

Report of the 12th ASEAN University Network Rectors' Meeting

9 July 2021

Hosted online (Zoom) by the ASEAN University Network Secretariat and Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM)

Navigation File: [Rectors' Meeting Navigation File](#)

Powerpoint presentation link: [Rectors' Meeting Main Powerpoint 2021](#)

Introduction

The 12th ASEAN University Network (AUN) Rectors' Meeting was hosted on Zoom by UGM on 9 July 2021. It was attended by 68 people from 29 universities in 10 ASEAN countries.

The full list of participants can be found as [Annex 1](#).

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Prof. Ir. Panut Mulyono, M.Eng., D.Eng., IPU, ASEAN Eng., the Rector of UGM, welcomed distinguished guests. He noted that the COVID-19 pandemic has turned international collaboration from an option into a necessity. He also encouraged the network to continue taking its academic collaborations to unprecedented levels.

His full remarks can be found in [Annex 2](#).

Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti then welcomed distinguished guests and conveyed gratitude for the AUN Member Universities for continuing to support and trust the Secretariat throughout its virtual experiments. He also remarked on the objective of the meeting to determine the future direction of the AUN.

His full remarks can be found in [Annex 3](#).

Agenda Item 2: Presentation of AUN Progress Report

The AUN Secretariat presented the AUN Progress Report which consisted of:

- General updates of AUN-related developments
- Report of AUN activities in 2020-2021.

The full report can be found as [Annex 4](#).

Agenda Item 3: “Revisiting Our University Network” Workshop

Key points:

- This is a workshop conducted by the AUN Secretariat for the participants of the AUN Rectors’ Meeting to discuss the position and role of universities in a society that is beginning to challenge the idea of the university.
- The workshop’s objective is for AUN Presidents/Rectors/Vice-Chancellors to recommend the direction of the AUN and AUN Secretariat for the next 2-3 years.

Relevant Documents:

- [3.A. Information Paper](#)
- [3.B. “Revisiting Our University Network” Workshop Powerpoint](#)
- [3.C. AUN Logo Guidelines](#)
- [3.D. AUN Strategic Framework 2019-2022](#)
- [3.E. Guide for “Revisiting Our University Network” Workshop](#)
- [3.F. Global Engagement Map](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting successfully participated in the workshop and provided suggestions to the AUN Secretariat.
- A summary of the suggestions can be found as [Annex 5](#).

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN Secretariat	Develop the AUN Strategic Plan based on the outputs of the workshop.	July 2021 - July 2022

Agenda Item 4: AUN-QA Fee Schemes Retention

Key points:

- Due to COVID-19, the AUN-QA has had to diversify its operations thus is currently conducting a review of financial arrangements which is also a part of the formulation of AUN-QA Strategic Plan (2022 - 2025).

- Therefore, the current fee schemes shall be retained until the completion of the ongoing formulation of the AUN-QA Strategic Plan.

Relevant Documents:

- [4.A. Information Paper](#)
- [4.B. Fee Schemes Retention](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the AUN-QA Fee Schemes Retention.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN-QA Secretariat	Execute the AUN-QA Fee Schemes Retention.	Immediately after the successful completion of the 36 th AUN-BOT Meeting.
AUN-QA Secretariat	Inform University Chief Quality Officers, AUN-QA Member Universities, AUN-QA Assessors, and the public of the fee schemes retention.	Within one month after the successful completion of the 36 th AUN Board of Trustees (AUN-BOT) Meeting.

Agenda Item 5: Rating Groups for Consideration

5.1. University Performance Metrics (UPM) developed by Vietnam National University, Hanoi (VNU, Hanoi)

Key points:

- UPM is a rating system for university performance designed by researchers from VNU, Hanoi and funded by the Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam to assess the responsiveness of the universities in the Industrial Revolution 4.0.
- This rating system is presented at the AUN Rectors' Meeting for consideration of AUN and ASEAN+3 UNet Member Universities to join and for possible collaboration with the AUN-QA.

Relevant Documents:

- [5.1.A. Information Paper](#)
- [5.1.B. UPM - Introduction and Methodology](#)
- [5.1.C. UPM-Institutional-Level-Instruction-v2](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the establishment and purpose of the UPM rating system.
- The Meeting also provided suggestions for further studies on rating and ranking systems within ASEAN.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN Secretariat	Conduct further studies on ASEAN rating and ranking systems.	To be determined at a later date.

5.2. Healthy University Rating System (HURS) developed by AUN-Health Promotion Network (AUN-HPN)

Key points:

- In order to assess the progress of healthy university policy, AUN-HPN has developed a tool called “the Healthy University Rating System” or “HURS” to monitor policy implementation.
- This rating system is presented at the AUN Rectors’ Meeting so that AUN Member Universities can consider adopting and contributing to HURS.

Relevant Documents:

- [5.2.A. Information Paper](#)
- [5.2.B. Introduction to HURS](#)
- [5.2.C. Webpage of HURS and calculation sample](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the Healthy University Rating System and supported it on a voluntary basis.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN-HPN Secretariat	Launch the official version of HURS.	August 2021
AUN Member Universities	To consider joining HURS on a voluntary basis.	From August 2021 onwards.

Agenda Item 6: Matters for Acknowledgment

6.1. Reappointment of the AUN Executive Director (Choltis Dhirathiti, Ph.D.)

Key points:

- Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti has completed his first tenure as the AUN Executive Director.
- On 2 March 2021, the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation, Thailand issued a letter of nomination and endorsement for Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti to serve as the AUN Executive Director for the second term, effective from 1 May 2021.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.1.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.1.B. Choltis Dhirathiti CV \(November 2020\)](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged and unanimously supported the reappointment of Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti as the AUN Executive Director.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN Secretariat	Submit the support of the 12 th AUN Rectors' Meeting to the 36 th AUN-BOT Meeting.	During the 36 th AUN-BOT Meeting (16 July 2021)

6.2. AUN-Quality Assurance (AUN-QA)

6.2.1. Updates to “A Guide to AUN - QA Assessment at Programme Level Version 4.0”

Key points:

- “A Guide to AUN - QA Assessment at Programme Level Version 4.0” is a simplified version of its predecessor, featuring a tighter focus on matters under the control of the programme administrator and the factors contributing to graduate outcomes. Plus, there is a more intelligible separation between the requirements for an AUN-QA Institutional Assessment and those for an AUN-QA Programme Assessment.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.2.1.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.2.1.B. Guide to AUN-QA Assessment at Programme Level Version 4.0](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the updates to the “Guide to AUN-QA Assessment at Programme Level Version 4.0”.
- The Meeting expressed appreciation for the Revision Committee.
- The Meeting also expressed appreciation to the National University of Singapore (NUS) in supporting Associate Professor Dr. Tan Kay Chuan, the NUS Chief Quality Officer and a member of the AUN Technical Team, in his work with the AUN-QA.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN-QA Secretariat	Implement the Guide to AUN-QA Assessment at Programme Level Version 4.0	October 2021-September 2022 (in parallel with Version 3.0) September 2022 (full implementation)

6.2.2. Other engagement with stakeholders

Key points:

- The AUN-QA Secretariat reports on its engagement with a variety of stakeholders in ASEAN region.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.2.2.A. Information Paper](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the AUN-QA engagements with stakeholders.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN-QA Secretariat	Continue the engagements as necessary.	On-going

6.3. *AUN Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net)*

Key points:

- Progress of the AUN/SEED-Net Project which is contributing to engineering education development in the ASEAN region is reported to Meeting.

- AUN/SEED-Net Phase IV will end in March 2023. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is drafting a plan to transfer the project to the AUN.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.3.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.3.B. Transfer of the AUN/SEED-Network after the end of Phase 4](#)
- [6.3.C. Tentative Action Plan for SEED-Net Transfer](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the updates and future direction of AUN/SEED-Net.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN Secretariat and AUN/SEED-Net Secretariat	As specified in 6.3.C. Tentative Action Plan for SEED-Net Transfer .	According to 6.3.C. Tentative Action Plan for SEED-Net Transfer .

6.4. AUN-Human Rights Education (AUN-HRE)

6.4.1. Promotion of Human Rights and Peace Education and Research in ASEAN

Key points:

- “The Promotion of Human Rights and Peace Education in ASEAN” is a concept note that aims to harmonise a sustainable programme of promoting human rights and peace education targeting higher education institutions in ASEAN noted by 13th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Education (2018).
- As a result, AUN-HRE is in the process of establishing a collaborative graduate program in human rights and peace studies among interested universities.
- This project was supported by the 35th AUN-BOT Meeting (2019) and endorsed by ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Education in April 2020.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.4.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.4.1.A. AUN-HRE Presentation](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting noted the requests from AUN-HRE.
 - The full list of requests can be found in [6.4.1.A. AUN-HRE Presentation](#).

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN-HRE Secretariat	Continue the development of the collaborative graduate program in human rights and peace studies.	Until further notice
AUN Member Universities	Support the development of the collaborative graduate program in human rights and peace studies on a voluntary basis.	Whenever deemed appropriate.

6.4.2. Update on completed activities from July 2019 – December 2020

Key points:

- An update on AUN-HRE activities from July 2019 - December 2020 is presented.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.4.2.A. Updates on AUN-HRE Activities 2019-2020](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the updates on the completed activities of AUN-HRE.

6.5. ASEAN-India Network of Universities (AINU)

Key points:

- The ASEAN-India Network of Universities will provide a broad range of academic-to-academic interactions between institutions of higher learning in India and in ASEAN Member States.
- Progress on the establishment of AINU is reported to the Meeting.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.5.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.5.B. ASEAN Cooperation Project Proposal](#)
- [6.5.C. Indian and ASEAN Institutions on Board for AINU](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the progress of the ASEAN-India Network of Universities.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
--------------------	-------------	----------

AUN Secretariat	Continue the engagement with the Indian partners and the ASEAN Secretariat.	As required.
-----------------	---	--------------

6.6. ASEAN University Student Network (AUSN)

Key points:

- The ASEAN University Student Network was established as part of the AUN's objective to develop ASEAN human resources, in particular youth leadership.
- The AUSN is envisioned as a completely student-run platform for ASEAN student leaders to convene to identify issues, discuss, propose, and implement solutions in a youth-driven environment.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.6.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.6.B. AUSN Guidebook Version 1.0](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the establishment of the ASEAN University Student Network.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN Secretariat	Inform AUSN that the AUN Rector's Meeting acknowledges their establishment.	During the AUSN Annual Meeting 1/2021 (25 August 2021)
AUN Secretariat	Continue the engagement with AUSN.	As required.

6.7. CALOHEA

Key points:

- CALOHEA, or Measuring and Comparing Achievements of Learning Outcomes in Higher Education in Asia, is a project conducted by the University of Groningen with the collaboration of the AUN Secretariat.
- Its objective is to contribute to the internationalization of higher education institutions through developing a series of interrelated measures indispensable for improving recognition of higher education degrees in the subject areas of civil engineering, medicine, and teacher education.

- The project utilizes the successful establishment of curriculums by the Tuning Asia-South East Project and builds upon it.
- Progress on the implementation of the CALOHEA project is given.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.7.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.7.B. CALOHEA Tentative Workplan 2021-2024](#)
- [6.7.C. List of Participating Universities](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the progress of CALOHEA.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN Secretariat	Continue the engagement with CALOHEA and keep the AUN Member Universities informed of all progress.	Duration of the project (2021-2024)

6.8. AUN Pathfinder Team

Key points:

- The AUN Pathfinder team was established to serve as an advance team that will prototype, explore, and refine AUN venture efforts.
- A report of the current achievements of the team is provided.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.8.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.8.B. Pathfinder Logo Guidelines](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the establishment and current achievements of the AUN Pathfinder Team.

6.9. Publication, Media and Communication

6.9.1. Environmental Sustainability as a Culture: Preparing Student Leaders for the Green Era - the 8th ASEAN Student Leaders Forum (ASLF Book)

Key points:

- This book was published to serve as a publication documenting ASLF activities and records of internal communication of the the 8th ASEAN Student Leaders Forum.
- It is part of the ongoing effort to create an archive of ASLF activities and event management models for further reference and adaptation by interested institutions and AUN Member Universities.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.9.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.9.1.A. the 8th ASEAN Student Leaders Forum Book](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the publication of “Environmental Sustainability as a Culture: Preparing Student Leaders for the Green Era - the 8th ASEAN Student Leaders Forum”.

6.9.2. AUN Annual Report

Key points:

- The AUN Annual Report serves as a yearly report to stakeholders, documenting internal and external AUN activities as well as strategies over the year.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.9.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.9.2.A. AUN Annual Report 2020-2021](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the AUN Annual Report.

6.9.3. AUN E-newsletter

Key points:

- The AUN E-newsletter was established to serve as AUN’s main internal news distribution channel as well as a venue for communication with external partners as part of AUN’s efforts to raise awareness of AUN-related activities.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.9.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.9.3.A. E-newsletter Statistics](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the AUN E-newsletter.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
--------------------	-------------	----------

AUN Member Universities	Use the AUN Secretariat’s E-Newsletter as an outlet as they see fit.	Not specified.
-------------------------	--	----------------

6.9.4. AUN Website Renovation

Key points:

- The AUN website serves as AUN’s main venue for communication, public relations and source of information about AUN.
- The current version of AUN Website proved to be outdated in terms of functionality, design and user-friendliness. In this regard, the AUN Website Renovation project was initiated by the AUN Secretariat in a collaboration with one of Thailand’s top website designers.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.9.A. Information Paper](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the AUN Website Renovation.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN Member Universities	Use the AUN Website as an outlet as they see fit.	From August 2021 onwards.

6.10. AUN Calendar

Key points:

- An introduction to the upcoming events and future activities line-up from AUN Secretariat, AUN-QA, as well as Thematic Networks is provided in the form of a calendar.
- AUN 6-month Output Calendar from AUN Secretariat is initiated.
- An overall update to the AUN 4-year Activities Calendar during 2021-2024 is provided.

Relevant Documents:

- [6.10.A. Information Paper](#)
- [6.10.B. AUN 4-year activities calendar \(2021 - 2024\)](#)
- [6.10.C. AUN 4-year activities calendar \(2021 - 2024\) Infographic](#)
- [6.10.D. AUN 6-month Output Calendar](#)

Conclusion:

- The Meeting acknowledged the AUN Calendar.

Action Lines:

Person Responsible	Action item	Timeline
AUN Secretariat	Update AUN 4-year activities calendar (2021-2024).	As appropriate until 2024.
AUN Member Universities	Inform the AUN Secretariat of any updates to be added or removed from the AUN 4-year activities Calendar.	As appropriate until 2024.

Agenda Item 7: Closing Remarks

Prof. Ir. Panut Mulyono, M.Eng., D.Eng., IPU, ASEAN Eng. thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting. He praised the level of activeness from the AUN and commitment to their mission in spite of the COVID-19 situation. Additionally, he praised the AUN Executive Director, Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti, for his hard work in maintaining the activities of the Network and congratulated him on his reappointment.

He concluded that despite the challenges that have been faced, he calls for the members to remain cooperative with acknowledgement of not only the issues caused by COVID-19, but its role in accelerating digital education in ASEAN.

His full remarks can be found in [Annex 6](#).