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A S E A N J O U R N A L I S T S

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PROGRAMME FOR THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE CONFEDERATION OF ASEAN  
JOURNALISTS IN KUALA LUMPUR FROM Nov. 27-30

Nov. 27th	Arrival of delegates
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Nov. 28th 9 a.m. Official opening by the Hon'ble  
Minister of Information, Datuk  
Amar Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud  
(Anggerik Room - 4th floor Hotel  
Equatorial)

Coffee break

10.15 Meeting of CAJ Board of Directors  
(Chempaka Room, Hotel Equatorial)

12.30 Lunch hosted by the New Straits Times at Bali Berita, Jalan Riong

2.30pm Resumption of Meeting

Coffee/tea break

8.00pm Dinner hosted by Minister of  
Information at Angkasapuri

Nov. 29th 9.00 am Meeting of CAJ Board of Directors  
(Chempaka Room, Hotel Equatorial)

Coffee/tea break

12.30 Lunch hosted by Board of Directors  
of Utusan Melayu at Chempaka  
Restaurant, Holiday Inn)

2.30 Resumption of Meeting/Tour of  
Kuala Lumpur

7.30      Cocktail Reception hosted by Hotel  
            Hilton at Paddock Terrace

Nov. 30th 9.00 am Depart for Genting Highlands as  
guests of Genting Highlands Hotels

8.00 Journalists Corner at Hotel  
Equatorial

Dec. 1st Delegates depart



Speech by the General Secretary, National Union  
of Journalists Malaysia and Director of  
Confederation of Asean Journalists, Mr. Anthony Ng  
at opening ceremony of CAJ Board of Directors  
Meeting on 28th Nov., 1975 at 9 a.m.

It is indeed a great honour and privilege for me, on behalf of the NUJ Malaysia to extend a most cordial welcome to all of you, especially to the Hon'ble Minister, who has given us his precious time to come here this morning to declare open this First Meeting of the CAJ Board of Directors. I must also welcome our fellow colleagues from Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

While we have put in our best efforts to make this meeting a success and to make your stay here with us as pleasant as possible, I am afraid we would not be able to match the very high standards of hospitality and arrangements set by our Indonesian hosts during the Inaugural Meeting of the CAJ in Jakarta in March this year. We would therefore crave your indulgence for any shortcomings that may be found during the course of this meeting.

As you are aware, the main purpose of this meeting is to review the working programme of the CAJ, based on that adopted in Jakarta some 8 months ago. While there has not been much activities under the CAJ banner, there has, however, been frequent exchange of visits and views among Asean journalists.

Nevertheless, the inauguration of the Confederation has been seen as a very significant milestone in the history of Asean. It has helped to promote closer relations among Asean journalists, and fostered better understanding and co-operation among the profession.

It is our conviction that the CAJ can play and will play a very important role in the development and expansion of Asean. In order for us to realise this objective of being a partner in the progress of Asean, we in the CAJ in general and the NUJ in particular require the co-operation and understanding of all concerned, namely the Governments of Asean and the publishers.

Whilst it is heartening to note that newspaper publishers of most Asean countries are actively participating in CAJ activities, the same cannot be said for publishers in Malaysia. We in the NUJ have often met with obstacles in some of our own NUJ projects involving training and development of journalists. We feel sad to say that these publishers, while quietly rejecting NUJ, do not even have established training programmes of their own. We feel strongly that it is time that they realise that they will be the end beneficiaries of any training and development programmes. We in the NUJ therefore would urge Malaysian publishers to be more open minded and to work together with us and the CAJ in formulating a suitable programme of training and development for Malaysian journalists in particular and Asean journalists in general. For those publishers with programmes of their own, we are confident that CAJ programmes can be dovetailed into theirs into an integrated one. This is an area, which I believe, the current CAJ Board Meeting would consider.

In conferences such as the one we are having, it is through a frank exchange of views conducted in the Asean spirit of musyawarah that we can arrive at muafakat or a consensus of opinion that can benefit the peoples of our region.

We all want our guests to feel completely at home here and we hope they will have a pleasant and memorable stay in our country.

Thank You.



JAKOB OETAMA

Speech by the President, Confederation  
of Asean Journalists, at opening  
ceremony of CAJ Board of Directors  
Meeting on 28th Nov., 1975, at 9 a.m.

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Several months ago the Association of South-East Asian Nations, Asean, commemorated its eighth anniversary. The Confederation of Asean Journalists, however, has just entered its eighth month of existence. In terms of organisation, we Asean journalists are almost eight years behind. I stress in terms of organisation because in substance and in spirit, we have since the outset subscribed to the idea of regional co-operation independent of whatever outside powers.

After the grand movement of the Sixties, regionalism has proved itself to be more practical as an instrument to implement co-operation among neighbouring countries. It became a trend in the contemporary history of nations, old and new. Underlying the co-operation of the Asean countries, there is a deeply felt common destiny towards the future. We even have common experience from the past, from the colonial time as well as from our cultural heritage. However, this is just what is obvious. How many of us are aware of our cultural heritage and our similarity in it? People anywhere from the European community share the cultural abundance of their great masters as Michelangelo the Italian painter, Sebastian Bach the German composer, Shakespeare the British poet, for that matter even Napoleon Bonaparte the French warrior. What about our knowledge of the cultural heritage of our Asean peoples? We might be familiar with King Rama of Thailand; Hang Tuah of Malaysia and Jose Rizal of the Philippines, but that is about all.

In the other fields of cultural creativity, we are strangers to each other. We are not able to mention contemporary artists of the Asean countries, the less of the Asean masters.

With a regretful tone, it has been noted everytime how unbalanced is the allocation of news space in our newspapers. Foreign news are mostly dominated by events outside the region.

The South-East Asian countries are very much engaged in national development. The battle cry is to improve the quality of life of the peoples in all aspects -- economically, politically, socially and culturally to maintain a sense of security. The era of development generates competitive models as to the systems to be followed. It arises also social dynamics that is to be the undercurrent of changes. Here again, we Asean journalists are to be challenged to what extent we do know the various ways of development and its concomittant problems in our regional countries.

Several avenues are open to encourage the mutual knowledge of each other. The Confederation of Asean Journalists provides an immense opportunity. Since we are communicators. The objective of the CAJ shall be to contribute to the development of the region, to promote closer relations and to co-operate fully in an advancing the cause of a free and responsible Press.



We have adopted working programmes that will be instrumental to attain the objectives. By exchange of experiences we will collectively promote the trend of journalism development. We encourage greater flow and exchange of views, information and data in South-East Asian countries in general and in Asean in particular. Facilities that are conducive to the journalistic mobility among Asean members will be promoted, such as exchange of visits, encouragement of in-depth reports on Asean countries by Asean journalists.

We are witnessing a substantial development in the Asean co-operation. A new phase is to be passed by. There will be a summit meeting next year. It is bound to become an expression of the political will from the top executives to step up the process of co-operation. This is the new trend upward. At the same time, there is a sense of urgency to socialise the Asean movement. The concept, the spirit and the programme should be cherished by the people. It has to become a living reality. We subscribe to the materialisation of an Asean community. Mass communication is one of the most effective ways to socialise ideas among peoples.

Last March, the Confederation of Asean Journalists was established. Representatives from the journalist associations of the Asean countries have laid down ground-work together. We have a working programme.

At the Board of Directors Meeting, to be opened this morning, we will stipulate our working programme to be implemented.

We, therefore, express our gratitude to all of you who contributed to the organisation of this meeting. We extend our thanks to the Malaysian Government, to the Malaysian National Union of Journalists who in a short time managed to be our host, to the mass media community in this country, the editors and the publishers, the management of the Equatorial Hotel.



SPEECH BY YB DATUK AMAR HAJI ABDUL TAIB B. MAHMUD,  
MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND SPECIAL FUNCTIONS AT  
THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE CONFEDERATION OF ASEAN JOURNALISTS  
AT THE HOTEL EQUATORIAL, KUALA LUMPUR ON FRIDAY,  
28 TH. NOVEMBER, 1975 AT 9.00 A.M.

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IT gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Kuala Lumpur and I wish you all Selamat Datang. As this is the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Confederation of Asean Journalists, I am sure your deliberations will cover a wide range of topics particularly on how to strengthen further this young organisation and to identify major roles it can play in the changing face of South East Asia. I wish to congratulate the organisers of the conference for conveying this meeting in such a short time after the inauguration of this confederation in Jakarta early this year. I wish to thank the organisers for having kindly invited me to address you and to share some of my thoughts with you.

The setting up of this association is certainly a step in the right direction. It has provided Journalists in the Asean region a body in which they could work together to promote greater understanding not only among members of the profession but also among our people in the region. The setting up of this body in my view, is another testimony that we in the region are constantly striving to work together for a secure and better future. It certainly express your earnest desire to do your parts in determining a common destiny for S.E.A. which will perpetuate peace and promise prosperity for our people.

Ladies and gentleman since its inception eight years ago, Asean has made strides in the economic, cultural, social, educational and other fields. Asean's remarkable progress has shown that the member countries possess both the capacity and the tenacity to work together to realise our common goals and aspiration, and to cope with the rapidly changing situation in S.E.A. I need not elaborate on the progress that we have attained by suffice for me to say that, in coping with the change, Asean has proved to those skeptics and cynics that it is a living reality and in a less obtrusive way a pace setter of our regional development. It has certainly enabled countries in the region to explore a wide range of alternatives that can ensure the peaceful development of the region and to gradually but surely work out the most realistic solution to our regional problem.

As journalists you can look upon yourselves as a group of people that can not only reflect the feelings of the people but also disseminate new concepts, and encourage its development among them. You are a group of influential and responsible people that can make a positive contribution and play a meaningful role in regional just as in national development.



Like other professions, you too can contribute a great deal to your through your report, your columns and your articles towards the evolution of new ideas and fresh outlook at a time when South-East Asia is charting a new destiny after emerging from a drastically changed situation. It is therefore very timely and most welcome that journalists in this region has taken the initiative and has successfully formed an organisation to serve both the needs of the profession and the aspirations of our people.

Those leaders in the Asean region entrusted with the responsibility of charting out new course of actions to evolve new diplomatic strategies for the survival and healthy development of their respective countries, have devoted ceaseless efforts in achieving a state of neutrality, freedom and peace for the whole of the region. The Kuala Lumpur Declaration of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality has marked a significant progress in our common search to produce an Asian solution to Asian problems. It is the only positive course which can effectively initiate new development that would prevent the self-fulfilment of prophecy feared in the Domino Theory, and try to discourage the involvement of major powers in the mechanics of adjustments to new power equations in Asia. Like most peace-loving countries, we also take consolation in the termination of the period of protracted war in Indo-China, at least on the humanitarian ground of stopping further loss of lives and destruction. While we believe in trying to strengthen our own capability to defend ourselves, we are not interested in building up another polarisation of a power bloc in the region. This belief explains clearly our repeated offer of friendship and good neighbourliness to countries immediately adjoining the Asean region. We in Malaysia would in fact be more than willing to extend a hand of co-operation to the Indo-Chinese States in their efforts at reconstruction.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have yet to get full acceptance and support of our neutrality concept from the major powers of the world, and have a heavy task ahead in convincing them of its validity. We need all our resources to achieve this heavy task if we are to succeed. I believe that as one of the opinion leader groups, the journalists of the region have an important role in propounding and disseminating our concept of neutrality to the world. The development of the concept itself will of course be tested by events of the coming years, and if our mass media can powerfully explain and propagate the application of our concept in those circumstances, I am sure all those change that manifests themselves as challenges to our efforts will only prove to be opportunities to establish more strongly the state of peace and neutrality in the region.

The concept of neutrality should therefore be shared as a basic philosophy among professionals in the mass media which can guide us to a better and assured future. As such exploration of the intricacies of this concept is worth your efforts. You, as much as the statesmen in Asean, have the responsibility to nurture it to full development. A meeting that brings together journalists of the region cannot, therefore, meet to discuss their role without trying to discuss this most important topic of the neutralisation of South-East Asia.



Speech by the Acting President of the National Union of Journalists, Malaysia, Mr. Silvester Ng, at the Board of Directors Meeting of the Confederation of Asean Journalists at Equatorial Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, 28th November, 1975. ✓

On behalf of the National Union of Journalists, Malaysia, I wish to extend to you Mr. Chairman and delegates from Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand our greetings and a cordial welcome to Malaysia. We hope your short stay here would be a pleasant one. This meeting has been arranged at short notice and we apologise for not having drawn up an elaborate programme for you. We hope to offer when you return in March next year for the First Annual Conference of the Confederation of Asean Journalists a more interesting programme to take in the sights and what Malaysia has to offer.

The NUJ, Malaysia, welcomes this opportunity to host the first meeting of the Board of Directors and hopes that recommendations would be made to promote greater understanding and co-operation among journalists in the Asean region. This need has been felt since the formation of Asean and we are confident that with the joint effort of journalists in Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia, the Confederation of Asean Journalists will play an effective role in highlighting the interests of its members.

While on this theme, Mr. Chairman, we would like to make a proposal which we feel needs the urgent attention of the CAJ -- a dialogue with the Asean Permanent Committee on Mass Media. This body which is now meeting in Singapore was set up earlier than the CAJ but both have similar aims. While it can be argued that the Asean Permanent Committee represents the Government mass media and the CAJ the private sector, there is, however the danger of duplication of projects which could lead to rivalry and wastage of resources. We should not allow this to happen as it would defeat the very purpose of Asean unity and co-operation. Both bodies could exist side by side complementing the effort of each other in working for the common good of journalists and the mass media in the Asean region. In such a situation, one would be tempted to form a co-ordinating committee to ensure that there is no duplication in the functions or activities of the Permanent Committee and the CAJ. But we doubt this would solve the problem for it could mean the creation of yet



The NUJ, Malaysia, feels that a more practical approach would be for the two existing bodies to invite each other to send representatives to their meetings. For a start we could perhaps allow government mass media officials to be included in delegations of member countries to the 1st CAJ conference in Kuala Lumpur early next year. We are proud to say that at this meeting we have already established a link with the official mass media. I refer to the presence of the Press Attache of the Indonesian Embassy and the Information Attache of the Philippine Embassy. They are attending this meeting as observers with the approval of their respective national CAJ delegations. In welcoming these two officials we also wish to express to them our gratitude for taking an interest in CAJ activities and we look forward to their continued co-operation.

The NUJ, Malaysia, will consider including one or two representatives of the official mass media in its delegation to our next conference. We welcome wider participation in the activities of the CAJ from all sources connected with the mass media including newspaper publishers and news agencies. We must, however, stress that while we open our door to others in the profession they should also make a reciprocal move. Only in this way can we honestly talk about co-operation and proceed to plan national or regional projects which would be of benefit to journalists.

We do not wish to compete with any body representing journalists in Malaysia although we are the biggest such organisation with more than 700 members from 10 major newspapers in the country. What we seek is the co-operation of the Asean Permanent Committee on Mass Media. The Permanent Committee has implemented a cultural exchange programme and is considering setting up an Asean news agency. The NUJ, Malaysia, has no hesitation in supporting these two projects and feels that the CAJ should not consider any plan on similar lines. Perhaps, the CAJ could expand on the cultural exchange programme by having an exchange programme for journalists. The NUJ, Malaysia, is also thinking about courses, seminars and tours for journalists in the Asean region. Details are being planned by our Secretary General and we hope to present them at the CAJ conference in Kuala Lumpur.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, we would suggest the CAJ



Address by Mr. Manich Sooksomchitra, Member of  
Board of Director of CAJ at Kuala Lumpur on  
November 28, 1975

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It is our great honour to be here, on the occasion of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Confederation of Asean Journalists. The honour consists of two factors; first is I am among the relative who are the leading journalists from different countries. I always recognise journalists as my relative in the profession. The second is this meeting is not only the meeting of ordinary journalists but also the meeting of the Administrators of the young association which the peoples are waiting to see how the roles and activities will be.

The same as me, when I was elected as the Member of the Board of Directorsof the CAJ at Jakarta in March this year. I was waiting along time for the occasion to run the CAJ especially this Kuala Lumpur meeting. All the time, I hope for the successful of our objective and purpose.

My dear colleagues - Some objective we can reach easily but some difficult. The main thing is to promote a ~~free~~ free and responsible Press in the Asean region.

In my experience, we cannot get the freedom of the Press by asking, but by fighting. It is also difficult to get co-operation by asking, so we are now asking for the establishment of the Press Council in Thailand.

Apart from freedom of the Press we cannot ~~forget~~ forget to fight for the freedom of the people. The fact is Asean countries are agricultural countries. The worker who is working on the farm is obstructive because he is poor and way from politics So most politicians are wealthy, and not the poor.

It is the responsibility of the Press to create freedom in politics of the people.

Therefore, let us take this opportunity to pledge to work harder together with the Confederation in the task of nation building, the task of building a strong Asean Press and an absolute democratic life for everybody who are equal.

On behalf of the journalists from Thailand I must say how deeply I appreciate the hospitality of the host. I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to the National Union of Journalists of Malaysia for the warm welcome which has let me put aside the geographical distance that separate the Asean countries.

Thank you.



REPORT TO THE FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING OF THE CONFEDERATION OF ASEAN JOURNALISTS  
BY MR. CHANG HIN CHONG, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE  
CONFEDERATION AND SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE  
SINGAPORE NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS ON

28th., November, 1975  
in Kuala Lumpur

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Eight months ago we were gathered together in Jakarta to see the birth of the Confederation of ASEAN Journalists. With its inauguration, journalists from the ASEAN countries were for the first time drawn together to discuss their problems and explore ways and means of solving them in the true ASEAN spirit.

The Confederation set out on a noble footing with fine ideas and ideals enshrined in its constitution.

When we returned to Singapore, we felt that we and our counterparts in ASEAN did good. We felt proud of the new tasks ahead of journalists in this region. But as weeks passed, we felt somewhat deficient and uncomfortable because what we had pledged to do in Jakarta -- to promote faster closer relations -- was not forthcoming.

We must be very frank when we discuss our own problems. The experiences we had for the past eight months showed that there exists a serious communication gap between us. What we fear most is that the lack of communication and the exchange of ideas among us could severely damage all that we have set out to do in Jakarta.

This we must not allow to happen for if we did, we have but ourselves to blame. We believe that there should be more frequent get-togethers among ourselves. We believe that the efforts of the Confederation in regard to communication, the fostering of co-operation and understanding among journalists can be achieved to its maximum to help make the Confederation far superior to that of any grouping of journalists in the world.

As such, although our expectations may have fallen short, our meeting today is not superfluous and useless outfit. This is so, for without this Confederation, there is a serious vacuum --- the nucleus of any gathering of journalists in the ASEAN region.

Today in Kuala Lumpur we observe that members of the Confederation welcome the concept of speeding-up journalist co-operation in the region --- a worthwhile aspiration. But this aspiration, could also be eroded and the image of the ASEAN journalist be affected, if the Confederation does not take cognisance of its undue dependence on the private sector for organising meetings between member countries. In the light of this, we feel that the Confederation needs to build up its financial strength to gain a degree of independence and carry out its numerable projects. The best help in this case could come from the ASEAN governments. The Confederation should therefore co-ordinate its activities with the ASEAN countries and the ASEAN Permanent Committee of Mass Media.

Tripartite meetings between the three bodies could give the Confederation greater strength in promoting the ASEAN spirit among journalists --- now present at grassroot level. Such dialogue with the founders of ASEAN and the Mass Media



Only such an Institute can bring about this and make us realise our objectives:

- + Encourage and speed up the development of journalism in the region;
- + Educate the journalist on the need to safeguard the common interests of journalists in the area.

This is imperative because what ASEAN countries need most today is the development of a corps of serious, dedicated and responsible journalists who could report accurately and promote the image of their countries objectively. This new breed of journalist should be adequately exposed to the rapid social, cultural, economic and political changes in the area and ultimately be the voice of the region. We believe that only such journalists could report accurately to our people and those abroad of the development and progress of the region. Without them, the vast reservoir of information in the area could be misreported with bias, by outside forces, prejudicial to the interests of our countries.

Further the Confederation should immediately embark on the proposed exchange programme of journalists because this is one of the best ways to "co-operate fully with the interests of the profession". Journalists undergo such a programme could play a dual role --- first as "ambassadors" of goodwill of their countries and as advocates of a healthy, free and responsible ASEAN press.

In Singapore, the SNUJ is trying, in a small way, to see the development of the journalist and journalism by organising seminars and forums on the role and problems of the press in relation to public interests. Such seminars and forums should be encouraged by the Confederation to exchange the great flow of ideas in the profession for the benefit of the region.

Finally it is our view that whichever way we think of developing, protecting and safeguarding the interests of the ASEAN journalist, this can only be best achieved through the efforts of the Confederation. In unequivocal terms, we believe that the Confederation will someday fully achieve its aims and objectives as enunciated in Jakarta in March this year, and in so doing stand out like a tenfold beacon in the night --- duty and honour to the ASEAN journalist and journalism.

Thank you



ADDRESS BY MR. HORMOKO, MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE CONFEDERATION OF ASEAN JOURNALISTS  
AT HOTEL EQUATORIAL, KUALA LUMPUR ON 28TH. NOV. 1975.

Mr. President, and dear colleagues of the Asean Journalists. Personally, and on behalf of the Indonesian Journalists Association, permit me to express our gratitude to our colleagues made possible in Kuala Lumpur. And also due appreciation to all sides for assistance rendered in preparing this meeting. My contention is, that this meeting is in accord with the Constitution of the CAJ, namely article seven which deals with the meeting of the board of directors.

Appropriately, this is the time for us all to discuss the problems relating to the working programmes and organisational life of the Confederation of Asean Journalists.

Let us review the objectives and purposes of the Confederation of the Asean Journalists.

Truely, there are still many things that we should carry out and implement further our programmes. But first, permit me to re-observe those programmes that we have agreed on particularly programmes which we have relating to:

1. co-operation between national and regional organization  
in: training programmes  
study trips  
seminars  
special workshops  
exchange of personnel  
research and development  
mass communication.
2. mutual assistance in training and research facilities in education and profession and field works.
3. Publication and accumulation, classification. analysis and distribution of information on matters relating to mass media works in the rural areas, which include -  
information services  
training and research on mass communication activities.
4. The stepping up of Press role in Asean countries in general, and in each member country in particular, in advancing Asean image by promoting:  
a free flow of information  
exchange of articles and newspapers  
regular dialogues between and among journalists and officials.



OPENING STATEMENT BY MR. ROSAURO ACOSTA,  
MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
CONFEDERATION OF ASEAN JOURNALISTS AT  
HOTEL EQUATORIAL, KUALA LUMPUR, ON 28th  
NOVEMBER 1975.

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Mr. Chairman, esteemed fellow members of the Board:

Allow me, first of all, to extend the felicitations of the members and officers of the National Press Club of the Philippines to the Confederation of Asean Journalists.

We want to reiterate our assurance that we of the NPC hold the Confederation in esteem. Since its inception, we have always believed that it would work out for the best, that it would help mould the journalists associations of the member countries into a cohesive and, therefore, potent bloc that could effectively serve as a partner in progress of our respective governments.

There is no gainsaying that there remains much to be done. But the important thing is that we have started, that we have established the Confederation.

It is up to us now to nurse it with care and, in the process, also nurse our dreams of cooperation and prosperity, in our part of the world, to fruition.

The importance which the National Press Club of the Philippines attaches to the Confederation could be underscored by the presence here of Mr. Sol L. Villa, leader of the Philippine delegation to the founding conference of the CAJ and our Information Attache in Kuala Lumpur, Mr. D.Y. Caparas, who will act not as observers but who, with your permission, will assist me in the formulation of the National Press Club of the Philippines' proposals during this board meeting.

Allow me to take this occasion to announce, even at this early stage, the keen desire of the National Press Club of the Philippines to host the 1977 CAJ General Meeting in Manila.

With your permission, I will request Mr. Villa to read to you a message from Mr. Ricardo T. Torres, the president of our NPC, underscoring the NPC's view of the responsibilities of the CAJ and formally announcing our bid to host the 1977 CAJ General Meeting.

Mr. Villa:

(Mr. Villa then read the message from Mr. Torres):

"To all delegates: The Press has a long tradition as catalyst of human progress. In this its self-imposed mission, the Press has, among a few, helped widen the frontiers of literacy, hasten economic and industrial growth, and built bridges of human understanding. Wherever the Press is active, there, too, could be found human advancement.

The enormity of its social responsibility dictates that the Press must not only keep in cadence with but march ahead of the times. While, indeed, it must perforce concern itself deeply with the contemporary, it must also take stock of the future, for only thus can it remain relevant.



Among those programmes, so far what we have carried out is the study trips, namely of the Thai study trip recently to Indonesia and similar trips by Indonesian journalists to other Asean countries.

Thus, it is evident that there are so much to be done still, and so much to be paved up, down to details, and so much to be given priority in carrying out the other programmes.

In my opinion, this meeting can discuss and seek ways and means for further implementation of the programmes.

Gentlemen and dear colleagues,

I would like to propose before this meeting a short term programme for their implementation, such as follows:

1. to make a CAJ periodical, the Asean journalists' activities and their organisational activities. This periodical which is informative, will also be a media for inter-communication for the Asean journalists themselves.
2. to hold a seminar on 'Press for Development', possibly in nineteen Seventy-Six (1976). This seminar can discuss and review how far is the Asean journalists response toward development carried out by their respective country, and also to gauge how much is that development benefit the people.
3. to hold an all Asean Editor in Chief meeting, at regular intervals. This meeting can be advantageous in measuring how deep each editorial policy involvement of the media represented by the editor in promoting the ideal of an Asean Society.

Mr. President and dear colleagues,

It is also of my opinion, that this meeting we are holding now, can best discuss some details relating to the organisational and constitutional matters, and then to forward them before a general meeting, which if possible should be held in Kuala Lumpur next year.

Those are the items I forward before this meeting. And I hope we can deliberate on them further.

Thank You.



It is gratifying to know that the Confederation of Asean Journalists is keenly concerned with the improvement of the quality of the Press in this region. This is significant because the times call for a greater participation of the Press in the development of the peoples and countries from whom the Confederation draws its membership. The Confederation is merging as a key channel in the articulation of the interests of this region.

It is the pride of the National Press Club of the Philippines to be a founding member of the Confederation, and it is its resolve to actively participate in the activities of this Confederation. As a demonstration of its commitment, the NPC, even at this early stage, wants to make known its desire to be the host to the Confederation's 1977 General Assembly.

I wish the meeting of the Confederation in Kuala Lumpur the best of luck!" -- Snd. Ricardo T. Torres, President.

(Mr. Acosta then continued his opening statement):

Before I close, I would like to express my delegation's sincerest gratitude for the generosity of the National Union of Journalists of Malaysia in hosting this Board of Directors Meeting.

Thank you.



DRAFT MOTION OF THE FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING OF THE CONFEDERATION OF THE ASEAN JOURNALISTS  
HELD AT HOTEL EQUATORIAL IN KUALA LUMPUR

WHEREAS, pursuant to Paragraph 5, Article VI of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Confederation of ASEAN Journalists, the Board of Directors of the said Confederation was duly convened for a regular meeting to consider programmes of activities;

WHEREAS, after receiving proposals of activities and deliberating on the same, the Board unanimously agreed to adopt the hereinafter resolutions:

1. That the Confederation, maintaining a separate and independent identity as a union of national organisations of journalists within the countries forming the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), shall welcome efforts to establish dialogues and to achieve co-operation with the ASEAN Permanent Committee on Mass Media on matters and programmes, the underlying principles and objectives of which both bodies find compatibility in enhancing and advancing the legitimate causes of the journalistic profession;
2. THAT the Confederation shall undertake the publication of materials such as directory of journalists, members of the national organisations forming the Confederation newsletters, periodicals and the like with the end in view of fostering closer relationship and understanding among journalists affiliated to the Confederation, and further to serve as channels of information on data that could improve the welfare of such journalists;
3. THAT the Confederation consider the establishment of an ASEAN Institute of Journalism, and that pending the materialisation of the same, the Confederation should make proper representations to enable its members to avail themselves of the services of existing institutes within the sphere of the Confederation;
4. THAT the Confederation undertake a programme of stepping up

5. THAT the Confederation initiate moves to convene a meeting of editors of ASEAN leading newspapers in Bangkok in April next year to discuss matters that could further promote the the aims of the Confederation, including the mechanics for the implementation of the proposed exchange of visits of journalists mentioned in the immediate preceeding resolution;
6. THAT the Confederation should initiate seminars focussing on development journalism and that the first of such seminars be held in Singapore in February next year;
7. THAT the Confederation should always be concerned with freedom of the situations which may affect the exercise of the/ press and the promotion of responsible journalism; however, in addressing itself to such situations, it must take into due consideration the local context in which these situations develop and
8. THAT the Confederation expresses its appreciation and gratitude to the Philippines delegation for its offer to hold the Second CAJ general meeting in Manila in 1977, and accepts this offer with thanks;

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER that certified copies of this instrument be circularised to the governing board members for their guidance;

DONW THIS 29th day of November, year nineteen-hundred and seventy-five, in the City of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

.....  
Secretary-General, CAJ  
CHANG HIN CHONG

.....  
President, CAJ,  
JAKOB OETAMA



FIRST MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS,  
CONFEDERATION OF ASEAN JOURNALISTS,  
AT HOTEL EQUATORIAL, KUALA LUMPUR,  
ON 28th AND 29th NOVEMBER, 1975  
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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Indonesia:

Mr. Jakob Oetama (President)  
Mr. Hornoko  
Mr. Sunardi D.M.

The Philippines:

Mr. Rosauro Acosta  
Mr. Sol L. Villa  
Mr. D.Y. Caparas (Observer)

Singapore:

Mr. Chang Hin Chong  
Mr. Arthur Richards

Thailand:

Mr. Preecha Sanakkithan  
Mr. Manich Sooksomchitra

Malaysia:

Mr. Silvester Ng  
Mr. Anthony Ng  
Mr. Ahmad Kamsi and  
Observers: Messrs. Kwa Kin Teck,  
Doo Tai King, K.C. Boey, Leong Chon-  
Tbh, Leong Ching Sin, Wee Chin Yuan,  
Liew Leong Kee and Hoong Soon Kean.

Conference Secretariat:

Hannah Abisheganaden, Loke Jee Ling,  
Felicia Chong, Ong Chye Ngoh and  
Ronnie Lee.

