

# CONSTITUTION

## ASEAN TRADE UNION COUNCIL (ATUC)

1. NAME                                      The name of the Council shall be the "ASEAN Trade Union Council" or "ATUC" in short.
  
2. MEMBERSHIP                            The membership of the ATUC shall be open to all national trade union centers in existence for workers in the countries covered by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).  
  
Cessation of membership: ATUC affiliates may cease to be members thereof on giving at least one month's written notice.
  
3. OBJECTIVES                            The objectives of the ATUC shall be as mentioned below, and in pursuance or furtherance of these objectives the ATUC may do or authorize to be done all such acts and things as it may consider necessary:
  - a.) To seek recognition and affiliation to the ASEAN Secretariat and to subscribe to or assist any other non-political organizations having objectives similar to those of ATUC.
  - b.) To reaffirm its beliefs in the concept of freedom of association and social justice.
  - c.) To promote cooperation, understanding and brotherhood among workers and trade unions of countries in the ASEAN region.
  - d.) To develop, either on its own or through its affiliated organizations, economic, social, educational and other industrial, agricultural and cooperative projects for the benefit of the working classes in the ASEAN countries.
  - e.) To take steps intend to improve the economic and social conditions of workers in ASEAN countries and to render them assistance whether or not such workers are employed through their organizations in their respective countries and affiliated to ATUC.
  - f.) Generally to do everything to promote the interest of all or any of its member organizations or anything beneficial to the interests of the individual members of such organizations.
  
4. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP              Organizations wishing to become members of the ATUC shall be required to complete an application prescribed for this purpose. All such applications duly completed shall be addressed to the General Secretary of ATUC for consideration and approval of its Council, whose decision shall be final.

5. HEADQUARTERS           The headquarters of the ATUC shall be located in any of the ASEAN countries, as may be decided by its Council.
6. REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES   Representative offices in one or all the ASEAN countries may be opened according to the decision of the Council.
7. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL       There shall be an Executive Council responsible to manage the affairs of the ATUC. It shall comprise of representatives of national trade union centers from each ASEAN country who are elected at each triennial session of the General Assembly as members of ATUC on the following basis:
- One vote for each national member trade union center.
8. OFFICIALS               The Executive Council shall elect from among its members the following officials:
- |                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| President          | -one    |
| Vice Presidents    | - three |
| General Secretary/ |         |
| Treasurer          | - one   |
9. MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL   The Executive Council shall meet as often as necessary but in the any case not less than once year and at such places in any of the ASEAN countries as the Council may desirable. The General Secretary shall, in consultation with the President, be responsible for calling the meeting of the Executive Council and the preparation of its agenda as well as other relevant documents.
- More than one half of the members of its affiliates shall form a quorum. All major decisions of the ATUC- shall be arrived at by consensus of its affiliates.
10. FUNDS                 The funds of the ATUC shall comprise of the contributions paid by the members with a minimum of US \$ 500 per annum to be paid starting January 1984 and such donations from friendly and acceptable institutions/sources as presently practised.
11. FINANCIAL EXPENSES   The financial expenses of ATUC shall be shared by its members in a form of a budget according to a scale and rate approved by the ATUC. All travel expenses including individual expenses during meetings shall be borne by the respective organizations.
12. GENERAL ASSEMBLY     There shall be a general assembly of representatives of national trade union centers taking place once every three years. The representation in the Assembly shall be on the following basis:
- One vote per national trade union center, and any number of representatives the affiliate may send.
- The General Assembly shall be the supreme authority of the ATUC and shall deal with all matters included in its agenda as prepared by the General Secretary under the supervisin of the Executive Council, provided however, that in between the Triennial General Assembly, the Executive Council shall

be the governing body.

13. TRAVEL

Until otherwise decided by the Assembly, the travelling expenses as well as board and lodging of members of the council and the delegates to the General Assembly shall be met either by themselves or by their own organizations.

14. LIAISON AND  
RELATIONSHIP

The ATUC shall maintain close and fraternal relationship with all democratic trade union organizations and other institutions with similar interests both within and outside the region of ASEAN. The ATUC will also strive to develop cooperation and understanding of its objectives by the governments of the ASEAN.

15. AMENDMENTS

All amendments to the Constitution of ATUC shall require approval of its General Assembly, provided however, such amendments shall be circulated to all affiliates at least one month prior to the General Assembly.

(Sgd) DEMOCRITO T. MENDOZA  
President  
ASEAN Council of Trade Unions  
President  
Trade Union Congress of the Philippines

(Sgd) AGUS SUDONO  
General Secretary  
ASEAN Council of Trade Unions  
President  
All Indonesian Labor Federation

(Sgd) DR. V.DAVID  
Vice President  
ASEAN Council of Trade Unions  
Secretary General  
Malaysian Trade Union Congress

(Sgd) LAWRENCE SIA KHOON SEONG DY  
Vice President  
ASEAN Council of Trade Unions  
Deputy Secretary General  
Singapore National Trade Union Congress

AHMAD KAMTESTONG  
Vice President  
ASEAN Council of Trade Unions  
President  
Labour Congress of Thailand