



**ASEAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
(AICHR)**

**PRIORITY PROGRAMMES/ACTIVITIES**

**2026**

**Approved by the 58<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) on 9 July 2025**

## PRIORITY PROGRAMMES/ACTIVITIES OF AICHR 2026

<b>Focus Area 1:</b> <b>Promote the implementation of ASEAN instruments related to human rights while encouraging the accession to and ratification of, and promoting capacity building for the effective implementation of international human rights instruments, as applicable (AICHR TOR, Mandates 4.2, and 4.4-4.6; APSC Strategic Plan, Strategic Measures 9.1-9.5)</b>		
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Lead: AICHR Representative / Whole-of-AICHR</b>
1. ASEAN Human Rights Dialogue 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An established space for dialogue between ASEAN Member States and AICHR on sharing best practices to promote and protect human rights, and ways to overcome challenges to the enjoyment of human rights</li> </ul>	Indonesia, Malaysia
2. ASEAN Dialogue on Realising Southeast Asia as a Torture-Free Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved skills and knowledge of police and security forces, medical practitioners, other law enforcement officers, and stakeholders on the use of the Mendez Principles, Istanbul Protocol and Bangkok Rules, as appropriate</li> <li>AICHR recommendation on the implementation of Article 14 of AHRD on best practices related to prevention, investigating allegations, prosecution and rehabilitation</li> </ul>	Indonesia
3. AICHR Consultation on the Right to an Effective Remedy in ASEAN (Article 5 of AHRD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List of recommendations on how to implement Article 5 of AHRD</li> </ul>	Indonesia
4. AICHR Workshop on Sharing Best Practices in the Implementation of the Convention on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To share the best practices in the implementation of the CRPD, the Committee on</li> </ul>	Lao PDR

the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities' Concluding Observations and National Plan of Actions	the Rights of Persons with Disabilities' concluding observations, and the national plans of action to implement its recommendations	
5. AICHR Workshop on Sharing Experiences and Challenges on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Treaty Reporting and AICHR's Contribution to the Implementation of the CRC and CEDAW Concluding Observations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To share the experiences and challenges of ASEAN Member States on the CRC and CEDAW treaty reporting and AICHR's contribution to the implementation of the CRC and CEDAW concluding observations, and their national plans of action</li> </ul>	Lao PDR
6. AICHR Workshop on Tracking Database/Collecting Inputs for Treaty Reporting and Universal Periodic Review (UPR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved awareness and capacity to implement the international human rights treaty obligations undertaken by ASEAN Member States</li> </ul>	Lao PDR
7. Regional Consultation on the Mainstreaming of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the ASEAN Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation with Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD), relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and other stakeholders on the implementation of the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025: Mainstreaming the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (EMP 2025)</li> <li>Recommendations for follow-up actions to the EMP 2025</li> </ul>	Thailand
8. Regional Workshop on Human Rights-Based Approaches to Address Intersectionality of Vulnerabilities in the Context of Trafficking in Persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased awareness of the intersectionality between vulnerabilities and trafficking in persons across ASEAN Member States</li> </ul>	Thailand

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy recommendations developed for practical tools and a targeted capacity-building programme</li> </ul>	
<b>Focus Area 2:</b> <b>Develop strategies for cooperation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms</b> <b>(AICHR TOR, Mandates 4.1 and 4.11; APSC Strategic Plan, Strategic Measures 9.1-9.5)</b>		
Activities	Expected Outputs	Lead: AICHR Representative / Whole-of-AICHR
1. ASEAN Workshop on Enhancing the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working document on recommendation/interpretation of freedom of opinion and expression online based on Article 23 of AHRD on freedom of opinion and expression</li> <li>Documentation on practices, experiences, challenges and possible cooperation in addressing the spread of hate speech, fake news, misinformation, and disinformation among stakeholders in ASEAN and its challenges</li> </ul>	Indonesia
2. 2 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Consultation on Enhancing ASEAN's Human Rights Mechanisms for the Effective Promotion and Protection of Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendations to enhance the institutional capacity and effectiveness of ASEAN's human rights mechanisms to be more decisive, responsive and timely as well as future-ready in addressing global and regional challenges, and with effective cross-sectoral and cross-pillar coordination</li> </ul>	Malaysia
3. 4 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Consultation on the Human Right to Development to Enhance and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Common approaches and positions to implement the proposed ASEAN Declaration</li> </ul>	Malaysia

Strengthen the ASEAN Community and its Implementation	Promoting the Right to Development and Peace towards Realising Inclusive and Sustainable Development	
4. 7 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Workshop on Intersection Between Conflict and Human Rights: Pathways and Approaches to Peace in ASEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations on strategies, approaches and guidelines in addressing human rights issues during/after conflict, disaster, and emergency situations</li> <li>• Common ASEAN pathway to, and conceptual framework on, peace, conflict prevention and management</li> <li>• Common approaches and strategies to implement a human rights-based approach in addressing conflict and violence in ASEAN</li> </ul>	Malaysia
5. ASEAN Experiential Workshop to Share and Exchange Information and Report on Human Rights Progress, Emerging Risks, Challenges and Threats and to be Responsive, Innovative, Dynamic and Future-Ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common approaches and strategies to obtain, share and exchange knowledge and information on human rights progress, risks, challenges and threats towards the realisation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and its Strategic Plans</li> </ul>	Malaysia
6. Regional Dialogue on the Nexus between Transnational Crime and Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of a common understanding of the nexus between transnational crime and human rights</li> <li>• Increased awareness of a human rights-based approach to addressing transnational crime</li> <li>• Documentation of good practices in applying a human rights-based approach in responses to transnational organised crime</li> <li>• Policy recommendations for ASEAN to advance the application of a human rights-based</li> </ul>	Thailand

	approach in responses to transnational organised crime	
7. Regional Consultation on the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN Declaration on the Right to a Safe, Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consolidated inputs from relevant ASBs, especially ASEAN Senior Officials on Environment (ASOEN), and stakeholders for the development of a regional plan of action to implement the ASEAN Declaration on the Right to a Safe, Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment</li> <li>Proposed draft of the regional action plan</li> </ul>	Thailand
8. ASEAN Workshop on Strengthening the Implementation of Business and Human Rights to Address Forced Labour and Modern Slavery and Enhance Protection Through Human Rights Due Diligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentation of good practices by the private sector and ASEAN Member States in promoting and implementing the business and human rights agenda</li> <li>Recommendations for the development of ASEAN guidelines and framework to strengthen the role of the private sector and implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)</li> </ul>	Thailand, Malaysia
9. AICHR Workshop on Best Practices in Promoting Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge in Responding and Adapting to the Impact of Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentation of climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives of indigenous peoples and local communities</li> </ul>	Philippines

**Focus Area 3:**

**Provide advisory services and technical assistance to ASEAN Sectoral Bodies upon request, and information sharing on the promotion and protection of human rights among ASEAN Member States**

**(AICHR TOR, Mandates 4.7 and 4.10; APSC Strategic Plan, Strategic Measures 9.1-9.5)**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Lead: AICHR Representative / Whole-of-AICHR</b>
1. AICHR Consultation on Human Rights Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mapping of the existing human rights index, advantages, disadvantages and challenges, documentation on good practices and sustainability strategy for the regional human rights index, and recommendations for AICHR on the possible regional human rights index</li></ul>	Indonesia
2. Regional Forum on Human Rights Cities in ASEAN: Localising Human Rights for Inclusive Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased awareness of the “Human Rights City” concept and its compatibility with ASEAN values and principles</li><li>• Dialogue facilitated on human rights issues among local governments</li><li>• Documentation of good practices and challenges in localising human rights within urban governance</li></ul>	Thailand

**Focus Area 4:****Engage with relevant stakeholders and partners****(AICHR TOR, Mandates 4.8 and 4.9; APSC Strategic Plan, Strategic Measures 9.1-9.5)**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Lead: AICHR Representative / Whole-of-AICHR</b>
1. AICHR Consultation on Migration and Human Rights in ASEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Description of the analysis related to a conceptual framework on migration management and best practices of managing migration to protect migrant workers, list of recommendations for ASEAN Member States on the promotion and protection of the rights of migrant workers</li></ul>	Indonesia
2. Regional Cross-Sector Dialogue in Strengthening Cooperation and Collaboration in Promoting and Protecting Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exchange of views and update on the human rights situation in the region with stakeholders</li><li>• Enhance cooperation between AICHR and relevant dialogue partners in the region</li></ul>	Indonesia
3. 2 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Cross-Sectoral Dialogue between AICHR, ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and Relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies on the Effective Implementation of ASEAN Commitments on Human Rights of Women and Children: Deepening Protection for Groups in Vulnerable and Marginalised Situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Common elements for a proposed ASEAN inter-sectoral bodies technical cooperation mechanism to strengthen the protection framework for women, children and groups in vulnerable and marginalised situations, including strategies for knowledge-sharing, constructive engagement, optimising ASEAN Member States' peer learning and reviews, and maximising the dialogue-based process</li><li>• A documentation on the implementation of ASEAN commitment on the rights of women and children in the ASEAN Community</li></ul>	AICHR



**Focus Area 5:****Prepare studies on thematic issues of human rights in ASEAN and enhancing public awareness****(AICHR TOR, Mandates 4.3 and 4.12; APSC Strategic Plan, Strategic Measures 9.1-9.5)**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Lead: AICHR Representative / Whole-of-AICHR</b>
1. Public Education Series on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dissemination of information on the work of AICHR through public educational campaigns and to translate human rights promotion and protection in the region, utilising the digital platform</li><li>• Accessible online and media-related information about AICHR, and the AHRD and the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the AHRD</li></ul>	Indonesia
2. 6 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Dialogue on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child - General Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strengthen capacity-building initiatives aimed at promoting and protecting child rights through knowledge exchange</li></ul>	Philippines
3. ASEAN Human Rights Day 2026: Commemorating 14 Years of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration in Advancing Human Rights in ASEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased public awareness, appreciation and dissemination of information on the efforts to promote and protect human rights in ASEAN</li></ul>	AICHR

**Focus Area 6:****Submit reports and perform other tasks assigned by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting****(AICHR TOR, Mandates 4.13 and 4.14; APSC Strategic Plan, Strategic Measures 9.1-9.5)**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Lead: AICHR Representative / Whole-of-AICHR</b>
1. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Self-assessment of AICHR's Work, Progress, Challenges and Direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recommendations for further deliberations of the AICHR</li></ul>	AICHR
2. Workshop to develop AICHR's Long-Term Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An M&amp;E framework for AICHR's programmatic approach to promoting and protecting human rights</li></ul>	AICHR
3. Dialogue on the ASEAN Secretariat Information Paper on the Work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights 2010-2024 and related matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recommendations for further deliberations of the AICHR</li></ul>	AICHR