



Assessment Meeting Theme: CALD @ 25: Taking Stock, Setting Direction
Workshop Theme: Climate Finance: Promoting and Financing Green Innovation
03 – 06 November 2017
Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand

CALD is the tapestry of our collective struggles to establish democracy and to make it work in our respective countries. It is the hallmark of our belief that the free and democratic way of life is the Asian way of life.

*Florencio "Butch" Abad
Former President, Liberal Party of the Philippines
Former Chairperson, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats*

CALD must move forward from just convening its members where we pat each other on the back and share our concerns. We should take a step further to the next level... If we are able to get to the point that people cannot ignore CALD, that's the time we can register ourselves as a potent political force.

*Chee Soon Juan
Secretary General, Singapore Democratic Party
Former Chairperson, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats*

Assessment Meeting Concept Note

In 2018, the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD) will celebrate its 25th founding anniversary. What has CALD achieved in the past quarter-century and where is it headed in the next 25 years? Can CALD's existence be considered a *silver lining* in a region that is still largely inhospitable to liberal and democratic values?

CALD is, as how former CALD Chairperson Butch Abad puts it, "the hallmark of our belief that the free and democratic way of life is the Asian way of life." By 2003, CALD Co-founder President Kim Dae Jung hailed CALD as having evolved as "a major epicenter of democracy." Leaders of Liberal International, Alliance for Liberals and Democrats in Europe (ALDE) and Friedrich Nauman Foundation (FNF) had considered CALD as a model for political party integration and cooperation especially for the developing regions of Africa and South America. Cambodian opposition leader Sam Rainsy, once stated that his chairmanship in CALD helped curb his further persecution by the ruling regime. Its members had also been in the forefront of the ASEAN Parliamentary Caucus on Myanmar and ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights.

However, new developments and challenges made it imperative to look back at what it has accomplished in the past and assess its standing at present. In doing so, it is hoped that the organization can adequately prepare itself for the future. As what former CALD Chairperson Chee Soon Juan pointed out, CALD needs to move to the next level and become a more potent political force in the region.

The recent developments and challenges which compel CALD to change emanate from a variety of sources. Globally, CALD has to operate in the context of an increasingly illiberal and

less tolerant world as evidenced by the continuing menace of terrorism and ethnic violence, persistence of religious extremism, rise of populist and autocratic politicians and groups and the prevalence of fake news in the post-truth Era. All these exacerbate already mounting global inequality, economic instability and environmental degradation. In the Asian region, CALD has to contend with declining political and economic freedom, diminishing popular support for political parties, persistence of authoritarian governments, the political, economic and social repercussions of China's ascent, among others. In response to these challenges, it becomes necessary for CALD to address organizational issues which go to the very core of its existence as a network of liberal and democratic political parties.

In the context of these new developments and continuing challenges, the network has chosen the theme "CALD @ 25: Taking Stock, Setting Directions" for its year-end assessment meeting. This theme is based on the premise that while CALD has been one of the most successful network of its kind in Asia, recent developments in the global and regional levels puts the organization in a position where it needs to respond effectively if it wants to maintain and expand its relevance. This response entails knowledge of both CALD's strengths and weaknesses, as well as an accurate analysis of the evolving context where the organization operates.

To have a starting point for discussions, each CALD member-party will be asked to fill out a questionnaire, the contents of which will revolve on the following general questions:

- What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and constraints of CALD as a network of liberal and democratic political parties in Asia?
- Has CALD contributed to the work of your political party in any way? If yes, please identify the ways. If no, why is this so?
- With the benefit of hindsight, are there decisions, policies and programs of CALD which you are not satisfied with? Why?
- What structural, procedural and organizational changes do you want to see in CALD in order to make it more professional, financially viable and politically potent?
- How should these proposed changes be realized? What steps need to be undertaken?

The assessment meeting generally aims to take stock of CALD achievements in the past, assess its current standing, and set its future directions in order for the organization to remain true to its commitment of advancing a society based on personal liberty and responsibility, social justice, the rule of law and free market economy.

More specifically, the objectives of the meeting are as follows:

- To assess CALD's organizational performance in the past and its standing at present in order to reveal its strengths and weaknesses;
- To examine the opportunities and constraints which characterize the political, economic, social and technological environments where CALD operates;
- To discuss structural, procedural and programmatic reforms or changes which the organization should undertake in order to maintain and expand its relevance at present and in the future; and
- To identify key areas which the organization should concentrate on to continuously advance the cause of liberal democracy and market economy in the region and in the world.

The meeting is structured to ensure full participant ownership and management, and the organizers will play primarily consultative and facilitative roles.

Climate Change Workshop Concept Note

In this day and age, the Asia-Pacific has become the most vulnerable region to the adverse effects of climate change, fueling an intense debate that questions “who does what to whom.” Various scientific studies suggest that most industrialized countries contribute more to the exacerbation of climate change compared to the less developed countries, but the latter suffer most of the consequences brought about by the changing climate. As international environmental regimes mature, the debate has evolved to give more emphasis to the question: “Who pays what to whom, and to what extent?”

This change was manifested in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol as both foresee the need for financial assistance from parties with more resources to the less privileged and more vulnerable ones. In order to facilitate this, a financial mechanism was established to generate funds for developing countries.

Under Article 11 of the UNFCCC, the operation of the financial mechanism is partly entrusted to the Global Environment Facility (GEF). During the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) in Durban, South Africa, parties have decided to designate Green Climate Fund (GCF) as an operating entity of the mechanism. It is accountable to the COP that decides on its policies, programmes, and eligibility criteria for funding. Similarly, the Kyoto Protocol recognizes the need for it to fund activities by developing country parties.

In the celebrated COP21 in Paris, France, the financial mechanism provision was reinforced to its finest. In Article 9 (Climate Finance) of the Paris Agreement, the question on who should pay for the costs of climate change, as well as how much should they contribute, was given justice. Climate finance, which entails “who gets and gives money to whom”, was one of the most controversial topics during the negotiations. Item 115 of the Paris document says that it “resolves to enhance the provision of urgent and adequate finance, technology and capacity-building support by developed country parties in order to enhance the level of ambition of pre-2020 action by parties ... with a concrete roadmap to achieve the goal of jointly providing USD 100 Billion annually by 2020 for mitigation and adaptation ... to further provide appropriate technology and capacity-building support.”

How should CALD respond to the opportunities presented by climate finance? As a network of political parties in Asia that has embraced climate change as one of its programmatic areas, it may be beneficial for CALD member-parties to obtain knowledge on how to make use of the opportunities that come with climate finance to benefit their respective parties and societies.

In this regard, CALD has chosen the theme “Climate Finance: Promoting and Financing Green Innovation” for its Climate Change Workshop. The objectives of the workshop are the following:

- To discuss the opportunities offered by climate finance, and how CALD can tap it to promote green innovation and advance its climate change advocacies;
- To identify possible issues and constraints in promoting green designs in public infrastructure and in preparing climate finance applications; and
- To strategize on how can CALD sustain and broaden its climate change programmes in the coming years.

PROGRAMME

03 November 2017, Friday

Arrival in Bangkok / Welcome Dinner

Variable	<p>Arrival in Bangkok</p> <p>Check-in at the hotel of international delegates</p> <p>Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Center 999/99 Rama 1 Road, Pathumwan Bangkok 10330, Thailand T: +66 (0)2 100 1234 F: +66 (0)2 100 1235 E: cgcw@chr.co.th www.centarahotelsresorts.com</p>
19:00	<p>Welcome Dinner <i>Hosted by the Democrat Party of Thailand</i> <i>Lotus Suite 12, 22/F Centara Grand</i></p> <p><i>Welcome Messages</i></p> <p>Hon. Kiat Sittheeamorn Secretary General, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats Deputy Leader, Foreign Affairs and Economics Democrat Party, Thailand</p> <p>H.E. Abhisit Vejjajiva Chairperson, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats Leader, Democrat Party, Thailand</p>
<p>04 November 2017, Saturday <i>Climate Change Workshop / CALD Executive Committee Meeting</i></p>	
Variable	<p>Breakfast <i>The World Restaurant. 24/F Centara Grand</i></p>
08:30 – 09:00	<p>Registration</p>

	<i>Lotus Suite 12, 22/F Centara Grand</i>
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Opening Session</p> <p><i>Session Chair</i></p> <p>Ms. Ma. Remedios “Mardi” Mapa-Suplido Workshop Facilitator</p> <p><i>Welcome Remarks</i></p> <p>Hon. Kiat Sittheeamorn Secretary General, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats Deputy Leader, Foreign Affairs and Economics Democrat Party, Thailand</p> <p>Mr. Siegfried Herzog Regional Director, Friedrich Naumann Foundation Regional Office for Southeast and East Asia</p> <p><i>Keynote Address</i></p> <p>H.E. Abhisit Vejjajiva Chairperson, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats Leader, Democrat Party, Thailand</p>
09:30 – 10:45	<p><i>Session I: Climate Finance: Challenges and Opportunities for Asia</i></p> <p><i>Input: Climate Finance: What You Need to Know</i></p> <p>Mr. Robert Dobias Advisor, National Research Council, Thailand Former Senior Advisor and Head of Climate Change Coordination Program, Asian Development Bank</p> <p><i>Input: Climate Finance in Asia: Opportunities and Challenges</i></p> <p>Atty. Francis Ron de Guzman, JD, MCC International Studies Department De La Salle University – Manila, Philippines</p> <p><i>Open Forum</i></p>
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee/Tea Break

11:15 – 12:30	<p>Session II: CALD Climate Change Programme Assessment</p> <p><i>Input: Overview of CALD Climate Change Programmes</i> Mr. Francis Miguel “Pete” Panday CALD Climate Change Project Officer</p> <p><i>Workshop</i></p> <p><i>“Information Market” (Step 1)</i> - Core elements of the CALD Climate Change Programme that went well; did not go well; and must go well that we did not tackle enough until now</p> <p><i>“Information Market” (Step 2)</i> - Core elements of the CALD Climate Change Programme that went well: keep-improve-leave; that went what wrong – how to better it – forget it - Climate Change musts today and in the future that we did not tackle (enough) until now: why – what – how</p>
12:30 – 14:00	<p>Lunch <i>Lotus 11, 22/F Centara Grand</i></p>
14:00 – 16:00	<p>CALD Executive Committee Meeting (Part I)</p>
16:00 – 16:30	<p>Coffee/Tea Break</p>
16:30 – 18:00	<p>CALD Executive Committee Meeting (Part II)</p>
18:30	<p>Assembly at the Hotel Lobby and Leave for Dinner-Cruise</p>
19:30 – 21:30	<p>White Orchid Dinner-Cruise</p>
<p>05 November 2017, Sunday <i>CALD Assessment Meeting</i></p>	
Variable	<p>Breakfast <i>The World Restaurant. 24/F Centara Grand</i></p>
08:30 – 09:00	<p>Registration</p>

	<i>Lotus Suite 12, 22/F Centara Grand</i>
09:00 – 10:00	<p>Opening Session</p> <p><i>Session Chair</i></p> <p>Ms. Ma. Remedios “Mardi” Mapa-Suplido Workshop Facilitator</p> <p><i>Input: Assessing CALD: Member’s Perspective</i></p> <p>Dr. Chee Soon Juan Secretary General, Singapore Democratic Party Former Chairperson, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats</p> <p><i>Input: Assessing CALD: Secretariat’s Perspective</i></p> <p>Mr. John Joseph Coronel Former Executive Director, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats</p> <p>Mr. Celito Arlegue Executive Director, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats</p>
10:00 – 11:00	<p>Session I: Successes and Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Brand and Values · Goals and Issues · Messages and Communication · Instruments
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee/Tea Break
11:30 – 12:00	Reporting Time
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Session II: Setting Future Direction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Brand and Values · Goals and Issues · Messages and Communication

	· Instruments
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch <i>Lotus 11, 22/F Centara Grand</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Reporting Time
15:00 – 16:00	Session III: Putting the Puzzle Pieces Together
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee/Tea Break
16:30 – 17:00	Speed Evaluation
17:00 – 17:30	Closing Remarks / Synthesis / Reflection Hon. Kiat Sittheeamorn Secretary General, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats Deputy Leader, Foreign Affairs and Economics Democrat Party, Thailand H.E. Abhisit Vejjajiva Chairperson, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats Leader, Democrat Party, Thailand
	Free Night
06 November 2017, Monday <i>Departures</i>	
Variable	Breakfast <i>The World Restaurant. 24/F Centara Grand</i>
Variable	Departures