

THE COLUMN

THE AHA CENTRE NEWS BULETIN

Special Edition: 5th Anniversary

VOL 23

One ASEAN One Response

THE AHA CENTRE NEWS BULETIN 2016



NEWS HIGHLIGHT

“Five to Life: Journey of Partnership and Progress”

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by Mr. Said Faisal



ONE ASEAN
ONE RESPONSE

VOLUME 23
2016

November 2016 marked a special month for The ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (the AHA Centre) as the organisation celebrated its five-year anniversary after the establishment in 17 November 2011.

Series of events were conducted in conjunction with the fifth anniversary of the AHA Centre from 14 – 17 November 2016. Events relevant included The Policy Discussion with S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), first annual conference of the ACE Programme graduates, and the 1st ROHAN Conference.

“Five to Life: Journey of Partnership and Progress” was the main theme of the fifth anniversary of the AHA Centre. Through the main theme, the AHA Centre demonstrated its appreciation towards all parties involved in the success of the AHA Centre that brought the organisation to its fifth anniversary.

A look back of the journey will be covered in the News Highlight – presenting Milestones of the Development of the AHA Centre. Series of events that were conducted in conjunction with the fifth anniversary indicated the commitment of the AHA Centre to continue its best practices as the centre for disaster management within ASEAN Region.

Once again, the AHA Centre would like to express gratitude for all supports and efforts made by everyone who engaged and participated along the journey. The AHA Centre’s existence, operations, and achievements would not have been possible without continuing support and assistance from stakeholders within and outside the ASEAN region, including the ASEAN Dialogue Partners and other partners. The AHA Centre is looking forward to an exciting and united future of ASEAN emergency management under the vision of One ASEAN One Response.

Lastly, The Column invites you to share some stories / articles / blogs / comments with us to improve the bulletin. If you wish to, please drop us a message at comm@ahacentre.org and we will do the rest.

Sincerely,
The Column editor



The Column is a monthly news bulletin from the AHA Centre - capturing the latest activities from the organisation.

“Five to Life: Journey of Partnership and Progress”

– Milestones of the Development of the AHA Centre



Group Photo during the Five to Life Journey of Partnership and Progress Commemoration



Mr. Willem Rampangilei, Chief of the National Disaster Management Authority (BNPB) signed the Five to Live Journey book

The Southeast Asia region has a uniqueness in terms of its geographic location as it consists across more than four million square kilometres, made up of active volcanoes, tropical islands that surrounded by open seas, dense rainforest, mountain ranges and vast open plains. The characteristics of ASEAN made its location as a disaster-prone area for small or large scale disasters that might occur without being predicted. The AHA Centre was formed to perform a mandate as the key coordinator for disaster management and emergency response within the ASEAN region.

There were more than 350,000 people lost their lives caused by disasters across the ASEAN region during the period of 2004 – 2014. The immense number of people being affected made the ASEAN Member States (AMS) to realise that the partnership amongst them should tap into the management of disasters, provide mutual support to save lives. The concern of disaster management was actually considered as an important topic since 1976, during the birth of the Declaration of ASEAN Concord 1 and the Declaration on Mutual Assistance on Natural Disasters.

There were a few discussions occurred within the period between 1967 – 2003, until the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) was formed as a transformation from ASEAN expert Working Group on Disaster Management – following the Declaration of ASEAN Concord II. ACDM consists of the chiefs of national agencies or government bodies that are responsible for handling disaster from each of the AMS.

Early of 2004, discussions amongst AMS in regards with a cross-border mutual “arrangement” of disaster management were dismantled. The discussion was concluded quite unclearly – as the ACDM would want to anticipate further direction from the ministers.

Later on that year, the 1st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) was held and attended by members of ACDM. The meeting discussed about the need for a regional instrument on Disaster Management and Emergency Response.

The story continued in 2005, when the AADMER was officially signed after the ASEAN was struck by one of the most destructive and fatal disaster ever recorded in history, the Indian Ocean Tsunami that affected more than 230,000 people. It was during the moment that the idea of having a regional instrument to handle disaster management and emergency response was conceived.

While the ASEAN was still mourning and busy responding to the recovery of Indian Ocean Tsunami, as well as being haunted by the feeling of the disastrous tragedy would hit the region again, the AMS had finally developed a comprehensive document that represented ASEAN solidarity and leadership on disaster management – which we know now as the AADMER.

Within the AADMER, it clearly stated the AHA Centre shall be established for the purpose to facilitate cooperation and coordination amongst AMS during the disaster period.

There were still months of the process until the declaration of the AHA Centre was taken into force. Discussions such as where the AHA Centre should be located were concluded when The Government of Indonesia offered to host the AHA Centre during the 39th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting in July 2006. The fact that the AHA Centre is located in the same city of the ASEAN Secretariat gives advantage to the coordination between both of them.

Another unlikely event occurred in 2008 to the ASEAN, when the massive Cyclone Nargis made its landfall in Myanmar. As many as 140,000 lives were taken, followed by the great destruction of infrastructure and facilities. ASEAN responded to Cyclone Nargis by activating the Standard Operating Procedure for Regional Standby Arrangements and Coordination of Joint Disaster Relief and Emergency Response Operations (SASOP).

Marked from the Cyclone Nargis occurrence, long process of discussions and ratifications before the establishment of the AHA Centre continued for another three

RSIS – AHA Centre Policy Discussion on the World Humanitarian Summit Implications for Asia-Pacific

The ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (The AHA Centre) together with the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) Singapore conducted a policy discussion regarding the recent World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) on its implications for the Asia-Pacific region.

The policy discussion aimed to discuss the outcomes of the WHS, what has been achieved, the remaining gaps and challenges, and to what extent the WHS outcome document and the ASEAN Vision 2025 on disaster management are mutually reinforcing. The discussion was held as part of the series of events commemorating the fifth anniversary of the AHA Centre.



Group photo of all panelists of the discussion

At the WHS conducted in Istanbul, in March 2016, the ASEAN expressed their commitment and contributions to the UN Agenda for Humanity, based on the AADMER and the ASEAN Vision 2025 on disaster management. These outcomes were further discussed in the Policy Discussion that the AHA Centre and RSIS managed on 14 November 2016 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The Policy Discussion engaged different stakeholders from the academes, civil-society organisations, think-tanks, the ASEAN Secretariat and the UN Agency. Mr. Said Faisal, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre stated during his opening remarks that 2016 is an exciting year for the AHA Centre as the organisation reached out and collaborated with think-tank as RSIS and began to be involved in a policy discussion.

The discussion was organised into three sessions – the first session assessed the outcomes of the WHS and the ASEAN vision 2025 on disaster management. Panellists of this session were Mr. Markus Werne, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs’ (UNOCHA); Ms. Adelina Kamal, the AHA Centre; Mr. Chandra Putra, the ASEAN Secretariat; Ms. Vanda Lengkong, AADMER Partnership Group, and moderated by Dr. Alistair Cook, Research Fellow and Coordinator, HADR Programme at RSIS.

During the first session, panellists were discussing on the process that have been achieved since the WHS, the remaining gaps and challenges, the extent of WHS outcome documents and the ASEAN Vision 2024 on disaster management are mutually reinforcing, the overlaps between it, and aspects that are still missing during the progress.



Group photo of the policy discussion



Signing of Memorandum of Intent (MoI) by Mr. Said Faisal, Executive Director of the AHA Centre (right) and Mr. Bhupi Singh, Executive Vice President, COO & CFO Direct Relief (left)

years. In the late of 2009, the AADMER finally entered into force – taken four years after its signing. It was a stepping stone in the establishment of the AHA Centre.

Further on, the ACDM agreed to establish the Provisional AHA Centre as a ‘parallel’ approach while waiting for the signing of the Agreement on the Establishment of the AHA Centre. The event happened in early 2011, when the government of Indonesia through the National Task Force appointed Mr. Said Faisal to be the Executive Director of the Provisional AHA Centre.

The Government of Japan through Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) supported the Provisional AHA Centre by providing ICT equipment and expert knowledge, as well as the development of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).

After a series of dialogues and discussions over meetings with relevant parties regarding the role and mandates of the AHA Centre, all 10 Member States finally signed the Agreement of the Establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management on 17 November 2011 in Bali, Indonesia.

The journey did not end at the establishment of the AHA Centre. Members of the ACDM and the Governing Board of the AHA Centre continued to handle several challenges and efforts to maximise the operationalisation of the AHA Centre. Along the way, the AHA Centre received numerous supports from JAIF and other relevant parties involved.

Since then, as the cornerstone of coordination across the ASEAN Region in disaster management, the AHA Centre strives to perform its best function and mandate. From commemorating the first anniversary of ground zero after an earthquake shook Myanmar in 2012, until this year that the AHA Centre has finally made it its fifth anniversary and celebrate the immeasurable success that the organisation has achieved – endless supports with international partners for funding, training and knowledge-sharing, and with other emergency management stakeholders in civil society, international NGOs, and United Nations Institutions remained complement the journey of the AHA Centre.

The fifth anniversary was not seen as an end, but the AHA Centre acknowledged the commemoration as a start of an excelling future ahead. Struggles and challenges encountered within the past five-year has created stronger bond amongst Member States and relevant partners, fostering a friendship and solidarity, reaching out to realising the One ASEAN One Response.

2011 Agreement of the Establishment of the AHA Centre ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia

2012 First anniversary of the AHA Centre Emergency response to Myanmar

2016 5th year of the AHA Centre One ASEAN One Response

1967 The Declaration of ASEAN Concord 1 & The Declaration of Mutual Assistance on Natural Disaster

2003 The Declaration of ASEAN Concord II

2004 1st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management

2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami

2005 AADMER was signed

2006 1st Regional Workshop on the Establishment of the AHA Centre

2008 Cyclone Nargis SASOP activated

The First ACE Programme Annual Conference 2016

The AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme is a six-month capacity-building programme on disaster management organised by the AHA Centre with the support of the Government of Japan. The ACE Programme was designed exclusively for disaster management officers throughout the AMS.

The first ACE Programme was conducted in 2014 and heretofore the programme has formed 45 graduates as of 2016 who are the future leaders of disaster management. This year marks the first ACE Programme Annual Conference that brought together all graduates of the ACE Programme to engage in discussion and group activities to provide policy inputs, recommendations and alternative solutions to the ongoing and potential challenges of ASEAN regional mechanism on disaster management.



Group photo of the conference

H.E. Vongthep Arthakaivalvatee, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, H.E. Kazuo Sunaga, the Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN, and Mr. Said Faisal, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre welcomed all ACE Programme graduates through their opening remarks.

The conference that was packed in a three-day activities included leaders talk sessions, group work activities, discussions on the report finalisation, site visits, and finally concluded with the commemoration of the fifth year anniversary of the AHA Centre on 17 November 2016.

On the first day of the conference, participants had the opportunity to be engaged in a sharing-experience moment with Mrs. Veronica Colondam, Founder of the Yayasan Cinta Anak Bangsa (YCAB). Mrs. Colondam stated during the Leaders Talk session that as leaders, people have to play a role as visionaries, whom to make the visions going, as well as to innovate the system in a way that is balanced for all parties involved within the company. She inspired all participants with her aspirations of how a person should reach their maximum happiness.

This session followed by another special edition of Leaders Talk delivered by Mr. Said Faisal, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre. On this occasion, Mr. Said Faisal explained the five key elements to perform an effective leadership, which was explained further in the Insights Section in this edition.

Last day of the conference, before ended with the final event on the fifth year anniversary of the AHA Centre, the participants were engaged in a discussion regarding the outcome and results of their group activity happened on the following day. This session moderated by Ms. Ririn Haryani, Officer of the AHA Centre Executive Programme – who organised the programme since the first batch – and she used the opportunity to express her gratefulness and proud over all graduates, as well as wished them a successful career in the future.



Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN, H.E. Kazuo Sunaga provided welcoming remarks



Official opening ceremony of the first ACE Programme Conference



Ms. Adelina Kamal, Deputy Executive Director of the AHA Centre as one of the speakers during the first session

Furthermore, the second session was moderated by the current Deputy of the Executive Director of the AHA Centre, Ms. Adelina Kamal with three panellists who are the think-tanks from the National University of Singapore (NUS), Australian National University (ANU), and Charles Darwin University (CDU) School of Health.

The second session focused on the stakeholder engagement which supported by the research findings elaborated each of the panellists. The discussion continued to the priorities and next steps for AHA Centre and other relevant parties to enhance humanitarian effectiveness as well as the one who would generate the endeavour.

Meanwhile, the last session is called ‘the new beginnings’ as the panellists in session three examined the regional governance architecture and identified areas of focus to achieve the ASEAN Vision 2025 on disaster management. Moderated by Mr. Markus Werne from UNOCHA, the last session’s panellists were Ms. Jessica Ear from Asia Pacific Centre for Security Studies, Mr. Alistair Cook, and Ms. Mely Anthony from RSIS. Speakers delivered some valuable comments and suggestions for the AHA Centre to enhance its capacity in becoming the centre of excellence of disaster management in the ASEAN Region, as well as to maintain its positive progress in achieving the ASEAN Vision 2025 on disaster management.

Lastly, the session concluded with a suggestion statement by Dr. Mely Anthony, Associate Professor and Head, Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies in RSIS regards the need of the AHA Centre to reach out to other communities within the ASEAN Member States (AMS).

ROHAN Conference



Group photo of the conference

Derived from the importance of regional entities should take part in handling humanitarian crisis, Regional Organisations Humanitarian Action Network (ROHAN) was established in 2015, and formally launched during The Regional Action for Global Challenges Session at World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) 2016 in Istanbul, Turkey.

ROHAN is an informal network of 14 regional organisations working in humanitarian action. On 16-17 November 2016, ASEAN and the AHA Centre were honoured to host the first meeting of ROHAN. The conference was attended by more than ten regional organisations from all over the globe to discuss several key areas of humanitarian issues, especially regarding disaster management.

Commenced by remarks from H.E. Vongthep Arthakaivalvatee, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Socio-Cultural Community and Mr. Dody Ruswandi, Secretary-General of the National Disaster Management Authority of Indonesia (BNPB), the first day of ROHAN Conference 2016 was divided into three sessions.



Opening remarks by Mr. Dody Ruswandi, Secretary-General, National Disaster Management Authority of Indonesia (BNPB) as the Chair of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (Middle)

Mr. Barnaby Willitts-King, Research Fellow, Humanitarian Policy Group of Overseas Development Institute (ODI) started the discussion with a short brief as a recap of commitments and reflections that the ROHAN developed during the WHS in continuing to execute the Agenda for Humanity.

The first session of ROHAN Conference discussed about the best practices for disaster management. Ms. Adelina Kamal from the AHA Centre, Ms. Ayan Nuriye from Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Mr. Timothy Bryer from Pacific Island Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and Mr. Philmore Mullin from Caribbean

Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) presented a brief explanation regarding the organisation they are involved in, as well as best practices that could be a useful insight for the rest of the roundtable’s participants.

Meanwhile, the second session involved discussions regarding regional approaches align with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and displacement. During this session, H.E. Hesham Youssef from the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and Mr. Olabisi Dare from the African Union explained and shared knowledge on how their organisation managed and mitigated conflicts within their region.

Throughout the first two sessions, Ms. Sara Pantualiano as the Managing Director of ODI commented on how the ASEAN Humanitarian Centre could integrate with international agencies’ approaches in handling humanitarian issues. She further suggested that the AHA Centre as the centre of the ASEAN in disaster management should increase the support from national and regional capacities to perform the Agenda for Humanity better in the future.

A conclusion regarding the action plan for the upcoming year of the ROHAN was drawn on the 17 November 2016. The ROHAN Conference was held as part of the series of events in commemorating the fifth anniversary of the AHA Centre.

The ASEAN Regional Disaster Exercise (ARDEX) 2016



Group photo with ARDEX Participants



Opening of ARDEX 2016 by Secretary-General of ASEAN

The National Disaster Management Centre of Brunei Darussalam and the AHA Centre conducted the ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise 2016 (ARDEX-16) in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam from 29 November – 2 December 2016.

ARDEX-16 was a joint simulation exercise with an objective to enhance the ASEAN’s capability of collective emergency response mechanism when assisting an affected country. The exercise included several simulations that aimed to test and review the operability of the Secretary General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC) in becoming more effective and as the Centre of ASEAN effort in disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.

Through this event, participants were provided an opportunity to practice, evaluate and review the ASEAN Standby Arrangements and Standard Operating Procedures (SASOP) in responding to disasters.

There were two-component level that became the main exercise during ARDEX-16: Strategic and Operational. At the strategic level, the scenario involved a tropical cyclone that causes storm surge, flood, and landslide / mudslide and other types of disasters, and the focus of the exercise was for participants to be able to practice, evaluate, and review several aspects, including:

1. guides and templates for the ASEAN Standby Arrangements
2. mechanisms to share and exchange information
3. process of requesting and offering assistance
4. mechanisms to receive response entities

While the operational level aimed to test coordination mechanisms between the National Disaster Management Centre of Brunei Darussalam with the Joint Operations Coordinating Centre for ASEAN (JOCCA), along with local and international humanitarian agencies such as UNOCHA.

“This exercise will give emphasis on the operational tasking, deployment and coordination of rescue and relief efforts of participating teams from ASEAN Member States and relevant United Nations agencies as well as international organisations. We thank the AHA Centre for co-hosting this event as well as other stakeholders who are involved,” said the Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs of Brunei Darussalam.

Response forces from Brunei Darussalam, ASEAN Member Countries, response teams from invited UN and international organisations and partners, including private organisations contributed and participated throughout ARDEX-16 in the spirit of One ASEAN One Response.

“ I frequently reminded how blessed I am being surrounded by a ‘super team’ and numbers of people who constantly support the AHA Centre since day-one ”

Mr. Said Faisal
Executive Director of the AHA Centre



In this special edition of The Column, we managed to talk with the Executive Director of the AHA Centre, Mr. Said Faisal. He has been the Executive Director of the AHA Centre since the first day of the organisation was established. Together with the ‘super team’ he has in the AHA Centre, they accomplished to enter the fifth year of the development of the AHA Centre.

Members of the AHA Centre were grateful to have a leading role that has great passion to dedicate himself in building a greater ASEAN, who also nurtures his ‘super team’ with a big heart and humbleness.

As the leader in the AHA Centre, Mr. Said Faisal's experiences, professional outlook over the AHA Centre's future, and advices have embedded us through the interview with The Column.

How did you start your journey working in the humanitarian field?

I started my personal journey within the humanitarian field in 2005 when the Indian Ocean Tsunami struck most part of ASEAN. Before that, I was working in the International Financial Corporation, The World Bank. When the Tsunami hit my hometown, Aceh, I went there with a mission to search for my family.

A few months later, after I went back to Jakarta, Indonesia, I received a call from Mr. Kuntoro - he was later being appointed as the Head for the Reconstruction and Recovery Agency (BRR) in Aceh after the Tsunami. He asked me to join him in the agency as one of his deputies. When the BRR was established, it was a start for my humanitarian career journey in 2005.

It was quite an emotional beginning for me due to the disastrous event happened in my hometown. But at the same time it was an honour for me because I was given an opportunity to reconstruct and rebuild Aceh.

So, the momentum also drove you to take the opportunity to start a journey within the humanitarian field?

Exactly.. It was not only a rational or logical decision, but it was based on my emotional decision to take the job. I believe that working in a humanitarian field needs extra emotions as a driving factor to do well in this job. Since working in the humanitarian field means we will work with and for human and the basic essential a human has is emotion. If we do not have the ‘emotion’, it would only be a job – emotion connects you to the job.

The next humanitarian call for me was the Cyclone Nargis, in Myanmar. I stayed there for about a year. I was asked by one of the BRR's alumni, Dr. William Sabandar; he was one of my colleagues during my responsibility in Aceh. Dr. Sabandar asked if I could help him with resources mobilisation aspect during post Cyclone Nargis. Dr. Sabandar was the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of ASEAN for Post-Nargis Recovery in Myanmar, and I was appointed as his Senior Advisor at that time.

After that, I went back to Jakarta, Indonesia, and worked in the President's Delivery unit for Development Monitoring and Oversight – which officially abbreviated as UKP4. From there, I started to be announced with the idea of AHA Centre and requested to support its establishment. Further on, I was appointed to be the Executive Director of the Provisional of AHA Centre while waiting for the AHA Centre was established.

What motivated you to take the role as the Executive Director of the AHA Centre? Were there any personal ambitions that drove you to do it?

It was a mix of many things. There was a sense of responsibility, a sense of obeying orders, and I saw it as a challenge to start this organisation from a scratch and being postponed for quite a time.

It was challenging, undoubtedly. I remember the moment when I was being assigned by the Government of Indonesia to be the Executive Director of the Provisional of AHA Centre; it was just an empty office with one person and a laptop without any staff. But I am blessed by the people around me who supported the establishment of the AHA Centre. At that time, I would say that I was alone, but not lonely.

So, now that we just recently commemorated the fifth anniversary of the AHA Centre, and looking back to the first day of its establishment, how do you personally feel about that?

Well.. it is a combination of accomplishment, and more things need to be done. We have achieved a certain milestone, but we have not completed a journey yet. It is still a long journey for the AHA Centre, but we do have the foundation and experience, as well as the resources now. The important aspect that we need to highlight here is that throughout the years, we have built trust and confidence with the ASEAN Member States.

But it does not mean that the job is done. I believe the culture we have in the AHA Centre is a culture of continuous improvements, never get satisfied of what we have achieved. Every achievement in the organisation comes with another higher set of target and continuous goal.

The journey of the AHA Centre will always depend on the trust and confidence by the ASEAN Member States, as well as partners and the government in the host country, Indonesia. Thus, maintaining the trust and confidence of the Member States and partners would a journey to continue for the AHA Centre.

The AHA Centre members must always understand and remember that we are in the business of serving the Member States, and delivering expected results for them, while always determine more valuable things to add in order to always be relevant.

We believe that you must have attained many achievements throughout your career with the AHA Centre. What would be your most notable achievement? Can you share with us some information regarding that?

For me, I consider myself as just a man who gets the job done. The most notable one is what you can witness in the development of the AHA centre since day-1 until now. Everything that we have accomplished is an achievement that needs to be grateful for, not to forget the fact that we are blessed by being surrounded by the super team here, who always worked very hard for the ASEAN.

How the team and working environment are formed is an achievement in the AHA Centre. During daily activities in the office, we may come up with different opinions and debate, but we managed to handle it very well by appreciating differences because we realise that the main and common goal is to serve the ASEAN better.

When we started the organisation, the question was whether or not we can survive the first year. And now, five years later, we are still here and going stronger. I believe it is because the unity and good relationship built between us and the Member States, partners, as well as the government of Indonesia, as the host country.

Surviving these five years also mean that we have delivered results, captured during the 14 emergencies handled within the region, the establishment of ACE Programme and its 45 graduates, DELSA team, and many others. It was a critical success rate that an organisation needs to have support from its dialogue partners, which

we did from Japan, Australia, United States, and many more in the future like China and several private sectors. I personally grateful for each of them for making the AHA Centre generated results as expected.

Has worked within the humanitarian field affected your view in life?

When the emotions kicked in, especially during our deployment to affected area, it always made reflect on how lucky and blessed I am. Despite every troublesome might happening at that moment, we are still blessed.

In every deployment that I was participating, the main important thing that we need to ensure is for the affected people having ‘hope’. One of the first things that these people need would probably be hoping to survive and have a better future.

It is not only about the relief items, but there is always a bigger meaning behind every deployment. We tried to deliver the meaning of togetherness, solidarity, unity, and the ‘we’ feeling amongst Member States – which we contributed to assist the government of the affected area and reduce their suffering.

Lastly, if you could say something to your super team in the AHA Centre, what would it be?

I would like to say that we need to always have the passion to make ASEAN great and remember the purpose of the AHA Centre is to serve the Member States. We should continue to improve our spirit of always strive to be better and pursue the excellence particularly in the disaster management field. Also, the reputation and credibility of the AHA Centre should be maintained very well.

It will not be an easy journey – we can choose an easy journey, but I do not think that is the main purpose of why we are here today. It is about a journey of excellence and making ASEAN a better place of solidarity and unity that upholds the ‘we’ feeling to achieve a greater ASEAN in disaster management.

THE OTHER SIDE is a special column where we interview professional players in disaster management. Crafted with light discussion in a casual manner, THE OTHER SIDE captures the human side, up close and personal. This section does not necessarily reflect or represent AHA Centre's point of view.

INSIGHTS

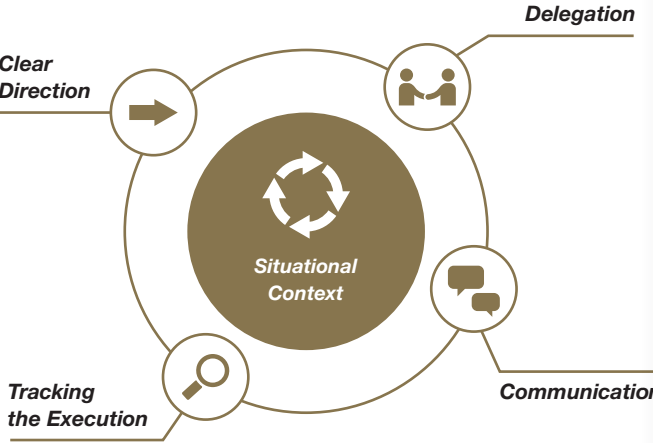
Key Elements of an Effective Leadership

– by Mr. Said Faisal

During the annual conference of the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme on 15 November 2016 as one of the event conducted in the series events of the Five to Live Journey of the AHA Centre, Mr. Said Faisal, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre shared his experience and knowledge in performing an effective leadership in a Leaders Talk session.

An essential key takeout of the Leaders Talk with Mr. Said Faisal was that when a person becomes a leader, it is no longer about him or her. A great leader is not the leader that needs to be served, but it is the leader that has the willingness to serve.

In performing an effective leadership, there are five important elements that the future leaders need to take not on becoming not only a good leader, but a great one. The five elements include:



Clear Direction

As a leader, Mr. Said Faisal believes that the effectiveness of the workflow lies in the very beginning, when the leader is giving a task or assignment to the team. The leader must be very clear in providing directions, as it will determine how the team will execute and get the task done to achieve the expected outcomes based on their understanding.

Delegation

“Vision without execution is nothing,” said by Mr. Said Faisal during the session – this means that a leader should be able to delegate the task to the right person in order to get the work could be effectively executed. The ‘delegation’ phase could determine if the team could achieve the expected goal or not.

It is through this process as well, a leader would gain the opportunity to ‘create a leader’. Delegating other people means you trust someone enough to take the role as a leader for them.

Communication

Communication is basic aspect that needs to be a continual focus of a leader towards his or her team. Leaders need to inspire their team constantly to do their best in what they do. Therefore, the leader should believe in what he or she would encourage the team to do.

The passion of doing the job that is expressed by a leader will spread across to the entire team and habitually create such environment that is constructive and encouraging enough to achieve the intended goal.

Tracking the Execution

Tracing the progress is not a moment to put the blame on someone else; it is the moment to see how the team has been doing. Questions such as: does the team is on track? Do I have to step in? Can we achieve the goal? What does the team need to maximize their work's effectiveness? – should be asked and reflected during this stage in order to determine whether or not the expected results are being delivered.

Situational Context

There are two leadership styles that we often come across to; democratic and authoritarian style of leadership. Each of the styles has their own limitations and excellences. If being asked which one is the better one, the answer would be depending on the situation.

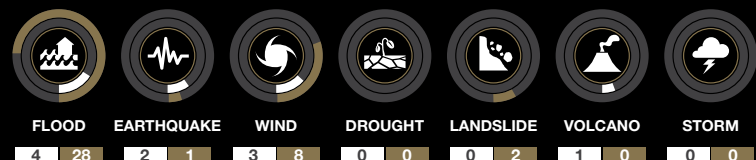
A leader should understand his or her team well enough to determine which styles to undertake – does the team need to share their aspirations? Or does the team need to be commended?

One ASEAN One Response

	Affected Houses	25100 Units
	Affected Agriculture	1500 Ha
	Affected Population	128000 People
	Death	0 People
	Displaced People	14500 People
	Injured People	2 People

DISASTER COMPARISON NUMBER

NOVEMBER 2015 / 2016



DISCLAIMER:

The use of boundaries, geographic names and related data shown are not warranted to be error free or implying official endorsement from ASEAN Member State.

SOURCE:

Basemap is from global administrative area. Information is generated from many sources including NDMO, International Organisation and news agencies.



Supported by:



November 2016 Monthly Outlook

Indonesia reported the highest number of natural disasters occurring in the region with 35 incidents, representing 90% of the total 39 incidents recorded for the month of November. This is followed by 2 incidents in Thailand and 1 each in the Philippines and Viet Nam. Flooding is the highest recorded disaster with 28 incidents, followed by 8 wind incidents, 2 incidents of landslides, and 1 reported earthquake incident. A total of about 128,000 people were affected by these disasters, displacing approximately 14,500 and damaging 25,100 houses. Compared to the same month last year, there were lesser disasters reported at 10 incidents in the region in 2015.

Forecast for December

Myanmar, Thailand, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Vietnam, Northern Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia's Sumatra Island, and Kalimantan Island except for South Kalimantan, will have a normal rainfall outlook for the month of December. Indonesia's South Kalimantan Province, Sulawesi, Maluku Islands, West Timor, East Nusa Tenggara and Papua, along with Central and South Philippines are forecasted to have slightly above normal rainfall. The rest of Indonesia - Java Island and West Nusa Tenggara, are expected to be wet with above normal rainfall. (source: <http://asmc.asean.org/asmc-seasonal-outlook/>). Precautionary measures for hydrometeorological hazards (e.g. tropical cyclones/ typhoons, thunderstorms, coastal storm surges, floods including flash floods) and its accompanying effects (e.g. landslides, dispersion of volcanic eruption material) should be implemented. As the inter-monsoon season will have the occasional brief periods of dry weather, hotspot activities may occur and should be prepared for accordingly.

About ASEAN

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States of the Association are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia. As set out in the ASEAN Declaration, the aims and purposes of ASEAN among others are to accelerate the economic growth, social progress, cultural development, to promote regional peace and stability as well as to improve active collaboration and cooperation.

About the AHA Centre

The AHA Centre is an inter-governmental organisation established on 17 November 2011, through the signing of the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) by ASEAN Foreign Ministers, witnessed by the ASEAN Heads of States, from 10 ASEAN Member States: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The Centre was set-up to facilitate the cooperation and coordination among ASEAN Member States and with the United Nations and international organisations for disaster management and emergency response in the ASEAN region.

About AADMER

The ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) is a legally-binding regional multi-hazard and policy framework for cooperation, coordination, technical assistance and resource mobilisation in all aspects of disaster management in the 10 ASEAN Member States. The objective of AADMER is to provide an effective mechanism to achieve substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in social, economic and environmental assets, and to jointly respond to emergencies through concerted national efforts.

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