

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter I: Introduction.....	1
I.A. Background.....	1
I.A.1 Legalism in ASEAN and its implications towards dispute resolution.....	1
I.A.2 The Challenges brought by the WTO System.....	6
I.B. Research Problems .	11
I.C. Research Objectives .	12
I.D. Originality of Research .	13
I.E. Purpose .	15
Chapter II: Theoretical Framework	18
II.A. The Dispute Settlement Understanding of The World Trade Organization.....	18
II.A.1 The Dispute Settlement Understanding in the context of the Multilateral Trading System.	18
II.A.2 The History of the Development of The Dispute Settlement Understanding.....	20
II.A.3 The Jurisdiction of the Dispute Settlement Understanding.....	25
II.B. Regional Trade Agreements in The WTO.	29
II.B.1 Regional Trade Agreements under article 24 of GATT 1994.....	29
II.B.2 RTA Dispute Settlement Mechanisms.....	35
II.C. ASEAN and Economic Dispute Settlement.....	37
II.C.1.The Basis of ASEAN Economic Cooperation	37
II.C.2 Economic Cooperation in ASEAN.	40
II.C.3 The Protocol on Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism as the DSM in AFTA.	45
Chapter III: Research Method	53
III.A. Type of Research .	53
III.B. Research Method .	54
III.C. Data Analysis	56
III.C.1 Treaty Interpretation according to the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.....	56
III.C.2 Methods of Treaty Interpretation.....	60
III.C.3 Methods of Legal Interpretation.	63
III.C.4 Methods of Case Law Interpretation	66
Chapter IV: Research Findings.....	68
IV.A. Material Differences between the instruments of WTO Dispute Settlement and ASEAN Economic Dispute Settlement	69
IV.A.1 The Process of Establishment of Panels in the protocol relative to the formation of panels in the WTO DSU	70
IV.A.2 The Procedure for the formation of the panels in the event that the two parties cannot come to an agreement.	71
IV.A.3 Issues relating to scope of jurisdiction of the 2004 ASEAN Protocol on Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism.....	73



IV.A.4 The Scope of character of disputes that may be submitted to the protocol is limited in comparison to WTO Dispute Settlement .	75
IV.A.5 The Availability of arbitration as an alternate means of dispute resolution .	77
IV.A.6 Issues relating to recourse through referral to the ASEAN Summit.	79
IV.A.7 Absence of designated rules on Interpretation.	81
IV.A.8 The Inclusion of Special or Additional rules and procedures.	81
IV.A.9 Institutional issues relating to funding in the ASEAN EDSM.	83
IV.A.10 Issues relating to the role of the Senior Economic Officials Meeting.	86
IV.A.11 Issues relating to the Time Frame for Dispute Settlement.	87
IV.B WTO Case Law Concerning Regional Trade Agreement Dispute Resolution.	89
IV.B.1 Chile-Price Band System, 'RTA Agreements as a subsequent agreement under article 31.3(c) of VCLT.	91
IV.B.2 Mexico-Soft Drinks, 'The Panel Should Decline to Exercise its Jurisdiction'.	96
IV.B.3 Argentina-Definitive Anti Dumping Measures, 'The panel should take into account the previous ruling'.	100
IV.C The Forum Preference of ASEAN in the resolution of Economic Disputes.	111
IV.C.1 General Considerations why states may prefer to bring disputes to the WTO over RTA dispute settlement.	111
IV.C.2 Factors unique to ASEAN member states in the resolution of disputes.	114
Chapter V: Closing	119
V.A.Conclusion	119
V.B. Recommendation.	121
Bibliography	123