1. **Name:**

ASEAN Chiefs of National Police (ASEANAPOL)

1. **Short description:**

ASEANAPOL is an annual meeting between ASEAN’s police chiefs.

1. **Formality:**

Yes, has its own Permanent Secretariat. This was rotational until 2010, when a permanent secretariat was established in Kuala Lumpur.

1. **Regional coverage:**

Southeast Asia

1. **Members (including states and non-states):**

Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Philippines, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam,

1. **Includes non-state actors?**

No.

1. **Date created:**

1981

1. **Date visibly started to engage with maritime security (e.g. first document that refers to it):**

Unclear – is mention of this in 1999

1. **Brief History and Description:**

The first formal meeting of the Chiefs of ASEAN Police was held in 1981. The Secretariat was formed in 2010, and implements work plans, facilitates and coordinates cross-border cooperation on intelligence and information sharing and exchange; Facilitates and coordinates joint operations and activities involving criminal investigations, the building and maintenance of the ASEANAPOL database, training, capacity building, the development of scientific investigative tools, technical support and forensic science.

It has held a working group meeting on maritime security, and commission meetings cover relevant issues such as: Commission A – Illicit Drug Trafficking; Terrorism; Arms Smuggling; Trafficking in Persons; Wildlife Crimes; & Commission B – Maritime Fraud.

1. **Maritime Security Issues Covered:**

Arms trafficking, Drugs trafficking, Human trafficking, Piracy, Wildlife Trafficking

1. **Noteworthy documents and strategies:**

ASEANAPOL Bulletin

1. **Intensity:**

One meeting a year, with ad hoc commissions and meetings to cover specific issue areas and activities.

1. **Ongoing projects and activities:**

INTERPOL’s Project Mast- a two-year program funded by the Government of Canada to strengthen investigative resources and specialized forensic capabilities, improve information sharing amongst national and regional law enforcement agencies using INTERPOL’S policing capabilities, and enhance maritime law enforcement cooperation in the Southeast Asian region.

1. **Funding structure:**

Currently, the Secretariat relies on the financial contribution from ASEANAPOL Member Countries but at times the contribution could not meet the expected demands. They have established guidelines for ‘donations and sponsorships’ in 2015 but unclear as to the extent of external funding currently.

1. **Challenges:**

They have self-identified some problems. One includes ‘Lacking a competent specialized coordinating agency in the region to thoroughly address the problems and provide with sustainable solutions to deal with transnational crimes’. Another is that ‘sharing of information via ASEANAPOL channel is neither sufficient nor frequent’.

1. **Cooperation or link with other arrangements:**

AMMTC

1. **Institutional contacts:**

YLG

1. **Noteworthy literature**:
2. **Knowledge gaps to follow up on:**

It seems there could be a disconnect from other ASEAN mechanisms. In a 2017 visit to the ASEAN secretariat, the press release stated: “The visit was highlighted by a brief presentation and discussion of each other organizational’s mandate and on how does it could help and assist each other’s goals and objectives and possibly sychronize efforts in the pursuance of respective organizational goals and objectives, particularly in the aspect of adressing transnational crime in the region. During the conversation, H.E. Hirubalan, expressed their keen interest of involving the ASEANAPOL in the implementation of ASEAN Plans and Programs and its Secretariat is planning to submit a concept paper pertaining to it of which he further insinuated to present it at the HOD Forum on the forthcoming ASEANAPOL Conference to be held in Singapore next month”.

Not entirely sure if this was followed up on, I cannot see currently more implementation of ASEANAPOL.