PREPARING FOR THE FORMATION OF AN ASEAN COMMUNITY BY 2015:
IMPLICATIONS FOR PHILIPPINE EDUCATION

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Former Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN

2012 National Convention
Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines
30 August, 2012
ASEAN Member States

Founding Member States and Their Present Political Systems:
1. Indonesia (1967)
2. Malaysia (1967)
3. Philippines (1967)
4. Singapore (1967)
5. Thailand (1967)

States which joined later:
3. Laos (1997)
5. Cambodia (1999)
Map of Southeast Asia
Giant Step after 40 Years

40 years after the Association of Southeast Asian Nations was established in 1967 under the Bangkok Declaration,

Legal Personality accorded by the ASEAN Charter: Implications

Chapter II of the ASEAN Charter:

“ASEAN, as an inter-governmental organization, is hereby conferred legal personality.”
ASEAN as an Economic Force

- 45th founding anniversary this August
- One of the world’s fastest economic regions.
- Fast becoming the free trade hub of Asia, with a combined gross domestic product (GDP) of $2.1 trillion and a combined population of about 609 million people.
The Asian Development Bank reports that despite global disturbances, economic growth in Southeast Asia is expected to remain robust.

During the annual meeting of the ADB Board of Governors last May, ADB President Haruhiko Kuroda stated that ASEAN has become a driving force of regional cooperation and integration in Asia.
Preparations for the establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015.

Three Pillars:

--ASEAN Political-Security Community
--ASEAN Economic Community
--ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community
The APSC promotes political development in adherence to the principles of democracy, the rule of law and good governance, respect for and promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms as inscribed in the ASEAN Charter.

It upholds a people-oriented ASEAN in which all sectors of society, regardless of gender, race, religion, language, or social and cultural background, are encouraged to participate in, and benefit from, the process of ASEAN integration and community building.
Vision: By 2015, a single market and production base is to be established by the ten economies.

- free flow of goods, services, investment, skilled labor & freer flow of capital
- highly competitive single market that promotes equitable economic development for Member States, as well as facilitating their integration with the global community.
**Benefits of the ASEAN Economic Community**

- AEC’s realization in 2015 will open up greater opportunities for socio-economic growth:
  
  (a) Greater choice of goods and services for consumers through increases in intra-regional trade;
  (b) Larger economies of scale for businesses and industries, thereby increasing productivity while reducing production costs, leading to more competitive pricing of goods;
  (c) Lowering of production costs can be passed onto consumers who can benefit from lower prices of goods and services;
Benefits of the AEC (cont’d)

(d) Greater demand for goods & services will create jobs in industries such as manufacturing, transport, logistics and communications;

(e) Increased trade & investment will promote greater entrepreneurship and innovation in products & services, producing better variety, quality and efficiency, benefiting consumers;
Benefits of the AEC (cont’d)

(f) Increased economic integration will strengthen business networks across ASEAN, building growth & prosperity; and

(g) A higher level of employment in ASEAN would contribute towards building a larger middle class, thereby reducing the gap between the rich and the poor, which will promote social stability, apart from a consumer market with purchasing power for goods and services.
ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community

- Blueprint for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community: strategic thrusts are health, poverty reduction, social welfare and labor protection, environment and disaster management, agriculture, food security and safety, and natural resources, education, culture, science and technology, and elimination of illegal drugs.
Competitive Advantage

- ASEAN peoples and societies have similarities in racial origins, character, values, customs, colonial experience and predispositions.
- ASEAN’s collective voice has influence on the development of the emerging new regional architecture—political, strategic, economic.
- Its collective voice is listened to in the United Nations, World Trade Organization (WTO), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) & Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Years of Primary Education</th>
<th>Years of Secondary Education</th>
<th>Total Primary and Secondary</th>
<th>Pre-university</th>
<th>Total Basic and Pre-university Education Duration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
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<td>2/3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>13/14/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1 (foundation year)</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<td>1 (foundation year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2 (foundation years)</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>13/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Philippines</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>12/13/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>14/15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Main Features of the Enhanced K to 12 Curriculum

Source: K to 12 Toolkit, SEAMEO INNOTECH, 2012

- **Decongested**: focuses on understanding for mastery; removes unnecessarily repeated competencies

- **Seamless**: ensures smooth transition between grade levels & continuum of competencies
  -- spiral progression: learning of knowledge, skills, values and attitudes increases in depth and breadth
Main Features of the Enhanced K to 12 Curriculum (cont’d)

- **Relevant & Responsive**: centers on the Filipino learner; developmentally age appropriate; needs of the community and the labor market

- **Enriched**: uses integrative, inquiry based & constructive approaches

- **Learner-Centered**: focuses on the optimum development of the Filipino child
Benefits to Learners, Families & the Nation
(Source: K to 12 Toolkit, SEAMEO INNOTECH, 2012)

- More time to master desired competencies
- Opportunity for holistic development w/ life skills
- Certificates of Competencies in specialization
- Better prepared for higher education
- Enhance educational standards & internat’l recognition
- Improve productivity and quality of work
Key Findings of AUSAID– University of Melbourne Project

- All countries specify that students should a) Know b) Apply c) Understand
- The Philippines emphasizes knowing and applying
- Australia, Thailand and Vietnam place much more emphasis on understanding than does the Philippines
In comparison with Australia, Vietnam and Thailand, Philippines emphasizes learning of content but not learning to learn.

The Philippine curriculum does not encourage meta-cognitive processes (reflection on learning; deriving meaning; non procedural problem solving).

A restricted range of higher order thinking skills is developed, many of which are 21st century skills, in the Philippines.
In mathematics especially, but also in science, mental manipulation of abstract concepts is hugely dependent on language.

In general, this dependence on language for development of concepts in mathematics and science is ignored in the Philippine curriculum.

Most of the year 11 and 12 Mathematics material covered in the NSW, Thai and Vietnamese curricula are not covered at all in the Philippines curriculum.
TOWARDS AN EAST ASIAN COMMUNITY

EAS (EAST ASIA SUMMIT) Countries
(ASEAN Plus Three, Plus Australia, India, New Zealand, US & Russia)

ASEAN PLUS THREE
(ASEAN 10 Plus China, Japan and South Korea)

ASEAN
Map of East Asia
APPENDICES
## Pillars of ASEAN Economic Community

### ASEAN Economic Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SINGLE MARKET AND PRODUCTION BASE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Free flow of goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free flow of services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free flow of investment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freer flow of capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free flow of skilled labor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Integration Sectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food, Agriculture and Forestry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **COMPETITIVE ECONOMIC REGION** |
| Competition policy |
| Consumer Protection |
| Intellectual Property Rights |
| Infrastructure development |
| Taxation |
| e-Commerce |

| **EQUITABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** |
| SME development |
| Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) |

| **INTEGRATION INTO THE GLOBAL ECONOMY** |
| Coherent Approach towards External Economic Relations |
| Enhanced participation in global supply networks |

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**Human Resource Development**

**Research and Development**
Achievement – ASEAN Trade Volume

Value in billion US$

Achievement – FDI Flows into ASEAN
US$ Million

Value in million US$

- Intra-ASEAN
- Extra-ASEAN
- Total

Year:
- 2000
- 2001
- 2002
- 2003
- 2004
- 2005
- 2006
- 2007
- 2008
- 2009
- 2010p/
Achievement – ASEAN Trade With Selected Partners
US$ Million

<table>
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<th>1993</th>
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<th>2010</th>
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<tr>
<td>Intra-ASEAN</td>
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<td>519,704</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rest of the world</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>75,721</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>186,130</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU-27</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU-27</td>
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