



**JOINT STATEMENT
NINTH INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THAILAND
GROWTH TRIANGLE SUMMIT
(9TH IMT-GT SUMMIT)
28 APRIL 2015
LANGKAWI, KEDAH, MALAYSIA**

1. We, the leaders of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Kingdom of Thailand, meet today in Langkawi, Kedah, Malaysia on the occasion of the 9th Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth-Triangle (IMT-GT) Summit to review progress made towards regional cooperation and integration in IMT-GT. We recognise the challenges posed by a rapidly transforming world in the coming decade, and the need to strengthen our concerted effort in moving IMT-GT forward.
2. We note with satisfaction the progress achieved in the Implementation Blueprint 2012-2016, but also recognise that more efforts are needed to further promote inclusive growth and narrow development gaps in IMT-GT. We encourage our Ministers, in close collaboration with the local governments and the private sector, to adopt stronger measures to ensure the accelerated implementation and timely delivery of priority projects within the remaining term of the Implementation Blueprint.
3. In our efforts to promote sustainable economic development, we also recognise that we must be mindful of the adverse environmental impacts caused by burgeoning economic activities. We applaud the initiative of the Chief Ministers and Governors Forum (CMGF) on the Green Cities Action Plan (GCAP) currently being implemented in Melaka and Songkhla, and soon to be implemented in Medan and Batam. We emphasise the need for continued individual and collective actions to mitigate environmental impacts, including the increasing risks posed by climate change. We call on our Ministers to scale up successful GCAP models, and work towards developing a sustainable urban development framework for IMT-GT cities. The implementation of the action plans under this subregional framework could open new investment

opportunities, with green, liveable IMT-GT cities providing strong sources of growth in the subregion.

4. We confirm our shared determination to develop special border economic zones (SBEZ) in IMT-GT. In this regard, we commend Ministers for the completion of the SBEZ scoping study at the Malaysia–Thailand border, and note with appreciation that suitable location(s) for piloting this important initiative are being finalised. We urge our Ministers to expedite a comprehensive study on the identified priority areas in SBEZ to promote private sector investments, cross-border trade and transport facilitation.
5. We recognise the importance of connectivity in the economic integration of IMT-GT. To promote the cross-border movement of freight and passengers in all modes of transport, we task our Ministers with adopting measures to promote subregional transport facilitation, taking into consideration relevant national rules and regulations. Efforts should be undertaken to support the implementation of ASEAN transport agreements within IMT-GT. We welcome the completion of the study on Belawan–Penang–Trang Roll on/Roll off (RoRo) services, and call on our Ministers to provide the necessary policy measures to enhance the commercial viability of maritime connectivity. We also welcome the preparatory works to introduce a RoRo ferry service for the Dumai–Melaka route, and look forward to its launching.
6. We acknowledge the need to accelerate cooperation in trade and investment to enable business enterprises to take full advantage of the opportunities arising from ASEAN economic integration. We note the ongoing initiative to simplify customs, immigration and quarantine rules, regulations and procedures, and urge our Ministers to enhance collaboration with the private sector in this area. We support the establishment of a statistics database in IMT-GT to more effectively monitor the progress of subregional integration and development.
7. We reiterate the important role of agriculture in the social and economic development of IMT-GT, and reaffirm our commitment to strengthen cooperation in the sector. We urge our Ministers, in consultation with the private sector and local governments, to identify a wider range of commodities that could benefit from technological development, as well as knowledge sharing and exchanges. We also urge the Ministers to initiate

measures to further ease and promote trade in agriculture. We note the proposal of the Joint Business Council to establish an IMT-GT Rubber Corridor. We task the Centre for IMT-GT Subregional Cooperation (CIMT) with conducting a study on rubber value chain linkages with Sumatra under the rubber corridor approach.

8. We recognise the importance of provincial and state governments in promoting inclusive growth, and in ensuring that the local people and communities directly benefit from IMT-GT cooperation. We therefore encourage the CMGF to play a more active role in the formulation and implementation of IMT-GT projects. We also urge the CMGF to more actively engage the business community through the IMT-GT Joint Business Council in the project formulation process, and in addressing impediments to doing business in the subregion. We welcome Thailand's initiative to establish its own CMGF Secretariat hosted by the Prince of Songkla University.
9. With the 2015 ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) ushering in a new economic landscape, we recognise the need to review IMT-GT strategic directions. For the IMT-GT cooperation programme to remain relevant, future strategies and actions should focus on promoting the competitiveness of the subregion, while responding more effectively to the aspirations of IMT-GT stakeholders. We task the CIMT with more extensively engaging local governments and business communities in the identification of future strategic directions and projects.
10. We are pleased to note the continued institutional and organizational strengthening of the CIMT. We remain confident that CIMT will effectively and efficiently fulfil its mandate as the central secretariat and key facilitator and coordinator of IMT-GT cooperation programmes and projects.
11. We appreciate the important role of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as our key development advisor and strategic partner, and its continued commitment to assist in the growth and prosperity of the IMT-GT. We welcome the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between CIMT and ADB in Banda Aceh, Indonesia on 14 September 2014 which provides a solid platform for enhancing the strategic partnership between ADB and IMT-GT. We urge ADB to continue its technical assistance to IMT-GT in the areas of

corridor development, trade and transport facilitation, and capacity building, as well as in strengthening operational and institutional linkages with ASEAN.

12. We reaffirm IMT-GT's important role in translating the broad goals of ASEAN economic integration and community-building into specific projects that directly address the development needs of the subregion. In this context, we commend the successful convening of the joint ASEAN, BIMP-EAGA and IMT-GT Land Transport Facilitation Consultation Meeting held in Surabaya, Indonesia on 24 April 2015, organized by ADB and the ASEAN Secretariat. We urge our Ministers to explore similar joint consultations in other areas of cooperation to ensure that IMT-GT remains a strategic building block towards the ASEAN Community. We strongly urge the ASEAN Secretariat to collaborate with CIMT to assist in mobilising knowledge, technical and financial resources for IMT-GT's priority projects from its dialogue partners.
13. We express our gratitude to the Government of Malaysia for the excellent arrangements for the 9th IMT-GT Summit and the warm hospitality that has been extended, and to the Government of Indonesia as the chair of this Summit.

Langkawi, Kedah, Malaysia
28 April 2015