



VECONAC 30TH EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AND 17TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

GENERAL

1. The VECONAC 30th Executive Board Meeting and 17th General Assembly (VECONAC 30th EBM & 17th GA) were held on 23rd to 27th November 2017 in Brunei Darussalam and in fact the previous VECONAC's 29th EBM & 16th GA was also held in Brunei Darussalam on 06th – 10th October 2016..

2. VECONAC 30th EBM & 17th GA is organised by Ex-Soldiers Association of Brunei Darussalam (ESABD) in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) and Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF). The meeting venue was @ Parkview Hotel Jerudong.

ATTENDANCE

3. The total number of participants attending the 17th General Assembly was 81 comprising 53 delegates and 28 observers (+spouses) and attended by all VECONAC Member Associations.

CENTRAL PRESENTATION

4. Prior to VECONAC 30th EBM & 17th GA proper, the VECONAC Secretariat has invited and presented a Central Presentation on VECONAC 2017 to Defence Attaches/Advisers and representatives from ASEAN Country High Commissions/ Embassies, representatives from government agencies, personnel from MINDEF and RBAF. The briefing was held on Tuesday, 14th November 2017 @ Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium.

THE 30th EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

5. The Pre-30th Executive Board Meeting (Pre-30th EBM) was held in the evening of 23rd November 2017 @ Jasmine, Parkview Hotel, and was chaired by VECONAC President, HE Maj Gen (Retd) Pehin Dato Hj Shari Ahmad. Two Recommendations and two Draft Resolutions were raised for adoption to 30th EBM.

5.1. **New Recommendations** for Recipients of VECONAC Awards submitted by MWVO:

5.1.a. **Recommendation 1.** Recommendation for Lt Gen Hsan Oo to be conferred the title VECONAC Honorary President.

5.1.b. **Recommendation 2.** Recommendation for Maj Gen Zar Ni Winn (Retd) to be awarded the VECONAC Medal of Honour.

5.2. **Draft Resolution 1.** Safeguarding of Military Historical Event and Place (submitted by VAMAF).

5.3. **Draft Resolution 2.** Miniature Medal of Honour (submitted by ESABD).

6. The 30th EBM endorsed the agendas for 17th GA.

THE 17th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OPENING CEREMONY

7. The Opening Ceremony was held at Parkview Hotel in Jerudong on Friday, 24th November 2017 @ 0900hrs, and it was officiated by the Guest of Honour, HE Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Major General Dato Paduka Seri Mohd Tawih Bin Abdullah, Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces. Also present were Advisers to ESABD and former Commanders of RBAF. The ceremony was also attended by DAs and Representatives of ASEAN Country Embassies and High Commissions in Brunei Darussalam.

8. As per last Opening Ceremony in 2016, ESABD has initiated a new drill to simply the sequence of the ceremony yet with military pride:

- The Arrival of Guest of Honour (accompanied by VECONAC President).
- Doa / Prayer.
- Trooping In of VECONAC Colours & ASEAN Country Flags (simultaneously accompanied by Pipers).
- 1-Minute Silence (to honour the demised veteran members).
- Welcome Remarks by VECONAC President.
- Speech by Guest of Honour (and officiating the EBM & GA).
- Presentation of Memento to Guest of Honour.
- Group Photo.
- Refreshment.
- Disperse.

VECONAC IN ASEAN

9. Reference REGISTER OF ENTITIES ASSOCIATED WITH ASEAN as updated on 16th October 2017 (ASEAN Website), there are currently sixty-seven (67) entities registered as Entities Associated with ASEAN which fall under five categories i.e. Parliamentarians and Judiciary; Business Organisations; Think Tank and Academic Institutions; Civil Society Organisations (CSOs); and Other Stakeholders in ASEAN.

10. VECONAC is registered under CSOs and as adopted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) of ASEAN on its 13/2017 Meeting on 10th October 2017, VECONAC has full ten member countries.

RESOLUTIONS

11. Following the recommendations, draft resolutions, proposals and resolutions as raised, reviewed, agreed and approved in the 30th EBM and 17th GA, the General Assembly has endorsed 13 new RESOLUTIONS and this is elaborated as Annex to this Joint Communique. They are:

- **RESOLUTION 17-1. RESOLUTION ON CONFERRING THE VECONAC HONORARY PRESIDENCY.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-2. RESOLUTION ON AWARDING THE VECONAC MEDAL OF HONOUR.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-3. SAFEGUARDING AND PRESERVATION OF MILITARY HISTORICAL EVENT.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-4. REVIEWING THE EXISTING CONSTITUTION IN AN EFFORT TO ENHANCE THE CONTENT.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-5. DOMICILING VECONAC ACCOUNT PERMANENTLY IN ONE MEMBER COUNTRY.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-6. RESOLUTION TO DEVELOP A VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT OF VECONAC.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-7. RESOLUTION ON THE ROTATIONAL SYSTEM OF VECONAC SECRETARIAT AND CHAIRMANSHIP.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-8. AN ORGANIZED VISIT TO THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT IN JAKARTA.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-9. MINIATURE MEDAL OF THE VECONAC MEDAL OF HONOUR.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-10. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO THE HOST COUNTRY.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-11. AN APPRECIATION TO THE VECONAC PRESIDENT AND HIS SECRETARIT STAFFS.**
- **RESOLUTION 17-12. RESOLUTION ON ESTABLISHING THE WOMEN AND SPOUSES INTERACTION PROGRAM (A REVIEW OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION 2 OF THE 16TH GA).**
- **RESOLUTION 17-13. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING COMMITTEE.**

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

12. The 17th GA adopted the Joint Communique as presented by the VECONAC Secretary General.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

13. The 17th GA has also endorsed the following members for term 2017-2018:

13.1. **President:** BG (Rtd) Somphone KEOMIXAY - LNVF

13.2. **Vice Presidents:**

Maj Gen (Retd) Pehin Dato Hj Shari Ahmad – ESABD

Gen Meas Savan - CVA

Lt Gen (Ret) Rais Abin – LVRI

BG (Rtd) Khamhom SENGBOUALOME - LNVF

Adm Senator Tan Sri Mohd Anwar Hj Mohd Nor (Ret) - VAMAF

Lt-Gen Gen Hla Min (Retd) - MWVO

Mr William B.Esplana - VFP

BG (Ret) Winston Toh - SAFVL

Gen Sampan Tanyapuch - WVOT

Sr Lt Gen Nguyen Van Duoc - VAVN

13.3 **Secretary General:** To be decided by LNVF.

13.4 **Treasurer General:** To be decided by LNVF.

ADOPTION OF VENUE FOR THE 18TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

14. It was unanimously agreed that Lao National Veterans Federation (LNVF) will host the 18th GA (and 31st EBM) in the year 2018, and CVA has confirmed to host the 19th GA (32nd EBM) in 2019.

CLOSING CEREMONY

15. The Closing Ceremony was held on Sunday, 26th November 2017, @ Parkview Hotel, Jerudong:

15.1 Maj Gen (Retd) Pehin Dato Hj Shari Ahmad handed over the VECONAC Gavel (the symbol of authority) to the President of Lao National Veterans Federation (LNVF), BG (Rtd) Somphone KEOMIXAY, as the 17th VECONAC President.

15.2 Lt Col (Retd) Ramli Abd Hadis handed the Joint Communique to the representative of LNVF followed by the handing over of Treasurer General Report by Lt Col (Retd) Hj Hashim Hj Zainal Abidin to also the representative of LNVF.

15.3 Maj Gen (Retd) Pehin Dato Hj Shari Ahmad, the outgoing VECONAC President delivered his valedictory address.

54 BG (Rtd) Somphone KEOMIXAY, the 17th VECONAC President, delivered his maiden and acceptance speech.

15.5 Maj Gen (Retd) Pehin Dato Hj Shari bin Ahmad presented a memento to the new VECONAC President and BG (Rtd) Somphone KEOMIXAY reciprocated with a memento to Maj Gen (Retd) Pehin Dato Hj Shari Ahmad.

16. The following sequences during the Closing Ceremony are for references for future hosting countries:

- Arrival of VECONAC President (accompanied by VECONAC Secretary General).
- Doa / Prayer.
- Re-convene of GA by VECONAC President.
- Signing of Joint Communique.
- Handing Over & Taking Over of VECONAC President, Secretary General & Treasurer General.
- Speech by outgoing VECONAC President.
- Election and Declaration of Office Bearers for the year 2017 – 2018.
- Speech by New VECONAC President.
- Declaration of Hosting the 31st EBM & 18th GA.
- Closing Declaration of 30th EBM & 17th GA.

17. The Joint Communique was adopted on 26th November 2017 at Parkview Hotel, Jerudong, Brunei Darussalam.

VECONAC FOREVER, FOREVER VECONAC

Amph

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BG (Rtd) Somphon KEOMIXAY LNVF

Shah

.....
Maj Gen (Retd) Pehin Dato Hj Shari Ahmad ESABD

HW

.....
Gen Meas Savan CVA

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MG (Ret) Bantu Hardjijo LVRI

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BG (Rtd) Khamhom SENGBOUALOME LNVF

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Senator Adm Tan Sri Mohd Anwar Hj Mohd Nor (Ret) VAMAF

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Lt Gen Hla Min (Retd) MWVO

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Mr William Basplana VFP

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BG (Ret) Winston Toh SAFVL

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Gen Sampan Tanyapuch WVOT

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Lt Gen (Retd) Nguyen Van Dao VAVN

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