

**TWENTY THIRD ASEAN TRANSPORT MINISTERS (ATM) MEETING  
12 October 2017, Singapore**

**JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

---

1. The Twenty Third ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) Meeting was held on 12 October 2017 in Singapore. H.E. Mr. Khaw Boon Wan, Coordinating Minister for Infrastructure and Minister for Transport of Singapore, chaired the Meeting, with H.E. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Minister of Transport of Thailand, serving as Vice-Chairperson. The 23<sup>rd</sup> ATM Meeting was preceded by the 44<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) and STOM meetings with Dialogue Partners held on 9-11 October 2017.

**Strengthening the ASEAN Single Aviation Market**

2. The Ministers concluded the Tenth Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the ASEAN Framework of Services (AFAS) and signed the Protocol to facilitate its implementation to further liberalise air transport ancillary services in the region.

3. The Ministers also signed the Protocol on Domestic Code-Share Rights between points within the territory of any other ASEAN Member States. This Protocol allows code-sharing arrangements where a marketing airline applies its own flight code on a domestic airline for a domestic leg that the domestic airline is operating, and which only is available as part of an international journey. The Ministers encouraged all ASEAN Member States to put efforts for ratification and implementation of the Protocol and looked forward to further liberalisation of key economic elements under the ASEAN Single Aviation Market.

4. The Ministers adopted the ASEAN Air Traffic Management (ATM) Master Plan, which will enhance ATM safety, efficiency, and capacity in the region, and advance the Seamless ASEAN Sky (SAS). The Ministers further tasked the STOM to work closely on effective implementation of the ASEAN ATM Master Plan.

5. The Ministers adopted the Terms of Reference (TOR) for ASEAN Foreign Operator Safety Assessment (AFOSA), which seeks to enhance the capability of individual ASEAN Member States to assess safety compliance and address adverse safety trends by collecting and exchanging ramp inspection data, and disseminating the results of the analysed ramp inspection data through a standardised set of procedures and requirements.

6. The Ministers also adopted and signed the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Flight Crew Licensing (FCL), an overarching framework agreement to facilitate and support future mutual recognition of licences issued by ASEAN Member States for pilots flying commercial flights.

7. The Ministers welcomed the growth in air connectivity between ASEAN and China, with the implementation of the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement (AC-ATA) and its Protocols 1 and 2. The Ministers encouraged both sides to make progress on and conclude an agreement to further expand 5th freedom traffic rights in 2018, and eventually achieve ASEAN-China Open Skies in support of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement.

### **Moving towards seamless cross-border movement of passengers and goods**

8. The Ministers lauded the conclusion of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Cross Border Transport of Passengers by Road Vehicles (CBTP), and signed the ASEAN CBTP to facilitate seamless cross-border mobility of passengers between and among ASEAN Member States. The Ministers looked forward to the implementation of ASEAN CBTP which would enhance People-to-People Connectivity as well as promote tourism and investment in the region.

9. The Ministers noted the completion of the Parallel Run of the ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) Pilot conducted in the ACTS Pilot Countries, and urged all ASEAN Member States to expedite the ratification of all the necessary Protocols to the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT), in order to proceed with the full implementation of the ACTS.

### **Intensifying efforts on realisation of ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM)**

10. The Ministers welcomed the successful launching of the maiden voyage of the ASEAN Roll-on Roll-off (RORO) Sea Linkage Route between Davao – General Santos (the Philippines) – Bitung (Indonesia) on 30 April 2017 in Davao City, Philippines. Noting the importance of the route in the improvement of economy in that area, the Ministers supported the strengthened coordination between Indonesia and the Philippines for sustainability of the route. The Ministers welcomed the positive development of RORO ferry service between Dumai, Indonesia and Melaka, Malaysia which is scheduled to be operationalised in 2019.

11. The Ministers welcomed the finalisation of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Guidelines for Ports in ASEAN, which provides basic ideas for improving disaster prevention/mitigation measures in each ASEAN Member States.

12. The Meeting noted the progress in the deliberation on a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the Improvement of Safety Standards and Ship Inspection for Non-Convention Ships (NCS) in the ASEAN Region and the Guidelines for Safety Standards of NCS in the ASEAN Region. The Ministers looked forward to timely finalisation of the draft MOU, which is targeted to be signed at the 45<sup>th</sup> STOM in 2018.

### **ASEAN Highway Network (AHN) Project**

13. The Ministers were pleased with the completion of stocktaking of AHN Inventory Data as a five-year regular undertaking to measure the improvement of works in constructing and upgrading quality of roads under AHN. The Ministers welcomed the upgrading of 69% of below Class III roads and 20% of Class III roads to higher standards and increase of 10% of Primary Class roads during 2004-2014, with the remaining 2,047km below Class III roads

from total AHN. The Ministers encouraged the upgrading of all the remaining below Class III and Class III roads under AHN to higher standards to support greater integrated regional land transport network in ASEAN.

### **Transport Partnership with Dialogue Partners**

14. The Ministers acknowledged the significant progress made in various cooperation programmes under the established transport partnerships with China, Japan, ROK, and the European Union (EU). The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the dialogue partners for the technical assistance and support rendered in advancing ASEAN transport cooperation.

15. Under the ASEAN-China partnership, the Ministers were pleased to note the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Authorities in charge of Aircraft Accident Investigation of ASEAN Member States and the Civil Aviation Administration of China on Cooperation relating to Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation. The Ministers looked forward to witnessing the signing of the MOU at the 16<sup>th</sup>ATM+China Meeting.

16. The Ministers also applauded the progress made under the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP) through implementation of activities under the Work Plan for 2016-2017. The Ministers also welcomed new initiatives under the AJTP, which include the ASEAN-Japan Cold Chain Logistics Project, Development of Guidelines for Maintenance of Navigation Channels in ASEAN; and Development of Guidelines for Safety Measures with Ships' Routeing. The Ministers also noted the progress of negotiations on an ASEAN-Japan Air Services Agreement (AJ-ASA) and urged both sides to reach an agreement on a more liberal and mutually beneficial AJ-ASA that is over and above what has been exchanged bilaterally between Japan and individual ASEAN Member States.

17. The Ministers acknowledged the steady progress made in implementing the ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation Roadmap. The Ministers further encouraged the STOM and the relevant working groups to intensify coordination with the ROK in preparation for the convening of the ASEAN-Korea Working Group on Air Services Arrangements to continue the dialogue towards early conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial ASEAN-ROK air services agreement.

18. The Ministers supported strengthening transport connectivity with India and looked forward to the expeditious conclusion of both ASEAN-India Air Transport Agreement and ASEAN-India Maritime Transport Agreement.

19. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of a Work Plan for implementation of ASEAN-U.S. Aviation Cooperation, which consists of activities in the areas of Economic Regulation, Safety, Efficiency, and Harmonisation, as well as Aviation Security.

20. The Ministers adopted the Terms of Reference for the establishment of ASEAN-EU Transport Dialogue which shall be held annually at senior transport official level. The Ministers expressed their pleasure with the progress of the negotiations on an ASEAN-EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (CATA). The Ministers further encouraged both sides to continue working towards the conclusion of an ambitious and pace-setting ASEAN-

EU CATA that reflects ASEAN's and the EU's shared vision and aspirations, which would bring benefits to more than 1 billion people in ASEAN and the EU.

21. The Ministers noted the completion of the EU – ASEAN Air Transport Integration Project (EU-AATIP) and ASEAN Regional Integration Support from the EU (ARISE) and expressed appreciation to the EU for its assistance in the areas of air transport and transport facilitation to support goals and actions under the Kuala Lumpur Transport Strategic Plan (KLTSP). The Ministers looked forward to the EU's continued strong support under the ARISE Plus Programme.

#### **Twenty-Fourth ATM**

22. The Ministers agreed to convene the Twenty-Fourth ATM Meeting in Thailand in 2018.

23. The delegates from ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of Singapore for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.



## LIST OF MINISTERS

- (a) H.E. Dato Seri Setia Haji Mustappa bin Haji Sirat, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam;
- (b) H.E. Mr. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia;
- (c) H.E. Mr. Budi Karya Sumadi, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia;
- (d) H.E. Mr. Bounchanh Sinthavong, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR;
- (e) H.E. Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, Minister of Transport of Malaysia;
- (f) H.E. Mr. Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister of Transport and Communications of Myanmar;
- (g) H.E. Mr. Arthur P. Tugade, Secretary of Transportation of the Philippines;
- (h) H.E. Mr. Khaw Boon Wan, Coordinating Minister for Infrastructure and Minister for Transport of Singapore;
- (i) H.E. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Minister of Transport of Thailand;
- (j) H.E. Mr. Le Dinh Tho, Vice-Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and
- (k) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.