

WHAT IS ACSC/APF?

The ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ ASEAN Peoples' Forum (ACSC/APF) is a solidarity gathering of diverse civil society organizations (CSOs) in Southeast Asia, which organizes its own parallel activities during the ASEAN Summit.



It is a broad civil society movement on ASEAN issues that has a strong mandate in representing and strengthening ASEAN peoples' voices. For the past 11 years, it remains a strategic platform for CSOs to engage ASEAN member states and mechanisms.



The output from this meeting is a joint statement and recommendation for the ASEAN Leaders regarding the ASEAN Summit. A feature of the ACSC/APF is to open spaces for dialogue with ASEAN Leaders.





ACSC/APF ENGAGEMENT MODALITY

Opening Doors



Providing a platform for more people to be involved.

Participation



To get as many groups and communities as genuine partners. This would involve grassroots and groups who are not generally in the front line.

Dialogue



Inclusive engagement in the dialogue processes.

Non-violence



to reject promotion of violence or incitement of hatred.

Coalition Building

as some of the members are part of different networks, there is an opportunity to build coalitions.

Consensus

In the spirit of democratic decision process we endeavor for consensus building and respect of ideas.

Respect Diversity & Inclusivity

to respect differences of opinions, representation of people/issues, openness to learn and to engage.

Citizen Spaces

spaces for common people to voice their issues.

ACSC/APF GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Good Governance

To be participatory, consultative and have genuine engagement and dialogue

Rule of Law

adherence to the rule of law

Non-

discrimination

To respect that everyone is equal irrespective of race, religion, sex, gender, social opinion and other status, etc.



Human Rights

Adhere to international human rights principles and standards as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights laws

Democracy

principle of democratic process to be respected

Progressive

Not to regress in term of human rights and to be updated with current minimum standards.

Spread awareness on ASEAN

socializing ASEAN to constituents

In 2017, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will be celebrating its Golden Year. The Philippines Government, as 2017 ASEAN Chair, is hosting the next ASEAN Summit and activities to commemorate the 50th year.



Philippine NOC

This year's host will be the ACSC/APF Philippines through its National Organizing Committee (NOC) which has more than 60 CSOs. As the 2017 host, ACSC/APF Philippines has a standing terms of reference of engagement on ASEAN issues with the Philippine government.

For several years, the Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC) has been the lead convenor of the ACSC/APF Philippine Process. This time, it was again nominated as the co-convenor for 2017, along with the PhilWomen on ASEAN.