membership subscription

23. The 41st CCM deliberated at length the request made by Bangladesh to be exempted from payment of accumulated arrears on the mandatory membership contributions of US\$85,646 (as on 30 June 2007). After intensive deliberations, the 41st CCM agreed, to achieve consensus, that the two issues be decided by the Council expeditiously.

Pledges of Voluntary Funds/Technical Cooperation Programmes

24. The member countries expressed their commitments to the continued efforts to support the Colombo Plan programmes. The following main pledges were made:

- Indonesia: Co-sponsor training in economic and social studies in 2010.
- Korea: US\$50,000 voluntary contribution for PPSD and continuing joint training programmes in KOICA and

LTSP in KDI School of Public Policy in FY 2008/09.

- Malaysia: Malaysia's experts to be made available to undertake programmes with CPS for third countries.
- Pakistan: Three places each in Bachelor Degree Programmes in Engineering and Pharmacy with payment of a nominal fee, and fully-funded short-term programmes in railway, postal services and banking.
- Singapore: Additional courses and 2 places for Masters Programmes per annum tenable at the National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University and Singapore Management University.
- Thailand: Thailand-Colombo Plan Programme on environment will be continued in 2009. Long-term and short-term fellowships will be provided to Colombo Plan member countries, the details of such cooperation will be discussed between Thailand and the Colombo Plan.
- The United States of America: A total of US\$7 million to the CP-Drug Advisory Programme.

C. SPECIAL ISSUE

'Managing Integrity – The Malaysian Experience' by Dato' Dr Mohd. Tap Salleh, President of the Institute of Integrity, Malaysia

25. The 41st CCM appreciated the efforts of Malaysia to include a special presentation on its experience in managing integrity. It was highlighted that as Malaysia aspired to be a developed nation by 2020, it was imperative to respond to the dynamic changing environment, including enhancing integrity among its citizens. The paper is given in Annex IV.

D. PROGRESS WITHIN THE REGION AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

Statements by:

- a) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- a) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- c) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

26. The 41st CCM appreciated the statements made by UNDP, UNICEF and UNESCO. The statements are in Annexes V, VI & VII.

E. TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND MATTERS CONCERNING COLOMBO PLAN REGION

Country Presentations of Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes

27. Member countries made presentations on their on-going cooperation with the Colombo Plan and their future plans. A copy of each of the country's presentation (where available) is included in Annexes VIII - XX.

E. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

28. The 41st CCM accepted with pleasure the gracious offer of the Government of India to host the 42nd Consultative Committee Meeting in 2010. The date and venue would be communicated at a later date.

G. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

29. The Chairman observed that the CCM has been conducted in a 'business-as-usual' manner.

He suggested that the organisation and conduct of future CCM incorporate the following:

- Experience-sharing through best practices.
- The statistics on beneficiaries of Colombo Plan be provided on an annual basis instead of cumulative figures.
- Clear statement of pledges and voluntary funds to be made to the CPS in writing.

H. CONCLUDING SESSION

30. The Chairman, in his closing statement expressed his thanks to the distinguished delegates and observers for their excellent contributions and successful conclusion of the deliberations. He extended his sincere appreciation for the support given by the Deputy Chair during the entire proceedings. He also thanked the Secretary-General of the CPS and the staff involved in the arrangements of the 41st CCM. He hoped for the successful implementation of the resolutions in the 41st CCM and looked forward to the next meeting in India.

31. The Deputy Chairman, on behalf of all delegates and observers, thanked the Government of Malaysia for being an excellent host of the 41st CCM. He thanked the Chairman, the President of the Colombo Plan Council and the Secretary-General of the CPS, including the staff for their dedication and professionalism in conducting the activities of the Colombo Plan. In particular, he expressed his appreciation for the contributions made by the member countries and international organisations. He also extended his gratitude for the support provided by the Economic Planning Unit in making the 41st CCM a success. He invited all delegates and observers to India for the next CCM in 2010.

Moments To Remember....



Heads of Delegations attending the Pre-conference meeting on 20 August 2008



Honourable Tan Sri Amirsham bin A. Aziz, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia delivering the keynote address



Honourable Tan Sri Amirsham bin A. Aziz, Chief Guest receiving a plaque of appreciation from Mdm Patricia Yoon-Moi Chia, Secretary-General of the Colombo Plan Secretariat



Delegates attending the 41st CCM



Cultural performances during the Colombo Plan dinner on 21 August 2008



Honourable Tan Sri Amirsham bin A. Azli, Chief Guest and Mdm Patricia Yoon-Moi Chia during the Colombo Plan dinner on 21 August 2008



(from left) Prof. Dr. Shyamal Majumdar, Director-General, CPSC; Mdm. Patricia Yoon-Moi Chia, Secretary-General, CPS; Dato' Dr. Ali bin Hamsa, Deputy Director-General, EPU, Malaysia; Dr. Anup K. Pujari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, India and Ms. Hidayat Miran, Assistant Director, EPU, Malaysia during the Closing Ceremony.

Welcome Address by Dato' Dr. Ali bin Hamsa, Secretary-General of the 41st Consultative Committee Meeting

Honourable Tan Sri Amirsham A. Aziz,
Minister in the Prime Minister's Department

Prof. Deshamanya W.D. Lakshman,
President of the Colombo Plan Council

Mdm Patricia Chia Yoon Moi
Secretary General of the Colombo Plan
Secretariat

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Government of Malaysia, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all delegates of the 41st CCM. I wish you all well for what is certain to be another successful meeting among Colombo Plan member countries aimed at promoting development cooperation, especially for human resource development in the Asia Pacific region.

Malaysia is honoured to host the CCM for the third time and had hosted the 13th and 30th meetings in 1961 and 1984. We have come a long way since then. Malaysia joined the Colombo Plan the same year it achieved its independence in 1957. Since then, Malaysia has continued to strive, adapt and adjust our development formula as well as restructure from a commodity oriented economy based on tin and rubber to a diversified economy of today, which is well on its way towards realizing its national mission to be a developed nation.

The Colombo Plan today has also come a long way from its days when it was known as the Colombo Plan Bureau from 1951 till 1995. Based on the firm consensus of the 35th CCM in 1994 in Seoul, Korea, the Colombo Plan was revitalized so that it could make renewed contributions to social and economic development in the Asia-Pacific region with its role in technical cooperation. The CCM also agreed that the "new" Colombo Plan should follow a two-prong approach, with a few permanent and regular programmes in areas of high priority to member countries, as well as training programmes on a project-by-project basis, supported through South-South Cooperation. Participating developing countries, "traditional" donors and 'non-traditional' donors would be encouraged to contribute to the South-South Cooperation programme. Another important feature is the participation of private sector and NGOs in appropriate Colombo Plan programmes.

I think most of us would remember the early days when Colombo Plan was famous for its scholarships programmes. Many Malaysians had benefitted from Colombo Plan in capacity building, especially during the early years of our in-

dependence, when Malaysia was implementing the New Economic Policy. The training in the areas of economic policy and planning has helped equip us with the necessary knowledge and skills in the field. In this regard, I believe that other member countries have also benefitted in improving their standard of living and enhancing their skills and knowledge base through capacity building.

Hosting the CCM for the third time shows Malaysia's continuous support towards Colombo Plan. We have without fail, participated in all Colombo Plan Council meetings and the Consultative Committee Meetings. Our Ambassador in Sri Lanka play an active role in Council meetings as permanent representatives to the meetings. In terms of contributions to the Colombo Plan, it is not only in the form of annual membership fee but also in terms of jointly implemented training programmes and long-term scholarships. In addition, Malaysia has seconded two officers as Directors for the Programme for Public Administration (PPA) and Programme for Private Sector Development (PPSD) in June 2008 to the Colombo Plan Secretariat, as part of Malaysia's technical cooperation endeavours. Our continuing support is through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP), which offers joint courses with the Colombo Plan in several strategic fields as well as collaborations in organising drug advisory programmes on drug demand reduction. We believe this is a win-win partnership where both the profiles of the MTCP and the Colombo Plan can be raised.

Ladies and Gentlemen

We have also participated actively in the Programmes of Public Administration (PPA) and Drug Advisory Programme (DAP) of the Colombo Plan, having developed collaborations in providing training in Malaysia, in areas of expertise under the ambit of South-South Cooperation, moving away from being a beneficiary of Colombo Plan programmes to being a partner country. Several successful programmes of the DAP were conducted in Malaysia, with the cooperation of our Anti Drug Agency, in 2004 and 2008 in drug demand reduction and mobilising faith-based approach. This is conducted in the spirit of sharing development experience while realising the importance of inculcating moral values in the fight against drugs. It is our hope that the programmes for the religious leaders or 'mullahs' will have an impact in drug demand reduction through the faith-based approach.

On behalf of the CCM Secretariat, I would like to acknowledge the efforts and hard work of the 41st CCM Secretariat to put together this event, despite the resource constraints due to the current economic situation. I'm sure all Governments are similarly taking measures to counter the adverse effects of skyrocketing oil and commodity prices, nevertheless, we are happy to honour our commitment made in the 40th CCM in Thimphu, Bhutan.

Once again, I hope that this event will positively contribute to greater collaboration of the Colombo Plan member countries in the promotion of growth and development as well as South-South Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

Thank you.

Inaugural Address by Hon. Y.B. Datuk Amirsham Bin A. Aziz, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia

Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Observers,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a great pleasure and honour for me to have the opportunity to open the 41st Meeting of the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee. On behalf of the Government and people of Malaysia, I would like to extend my sincere and heartfelt welcome to all delegates of member countries and international organisations of this meeting.

Today is a moment of great pride for Malaysia. After 51 years of our membership, we are hosting this meeting here in Kuala Lumpur for the third time. We had previously hosted the 13th CCM in 1961 and the 30th CCM in 1984. After 24 years, Malaysia is honoured to host this 41st CCM once again.

Through the years, the Colombo Plan is remembered as a household name for its much sought-after scholarships for human resource development. We are very pleased that Colombo Plan has stayed true to its mission of developing human resources for member countries in the Asia Pacific. At this juncture, it is timely for me to recognise that the Colombo Plan has been a very effective and useful organisation for the economic development of member countries.

Malaysia is a case in point. Since joining the Colombo Plan in 1957, Malaysia has maintained a close and cooperative relationship with the Colombo Plan, and has benefited considerably during the course of its economic development. The impressive economic performances of Asia and Pacific region foretell the dawning of what has been called "The Asian Millennium".

Although there have been successes in East and South-East Asian economies, there are still member countries within the region which have yet to taste the fruits of economic prosperity. Therefore, the Colombo Plan remains an important catalyst that will enable South-South Cooperation to be implemented where member countries could share experiences and expertise with other Colombo Plan developing member countries. This is truly what the philosophy of Colombo Plan is all about Self-help and Mutual help.

Malaysia is very much conscious of the importance of South-South Cooperation. With the establishment of the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme

(MTCP), in 1981, Malaysia is transforming itself from a recipient country to one that is able to provide assistance to not only MTCP member countries, but also to Colombo Plan member countries. For the current 9th Malaysia Plan, MTCP is providing over 61 million dollars of technical cooperation activities, particularly in human resource development.

Malaysia is one of the Colombo Plan member countries that hope to share its experiences with other member countries in areas where Malaysia has the comparative advantage.

Since its establishment, the success of the Colombo Plan has been premised on the extraordinary spirit of generosity of developed member countries which have contributed millions in costs and extended immeasurable efforts to provide technical assistance. There was construction of much needed infrastructure and educational facilities as well as provision of about 400,000 scholarships for generations of students and trainees since 1951. A total of 128,000 experts and volunteers were also provided through technical assistance by both Developed Member Countries and through Technical Cooperation among Developing Member Countries (TCDC) under the Colombo Plan.

I sincerely hope that this spirit of generosity will continue with the emergence of new donor countries and the traditional donor countries namely, Australia; Canada; Japan; Korea; New Zealand; United Kingdom and the United States of America. Those member countries that received help in the past, like Malaysia, are now coming forward to provide assistance to other member countries who are facing development challenges.

The focus of your deliberations during this meeting will be the Strategic Vision of the Colombo Plan 2025 and the Work Plan for 2008 and Technical Cooperation and South-South Cooperation. Although you will have a busy agenda, I am confident that the spirit of cooperation that has guided the Colombo Plan will help bring this meeting to a successful and productive conclusion.

May the Colombo Plan continue to touch and improve lives of peoples in the Asia-Pacific for many more years to come.

Distinguished guests, I would like to close by wishing every one of you a wonderful and meaningful stay in Malaysia.

Thank you.

41st Consultative Committee Meeting

21 – 22 August 2008

Provisional Agenda

A. Formalities and Procedural Matters

- 0830 Registration of delegates
- 0915 Arrival of the Honourable Tan Sri Amirsham A. Aziz
Minister in the Prime Minister's Department
- 0930 Welcome address by the Secretary-General of the 41st CCM
Keynote address by Honourable Tan Sri Amirsham A. Aziz
Response to the Chief Guest's Address
- 1015 Photo session with the Chief Guest
Press conference
Tea break
- 1100 Commencement of meeting
Election of Chairman
Chairman's acceptance speech
Election of Deputy Chairman
Appointment of the Drafting Committee
Recognition of Observers
Adoption of Agenda
- 1230 Lunch hosted by the Economic Planning Unit (EPU)
Prime Minister's Department

B. Colombo Plan Activities

- 1400 Colombo Plan's Strategic Work Plan
People's Republic of Bangladesh: Request for exemption from arrears of
financial contributions

Annual Reports of the Colombo Plan for 2005/2006 and 2006/2007

Annual Reports of the Governing Board of the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education for 2005/2006 and 2006/2007

Membership fee of the Colombo Plan Council and Secretariat

Pledges of voluntary funds/technical cooperation programmes

1530 Tea break

C. Special Issue Paper

1600 Managing Integrity: The Malaysian Experience

2000 Dinner hosted by the Secretary-General of the Colombo Plan Secretariat

D. Progress Within the Region and Future Development Priorities

0900 Statement by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Statement by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Statement by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

E. Technical Cooperation and Matters Concerning the Colombo Plan Region

0930 Country presentations on bilateral technical cooperation programmes

1030 Tea break

1100 Continue country presentations

1230 Lunch

F. Date and Venue of the next Consultative Committee Meeting

G. Any Other Business

H. Statements by Observers

1600 Tea break

I. Concluding Session

1630 Approval of the Record of Conclusions

Closing of the 41st CCM

“Managing Integrity: The Malaysian Experience”

By Datuk Dr. Mohd Tap Salleh

President - Malaysian Institute Of Integrity

INTRODUCTION

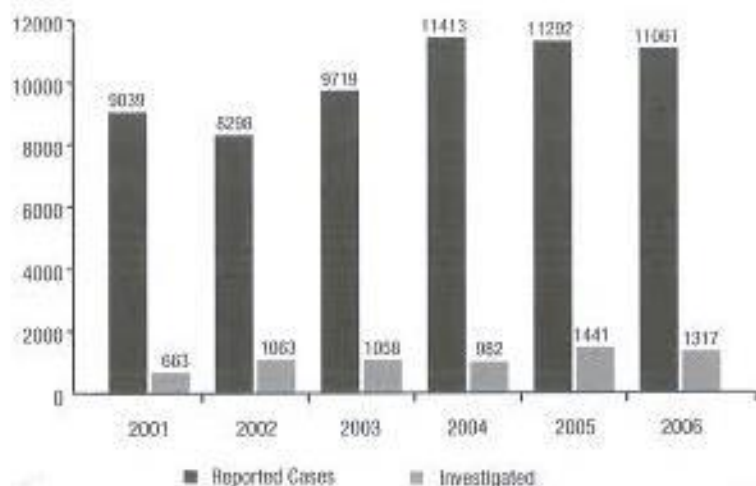
Malaysia is aspiring to be a developed nation by 2020 and is now at the mid-point of its journey towards that objective. Experience has shown us that the climb ahead is challenging and is set to become even more perilous and demanding. During the next 12 years to 2020, Malaysia will need to deal with great changes in the global environment, while improving and upgrading the country's domestic conditions.

Sadly, in today's fast-paced and demanding world, the temptation to seek the easy way out may be very strong. Those who wield power and influence need to be particularly mindful of this. Whole economies can be shattered and whole societies destroyed as a result of greed or selfishness.

Therefore, there is a compelling need to improve governance in institutions so that economies, organisations and societies may be protected from such injustices. There must also be an equal attempt to address the underlying issue, that is, the erosion of integrity in society.

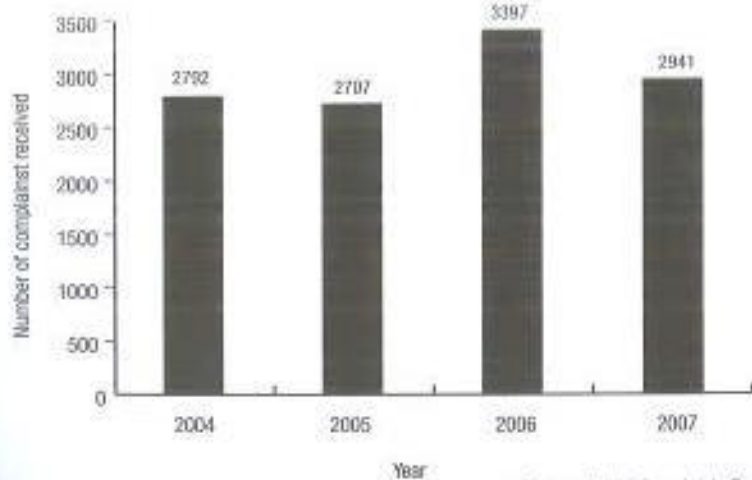
The erosion of integrity is all encompassing. It includes social problems, corruption, quality of the public service delivery system, crime and others. Social problems that occurred included the breakdown of the family unit, drug abuse and domestic violence. The lack of social values such as civic consciousness, courtesy, road ethics as well as attitudes towards corruption continued to be of concern. Some of the examples depicting lack of integrity are manifested as follows:

NUMBER OF CORRUPCTION CASES INVESTIGATED AGAINST NUMBER REPORTED



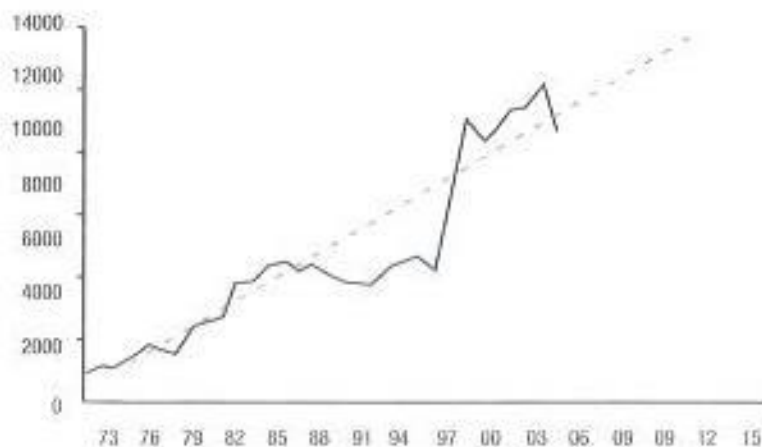
Source: ACA

NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY PUBLIC COMPLAINTS BUREAU (2004-2007) - LINK TO DELIVERY SYSTEM (TARGET #2)



Source: Public Complaints Bureau

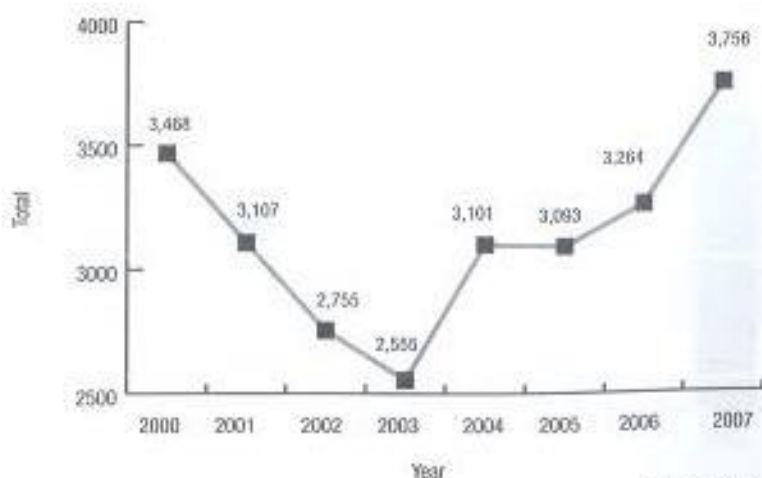
COMMERCIAL CRIME RATES



Total number of commercial crime cases from 1973 to 2004

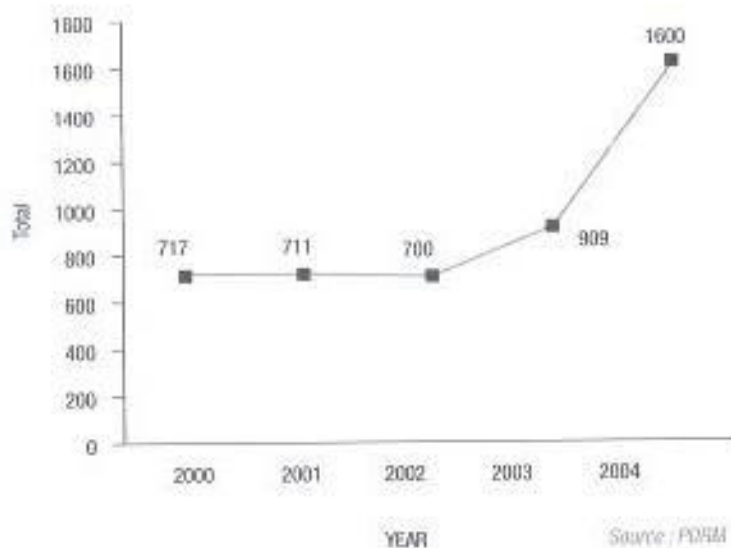
The Projection shows that within the next five years we would have approx. 12,000 commercial crime cases whilst in the year 2015 it would be in the region of 14,000 cases.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES REPORTED TO THE POLICE (2000-2007)

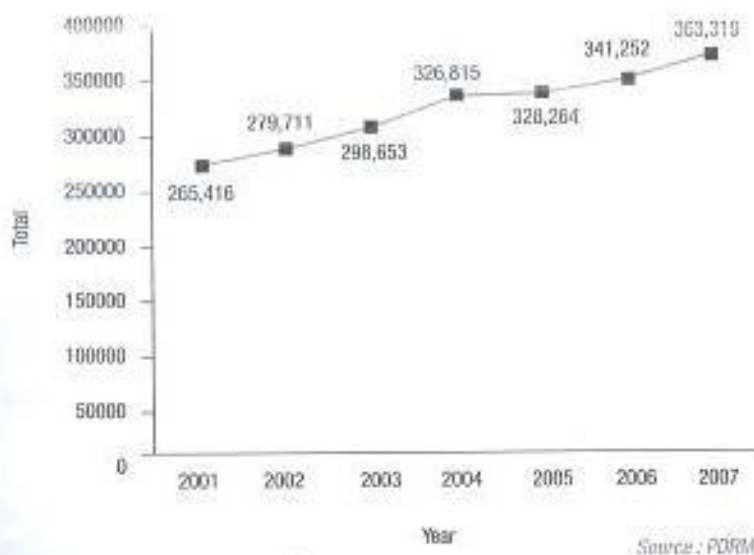


Source: PDRM

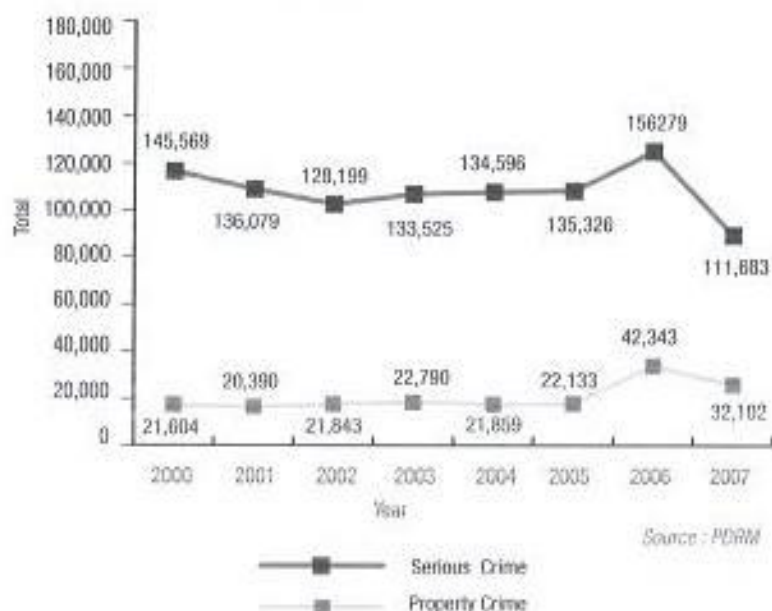
BULLY CASES AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN (2000-2004) (TARGET #5)



THE NUMBER OF ROAD ACCIDENTS



CRIME STATISTICS (2000-2007)



All these constitute the erosion of integrity.

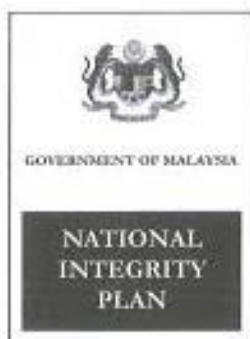
THE NATIONAL INTEGRITY PLAN

In response to the above, the Malaysian Government launched the National Integrity Plan (NIP) on 23rd April 2004 with the objectives of having a framework on public policies, private sector initiatives and the contribution of NGOs as well as the society as a whole to the national efforts of enhancing integrity in the country.

With the launching of the NIP, the Malaysian Institute of Integrity was established to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Plan as well as to initiate measures for the improvement of the Plan implementation.

The National Integrity Plan has set five immediate tasks as the immediate objectives to be achieved:

1. Effectively reduce **corruption**, malpractices and abuse of power,
2. Increase efficiency of the **public delivery system** and overcome bureaucratic red tape,
3. Enhance **corporate governance** and business ethics,
4. Strengthen **the family institution**; and
5. Improve **the quality of life** and people's well-being



Launched By:
Y.A.B. Dato'
Seri Abdullah
Haji Ahmad Badawi

Prime Minister Of
Malaysia

23rd April 2004
Putrajaya

1.0 CORRUPTION

Corruption is a source of concern in many societies. This is certainly true for Malaysia.

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
CPI RANKING FOR MALAYSIA 1995-2007

YEAR	RANK (FULL SCORE=10)	NO. OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
1995	23(5.28)	41
1996	26(5.32)	54
1997	32(5.01)	52
1998	29(5.30)	85
1999	32(5.10)	99
2000	36(4.80)	90
2001	36(5.00)	91
2002	33(4.90)	102
2003	37(5.20)	133
2004	39(5.00)	146
2005	39(5.10)	158
2006	44(5.00)	163
2007	43(5.10)	180

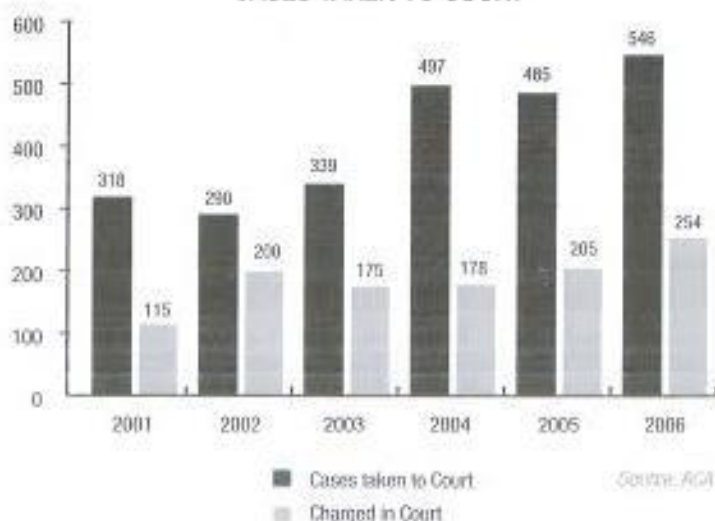
The Corruption Perception Index (CPI) established by the Transparency International has put Malaysia in the 43rd position in 2007 in the tally of 180 nations; the position in 2006 was 44th out of the total 163 nations. In 2007, Malaysia's score was 5.1 compared to 5.0 in 2006. Over a span of about 12 years, from 1995 to 2007, Malaysia's score hovers between 4.8 and 5.32.

Although the index is based on perception it is considered an important benchmark in view of the implication it can have on the social and economic development of the country, and certainly in the efforts to put Malaysia on the world investment map. Corruption has an indirect impact on the competitiveness of Malaysia as a trading and manufacturing centre in the light of Malaysia being the 16th largest trading nation in the world.

Corruption and bribery are a menace to healthy development of a democratic society. If not addressed, it will become a social cancer and breed unhealthy officials and business misconducts that will ultimately undermine the social, legal, administrative and political systems of the country. It will also impact on the economic development of the country as foreign companies will not invest in the country. In this case, jobs and wealth creation will be affected.

With the implementation of the National Integrity Plan since 2004, the public, together with IIM and the ACA have showed greater concern and resolve over corruption cases in the country, especially in the public sector. The number of reported corruption cases brought to court since 2004 has continued to increase. The number of cases charged in court has also increased.

NUMBER OF CORRUPCTION CASES CHARGED IN COURT AGAINST NUMBER OF CASES TAKEN TO COURT



This is a good sign because it shows that the public in Malaysia is not tolerating corruption. They are willing to report to the ACA in greater numbers. This shows that the training and advocacy programmes as set out in NIP is achieving its goals.

The National Integrity Perception Index Report 2007 reported a score of 6.97 out of 10 in the public's happiness with the level of perceived integrity in six sub-indices. The six sub-indices are 1) Quality of Public Services, 2) Ethical business practices and Social Responsibility,

3) Strength of family and communities, 4) Quality of life and a peaceful society, 5) Malaysian courtesy, and 6) Corruption. The survey was conducted in August and September 2007 to evaluate the level of integrity among Malaysians since the National Integrity Plan was launched in April 2004. A total of 14,967 people were surveyed at random and they were from three target groups—1) Households (67%), 2) Public Sector employees (26.9%) and 3) Private Sector (6.1 %). The survey was conducted by the Department of Statistics.

HOW THE PUBLIC PERCEIVES INTEGRITY

	Maximum score 10
1 Quality of Public Services	6.60
2 Ethical business practices and Social Responsibility	6.90
3 Strength of Family and communities	7.38
4 Quality of life and a peaceful society	7.41
5 Malaysian courtesy	7.07
6 Corruption	6.76
National Integrity Perception Index	6.97

2.0 PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM

Exemplary Public Service Delivery System is another important component of the National Integrity Plan. In Malaysia today an efficient delivery of public services is a major concern of the society. The public is clamouring for greater efficiency and speedy delivery of public services. It has been stated so often that bureaucratic delays and procedures have caused slowness in the delivery of public services. Slow delivery may breed the seed of corruption, because the affected parties may feel that the officials are angling for a bribe to expedite decisions.

***Excessive
bureaucracy must
be abolished. A
delivery system
that is efficient
and expedient
plays a big role in
reducing
corruption***

countability and transparency. But now with Government being more transparent, more accountable for its actions and a people-oriented style of administration, there are more opportunities and incentives for the public to voice their opinions. IIM is working closely with local authorities to initiate programmes that will instill integrity culture in their management systems.

The public expects speed in their dealings with the government departments/agencies where time is of the essence, where there should be less red tape, with the waiting time and period minimised. Based on available evidence and through the various surveys done



Malaysia has implemented office automation, computerisation as well as IT projects to expedite processing of applications. Nevertheless, Malaysia has still to focus on improving systems and procedures which can result in greater efficiency. One single sector that has been identified widely as a matter of concern is the local government, especially due to its direct interactions with the people on the street. Local Governments in Malaysia do not have elections. In view of the rising concerns on the efficiency and conduct, the Government is studying the current laws that relates to their activities. There is a need to enhance their ac-

locally and internationally, the public service of Malaysia has reoriented itself to the needs of the public. Changes have been instituted in its processes and procedures and its culture. However, unfortunately problems still exist despite all these initiatives. More need to be done. The most-cited complaints by the public are unfair actions and decisions by those wielding authority. There were allegations of playing favouritism and discrimination in approving applications pertaining to land permits and approving projects without adherence to set procedures and practices, high-handedness of its enforcement officers and the practice of

so-called double standards. Certain rules apply to some people and not to others.

The next problem identified and often complained by the public is the failure or lack of enforcement of existing rules and regulations by those entrusted with enforcing them. Failure to do so inevitably cast doubts on the reliability and credibility of the enforcement. Other than the grievances mentioned above, areas of contention includes politeness, courtesy, high quality of service, reliability, accuracy, fair treatment, delivery of services as promised in the departments/agencies' Clients' Charter and of utmost importance, services should be made available everywhere and not just confined to the big cities. These are issues of integrity. Public services must be easily accessible to the public.

3.0 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The private sector is the main engine of economic growth. The success of the sector is dependent upon its ability to face competition and the challenging business environment.

Nevertheless, the private sector is the engine of growth and generates employment, some of its members are also involved in cor-

ruption and other unethical practices. As such, the issue of ethics and integrity in the conduct of business and in the economic sector as a whole is important.

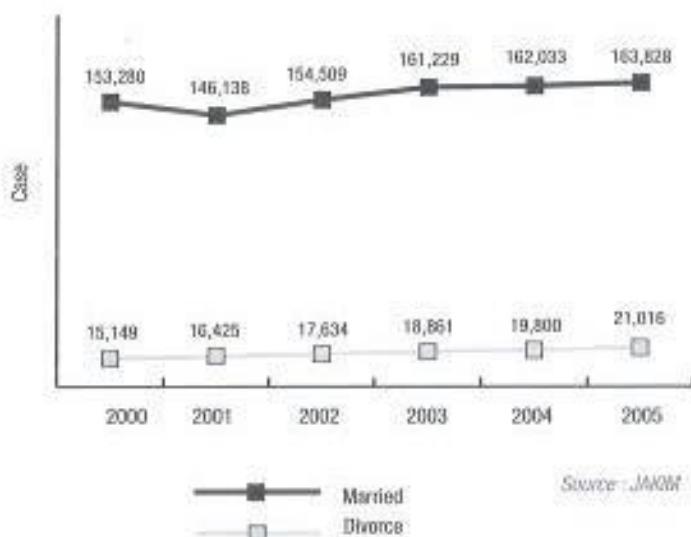
The private sector needs to uphold the principles of good corporate governance. In this regard, regulation and enforcement by regulatory bodies, such as the Companies Commission of Malaysia (CCM) and the Securities Commission (SC), are critical so that negative conduct can be curbed, whilst continuing to generate as well as employment opportunities, economic growth and prosperity.

4.0 THE FAMILY INSTITUTION

In the context of Malaysia's National Integrity Plan, one of the indicators of the deterioration of integrity and values in the family institution is the rate of divorce among married couples.

For the period from 2000 to 2005, the divorce rate has been increasing every year. The National Integrity Plan spelt out clearly the steps that need to be taken to correct or reverse this trend. Among the steps suggested to reduce family conflict and to ensure harmony in marriage and family life are to:

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE FIGURES OF MALAYSIA



- 1) organise family day at all levels to instill noble values;
- 2) organise suitable courses on parenting skills;
- 3) ensure availability of quality time and use it with family members;
- 4) provide counseling for husbands, wives and children;
- 5) organise courses or seminars on implications of divorce; and
- 6) organise suitable marriage courses;

5) QUALITY OF LIFE

Quality of life has been identified as the fifth objective of the Integrity Plan. One aspect of quality of life which is very important for a country aspiring to be a developed nation is the rate and incidence of crime. A high rate of incidence of crime as can be seen in Malaysia now reflects lack of ethics and values among Malaysians as well as giving the perception of poor enforcement of laws and regulations.

Apart from affecting the well-being of Malaysians, this will again have a direct impact on the competitiveness of Malaysia. Malaysia is a major destination for international tourism. Last year 2007, Malaysia recorded nearly

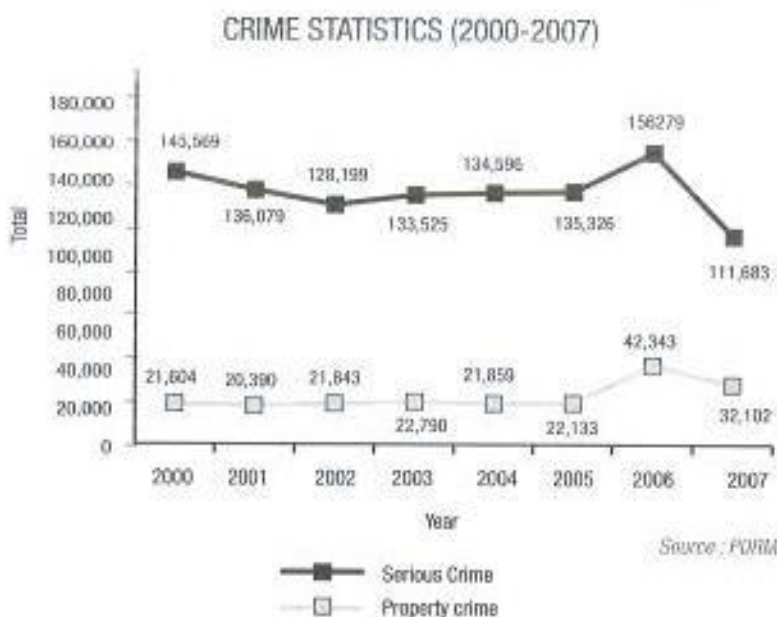
20 million tourist arrivals. High crime rate will spell disaster for the tourism industry. Investors will also be quite apprehensive in relocating their businesses to countries which are perceived to be high in crime.

In the context of the National Integrity Plan, institutions like the Malaysian Institute of Integrity, the ACA and the Police play a pivotal role along with NGOs and the community at large to correct or reverse the trend in erosion of ethics, values and integrity.

At this juncture, I would like to talk a little bit more about the role played by the Malaysian Institute of Integrity to ensure that the National Integrity Plan achieve its objectives. In the context of the NIP, Malaysian Institute of Integrity acts as an agency that initiates, coordinates and monitors the implementation of the plan.

INITIATIVES BY THE MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF INTEGRITY (IIM)

In brief, initiatives taken by IIM to manage and enhance integrity cover eight sectors, namely, the family, the community, NGOs, public administration, private sector, socio-culture, religions and politics. In terms of ar-



eas, the efforts are directed towards provision of the following:

1. Training

As part of the initiative to enhance awareness and knowledge regarding integrity and the National Integrity Plan, IIM gives talks and conducts courses for the various stakeholders.

For example, in 2007 IIM addressed a total of 39,306 participants from various government departments and agencies.

Additionally, a three-day training programme titled "Development of Individual and Organisational Integrity in Public Service" (PIOB) was developed in 2007. In the same year, a total of 21 PIOB courses was conducted involving 340 participants from various agencies.

2. Research

A number of research has been conducted. Among them are:

- A study on the effects of indebtedness on the propensity of Bribe Acceptance Among selected Public Sector Agencies.
- The National Integrity Perception Index.
- A study of the effectiveness of the implementation of the National Integrity Plan; and
- Various other research pertaining to integrity.

3. Engagements with the Public Sector:

Since 2004, IIM has been involved along with public sector agencies in efforts to enhance integrity culture in the public service. Courses, seminars and roundtable discussions are held with public agencies/departments. Among the public sector agencies engaged by IIM are:

- The Royal Malaysia Police
- The Road Transport Department.
- Local Authorities
- The Royal Customs Department.
- Teachers and Teachers Training Institutes (through the Ministry of Education).

4. Engagements with the Private Sector:

- College and university students;
- Young professionals;
- Chamber of Commerce;
- Regulatory bodies; and
- Entrepreneurs.

5. Engagements with the Political Sector:

- Politicians at all level through Political parties;
- Political institutions (Parliament, Election Commission etc.);
- Parliament Select Committee on Integrity.

As a joint secretariat for the Parliament Select Committee on Integrity, IIM participated in all the public hearings organised by Parliament throughout the country in 2006 and 2007. As a consequence of these hearings, a number of government agencies were called to give explanations; and as a result a few problems raised were able to be solved.

6. Engagements with the Sociocultural Sector:

- Students;
- Non-Governmental organisations (NGOs);
- Religious institutions;
- Heads of villages; and
- Village Development and Security Committees.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, IIM's initiatives cover all sectors. It is our hope that ever increasing number of Malaysians will become actively involved in this drive to promote integrity in this country.

I wish to end this presentation by quoting the statement from the Integrity of the Public Service Federation of Malaya Commission Report, that relates to the civil servants that serve with a sense of honour.

"Of all safeguards against corrupt practices, the best and strongest is the unwillingness on the part of the officer to accept any bribe or gift. This attitude of mind is higher than mere honesty. It is a standard of honour, founded on self-respect, sense of duty, tradition and discipline".

Progress within the region and future development priorities Statement by Ms. Marcia V.J. Kran, Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP), Regional Centre, Bangkok

Deshmanya Professor W.D. Lakshman, President of the Colombo Plan Council; Y. Bhg. Dr. Ali Hamza, Meeting Chair and Deputy Director General, Economic Planning Unit of Malaysia; Dr. Anup Pujarai, Deputy Meeting Chair and Joint secretary, Ministry of Finance of India; Ms. Patricia Chia Yoon Moi, Secretary General of the Colombo Plan Secretariat; Excellencies, Observers, Distinguished Guests, UN colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen:

UNDP is happy to have been invited to make a statement regarding the agenda item on Progress within the Region and Future Development Priorities.

As an initial observation on progress, we have all seen that a number of countries of the South, particularly in Asia, are leading world economic growth – and have been doing so for a number of years. From 2001 to 2007, developing countries as a group grew at over twice the rate of high income countries. Even if economic growth leaders – such as China and India – are excluded, a large number of developing countries in Asia have experienced robust growth. Equally encouraging, globally, about half of all developing country exports are now sent to other developing countries.

In this context, the Asia-Pacific region has seen a rapid expansion of intra-regional trade, especially amongst countries in the East, South and South East Asian sub regions.

The main source of dynamism that is propelling regional trade has been increased intra-industry trade flows and production sharing arrangements. In addition, developing and transition economies – especially in Asia – are becoming important sources of foreign direct investment. Overall, strategic trade and invest-

ment policies adopted by several countries in the region have been a critical enabler of development.

Further, the accumulation of foreign exchange reserves by emerging market economies has continued on an unprecedented scale for several years. Initiatives to create Banks in the South have multiplied in the last few years. After the Asian financial crisis, East Asian countries seriously discussed the need to promote regional financial cooperation.

In 1999, ASEAN plus China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea agreed to enhance self-help and support mechanisms in East Asia. As a result, finance ministers of ASEAN plus Three reached a historic agreement to establish an Asian Monetary Fund in May 2007.

These developments are clear signs of progress.

As well, the exceptionally rapid and sustained increase in global foreign exchange reserves since 2001 has led an increasing number of countries to establish – or consider the establishment of – Sovereign Wealth Funds. Currently, more than 20 countries have sovereign wealth funds and half a dozen more have expressed an interest in establishing one.

While the holdings have remained quite concentrated, with the top five funds accounting for approximately 70 percent of total assets, about one third of total SWF assets are held by Asia-Pacific countries. The use of these international investment vehicles for managing increased foreign exchange reserves and other forms of international assets has important implications for South-South Cooperation and global economic relations.

In terms of South-South development cooperation, the role of large developing country economies and middle-income developing countries is changing. They are playing a greater role in the provision of resources and technical cooperation to other developing countries. Over the past 50 years, OECD-DAC donors have accounted for the overwhelming majority of Official Development Assistance. Now some newly industrialised and other middle-income developing countries, especially those in the Asia-Pacific region, have become contributors of development assistance.

Dynamic South-South development assistance and other financial flows are adding a new dimension to international development cooperation. Some of these countries are orienting South-South efforts towards achieving the MDGs. A number of middle-income developing countries are within reach of MDG achievement - at least in aggregate terms - and are playing more active South-South Cooperation roles, in ways particularly well suited to the needs of poorer developing countries. The development assistance provided is in areas such as electoral assistance, statistical capacity, post-disaster recovery, anti-poverty and other social programmes, environment and energy, and infrastructure. For many developing countries, South-South Cooperation has increased the diversity of development assistance, thereby providing options to recipient countries.

Many emerging economies have substantial technical capacities, commercial potential and financial resources. Their increased economic strength and international outreach put them in influential roles, promoting South-South coalitions and policy proposals in regional and global forums, and participating in international economic decision-making and norm-setting.

In this regard, UNDP's programme in Malaysia is designed not only to support Malaysia's development aspirations of the future but to draw on the strengths of the country and

its best practices and make them available to other countries in the region and beyond.

In terms of Future Development Priorities, as we all know, significant challenges remain for the South which is also home to what have been called the "bottom billion" — those people who are trapped in conditions of extreme poverty with little or no hope of seeing the MDGs achieved by 2015. Some of the bottom billion can be found in otherwise successful developing countries in Asia. Thus much remains to be done in Asia to address pockets of entrenched poverty, rising inequality, and inadequately skilled and educated workforces - including in the science and technology, and health fields.

Despite impressive overall growth in the region, many of the low income countries in the Asia-Pacific region have not been able to partake equally in the benefits of trade expansion, due to low levels of industrial development and skills capabilities. This gives rise to the question of whether poor countries in the region, with low levels of industrialization and skills, can leverage the high growth levels of their neighbours and more fully participate in the processes of regional integration.

This calls out for, among other things, South-South development cooperation frameworks, which help level the playing field between developing countries in the region. Regional trade is an increasingly important determinant of the attainment of MDGs in the region.

This raises the need to assess the human development implications of the regional trading arrangements, and set strategies that address the priorities of developing countries and LDCs, consistent with the attainment of MDGs. These are issues are high on the agenda as we discuss the future directions for pioneering South-South Cooperation models like the Colombo Plan.

Building capacities in developing countries is even more vital today than in the past, as countries strive to address development challenges in order to achieve the MDGs. Future efforts under the Colombo Plan are clearly a key part of this effort.

Progress Within The Region And Future Development Priorities

Statement by Mr. Youssouf Oumar, Representative of the United Nations
Children's Fund (UNICEF), Malaysia

Mr Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,
Colleagues and friends,
Good morning and selamat pagi.

PROGRESS WITHIN THE REGION

From the arid mountains of Afghanistan to the frigid upper reaches of Mongolia and the rapidly developing metropolis of Malaysia, this region has achieved impressive development amidst great cultural, political and geographical diversity.

Since 1990, the region has witnessed the fastest economic growth in the world. But we cannot measure progress by economic growth alone.

UNICEF is concerned with regional realities of child survival and the prospects for meeting the Millennium Development Goals – particularly the 4th Goal of reducing child mortality – by the year 2015.

I am pleased to share with you that child survival in the region has improved, thanks to political will, commitment and effective partnerships.

In poverty, as the starting point for all other social indicators:

- Poverty reduction has been the region's greatest success. Between 1990 and 2004, the region freed more than 350 million people from extreme poverty, meaning those living on less than US\$1 a day.

In child survival:

- More children in the Asia-Pacific region today survive beyond the age of 5.
- Between 1990 and 2006, the region has

experienced a steady decrease in its annual number of under-5 deaths – from 6.7 million to 4 million.

- This achievement is largely due to the massive reduction of child deaths in South Asia, Eastern Asia and South-East Asia. India reduced their number of under-5 deaths by 60%, while China reduced their number by 80%.
- Here in Malaysia, I can also quote significant achievements: the under-5 mortality rate measured in year 2006 was only 12 per 1000 live births.

In maternal health:

- Countries in the region have made efforts to improve maternal health services, by providing emergency obstetric care, as well as skilled attendants during pregnancy, at birth and during the post-natal period.
- These are some of the critical health services that are needed to improve the survival and health of women and children. However, challenges lie ahead for other areas of improving maternal health and nutrition, as I shall explain later.

In education:

- Education has been a priority for most Asia-Pacific countries, and this has translated into benefits for millions of school-age children. Almost all countries have net primary enrolment ratios above 90%, with some countries approaching 100%.
- Again, I take the example of Malaysia, which had more than 96% of primary-age children enrolled in school in 2005, with no significant gender disparities.

Ladies and gentlemen,

CHALLENGES FOR THE REGION

I have briefly described what the region has attained in helping children survive and thrive. This shows that many countries are on track to meet the 4th Millennium Development Goal at the national level.

However, our greatest worry now is whether certain groups or communities will be left behind. The rapid economic growth in the region has created disparities between the rich and poor, urban and rural, male and female.

Pockets of poverty and marginalisation, within countries and across sub-regional borders, are leaving vast numbers of mothers and children at risk of increasing relative poverty and continued exclusion from quality primary healthcare services.

Let me share with you some of the challenges that the region faces:

In child health and survival:

- We should be extremely concerned with child mortality, because 15 countries have been found to be off-track in achieving the goal of reducing child mortality, and several countries have even regressed.
- 4 million children in the region will die each year before reaching the age of 5.
- Many factors tie in to child health – neonatal, infant and child mortality rates; access to clean water and basic sanitation; nutritional status of mothers and infants; and levels of immunisation.
- The region has a high burden of neonatal deaths, due to insufficient maternal healthcare services, maternal under-nutrition and cultural practices surrounding the birth process and disease.
- Children born in the poorest 20% of households are much more likely to die of preventable diseases than children in the wealthiest 20%.
- Key causes of child deaths also include pneumonia, diarrhoeal diseases and measles. Preventive measures and treatments for these diseases are still lacking across the region.
- Around 97 million children will remain underweight, accounting for around two-thirds of the world's underweight children.
- This region has some of the lowest rates of exclusive breast feeding – this is unfortunate because immediate and exclusive breast feeding is the best source of nutrition for infants.
- In countries where gender discrimination exists, such as in South Asia, women and girls have lower nutritional status and do not have access to primary health services and education.
- Increasing numbers of children now live in peri-urban communities, slums which do not receive enough safe drinking water, basic sanitation, or health services.

In education

- Although the region has achieved high primary enrolment rates, the challenges now are to address the problems of children repeating classes or dropping out of school before reaching the final grade.
- These problems are greatest for children from vulnerable communities, such as those from poor households, rural and remote areas, or indigenous communities.
- The families of these children may keep them at home or withdraw them from school for a number of reasons: they see no long-term benefits of education (especially for girls); they want their children to work; they cannot afford the high costs of school materials and transportation; or they want their daughters to marry at a young age.
- Gender inequality in education is a concern. High discrimination in primary education leads to lower literacy rates for girls as well as low enrolment in secondary and tertiary education. In Afghanistan, for example, 47% fewer girls enroll in primary school than boys; and in Pakistan, that proportion is 29%.
- Women who are literate and educated can put into motion an entire cycle of reforms: ultimately resulting in reduced poverty and hunger, improved child and

maternal health, better literacy rates and increased capacity in the region,

In protection against violence and other forms of discrimination:

- Violence against children is a deep, dark shadow in this region.
- Little is known about how many children are victims of violence and other forms of discrimination – whether in homes, schools, institutions of care, the community, in work situations, in cyberspace, or against children in conflict with the law.
- Our biggest stumbling block is the lack of comprehensive and systematic systems for data collection, reporting and monitoring of violence against children. The lack of data makes it near-impossible for us to address fundamental attitudes in society, as well as review the national legal frameworks that exist to protect children against violence.
- It is widely agreed that violence against children by family members results in deaths far more often than official records suggest.
- Forced marriage and early pregnancy are also forms of violence and discrimination that affect child survival. Early marriage deprives girls of education, and threatens their health. When girls give birth before their bodies are fully developed, there is a much higher risk of death for both mother and child. Pregnant girls between the ages of 15 and 19 are five times more likely to die during childbirth than those in their twenties.
- Another critical form of protection is the registration of all children at birth. Legal acknowledgement of a child's existence is required for that child to access essential health services and education. Yet in 2006, there were 22.6 million unregistered births in South Asia and 5.1 million in the rest of Asia-Pacific.
- Children are the most vulnerable groups in states that suffer conflict, civil unrest or political instability. In countries where these have occurred, such as Afghanistan and Myanmar, the rates of child deaths are very high.

- Children are also the biggest victims in natural disasters, not only as a direct result of the calamity, but also as a result of food insecurity, which leads to under-nutrition.

The challenges I have just described should not be underestimated. If we do not meet the 4th Millennium Development Goal by 2015, one million children in Asia-Pacific will die in that year.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

**THE WAY FORWARD:
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES**

What is the way forward for the Asia-Pacific region? We should not take recent achievements for granted, nor should we be discouraged by the challenges ahead.

We should keep our eyes firmly on our ultimate goal, which is to ensure that every child survives and thrives throughout childhood. In line with this, we must tackle discrimination against women and vulnerable children, and empower them to become agents of their own development.

The way ahead is, of course, to continue sustaining the gains in child health. At the same time, we must identify the essential services that underpin our achievements, and ensure that these services are extended to the most impoverished, isolated, uneducated and marginalised districts and provinces.

We must also effectively scale up these services and strengthen integrated approaches to child health at the community level.

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of equity, political will and community partnerships, which are consciously harnessed to improve children's lives. Certainly, the primary responsibility for laying the road map towards the Millennium Development Goals lies with national governments and organisations.

But they need not work in isolation. Governments can join forces with international organisations, such as UN agencies and funds – including UNICEF – in regional partnerships to share knowledge, encourage youth

participation, build capacity, mobilise financial resources and monitor progress.

Together, we have to reinforce South-South Cooperation to share good practices and lessons learnt.

We have to reinforce actions underway to address the looming food crisis.

We need to impose a moratorium on internal conflicts and construct better political stability as sine qua non conditions for spear-heading development.

We need to identify gaps in policies through evidence-based studies to address the phenomena of rapid urbanisation and slums. We need to understand the attraction of urbanisation,

and instead of people coming to development, let's take development to the rural poor.

We only have 7 years to attain the target date of 2015. If the region works "As One" – governments, international organisations, regional organisations such as the Colombo Plan, regional development banks, bilateral donors and youth organisations – we can create that grand alliance necessary to respond more effectively through an accelerated strategy.

And we can make it. As Malaysians say, Malaysia BOLEH. Similarly, this region BOLEH.

Thank you.

Progress Within The Region And Future Development Priorities

Statement by Mr. Hubert Gijzen, Director of the United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), Indonesia

Excellencies,
Distinguished Members of the Consultative
Committee,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure and a privilege to join you in this important Consultative Committee meeting.

As the UNESCO Regional Science Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, and the Representative Office to five countries (Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Timor Leste), the UNESCO Jakarta Office has kept track of developments in the region in the areas of competence of UNESCO, namely in Education, Science, Culture, and Communication and Information.

The Asia-Pacific region is marked by the greatest possible variety compared to any other region in terms of geographical features, climate, ethnicity, cultures and religions. Similarly, there is huge variety in the structure of the economy, wealth and prosperity, and systems of governments. These various elements of diversity, while posing challenges in terms of identifying and conceptualizing regional programmes, also pose great opportunity for inter-governmental organisations, like Colombo Plan and also UNESCO, to introduce innovative ideas in addressing those regional challenges, and perhaps developing models of technical cooperation and assistance that may be also applied elsewhere.

One way of tracking regional economic and social progress is through the platform of the Millennium Development Goals. Since the MDGs were adopted in 2000, for goals to be achieved by 2015, we have just passed the

halfway mark of the MDG time frame. How is the Asia Pacific region performing with regard to the MDGs?

While it is good to know the situation so far, the more important question for us is, How can intergovernmental organisations in the region like Colombo Plan, the UN agencies, ASEAN, SAARC, and others contribute in accelerating progress towards achievement of the goals?

Millennium Development Goals

The latest assessment done jointly by ADB, UNDP and UNESCAP, and presented in their report "The Millennium Development Goals: Progress in Asia and the Pacific 2007" gives mixed marks to the region. I cite the main conclusions with respect to some of the eight MDGs as given in the report's Executive Summary:

MDG 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger - The region as a whole is on track to reach the target, but the Least Developed Countries are making slow progress.

MDG 2 – Achieve universal primary education - The region as a whole is on track to reach the goal, although countries in South Asia, except India, are moving slowly.

MDG 3 – Promote gender equality and empower women - On the indicator of gender parity in primary enrolment, the region is well on its way to achieving the goal.

MDG 4 – Reduce child mortality - More children are surviving beyond 5 years, and

Southeast Asia as a whole is on track, although some countries are advancing too slowly and there are many Central Asian states of concern.

MDG 5 – Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases – There has been some progress in combating HIV/AIDS, but a number of North and Central Asian countries are regressing.

MDG 6 – Ensure environmental sustainability – Many countries in the region are still losing forest cover at alarming rates. This phenomenon, taken together with rising energy use, is contributing to increasing carbon dioxide emissions. Similarly, progress in providing water supplies for urban areas is moving slowly, with slightly better progress in rural areas. However, for sanitation, coverage in most countries lags behind that for water, especially in rural areas.

Thus, despite some success, the challenge in the Asia-Pacific region remains formidable. One big challenge lies in promoting greater equity – within a country needs to be addressed, as well as gaps between least developed countries and the more developed ones.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

How shall we respond? This is where we bring into play the eighth MDG: building global partnerships for development. International organisations need to complement national resources and efforts by facilitating South-South and South-South-North cooperation' and by assisting in resource mobilisation, with a view to promoting more equitable development, i.e. accelerating the progress of those lagging behind. A strong focus on human resources development and capacity building will be key in addressing the challenges defined under the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals.

UNESCO goals and actions

This dual focus on South-South Cooperation and on human resource development

forms indeed an integral part of the modus operandus of the Colombo Plan and is also an integral approach of UNESCO in its five programme driven overarching objectives for the entire Organisation. I will limit my comments to focus only on two of the five core mandates, that are most closely linked to the Colombo Plan, namely Education and Science.

Education for All

Education is intrinsically important for human development and is a key to achieving peace and sustainable development. UNESCO's top priority is achieving quality Education for All (EFA). As an example of South-South Cooperation in this field I mention the E-9 initiative, launched in 1993, as a South-South framework between nine high-population countries, aimed at achieving EFA. These E-9 countries together represent 60% of the world population. Five of the E-9 countries are found in the Asia Region, and 4 of these are also Member countries of the Colombo Plan, i.e. Bangladesh, India, Indonesia and Pakistan. While the E-9 presents an excellent example of South-South Cooperation in itself, it also provides an opportunity to intensify cooperation with other developing nations in addressing their challenges in meeting EFA.

In the field of tertiary education I would like to mention the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, put in operation in 1991, which presents an innovative modality for strengthening international cooperation in higher education and to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and technology through the establishment of Centres of Excellence and Inter-University Networks. It also meant to mobilise support for the development of higher education and research in developing, and countries in transition, and hence contribute to the bridging of the knowledge gap, which presently exists. The programme counts today more than 600 UNESCO Chairs and 65 inter-university 'UNITWIN' Networks established in 118 Member States in all fields of competence of UNESCO.

Science for Sustainable Development

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Via the tertiary education, I now shift to the challenges addressed under the Science mandate of UNESCO. The international agenda for sustainable development is dictated to a large extent by the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals. These development goals, however, will not be achieved simply by upscaling – by a “more of the same” approach. In other words, the internationally agreed development agenda calls for creativity and innovation – a key role for science and technology.

While we can all agree on the key importance of science and technology, unfortunately, the region is witnessing a decline in the number of young people studying science and technology subjects, a situation that will inevitably lead to a lack of expertise in addressing the major challenges mentioned earlier. This calls for specific attention aimed at reverting this trend, and to put more emphasis and effort in human resources development in the broader fields of science, and to solve present and future global problems, we need capable scientists who are creative and innovative.

In the UNESCO science programmes, the main lines of action are promoting cooperation in the areas of water, ecological and earth sciences for enhancing societal responses, improving governance and management of oceans and coastal zones, promoting science knowledge and education for disaster preparedness and mitigation, and promoting science, technology and innovation policy for sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Convergence of Colombo Plan and UNESCO interests

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Noting that the major programme areas of the Colombo Plan are in the fields of public administration, environment, and private sector development, and combating drug abuse, mainly through training programmes and scholarships, there are certainly points of in-

tersection where UNESCO and Colombo Plan can be partners, and develop synergy from such partnership to mutually enhance the delivery of programmes.

In the area of capacity building through human resource development, partnerships can be established with various UNESCO Networks and Category II Centres in the region. One such new Centre, currently being established in Malaysia, will focus on South-South Cooperation in the field of science and technology for sustainable development. Another regional centre has recently been established in India, with a focus on Biotechnology. There are additional centres established in the region specialising in water and ecological sciences, such as the Regional Centre for the Humid Tropics in Malaysia, or the ICHARM in Japan, which focuses on water related disasters.

Another important platform that UNESCO could bring to the table is the recently established collaboration between UNESCO and the ‘School of Internet Asia’ network, which, in connection with National networks could provide immediate access and information exchange between hundreds of universities and research centres in the region. The effective use of the latest ICT technology could significantly boost the coverage and the impact of training programmes by triggering both a quantity and quality leap.

In conclusion, we might say that there is no lack of opportunity nor will for Colombo Plan, UNESCO and other partners to contribute to human resource development and capacity building in the region in the areas where they have common aspirations. Perhaps, what we lack separately as organisations are sufficient resources to carry out our own programmes; however, if we act jointly, and make better use of existing capacities, networks and modalities, our voices and our efforts together could make a difference in mobilising such resources from donor countries, private sector and organisations, and lead to greater achievement than each one of us can achieve separately.

I finalise by wishing the Colombo Plan all success in its future programme delivery.

Thank you.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Afghanistan

Mr. Chairman;
Distinguished Delegates;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

Let me, on behalf the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan government, thank the Colombo Plan and Malaysian Government for inviting us to this great meeting. I have the honour to represent the Afghan Government after a long time, in this glorious meeting and wish all the success of the meeting.

Fortunately, my country Afghanistan has had the honour of membership of Colombo Plan since 1963, and right from the beginning until 1995, has participated in its annual meetings.

Mr. Chairman;
Distinguished Delegates;

Let me, present you a brief report about Afghanistan's development over the last six years and the last six months.

Before the above mentioned period, Afghanistan was a destroyed country due to years of fighting, intervention and aggregation which made its voice mute. Groups of Militants ruled the country, and there were no values of democracy and the human rights, especially, for ladies who were denied their education and also had no job, but at the same time they were under different aggregation and threat. The level of destruction and damage which affected the material and moral infrastructure was too big and we could not even value its costs.

From 2002 to date, the people of Afghanistan in spite of problems and difficulty, with kind, financial assistances and technical cooperation of friends and brother countries, international organisations and other donors, have shared and taken part in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of destroyed Afghanistan and has achieved success in some sectors.

During this period, in different aspects a lot of work has been done, as briefly given as follows:

In political aspects considerable success has been achieved and a democratic Constitution, in which the rights and obligations of the citizens defined without any discrimination was approved by the people representatives. For the first time in the history of our country the President H.E. Hamid Karzai was elected by the people. Parliamentary election and election for provincial legislative bodies were conducted in a free environment throughout the country with freedom of speech and media existing in our country. The existence of five hundred news papers and magazines, and many private TV, and radio channels (15 TV & 70 radios) is proof of this statement.

In the year 2002, the Government used new currency and successfully implemented monetary reforms with the assistance of IMF, which ended extreme inflation.

During the last six years about five million refugees, especially from Iran and Pakistan returned to the country.

Mr. President;
Distinguished Delegates;

In international conferences held in Tokyo, Berlin, London and other countries, billions of US\$, financial and technical assistances were made by countries and international financial Insts. , for the Afghan socio-economic development were committed, the sum till date US\$.25 billion. This amount invested in different sectors, and the big share of that amount spent by donors, organisations and international institutions.

In Paris Conference, in 12 June, 08 Afghanistan five-year strategy was approved by donors, organisations and international

institutions. US\$. 21.4 billion, to implement the five - year strategy was committed. Paris Conference was one of the successful conferences, the five-year Afghan strategy was accepted in this conference and the Afghanistan priorities were assessed. During the previous conferences more attention was given to building roads, schools, and clinics, but in Paris, priority attention was also given to agriculture development and energy, because without development of these two sectors, economic development is impossible.

Afghanistan has lot of water resources, untouched supplies of gas and petroleum as well as huge coal supplies, as energy productive resources, so this needs sufficient investment, that can involve our international friends in this process.

About 75% of Afghan people are busy in agriculture and husbandry, it should be mentioned that agricultural development in the country has a key role in the socio-economic development, and apart from that a huge part of exports are based on agriculture and animal husbandry. So on the other hand, increases in agriculture and animal husbandry output will replace imports. In this way, the imbalance of export and import in the country, will be prevented. Attention to agriculture is very important because of high prices of food materials, so for those countrymen who are under poverty line this matter is too difficult. Therefore, investment in such projects like dams, irrigations and water department are most comprehensive, so investment in economic infrastructure with the support and assistance of donor countries, organisations and international institutions is most essential.

In the year of 2002, domestic output was US\$ 3.9315 billion, in the year 2007 it was increased to US\$ 7.4231 billion, as a result, per capita income increased from US\$ 180 to US\$ 360. Economic growth in the year 2007 was 12% and in the year 2008 it increased to 14%.

In the sector of trade, in the year of 2007 was US\$ 454.1 million, and in the same year imports US\$ 3, 0218 billion, so there is a lot of deficit balance of trade in between.

More than 3000 kilometers of roads has been asphalted. There is a plan that in the coming two years the asphaltting of highway and circular road be completed. By this high way the country will become a bridge connecting South Asia, Central and the West together, so this is the most key role for regional cooperation. Communication System has more progress and till now more than US\$ 1 billion foreign investment are attracted.

Mr. President;
Distinguished Delegates;

The level of small private investment in this period was about US\$ 5.5 billion in different areas. As result, more than 150 thousand persons jobs were provided.

About 21,000 local developmental councils were established, and its main duties are to prepare and arrange villages developmental plans, established in the framework of National Solidarity Programme. At the moment in 2/3 of the villages social welfare projects are in progress and resulted in infrastructure benefits.

During this period, about 2,840 schools were newly built or reconstructed. School enrollment has increased. Currently in 8,400 schools around 6 million students are studying and 30% of the students are females.

There are 19 universities, where more than 40,796 students are being educated, out of whom 6812 are female students.

Similarly, in the health sector in the central area and provinces 536 clinics were newly built or reconstructed. Thus, 18 hospitals were newly built and 37 hospitals reconstructed. At the moment 106 hospitals and 1,033 health centers and clinics are available, 85% of the people in the country get advantage of health services.

Fortunately, in Afghanistan sufficient natural resources supplies are available, which is very good for internal and external private investment. Our country has approximately 70 million tons of coal, 300 million tons of copper, 109 million tons of iron, 20 to 25 million tons of gold, one trillion cubic feet natural gas and other underground resources such as marble

etc. In this area a lot of foreign investment can be brought in, which will result in accelerating growth and the development process, increasing employment opportunities, per-capita income and reducing poverty in the country.

It should be mentioned that recently our Ainak copper mine was put into bidding and a China company won the project on the basis of performance and good transparency.

Mr. President;

Distinguished Delegates;

One of the most important threats is international terrorism, which is imported and supported from abroad (out side country) and the weak security in the country. While not destroying these nests in the region, our struggle to combat against terrorist in the country is ineffective. Thus, if there is no attention given about this, there will be more threats and aggregation against our country security, and the region and even the world. Therefore, we should faithfully cooperate with each other and make in the region a united political commitment to remove international terrorism from the region. If we do not combat, then peace and stability in the region might be threatened.

Struggle against cultivation, production and trade of narcotics has been aggravated. From one side, security in Afghanistan is having direct relation to narcotics, and from the other side, narcotics is a factor which assisted corruption and it may cause instability and peace in the country. Therefore, 2/3 parts of the provinces cleared from the cultivation of opium, but this is a big challenge in front of the Government, and injured Afghanistan prestige internationally. It should be pointed out that in spite of the fact that the Afghan farmers cultivate the opium, production process and trade are done by foreigners. So actually it is an international and regional phenomenon. So in this matter, to finish it soon requires the kind cooperation of regional and international communities and friends.

The existence of administrative corruption is another challenges in the country, which tarnished the Government's image at a national and international level. Administrative corruption for expansion of narcotics are most effective and is one of the big bad challenges

for social and economic development and also growth of private sector. The Paris Conference also presented the administrative corruption as a big challenge, so world communities in this meeting expected Afghanistan to have prompt action against this phenomenon. Struggle against administrative corruption on the one side to implement the law, rule and regulation, and from the other side, professional and expert persons appointed in services, which, is a big combat against the corruption in the country.

In fact today no country is capable of solving its problems alone. Regional and international economic, commercial and cultural relations are increasingly expanding. Thus, it becomes possible to make use of experiences of other countries in a better way for technical and economic progress of one country.

Afghanistan is a less developed land-locked country, and in addition, as a result of long period of war has suffered a lot and needs assistance and cooperation of countries in the region and other developed countries.

Fortunately, within the Colombo Plan, there are well developed countries that can meet our needs in a better way. Assistance of member countries is needed especially in the following areas :

- cooperation in relation to capacity building of the staff, especially in the areas of project analysis and technical and economic studies of projects provision of advisors for preparation and evaluation of projects provision of scholarships, training and study tours .
- provision of technical equipment to better equip government institutions.
- Cooperation with Afghan government in its struggle against poppy cultivation and traffic of drugs.
- Cooperation in improvement of environment and mine clearance.

The creation of conducive environment in spite of above mentioned progresses, the Afghan Government in different areas such as, security, counter-narcotics problems and challenges require assistance of international communities and the countries .

Finally, I would like to thank again the Colombo Plan and the Malaysian Government for their efforts. With best regards.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Bhutan

Mr. Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is indeed a matter of great honour and privilege to represent Bhutan at the 41st Consultative Committee Meeting of the Colombo Plan.

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere gratitude to the Government of Malaysia for hosting this important meeting and for the excellent organisation.

The Colombo Plan holds a very special place in the history of modern Bhutan, as it was the first multilateral organisation that Bhutan joined in 1962. Since then Bhutan has taken special interest in the Colombo Plan's activities and has been actively participating in them.

As highlighted by our Honourable chief guest in his keynote address, the Colombo Plan is a household name in Bhutan. In fact, our membership to the Colombo Plan truly marked the beginning of Bhutan's formal interaction with the rest of the world.

The Colombo Plan is one of the world's oldest regional cooperation organisation, which has contributed immensely to the developing countries in this region. It has made impressive accomplishments in Human Resource Development through its various programmes and collaborative programmes.

It continues to make invaluable contributions towards developing and strengthening Human Resources of Bhutan. Bhutan has benefited from the various training opportunities offered by the Colombo Plan and through the collaboration between the Colombo Plan and its developed member countries. In particular, the opportunities to pursue Masters Degrees,

under the long-term Scholarship Programme, in various universities in India, Thailand, Malaysia, Korea and Singapore have been very useful.

I would like to mention that the Colombo Plan has enabled many Bhutanese professionals to further develop their skills and pursue higher education. There are many young and senior officials working both in the Government and private sectors who had availed trainings and scholarships offered by the Colombo Plan.

In addition to the various types of programmes and activities undertaken by the Colombo Plan, we feel that it could also facilitate and negotiate among the members countries, in the spirit of South-South Cooperation, to help each other in the development of various skills. This would go a long way in strengthening Human Resource Development of lesser developed members through collaboration with developed members with no additional cost to the Colombo Plan Secretariat.

Bhutan would like to express its utmost gratitude to all donor countries and multilateral agencies for their generous assistance to the Colombo Plan Secretariat, through which Bhutan has availed series of trainings and workshops. We will continue to benefit enormously from the Colombo Plan's numerous programmes. Bhutan will strive to reach that level of Human Resource Development, whereby we may be able assist other developing members in the region in due course of time.

Taking lessons from our own experience, I have no doubt that the Colombo Plan will continue to play a crucial role in the development of our region.

Thank you.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Indonesia

Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates, ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a great pleasure and privilege for me and my delegation to be among you in the 41st Consultative Committee Meeting in this beautiful city light of Kuala Lumpur. On this profound opportunity, allow me to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the people and the Government of Malaysia for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to us and the excellent arrangement made in organising this meeting.

Allow me also to congratulate you Mr. Chairman, for your election to preside over this highly important session. We believe that under your able guidance and experience, we will achieve a fruitful result at the end of our meeting. Let me assure you of our full support and cooperation in the discharge of your task in expressing our gratitude to the Secretary General of Colombo Plan and all staff members of the Secretariat for their restless efforts in preparing all the reports and assisting all of us member countries of Colombo Plan.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia and Colombo Plan have been working closely since the establishment of the Colombo Plan, with the primary objective of developing human resources in the Asia and Pacific region. This objective has become more relevant since the capacity development is prerequisite for the Colombo Plan members to overcome the development challenges and seize the opportunity created by globalisation.

We believe that our meeting today is timely and very important to provide an opportunity for exchanging views and experi-

ences of member countries and of partner countries/international organisations as well as for sharpening our South-South Technical Cooperation programmes under the framework of Colombo Plan. In this context, we encourage every effort aimed at optimising the existing mechanism for cooperation among South-South Technical Cooperation units of developing countries, based on the respective national development priorities.

South-South Technical Cooperation Programmes have been greatly contributing to the accelerating development in the south and the collective self-reliance of developing countries. Therefore, Indonesia expects the continuation of full support from the donor countries and cooperation with other institutions/international organisations that share common interest and objective to enhance the development of the South.

Indonesia has been benefiting from training programmes and post-graduate programmes organised by other developing countries, under the Colombo Plan. This exchange of experts and trainees among member countries is tremendously important for the human resources development in Indonesia. Therefore, the Government of Indonesia wishes to express its highest appreciation to the Colombo Plan for its sincere support, and to other donor countries and international institutions for their generosity.

Indonesia National Narcotic Board (BNN) and the Colombo Plan Drugs Advisory Programme (CPDAP) have successfully launched a number of programmes of preventing drug abuse. Therefore, Government of Indonesia is pleased to host the 6th ASIAN Youth Congress in 2008 and the 2nd Meeting of Colombo Plan Drug Advisory Programme: Drug Focal Points-Need Assessment and Policy Development in 2009.

In cooperation with the Colombo Plan, Indonesia wishes to cosponsor training programmes as follows: Economic and social studies which will be consisting of Local Economic Development, Poverty Reduction, Micro Finance, and Family Planning in 2010 as well as culture programme under special arrangement. Meanwhile, Indonesia wishes also to continue sharing its experiences and the best practices in the Technical Cooperation Programmes with other member countries as in the previous years.

To note, in the last five years Indonesian Government has successfully organised more than 60 training programmes, including programmes funded by the Government of Japan/JICA and UN-ESCAP, with total participants of more than 800 from Asia and Pacific, Middle East and the African Union.

In the field of agriculture sector, Indonesia has also organised apprenticeship programmes for farmers and extension workers from other developing countries. This kind of programme is considered very effective for transferring technologies among farmers in the developing countries, based on learning by doing methodologies.

It is our sincere hope that this meeting would be able to give impetus to further strengthen cooperation among members of Colombo Plan. We believe that the spirit of Colombo Plan of assisting and cooperating with one another is embedded in all of us. In this regard, we must ensure that our meeting leads us to an applicable outcome that will inspire hope for the future of this organisation.

Thank you.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Japan

Japan would like to express its appreciation to the Colombo Plan Secretariat (CPS) and the Malaysian Government for hosting the 41st CCM.

Japan also wishes to express deep appreciation to the Secretary-General of CPS for her valuable inputs for TICAD IV held in Japan,

on 28-30 May, 2008. The outcome was reported to the G8 Summit where the importance of achievements of MDGs, South-South Cooperation i.e human security and private sector-led economic growth, was also highlighted.

Thank you.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Malaysia

Allow me to thank the Colombo Plan Secretariat for the confidence and cooperation extended to Malaysia as host of the 41st CCM

Malaysia will continue to collaborate with the Colombo Plan on existing programmes that have been developed over the years. Under the ambit of the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP), several modules of collaboration have been developed:

1. Organising joint training programmes with local hospitality – or cost-share dedicated areas with renowned institutions in Malaysia – in the field of leadership crisis management, international negotiations, multilateral diplomacy, environment, ICT and Master Teacher and Education Programme.
2. Under the Drug Advisory Programme, Malaysia through the Anti-Drug Agency will continue to support Colombo Plan initiatives through workshops and training for youth, treatment and after care personnel, faith-based organisations as well as workshops for Mullahs. We are also supporting the upcoming 2nd Conference for Islamic Scholars which will be co-organised by the Colombo Plan Secretariat and the Malaysian Anti Drug Agency.
3. Besides short-term courses, CPS, under its own initiative, has formed collaboration with local universities for its Long-Term Scholarship Programme (LTSP). Three universities, i.e. University Sains Malaysia (USM), University Putra Malaysia (UPM) and International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM) have agreed to allocate ten places for undergraduate students from Colombo Plan member countries in areas

of social science, agriculture, forestry, veterinary, food science, biotechnology and halal food and arts. The Colombo Plan will fund the airfare, per diem, thesis/book allowance and field visit while local funding will be under the universities' fund. These students are also welcomed to apply for MTCP scholarships upon acceptance by the universities.

Malaysia will:

- a Continue yearly annual contributions of:
 - i USD 10,000 for the Drug Advisory Programme (DAP)
 - ii Membership fee of USD17,400
 - iii Membership fee of Colombo Plan Staff College of USD 82,932
- b Fund local costs for joint training programmes in Malaysia under Programme for Public Administration (PPA) and DAP.
- c Fund secondment of two officers serving in the Colombo Plan Secretariat for a one-year term (plus another year revisable). Support to Colombo Plan collaboration with Malaysian universities and training institutions in the areas of diplomacy and foreign relations, social science, agriculture, forestry, veterinary, food science, biotechnology and halal food and arts.
- d Welcome new collaboration and cooperation areas.
- e Offer experts/consultants in related fields for Colombo Plan studies.

Thank you.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Maldives

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Maldives and my delegation, I would like to express our appreciation to the Government of Malaysia and the Colombo Plan for organising this 41st CCM in this beautiful city of the Kuala Lumpur and for the generous hospitality extended to us during our participation.

Maldives has benefited greatly from Colombo Plan for the human resources development for a number of years in a variety of fields. In fact, some of the earliest Maldivians to receive Western university education did so under the Colombo Plan scholarship, as early as the early 1960s.

Maldives continue to benefit from the Colombo Plan in both short-term and long-term human resources development programmes.

More recently, Maldives has benefited from the Colombo Plan in Drug Control programmes in dealing with the growing drug problems in the country.

In fact, we are pleased to note that, with the assistance of the Colombo Plan, Maldives has recently launched its first Drug Control Master Plan.

Maldives looks forward to working closely with the Colombo Plan in these important areas.

Thank you.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Mongolia

Dear President, Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Colombo Plan Secretary General, Distinguished guests and observers, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Mongolia is one of the youngest members of the Colombo Plan (CP). First of all, I thank the Government of Malaysia and the CP for inviting me and for the agreeable arrangement of this meeting in Kuala Lumpur. Mongolia has followed true ways of democracy and freedom for around 20 years, with the shifting of the economy from being a planned one to a market-oriented one. We faced many difficulties at the initial period of this transition. Currently, the Mongolian economy is achieving its momentum having shown 8% growth last year.

With the aim of reaching the UN Millennium objectives, the Mongolian Parliament ap-

proved the National Economic Development Policies and strategies for 2007-2012. National Productivity Development Plan was worked out for the same period. According to NEDPS, by 2020, Mongolia will be a medium developed country with per capita GDP at around 15,000 USD. Now this indicator for Mongolia is a little bit more than 1000 USD. These are very bold objectives for us. The Government of Mongolia supports CP's visions and the broadening of cooperation with CP in the years to come. During the short period of CP membership, Mongolia benefited considerably, having sent many participants to CP events and two students under CP scholarship. We hope Mongolia and CP can do more useful things for Mongolia in particular, and for CP at large.

Thank you.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Nepal

Mr. Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, allow me Mr. Chairperson to congratulate you for the election to the chair in this 41st Consultative Committee Meeting (CCM) of the Colombo Plan. I would also like to thank the Government of Malaysia for hosting the 41st CCM of the Colombo Plan in this beautiful city of Malaysia and express our sincere gratitude to the people and the Government of Malaysia for the cordial and warm hospitality extended to us. My delegation is grateful to Honourable Mr. Y.B. Tan Sri Amirsham Abdul Aziz, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Government of Malaysia, for his inspiring keynote address. Let me also take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to the Colombo Plan Secretariat and its staff for the excellent arrangements made for this important meeting.

Mr. Chairperson,

It is indeed a matter of great pleasure and honour for me to attend the 41st CCM of the Colombo Plan. The Colombo Plan is making significant contributions in the areas of human resource development (HRD) and in other areas in the Asia-Pacific Region. There is no doubt that human resource is one of the major areas where we should put a greater effort so as to improve the living standards of the people. Experiences have shown that there is a positive relationship between high quality of human resources and economic growth. Out of the total population, the population of youth (15-19 years) is 27 percent in Nepal. Therefore, it is essential to enhance the quality of people especially the youths, in the context of HRD. To this end, appropriate education,

technical and vocational training are required. As such, high importance is accorded to HRD in our current Three Year Interim Plan.

Mr. Chairperson

After successfully holding election of the Constituent Assembly few months ago, now Nepal has entered into a new phase of political development. We are presently in the process of socio-economic transformation and restructuring of the state. Restructuring the state into federal republic structure is a major agenda and prominent challenge for the government. In a situation of geographic, socio-economic, ethnic, linguistic and cultural diversities of Nepal, finding a suitable model of federal republic structure is a challenging task. Therefore, it is essential to learn and share lessons from similar models, especially countries facing post-conflict situations and endeavouring for sustainable peace and development.

Mr. Chairperson and Distinguished Delegates

It is matter of satisfaction that the Colombo Plan has been playing significant role in the human resource development of Nepal and of this region. Nepal has greatly benefited from the training and long-term scholarship programmes organised by the Colombo Plan in collaboration with the host countries. However, it is necessary to focus on the training and scholarship programmes on the special need of the member countries. We, on this occasion, would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Colombo Plan and other donor countries for their generous support in the human resource development and other important areas of socio-economic development of our country. We request the Colombo Plan to organise trainings and workshops on inclusive growth and development, fiscal federalism,

macro-economic management, labour management and employment promotion, food security, disaster management, poverty reduction, environment management and climate change. We are confident that the Colombo Plan will play a more active and effective role in years ahead in promoting human resource development, alleviating poverty and promoting regional cooperation for the economic prosperity of the people of Asia and the Pacific region.

Finally, on behalf of my delegation, I

would like to express our gratitude to the Colombo Plan Secretariat, for inviting us to attend this 41st meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Colombo Plan. It is indeed a great opportunity for us to share our issues and concerns and learn lessons from other Colombo Plan member countries. Nepal will play a strong role in fortifying its activities and pledges solidarity with the esteemed member countries.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Pakistan



Pakistan & Colombo Plan

- Pakistan is a Founder member of the Colombo Plan, Colombo Plan Council and its Consultative Committee since its inception in 1951.
- Economic Affairs Division is the focal point of Colombo Plan in Pakistan.



C.P Training Courses Offered and Availed by Pakistan

Year	Courses offered by CP	Actual Attendance
2005-06	15	07
2006-07	16	09
2007-08	08	04



South- South Cooperation Pakistan's Contribution

- South – South Cooperation is promoted through Pakistan Technical Assistance Programme (PTAP), with following two components:
 - Short term trainings
 - Long term Degree programme



South- South Cooperation

Short- term trainings are offered in the following fields

Training Course	Institute	Slots offered to C.P	Duration	Course Month
Commercial Banking	National Institute of Banking & Finance, Islamabad	02	04 weeks	December
Central Banking	-do-	02	04 weeks	February
Advance Railways	Pakistan Railways Academy, Lahore	02	08 weeks	January
Commercial Accounting & Postal rate fixing	Postal Staff College, Islamabad	02	04 weeks	February



South- South Cooperation

Long term degree courses are offered in the following disciplines

Disciplines	Seats offered to C.P	Deadlines
Bachelor in Engineering (04 years degree programme)	03	September
D. Pharmacy (05 years)	03	September



Funding

- Short -Term Training facilities are fully funded.
- For long -term degree courses, the students bear all expenses. However, subsidy in the tuition fee up to the extent of 90% is given.



Institutions For Degree Programmes

Engineering

- U.E.T, Taxila
- U.E.T, Mehran
- U.E.T, Lahore
- U.E.T, Peshwar
- N.E.D, Karachi

D Pharmacy

- University of Punjab
- University of Karachi
- University of Sindh
- BZU Multan



Facilities For Short-Term Training Participants

- National Institute of Banking & Finance
- Postal Staff College Islamabad
- Pakistan Railways Academy, Lahore

(Fully furnished hostel facilities of international standards in all the above institutions)



Pledges

- Fully funded short-term training facility in one of the following disciplines for member states of Colombo Plan through its Secretariat:
 - a. General Banking or Central Banking;
 - b. Railways;
 - c. Postal Service Operations.
- Six long-term degree programmes on cost-sharing basis with Colombo Plan- three for Bachelor of Engineering (4 years) and three for D. Pharmacy (5 years)



Recommendation

- C.P may consider offering a good mix of courses to the member countries.
- C.P may also consider increasing the per diem for short-term courses.
- C.P may consider frequent exchange of experts within the member countries.
- Specific courses may be organised in the member countries keeping in view their socio-economic conditions.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes The Philippines

The technical assistance programme of the Philippines is managed by the Technical Cooperation Council of the Philippines (TCCP), which was established under the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1979. The TCCP was established in pursuit of the following:

1. The United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 82/180 and 32/182, which sought to promote Technical and Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC/ECDC), calling on developing countries to pursue individual or collective development through cooperative exchange of knowledge, skills, resources and technical know-how among themselves; and
2. The Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA), in conjunction with the UNCTAD Caracas Programme of Action on Economic Cooperation, called for heightened emphasis on national and collective self-reliance among developing countries as foundation for an equitable economic system and greater integration of the world economy in a new international economic order. The BAPA, moreover, recommended the establishment of national focal points in implementing TCDC.

The Philippines also pledged US\$500,000 towards a common fund to aid the least developed of the developing countries, in response to UNCTAD Resolution 98 (IV), which called on all developing countries to provide special measures and specific actions deemed necessary in favor of LDC's, especially land-locked and island States.

PROGRAMME

In keeping with the purpose and rationale of this South-South arrangement, the TCCP conducts non-degree training courses for other interested developing countries in areas where the Philippines has developed the experience and the expertise relevant to its own development strategy and priorities. The Government's Technical Assistance Programme is also designed for capacity-building through technology transfer and economic cooperation in relation to the 2000 UN Millennium Development Goals of reducing poverty by 2015. In this regard, the TCCP has joined hands with other TCDC national focal points especially those of other ASEAN members and regional States in formulating joint technical assistance arrangements. It also administers, supervises and manages training programmes sponsored by foreign donor countries such as:

- AUS Aid (Australian Aid Programme)
- CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency)
- JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)
- KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency)
- NZAID (New Zealand Aid and Developing Agency)

The training course organised by the TCCP has seen the participation of some of the Colombo Plan member states.

In the almost three decades of its existence, the cooperation programme of the Philippines covered a wide range of subjects and a variety of training modules. More particularly, it conducted non-degree training courses on

the environment, education, agriculture and fisheries, disaster management, health, entrepreneurship, gender and development, and investment promotion. In all the 47 courses organised under the programme to date have benefited not only 511 foreign participants from Asia, Africa, Latin America, Middle East and the Pacific Island States but also 451 Filipino trainees.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

While today the Philippines remains a Third World country and continues to actively participate in the South-South assistance cooperation scheme, certain events in its national life and economic development, as well as world affairs, have necessitated significant adjustments and refinements in the country's sustainable economic development thrust. Among the most critically important of these events is the coming into force in 1994 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, or UNCLOS, wherein the Philippines as an archipelagic State gained in maritime territorial sovereignty and jurisdictions, more than double that of its land area. It was but natural then that the Philippines should give greater focus and prominence to the Ocean and its resources, within the broader issues of sustainable economic development and environmental concerns, the principle areas of cooperation promoted under this South-South arrangement. It is in these new uncharted national development paradigms for the country that calls for capacity-building and acquisition of expertise relevant to the economic development and the environment, including the impact of climate change on ocean productivity.

Finally, it must be reiterated that in this South-South mutual aid arrangement, the beneficiaries are not only other developing countries but also the Philippines under its own programme; citizens of the Philippines are also eligible as trainees under its own programme. The Philippines' participation and contribution, therefore, is not pure altruism.

A planned TCCP programme review and stocktaking would consider a programme

expansion to include training of trainers, and with a sharper focus on operationalising relevant UNCLOS provisions to benefit developing countries, especially archipelagic States, island and land-locked countries. Moreover, the Philippines would focus on regional developing countries in maritime Southeast and East Asia including, Palau and Papua New Guinea. The TCCP therefore hopes to find a balance to promote the Philippines' own national interest as an archipelagic State with opportunities to share technical assistance with other developing countries especially coastal and archipelagic States.

Under the above considerations, TCCP aims to focus its future programme on the following:

- Disaster management, focusing on marine disasters such as tsunami and oil spill;
- Entrepreneurship, specifically relating to coastal and marine resources; and
- Fisheries, with special focus on subsistence fishing and the methods of fishing, fish farming and aquaculture that would not only augment incomes but also conserve resources and protect the environment.

With this new programme focus, TCCP in cooperation with Ocean Friends Foundation, Inc. (OFFI), will implement in 2008-2009 the following projects with the aim in view of identifying and developing a model community-based marine reserve that may be replicated in other archipelagic States under TCCP's South-South technical cooperation programme:

- 1 A DIRECTORY OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN THE PHILIPPINES to organise the existing information to be used for researches, training, seminars, workshops and other applicable projects by mariners, government agencies, local government units, NGOs and others.

2 ESTABLISHING AND DEVELOPING COMMUNITY-BASED MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN THE PHILIPPINES to address the problems of marine degradation and provide the communities with the basic skills not only in managing a protected area but also learning new forms of livelihood.

Needless to say, regional and interested extra-regional developed economies would also

be invited, even solicited, to cooperate and provide assistance under this national programme of the Philippines. The Philippines looks at this South-South Cooperation arrangement as an opportunity to promote and project its own national interests and at the same time establish a modest vehicle for sharing technical assistance with the Third World and build alliances and collective partnerships for sustainable economic and human development.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Singapore

Chairman,
Excellencies and Friends from the Colombo
Plan member countries

I am pleased to say a few words about Singapore's support for the work of the Colombo Plan.

Singapore joined the Colombo Plan in 1959. In our early years, we had benefited from technical assistance provided by the Colombo Plan. The technical assistance provided, like training fellowships and scholarships, had contributed to Singapore's economic development in the early years of our nation-building.

In return, Singapore has, as far back as 1961, been doing its bit to give back to fellow Colombo Plan developing countries. From 1961 to 2004, Singapore provided technical assistance to Colombo Plan member countries through the Singapore Colombo Plan Training Award Scheme. This framework was then discontinued with the establishment of a new framework, called the Singapore-Colombo Plan Third Country Training Programme (TCTP), in 2006, which was implemented under the Singapore Cooperation Programme coordinated by our Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

To date, Singapore and the Colombo Plan have jointly trained a total of 402 senior government officials from Colombo Plan member countries in some 24 capacity-building programmes. Since 1997 to date, we have been conducting an average of 2 to 4 courses per year. In more recent years, the average has been 2 courses per year.

Under the Singapore Cooperation Programme, eligible Colombo Plan member countries have also benefited from our other technical assistance programmes beyond the umbrella of the Colombo Plan, such as the

Singapore Cooperation Programme Training Awards and the various joint programmes that we conduct with our 30 over partners from the developed countries and international organisations. To date, more than 38,000 government officials from the Colombo Plan member countries have benefited from such programmes under the Singapore Cooperation Programme.

To show our continued commitment to the work of the Colombo Plan, from 2008 onwards, Singapore will ramp up its collaboration with the Colombo Plan by jointly conducting 2 to 4 courses each year with the Colombo Plan Secretariat under our Singapore Cooperation Programme. We hope this will bring added benefits to government officials from the Colombo Plan member countries. In the Financial Year 2008, we have planned for 3 courses. In the September course, we will share Singapore's experience in public governance and administration. The October course will address the impact of competition law and policy on export promotion and foreign direct investment. And in February 2009 course we will cover the important issues of climate change, energy and the environment. We will also be collaborating with the Colombo Plan Staff College on a course on enhancing pedagogy skills for teacher trainers in October.

Just as Singapore has benefited from the Colombo Plan Scholarship in the past, I am glad to inform the Meeting that Singapore will from this year work with the Colombo Plan Secretariat to sponsor 2 post-graduate Master scholarships each year for government officials of Colombo Plan member countries, tenable at the National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University or Singapore Management University.

On another aspect, Singapore supports Secretary-General Patricia Chia's call to increase the annual membership fee for the Colombo Plan by 20%, as this will help the Colombo Plan Secretariat to do more. This annual membership fee increase notwithstanding, Singapore's main contribution will continue to be focused on our various human resource capacity building programmes in collaboration with the Colombo Plan under the Singapore-Colombo Plan Third Country Training Programme, and with effect from 2008 our sponsorship of post-graduate scholarships.

In closing, allow me to thank the Colombo Plan Secretariat, the Colombo Plan Staff College, and fellow Colombo Plan member countries for the strong support and partnership over the years. On behalf of the Singapore delegation, I also wish to convey a very special thanks to Malaysia for being a very effective and gracious host of the 41st Consultative Committee Meeting. We look forward to continue working together for the benefit of our fellow Colombo Plan member countries.

Thank you.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Sri Lanka

At the very outset, I would like to thank the officials at the 41st CCM Secretariat in Malaysia for giving me this splendid opportunity to deliver my presentation on behalf of the delegation of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

As the Colombo Plan was conceived in Colombo which is the capital of Sri Lanka, it is my duty for briefing its history. At the meeting held in 1950 in Colombo, representing the Senior Ministers of Independent Asian Nations, two proposals came out from Sri Lanka and Australia to provide financial and technical Assistance to the Developing Countries of the region. These two proposals were combined into one resolution called Colombo Plan and it was established on the 1st of July, 1951 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Since the inception of the Colombo Plan, Sri Lanka has been working closely with the Colombo Plan to develop human resources in the Asia and the Pacific region. The Department of External Resources of the Ministry of Finance and Planning in Sri Lanka is the designated National Point of contact (PoC) for the Colombo Plan Secretariat as well as the member of the Colombo Plan Council. As the National Focal Point, the Department of External Resources is administering of all Foreign Training Opportunities offered by the Multilateral and Bilateral donors for human resource development under the Technical Cooperation.

At present, the Government of Sri Lanka receives about 700 foreign training opportunities annually both Long-Term and Short-Term Programmes. Out of these programmes, about 7% are long-term programmes leading to the Postgraduate Diplomas (Most of these programme are offered by the Govt. of Japan

through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Also, the Government of Korea through KOICA, India through ITEC, Sweden through SIDA, Thailand through TICA, Malaysia through MTCP, Australia through AUSAID, Commonwealth through CFTC, provide their Technical Assistance to the Government of Sri Lanka. Not only that, Singapore, China, The Netherlands, Germany, and other non member countries and regional international organisations continuously support the Govt. of Sri Lanka by providing their Technical Assistance.

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of my delegation, I take this opportunity to thank these donor countries and donor agencies for Providing Technical Assistance to Sri Lanka and at the same time, I kindly request them to continue their fullest cooperation in the future as well.

Mr. Chairman, coming to the point in the presentation on Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programme under the Colombo Plan, I would like to convey my appreciation to the Colombo Plan for providing foreign training opportunities to Sri Lanka.

It is noted that from the year 1995 till the end of July 2008, Colombo Plan has given 9490 training placements to 22 member countries. Out of these, Sri Lanka received 907 placements for 145 participants, who underwent training on the programme for Public Administration. 25 out of 907 were on the Environmental Programme. 123 out of 907 on the Public Sector Development and a large number of participants, 605 out of 907 attended the Drug Advisory Programme. During this period, we were able to obtain 11 long-term fellowships out of 62 of total fellowships given by the Colombo Plan through 15 programmes.

Mr. Chairman, I am proud to say that in the ranking order, Sri Lanka is in the number one out of 15 countries for the long-term training. In general, Sri Lanka is the 4th place by obtaining 907 placements out of 9,490 total placements given by the Colombo Plan, for 22 countries. At the same time, I must point out that Sri Lanka obtained the 1st place by ranking with other beneficiaries for PPSD, Environmental and PPA Sector Programmes up to the end of July 2008.

Mr. Chairman, at this juncture, I must remind the countries of Korea, India, Thailand, and Malaysia for giving training opportunities with the collaboration of Colombo Plan, especially India for giving the slots under the CP.

In the previous years, we had in-country training funded by Colombo Plan and last June we had a training programme on Entrepreneurship Development in Colombo, with participants from 12 foreign countries. Mr. Chairman, we informally discussed among us to promote in-country training in the future, with the guidelines of the Colombo Plan.

Last but not least, on behalf of my delegation I must thank the officials of the Colombo Plan Staff College based in Manila for enhancing the growth and the development of the Technical Education Systems in Developing Member Countries.

Thank you.

Country Presentations On Bilateral Technical Cooperation Programmes - Thailand

Mr. Chairman,

First of all, I would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the government and the people of Malaysia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements provided to my delegation during the 41st Consultative Committee Meeting. I would like also to commend the Colombo Plan Secretariat for the organisation of the Meeting. The Meeting is timely and provides a very good opportunity for members to exchange views and information on what we have been doing and what we will be doing for the region.

As Thailand feels more ready to share our development aspirations and good practices to other developing countries, Thailand puts a strong emphasis on human resources development and strengthening of human resources capacity. Thailand provides technical cooperation in the areas of agriculture, health care and education in terms of training, experts and

scholarships in our bilateral cooperation. With the Colombo Plan, Thailand will continue to support and host the training programmes under the Programme for Public Administration, Private Sector Development, and Drug Advisory Programme. Furthermore, Thailand - Colombo Programme on Environment, covering both long-term and short-term courses in tropical wetlands management, integrated coastal zone management and environmental health with emphasis on food security, will continue.

In closing, in supporting the increased contribution to the Secretariat, we hope the Colombo Plan Secretariat will continue to do more work for the members. Thailand will continue to discuss with the Colombo Plan Secretariat for additional areas of cooperation.

Thank you.

List of participants

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