

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT ON TRANSBOUNDARY HAZE POLLUTION IN THE SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION FOR ASEAN MEMBER COUNTRIES

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ABSTRACT

In 2002, ASEAN member countries agreed on the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, this agreement response to the smoke crisis when massive forest fires between 1997 and 1998 resulted in the haze that blanketed ASEAN member countries. Land and forest fires in Indonesia are a major factor in ASEAN countries forming an agreement on smoke, forest fires in 1997-1998 encouraged ASEAN countries to try to overcome the impact of the smoke crisis on the economy and health together.

Keywords: ASEAN, Agreement, Transboundary Haze Pollution.

Introduction

On 8 August 1967, five leaders – the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand – sat down together in the main hall of the Department of Foreign Affairs building in Bangkok, Thailand and signed a document. By virtue of that document, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was born. The five Foreign Ministers who signed it – Adam Malik of Indonesia, Narciso R. Ramos of the Philippines, Tun Abdul Razak of Malaysia, S. Rajaratnam of Singapore, and Thanat Khoman of Thailand – would subsequently be hailed as the Founding Fathers of probably the most successful inter-governmental organization in the developing world today. And the document that they signed would be known as the ASEAN Declaration (<https://asean.org/asean/about-asean/history/>).

It was a short, simply-worded document containing just five articles. It declared the establishment of an Association for Regional Cooperation among the Countries of Southeast Asia to be known as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and spelled out the aims and purposes of that Association. These aims and purposes were about cooperation in the economic, social, cultural, technical, educational and other fields, and in the promotion of regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter. It stipulated that the Association would be open for participation by all States in the Southeast Asian region subscribing to its aims, principles and purposes. It proclaimed ASEAN as representing “the collective will of the nations of Southeast Asia to bind themselves together in friendship and cooperation and, through joint efforts and sacrifices, secure for their peoples and for posterity the blessings of peace, freedom and prosperity” (<https://asean.org/asean/about-asean/history/>).

The Purposes of ASEAN are: To maintain and enhance peace, security and stability and further strengthen peace-oriented values in the region; To enhance regional resilience by promoting greater political, security, economic and socio-cultural cooperation; To preserve Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction; To ensure that the peoples and Member States of ASEAN live in peace with the world at large in a just, democratic and harmonious environment; To create a single market and production base which is stable, prosperous, highly competitive and economically integrated with effective facilitation for trade and investment in which there is free flow of goods, services and investment; facilitated movement of business persons, professionals, talents and labour; and freer flow of capital; To alleviate poverty and narrow the development gap within ASEAN through mutual assistance and cooperation;

To strengthen democracy, enhance good governance and the rule of law, and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, with due regard to the rights and responsibilities of the Member States of ASEAN; To respond effectively, in accordance with the principle of comprehensive security, to all forms of threats, transnational crimes and transboundary challenges; To promote sustainable development so as to ensure the protection of the region’s environment, the sustainability of its natural resources, the preservation of its cultural heritage and the high quality of life of its peoples; To develop human resources through closer cooperation in education and life-long learning, and in science and technology, for the empowerment of the peoples of ASEAN and for the strengthening of the ASEAN Community; To enhance the well-being and livelihood of the peoples of ASEAN by providing them with equitable access to opportunities for human development, social welfare and justice; To strengthen cooperation in building a safe, secure and drug-free environment for the peoples of ASEAN; To promote a people-oriented ASEAN in which all sectors of society are encouraged to participate in, and benefit from, the process of ASEAN integration and community building; To promote an ASEAN identity through the fostering of greater awareness of the diverse culture and heritage of the region; and To maintain the centrality and proactive role of ASEAN as the primary driving force in its relations and cooperation with its external partners in a regional architecture that is open, transparent and inclusive (Article 1 Charter of The Association of Southeast Asian Nations).

In pursuit of the Purposes stated in Article 1 Charter of The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ASEAN and its Member States reaffirm and adhere to the fundamental principles contained in the declarations, agreements, conventions, concords, treaties and other instruments of ASEAN. ASEAN and its Member States shall act in accordance with the following Principles:

- (a) respect for the independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity of all ASEAN Member States;
- (b) shared commitment and collective responsibility in enhancing regional peace, security and prosperity;
- (c) renunciation of aggression and of the threat or use of force or other actions in any manner inconsistent with international law;
- (d) reliance on peaceful settlement of disputes;
- (e) non-interference in the internal affairs of ASEAN Member States;
- (f) respect for the right of every Member State to lead its national existence free from external interference, subversion and coercion;
- (g) enhanced consultations on matters seriously affecting the common interest of ASEAN;
- (h) adherence to the rule of law, good governance, the principles of democracy and constitutional government;
- (i) respect for fundamental freedoms, the promotion and protection of human rights, and the promotion of social justice;
- (j) upholding the United Nations Charter and international law, including international humanitarian law, subscribed to by ASEAN Member States;
- (k) abstention from participation in any policy or activity, including the use of its territory, pursued by any ASEAN Member State or non-ASEAN State or any non-State actor, which threatens the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political and economic stability of ASEAN Member States;
- (l) respect for the different cultures, languages and religions of the peoples of ASEAN, while emphasising their common values in the spirit of unity in diversity;
- (m) the centrality of ASEAN in external political, economic, social and cultural relations while remaining actively engaged, outward-looking, inclusive and non-discriminatory; and
- (n) adherence to multilateral trade rules and ASEAN's rules-based regimes for effective implementation of economic commitments and progressive reduction towards elimination of all barriers to regional economic integration, in a market-driven economy.

Land fires occur in a number of ASEAN regions, including Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Indonesia, according to the monitoring of the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) 18 satellite. The NOAA satellite detected 490 hotspots in Vietnam which were estimated to be the events of land fires. Indonesia's national Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) stated in its statement that hotspots were also detected in Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos, so that some areas in these countries were contaminated with smog. Meanwhile, Terra and Aqua satellites detect 450 hotspots on the Sumatran mainland, most of which are in Riau Province, which reaches 402 points (Priyambodo;2014 <https://www.antaraneews.com/berita/420432/kebakaran-lahan-di-sejumlah-wilayah-asean>).

Environmental Ministers from Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei and Singapore met in Jakarta to discuss the matter of haze from fires which is a problem every year for the region. Most of the smoke haze that often covers Southeast Asia comes from burning forests in Sumatra and Kalimantan. Forest burning is often done to open new land that will be used as plantation land. Since forest fires and severe haze in 2013 in Southeast Asia, countries in the region have made consultation groups to improve the effectiveness of their handling (<https://www.dw.com/id/asia-tenggara-belum-mampu-tangani-kabut-asap/a-18616226>).

Indonesia received appreciation from ASEAN countries participating in Haze Pollutionatnas' Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting for its success in efforts to control forest and land fires (karhutla). The Director of Forest and Land Fire Control and Chair of the Indonesian Delegation in the Raffles B. Panjaitan TWG said that there was a paradigm shift in handling forest fires in Indonesia. Initially the priority was to suppress the crisis phase, but after 2015 prioritized prevention aspects. Fire events in 2015 became a lesson for the Indonesian people, that prevention efforts are very important in controlling forest fires. Therefore, after the event we emphasized the prevention of karhutla early on to minimize the occurrence of large karhutla which had an impact on smog (Virna Puspa S, ASEAN Apresiasi Indonesia dalam Mengatasi Kebakaran Hutan, <https://www.liputan6.com/health/read/3549775/>).

Indonesia is considered successful in prevention, improvement of karhutla preparedness and mitigation, which is reflected in the decline in the number of hotspots since 2016. This is the result of joint efforts, in accordance with President Joko Widodo's special direction at the annual forest fire prevention coordination meeting. The appreciation was conveyed by participating countries in the Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting on Transboundary Haze Pollution, followed by the Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution in Bangkok, Thailand, May 31 to June 1, 2018 .

This year's TWG/MSC meeting is the 20th meeting attended by ministers or representatives responsible for the environment, for forest fires and haze, from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, and the ASEAN Secretariat. In the meeting, each country conveyed the development of forest and land conditions as well as the smoke conditions as a result of karhutla. The results of the TWG meeting were material at the MSC Meeting which was the Ministerial meeting of each country.

The 20th meeting of the Technical Working Group and the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution (TWG/MSC 20) resulted in three important decisions, first, agreeing to continue supporting Indonesia in the establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Center for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACCTHPC) which is currently in the process of finalizing an establishment agreement. Secondly, agreeing on Indonesia's proposal that the mid-term review of the ASEAN HazeFree Roadmap 2020 be carried out using the Haze Fund which requires the approval of ASEAN member countries to ensure the objectivity and neutrality of the implementing consultants. Third, agree on Indonesia's proposal to wait for input no later than the end of June 2018 from AMS who were not present at TWG/MSC 20 for paper Streamlining of Haze Related Meetings before being reported to COM/COP-14 (Virna Puspa S, <https://www.liputan6.com>). In this study, we will discuss the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution for ASEAN member countries. Transboundary Haze Pollution.

Transboundary haze pollution has been a recurrent phenomenon in the ASEAN region to various degrees over the years. These incidences have arisen due mainly to the cumulative effect of slash and burn and/or other types of moderate to large-scale burning to clear land for growing agricultural crops like corn and plantation trees such as pulp wood, rubber or oil palm and all of this often occurring concurrently. Some of the plots are held by small holder farmers while a good proportion belong to large plantation owners. ASEAN had recognised this emerging issue for more than two decades and started to formally address the problem in 1995 with the establishment of the Haze Technical Task Force under the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment – the ASEAN committee designated to help tackle this regional issue. The problem attracted regional and worldwide attention with the occurrence of severe fire and haze episodes in 1997 and 1998. This prompted ASEAN to intensify cooperation efforts to deal with this serious environmental menace. Mechanisms were put in place including a Regional Haze Action Plan along with institutional setups to prevent, monitor, and mitigate fires and haze, especially the potential adverse transboundary impacts on neighbouring countries. Several major initiatives were developed and implemented, often with external donor support to fight the emerging environmental threat (Apichai Sunchindah, *Transboundary Haze Pollution Problem in Southeast Asia: Reframing ASEAN's Response*, ERIA Discussion Paper Series, December 2015, <http://www.eria.org/ERIA-DP-2015-82.pdf>).

One of these significant endeavours was the formulation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) which was eventually signed by all ASEAN member states in June 2002 and came into force with ratification by a total of six member countries in November 2003, namely, Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Indonesia became the 10th ASEAN country which deposited its instruments of ratification for this agreement in January 2015, thus completing the legal process of fully enacting this only piece of ASEAN legislation pertaining to the environmental sector. Among the institutional provisions of the AATHP is the convening of the Conference of Parties (COP) and the establishment of a Secretariat (whose functions are to be performed by the ASEAN Secretariat) to support the servicing of the COP and other relevant activities in connection with the implementation of the agreement. It also includes the creation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control 'for the purpose of facilitating co-operation and co-ordination among the Parties in managing the impact of land and/or forest fires in particular haze pollution arising from such fires' (ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, Article 5).

In terms of organisational setup, the transboundary haze pollution issue has been under the oversight of the ASEAN Environment Ministers who meet annually and provide overall policy direction. They are supported by ASEAN senior officials who also meet regularly to review developments and guide implementation of targeted programmes and projects addressing the problem. Two subregional Ministerial-level Steering Committees (MSCs) have been established to create more focused impetus to the required work – one for the southern area covering Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand and another for the northern or Mekong area covering Cambodia, the Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Both these fora meet periodically at ministerial as well as senior official levels to coordinate the needed cooperation efforts in their respective geographic subregions. Technical working groups have also been set up under both MSCs to operationalise the agreed work plans. In addition, bilateral collaboration arrangements have also come into existence especially between Malaysia–Indonesia and Singapore–Indonesia as well as between Thailand and some of its immediate neighbours to help combat the fire and/or haze threat. (Apichai Sunchindah, *Transboundary Haze Pollution Problem in Southeast Asia: Reframing ASEAN's Response*, ERIA Discussion Paper Series, December 2015, <http://www.eria.org/ERIA-DP-2015-82.pdf>).

Research Methods

Based on its nature, this research is a normative research, namely research that intends to provide data as thoroughly as possible regarding the Implementation of the Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution In The Southeast Asia Region For ASEAN Member Countries. Based on its form, this research is evaluative and prescriptive research, evaluative research because this study intends to provide in-depth analysis of haze agreements that have been ratified by all ASEAN members, while prescriptive research because this research will also provide appropriate solutions based on legal principles international to overcome the obstacles in handling the haze that occur in ASEAN and the purpose of this legal research is normative legal research and literature.

Research Result

ASEAN Agreement On Transboundary Haze Pollution (Nazia Nazeer, 2017).

On June 10 2002, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, ASEAN member nations signed the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution. This Agreement was the first regional proposal in the world that aimed to mitigate and prevent haze pollution through concentrated nationwide efforts and increased regional and worldwide cooperation. Unfortunately, two dilemmas lower the efficiency of the agreement. First, Indonesia, the main emitter, has yet to approve this agreement. The second issue is the weak

mechanisms for the settlement of disputes and punishing non-compliance (Chareonwongsak; 2014). Moreover, the agreement lacks measurable obligations and implementations. Coordination impairment amongst government organisations and the 2001 Indonesia Forestry Law fail to confer the maximum penalties and criminal punishments for illegitimate forest burning, encouraging amendment of the regulations (Tan; 2005).

The ASEAN Haze Agreement is a mutual cooperative partnership; being neighbours of Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore might force her to enforce domestic improvements with respect to smoke and fire management needs. Moreover, ASEAN's nonaggressive approach and policy of non-interference in member countries' domestic matters constrain Indonesia to implement the intense reforms that might successfully discontinue fires that produce the most transboundary pollution (Cotton; 1999; Tan; 2005). None of the agreement's obligatory provisions specify any legitimate sanctions for noncompliance; nor is ASEAN constituted as an operative enforcement organisation. ASEAN highlights technical collaboration that might in fact divert attention from strategies that could resolve basic causes of fires and transboundary pollution (Tan; 2005). To date, ASEAN representatives have claimed that the Haze Agreement's co-operative procedures deliver the region's most efficient channel to maintain both diplomatic pressure and technical assistance (Kamal; 2001; Singh; 2008). In fact, the representatives mention that dialogues on the Haze Agreement were among the first times that ASEAN addressed serious differences amongst its participants (Singh; 2008).

In 1997, Indonesia was overcome by the financial crisis in Asia and political disorder. Since that period, the transboundary haze and fires have persisted, becoming a yearly occurrence that upsets Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei, with serious incidents occurring in 1999, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2010. In summary, the issue is recurring, and no sign of a permanent solution is in sight. During the June 2013 haze period, satellite pictures of burning land in Indonesia, mostly in the jurisdiction of Riau on the island of Sumatra, showed that the fires were occurring within large agro-commercial plantations. However, the agro-commercial community strongly denied responsibility for these fires, placing the blame on small-scale local communities and farmers residing near or within their plantation territories (Tan; 2015).

As a form of follow-up from the rampant phenomenon of forest and land fires in Southeast Asia as well as the impact of smoke pollution produced, ASEAN countries try to formulate a policy related to forest fire prevention and the handling of smoke pollution in the Southeast Asia region. The background of the formation of ASEAN cooperation related to cross-border smoke pollution is the reaction of ASEAN member countries to the severe forest and land fires that occurred in Indonesia in 1997 (<http://www.menlh.go.id>). In 2002 the ASEAN member countries finally agreed to formulate the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution to control smoke pollution in the Southeast Asia region. Indonesia and other ASEAN member countries agreed to work together to overcome forest and land fires along with the effects of the smoke together through the signing of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution on June 10, 2002, which then entered into force on November 25, 2003 (<http://e-journal.uajy.ac.id/14643/2/HK116021.pdf>).

ASEAN Cooperation on Transboundary Haze Pollution Control

Following severe land and forest fires in 1997-1998, ASEAN Member States (AMS) signed the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) on 10 June 2002 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to prevent, monitor, and mitigate land and forest fires to control transboundary haze pollution through concerted national efforts, regional and international cooperation. The Agreement entered into force in 2003 and has been ratified by all ASEAN Member States. The Agreement contains measures on (<https://environment.asean.org/about-asean-cooperation-on-transboundary-haze-pollution-control/>):

- Monitoring and assessment
- Prevention
- Preparedness
- National and joint emergency response
- Procedures for deployment of people, materials, and equipment across borders
- Technical cooperation & scientific research

The Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution was established in 2003, consisting of the ASEAN Ministers responsible for the environment. The Committee (COM) under the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution was established to assist COP in the implementation of the Agreement. The COM meets prior to the COP meetings. COP and COM meet back-to-back at least once a year.

The 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-12) to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 11 August 2016 adopted the Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control with Means of Implementation (hereinafter Roadmap). (<https://environment.asean.org/about-asean-cooperation-on-transboundary-haze-pollution-control/>)

The Roadmap will serve as a strategic, action-oriented and time-bound framework for the implementation of the collaborative actions to control transboundary haze pollution in the ASEAN region to achieve a vision of Transboundary Haze-free ASEAN by 2020. The following are key strategic components that translate the principles of the AATHP into concrete and collective actions under the Roadmap (<https://environment.asean.org/>):

Strategy 1	Implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP)
Strategy 2	Sustainable Management of Peatlands for Peatland Fires Prevention
Strategy 3	Sustainable Management of Agricultural Land and Forest for Large Scale Forest and/or Land Fires Prevention
Strategy 4	Strengthening Policies, Laws, Regulations and their Implementations, including to facilitate exchange of experience and relevant information among enforcement authorities of the Parties in accordance with the AATHP Article 16 (f)
Strategy 5	Enhancing Cooperation, Exchange of Information and Technology, and Strengthening of Capacity of Institutions at All Levels
Strategy 6	Enhancing Public Awareness and Cross-Sectoral and Stakeholders Participation
Strategy 7	Securing Adequate Resources from Multi-Stakeholders for Transboundary Haze Prevention
Strategy 8	Reducing Health and Environmental Risks and Protection of Global Environment

In Article 2, the ASEAN Agreement On Transboundary Haze Pollution explained that The objective of this Agreement is to prevent and monitor transboundary haze pollution as a result of land and/or forest fires which should be mitigated, through concerted national efforts and intensified regional and international co-operation. This should be pursued in the overall context of sustainable development and in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

The Parties shall be guided by the following principles in the implementation of this Agreement (In Article 3, the ASEAN Agreement On Transboundary Haze Pollution) :

- The Parties have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment and harm to human health of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.
- The Parties shall, in the spirit of solidarity and partnership and in accordance with their respective needs, capabilities and situations, strengthen co-operation and co-ordination to prevent and monitor transboundary haze pollution as a result of land and/or forest fires which should be mitigated.
- The Parties should take precautionary measures to anticipate, prevent and monitor transboundary haze pollution as a result of land and/or forest fires which should be mitigated, to minimise its adverse effects. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage from transboundary haze pollution, even without full scientific certainty, precautionary measures shall be taken by Parties concerned.
- The Parties should manage and use their natural resources, including forest and land resources, in an ecologically sound and sustainable manner.
- The Parties, in addressing transboundary haze pollution, should involve, as appropriate, all stakeholders, including local communities, non-governmental organisations, farmers and private enterprises.

Implementation of ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution

The ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution as a regulation related to the environment in the Southeast Asia region that has been made and agreed upon through an agreement is expected to bind its member countries. Indonesia has a great urgency and responsibility in controlling and controlling forest and land fires that occur in Indonesia. After ratifying Haze Pollution's ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary, the issue of cross-border smoke pollution is now not a problem for Indonesia alone, but has become a common interest of ASEAN countries (<http://e-journal.uajy.ac.id/14643/2/HK116021.pdf>).

The problem of forest and land fires on a national scale has not been fully completed but the problem of smoke pollution that occurs in Singapore is getting worse. Regional regulations governing this matter already exist and have been ratified by Indonesia, but the legal settlement regarding the responsibility of the Indonesian state for losses suffered by Singapore is unclear. In Article 27 the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution has indeed been regulated regarding settlement if a dispute occurs resolved through consultation and negotiation (Any dispute between Parties to interpretation or application, or compliance with the protocol thereto, shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation), but in some cases it has not been regulated how the implementation of state responsibility for adequate cross-border smoke pollution is mainly in the case of causing harm to other countries.

Indonesia ratified AATHP on September 16, 2014 with Law Number 26 of 2014 concerning Ratification of the ASEAN Agreement On Transboundary Haze Pollution and became the last country to ratify AATHP. Indonesia ratified the agreement as a form of seriousness in handling cross-border smoke pollution resulting from karhutla occurring in the territory of Indonesia. After the AATHP approval process, the next step that must be taken by the Indonesian government is to implement the international agreement. Indonesia has a tendency to adopt a dualism approach, so that international agreements such as AATHP can bind all citizens, AATHP must be transformed into separate legislation governing efforts to overcome transboundary smoke pollution (Siciliya, Arenahukum; 336).

Malaysia began to be affected by smoke pollution at the 1994 forest fire in Indonesia, then again in 1997, 1998 and 2001. Almost

every year affected by pollution from Indonesia made the Malaysian government immediately approve AATHP as soon as possible after signing the international agreement. Malaysia applies a dualism approach and the theory of transformation to implement international agreements that have been ratified by the Federal Government. This means that international treaties must be transformed first through national legislation so that they can be applied to communities in the national scope and used by judges in the courts to decide a case (Siciliya, Arenahukum; 337).

Singapore was the country that first celebrated AATHP in 2002, after signing the agreement (Heilman, 2015; 95). This decision was taken by the Singapore government because its territory has always been affected by smoke pollution since 1994. Smoke pollution is very detrimental to the Singapore state which has to lose its income from the tourism sector and its health-stricken citizens due to inhaling haze originating from Indonesia. Singapore, including the most active country offering assistance to the Indonesian government to combat forest fires and smoke pollution, assistance from the Singapore government began to be given since the 1997-1998 fires and continued until the 2013 karhutla event. The legal system in Singapore requires the country to transform each international agreement that has been ratified. Including the AATHP which was confirmed by Singapore in 2002. AATHP was later transformed into a national regulation through the 2014 Singapore's Transboundary Haze Pollution Act, Bill No. 18/2014 (Siciliya, Arenahukum; 339).

Conclusion

The objective of this Agreement is to prevent and monitor transboundary haze pollution as a result of land and/or forest fires which should be mitigated, through concerted national efforts and intensified regional and international co-operation. This should be pursued in the overall context of sustainable development and in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement. ASEAN member countries use this agreement to cooperate with each other to help affected members, one of which is forest fires. This agreement is expected to be able to create a good and conducive atmosphere for the establishment of diplomatic relations between them and be able to provide security and health stability in the Southeast Asia region.

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