



From ASEAN to AEC

Regional Inter-governmental Organization



10 members

4.5million sq kms

570million people (growth1.5%)



Overview

- 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration)
- Founding Fathers of ASEAN: 5 Foreign Ministers - Adam Malik (**Indonesia**), Narciso R. Ramos (**Philippines**), Tun Abdul Razak (**Malaysia**), S. Rajaratnam (**Singapore**) and Thanat Khoman (**Thailand**)





The Context: 1960s

- **Conflict:**
 - Indonesia-Malaysia (Konfrontasi 1962-66),
 - Philippines-Malaysia (over Sabah)
 - Singapore secession from Malaysia
 - Mindanao, Southern Thailand
 - Thailand was brokering reconciliation among Indonesia, the Philippines and Malaysia
- **Poor**
- **Communism**
 - Cold War, arms race, proxy wars
 - Indochina War: Vietnam, Laos Cambodia
 - Burma: 1962
- **Club of dictators:** Marcos, Suharto, Thanom, Lee Kwan Yew, Abdul Rahman



Fundamental Principles

- Feb. 1967 - Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) :
 - **Mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity, and national identity of all nations**
 - **The rights of every state to lead its national existence free from external interference, subversion, and coercion**
 - **Non-interference** in the internal affairs of one another
 - **Settlement of differences or disputes** by peaceful manner
 - **Renunciation of the threat or use of force; and**
 - **Effective cooperation** among themselves.



ASEAN: Stages of Development

- First 10 years (1967-1976): **establishment**, solidarity, dialogue partners
- The next 20 years: (1977-1997): **expansion** - Brunei (1984); Vietnam (1995); Lao PDR and Myanmar (1997); and Cambodia (1999)
- The next 10 years: (1998-2007): vision, **formalization**
- The next 7 years: (2008-2015): **Community building**



ASEAN Charter

- Ratified by 10 ASEAN member states
- Came into force: 15 Dec 2008, Jakarta
- Gives legal personality to ASEAN
- Clarifies common objectives and principles
- Defines structure, Mechanisms, Operations



Charter: ASEAN Objectives

- Enhance peace, security stability
- Political, security, economic, socio-cultural cooperation
- Preserve as nuclear weapons free zone
- Peace with the world, harmonious environment
- Single market and production base
- Alleviate poverty, narrow development gap
- Strengthen democracy, protect and promote human rights
- Respond to common threats
- Promote sustainable development
- Develop human resources
- ...



Charter: ASEAN principles

- Respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity
- Shared commitment: peace, security stability
- Renounce use of force
- Peaceful settlement of disputes
- Non-interference in internal affairs
- Freedom from external interference, subversion, coercion
- Respect for fundamental freedoms, protect and promote human rights, promote social justice
- Respect UN Charter, international law, IHL
- Abstain from participation in activities which threaten members
- Respect cultures, religions, languages
- Centrality of ASEAN in economic, political, social, cultural relations
- Adherence to rules towards integration, and market driven economy



ASEAN's Structure

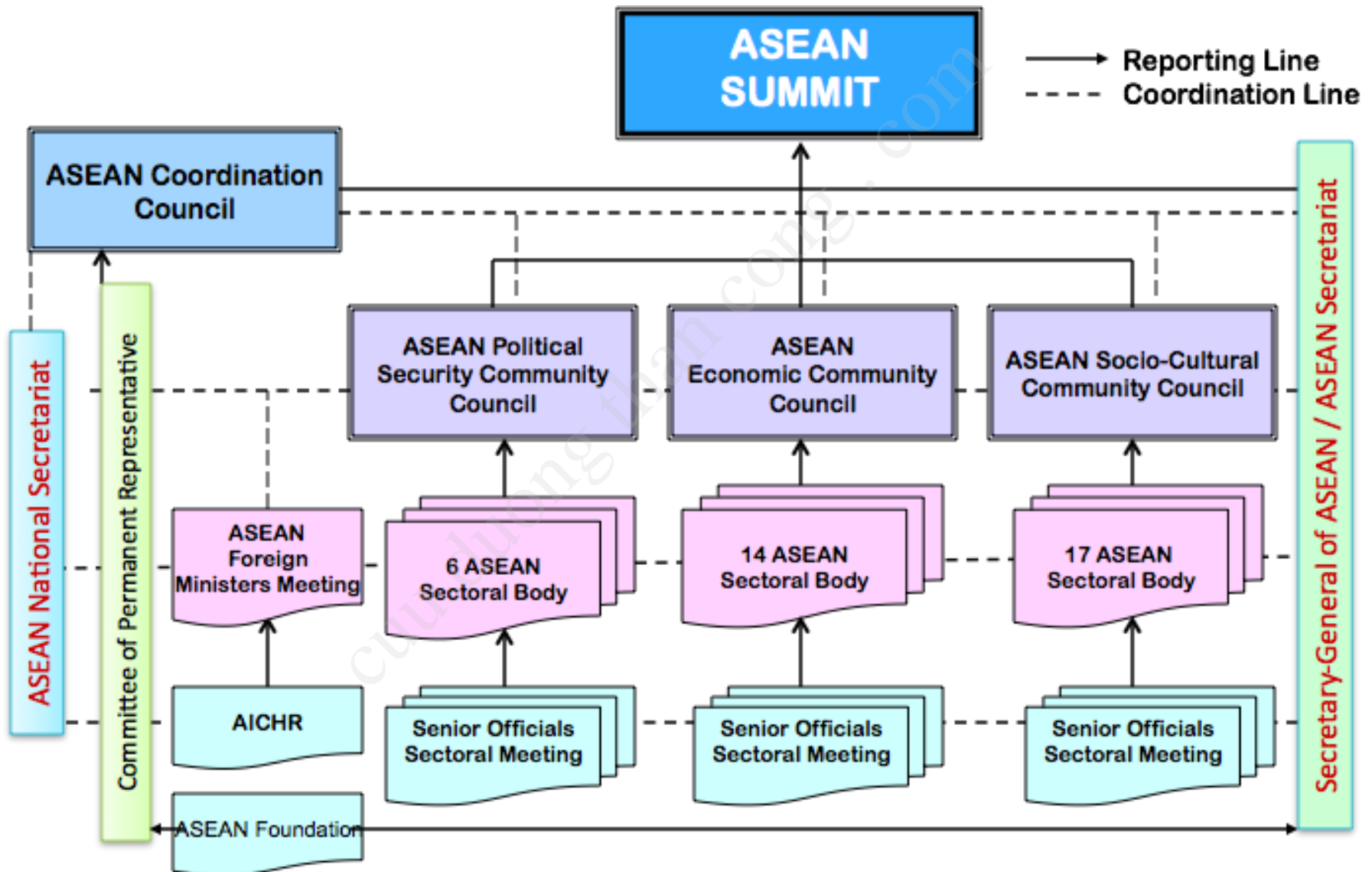
- ASEAN Summit
- ASEAN Coordinating Council
- ASEAN Community Councils
- ASEAN Sectoral Ministerial Bodies
- Secretary General
- ASEAN Secretariat
- ASEAN National Secretariat
- Committee Permanent Representatives (CPR)
- ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights
- ACWC
- ACMW



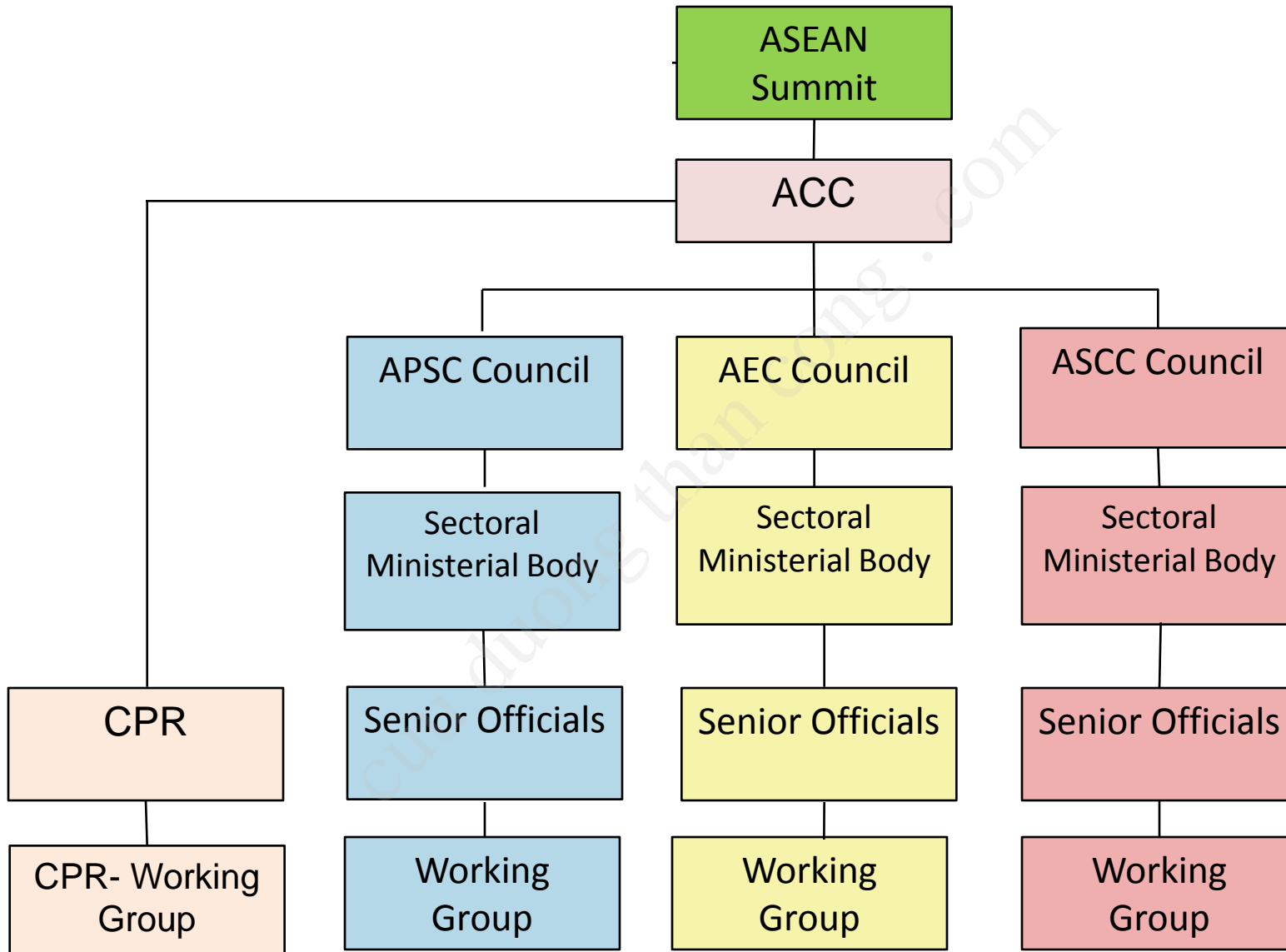
ASEAN Summit (Art 7)

- Comprise the heads of States
- Supreme policy-making body of ASEAN
- Deliberate, provide policy guidance and take decisions on key issues pertaining to the realization of the objectives of ASEAN
- Instruct the relevant ministers in each of the councils concerned to hold ad hoc inter-ministerial meetings, address important issues concerning ASEAN that cut across the Community Councils
- Address emergency situations affecting ASEAN
- Appoint SG ASEAN

ASEAN Organization Chart



The ASEAN Summit and the Ministerial Bodies of ASEAN





Secretary General of ASEAN

- Appointed by the ASEAN Summit for a non-renewable term of office of the 5 years
- Carry out the duties and responsibilities of the office in accordance with the ASEAN charter
- Facilitate and monitor progress in the implementation of ASEAN agreements and decisions, and submit an annual report
- Participate in meetings of the ASEAN Summit, the ASEAN Community Councils, the ASEAN Coordinating Council and ASEAN Sectoral Ministerial Bodies and other relevant meetings



Secretary General of ASEAN

- Present the views of ASEAN and participate in meetings with external parties
- Recommend the appointment and termination of the Deputy Secretaries-General to the ASEAN Coordinating Council for approval
- SG shall also be the Chief Administrative Officer of ASEAN



ASEAN Secretariat

- Uphold the highest standards of integrity, efficiency, and competence in the duties performance
- Not seek or receive instructions from any government or external party outside of ASEAN
- Refrain from any action which might reflect on their position as ASEAN secretariat officials



ASEAN Community

- **ASEAN Political-Security Community** – peaceful processes in the settlement of intra-regional differences and it has the following components: political development, shaping and sharing of norms, conflict prevention, conflict resolution, post-conflict peace building, and implementing mechanisms
- **ASEAN Economic Community** - creating a stable, prosperous and highly competitive ASEAN economic region in which there is a free flow of goods, services, investment and a freer flow of capital, equitable economic development and reduced poverty and socio-economic disparities in year 2020;
- **ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community** - envisages a community of caring societies and founded on a common regional identity, with cooperation focused on social development aimed at raising the standard of living of disadvantaged groups and the rural population, and shall seek the active involvement of all sectors of society, in particular women, youth, and local communities



ASEAN Community

POLITICAL – SECURITY Blueprint

- Rules based, shared norms and values
- Cohesive, peaceful, stable, resilient with shared responsibility
- Dynamic and Outward looking

ECONOMIC Blueprint

- Single Market and production base
- Competitive economic region
- Equitable Economic development
- Integration into global economy

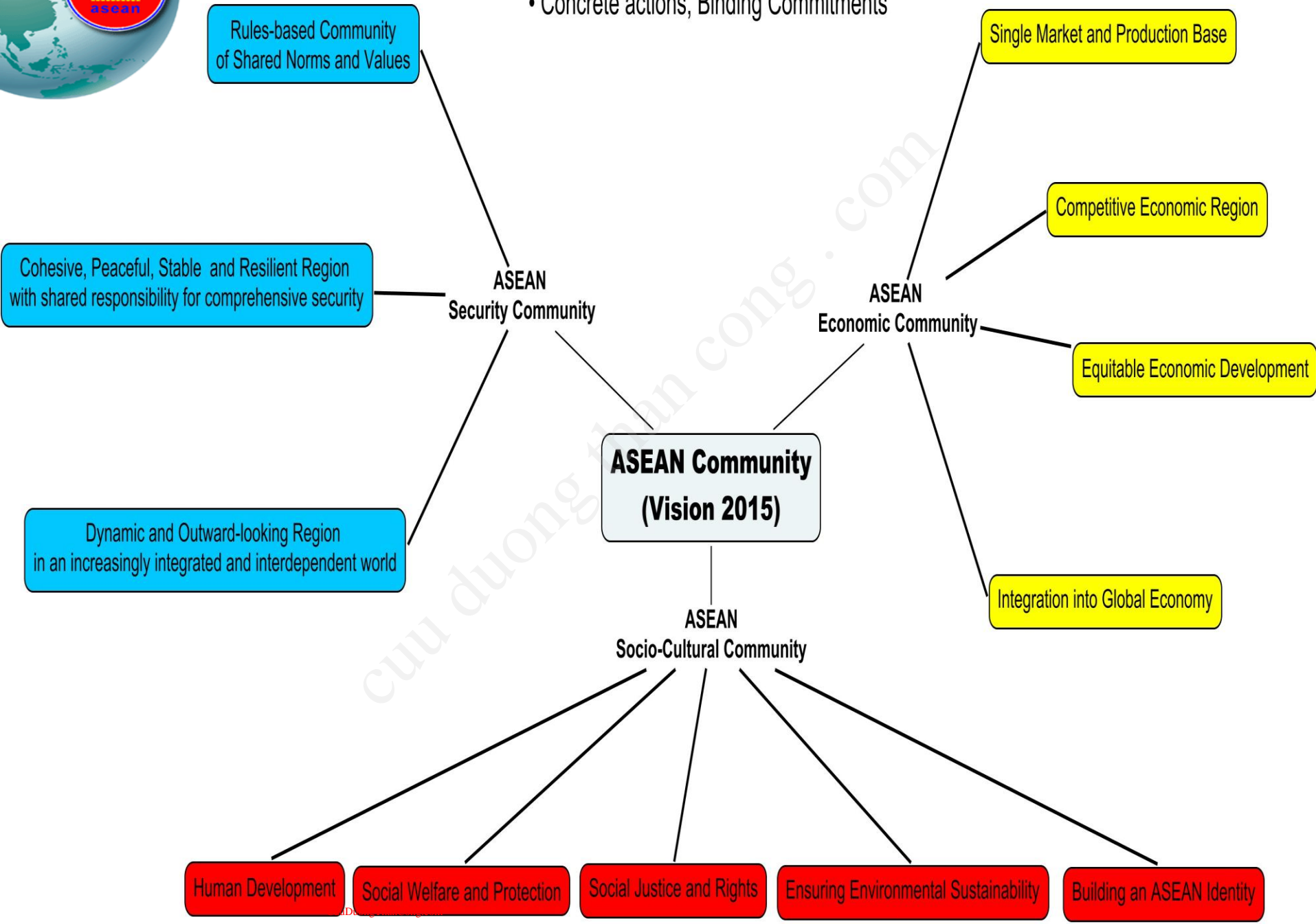
SOCIO- CULTURAL Blueprint

- Human Development
- Social Welfare and Protection
- Social justice and rights
- Environmental Sustainability
- ASEAN Identity

**ASEAN Charter - One Vision, One Identity, One
Caring and Sharing Community**



- Closely intertwined and mutually reinforcing
- Concrete actions, Binding Commitments





ASEAN Economic Blueprints

- a single market and production base,
- a highly competitive economic region,
- a region of equitable economic development, and
- a region fully integrated into the global economy
- Priority Integration Sectors: agro-based products; air travel; automotives; e-ASEAN; electronics; fisheries; healthcare; rubber-based products; textiles and apparels; tourism; wood-based products; and logistics (additional sector as may be identified by the Ministers after the agreement)



Economic Blueprint: critics

- Liberalization
- Only protects end-users (consumers)
- What about sustainability? Environment and livelihood
- Disregards existing bilateral economic agreements
- No detail on how the region acts as a whole



Socio-Cultural Blueprints

- promotion of human development and security
- narrowing the development gap
- ensuring environmental sustainability
- building an ASEAN identity
- Wide coverage of issues: Poverty, Health, Disaster Management, Education, Food security, Social impact of integration, Environmental sustainability, Migrant labor, Women and children's rights, Science and Technology



Socio-cultural: Critics

- Social justice vs. social protection; systemic vs. symptomatic
- Systemic solutions to address social injustice: problems of access, conflicting interests with commercial/industrial interests
- Participation should not be limited to this sphere.
- Diversity and identity of peoples within member countries



Political Security Blueprints

- Framework is based on political and security cooperation where countries live at peace with one another, and the ASEAN, with the world at large.
- Principles are *non-interference, consensus, national and regional resilience, and respect for sovereignty*.
- Elements of the Blueprint: *political development, shaping and sharing of norms on counter terrorism and nuclear free zones, inter-state conflict prevention and post-conflict peace-building; combating terrorism*



Political Security: Critics

- **State-centric in perspective (national security)**
 - *Existing internal conflicts should be addressed: over resources, over self-determination/identity*
 - *Governments (policies) are sources of conflict*
- **Does not provide for political participation and representation of civil society**
- **No reference to international human rights standards > adherence to international standards and principles**
- **No dispute mechanism on internal conflicts, intra-state conflicts, separatism.**
- **No recognition of internally displaced people (IDPs)**
- **Cultural diversity is not addressed > recognition of diversities in ethnicity and religion, and of marginalization**
- **Strengthen and monitor existing regional instruments on migrants, women, children, and CSO and public participation in processes**
- **Promote regional civilian peacekeeping forces**



Thank You



MYANMAR



THAILAND



CAMBODIA



SINGAPORE



INDONESIA



LAOS



VIETNAM



PHILIPPINES



MALAYSIA



BRUNEI DARUSSALAM