

VECONAC 22nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

I. INTRODUCTION

The President and Vice Presidents of the Veterans Confederation of ASEAN Countries (VECONAC) convened at the 35th Executive Board Meeting (EBM) and the 22nd General Assembly (GA) on 26-30 November 2023 at Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila, Philippines. The List of Participants is in Annex "A".

II. VECONAC 35TH EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The 35th Executive Board Meeting was held on 27 November 2023 at the Visayas Ballroom, Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila, Philippines. The meeting started with a roll call followed by the Opening Remarks delivered by Major General Romeo D. Alamillo AFP (Retired), President, Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) / VECONAC 2023 President.

The 35th EBM had endorsed for approval in the 22nd General Assembly nine (9) New Resolutions that were documented during the 4th VECONAC Working Committee Meeting in Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, Philippines on 9-12 July 2023. The 35th Executive Board Meeting Report is in Annex "B".

III. 22nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony of the 22nd General Assembly was held on 28 November 2023 at Luzon Ballroom, Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila, Philippines. It was presided over by SECRETARY GILBERTO C. TEODORO, JR., Department of National Defense, as the Guest of Honor.

MAJOR GENERAL ROMEO D ALAMILLO AFP (Retired) welcomed all the VECONAC delegates, spouses and observers; members of the VFP Interim Supreme Council and other Philippine veterans; and other special guests who attended the ceremony. In his remarks, Major General Alamillo outlined the importance of the VECONAC and its objectives and purpose. He also expressed his thanks to SECRETARY GILBERTO C. TEODORO, JR, for gracing the ceremony as Guest of Honor. The Opening Remarks is in Annex "C".

SECRETARY TEODORO, expressed his sincere appreciation to all VECONAC member countries. He also extended his warm congratulations to the Veterans Federation of the Philippines for successfully hosting the 4th VECONAC Working Committee Meeting last July in Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, Philippines, and now the 35th Executive Board Meeting and the 22nd General Assembly Meeting of the Veterans Confederation of the ASEAN Countries (VECONAC). SECRETARY TEODORO expressed his support and commitment to the aims and objectives of VECONAC by promoting cooperation and enhancing solidarity among Veterans organizations in ASEAN Countries.

SECRETARY GILBERTO C. TEODORO, JR. led the presentation of awards to the following:

- 1) Conferring the Honorary Presidency Title to Senior Lieutenant General (Retired) Nguyen Van Duoc, President of the Veterans Association of Vietnam; 2) Conferring the Honorary Presidency Title (Posthumously) to Lieutenant General (Retired) Rais Abin, Honorary President of LVRI and President of VECONAC 2010-2012:
- 3) Awarding the Medal of Honor to Major General (Retired) Le Van Cau, Director for Department of Foreign Relations, Veterans Association of Vietnam 4) Presenting the Certificate of Appreciation to the War Veterans Organization (WVO) of Thailand.

IV. 22nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

The 22nd General Assembly meeting convened after the Opening Ceremony at Visayas Ballroom, Sofitel and the Agenda which was adopted is in Annex "D".

V. COUNTRY REPORT

A 10-minute briefing was allotted for each VECONAC member country to provide update or latest development of their respective veterans organizations.

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VI. SECRETARY-GENERAL REPORT

The Secretary General provided a brief summary of all the activities that took place from 1st January 2023 to the period of organizing 35th Executive Board Meeting and 22nd

VII. TREASURER-GENERAL REPORT

The Treasurer General presented the Financial Status of VECONAC for the Year 2023. The detailed report is in Annex "F".

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

Based on the recommendations, draft resolutions, proposals and resolutions that were endorsed arising from the 35th Executive Board Meeting, the 22nd General Assembly has ratified nine (9) Resolutions, that were renumbered, as follows:

RESOLUTION 22-1: AN ORGANISED VISIT TO THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT IN JAKARTA

RESOLUTION 22-2: COMMEMORATING THE VECONAC FOUNDING DAY ANNUALLY ON DECEMBER 19^{th}

**VECONAC Flags were handed to respective member countries during the 35th Executive Board Meeting. The package also includes an Indoor Flag and a Table Flag.

RESOLUTION 22-3: CONFERRING VECONAC HONORARY PRESIDENCY TITLE TO GENERAL SANTASANA NANTIBHAKHIRUND, DIRECTOR – GENERAL OF THE WAR VETERANS ORGANIZATION OF THAILAND AND AWARDING VECONAC MEDAL OF HONOR TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL HASSACHAI IAMLAOR, WVO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR–GENERAL (EXECUTIVE) FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE 34TH EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AND THE 21ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN THAILAND IN 2022:

RESOLUTION 22-4: VECONAC AS A SUSTAINABLE ORGANIZATION;

RESOLUTION 22-5: RESOLUTION TO RECONFIRM THE ROTATIONAL SYSTEM OF VECONAC CHAIRMANSHIP;

RESOLUTION 22-6: TO COLLECT, COMPILE, REVIEW AND RECONSIDER ALL PAST RESOLUTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN DOCUMENTED SINCE 1ST GA:

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RESOLUTION 22-7: TO CLARIFY THE ROLE, FUNCTION AND PURPOSE OF WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING;

RESOLUTION 22-8: WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN VECONAC;

RESOLUTION 22-9: INCLUSION OF YOUTHS IN VECONAC

IX. OFFICE BEARERS FOR YEAR 2024

The 22nd GA endorsed the following members for the Year 2024:

President : BG (RET) WINSTON TOH

Secretary-General: LTC (RET) TAN SWEE KEE

Treasurer-General: MAJ (RET) FRANK CHANG WENG

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Vice Presidents:

LT COL (RET) RAMLI B ABD HADIS - President, VARBAF;

GENERAL KUN KIM - Senior Minister, Deputy President and Secretary General of CVA;

LTGEN (RET) MUZANI SYUKUR - 1st Vice President, LVRI

LT GEN SENGNOUANE SAYALAT – President, LVF;

CAPT. DATUK SHARUDDIN BIN HJ OMAR (RET) - President,

VAMAF; LTGEN (RET) YE AUNG - Vice President, MWVO;

MGEN ROMEO D. ALAMILLO AFP (RET) - President, VFP:

GENERAL DETNITIT LUANGNGAMKUM – Director – General, WVO:

SR LT GENERAL BE XUAN TRUONG - President, VAVN

X. ADOPTION OF MEETING VENUE IN 2024

SINGAPORE ARMED FORCES VETERANS LEAGUE (SAFVL) has confirmed to host the 5th Working Committee, the 36th Executive Board Meeting and the 23rd General Assembly in Singapore in 2024.

XI. CHAIRMANSHIP HANDING - TAKING OVER

MAJOR GENERAL ROMEO D. ALAMILLO AFP (RET), VECONAC President handed over the VECONAC Presidency to BG (RET) WINSTON TOH, President of SAFVL.

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XII. ACCEPTANCE REMARKS

In his acceptance remarks as the incoming President of VECONAC, BG (RET) WINSTON TOH, President of SAFVL humbly and gratefully accepted the position as the next VECONAC President and the hosting of the VECONAC 36th EBM and 23rd General Assembly in 2024. He likewise extended his warm appreciation and felicitation to the Veterans Federation of the Philippines for the successful conduct of the 35th Executive Board Meeting and 22nd General Assembly.

XIII. CLOSING REMARKS

MAJOR GENERAL ALAMILLO (Ret.) thanked all the delegates for their active contributions and sharing of ideas that contributed significantly to the successful conduct of the 35th Executive Board Meeting and 22nd General Assembly.

XIV. JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

The 22nd General Assembly of VECONAC adopted the Joint Communiqué on 28 November 2023 in Manila, Philippines.

"VECONAC FOREVER, FOREVER VECONAC"

MGEN ROMEO D. ALAMILLO AFP (RET) (VFP)

LT COL (RET) RAMLI B ABD HADIS (VARBAF)

GENERAL KUN KIM (CVA)

LTGEN (RET) MUZANI SYUKUR (LVRI) LT GEN SENGNOUANE SAYALAT (LVF) CAPT. DATUK SHARUDDIN BIN HJ OMAR (RET) (VAMAF) LTGEN (RET) YE AUNG (MWVO) LTGEN REYNALDO B MAPAGU AFP (RET) (PVAO) BG (RET) WINSTON TOH (SAFVL) GENERAL DETNITIT LUANGNGAMKUM (WVO)

SENIOR LT GENERAL BE XUAN TRUONG (VAVN)