

ASEAN has been at the vanguard in searching for a political solution to the Kampuchean situation. It has sponsored UNGA resolutions on the matter. It has been unwavering in its call for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. It has been insistent on the convening of an International Conference on the problem. In all of these efforts, it has succeeded in gaining the support of many non-communist countries and, to a considerable extent, the members of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

On other issues, the members of ASEAN have been active as a group in international fora such as the UN conference on Law of the Sea, the Group of 77, North-South and various commodity groupings, the latter because the ASEAN countries are major producers of rubber, hardwoods, tin, sugar and coffee.

ASEAN has coordinated its international relations with a number of countries through a "Dialogue", which involves regular consultations, both directly and in various international fora, as well as the provision by the "Dialogue" partners of regional development assistance. At present, there are six "Dialogue" partners: Australia, New Zealand, Japan, EEC, USA and Canada.

Although the ASEAN economies are competitive rather than complementary, ASEAN's growing political will strongly suggests that fuller economic cooperation is attainable over the long term.