

The AEC 2025 Consolidated Strategic Action Plan

February 2017

Early in February this year, the ASEAN Secretariat published its Consolidated Strategic Action Plan (CSAP) to complement the AEC 2025 Blueprint that had been adopted by all the ASEAN leaders at the 27th ASEAN summit in Kuala Lumpur on 22 November 2015. The CSAP was envisioned in the Blueprint (Part III, paragraph 82.ii).

The CSAP lays out strategic measures for each of the five characteristics of the ASEAN Economic Community 2025 mentioned in the Blueprint:

- (a) A Highly Integrated and Cohesive Economy;
- (b) A Competitive, Innovative, and Dynamic ASEAN;
- (c) Enhanced Connectivity and Sectoral Cooperation;
- (d) A Resilient, Inclusive and People-Oriented, People-Centred ASEAN; and
- (e) A Global ASEAN,

Each strategic measure comes with specific key action lines, along with anticipated timelines, sectoral work plans and bodies, as appropriate. In total, there are 153 strategic measures and 525 action lines. We have summarised in chronological order the key action lines for the strategic measures most relevant to customs and trade, indicating key action lines that are expected to be achieved in each particular year, as follows (we have indicated the blueprint element indicators in brackets for easy reference):

2017

1. Develop a toolkit for business competition compliance (B1)
2. Periodical review of the ASEAN FTA competition provisions by the AEGC and under the wider FTA reviews (B1)
3. Develop and implement a concrete work plan on Good Regulatory Practice guide (GRP) (B7)
4. Release a publication on Global Megatrends (B8)
5. Promote Tariff Finder and ASSIST to business association (D2)
6. Enhance coordination between ASEAN Business Advisory Council (BAC) and the ASEAN Secretariat (D2)
7. Sign the legal instrument to implement the outcomes of TIS, MNP, and Investment negotiations under ASEAN-JCEP Agreement (E)
8. Finalise the review of ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (E)
9. Conclude the negotiations on further liberalisation of Sensitive Track products under AKFTA Trade in Goods Agreement (E)
10. Commencement of General Review on ASEAN Australia-New Zealand FTA Agreement (E)

2018

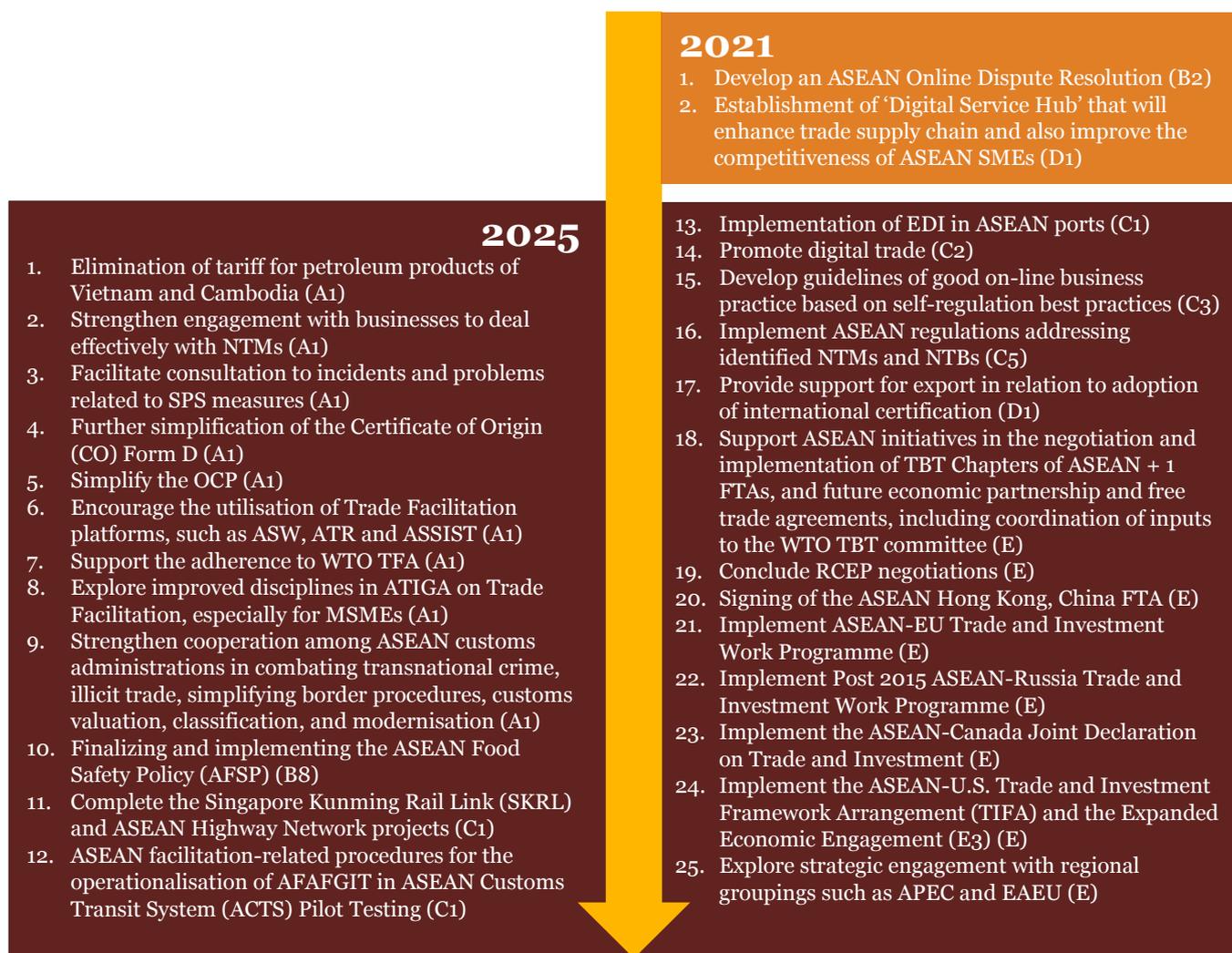
1. Assess the effectiveness of the ATIGA (A1)
2. Explore the possibility of applying MFN (A1)
3. Elimination of tariff of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam in 7% flexibility list (A1)
4. Explore the possibility to allow business to choose RVC formula of built-up or built-down matter for RVC method (A1)
5. ASEAN wide Self-Certification (A1)
6. Full operationalisation of the ATR/NTR, ASW, Tariff Finder, ASSIST (A1)
7. Create a handbook detailing priority GVC supporting policies (A6)
8. Develop ASEAN-wide coverage of the OECD-WTO TiVA database (A6)
9. Initiate multilateral electricity trade in at least one sub-region (B8)

2019

1. Develop guidelines to effectively address NTMs (A1)
2. Develop enforcement mechanisms on competition policy to handle cross-border cases in ASEAN (B1)

2020

1. Promote development and utilization of e-commerce platforms to encourage expansion of SMEs (D1)
2. Establishment of export clinics for SMEs in each member states (D1)



Monitoring and tracking of the implementation of the CSAP will be conducted by the ASEAN Secretariat with support of the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS). With most actions having a target year of 2025, the ASEAN Secretariat has to carefully select the appropriate approach and methodology to be used in order to ensure plans are effectively evaluated and implemented according to the anticipated timeline.

Let's talk

For a deeper discussion of how this might affect your business, please contact:

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