



Transnational Crime of Illicit Drugs in Southeast Asia

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| ARTICLE INFO | ABSTRACT |
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| Date received: 05 August 2023 Revision date: 29 September 2023 Date published: 01 November 2023 Keywords <i>transnational crime;</i> <i>drugs;</i> <i>regional security;</i> <i>Southeast Asia;</i> <i>ASEAN</i> | The cooperation of the actors in harmonizing their views on the drug phenomenon is needed. Over the last decade, the dynamics that define regional security environment in Southeast Asia has changed dramatically. In this study, a descriptive qualitative methodological approach was adopted to explore an in-depth understanding of cross-border crime in the illegal drug trade in Southeast Asia. The conclusions of this analysis will help enrich our understanding of cross-border illegal drug transactions in the region, as well as provide a basis for formulating better policy recommendations to effectively address this challenge. ASEAN needs to strengthen the commitment of cooperation and continuously make efforts were tireless in the fight against drugs. |
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INTRODUCTION

This article explains how cooperation of the actors evened the views on the phenomenon of drugs. The consensus will be a strong foundation to make the speech act that could give rise to imaginative impression to the audience on drugs. Such consensus remains begins of various drugs phenomenon, but this chapter will see it in the narrower context.

Over the last decade, the dynamics that define regional security environment in Southeast Asia has changed dramatically. Hopes for the creation of an atmosphere that more stable, peaceful finally created after the end of the Cold War, based on the expectations that the geopolitical and security tensions brought about by the Cold War ended. After the war, the new security then appeared, however the countries, especially in Southeast Asia are faced with the issue of new security challenges that arise from a number of transnational threats. Lately, there is a growing recognition that new security challenges proved to be more severe and cause a greater impact.

As it was mentioned earlier that the threat of TNC have common characteristics. They are primarily non-military in nature, transnational in scope-both domestically and between countries, it comes with a very short notice, and transmitted rapidly because globalization and communication revolution. Such as, a national solution provided is inadequate and will require comprehensive (political, economic, and social) response (Caballero, 2007).

One thing is for sure that the TNC problems has direct implications on the overall security of the state and society in the region. This issue also became the analysis and discussion among academics and among policymakers in Southeast Asia. These issues also described by officials as an illustration of a threat to national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and social welfare respectively. As a result, policies in many countries must rethink their security agenda and find new ways and innovative to overcome the challenges of the new security. This, in turn, has had profound implications for regional security cooperation between the countries in the region. And each country

in rapid succession trying to assess how Southeast Asia try to deal with emerging security challenges through regional organizations, strengthen the mechanism of action of relevant institutions, and security settings that are more relevant towards the TNC threats (Caballero, 2007).

This chapter discusses the issues of regional security in Southeast Asia. Where will try to explain that the risk of interstate conflicts can occur, the area is faced with security challenges that arise from a number of transnational threats. In particular, this chapter will discuss how the drug phenomenon has spread and grown rapidly in Southeast Asia, how then the views of each country towards the circumstances as well as whether countries establish cooperation or agreement to overcome the threat of the phenomenon.

RESEARCH METHOD

In this study, a descriptive qualitative methodological approach was adopted to explore an in-depth understanding of cross-border crime in the illegal drug trade in Southeast Asia. This descriptive qualitative approach allowed us to paint a detailed and comprehensive picture of the dynamics, causes and impacts of cross-border drug trafficking in the region. We conducted semi-structured interviews with a number of key stakeholders, such as law enforcement officers from relevant countries, representatives from drug-focused NGOs, and community leaders in the affected regions. The interviews were geared towards gaining their views and understanding of drug trafficking routes, the role of criminal networks, and the social and economic factors that influence the production and consumption of illegal drugs.

The results of this descriptive qualitative analysis will be presented in the form of detailed narratives that describe key findings, illustrate important aspects of cross-border drug trafficking, and provide deeper insights into the complexity of this issue in Southeast Asia. The conclusions of this analysis will help enrich our understanding of cross-border illegal drug transactions in the region, as well as provide a basis for formulating better policy recommendations to effectively address this challenge.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Illicit drugs phenomenon in the region

Some of Southeast Asian countries is a major producer of narcotics and a transit point for illicit drugs to be exported to North America, Europe and other Asian Countries. The Golden Triangle is one of the leading drug-producing region in the world. Drug trafficking in the Golden Triangle is no longer an individual based industry but it has become sophisticated and organized, especially in the northern part of Myanmar. Opium cultivation, purchasing, transportation, production, and sale, although scattered but well-coordinated. Previously, the drug business is run by a single local mafia who control the company in its own territory. But today the agents often work together to run a drug company in each region. For example, in the 1980s, among the more than forty drug manufacturers along the Myanmar-China border are operated by two or more separated drug mafia.

Many of those who conclude that there is a growing opinion that challenges of TNC that appears more severe and more likely to cause harm to a large number of people from the threat of conventional interstate war and conflict. While challenges of TNC has increasingly become a major issue for countries in Southeast Asia, the success of regional efforts in tackling this problem largely depends on the capacity of each country to implement regional initiatives (Caballero, 2008).

The conditions in Myanmar and Thailand are worrying, especially the activists of anti-drugs NGO. This issue is not a new problem to the region, because regionally, ASEAN countries have voiced this since 1972. As early as 1972, the association convened a meeting of concerned officials and agencies on the prevention and control of drug abuse. In 1976, the First ASEAN summit held in Bali in February 1976, and later mentioned in the ASEAN Concord. The next important development in ASEAN efforts to confront the threat of illicit trafficking was the establishment of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD) in 1984, as well as the adoption of the ASEAN Regional Policy and Strategy in the Prevention and Control of Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The cooperation was further be institutionalized when ASEAN had expanded the membership, which was followed by the adoption of the ASEAN; adopted the ASEAN Plan of Action on Drug Abuse and Control, in October 1994 as a new direction for ASEAN to address the issue of narcotics.

Southeast Asian region has a long history of activity related to the production and trafficking of narcotics and drugs. Not only that, the area is also used as a trade route of narcotics and drugs to the international level. The situation has prompted the potential threats to the security of Southeast Asia. Recognizing the potential threat arising from activities of production and trade of narcotics and drugs, countries in Southeast Asia is incorporated as ASEAN members agree on the launching of the Drug-Free ASEAN by 2015. Based Drug-Free scheme in 2015, the ASEAN region is projected to be freed from production and narcotics trafficking and illicit drugs.

In-depth case study of Indonesia and Malaysia shows that without a better understanding of the obstacles faced by the relevant actors, policy prescriptions on how to effectively face the challenges of TNC will be disrupted. Thus, the re-examination of the role of the state, capacity, and the nature of state-society relations would be a necessary first step in any attempt to turn the country into an effective instrument to achieve collective goals and manage regional security.

In the current state of affairs believed that drug has become a terrible scourge for the countries in Southeast Asia. Drug smuggling is a serious global problem and even grown so rapidly in many parts of the world. Southeast Asia is a region that is extremely vulnerable to this danger because of enthused by producers and drug dealers. Thereby, the countries in the region have a tendency to adjust various forms of cooperation or otherwise competing in the same context. It has been assumed by many parties that Southeast Asia has always been influenced by the United States related to the strategic agenda of the member countries. It has been assumed by many parties that Southeast Asia has always been influenced by the United States related to the strategic agenda of the member countries. Since the end of World War II, with the exception of Vietnam War, Southeast Asia has played second fiddle to Northeast Asia. Mainly driven by post 911, concerns and consistency with preference relations and United States approach to the Southeast Asia countries related security issues (The Stanley Foundation, 2007).

Along with the issues and the phenomenon of human trafficking, drug smuggling issue has gained attention is no less serious because of the effects and social implications caused. So the effort towards this phenomenon seriously securitization been initiated through the efforts maximal.

Drug smuggling is a serious global problem and even grows so rapidly in many parts of the world, and Southeast Asia is one area that the perpetrators were quite dominant today. World trade will emerge and develop in accordance with market demand. With that condition is also emerging as trade relations. Many actors both involved such as international and regional level or only within the scope of a single country (Karen, 2012).

Many countries have responded to the concerns related to this securitization, in other words, this drug crimes be an existential threat that must be addressed with the extraordinary step. However, the rhetoric related to this securitization well developed, however they do not deliver effective policies. Thus the issue of drug crime especially in Southeast Asia is still growing and relatively unsupervised at all of the various parties. Clear disconnect between rhetoric and effective securitization in the region challenged traditional assumptions in Copenhagen school, which develops and discussed this issue over the years.

As noted in one of the member countries, Vietnam, how fast and responsive effort in dealing with this phenomenon of drug abuse. Driven by the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS due to drugs abuse, the government of Vietnam responds accordingly. Indeed, drugs abuse has undergone a significant transformation in recent decades (Vuong et al, 2012). Accordingly, government identifies and analyzes the factors that drive change and to investigate the impact on the lives of people who use drugs. This policy analysis based on the Vietnamese government document review, peer-reviewed publications and involvement in drug policy in Vietnam. So the result, the last decade there has been a progressive change in the mindset of political leaders in Vietnam related to drug use and abuse (Vuong et al, 2012). This has led to the existence of evidence-based interventions and the evolution of drug policies that support the scale-up of these interventions.

The phenomenon of drugs in Southeast Asia has triggered violence which can also be a trigger a variety of other crimes. Phenomenon in the region, explained to us that transnational crime and violence found in Southeast Asia. Although ASEAN has a platform or excellent work plan in developing and designing regional security cooperation strategy, the drugs-related crime remains occurred (Hiltner, 2008).

In principle, most of the countries of Southeast Asia have a security policy of their own. However, nowadays seen an indication that ASEAN members will agree to transform the security issues and strengthen the cooperation among the respective countries. The substance of the transformation is to give a clearer picture on the concepts and phenomena that are in the area (GAP) Grey Area Phenomena. In addition, each country's efforts to counter such phenomenon should benefit its own and give no negative effect to other ASEAN members (Hiltner, 2008).

The growing phenomenon in the region is due to the political aspects and law enforcements that are not supported with each other (McCoy, 1972). It starts with how drugs have an important role in the economic, political and war at the beginning. This occurs in the highlands of Laos, where opium used to be planted and harvested by tribes Hmong, to the Golden Triangle, and then the opium is processed and refined into heroin. The phenomenon began in 1972, where there is great involvement of the US in a secret war in Laos. Also note in the history about the use of CIA helicopters to bring Laos opium to markets in Vietnam and ironically opium consumed by US soldiers. This is done to finance and to arm the soldiers who were in the highland Hmong, led by CIA adviser who fought communist Laos.

These symptoms have been listed since the beginning of history that the drug has a significant role in the politics of Southeast Asia region. The role continues to transform following the change of time and circumstances. "Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia" is brilliant, stunning and exposing the CIA's involvement in the distribution of these drugs. McCoy can follow the drug trail ride played by the CIA after World War II, through the French Connection in Marseilles via route Golden Triangle in Laos, Burma and go to Afghanistan.

Politics of heroin in Southeast Asia revealed the purpose behind the CIA involvement in drug trafficking: at least since 1954 in Guatemala, the US has been involved in large international terrorism throughout Central America. Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia remains one of the more important, relevant concerning the US involvement in what so-called drug war in Columbia (McCoy, 1972).

Regional common perspective

Southeast Asia with a population of nearly 500 million people, make this area not only as the largest production of dangerous drugs, but also as a considerable potential market for producers and drug dealers. Illegal narcotics trade cannot be separated from Southeast Asia is one of the producers of the largest illegal drugs in the world after the "Golden Crescent" (Afghanistan, India, Pakistan) and Colombia. The term Golden Triangle which is the border areas of Thailand, Myanmar and Laos is the producer of 60 percent of the production of opium and heroin in the world. Golden Triangle network operating in Myanmar, Burma, Thailand, South America with its center of Bangkok, Thailand, has the involvement with the international network group Golden Crescent operating in Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan with its center in Pakistan. Narcotics trade cannot be separated from the role of international drug trafficking syndicate group that acts as a drug dealer to smuggle narcotics into the region.

Almost all countries participated in the convention international drug control of the United Nations in 1961, 1971 and 1988; treaties taken together constitute an agreement on the prohibition of trafficking and abuse of drugs, thus was born the global drug prohibition regime (Bewley et al, 2013). Although there are differences of interpretation related several approaches of national policies of each country that deviate from the punishment that has been agreed upon, but the flexibility inherent in the convention that has been held allowing members of the regime to use space policy at the national level of each country.

What happened in the Southeast Asia is one form of international relations approach including the UN system in area of issues both general and specific. Thus, that common perspective which necessary to be constructed before moving to the next stage in the effort of combating illicit drugs. It is associated with multilateral frameworks such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), or the East Asia Summit (EAS). Meanwhile, this arrangement has served the practical interests from both parties properly and will probably continue in the near future, because at the same time a growing need to reconsider the role of regional institutions as well as the dynamics of emerging new power and presence of security concepts that has formed in the region. These trends include the development of multilateral security arrangements in the region (The Stanley Foundation, 2007). It could be based on the military, such as strategic alliances treaties-based and non-treaties-based led by the United States or soft-power mechanisms such as the ARF and the six-party talks in Northeast Asia.

Paradoxically, there may be the risk of creating greater instability through this arrangement. Especially if they are seen as competitive rather than complementary. The risk increases where deemed strategic alliance targeting regional powers like China. A growing belief among the countries of Southeast Asia to manage their own regional security through ASEAN, or at least have a greater input into wider ARF security architecture.

The view of the commonality is strengthened through the signing of ASEAN Charter and Declaration of member countries in the Bali Concord II. Regions is committed to the establishment

of the ASEAN Community founded on the three pillars of economy, security, and social and cultural development as a symbol from the comfort level between the member states, their political and economic variance.

Although issues such as Burma may remain problematic for ASEAN, but the last step towards a greater integration marking expiration of suspicion toward transnational threats such as terrorism, pandemics and natural disasters. Thus emerged the regional economic interdependence, power especially, China, India, Japan, and the Republic of Korea and its implications on their relationship. However, a closer cooperation from major regional power can override ASEAN as a neutral platform for each of the regional security architecture in the future. It will also have implications for the US hub and spokes system of alliances, especially if the positive trends in the relationship between China and Japan continue to grow (The Stanley Foundation, 2007).

Whether the economic relations and stability can guarantee the security of these powers get into a debate balancing interests against values. Thus, the strong pressure coming from inside or from outside the respective countries that threaten their sovereignty caused by the GAP is expected to no longer provide political force and financial alternative to conduct transnational crime and violence in the ASEAN countries. In addition, ASEAN countries also conduct information exchange and joint training of security personnel to improve security and designing regional security strategy to gap. Of all things, it is an attempt to explain the steps and efforts of ASEAN countries in combating transnational crimes.

ASEAN arrangement on illicit drugs

Transnational crime in Southeast Asia is an important issue and needs to be discussed in the context of ASEAN and regional security. Transnational crime poses a threat to the country, the economy of the state and civil society. Non-state actors can use transnational crime to promote their political objectives, the group received strength from their ability to forge relationships across borders. Transnational criminal organizations take advantage from corrupt officials and politicians as well as weak law enforcement agencies to expand influence and existence.

The problem of drug abuse and illicit drugs within the last three decades is not just an issue of national and regional ASEAN but also become an international problem, therefore, the response to the problem of drug abuse in the country should be synergized and be integrated with prevention policies drug problem through regional and international cooperation. Global policy on countermeasures of Illicit drugs crime initially outlined in the United Nation's Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. This convention is basically intended to creating an international convention that can be accepted by the countries in the world and can change the rules of the international monitoring of the abuse of narcotics. Furthermore, improving ways of narcotics control and limit its use exclusively for the purposes of treatment and the development of science. It is also to ensure international cooperation in narcotics control in order to achieve the above objectives.

In the process of realization of the Drug-Free ASEAN, ASEAN member countries have held several meetings and declarations. Joint Declaration for a Drug-Free ASEAN in Manila on July 25, 1998 became a declaration of the beginning of the declaration of the Drug-Free ASEAN. This declaration is part of the fight against transnational crime, including crime and drug trafficking and production of illegal drugs. Based on the results of the declaration, ASEAN agreed to strengthening and cooperation among countries to realize the ASEAN as a region free of activity production and

trade of narcotics and drugs. The joint declaration between ASEAN countries have also set 2020 as the deadline to realize the ASEAN free of narcotics and drugs.

At the next meeting, ASEAN countries is not only an agreement to seek the elimination of narcotics and drugs from the region but also agreed to change the deadline realization Drug-Free ASEAN. If the joint declaration in Manila in 1998 the members agreed on 2020 as the year of realization of the Drug-Free ASEAN, then through a meeting in Bangkok in 2000 deadline for the realization of the Drug-Free is accelerated into 2015. It is stated in point 56 the meeting of the Joint Communique of the 33rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting 2000 as follows:

“The Foreign Ministers took note of the threat from drug abuse and drug trafficking on the security and stability of the ASEAN region, particularly its relations with transnational crime. They urged Member Countries to enhance joints efforts among all affected states in combating the drug menace, especially the newly emerging drugs like Methamphetamine or Amphetamine Type Stimulants (ATS). In this regard, they agreed to advance the target year for realizing a drug-free ASEAN from 2020 to 2015”

In addition to revealing the acceleration of the implementation of the Drug-Free ASEAN, point 56 of the Joint Communique of the 33rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in 2000 also explained that the abuse and trafficking of narcotics and illicit drugs threaten the stability and security of the region. Furthermore, the decision to accelerate the realization of the Drug-Free ASEAN is also caused by the emergence of narcotics and drug types ATS growing in ASEAN member countries.

After making changes to the deadline for the implementation of the Drug-Free 2015, the ASEAN set up a framework to harmonize national performance with member countries of ASEAN in the reduction and eradication of drug trafficking and illicit drugs. The establishment of a framework of ASEAN to create a region free from illegal drugs supported by the framework created to be implemented at regional and international levels. Regional framework towards the Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 is divided into three, namely ACCORD (ASEAN - China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs), ASOD (ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug matters), and the MOU related to the control of narcotics and drugs. ACCORD is produced through cooperation between ASEAN and China. ASEAN has no objection that China has an important role in the fight against drug trafficking and illicit drugs. Even ASEAN and China are produced ACCORD Plan of Action.

Besides ACCORD Plan of Action, the framework of the Drug-Free ASEAN is a Work Plan on Combating Illicit Drug Production, Trafficking, and Use (2009-2015). This work plan is the result of the 30th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug matters (ASOD) held in Cambodia on 29-30 September 2009. The ASEAN Secretariat also held study on Achieving Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 regarding status and recommendations together with the United States.

Based on the workshop, it was determined that the vision of a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 to control narcotics and drugs and reduce the negative consequences caused by effective and successful. Furthermore, the vision of the Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 also includes significant and sustainable reduction of the illicit crop cultivation; industry and trade of narcotics and illegal drugs and all crimes related to narcotics and illegal drugs; as well as the expansion of the use of narcotics and drugs in the community. The meeting also agreed on benchmarks activity reduction and elimination by the government for some of the key elements of the vision of the Drug-Free ASEAN 2015.

First, the reduction and elimination of illicit crop cultivation in the region by eliminating the cultivation of opium in 2015, eliminating the cultivation of marijuana in 2015 as well as the provision of sustainable livelihood for the former peasant crop producers of narcotics and drugs. Second, reducing and eliminating of industry and trade of narcotics and illegal drugs as well as crimes related to narcotics and drugs. This effort is done by eliminating of syndicates involved in the production of narcotics secret and illegal drugs. Thus, the effort is followed by elimination of syndicates involved in illegal trafficking of narcotics and drugs, essential chemicals and other chemicals that can be transformed into a component of narcotics and drugs. In addition, elimination of trafficking and smuggling of chemicals that can be used as components manufacture of narcotics and drugs was also done seriously. This effort give birth to the increased law enforcement co-operation and collaboration across borders and transnational. Third, the reduction and elimination of the use of narcotics and drugs. This effort executed by reducing the abuse of narcotics and illicit drugs in general in society, especially students, youth and vulnerable groups and high risk, such as street children, sex workers and employees with high job performance demands. To strengthen, it also improving access to treatment, rehabilitation and follow-up services for drug users and drugs that can interact back with the community. Thus, improving and strengthening cooperation between the public and private sectors and civil organizations in response to the abuse of illegal drugs is something unavoidable (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific, Drug-Free ASEAN 2015).

The points contained in the benchmark resulting from the Study on Achieving Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 Status and Recommendations between ASEAN and the United States subsequently become a cornerstone in efforts to combat narcotics and illicit drugs into the Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 by the member states.

Drug abuse prevention policy in Southeast Asia regional level Agreed in ASEAN Drugs Experts Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Drug Abuse, held on 23-26 October 1972 in Manila. The follow up from the meeting of the above is the ASEAN Declaration of Principles to Combat the Abuse of Narcotic Drugs, signed by the Foreign Ministers of member countries of ASEAN in 1976. The contents from the declaration include the ASEAN regional joint activities to improve the similarity of views and approaches as well as narcotics crime prevention strategies. Besides, it also the uniformity of legislation in the field of narcotics, establish a coordinating body at the national level and cooperation between ASEAN countries bilaterally, regionally, and internationally.

In this framework, then formed The ASEAN Senior Officials on Drugs and a single Forum on police cooperation between countries of ASEAN (ASEANAPOL) which among other things is to handle transnational narcotic crime in the region. Moreover, at the level of ASEAN countries also formed Narcotic Board to establish a working group of law enforcement, rehabilitation and development, preventive education and information, and working groups in the field of research.

In 1992 initiated Singapore Declaration in the ASEAN Summit IV which reaffirmed ASEAN increased cooperation in law enforcement against narcotics traffic and the illegal drug trade at the national, regional, and international levels. Southeast Asia and East Asia has become a global hub for methamphetamine production and trade over the last decade (Federal Government Administrative Centre, 2006). Illicit Drugs have a very close relationship to security. Referred security cover the national security, regional security as well as international security. Therefore, it is important to clarify how the relationship affects and interlinked with each another. It is true that illicit

drugs may pose a threat of security otherwise international security can be adversely affected by drug crime activity.

ASEAN cooperation in addressing the problem of drug trafficking is included in forum of ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD). This cooperation began at the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in Manila June 26, 1976, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration of Principles to Combat the Abuse of Narcotics Drugs. In 1982 established the ASEAN Drugs Experts, as a subcommittee under Committee on Social Development (COSD) and Narcotics Desk at the ASEAN Secretariat. At the 8th annual session in Jakarta, ASEAN Experts Drugs changed its name to the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD) as a forum for ASEAN countries to cooperate in tackling the problem of drugs and illegal drugs.

At the 17th ASOD meeting in October 1994 produced the action plan of ASEAN Plan of Action on Drug Abuse Control covering four priority areas include education for drug abuse, treatment and rehabilitation, empowerment and research. ASEAN also formulate a policy against crime narcotics trafficking, the policy includes the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), the ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting (AFMM), the ASEAN Chiefs of National Police (ASEANOPOL), and the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD).

ASEAN is also cooperating with China and the United Nations International Drug Control Program (UNDCP), one of the organs of the United Nations engaged in tackling the narcotics problem. In the development both China and UNDCP, on 11-13 October 2000 participated actively. Congress entitled "In Pursuit of a Drug Free ASEAN 2015 Sharing the Vision, Leading the Change" yielded two important things, namely a political declaration and a plan of action, entitled "ACCORD ASEAN and China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drug".

The importance of the supervision and the prevention of the use of dangerous drugs has pushed ASEAN Drug Experts to establish a regional approach. At the session of the 8th ASEAN Drugs Experts endorsed "ASEAN Regional Policy and Strategy in the Prevention and Control of Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking". Policies and strategies that bring a new dimension to the perception and approach to combat drugs by looking at this issue not only as a social and health problems, but also consider the impact on the problem of security, stability, prosperity and national defense.

ASEAN Regional Policy and Strategy in The Prevention and Control of Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking" basically contains three main components:

1. Policy

This component encourages ASEAN countries in order to harmonize the views, approaches, strategies and more effective coordination at the national, regional and international, as well as empowering Governmental Organization (NGO) in an attempt to tackle the drug problem

2. Approach

The second component is intended to encourage ASEAN countries to immediately implement the security and welfare approach as balanced (a balanced security and prosperity approach) in overcoming drug problems which in turn should be reflected in the implementation of programs and activities.

3. Strategies

The third component is recommended to cover a wide range of concerted measures to reduce the supply or distribution and demand as well as reinforce the system of legal supervision (Op.Cit, Pacific).

In 1985, ASEAN co-sponsored the UN resolution number 40/122 about the necessity to convene a World Conference at the ministerial level on drug abuse and illegal trafficking. International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (ICDAIT) that ultimately successfully held in Vienna, in 1987 and issued two important agreements, namely the Declaration and the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control or CMO. The agreement emphasizes the importance of a balanced approach between the factors of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts. Both in policy-making and action, with efforts to reduce the supply of drugs and the supply of illegal trade.

ASOD has four working groups, namely: prevention education, treatment and rehabilitation, law enforcement and research. These programs include the establishment of four training centers related priority areas of region, among others (Prima, 2010):

1. ASEAN Narcotics Training Centre for Law Enforcement in Bangkok. The field of law enforcement is triggered after a meeting of ASEAN Drug Experts 4th in 1979 which recommended that the ASEAN countries require special training to improve national security and strengthen regional networks in law enforcement narcotics and illegal drugs. Its main activities are taken at the central level are: organize all the anti-drug law enforcement training followed by all member states with the help from the US government and prepare a three-year training project to meet the needs of ASEAN toward a long-term project with the support of UNDP. Training for law enforcement officials of narcotics and drugs and workshops for senior law enforcement officials of narcotics and illegal drugs has been held each year, by focusing on the main issues, namely, workshops and training on financial investigations and confiscation of assets, intelligence data collection, analysis and dissemination of information, as well as controlled delivery have also been implemented.
2. ASEAN Training Centre for Preventive Drug Education Division in Manila was formed with the specific purpose which is to protect children and young generation from abuse of narcotics and illegal drugs through drug use prevention programs and illegal drugs continuously.
3. ASEAN Training Centre for the Treatment and Rehabilitation Training Centre for the Treatment and Rehabilitation has a duty in terms of the development, exchange of information on methods of treatment and rehabilitation for drug addicts.
4. ASEAN Training Centre for the Detection of Drugs in Body fluids Singapore is the country which is believed by ASOD to lead this working group as well as a training and research centre of the liquid drug. Central laboratory in Singapore is not only a reference in Southeast Asia, but also as a reference for countries ASEAN dialogue partners. This is because the facilities owned by narcotics laboratory in Singapore is very complete. Prospects are shown by Singapore in terms of developing their own laboratory was encouraging ASEAN to boost development projects chemical-based clinics to treat patients in quicker period of time. Obviously, this would be more effective than the methods of treatment and rehabilitation stages.

In many drug cases involving black market transactions, it is understood that it can give huge profits in a short time. Therefore, most of the drug business always involves a networking group not only in one country. Group commonly known as the syndicate at least have a link in regional level. When a syndicate is run by a group that either neat financially and organizationally, then it can be referred to as organized crime (Dupont, 2008). To some extent, illicit drugs can pose a threat on the international security if the early stage posed a serious threat on to national security of a state (Kan, 2009). With regard to that perspective of the global threat, every country in the region has contributions to the existence of threats of the higher level, it is international (Dupont, 2008).

Activities related to illicit drugs has mastered over the world up to 8 % of the population to be drug addicts (Drug Abuse Warning Network, 2009). Emmers (2007) stressed that countries must work together to overcome and inhibit the expansion of the drug trade (Emmers, 2007). Because of the early stage it was only affecting the security of the country, however afterwards it will have an impact on regional security before they affect international security (Emmers, 2007). Threat exists in various forms and activities are constantly changing according to the current situation as well as different levels of enforcement in each country (Muna, 2009).

According to Emmers, ASEAN looked that the threat is occur through three aspects; it is production, trafficking and consumption (Emmers, 2007). These three aspects are inter- related to each other. Once an aspect commenced then it will have an impact on other aspects. Therefore, for Asia region these three aspects become main observation by the respective the members of states (Emmers, 2007).

New questions then arise due to the commitment of the ASEAN member states. Emmers sees to what extent the regional alliances see the phenomenon of illicit drugs as something that could pose a security threat at the regional and international level. This is obviously clear that a permanent organization need to be formed which work on all issues associated with illegal drug. However, the success to eliminate the illicit drugs is highly dependent on the current regime. Countries in region still less coordinated with each other so the phenomenon of illicit drugs is perpetual to this day.

Indeed, there has been an international commitment to combat drug circulation in that level. That matter driven by the states of consciousness that the problem cannot be solved individually. Thus, the involvement of other parties in addition to the state is required. Activities related to drug can pose a threat directly to international security.

Some countries see drugs as a threat to national security, but some others do not declare. The different response of each country has weakened the preventive aspects at the international level. Illicit drug phenomenon is nuisance at lower levels and which if left unchecked the problem will regularly affect to the next level, so that ended up at the state level. The failure at the state level is then a pioneer of the threat at the next level.

Another perspective on the drug and security is presented by Berdal that the relationship between drugs and international security lies in smuggling activities in the great rate (Berdal. 2002). This activity would involve participation of international organized syndicates. There are many cases there are many cases of cross-border smuggling foiled by the destination country. The lawsuit also occurred in Indonesia and Malaysia. The lawsuit also occurred in Indonesia and Malaysia. Both countries are continuously dealing with the cross-border perpetrators tactic that kept in changing. Therefore, international security can indeed be affected by the widespread of illegal drug activity.

Berdal views the economic aspects as one reason that may connect between national security and illegal drugs. In his explanation Berdal emphasizes how economic factors able to trigger and provide powerful stimulus to non-state actors to conduct illegal transactions. Moreover, emerging of financial crimes aspect explicitly will bring other countries into the trap of security threats.

Malaysia is a country that unequivocally declares that if not anticipated seriously illegal drug crimes would not only threaten the security of countries and regions, more than it is also a threat to international security. To prevent this from happening, the Government of Malaysia has been set up a variety of effort to ensure Malaysia secure from the threat of international drug crime as is discussed more detail in chapter 5.

Thus, international security affected by the drug can be reduced through the following three aspects, namely the supply reduction, demand reduction and harm reduction. Due to network actors (manufacturers and dealer/smuggler) involve many states then countermeasures effort should also do multilaterally. Furthermore, in effort to maximize the analysis on the relationship between illicit drugs and international security, there are two questions that need deepening specialized, first, a more detailed mapping regarding the network actors outside the state in drug activity, second, special studies to explore and map the relationship between illicit drug and emergence of terrorism.

That is, the drug really is one of the reasons that can lead the country vulnerable to greater security threat and indeed one cause of international security threat due to rampant drug traffic across country borders. On the other hand, unconformity of political relationship between Asia-Pacific countries causing the region remains vulnerable to smuggling of narcotics, both from the region and from outside including the United States, South Asia and Southeast Asia. The opening of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) in 2003, has been used by drug traffickers to expand its influence, considering that in the region there is the golden triangle area of Laos, Myanmar and Thailand, which is the area producer and the largest manufacturers of drugs in Southeast Asia.

This position resulted in the opening of the circulation path to the Asia-Pacific and Southeast Asia. In addition, political and economic conditions are not stable in Southeast Asian countries highly profitable for drug syndicates to improve circulation and trafficking of narcotics in the region because in these countries people are more likely to do anything to get money. This is exactly what utilized by distributors to run their business.

In the ASEAN Summit 2012 held in Cambodia on 3-4 April, heads of the member states agreed to jointly combat drug trafficking among member countries. The Agreement is attached through a declaration which was released under the title "Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015". Previously, joint declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN already been signed by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers in Manila on July 25, 1998 and the 33rd AMM in Bangkok on July 2000, in order to accelerate the realization of the Drug-Free ASEAN in 2015, Bangkok 2015 Political Declaration eradication plan of illicit drug production, trafficking, and use of 2009-2015, and the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in Bali Concord III, and the ASEAN Security Community Blueprint in 2015.

ASEAN's commitment is a form of collective awareness toward great dangers from drug abuse in this area. The rapid development of cases of drug abuse, forcing the region to formulate various joint action. Through the declaration, the leaders of these countries also agree and ready to discuss drug trafficking. In addition, they also agreed to continue this declaration with technical matters at the ministerial level to produce a draft policy related to the eradication of narcotics.

To follow up on the declaration, then was held special meeting, ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters to promote and to realize the achievement of the ASEAN region drug-free by 2015, attended by representatives of ministerial level which address the issue of narcotics and the ASEAN Secretariat, and the result of the meeting will be followed up at a meeting of the 33rd ASEAN Senior Official Meeting on Drugs (ASOD) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 25-27 September 2012.

The region is serious about phenomenon that increasingly endanger the security of the people. So that the various meetings and agreements at all levels continue to be held in order to maximize the effort to eradicate drug abuse issues. The emergence of various problems and obstacles posed by the abuse and trafficking of illegal narcotics makes the existence of an organization that can cope with such problems perceived necessary. Cooperation between countries in combating illicit trafficking should be developed as a country may not be able to combat transnational illicit trafficking.

Thus, the resolution harmonized by ASOD from the results of the CMO initiated the UN to conduct consultations with the governments of countries through UN agencies and NGOs to formulate a global strategy in terms of demand reduction, objectives, priorities and accountability, and provide a report to the Commission on Narcotics Drugs (CND). Then development consultation by involving NGOs to design demand reduction strategy which was forwarded to Economic Social Council (ECOSOC) to be adopted by the general assembly.

Furthermore, the preparation of such a draft declaration, to take into account, consider the relevant recommendations contained in the CMO by taking into account the flexibility and cost effectiveness. It is also to give special attention to evaluating the development of innovative methods of data collection and analysis, identifying the nature, the scopes and consequences from drug abuse and revised annually through questionnaire reports. Thus, demand reduction should be a permanent agenda in every meeting.

In general, by encouraging governments, regional organizations and other multilateral agencies to cooperate in the use of ECOSOC to reduce the cost of supply and demand circulation of narcotic. In addition, encouraging the government to adopt a comprehensive national strategy that reflects the reality and the need for balance between supply and demand reduction efforts, with operational links between the regions, taking into account the social, economic, and culture from each country. Encouraging the Executive Director of the Program in order to continue to facilitate and promote the dissemination of information and sharing the benefits of the experience gained in the development and implementation of national strategies that balance. Include the International Narcotics Control Board to continue to report on progress and obstacles at the national level, by continuing to provide a more comprehensive understanding toward drugs trafficking.

Thus, it is clear that such actor cooperation in combating drugs is a signal of agreed consensus in drugs eradication effort. As was mentioned in the previous chapter the issue of drugs was exist and appears as a threat. Through cooperation, securitization actors agreed on how to eradicate such phenomenon.

CONCLUSION

Facing the increasing challenges in the fight against drugs that threaten the health and security, as well people welfare of the ASEAN community, ASEAN needs to strengthen the commitment of cooperation and continuously make efforts were tireless in the fight against drugs through a broader approach and balanced between demand and supply. This is a global policy in

halting the illicit trafficking and drug abuse. Prevention and rehabilitation should be done intensively in addition to the effort to eradicate were conducted, and where the focus of primary prevention aimed at youth in order to avoid the loss of the nation's future generations.

In the meeting of the ASEAN Summit 2012 held in Cambodia on April 3 to 4 heads of member countries agreed to jointly combat drug trafficking between member countries. Such approval is attached via a declaration released with the title "Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015".

Through the declaration, the leaders of these countries have agreed to discuss drug trafficking. In addition, they also agreed to continue this declaration with technical matters at the ministerial level to produce a design that relates to the eradication of narcotic. This is a development and a positive step for the Southeast Asian region to inhibit the pace of development of the cases related to drug crimes.

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