

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

LIBERALIZATION

1. *Does BEM have any intention to further promote mobility of cross-border Professional Engineers similar to that of developed countries such as Singapore through Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) of direct conversion? Part of Free Trade Agreement (FTA)?*

BEM has a National Monitoring Committee (NMC) looking into cross-border mobility. There is Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for ASEAN, signed in 2005 as part of the cross-border mobility, which is a living document in the ASEAN Secretariat.

Any other new MRAs would be looked into by NMC from time to time.

2. *Will the ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer (ACPE) be repealed because of liberalization?*

ACPE is a G to G initiative and BEM sees no reason to repeal this registration.

3. *My concern pertains to Registered Foreign Professional Engineer (RFPE) if the Temporary Foreign Engineer (TPE) clause is deleted. Under the present MRA, ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer (ACPE) can come in but not as a PE. Is this issue being covered somewhere in the proposed amendments? We are open (liberalize) but other countries might not open up. With these proposed amendments, it looks like the ACPE registration is not relevant anymore.*

The ASEAN MRA only allows an ACPE to work (professional engineering work) with a local PE in the host country. With the proposed amendments to the Act, the process is different for other PEs but the ACPE will be allowed to continue under the MRA.