



TTMUN'24

FORUM: DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE

QUESTION OF: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY OF BANGKOK

INTRODUCTION

The Treaty of Bangkok, a landmark agreement aiming at regional cooperation and peace, has been a focal point for the member states in addressing shared concerns and promoting stability in the Southeast Asian region.

The treaty has played a crucial role in fostering diplomatic relations, economic collaboration, and sustainable development among the signatory nations.

The Committee commends the dedication of member states to the principles outlined in the Treaty of Bangkok. The progress achieved thus far reflects a shared commitment to regional prosperity and stability. The Committee encourages continued cooperation, open dialogue, and proactive measures to overcome challenges, ensuring a prosperous future for Southeast Asia through the successful implementation of the Treaty of Bangkok.



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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The SEANWFZ Treaty, signed on 15 December 1995, is a pivotal legal instrument supporting ASEAN's objective of maintaining Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. It entered into force on 27 March 1997, making Southeast Asia the third Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone globally. The Treaty obliges Parties to refrain from developing, possessing, or allowing the presence of nuclear weapons in the region. It encompasses continental shelves and exclusive economic zones, distinguishing it from other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone agreements. Additionally, the treaty includes a negative security assurance, committing nuclear-armed states not to use such weapons within the zone's boundaries. Overall, it reinforces international disarmament and non-proliferation efforts while promoting peaceful nuclear energy use.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Economic Convergence, aligning economic policies for collaborative growth among member states.

Cultural Integration, fostering a shared regional identity through diverse cultural integration.

Conflict Mitigation, crucial for maintaining regional peace and stability, addressing historical disputes.

ASEAN Secretariat Coordination, vital for effective communication, monitoring progress, and supporting treaty execution.

International Collaboration, enhancing treaty impact through cooperative efforts with external entities, bringing expertise for regional stability and development.





CURRENT SITUATION

As of the latest reports, progress in the implementation of the Treaty of Bangkok has been commendable. Member states have actively engaged in economic partnerships, cultural initiatives, and diplomatic dialogues to strengthen the bonds established by the treaty. Ongoing efforts are observed in addressing regional challenges and ensuring the sustainability of the collaborative framework.

MAJOR PARTIES INVOLVED

ASEAN Secretariat

The ASEAN Secretariat plays a pivotal role in coordinating the implementation efforts. It facilitates communication among member states, monitors progress, and provides necessary support for the successful execution of the treaty's provisions.

Member States

Each member state holds a crucial role in adhering to the treaty's stipulations and actively participating in collaborative endeavors. Regular dialogues and updates from member states contribute to the collective success of the Treaty of Bangkok.

International Partners

Cooperation with international partners and organizations outside the Southeast Asian region adds value to the treaty's implementation. Shared expertise, resources, and best practices enhance the overall impact of the treaty on regional stability and development.





SOLUTION ALTERNATIVES

Enhanced Regional Dialogues

Encouraging member states to participate in regular, focused dialogues to address economic, cultural, and diplomatic challenges. These dialogues should be structured to facilitate the sharing of best practices and the identification of common goals.

Establishment of a Regional Task Force

Considering the creation of a specialized task force within the ASEAN Secretariat dedicated to overseeing the implementation of the Treaty of Bangkok. This task force could address emerging challenges promptly and provide targeted support to member states.

RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS

ASEAN Charter

The ASEAN Charter serves as the foundational document guiding the organization's principles and objectives. It underscores the commitment to regional cooperation, peaceful resolution of conflicts, and shared prosperity.

Bangkok Declaration

The Bangkok Declaration, the founding document of ASEAN, outlines the organization's goals and principles. It emphasizes economic cooperation, cultural exchange, and regional peace—key aspects aligned with the objectives of the Treaty of Bangkok.

Treaty of Bangkok (1995)

Original 5 ASEAN signed ZOPFAN in Nov 1971
SEANWFZ treaty signed in Bangkok on 12/15/95

Covers territories, continental shelves, and EEZ of the States Parties within the zone

Parties decide for themselves whether to allow passage of foreign NW through zone


Bans dumping of radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter at sea anywhere within the zone

SEANWF Commission oversees implementation

Protocol contains 2 elements that go beyond other existing NWFZ agreements:

- zone of application includes EEZ of the contracting parties (EEZ not clearly defined in the South China Sea)
- NSAs implies a commitment by NWS not to use nuclear weapons against any contracting State or protocol Party within the zone of application

NWS have signed but not ratified





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RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

<https://www.iaea.org/sites/default/files/infcirc548.pdf>

<https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/bulletin03-04-ch4.pdf>

<https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/PLAN-OF-ACTION-TO-STRENGTHEN-THE-E-IMPLEMENTATION-OF-THE-TREATY-ON-THE-SOUTHEAST-ASIA-NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE-ZONE-2018-2022.pdf>

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