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ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Process Initiative

Asia Regional Integration Center (ARIC)

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ASIA REGIONAL INTEGRATION CENTER

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Money and Finance

ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Process Initiative

As it developed, the <u>Association of Southeast Asian</u> <u>Nations (ASEAN)</u> pursued cooperative ties with other

- Taipei,China
- Oceania
 - Australia
 - New Zealand
- South Asia
 - <u>Afghanistan</u>
 - Bangladesh
 - Bhutan
 - India
 - Nepal
 - Maldives
 - Pakistan
 - Sri Lanka

East Asian countries, in particular the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. The Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation, issued in November 1999, serves as the main framework for the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Process. The Process aims to strengthen policy dialogue, coordination, and collaboration on common financial, monetary, and fiscal issues. The Process has four components: (i) the Economic Review and Policy Dialogue (ERPD); (ii) the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI); (iii) the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI); and (iv) the ASEAN+3 Research Group.

Southeast Asia

Brunei Darussalam

Cambodia

Indonesia

<u>Lao People's Democratic</u>
 Republic

Malaysia

Myanmar

Philippines

Singapore

Thailand

■ Timor-Leste

Viet Nam

The Pacific

Cook Islands

Fiji Islands

■ Kiribati

Marshall Islands

Micronesia, Federated States of ASEAN+3

Nauru

Niue

Palau

Papua New Guinea

- <u>rapua ricw c</u>

■ <u>Samoa</u>

Solomon Islands

■ <u>Tonga</u>

Tuvalu

Vanuatu

ERPD aims to contribute in the prevention of financial crises through the swift implementation of remedial policy actions. It also focuses on issues of common interest. It likewise aims to prepare the foundation for

providing immediate

assistance, such as

CMI, in the event of a crisis. Under

the ERPD,

Finance Ministers meet annually

(their deputies

meet

semiannually) to

discuss economic and policy issues.

CMI was initiated at the ASEAN+3

Finance Ministers' Meeting in May 2000. It was created to provide a regional financing arrangement in order to supplement existing international facilities through a network of bilateral swap and repurchase agreements among ASEAN+3 members. The CMI also expanded the ASEAN Swap Arrangement (ASA), established in 1977, to include all ASEAN members.

The ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers endorsed <u>ABMI</u> during their August 2003 official meeting. A key initiative to increase financial cooperation in East Asia, the ABMI aims to develop efficient and liquid bond markets, which would enable better utilization of Asian savings for Asian investments. Likewise, it aims to contribute in mitigating financial currency and maturity mismatches. Six voluntary working groups were established to focus on areas crucial for bond market development. These include (i) new securitized debt instruments; (ii) credit guarantee mechanisms; (iii) foreign exchange transactions and settlement issues; (iv) issuance of bonds denominated in local currency by Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), foreign government agencies, and Asian multinational corporations; (v) local and regional rating agencies; and (vi) technical assistance coordination.

The ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers set up a voluntary research group in August 2003 to explore ways of further strengthening regional financial cooperation and support the Process. The first ASEAN+3 Research Group meeting was held in March 2004. Recognizing the importance to further build intellectual capital across the region, in May 2005 the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers endorsed three research areas for 2005 to 2006: (i) capital flow liberalization and institutional arrangements; (ii) capital market development, including the asset management industry; and (iii) policy coordination. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has supported the initiatives undertaken under the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers Process which include, among others, hosting the AsianBondsOnline website, a one-stop information clearinghouse on bond market development within the region; conducting studies for the ABMI working groups on credit guarantee mechanisms and regional clearing and settlement mechanisms; and supplying technical assistance in developing a regional early warning system (EWS) and in capacity building to strengthen the surveillance capacity of participating member countries.

ASEAN+3 includes the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (<u>Brunei Darussalam</u>, <u>Cambodia</u>, <u>Indonesia</u>, the <u>Lao People's Democratic Republic</u>, <u>Malaysia</u>, <u>Myanmar</u>, <u>the Philippines</u>, <u>Singapore</u>, <u>Thailand</u>, and <u>Viet Nam</u>) plus <u>the People's Republic of China</u>, <u>Japan</u>, and the <u>Republic of Korea</u>.

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Agreements

• <u>Joint Statement of the 25th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meetings</u>

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat

12 May 2022

Joint Statement of the Third High-level Regional Financing Arrangment Dialogue

AMRO

10 Oct 2018

 The Joint Statement of the 21th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting AMRO

4 May 2018

• The Joint Statement of the 2nd High-Level Regional Financing Arrangement Dialogue

AMRO

11 Oct 2017

• The Joint Statement of the 20th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting

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5 May 2017

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Asian Development Bank

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• <u>Developing the Financial Sector and Expanding Market Instruments to Support a Post-2015</u>

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V. Rao

Asian Development Bank

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Meetings

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November 2020

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About us

The Asia Regional Integration Center (ARIC) is an ongoing technical assistance project of the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD). Following the 1997/98 Asian financial crisis and the contagion evident around the region, ADB was asked to use its knowledge-based expertise to help monitor the recovery and report objectively on potential vulnerabilities and policy solutions. With the ASEAN+3 process just starting, ADB provided technical assistance beginning in 1999—to create the Asia Recovery Information Center, the precursor to ARIC.

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