

Prime Minister attends the 12th ASEAN Summit in Cebu

The Prime Minister, Gen. Surayud Chulanont, paid an official visit to Cebu, the Philippines, to attend the 12th ASEAN Summit between 12-15 January 2007.

Upon an arrival, the Prime Minister participated in the 2nd Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle Summit- IMT-GT Summit together with Dato Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of Malaysia, and Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of Indonesia to follow up the developments in the IMT-GT cooperation as well as consider the working plan and vision for a Roadmap. It would help to establish strong prosperity, peace, and better quality of life for the people in this zone.

On the second day of the Summit in Cebu, Gen. Surayud Chulanont, Prime Minister, announced that the members of ASEAN had finalized their discussions, and that he had signed the 6 Cebu Declarations. These were as follows:

1. The Cebu Declaration of fighting poverty and the allotment of land in which member countries would cooperate together in eradicating poverty, allotting of technical and intellectual resources, and finance.
2. The Cebu Declaration of the master plan for the ASEAN Charter to be a guideline for the drafting of the Charter that would cluster member countries' organisational structure in decision making, following up the working system, and act as a mechanism for dealing with disputes.
3. The Cebu Declaration for overseeing and promoting labour rights.
4. The Cebu Declaration for accelerating the organisation of an ASEAN community by 2015.
5. The Cebu Declaration for saving energy within Southeast Asia to be known among member countries for the promotion of the development of energy to increase the potential, and reduce taxes on ethanol.
6. Subcontract against fighting terrorism in ASEAN by establishing laws as well as prevention against and suppressing terrorism effectively.

The Prime Minister also attended the Ayeyawady – Chao Phraya – Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy Meeting, and then attended a dinner hosted by the Thai Ambassador to the Philippines.
