Presentation by:

SALAHUDDIN KASEM KHAN
Executive Chairman of the SEACO Foundation, Dhaka
Member, International Advisory Panel, WIEF Foundation
Towards...

SEACO
Regional Cooperation Between OIC Member States in South East Asia

South East Asian Co-operation
Existing Regional Cooperation Arrangements of OIC Member States

- **ECOWAS** = Economic Community of West African States
- **UMA** = Union of Maghreb Arab
- **UCAS** = Union of Central Africa States
- **GCC** = Gulf Cooperation Council
- **ECO** = Economic Cooperation Organization
- **SEACO** = South East Asian Cooperation

*(PROPOSED AT IDB-INDO SEMINAR, BANDUNG 18th DECEMBER, 1992)*
Declaration for the First Bangladesh-Malaysia Business Forum keynote paper presented by Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad Former Prime Minister of Malaysia Dhaka on 18-19th December 2004

South East Asia Cooperation (SEACO):

“We call on the Governments of Bangladesh and Malaysia to put on track the resolution of the 9th OIC Summit Conference, 2000, Qatar, encouraging the realization of SEACO under the OIC framework. The private sector stands ready to assist and to provide whatever support required to realize this resolution”
31st July 1996

SEACO was in Agenda of the official talks between the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and Malaysia, H.E. Sheikh Hasina and H.E Tun Dr Mahathir Mohammad in KL in 1996
“The FORUM Declaration, I understood has highlighted the Sectors, Areas of cooperation with specific Recommendation for a Sub-Regional FTA in South and South East Asia, towards an Islamic Free Trade Area (IFTA). This is considered an important goal for the Ummah of over one billion consumers.”

Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad

January 5th, 2006
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Monday, April 22, 2019 proposed formation of a regional economic forum with five Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member states of South and Southeast Asian region, including Bangladesh and Brunei.

In response to the proposal, the Brunei Sultan assured that he will "favourably consider" the matter, the foreign secretary said.
SEACO (SOUTH EAST ASIAN COOPERATION)

- It was proposed in Bandung in 1992 that SEACO could develop as an economic link between ASEAN and SAARC.

  Indonesian IDB High Technology Seminar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>SEACO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>2.3 million sq. km.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consumer/Population</td>
<td>457 million</td>
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<td>Work Force</td>
<td>194 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combined GDP</td>
<td>$1.59 trillion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average GDP growth rate</td>
<td>5.1% - 7% (approx.) per annum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Trade</td>
<td>$825.31 billion</td>
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<tr>
<th>INDICATORS</th>
<th>ASEAN</th>
<th>SAARC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>590 million +</td>
<td>1.66 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined GDP</td>
<td>1.8 trillion</td>
<td>1.56 trillion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average GDP growth rate</td>
<td>5.5% - 6%+</td>
<td>5% to 7%+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Trade</td>
<td>1.5 trillion</td>
<td>$1.4 trillion</td>
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BUILDING BLOCKS TO SOCIO ECONOMIC COOPERATION TOWARDS OIC INTEGRATION:
FROM REGIONAL (SEACO) TO INTRA REGIONAL (D-8) TO GLOBAL IFTA/ICM
**BIG-B Initiative (The Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt)**

Accelerate industrial agglomeration in Dhaka-Matarbari belt and beyond To shape a value chain hub for South Asia and Southeast Asia

- **Energy & Power**: Supplying reliable energy & power for industries
- **Transport**: Fostering connectivity as a regional node and hub
- **Investment Climate**: Promoting domestic & foreign direct investment
- **Others**: Enhancing sustainable socio economic development

Map showing regions: Nepal, Bhutan, China, NE States, India, NE States, Dhaka, India West Bengal, Chittagong, Matarbari, Myanmar.
Asian Industrial Corridors and Triangles

![Map of Asian Industrial Corridors and Triangles](image)

- **SAARC**
  - Kathmandu
  - Dhaka
  - Colombo

- **ASEAN**
  - Chittagong
  - Medan
  - Port Klang

- **SEACO**
  - Brunei
Economic Centre of Gravity

Going east

The world’s economic centre of gravity, 1980–2050

Source: Danny Quah
THANK YOU

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