



## ASEAN Countries at the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, 2017

*Dr Temjenmeren Ao\**

ASEAN was well represented at the Annual General Debate of the United Nations General Assembly, held from 19-25 September, 2017. Based on the speeches given by each of the head of the delegations from the individual ASEAN States, the major issues were brought to light have been thematically categorised into eight segments. The following is a brief overview based on the statements made by nine of the ASEAN States heads of delegation [Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam], except Myanmar as it has been dealt with in a separate paper; subsequently these have been put in a tabular form under Set I, Set II, and Set III.

### **Economic and Sustainable Development**

All the nations were of the option that sustainable development set in the UN 2030 Agenda has been incorporated into their respective development programmes. Efforts are also being made in order to diversify respective economies through innovations in order to ensure inclusive growth and reduce mass poverty. ASEAN nations were of the view that

a sustainable economic growth is the clearest path towards achieving the desired growth while also ensuring the security for the future generation.

### **UN Reform**

Except for Cambodia and the Philippines the rest of the ASEAN heads of the delegation emphasised the need to bring about the necessary reform within the UN. This according to them is necessary in order for the UN to remain relevant and become effective in order to address the pressing issues around the world. Thus, they fully support and extend their full cooperation to the UN Secretary-General as well as the Member States towards implementing the reform process.

### **Israel-Palestine Conflict**

This year completes fifty years of the Israel-Palestine conflict, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Laos, called on the UN to end the existing stalemate with a new approach.

### **Climate Change**

All of the ASEAN States expressed grave concern on the reality of climate change while expressing their deepest condolences to the victims of recent natural disasters. The leaders also expressed their country's support and commitment to the Paris Agreement as they believe it is best option to ensure economic growth while ensuring a sustainable planet for the future generations.

### **Global Cooperation and Multilateralism**

The role of multilateralism and global cooperation in advancing the desired goals had been enunciated by all the ASEAN States. Further, with the emerging global challenges the leaders expressed that the need for global cooperation and multilateralism becomes even stronger. Cambodia's leader while expressing the benefits of globalisation also pointed out the while it has benefitted no doubt it has also resulted in more inequality and in a way has led to confrontation between the major powers.

## **Security: Terrorism and Korean Peninsula Unrest**

The leaders of the delegations spoke of the great threat to global security posed by the rise of extremism, terrorism, and the ongoing conflicts. In the case of terrorism all were of the view that it stems due to the prevalence of poverty, marginalisation, and alienation, notably amongst the youth. Global cooperation and a comprehensive approach is the only way to deal with the issue. Further, all the States condemned the missile and nuclear tests of the DPRK, while calling on all parties concerned to exercise the utmost restraint and engage in dialogue in order to diffuse the situation.

## **South China Sea**

Vietnam and Philippines were the only two ASEAN countries to bring out the South China Sea issue. While Vietnam called upon all the parties concerned to exercise self-restraint and settle disputes by peaceful means in accordance with the 1982 UNCLOS, Philippines's Foreign Secretary Alan Cayetano, spoke on completion of the long-overdue code of conduct in the South China Sea, while Vietnam's leader sought an effective and legally binding Code of Conduct.

## **Situation in the Rakhine State**

Four of the ASEAN States namely; Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and Malaysia made direct references to the humanitarian crisis in the Rakhine State. While making clear the complexity of the situation the leaders expressed their concern and sought the quick settlement of the crisis as it could lead to the rise of extremist tendency amongst the displaced ethnic people.

**ASEAN Countries at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, 2017:**

**Set I**

| Issues                                      | Countries  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
|   | Brunei   | Cambodia  | Indonesia   |
| <b>Economic and Sustainable Development</b> | Brunei Darussalam two years ago embarked on an extended journey to achieve a global set of ambitious goals for sustainable development. Firmly believes that quality education is the key to building a new generation of highly-skilled, innovative and confident young people. Continuing our efforts to diversify our economy and advocate free trade bilaterally and regionally with an aim to achieve a dynamic and | The 2030 Agenda is our boldest agenda for humanity but it is an agenda aiming at a fair globalisation. Cambodia has demonstrated its commitment to sustainable development over the past two decades. Concretely, our target of reducing the poverty rate to 19.5% by 2015 was achieved ahead of schedule. We have received a UN Award for halving hunger before the deadline. Cambodia is also among the top seven performers globally | There must be synergies between sustaining peace and development agenda. SDG's, Climate Change Paris Agreement commitment must be translated into concrete actions. Support regions that have huge potentials, and have undertaken great reforms, towards sustainable development. Further, adequate funding, technical assistance, and capacity building, as well as transfer of technology are important elements |

|                  |  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|--|
|                  | sustainable economy.   | for its improvements in Human Development Index between 1990 and 2015. | for success  |
| <b>UN Reform</b> | Looks up to the UN to address pressing issues around the world. To better reflect the needs and realities of the 21 <sup>st</sup> century, the world needs a strong, more effective and efficient UN. We support our Secretary-General's ideas to reform the UN and re-position our organisation to focus more on conflict prevention measures, including mediation. | No Reference made  | To achieve a peaceful and a decent life for all on a sustainable planet, there is a need for continuous dialogue, inclusiveness, peaceful settlement of disputes, and non-use of force. More importantly, we must develop the UN as a robust global institution that emphasise on the maintenance of peace, security, and stability. key to this is ensuring the UN reform process resulting in a strong, effective, and relevant UN. Thus, Indonesia co-sponsored the |

|                                  |  |                   |  |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|
|                                  |  |                   | Declaration of support for the UN Reform.  |
| <b>Israel-Palestine Conflict</b> | The Palestinians have hopes and dreams which would contribute toward the good of humanity. However, for half a century, foreign occupation has tremendously hindered many of them from achieving their full human potential. As the legitimate and truly representative organisation on the planet, the UN has a moral and legal obligation to enforce these rights and ensure accountability for actions that contravene international law. We have to press on with all efforts in translating the | No Reference made | 2017 marks the 50 years of the illegal occupation of Palestine. Palestine is in the heart of Indonesian foreign policy and will continue to support Palestine. The Palestine-Israel Conflict after 50 years of stalemate needs a fresh approach. |

|                       |   |   |  |
|-----------------------|---|---|--|
|                       | growing international recognition of the State of Palestine into positive changes on the ground, so that the Palestinians can pursue sustainable development in their own homeland.   |   |  |
| <b>Climate Change</b> | While pursuing economic progress, we should be mindful of the correlation between human activities and climate change. This is where the Paris Agreement can galvanise our collective action to give a cleaner, healthier, safe, and sustainable planet for our future generations. | The 2030 Agenda is inextricably linked to many issues that perturb the world today, the most pressing one being climate change, which is not only a direct threat in itself but also a multiplier of many other threats - from poverty, diseases and food security to mass migrations and regional conflict. In our view, Climate Change is a global Human Security Issue that presents a serious and | Climate Change is real and like many Small Island Developing States, Indonesia is feeling the changing weather patterns and rising sea level. Indonesia is fully committed to the Paris Agreement. |

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | unprecedented threat to global peace and security.  |   |
| <b>Global Cooperation and Multilateralism</b> | We strive for strongest engagement through confidence building, preventive diplomacy, and conflict resolution through peaceful means. It is through these efforts and close cooperation among ourselves and with our external partner that ASEAN hopes to further contribute toward global peace and development. | Globalisation which in the past has made us so interdependent, is exposing deep flaws in the existing international order. Today, our multipolar world has gained its prominence in global affairs, causing chaos and turbulence as competition between the major powers is becoming more confrontational; we are more interdependent, but more unequal; we are more prosperous, and yet millions are still afflicted with poverty. All these factors have contributed to a sense of world out of | Peace is never given; hence it has to be developed and nurtured. Must work towards creating a global ecosystem of peace and stability. Unilateralism is not a sustainable solution as the global challenges become more complex. The world needs strong partnership. A true global partnership is what Indonesia believes in. |



|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  | balance, and this is the paradox that defines our world today.   |  |
| <b>Security:<br/>Terrorism and<br/>Korean<br/>Peninsula<br/>Unrest</b> | Regional and International peace and security are crucial for human and economic developments to thrive. We are concerned with the constant threats of terrorism and violent extremism. We wish to reiterate that terrorism should not be linked to any particular race, religion, nationality or ethnicity. To address these threats, it is important to examine the root cause of terrorism comprehensively, such as poverty, marginalisation, and alienation, notably amongst youth. We | While it is true that globalisation and technological progress have dramatically increased global trade and wealth all over the world, it is also equally true that they have been factors of increased inequalities, social tensions and sometimes conflicts. One such consequence of this is the threats from terrorism from which no country is spared. To defeat this transnational threat would require a firm global resolve to address in the most comprehensive way, starting from | Terrorism, radicalism and violent extremism are one of the greatest challenges to our global order, and development agenda as it not only undermines peace but disputes development. Global cooperation and comprehensive approach is the only panacea to eradicating terrorism. Urgent need for a global action and partnership to combat terrorism, radicalism, and violent extremism. |

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  | <p>welcome all efforts of the international community to prevent and eradicate terrorism and violent extremism in all their forms and manifestations.</p> | <p>addressing the symptoms and root causes of radicalisation, confronting issues of foreign fighters and terrorism financing and other forms of support.</p> <p>Cambodia also shares its deepest concern on the situation in the Korean peninsula. It appeals to all parties concerned to further exercise their utmost restraint to avoid provocative activities and remain committed to the peaceful and constructive dialogue so as to diffuse tension and promote trust and confidence in the region.</p> |  |
|--|---|---|--|

|                                       |                   |                   |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>South China Sea</b>                | No Reference made | No Reference made | No Reference made  |
| <b>Situation in the Rakhine State</b> | No Reference made | No Reference made | There should be no more man-made humanitarian crisis in the world. Share concern of the international community on the development in Rakhine State. |

**ASEAN Countries at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, 2017:**

**Set II**

| <b>Issues</b>                               | <b>Countries</b>   |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   | <b>Laos</b>  | <b>Malaysia</b>  | <b>Philippines</b>   |
| <b>Economic and Sustainable Development</b> | Lao PDR attaches great importance to the implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. Since their adoption, SDGs have been streamlined into our current National | Sustainable development has been at the heart of Malaysia's development approach since 1970s. In 2009, the Malaysian government launched its New | There is no development without peace, and no peace without development. This is what the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides. It serves as |

|                  |  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|--|
|                  | <p>Socio-Economic Development Plan (2016-2020). The government's firm political will and unwavering commitment to implement and achieve the SDGs as well as build a strong foundation to support our country's aspirations to graduate from least developing country status by 2020.</p> | <p>Economic Model, which features three new goals: to achieve high income, inclusivity, and sustainability. These pursuits continue to resonate well with the three components of the 2030 Agenda, namely economic growth, social needs, and environmental protection. The government of Malaysia strives to ensure that each and every Malaysian has an equitable share in the prosperity and wealth of the country, and that no one will be left behind.</p> | <p>the template of the Philippines Development Plan called Ambisyon Natin 2040 or Our Ambition 2040. We are adopting measures to make growth more inclusive by massive poverty alleviation programmes, creating more jobs, driving innovation, making quality education universally available. Relevant education that imparts training and skill building to make people resilient in changing markets.</p> |
| <b>UN Reform</b> | <p>The UN being the only universal organisation with the mandate to maintain and promote peace</p>   | <p>In order to successfully perform the arduous tasks at hand, the UN cannot afford to stand still</p>   | <p>No Reference made</p>   |

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
|  | <p>and cooperation for development has to be in the forefront. To realise these objectives, the UN needs to be reformed in a manner it can respond to the current needs and pressing challenges today.</p> | <p>and remain idle. Since taking over the helm of the organisation, the Secretary-General together with the UN Secretariat has initiated various efforts to make the Organisation more efficient, effective, agile, and fit-for-purpose. Malaysia is of the view that any major reform initiative that may include cost-cutting measures should not hamper or disrupt the Organisation's existing development efforts to achieve peace and a decent life for all. Malaysia extends its full cooperation, support, and commitment in working closely with the Secretary-</p> |  |
|--|--|---|--|

|                                  |   |   |                   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|-------------------|
|                                  |   | General, all UN Member States and various stakeholders towards implementing the reform initiative.  |                   |
| <b>Israel-Palestine Conflict</b> | Lao PDR hopes that the Palestinian issue which has lasted for many decades will be solved by peaceful means with a view to creating two independent states of Palestine and Israel living side by side in peace, security, and within internationally recognised borders as stipulated in the relevant Resolution of the UN Security Council. | Our collective failure in finding a solution to the Palestinian question is unacceptable. The situation in Palestine remains daunting and appalling as Israel continues to violate international Law with its heavy-handed approach against the defenceless Palestinians. Malaysia reiterates that any action by Israel, to impose its laws, jurisdiction, and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and totally unacceptable. | No Reference made |

|   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
|   |   | Malaysia reiterates its support to the work of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and its proactive approach to pronounce the need for a written quarterly report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution. |  |
| <b>Climate Change</b>                         | No direct mention   | No direct mention  | No direct mention  |
| <b>Global Cooperation and Multilateralism</b> | Lao PDR pursues a policy of transforming from a land-lock country into a land link hub, facilitating direct connectivity between the immediate neighbouring countries. These are being done being a | No Reference made  | We live in a global community and we are all citizens of the world. Today, our social contract is no longer confined to the nation state. In our region, we exert efforts to build bridges and not walls, to emphasize |

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
|  | part of the various international as well as regional initiatives such as the ASEAN Vision 2025, the ASEAN Master Plan 2025, and China's BRI.  |   | commonalities and not differences. Beyond being Asians we are global citizens, the people of the UN.   |
| <b>Security:<br/>Terrorism and<br/>Korean<br/>Peninsula<br/>Unrest</b> | Peace and security remain the common aspiration of the international community. As such, in order to maintain and promote peace and development, it is incumbent upon us to enhance collaboration so that peace and sustainable development can prevail in our world. Loa PDR calls on all parties involved in the disputes or conflicts in various regions of the world to exercise the utmost restraint and resolve such conflicts | Malaysia joined other Member States in signing the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons. We are convinced that the political and legal impact of this Treaty will steer the international community collectively towards the elimination of nuclear weapons and the maintenance of a world free of nuclear weapons. Malaysia strongly believes in continuing to strengthen and enhance legislative and collective | In the past four years we have seen the rise of the Islamic State. We should hold no illusion that the threat posed by the Islamic State will be over with the collapse of its self-proclaimed caliphate in Iraq and very soon in Syria. Rather, we should all be ready to confront a very potent threat that has spread to other parts of the world. In the Philippines, we have discovered the intimate and symbiotic relationship between |



|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  | <p>through diplomatic and peaceful means so as to deescalate the tensions.</p> | <p>enforcement capabilities in confronting international security threats, in particular of WMD specifically to non-State actors.</p> <p>Malaysia reiterates its strong condemnation of DPRK's nuclear tests and missile launches which seriously undermined the global disarmament and non-proliferation regime. Malaysia calls on the DPRK to desist from conducting further nuclear tests and missile launches, to halt its nuclear and ballistic missiles programme, and to comply fully with its international obligations in the interest of the</p> | <p>terrorism vis-à-vis poverty and the illegal drug trade. These terrorist attempted but failed to take control of Marawi. This was part of their grand plan to establish in Southeast Asia an extension of their shattered caliphate in West Asia.</p> <p>We want nuclear weapons to be a thing of the past and we do not want an arms race anywhere in the world. The Philippines on its own, and as this year's chair of ASEAN, has expressed its grave concern over the growing tension in the Korean Peninsula because of the DPRK's missile test launches and</p> |
|--|--|--|---|

|                               |                          |   |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|
|                               |                          | <p>maintenance of international peace and security.</p> | <p>detonations. The Philippines joins the call on the DPRK to put a stop to its provocations, which brings us closer to an unimaginable scenario.</p>  |
| <p><b>South China Sea</b></p> | <p>No Reference made</p> | <p>No Reference made</p>                                | <p>Today the battle has shifted to the seas, hence the need to affirm our commitment to UNCLOS, as the international law governing the rights and responsibilities of the States parties in their use of the world's oceans. Dialogue, building trust and promoting cooperation to address issues of concern is the way forward in addressing maritime disputes. The Philippines, as ASEAN chair this year, looks forward to</p> |

|                                       |                   |   |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---|--|
|                                       |                   |   | commencing negotiation on the long-overdue code of conduct in West Philippine Sea/South China Sea. |
| <b>Situation in the Rakhine State</b> | No Reference made | Indiscriminate violence perpetrated against the Rohingyas is of grave concern for Malaysia. Such atrocities have unleashed a full-scale humanitarian crisis that the world simply cannot ignore but must be compelled to act. If the current situation is not addressed judiciously, the desperate people in Rakhine will become easy prey to recruitment by extremist. | No Direct mention  |

**ASEAN Countries at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, 2017:**

**Set III**

| <b>Issues</b>                               | <b>Countries</b>  |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
|   | <b>Singapore</b>  | <b>Thailand</b>   | <b>Vietnam</b>   |
| <b>Economic and Sustainable Development</b> | <p>We need an open architecture based on interdependence to secure sustainable prosperity for all. The 2030 Agenda is fundamentally a vision for achieving long term inclusive economic growth, not only at the national level but also at the regional and global level. Successful societies have to embrace new technology and encourage innovation. We have to restructure our economies and create new and better jobs for our people. For</p> | <p>Development must not be top-down but bottom-up, and people-centred approach through the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP), which stresses self-development and places emphasis on everyone's potential to mould one's own future and live in harmony with nature. Based on the SEP, the Royal Thai Government envisions the lives of our people and life of our nation to become "Stable, Prosperous, and Sustainable".</p> | <p>Enormous efforts to realise the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are underway, as it is the clearest path towards a better destiny for this and future generation. We call on developed nations to fulfil their commitments on providing financial assistance and technology transfers for developing countries.</p> |

|                  |   |   |  |
|------------------|---|---|--|
|                  | <p>many countries, especially small states, international trade and investments are the primary pathway to growth and resilience. It is therefore important to remain steadfast in the face of rising protectionist sentiments.</p> | <p>Thailand is seeking to utilise S&amp;T, and innovation to strengthen human capability and foster an enabling environment in our development paradigm. We aim to build a value-based economy which encompasses a circular economy, in which resources are utilised efficiently and in an environmentally friendly manner; a distributive economy where development is inclusive; and an innovative economy where growth springs from ideas and knowledge.</p> |  |
| <b>UN Reform</b> | <p>If the UN is to remain relevant and effective, it must also become “fit-for-purpose”. There is much scope</p>  | <p>Multilateralism and the UN, in particular, have a great role to play in fostering the quality of our</p>   | <p>The UN must be the centre of coordination and linking joint efforts to address global</p> |

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
|  | <p>to optimise synergies and minimise inefficiency. In this regard, Singapore strongly supports the Secretary General's efforts to reform and restructure the UN. We welcome his management reforms, his efforts to review the UN development system as well as to streamline the peace and security architecture.</p> | <p>people's lives. The UN must take transformative steps to live up to today's reality and expectations. The work of the UN must have real impact on the ground. The UN must be able to identify challenges based on the needs and particular situations of each country, and must be able to adapt its work in a responsive and flexible manner. We look forward to hearing more details on the UN Development System reform, and how it would impact changes on the ground, enhance resource efficiency, and synergize works of regional commissions and UN</p> | <p>challenges, building an ever more comprehensive system of rules and norms with a mechanism for ensuring objectiveness, fairness, and equality. For it to do so, the UN need to undertake a comprehensive reform. Vietnam supports efforts to reform the UN in this direction and will participate responsibly in the reform process.</p> |
|--|--|---|---|

|   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
|   |   | country teams.   |  |
| <b>Israel-Palestine Conflict</b>              | No Reference made   | No Reference made  | No Reference made  |
| <b>Climate Change</b>                         | Mentioned in passing.   | The world is going through a critical time, facing a series of common challenges, such as climate change and natural disasters.  | This year we have witnessed multiple natural disasters, inflicting heavy losses in human life and property in Cuba, Mexico, the US, and other Caribbean countries. The impact of climate change is evermore real, and far beyond forecast. |
| <b>Global Cooperation and Multilateralism</b> | In an environment of increased uncertainties, the case for multilateralism becomes stronger, not weaker. The recent adoption of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable | We must learn to mobilise the diverse strengths of each and every one. Thailand recognises and appreciates the diversity of strengths of each stakeholder. It is in this spirit that Thailand has launched the “SEP for SDGs | For today’s global challenges, multilateralism have indeed proven to provide the most effective solutions. Vietnam today is as a committed member of the UN as ever before and a staunch supports and proponent of                         |

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
|  | Development showed that multilateralism can respond to new challenges, especially when there is political will and collective commitment.  | Partnership”.   | multilateralism with the UN at its heart.  |
| <b>Security:<br/>Terrorism and<br/>Korean<br/>Peninsula<br/>Unrest</b> | New technologies and non-state actors are challenging the international order. Terrorist groups are using the internet to spread their radical ideologies, including in Southeast Asia. In Northeast Asia, the DPRK’s reckless actions are raising tensions on the Korean Peninsula. Singapore strongly condemns the DPRK’s missile and nuclear weapon tests in violation of UN Security Council resolution. | Concern over the issue of extremism, terrorism, ongoing conflicts, and irregular migration. Another grave concern is the nuclear threat which is looming over us and feels more real than ever before. Thailand shares the international community’s grave concern over the situation in the Korean Peninsula, and the recent nuclear and missile tests by the DPRK. We encourage all parties to find a | Terrorism and WMD have gone global and become a threat to all. Efforts for disarmament, arms control, non-proliferation have not progressed as expected. International law is essential foundation for the order and stability in international relations. Wars, conflicts, and tension today are occurring mainly because international law has not been fully respected and observed in good |



|                               |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
|                               | <p>We call on the DPRK to avoid further provocative actions and to fully implement the resolution adopted by the Security Council.</p> | <p>peaceful solution, along with full implementation of UNSC Resolution.</p> | <p>faith. We believe that upholding international law and the UN Charter, to prevent conflicts, build confidence and peacefully settle conflicts and disputes, including those in the West Asia, Africa, and call for denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula.</p>  |
| <p><b>South China Sea</b></p> | <p>No Reference Made</p>   | <p>No Reference Made</p>   | <p>With regards to the South China Sea dispute, Vietnam and ASEAN call upon all parties concerned to exercise self-restraint and settle disputes by peaceful means in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, fully respect diplomatic and legal processes, implement</p> |

|                                       |   |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
|                                       |   |   | the Declaration on the Conduct of parties on the SCS and expedite the completion of an effective and legally binding Code of Conduct. |
| <b>Situation in the Rakhine State</b> | In the Rakhine State, a humanitarian disaster has occurred in the aftermath of a terrorist attack on 25 <sup>th</sup> August 2017. This is a complex inter-communal issue with deep historical roots. It is the responsibility of every government to protect civilians regardless of their ethnicities and religious beliefs. Singapore will work with ASEAN and Myanmar to extend humanitarian assistance to all affected | Thailand cannot turn blind eyes to the situation in the Rakhine State, which recently forced hundreds of thousands to leave their homes. We are fully aware of the complexities of these humanitarian situations that cannot be solved overnight. These situations call for long-term political and socio-economic solutions. Sustaining peace and sustaining development must go hand in hand. | The worst migration and humanitarian crisis since World War II continues to unfold.   |

|  |              |  |  |
|--|--------------|--|--|
|  | communities. |  |  |
|--|--------------|--|--|

\*\*\*\*

*\*Dr Temjenmeren Ao, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi.*

*Disclaimer: The views expressed are that of the Researcher and not of the Council.*