



Compilation of ACD Cooperation Areas Progress Reports

ACD Prime and Co-Prime Mover Consultations

14 October 2009

Colombo, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

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E-education Progress report

Area of Cooperation: E-Education

Prime/ Co-Prime Mover Countries: Malaysia & Iran

Brief Report

1. Broad Concept/Principle of the area of cooperation

The concept and principle of E-education as originally proposed by Malaysia was reiterated by the two following declarations of ACD ministerial meetings:

No. VI: *Resolve to ensure the provision of easily accessible and expanded educational opportunities for the peoples of Asia with the proposal for the establishment of an Asia e-University (AeU) which will be an instrument for greater Asia-wide cooperation in closing the digital divide and spearheading e-Education efforts to meet future challenges, for the benefit of the region.*

(4th ACD Ministerial Meeting: 6th April 2005, Islamabad, Pakistan)

No.1.5: *We agree to support the successful implementation of Asia e-University (AeU) as an instrument for human capacity building, closing the digital divide, increasing higher education accessibility, and spearheading e-Education efforts for the benefit of all members countries.*

(5th ACD Ministerial Meeting: 24th May 2006, Doha, Qatar)

The 7th ACD Astana Declaration of 2008, noted that Malaysia as the prime mover of E-education has made excellent progress in the establishment of Asia e-University. The Astana Meeting also welcomed the Islamic Republic of Iran as a co-prime mover of E-education.

2. Activity

As far as the latter is the above concerned, the two countries will coordinate, explore and promote collaborative initiatives in the area of E-education. This is reflected in the current active consultations between Asia e University (AeU) and Tarbiat Modares University (TMU), as the respective focal points of the initiative, of which several collaborative activities are expected between now and the next meeting. They include seminars, joint training and academic programs, and

exchange of staff.

At the 4th ACD meeting Malaysia has proposed the establishment of Asia e University. This proposal was adopted by the two subsequent ACD declarations. In April 2007 the Malaysian government established Asia e University as a vehicle for the promotion of e-education and a flexible mode University.

The development of the University as reported earlier will be in several phases. During the initial phase AeU will offer programmes in the distance mode using the blended pedagogy. AeU will also enrol fulltime students in the Pre University Studies later in the year.

The three major phases of development of AeU are as follows: Phase one (1) will span between 2007 to 2009, it will include the establishment of AeU headquarters and Kuala Lumpur campus in Malaysia. Thereafter, AeU branch campuses and learning centres will be established in the Asean region, South Asia and Middle East. The 2nd phase of AeU development (2010 – 2012) will see AeU branches and the activities extended to ACD member countries like China, Central Asia and Pakistan. The 3rd phase of the establishment of AeU will extend beyond year 2012 where AeU services will reach ACD countries not included in the earlier phases of development. In those phases, AeU will adopt implementation strategies that include the following activities:

- Attractive marketing of AeU brand as an International University of choice in Asia.
- Leverages on local and international partner resources.
- International Academic Faculty.
- Positioning AeU as an Asian collaborative venture for higher Education with International recognition.
- Developing International networks with HE Institutions and private providers involved in e-education.
- Academic degree programmes conducted in dual mode in new areas with dual certification, i.e. academic plus industry.
- Integration of industry practices into curriculum with active participation from International corporations, i.e. industrial attachments.
- Establishment of Branch Campuses in best markets.

3. Brief Information about the activity (Includes date and venue of activity, participation of ACD member countries in the activity, significance of the activity to the advancement of the project & result (i.e findings, recommendations, final documents) of the activity.

AeU is currently negotiating a variety of arrangements with several educational providers in the Asian region and beyond. They have in principle agreed to

exchange of staff.

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AeU is currently negotiating a variety of arrangements with several educational providers in the Asian region and beyond. They have in principle agreed to

offer AeU courses in the Academic, Professional, and Executive Development capacities beginning last quarter 2009.

Among the countries where MOU and MOA have already been reached are:

- Kingdom of Bahrain
- Kingdom of Cambodia
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
- Islamic Republic of Iran
- Islamic Republic of Pakistan
- People's Republic of China
- Republic of South Korea
- Republic of India
- Republic of Indonesia
- Republic of Singapore
- Republic of Namibia
- Republic of Vietnam
- Commonwealth of Australia
- New Zealand
- United States of America
- The Republic of Sudan

4. Assessment on the progress of the area of cooperation, particularly its contribution toward the Asia wide cooperation and the benefits of Asian countries and peoples

The Malaysian Government reaffirms its commitment as the Prime Mover of E-Education in ensuring the success and sustainability of Asia e University. Malaysia expresses her appreciation of the support of member countries to AeU and particularly in agreeing to voluntarily explore the ways and means for the establishment of the Asia Credit Transfer System (ACTS). It has been noted that the latter will be a catalyst in increasing the mobility of students and facilitating the transfer of academic credits between universities in Asia. We have indeed observed the tremendous success of such a system operating in Europe. Thus, the Asian Credit Transfer System (ACTS) could take a lead from the model set by the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). As reported to the Astana meeting, a Kuala Lumpur roundtable was held last year (2008) between participating member countries to consult and explore the concept of an Asian Credit Transfer System. Since, it is a voluntary initiative, Malaysia thus would like to urge more member countries to come forward and support actively the successful implementation of ACTS.

The Malaysian government would also like to put on record that the Republic of India, through the Distance Education Council has in the true spirit and letter of the ACD charter has agreed to recognise Asia e University. This is milestone and will definitely lead to greater collaboration between Asia e University and the Institutions of Higher Learning in India to not only narrow the digital divide but also to bring Internationally recognised education and training programmes to the peoples of Asia. We would like to urge more ACD member countries to facilitate such initiatives for the benefits of our people.

5. Future direction of the area of cooperation

AeU is in discussions with several other potential country collaborations and have or working towards signing MOU/MOAs with

- ❖ Arab Republic of Egypt
- ❖ Denmark
- ❖ Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal
- ❖ Kingdom of Thailand
- ❖ People's Republic of Bangladesh
- ❖ Republic of the Philippines
- ❖ State of Kuwait
- ❖ Sultanate of Oman
- ❖ United Kingdom

Establishment of new Centres

For the year 2010 the two centres are expected to established as below:

(i) Asian Centre for Culture and Languages (ACCL)

The Asian Centre for Culture and Languages is essential in order to catalyse greater collaboration and cooperation and also integration amongst the ACD member countries. The ACCL will offer cultural and language courses starting at a basic beginners level and up to advanced level. Courses in the main languages of Asia such as Mandarin, Bahasa Melayu, Bahasa Indonesia, Hindi, Arabic, Japanese, Korean, Russia etc will be available for all students, as will courses in all the major languages of the world. It is hoped that member ACD countries will be prepared to support the ACCL with experts and learning material.

(ii) Asian e-Learning Centre

The Asian e-Learning Centre (ACE) will be the hub for Asia to serve as a focal

point for all aspects of e learning. the exchange of educational opportunities and knowledge among the communities of the region in all aspects of e learning. ACE will be the premier organisation in research, development, promotion and implementation of E-Learning initiatives among countries in Asia in the area of policy, technology, standards, human capacity building and knowledge sharing.

The following steps for the way forward need to be taken/endorsed by member countries:

- (i) Member ACD countries should facilitate Asia e University to establish contacts with focal institutions in their respective countries. The objective of this would be to promote greater cooperation and collaboration for new programme development and to jointly award especially to meet human capital development, exchange of staff and students and concrete measures towards mutual recognition of credits.
- (ii) Member ACD countries should welcome and facilitate Asia e University initiatives with local host country partners to offer new and relevant education and training to meet the respective human capital development needs of the host country.

Member countries should look into establishing a working committee to work out the ways and means of implementing Asian Credit and Transfer System (ACTS) in each member country that elects to participate in the system. As far as the latter is concerned, the two countries will explore and promote collaborative initiatives in the region. This is reflected in the active consultations ongoing between Asia e University (AeU) and Tarbiat Modares University (TMU), as the respective focal points of the initiative, of which several collaborative activities are expected between now and the next meeting. They include seminars, joint training and academic programs, and exchange of staff.

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8th Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Ministerial Meeting
14th – 16th October 2009
Colombo, Sri Lanka

Progress Report
October 2008 – October 2009

Area of Cooperation : SME Cooperation

Prime Mover (s) : Singapore & Sri Lanka

Brief Report

1. Broad concept/principle of the area of cooperation
To enhance SME development in ACD member countries through sharing of best practices in the spirit of mutual cooperation
2. Activity
Asian SME Summit 2009
- Public Private Partnership in SME Development through Capacity Building, Policy & Research
3. Brief information about the activity

Date & venue : 6-8 Aug 09, Colombo, Sri Lanka
Participation of ACD members : 23 delegates (list attached)
Result : Full report by Sri Lanka attached
4. Assessment on the progress of the area of cooperation, particularly its contribution towards the Asia-wide cooperation and the benefits of Asia countries and peoples

The Asian SME Summit 2009 has achieved its objective of sharing knowledge and experience of ACD member countries on effective policy tools/interventions and best practices for SME development, identified and propose new approaches towards capacity building, research and development and provided networking opportunities among ACD countries. Specially commissioned research papers and the ACD country papers presented at the Summit contained a wealth of information, data and case studies including success stories of SME development policies, strategies and action programmes implemented in recent times in the Asian region. It is hoped that the sharing will

facilitate decision making on SME development within national boundaries as well as for international comparisons.

5. Future direction of the area of cooperation

Sri Lanka Inputs on possible cooperation activities/programmes (Inputs compiled by SMED and from the Asian SME Summit 2009, Sri Lanka)

- ACD countries can form a SME Development Cooperation Action Plan with the help of the ACD Private sector (FCCISL can organize this activity)
- SME policy development activities should be Public Private Joint effort. (Regional best practices can be taken into consideration in such policies e.g. South Korea)
- SME sector wise database has to be developed for each ACD country for identity specific capacity building programs.
- SME cooperation in capacity building activities has to be monitored.
- ACD countries SME development organisations can have round table discussions (Bi-annual) – This can be arranged with Video conference facilities (e.g. GDLN network in East Asia and Pacific Region countries can be used for this purpose)
- System for ACD countries' website and newsletter Information dissemination.
- ACD countries marketing linkages are to be established.
- Mechanism for ACD SMEs to be given Technology Transfer for Knowledge Transfer and Innovation
- Hold Annual ACD SME Summit
- SMEs participation at annual SME exhibitions in ACD countries (the ACD website can display such activities and information has to be disseminated to all ACD countries)
- ACD SMEs for GO GREEN technologies
- ACD SMEs Business Matchmaking program
- Enterprise Development and Technology training for SME has to be prioritized.

Singapore Inputs on possible future cooperation activities/programmes

- Best Practices Sharing on
 - Business Excellence for SMEs
 - Public-Private Sector Partnership
- Bluesky Festival
(The BlueSky Festival is an event to celebrate and profile the spirit of entrepreneurship in Singapore. It also offers an excellent platform for the exchange of ideas, experience sharing and networking opportunities between entrepreneurs, industry experts and practitioners from diverse backgrounds.)

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**China's Inputs in the Area of
Poverty Alleviation (Progress since ACD 7)**

International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC) organized the 1st Seminar on Theory and Practice of International Development (Poverty Reduction) for Asian Countries between 16-18 December 2008 in Wuhan, Hubei Province. Themed "Economic Reform, Social Development and Poverty Reduction: China's Practice and Experience", the three-day workshop cum field study registered 12 representatives from seven ACD member countries for sharing expertise and experience on the theory and practice of poverty alleviation.

As a follow-up, the 2nd Seminar is to be held in early November, 2009 and all ACD member states will be invited.

1. Name of the Cooperation Area: Environmental Education
2. Prime / Co-Prime Mover Countries: Japan/Qatar
3. Date and venue of activities organized: June 10th-11th, 2009
4. Progress Since ACD 7:

The 6th Dialogue on Environmental Education

Japan hosted the 6th Dialogue on Environmental Education on June 10th and 11th, 2009, in Nagano. The dialogue was held under the theme "Education on Biodiversity- measures for conservation of ecosystems in farming and mountain villages-", and 50 participants from 14 ACD member countries, Nagano Prefecture, Nagano City, United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), other relevant governmental and local institutes, and NGOs attended the dialogue. Participants attended the workshop and joined site visits to the relevant facilities and institutions in Nagano area; Nagano Environmental Conservation Research Institute, Green Hills Elementary School and C.W. Nicol Afan Woodland.

At the 6th dialogue, Japan and participants from other ACD member countries shared each country's examples where human activities harmoniously contribute to the conservation of nature, while bringing good ecological services to humans in turn, and the participants acknowledged the importance of co-existence of humans and nature as exemplified in "Satoyama" and similar initiatives. The dialogue also provided an opportunity for ACD member countries to share efforts and initiatives undertaken at both the national and municipal level in each country and international organization. Participants also shared information on the efforts and initiatives they had undertaken in the field of environmental education on biodiversity, and engaged in a discussion of ways and means of promoting effective preservation of biodiversity.

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Progress Report

Area of Cooperation : IT Development

Prime/Co-Prime Movers : Republic of Korea/Russia

Brief Report (Republic of Korea)

1. Broad Concept/Principle of Cooperation

Developing and carrying out diverse IT cooperation projects with a view to bridging the digital divide among the ACD members

2. Activity

The Republic of Korea has been conducting a wide array of activities through the 'Project Aid Program', 'Training Program', and 'Korea Overseas Volunteers (KOVs)' Program.

3. Brief Information about the Activity

Cooperation through KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency)

(1) Activities for 2008-2009

Project Aid Program

- For 2008, KOICA conducted 6 projects in 5 member countries.
- For 2009, KOICA has been conducting 9 projects in 7 member countries.
- Project Aid Program includes the establishment of an ICT Training Center, a Government Integrated Data Centre, and an e-Procurement Pilot System.

Training Program

- For 2008, KOICA invited 119 people from 14 member countries to participate in 16 courses.
- For 2009, KOICA invited 74 people from 14 member countries to participate in 9 courses.
- Training Program is designed to enhance 'e-business' and 'e-learning'.

Korea Overseas Volunteers (KOVs) Program

- For 2008, KOICA dispatched 131 KOVs to 13 member countries
- For 2009, KOICA dispatched 152 KOVs to 14 member countries

(2) For 2010, KOICA continues to conduct the Project Aid Program (carrying out 5 projects in 5 member countries), Training Program (inviting 105 people from 19 member countries), and Korea Overseas Volunteers Program (dispatching 165 people to 14 member countries)

Cooperation through NIA (National Information Society Agency)

(1) Activities for 2008-2009

Training Program

- For 2008, NIA invited 9 people in 1 course involving 9 member countries
- For 2009, NIA invited 38 people in 4 courses involving 10 member countries
- Training Program includes the e-Government System Integration(SI) Course, National Informatization Course, and Information Security Course.

(2) For 2010, NIA plans to invite 30 ICT experts from member countries and conduct 4 courses including e-Government SI Course

- Program module includes seminar (ICT policy & technology trends), ICT site-visit(Korea

ICT best practice experience), and meetings with ICT experts and relevant public officials.

4. Assessment on the progress of the area of cooperation, particularly its contribution towards the Asia-wide cooperation and the benefits of Asian countries and peoples

The IT-related activities have been conducted in accordance with the spirit of the 'Seoul IT Declaration', adopted at the 6th ACD Ministerial Meeting held in Seoul in 2007, in which the member countries expressed their determination to narrow the digital divide.

These activities are considered to have contributed to bridging the digital divide among the member countries through establishing ICT centers, training experts and dispatching volunteers. Some of the activities such as e-Government SI Course are also viewed to have improved the connectivity between the governments and people in the member countries.

5. Future direction of the area of cooperation

IT-related activities such as the Project Aid Program, Training Program and KOVs Program are to be conducted through KOICA in 2010, while the e-Government SI Course is to be carried out through NIA. Further activities are to be explored for year 2010 in consultation with the Co-Prime Mover.

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ACD Prime and Co-Prime Movers' Consultation
Colombo, Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, 14-16
October 2009.

The Sultanate of Oman's paper on Road Safety

Road Safety On The UN Agenda

The Sultanate of Oman has made road traffic crashes and injuries as a priority issue. Appreciating the impact of road traffic injuries, nationally and globally, the Sultanate was the first country to politicize this pandemic and to work for global road traffic safety by putting it on the forefront of the United Nations since November 2002.

Since 2002 the Sultanate of Oman has played a leading role in the United Nations and has been working with other agencies to promote and advocate for Road Safety. In recent years a number of countries have taken active steps to consolidate road safety. Many countries have modified traffic rules and regulations that have contributed to a fall in the number of injuries and fatalities. However, regionally and globally the statistics are still unacceptably high and in particular in the developing counties.

Oman's Role in Road Safety Awareness.

The Sultanate has played not only a leading role but also a crucial role in the UN in raising global awareness. Between 2002 and 2008 Oman initiated and with conviction managed to unanimously obtain approval and endorsement of 5 UN resolutions on road safety. The Sultanate in its role as a prime mover has also worked tirelessly with the ACD on road safety issues. This collaboration among the ACD member states has brought to the forefront the commonalities these countries share. To combat this scourge, Oman had hosted and organized the first three days ACD conference with the theme, " Together we

can overcome this looming crisis” in May 2006. This created a platform for networking, and for SWOT analysis and strategic thinking that resulted in the development of a common unified strategy for the ACD member states to combat road traffic crashes and injuries and to promote road safety regionally and globally.

Working together with a number of agencies related to road safety – governmental, private and corporate bodies – Oman and the ACD member states have managed to create an atmosphere of road safety culture globally. Joint strategies and activities in capacity building, knowledge sharing and transfer, improving political will, and conducting research on road safety has been put in place.

The Sultanate is committed to road safety and is playing a very active role and a participant in a number of initiatives for road safety advocacy. These include :

1. Meetings organised by WHO and ESCWA and UNICEF.
2. With the Lord Thompson report and campaign, **Make Roads Safe.**
3. Endorsement of the Youth Declaration and creation of Youth Ambassadors on Road Safety.
4. Participation in the 2nd Stakeholders forum in May 2007 in Geneva.
5. Working with the United Nations Road Safety collaboration.
6. Working with both the national and global media and scientific publications in creating. Road safety awareness.
7. Endorsing and propagating the 5 best practices on road safety as per the WHO recommendations on road safety. (Safety belts, helmet, drink driving, speeding, and child constraint.)

8. Increase cooperation with the private and corporate sectors with the government initiatives to promote road safety.
9. Installation of sophisticated technical equipment by the Royal Oman Police for vehicle inspection and road worthiness.
10. Increased media coverage for road safety advocacy.
11. Improvement of the multi-sectoral cooperation within the country.

Where we are today and our future.

Oman is still very active nationally and globally. Challenges are still being faced but can be addressed with pragmatic strategies. However, death, injuries and disability are still looming over Oman and fatalities and injuries even though are declining in numbers the nature of injuries remain unacceptable. The Sultanate is moving towards the concept of an integrated system approach to solve its road traffic crashes.

The Sultanate is still actively striving to improve its data collection and analysis, capacity building and education of the general public to improve their driving behaviour and the respect of the vulnerable road users.

The Sultanate is cementing its political will by working proactively and with cooperation with the relevant ministries or responsible private and government entities to consolidate private / government cooperation.

The Sultanate's Activities and Participation :

1. Participated in all the UN/WHO road safety meetings in 2008 and 2009.
2. Participated actively in the UNESCWA meeting in Doha in October 2008.

3. Took part in the ESCOS/WHO meeting in Doha in March 2009 to promote Road safety as part of MDG.
4. Oman is one of the 6 countries which is a member of the International Consultative Committee for the first ministerial congress on Road Safety in Moscow.
5. Oman is actively promoting the funding at WHO to LMIC member states to participate in the ministerial congress that will be convened in Moscow.
6. Oman has supported and lobbied for the Road Safety Decade of 2010-2020 proposed by the 2nd Make Roads Safe report.
7. Oman is actively collaborating to obtain the Decade to be endorsed by the UN as the 6th UN resolution.

The Sultanate of Oman's commitment to road safety is very profound. It will participate proactively in the road safety field nationally and globally. Regionally Oman is committed to work with its ACD's partners in its endeavour and commitment in road safety.



Strategies and Efforts of Directorate General of Traffic in Enhancing Traffic Safety

Awareness Efforts:

Media: (Press Television Radio):

The media helps in discussing traffic statistics and events in addition to view traffic accidents and utilize social programs in television and radio to keep in touch with the public and review all traffic Safety programs.

Personal Contact .:

This can be managed through work-shops, lectures and conference that discuss Traffic safety Related subjects in all over the Sultanate.

Awareness Booklets:

Mere than half million Booklets and statistics books are published every year and distributed all over the Sultanate which are also directed to school and colleges students, sport clubs, private and public sectors and the Omani society.

Films and Movies:

Traffic Safety Institute shares the responsibility Of making and editing these films with other governmental and private establishments. Some of these films are :

- What if ?
- Hope and pain
- Catastrophe



- Traffic school
- Doesn't your child deserve a safe ride.

Some of these films won international awards and were published in the media and lectures.

Traffic Schools :

The school is designed as a small Traffic city with all kind of Roads , roundabouts , interjections , Traffic lights and other social services building.

In traffic school , students are trained practically and theoretically on the basis arid roles of Traffic . rot only that, but mere then (500) students visit the school every year and there is a well-designed programs for these visits.

Safety Reward:

This is a yearly rewards which are directed to all schools in the sultanate for teachers , managers , bus drivers and students is order to enhance the traffic awareness, the rewards cover the to following areas:

- School project .
- Student and teacher.
- Drawing and painting.
- Short stories.
- Articles.

The Document of Safety on Roads in the Omani Curriculum:

With The cooperation between ministry of Education and Royal Oman Police and financial support from Shell Development in Oman and the help of British



Transportation lab this documents was design in echelon of schools by traffic safety institute.

The document consist of (6) parts , the first part is about traffic safety for every educational subject . The second part is about contacting safety with the educational materials in the basic education level . The third part is designed for the main topics for traffic safety .The fourth part reviews the studies' plans for adopting the lessons to service safety topics. While the fifth part has sample of tasks about traffic safety. Finally, the last part consist of teacher manual for adopting and teaching these ideas and topics.

Traffic safety institute has a main role in the local, international and global level. Also, most of GCC countries are sending researchers to participate in the institute programs to get the needed experiences.

Awareness Boards (new successful step):

Directorate General Of Traffic started recently to send messages through advertising boards in roads, buildings and bridges to road users by the size of 22m × 2m and 4m × 3m. These messages proved their abilities through the responds of road users.

The Web Site of the Directorate General of Traffic:

This site provides all needed traffic awareness topics and answers public questions regarding traffic in the sultanate. It is daily up-dated with the latest traffic statistics. Also, it explains the traffic law and shows the services offered by the Directorate.



Speed Control (Radars):

To limit the number of traffic accidents, which are caused by speed and curtailing its out-comes, speed controllers (radars) were disrupted through the sultanate roads and that consider to be one of the main achievements of Royal Oman Police due to the fact that it provides high percentage of success in decreasing the number of traffic accidents.

Traffic Safety Institute:

In order to enhance the ideas of traffic safety traffic safety institute was opened in 2006 to qualify and rehabilitate police man and road users. The institute holds several conferences and work-shops to develop and increase the awareness of the importance of traffic safety. Also, the institute published nine (9) handbooks and manuals to be thought in the institute. Not only that, but the institute also offers advance training courses to private and public sectors and all road users.

Technical Vehicles Check-up:

It is one of the biggest projects which was introduced to develop the level of traffic safety through checking the performance of vehicles. This project shifts the level of the services that are provided by the Directorate. Nowadays, there are more than (14) technical check-up station all over the Sultanate and the station which are located in the Directorate is the main and the biggest one. It has (12) lane for light and heavy vehicles. The technical check-up process takes around (10-15) minutes with the administrative procedures.