

**Joint Press Statement of the 19th Meeting of the ASEAN
Directors-General of Immigration Department and Heads of
Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs
(19th DGICM)**

8- 9 September 2015

PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

1. The 19th Meeting of The ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of The Ministries of Foreign Affairs (19th DGICM) was convened in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 8-9 September 2015. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Pol. Gen. Sok Phal, Director-General of the General Department of Immigration, Ministry of Interior, Kingdom of Cambodia and was attended by the Directors-General of Immigration and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the ASEAN Member States, and the representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. The Meeting was officiated by Guest of Honour, Samdech Krolahorm Sar Kheng, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Interior of the Kingdom of Cambodia.
3. The Meeting exchanged views, shared information and best practices on border management and immigration related matters. It was noted that ASEAN Member States have enhanced their national efforts to further strengthen border management.
4. The Meeting took note of Cambodia's proposal for the establishment of an ASEAN Immigration Secretariat to serve as a permanent secretariat for ASEAN Immigration and DGICM-related matters. The Meeting agreed that further discussions would be required on this matter.
5. The Meeting welcomed Brunei Darussalam's initiative to develop the SOP or Guidelines for the Provision of Consular Assistance by ASEAN Missions in Third Countries to the Nationals of ASEAN Member States. The Meeting

agreed that a Working Group will be convened to discuss the subject in-depth.

6. Taking into consideration the growth in trade and investment flows in ASEAN, the Meeting welcomed Malaysia's offer to convene a Meeting to study and explore further the feasibility of developing an ASEAN Business Travel Card (ABTC).
7. The Meeting took note of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime's recommendation at the Emergency AMMTC Concerning Irregular Movement of Persons in the Southeast Asia in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 2 July 2015, to discuss further on the irregular movement of persons and to consider the possibility of establishing a special task force or heads of specialist unit on people smuggling. The Meeting discussed and agreed that this recommendation would be further deliberated as part of the DGICM's post-2015 agenda.
8. The Meeting was preceded by the 11th ASEAN Intelligence Forum (AIIF) on 7 September 2015 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The Forum deliberated on the AIIF Contact Points, Immigration-24/7 Hotline, Intelligence Data Sharing Protocol (IDSP), and Irregular Movement of Persons from the intelligence perspective, as well as initiative to establish a forum for Heads of Major Immigration Checkpoints for ASEAN Member States.
9. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN and expressed gratitude to the warm hospitality accorded by the Royal Government of Cambodia.
10. The Meeting welcomed Indonesia's offer to host the 20th DGICM in Indonesia in 2016.