

**Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE**

# **Geography**

**Advanced  
Paper 3**

Thursday 14 June 2018 – Afternoon  
**Resource Booklet**

Paper Reference  
**9GE0/03**

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## Contrasts and challenges in Southeast Asia

### SECTION A

#### ASEAN – A free trade bloc

ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) is a free trade bloc that was formed in 1967. The founder members were Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. The aims were to:

- Improve economic growth through greater integration of their economies
- Encourage social progress through improvements in education and health provision
- Improve regional security
- Provide a mechanism for resolving regional disputes.

Since its foundation it has expanded, adding Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar (Burma) and Vietnam to its membership. Also, it has broadened its aims to include:

- Protection of the environment
- Acting as a counterbalance to neighbouring superpowers, China and India
- A possible movement towards a common currency similar to the Euro.



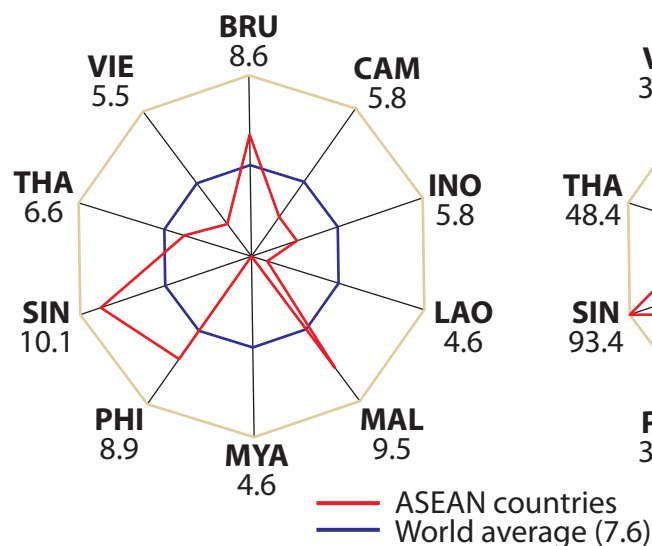
Figure 1

The location of the ASEAN member states

The member states of ASEAN have complex histories with frontiers largely established in colonial times and often unrelated to ethnic, geographic or historic divisions. With significant physical barriers both between states and within them, there has been little regional unity. In fact, there is a long history of disputes between the states which has continued until now, despite membership of ASEAN. There are significant social, economic and political differences between the 10 member states.

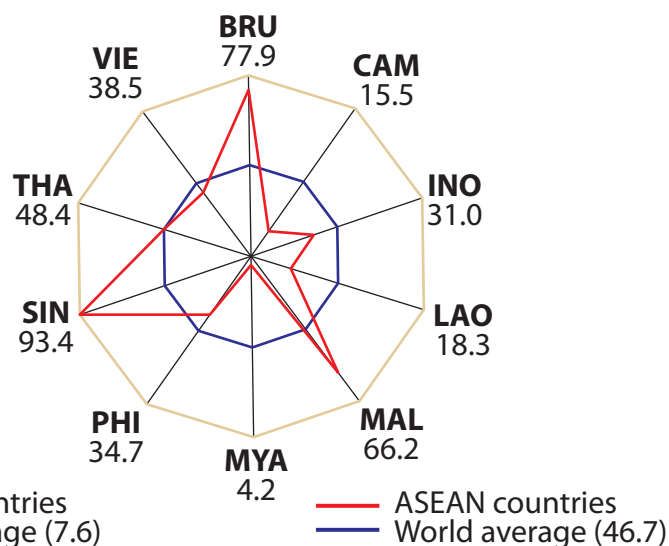
### EDUCATION

Years of schooling



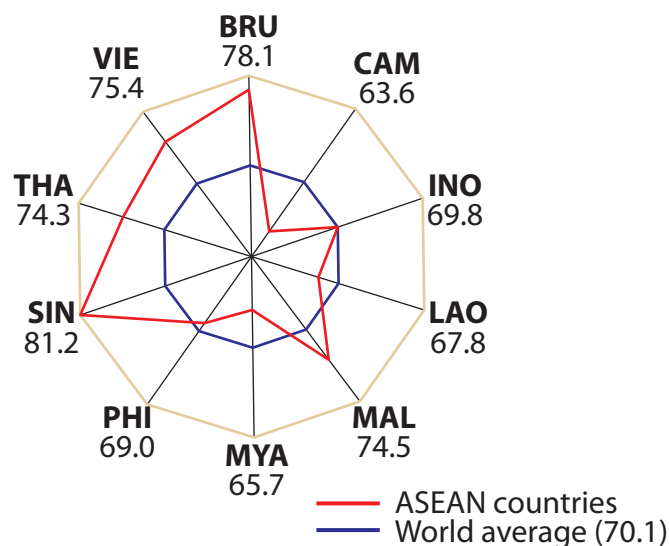
### GOVERNANCE/RULE OF LAW

Higher scores = Stronger governance and rule of law



### HEALTH

Life expectancy



#### Key to countries

BRU = Brunei  
CAM = Cambodia  
INO = Indonesia  
LAO = Laos  
MAL = Malaysia  
MYA = Myanmar  
PHI = Philippines  
SIN = Singapore  
THA = Thailand  
VIE = Vietnam

Figure 2

Selected social and political data for the ASEAN countries

- Globalisation (as measured by the KOF index) varies from Singapore which ranks 6th to Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam, that are amongst the least globalised states in the world.
- Corruption, as measured by the Index of Perceived Corruption, is equally diverse with Singapore, once again, topping the list having very low levels of corruption whilst, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam are amongst the most corrupt states in the world.
- In all 10 ASEAN countries, the GINI coefficient for both income and wealth inequalities are high (between 0.34 in Laos to 0.45 in Singapore), and rising year by year.
- There are also significant economic and social variations within most member states with urban areas growing rapidly at between 2% and 5% per year.
- Today, an estimated 45.8% of the region's population live in urban areas. In 1950, this was only 15.4%.
- Urbanisation rates are rapid as rural economies change from subsistence farming to more commercial agriculture.
- Port cities; Singapore, Manila (Philippines), Bangkok (Thailand), Jakarta (Indonesia), Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam) and Hanoi (Vietnam), connected to global markets, are especially important and have become major economic centres.

Recent improvements in infrastructure have begun to improve connectivity between these very diverse economies. Funding from IGOs, including the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), has improved interconnections and interdependencies have grown. Other significant investors include the two 'local superpowers', India and China. These are engaged in planning a rare co-operative venture in establishing the BCIM (Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar) multimodal corridor between India and China linking the Indian to the Pacific Ocean by road, rail and telecommunications. Nonetheless some areas remain 'switched off' and poorly connected.



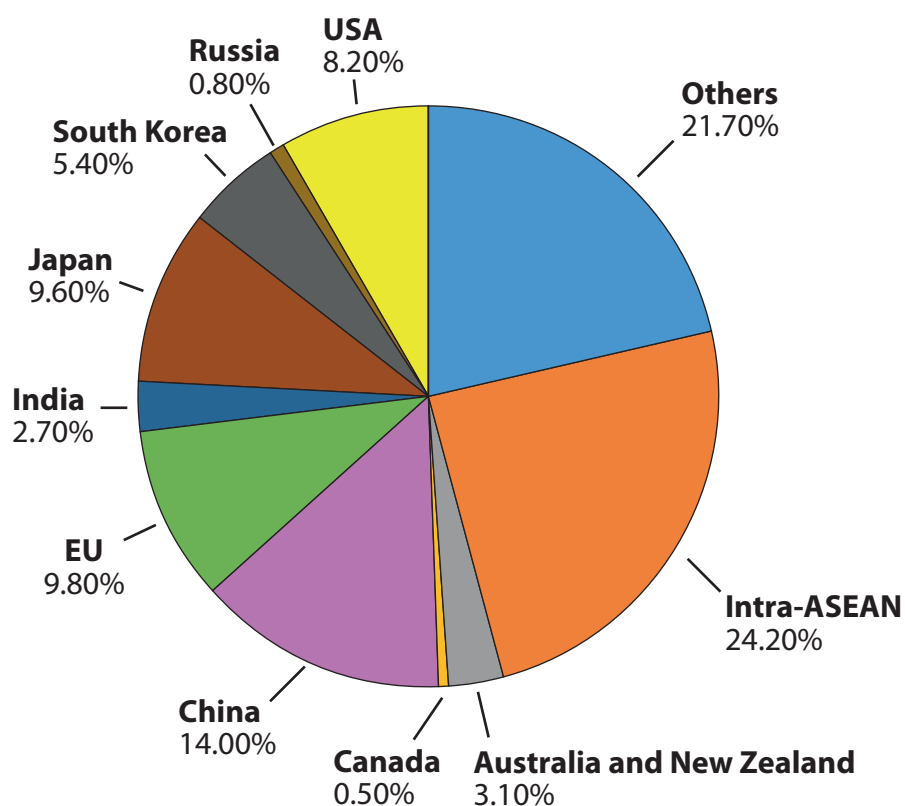
**Figure 3**

**Interconnections between the ASEAN countries**

## SECTION B

### Trade Matters

The members of ASEAN have established trade without tariffs both within their trade bloc and with significant regional neighbours, most notably China.



**Figure 4**

#### The trading partners of the ASEAN free trade bloc

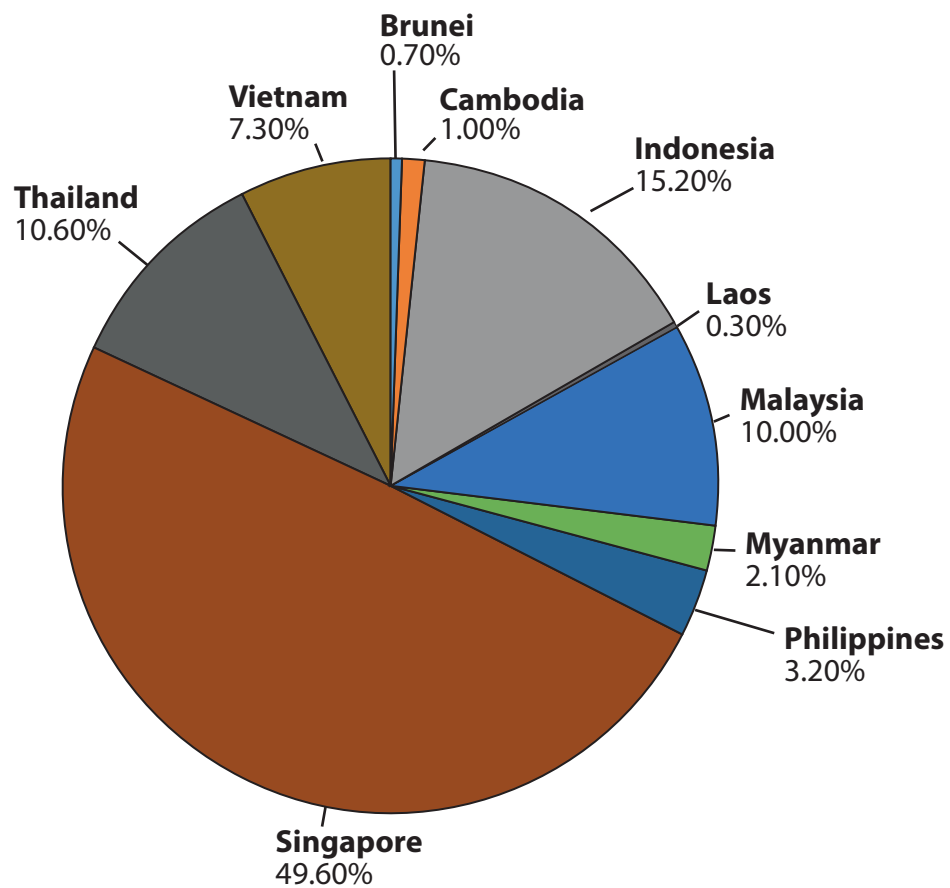
- The level of intra-ASEAN trade (trade between members of ASEAN) is relatively low when compared with other trading blocs – for example intra-EU trade is over 70% of their total trade.
- There is also variation from country to country both in the direction of trade and the goods traded (see Figure 5).

|                    | 1     | 2     | 3           | 4     | 5           |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|
| <b>Brunei</b>      | Japan | ASEAN | South Korea | China | EU          |
| <b>Cambodia</b>    | ASEAN | China | USA         | EU    | Japan       |
| <b>Indonesia</b>   | ASEAN | Japan | China       | EU    | South Korea |
| <b>Laos</b>        | ASEAN | China | EU          | Japan | South Korea |
| <b>Malaysia</b>    | ASEAN | China | Japan       | EU    | USA         |
| <b>Myanmar</b>     | ASEAN | China | Japan       | India | South Korea |
| <b>Philippines</b> | ASEAN | Japan | USA         | China | EU          |
| <b>Singapore</b>   | ASEAN | EU    | China       | USA   | Japan       |
| <b>Thailand</b>    | ASEAN | Japan | China       | EU    | USA         |
| <b>Vietnam</b>     | China | ASEAN | EU          | Japan | USA         |

**Figure 5**

**The five most important trading partners of individual ASEAN members**

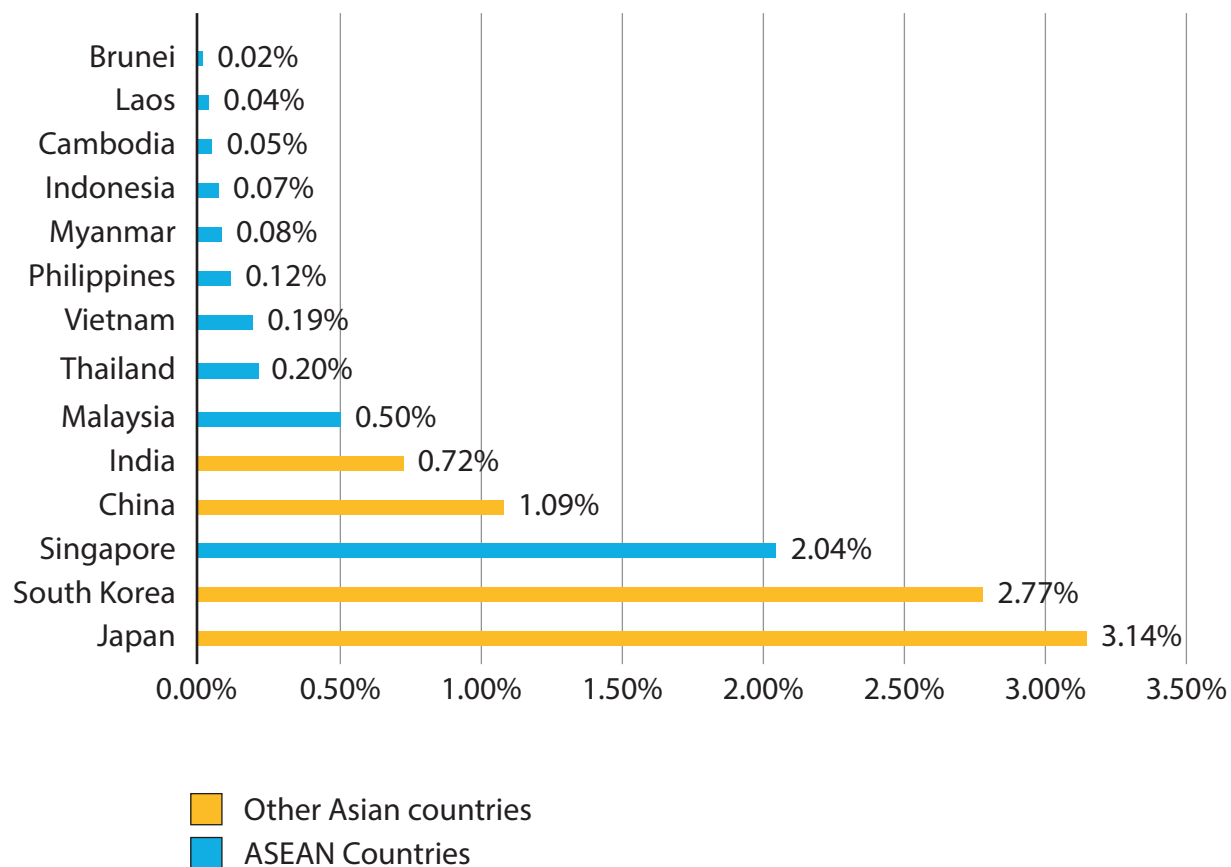




**Figure 6**

**The share of Foreign Direct Investment received by individual ASEAN member countries**





**Figure 7**

**Average expenditure on Research and Development as a % of GDP  
for ASEAN countries and selected others**

## SECTION C

### Superpower issues

- The South China Sea is one of the busiest in the world but also one of the most contested.
- China claims possession of two groups of islands ownership of which, under international maritime law, gives control of the waters around them but this claim is disputed by several ASEAN members and the USA, and was rejected by the international courts.
- Since 1995, joint naval exercises have been conducted annually between the USA and seven out of the ten ASEAN members.
- There is tension between China, ASEAN members and the USA, not least because over \$6 trillion of trade is shipped across this sea but also because of the potential for huge oil and gas finds in its shallow waters.
- For some, this is the most serious global 'hotspot' and poses a real threat for world peace.

## SOUTH CHINA SEA DISPUTES




|                              | Territorial claims                                                                |        |        |          |             |         |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|----------|-------------|---------|
|                              | China                                                                             | Taiwan | Brunei | Malaysia | Philippines | Vietnam |
| Island claims                |                                                                                   |        |        |          |             |         |
| <b>Spratly Islands</b>       | ●                                                                                 | ●      |        | ●        | ●           | ●       |
| <b>Paracel Islands</b>       | ●                                                                                 | ●      |        |          |             | ●       |
| <b>Pratas Islands</b>        | ●                                                                                 | ●      |        |          |             | ●       |
| <b>Scarborough Shoal</b>     | ●                                                                                 | ●      |        |          | ●           |         |
| Oil/gas fields               |  |        |        |          |             |         |
| International shipping lanes |  |        |        |          |             |         |
| Capital city                 |  |        |        |          |             |         |



Figure 8

The contested South China Sea

## SECTION D

### Environmental challenges: past, present and future

- Southeast Asia is exposed to almost all types of natural hazards.
- In recent years, major disasters have included the Boxing Day Tsunami of 2004, Cyclone Nargis in 2008, the Luzon Earthquake in 2009 and Typhoon Haiyan in 2013.
- Southeast Asia is highly vulnerable to natural hazards because:
  1. a large proportion of the population and economic activity is concentrated in lowland areas and along coastlines
  2. the region is heavily reliant on agriculture for livelihoods
  3. there is a high dependence on natural resources and forestry
  4. the level of extreme poverty remains high.

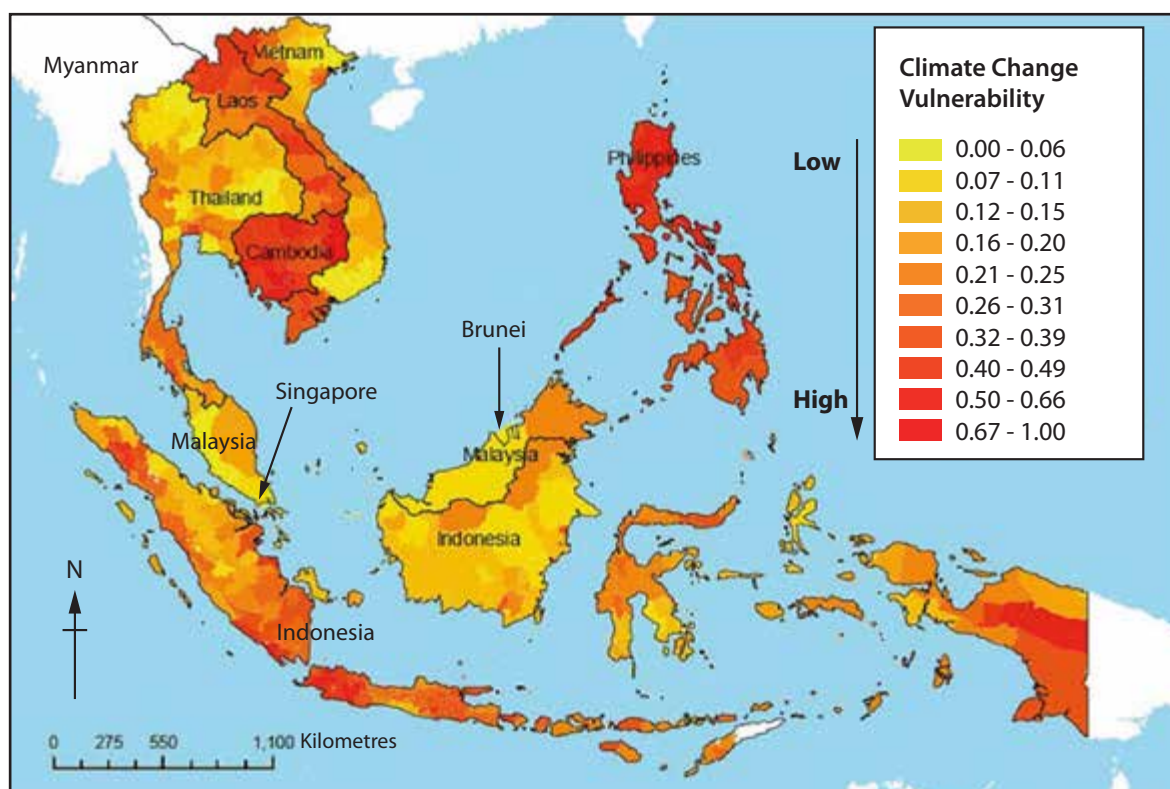
| Country     | Earthquake | Flood | Landslide | Drought | Storm<br>(Typhoon/<br>Cyclone) | Volcano | Forest fire | Tsunami |
|-------------|------------|-------|-----------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| Brunei      | X          | X     | X         | X       | X                              |         | X           |         |
| Cambodia    | X          | XXX   | X         | XX      | X                              |         | X           |         |
| Indonesia   | XXX        | XXX   | XXX       | XX      | XX                             | XXX     | XX          | XXX     |
| Laos        | X          | XXX   | XX        | XX      | XX                             | X       | X           |         |
| Malaysia    | X          | XXX   | XX        | X       | X                              |         | XX          | X       |
| Myanmar     | XX         | XXX   | XX        | XX      | XXX                            |         | X           | X       |
| Philippines | XXX        | XXX   | XXX       | XX      | XXX                            | XX      | X           | X       |
| Singapore   | X          | XX    |           |         | X                              |         |             |         |
| Thailand    | X          | XXX   | XX        | XX      | XX                             |         | X           | X       |
| Vietnam     | X          | XXX   | XX        | XX      | XXX                            |         | X           | X       |

XXX = High Risk   XX = Moderate Risk   X = Low Risk

**Figure 9**

**Disaster matrix for the ASEAN countries**

- The vulnerability to, and impact of, climate change is a major concern to ASEAN both because of its direct impact in terms of sea-level rise but also the strong likelihood that it will increase the risk of disasters.
- A study carried out by Asian Development Bank (ADB) revealed that the mean temperature in the region increased by 0.3° Celsius per decade between 1951 and 2010 whilst precipitation has fallen and sea levels have risen 1 to 3 mm per year.
- The same study projects a 4.8° rise in mean annual temperature and a 700 mm rise in mean sea level by 2100.
- A rise in sea level would result in major problems for many of ASEAN's large coastal cities, such as Jakarta, Bangkok and Manila.
- Heat waves, droughts, floods and tropical cyclones have also become more intense and more frequent.
- Projections of economic losses include a decline in rice yield potential of up to 50% by 2100 and a loss of 6.7% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) each year until the end of this century.



**Figure 10**

**Climate Change Vulnerability across the ASEAN region  
(no data available for Myanmar)**

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Figure 3 - Sourced from: <https://www.paragkhanna.com/home/2016/4/1/asean-map>

Figure 8 - U.S. Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of State, Middlebury College, National Geographic

Figure 10 - Sourced from: <https://www.idrc.ca/sites/default/files/sp/Documents%20EN/climate-change-vulnerability-mapping-sa.pdf>

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