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2011-2015



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ASEAN Plus Three

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I. ASEAN PLUS THREE SUMMIT

A decorative graphic consisting of three overlapping, curved lines in blue, yellow, and red, positioned in the lower half of the page. The blue line is the topmost and widest, the yellow line is in the middle, and the red line is the bottommost and narrowest. They all curve upwards from left to right.

I. ASEAN PLUS THREE SUMMIT

Chairman's Statement of the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Summit

Bali, Indonesia, 18 November 2011

1. The 14th ASEAN Plus Three Summit, chaired by H.E. Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia, was held in Bali on 18 November 2011. The Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member Countries, the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea attended the Meeting.
2. We reviewed with satisfaction the progress made by the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation through the implementation of the 2nd Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). We noted the significant advancement in the economic and financial cooperation, as well as in the socio-cultural and development cooperation.
3. We encouraged deepening political and security cooperation as the maintenance and enhancement of peace and stability are indispensable conditions for development in the region. In this regard, we reaffirmed the importance of cooperation to promote good governance, strengthen the rule of law, and protect and promote human rights through policy dialogue and capacity building activities. We further decided to enhance cooperation in counter-terrorism, combating cyber crimes, maritime cooperation, and other non-traditional security issues.
4. We shared the view that terror threats, which could pose impediments to the efforts towards the enhancement of the ASEAN connectivity, still exist in the region. In order to ensure the ASEAN integration, we are committed to the continued efforts in combating terrorism and transnational crime. To that end, we encouraged all parties to consolidate and further strengthen of their efforts under the ASEAN Plus Three framework in this area.
5. We stressed the importance of maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and called on all concerned parties to make efforts to achieve the complete

and verifiable denuclearization of the Korean peninsula in accordance with the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks and relevant UN Security Council Resolutions. We highlighted the successful meeting between officials of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea in the margins of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting and Post Ministerial Conferences in Bali last July that exemplified how ASEAN and ASEAN-led mechanisms could create a conducive environment to hold dialogues on difficult issues and problems. We encouraged the parties to promote the necessary conditions for the early resumption of the Six Party Talks. We emphasised the importance of addressing the issues of humanitarian concerns of the international community.

6. We reaffirmed that the ASEAN Plus Three process would continue as a main vehicle towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force. At the same time, we reaffirmed our support for ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture and recognised the mutually reinforcing and complementary roles of the ASEAN Plus Three process and such regional fora as ASEAN Plus One, EAS, and ARF in the East Asian community building process.

7. We noted that despite the downside risks in the global financial and economic crisis, the East Asian economies were among the first to recover, and had become one of the key drivers of the global economic recovery. In this regard, we reiterated our commitment to promote economic growth that is strong, sustainable, and balanced. We highlighted the importance for East Asia countries to accelerate regional integration as a way to fuel the internal growth engine and to promote economic development of the region in a sustainable and healthy way.

8. We recognised the fundamental contribution of international trade to global prosperity and sustainable development and underline the necessity to push forward the Doha Development Agenda. We underscore the merits of the multilateral trading system as a way to avoid protectionism and inward-looking behavior. We further reiterated the importance of reforming the international financial architecture in which developing economies would assume a greater role in the global economic decision-making process. To that end, we reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN Chair to continue to participate in the G-20 Summits on a regular basis.

9. We welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Plus Three Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) in April 2011, which will contribute to early detection of risks, swift implementation of remedial actions, and effective decision-making of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM). We encouraged the study on the design of a possible crisis prevention function for CMIM. We welcomed the progress of Asian

Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI), including the establishment of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF) and the timely development of the Asian Bond Market Forum (ABMF), which will contribute to regional economic stability and resilience. We also encouraged current studies on priority areas of future regional financial cooperation.

10. We noted the ASEAN Report on the Emerging Regional Architecture and commended the ASEAN Plus Working Groups (APWGs) for their work on consolidating the ASEAN Plus One FTAs and looking into the recommendations in the East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA) and Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA) Studies, particularly in the areas of rules of origin, tariff nomenclature, customs procedures, and economic cooperation. We shared the view that substantive work has been carried out and that it was important to sustain the momentum generated by the EAFTA and CEPEA Studies as well as the ASEAN Plus process. We also welcomed the constructive joint proposal of China and Japan to establish three new working groups for trade and investment liberalization under the EAFTA and CEPEA.

11. We reaffirmed that the ASEAN Plus Three process would continue to be a main vehicle to achieve the long-term goal of building an East Asian community in which the East Asia Summit plays a significant role in the regional community building process. We reaffirmed our strong support for ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture.

12. We noted the adoption of the ASEAN Framework for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership at the 19th ASEAN Summit. We also noted that the Framework reiterates the importance of ASEAN centrality in the regional economic integration process and sets out the general principles for broadening and deepening ASEAN's engagement with its FTA partners, using as a basis the ASEAN Plus One FTAs and the template that would be developed taking into account the EAFTA and CEPEA initiatives, with a view to considering appropriate next steps for further regional economic integration. We welcomed the decision made by ASEAN, taking into account the joint proposal of Japan and China, to establish ASEAN Plus Working Groups in the areas of Trade in Goods, Trade in Services, and Investment noting in particular that the Working Group on Trade in Goods, that would be set up in early 2012, would also be tasked to follow-up on the outcome of the APWGs on Rules of Origin, Tariff Nomenclature, and Customs Procedures.

13. We reaffirmed our commitment to promote food security in the region in terms of availability, accessibility, diversity, and utilisation. We encouraged the increase of

production and productivity through greater investment as well as enhanced support in capacity building, research, as well as technological development and transfer in the agricultural sector. In this context, we welcomed steady implementation of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) and its further development based on the Proposal of Post-2012 AFSIS.

14. We also expressed our satisfaction by the signing of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement on 7 October 2011 in Jakarta, Indonesia, as a permanent mechanism to ensure food security in the region in time of need. We deliberated on the possibility of establishing modalities to achieve the same aims for other staple foods.

15. We also reaffirmed our commitment to ensure energy security in the region by promoting energy diversification through information exchanges and researches on alternative, new, and renewable energy development, as well as energy conservation, energy efficiency, and the use of clean and environmentally-friendly technologies.

16. We expressed our solidarity and support for the Government and People of Japan in their recovery and reconstruction efforts. We also expressed confidence of the early reconstruction of Japan. To this end, Japan continually provides necessary information such as the current radioactivity level in the affected area in a timely manner. ASEAN Plus Three, in turn, would consider appropriate review to relax restrictions on imports from Japan after the nuclear accident in order to promote trade, investment, travel, and people-to-people links in the region.

17. We welcomed Japan's proposal to hold an international conference/seminar in 2012 to share its experiences and lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake on 11 March 2011, as well as to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015. We shared the view that ASEAN Plus Three countries should further strengthen regional cooperation in disaster preparedness and relief management to promote a disaster resilient society in the region.

18. We expressed our condolences and sympathies to ASEAN Member States affected by the recent devastating floods. We see the need to enhance cooperation on flood mitigation and sustainable water resource management as provided under the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). We tasked our relevant Ministers and officials to come up with concrete plans and proposals to enhance this cooperation.

19. We expressed our support to fully utilise the recently launched ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA

Centre) to ensure close cooperation and coordination. We underlined the need to focus on enhancing our collective capacity, namely through disaster relief exercises invoking appropriate civil-military components in disaster rapid and effective response, as well as the development of a regional arrangement to remove or minimise a number of bottlenecks that impede the timely delivery of support.

20. We decided to further explore the possibility of establishing a crisis management center to respond quickly and effectively to various emergencies, including natural disaster and financial crisis, in the region by coordinating the various mechanisms under the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation framework.

21. We reiterated our strong commitment in strengthening cooperation and joint efforts to promote common development and to address common challenges of education in the region. We welcomed the convening of the first Informal ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting on 18 July 2011 in Bali, Indonesia, which discussed initiatives, strategies, and future direction, as well as reviewed the progress of the education cooperation under the framework of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation. We support the finalization of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education (2010-2017) for adoption at the Ministerial Level, and looked forward to the implementation of the said Plan of Action.

22. The ASEAN Leaders appreciated the Plus Three Leaders' interest in supporting the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity. We agreed to harness the ASEAN Plus Three extensive mechanism to enhance regional connectivity. We appreciate Thailand's initiative to develop ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity and offer to organise a workshop to work with all ASEAN Plus Three Countries in developing this initiative.

23. We welcomed the successful holding of the "International Symposium on Exchange among Universities with Quality Assurance in East Asian Region" hosted by Japan in September 2011 and reaffirmed the importance of promoting quality assurance in higher education among ASEAN Plus Three countries. In this regard, we welcomed the progress of the "CAMPUS Asia" initiative by Japan, People's Republic of China, and Republic of Korea and their intention to promote university exchanges with ASEAN countries.

24. We emphasised on the importance of enhancing cooperation to address climate change, with the sufficient financial and technological support by the developed countries, as well as cooperation in international negotiations toward a comprehensive and balanced outcome in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated

responsibilities and mandate of the Bali Roadmap for the full, effective, and sustained implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol.

25. We noted the Memorandum No.8 on disaster management, cultural exchange, as well as trade and investment facilitation and connectivity, prepared by the Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT) on 11-12 August 2011 in Da Nang, Viet Nam. We appreciated the contribution of NEAT and encouraged relevant ASEAN Plus Three sectoral bodies to look into NEAT's policy recommendations. We also emphasised the need and importance of greater involvement of NEAT within the framework of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and with ASEAN Plus Three sectoral bodies' activities to support the visions and actions of the East Asian community building process.

26. We welcomed the successful holding of the 9th East Asia Forum (EAF) Meeting on 15-17 September 2011 in Chengdu, the People's Republic of China, with the theme of "Accelerating Regional Integration: Internal Growth Engine of East Asia". We appreciated the Republic of Korea's initiative to revitalise the EAF and took note of the concept paper on the EAF adopted at the 9th EAF Meeting.

27. We welcomed the successful first meeting of the East Asia Vision Group (EAVG) II held on 20-22 October 2011 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. In this regard, we also welcomed the Report of the Eminent Persons Group on the Establishment of the EAVG II and we looked forward to the final report of the EAVG II at the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in 2012. We underscored the need for the EAVG II to hold sessions with relevant sectoral bodies and other ASEAN Plus Three-led initiatives to take stock all previous and current activities in order to provide a comprehensive and integrated recommendation on the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.

28. We shared the view on the necessity to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in 2012 and to mark the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit as an ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit.

29. We expressed our full support to Lao PDR to host the 9th Asia-Europe Summit in Vientiane in 2012.

ASEAN Plus Three Leaders' Joint Statement on the Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 19 November 2012

1. We, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, gathered in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 19 November 2012, to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.
2. The ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit was chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The Heads of State/ Government of ASEAN Member States, the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea attended the meeting. The Secretary-General of ASEAN also attended the Meeting.
3. We reviewed the achievements of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation over the past 15 years, and discussed its future direction. We took note with satisfaction of the fast growing and deepening of cooperation in all areas of cooperation, in particular politics and security, economy, finance, connectivity, food security, energy, environment, health and pandemic diseases, culture, tourism, science, technology and innovation, information and communication technology, poverty eradication, disaster management, and youth and education.
4. We acknowledged that the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation played an indispensable role in promoting East Asian unity and coordination, deepening regional economic integration and expanding horizon for common development. We have successfully tackled the global financial crisis and preserved economic and financial stability, thus becoming the most vibrant region in the global economy. In light of the profound and complex changes in the world and the multiple pressures to maintain sustainable development of the region, we agreed to come together and work collectively to meet the challenges, make good use of the well-established ASEAN Plus Three cooperation mechanisms and give full play to our advantages.

5. We noted with appreciation the substantive progress of the implementation of the Second Joint Statement on the East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) which provided strategic guidance for the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation. We welcomed the decision of the ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting in July 2012 to conduct a Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan. In order to implement the Work Plan effectively, we supported the strengthening of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund (APTCF).

6. We reaffirmed our strong commitment to deepen and broaden the ASEAN Plus Three process, as guided by, *inter alia*, the 1999 Joint Statement on the East Asia Cooperation and the 2007 Second Joint Statement on the East Asia Cooperation, to serve as a main vehicle towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community and expressed our continued support for the central role of ASEAN in the evolving regional architecture. We reiterated that the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation would continue to support the realisation of the ASEAN Community and pave the way towards regional integration.

7. We realised the importance of maintaining and enhancing peace and stability in the region as indispensable conditions for development and progress. We stressed the importance of respecting for the right of each country to independently choose its development path, and the need to intensify and enhance efforts to promote common values and norms, such as good governance, rule of law, as well as promotion and protection of human rights. We agreed to further strengthen security cooperation, particularly to deal with emerging challenges to peace and stability in both traditional and non-traditional security dimensions.

8. We are committed to further strengthening cooperation and dialogue in political-security area as guided by the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan in order to address emerging regional and global issues as well as to maintain peace, stability and prosperity in the region. We agreed to continue our discussions on establishing regional institutional arrangements in areas, such as law enforcement, disaster management, combating transnational crime and the prevention and control of diseases. We will continue to: (i) promote mutual trust and understanding through increasing exchanges between officials; and (ii) enhance technical assistance and capacity-building in support of efforts to address traditional and non-traditional security issues in a substantive manner.

9. In light of the shrinking external demand we were confronted with, we agreed to strengthen the internal drivers for East Asia's growth, by boosting demand within the region and promoting intra-regional economic development. We acknowledged the importance of maintaining strong trade relations between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries which

had strengthened the region's ability and resilience in dealing with the financial and economic crisis since the inception of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation. To this end, we called upon the relevant ministers to further strengthen and deepen existing ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements with Plus Three countries. We also urged business communities in the region to take full advantage of the opportunities of these FTAs.

10. Due to the rapid regional and global developments, we stressed the importance of achieving a comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial economic partnership agreement in this region in accordance with the Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) approved by the ASEAN Economic Ministers and their counterparts from ASEAN's FTA Partners in August 2012. We therefore welcomed the progress in the preparation work aiming at the official launch of the RCEP negotiations in November 2012, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, which reflects the concrete cooperation among the participating countries to strengthen regional economic integration.

11. We highly appreciated the progress of regional financial cooperation, in particular the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) as a part of the regional financial safety net. In this regard, we welcomed the progress made at the ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting held on 3 May 2012, in Manila, to strengthen the CMIM including by doubling its total size from USD120 billion to USD 240 billion, increasing the IMF de-linked portion to 30% in 2012, and introducing a crisis prevention facility "CMIM Precautionary Line (CMIM-PL)". We welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) and stressed the importance of strengthening its capacity as an independent regional surveillance unit.

12. We also highly appreciated efforts to utilise regional savings for regional investments through the Asian Bond Market Initiative (ABMI), including the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF), to promote the development of local currency denominated bond markets and enhancing macroeconomic and financial stability. We welcomed the adoption of the New ABMI Roadmap+ to produce tangible and concrete outcome on the nine priorities, among others, implementation of guarantee programme of the CGIF and the ASEAN Plus Three Bond Markets Forum (ABMF) activities including the Common Bond Issuance Programme. We also welcomed the initial research findings on priority areas of future regional cooperation. We tasked the relevant Ministers to continue to expeditiously implement the initiative related to regional financial cooperation.

13. We reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN Chair's participation in the G-20 Summit on a regular basis with a view to reflecting ASEAN as a relevant and responsible regional organisation to the global economic and financial cooperation.

We also welcomed the substantive outcomes of the G-20 Summit which was held on 18-19 June 2012, in Los Cabos, Mexico.

14. We further welcomed the establishment of the United Nations Secretary-General High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, in which the President of Indonesia is one of its Co-Chairs as a representation of the region.

15. We agreed to further enhance the cooperation in food security. We supported the important role of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement, which came into force on 12 July 2012 to serve as a permanent mechanism to ensure sustainable and integrated food security in the region, and welcomed the proposed creation of an ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Information System. We tasked our relevant ministers to explore the possibility of establishing mechanisms for other kinds of food. We supported the continued convening of the annual ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Cooperation Roundtable. We also decided to strengthen regional efforts to enhance cooperation in agricultural sector in order to increase agricultural production and productivity, taking into account the diversity of environmental conditions and positive externalities of agriculture. In this regard, we welcomed steady implementation of ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) and expected its future development based on the Proposal of Post-2012 AFSIS.

16. We looked forward to the signing of Memorandum of Cooperation on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation, which will be one of the key instruments to strengthen good relationship and cooperation in tourism industry between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.

17. We agreed to forge cooperation in education and welcomed the convening of the First ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers' Meeting (APT BMM) held on 4 July 2012, in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and the adoption of the ASEAN Plus Three Action Plan on Education 2010-2017. We appreciated concrete plans, proposals and future direction contained therein which will support the ASEAN Community as well as East Asian community building process through capacity building, improvement of the quality of education, strengthening regional competitiveness, promotion of educational exchange, providing more education opportunities and nurturing innovation in the region.

18. We acknowledged the steady progress achieved in the field of cultural cooperation. We further noted the constructive role that the ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA+3) cooperation mechanism had played in facilitating closer cooperation in the areas of cultural heritage protection, cultural human resource development and cultural industries, as well as promoting dialogues and sharing best practices in the implementation of arts and culture policies. We welcomed the endorsement

of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in Culture by the Ministers at the Fifth AMCA+3 Meeting held on 24 May 2012, in Singapore.

19. We further emphasised the need to strengthen cooperation in the information sector to ensure that multi-platform flows of information are in place to raise awareness of ASEAN and promote mutual understanding among East Asian people. We noted that the Work Plan on Enhancing the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Through Information and Media (2012 – 2017) has been endorsed and looked forward to the successful implementation of strategic activities listed therein.

20. We welcomed the areas of collaboration in health as detailed in the Joint Statement of the Fifth ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers' Meeting (AHMM+3) held on 6 July 2012, in Phuket, Thailand, and as aligned with the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015) with specific focus on Communicable and Emerging Infectious Disease, Pandemic Preparedness and Response, Traditional Medicine, Universal Health Coverage, Non-Communicable Diseases, and Maternal and Child Health.

21. We noted with satisfaction the plan for operationalisation of the Luang Prabang Declaration on the ASEAN Plus Three Civil Service Cooperation through pilot projects for the improvement of civil service efficiency, competency and accountability. We also welcomed the convening of the ASEAN Plus Three Heads of Civil Service and ACCSM+3 Joint Technical Working Group Meetings for the first time on 2 October 2012, in Putrajaya, Malaysia.

22. We reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in enhancing the well-being and livelihood of the vulnerable groups in the region. In this regard, we agreed to deepen and widen the cooperation under the ASEAN Plus Three Ministers' Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD+3), ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers' Meeting (ALMM+3), ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials' Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDPE+3) and ASEAN Plus Three Committee on Women (ACW+3).

23. We acknowledged the important role of the ASEAN-Japan Centre, the ASEAN-Korea Centre and the ASEAN-China Centre in promoting trade, investment, tourism, education and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.

24. We recognised the importance of promoting an enabling environment for joint research, exchange programmes, development and sharing of educational content for the future scientists in the ASEAN Plus Three region. In this regard, we noted with appreciation the continuing programmes and opportunities provided by the ASEAN Plus

Three Center for the Gifted in Science (ACGS) in the Republic of Korea, which are aimed at nurturing the gifted students in science as well as the science teachers in the region.

25. We reaffirmed the importance of effective and timely implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) to enhance intra-ASEAN linkages, strengthen competitiveness and narrow the development gaps. In this regard, ASEAN highly appreciated the continuing support of the Plus Three countries for the realisation of the MPAC. We expressed our support to the enhancement of connectivity under the ASEAN PlusThree framework and adopted the Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity in order to prioritise connectivity in all areas of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation and to further promote connectivity between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.

26. We reaffirmed our commitment to strengthen efforts to combat terrorism and transnational crime linked to the enhancement of connectivity within the East Asia region. In this regard, we agreed to facilitate the cooperation under the ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC+3).

27. We underscored the importance of promoting energy diversification, information exchanges, research and sharing of experiences on new, and renewable energy development, energy efficiency and conservation, and the use of clean and environmentally-friendly technologies, to ensure energy security, and sustainability in the region. We also welcomed the outcome of the 9th ASEAN Plus Three Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM+3), held in Cambodia, on 12 September 2012.

28. We agreed to further strengthen regional cooperation in the area of disaster management. We supported the early and full operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) and the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme for 2010 -2015.

29. We noted the constructive role of the ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers' Meeting in facilitating closer environmental cooperation. We agreed to further enhance cooperation on climate change adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity and natural heritage conservation, reduction of transboundary environmental pollution, green growth, sustainable water resources management, sustainable forest management and environmental education.

30. We appreciated the important contribution of the Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT) in strengthening the East Asia cooperation and moving forward the East Asian community building in the long-term. In this regard, we

welcomed the outcomes of the 10th NEAT Annual Conference under the theme of “Deepening East Asian Integration through Building Trust,” which was held on 28 August 2012, in Beijing, China, the four meetings of the NEAT Working Groups on “NEAT: the Next Ten Years,” “Disaster Management,” “Inclusive Growth,” and “East Asian Cultural Archive,” which were held this year in Beijing, Tokyo, Singapore and Seoul, respectively. We noted the Memorandum Number 9 of the NEAT and encouraged the relevant ASEAN Plus Three sectoral bodies to look into NEAT’s Policy Recommendations.

31. We appreciated the important contribution of the East Asia Forum (EAF) in supporting the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation and the East Asian community building. In this regard, we welcomed the outcomes of the 10th EAF under the theme “Narrowing the Development Gaps in Rural and Urban Communities: Sharing Lessons and Experiences Among Us,” which was held on 15-17 August 2012, in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

32. We noted with appreciation the recommendations contained in the final report of the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVGII). We looked forward to the significant contribution of the EAVG II recommendations for the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three process, regional cooperation and community building and tasked the relevant ministers to consider the recommendations of the EAVG II for further actions.

33. We welcomed the selection of Siem Reap City of Cambodia as the “Cultural City of East Asia 2012 within the framework of ASEAN Plus Three.” We also welcomed the designation of the year 2012 as “Visit ASEAN Plus Three Year.”

34. We welcomed the conduct of meaningful activities to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation, namely i) the “Workshop on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity” held on 15 June 2012, in Bangkok, Thailand; ii) the “ASEAN Plus Three Youth Leaders’ Symposium” held on 18-19 October 2012, in Phnom Penh; iii) the “ASEAN Plus Three Joint Cultural Performance: Unity in Diversity” held on 2-3 November 2012, in Siem Reap, Cambodia; and iv) the Track II Symposium on the Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on 17-18 September 2012, in Beijing.

35. We decided to make concerted efforts to strengthen the ASEAN Plus Three partnership in order to further enhance and broaden cooperation in the region with an aim to building an East Asian community in the long-term.

Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 19 November 2012

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, on 19 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation;

RECOGNISING the importance of the multi-layered ASEAN-led regional mechanisms as well as ASEAN's relations with its Dialogue Partners, which are mutually reinforcing in enhancing ASEAN Connectivity;

RECALLING the Phnom Penh Agenda, adopted by ASEAN Leaders during the 20th ASEAN Summit, that has given a high priority on the timely implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), to accelerate the integration process and strengthen ASEAN's external relations;

REAFFIRMING our commitment on this occasion of the 15th anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation to the long-term goal of building an East Asian community, with the ASEAN as the driving force and the ASEAN Plus Three process as a main vehicle, taking into account that East Asia Summit (EAS) framework also plays a complimentary role in community building in the region;

ACKNOWLEDGING that ASEAN Connectivity is a foundation of the development of enhanced connectivity in East Asia and that the enhanced connectivity is one of the key elements in building an East Asian community;

RECALLING ALSO the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration on the Adoption of the MPAC and the 2009 ASEAN Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Connectivity, which will complement and support integration within ASEAN as well as within the broader regional framework in East Asia;

WELCOMING the Declaration of the 6th East Asia Summit (EAS) on ASEAN Connectivity adopted in 2011 that promoted the role of EAS partners in ASEAN Connectivity, including to consider the possibility of developing the concept of "Connectivity Master Plan Plus" in the future, which would develop further linkages between ASEAN and its EAS Partners, while maintaining ASEAN Connectivity as a priority by effectively implementing the MPAC;

REAFFIRMING ALSO the importance of ongoing efforts on ASEAN connectivity cooperation under the ASEAN Plus One frameworks, which are complementary and mutually-reinforcing to the ASEAN Plus Three and the EAS frameworks;

REALISING that the geographical proximity, the increasing interdependence, and the wide-ranging existing mechanisms under the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation are mutually beneficial to the development of ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity, which will contribute to the implementation of the MPAC and promote regional connectivity--thereby bringing the region closer towards the shared long-term goal of realising an East Asian community;

DO HEREBY DECLARE TO:

1. Support ASEAN's efforts in implementing the MPAC;
2. Prioritise enhancing connectivity in all areas of cooperation and mechanisms under the ASEAN Plus Three framework;
3. Develop ASEAN Plus Three partnership to enhance connectivity through the timely implementation of the projects related to connectivity, in particular the 15 Priority Projects identified under the three-pronged strategies of the MPAC, namely physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity;
4. Task our relevant Ministers to explore the possibility of additional financing mechanisms/modalities under ASEAN Plus Three framework to support the implementation of ASEAN connectivity projects.
5. Task our relevant Ministers to study measures to promote infrastructure financing including private sector involvement and public-private partnership in connectivity projects;
6. Task our relevant Ministers to consider establishing study groups, through various mechanisms, to recommend ways and means to push forward ASEAN Plus Three partnership on Connectivity cooperation in relevant areas, covering the three pronged-strategies of the MPAC;
7. Support the ongoing process towards establishing the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) as well as other measures to facilitate economic activities among ASEAN and its Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners including Plus Three countries;

8. Enhance ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in combating transnational crimes to prevent impediments to connectivity development in the region; and further strengthen cooperation on sectors that will be affected by enhanced connectivity, such as by intensifying capacity building activities and promoting good governance through the sharing of best practices on public-private partnerships, transparency and accountability;
 9. Support the establishment of an ASEAN Plus Three University Network (AUN+3), as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education, including the promotion of credit transfer system and quality assurances among universities in the ASEAN Plus Three countries;
 10. Welcome Siem Reap City as the Cultural City of East Asia for 2012 and as need to have further discussions on the new initiative of the Cultural City of East Asia;
 11. Welcome the designation of the year 2012 as the “Visit ASEAN Plus Three Year”;
 12. Look forward to the signing of Memorandum of Cooperation on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation, which will be one of the key instruments to promote people-to-people connectivity in ASEAN and the Plus Three countries;
 13. Task our relevant Ministers to synergise as appropriate ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity into the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) as well as to consider the possibility of having a “Connectivity Master Plan Plus” in the future in cooperation with the EAS partners;
 14. Encourage the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) to work with Plus Three countries to coordinate the efforts in connectivity under ASEAN Plus Three frameworks.
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Chairman's Statement of the 16th ASEAN Plus Three Summit

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 10 October 2013

1. The 16th ASEAN Plus Three Summit, chaired by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, was held on 10 October 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. The Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (ROK) attended the Meeting.
2. We reviewed with satisfaction the progress and achievements of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and agreed to continue deepening and broadening the process, as guided by the Second Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders' Joint Statement on the Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.
3. As ASEAN is embarking towards an ASEAN Community and an ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision, we acknowledged the need to deepen and enhance ASEAN's dialogue partnership and external relations.
4. We reaffirmed that the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation would serve as a main vehicle towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force. At the same time, we reiterated the importance of ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture and recognised the mutually reinforcing and complementary roles of the ASEAN Plus Three and other regional processes such as the ASEAN Plus Ones, East Asia Summit (EAS), and ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in the East Asian community building process.
5. The ASEAN Leaders also encouraged the Plus Three countries to continue to support the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) and contribute to the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision, as well as to the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) to bring the ASEAN Community platform on global issues into reality by 2022.
6. We adopted the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2013-2017) which included emerging priority areas and key measures to deepen cooperation. We looked forward to its timely and effective implementation over the next five years.

7. We noted with appreciation the replenishment of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund and encouraged the utilisation of the fund to further implement activities under the framework of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2013-2017).

8. We reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in maintaining peace, security, and stability, which are indispensable conditions for development in the East Asia region. In this regard, we agreed to further strengthen political-security cooperation by enhancing mutual understanding, confidence and stability, in order to deal with emerging challenges in both traditional and non-traditional security dimensions. In this connection, we welcomed the outcomes of the 6th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC+3), 3rd ASEAN Plus People's Republic of China Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC+China) and 1th ASEAN Plus Japan Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC+Japan) on 18 September 2013 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

9. We welcomed the continuing growth of intra-regional trade in the East Asia region, with total trade figures amounting to US\$712 billion in 2012 compared to US\$678 billion in 2011. This marks an increase of 5.0% in total trade, despite the uncertainties in the global economy and financial markets. Similarly, total foreign direct investment (FDI) flows from the Plus Three Countries recorded an increase of 6.6% in 2012, amounting to US\$46.7 billion, and accounting for 43.6% of the total FDI flows into ASEAN. We agreed to continue strengthening regional cooperation in the areas of trade and investment facilitation, and Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) development. In this connection, we reiterated the importance of strengthening and deepening existing ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the Plus Three countries and urged business communities to take full advantage of these FTAs.

10. We welcomed the progress of negotiations on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) which would recognise ASEAN Centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture and the interests of the ASEAN Plus Three countries in supporting and contributing to economic integration, equitable economic development, and strengthening economic cooperation among the participating countries. In this regard, we looked forward to its timely conclusion by the end of 2015.

11. We welcomed the achievements of the 16th ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting held in Delhi, India on 3 May 2013, including the finalisation of amendments to the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation Agreement, consensus on the draft Agreement to transform the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic

Research Office (AMRO) to an international organisation, endorsement of the work plan for the implementation of the Asian Bond Markets Initiative New Roadmap+ and the inauguration of the guarantee transaction of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility.

12. We recognised the need to balance energy security with economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability and acknowledged the importance of stakeholder cooperation to study possible energy options for the region including, among others, civilian nuclear energy, oil stockpiling, and clean coal technologies, taking into account each country's national policy and circumstances, and to look into new energy cooperation areas such as the use of clean and environmentally-friendly technologies. In this connection, we welcomed the outcomes of the 10th ASEAN Plus Three Ministers on Energy Meeting in Bali, Indonesia on 25 September 2013.

13. We reaffirmed the important role of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) to serve as a permanent mechanism in enhancing food security in the region and at the same time, we commended its initiatives in response to acute food emergencies. We acknowledged the good progress on the implementation of the APTERR Agreement, including ratification by all APTERR parties, establishment of the APTERR Council, and launching of the APTERR Secretariat. In this relation, we welcomed the outcomes of the 13th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Plus Three (AMAF+3) held on 27 September 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

14. We reiterated the need to further strengthen regional cooperation in the area of disaster management and reaffirmed our commitment to create a disaster resilient society in the region. We supported the full operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) and the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2010-2015). In this regard, we welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on Enhancing Cooperation in Disaster Management at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 9 October 2013.

15. We emphasised the importance of enhancing cooperation to address the issue of climate change. In this connection, we expressed our commitment to work closely together to ensure the successful outcome of the 19th Conference of the Parties (COP19) to the UNFCCC and the 9th Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties (CMP9) to the Kyoto Protocol to be held in Warsaw, Poland on 11-22 November 2013. We recognised the importance of water resources preservation and management for sustainable development. We agreed on the need for enhanced

cooperation in this area with a view to preventing floods and droughts in the region which could affect agricultural productivity and regional food security.

16. We recognised the increasing need to facilitate closer cooperation on environment and sustainable development hence welcomed the convening of the 12th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers' Meeting held in Surabaya, Indonesia on 26 September 2013. We also welcomed the proposal to hold the 2nd ASEAN Plus Three Youth Environment Forum with the theme "Youth and Sustainability" in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam in November 2013.

17. We noted implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education (2010-2017) which would help strengthen education cooperation and human resource development in East Asia region. We also reaffirmed the need to promote quality assurance in higher education amongst the ASEAN Plus Three countries and welcomed the convening of meetings to promote mobility of higher education and quality education assurance of higher education among ASEAN Plus Three countries in Tokyo, Japan on 30 September to 1 October in 2013. We took note that the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development would be held in Japan in November 2014.

18. We reaffirmed our support to strengthen cooperation in addressing threats of disease outbreaks in the East Asia region and agreed to focus health cooperation on areas such as Emerging Infectious Diseases, Pandemic Preparedness and Response and Traditional Medicines in line with the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015). At the same time, we shared the intention to cooperate on the increasing burden of non-communicable diseases and work towards the achievement of Universal Health Coverage.

19. We looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation in early 2014 which would be one of the key instruments to strengthen cooperation amongst the ASEAN Plus Three countries in the tourism sector.

20. We recognised the need to raise awareness of ASEAN and to promote mutual understanding amongst the people of ASEAN Plus Three countries hence agree to strengthen cooperation in the information sector. We also look forward to the successful implementation of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Through Information and Media (2012-2017).

21. We noted the convening of the 4th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 23 May 2013 and the readiness of the Plus Three countries to continue supporting and cooperating with ASEAN on youth programmes. We noted that new initiatives and programmes from the Plus Three countries

offered more opportunities for further interaction and exchange of technical know-how between the young people of ASEAN Plus Three countries.

22. We recognised the importance of realising the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and welcomed the support of all Dialogue Partners, especially the Plus Three countries, as well as external parties and the private sector, in the implementation of the MPAC. We also looked forward to the implementation of the Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity which would harness the extensive mechanisms of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation to further enhance regional connectivity.

23. We took note of the adoption of the Concept Paper on the Follow-Ups to the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVG II), by the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 30 June 2013. The Concept Paper outlined a comprehensive assessment to be taken in three phases from November 2013 to October 2014, and in this regard, we looked forward to the final report on the follow-ups to the EAVG II Report at the 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in Myanmar in 2014.

24. We acknowledged the important role played by the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre, and ASEAN-ROK Centre, in promoting trade, investment, tourism, and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries. In this connection, we welcomed the suggestion for the Centres to exchange ideas and experiences in order to consolidate cooperative projects in ASEAN. We further urged for the full utilisation of the Centres in promoting trade and investment under the larger context of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.

25. We welcomed the 11th East Asia Forum held in Kyoto, Japan on 20-22 August 2013 under the theme "Enhancing People-to-People Connectivity: Focusing on Tourism Cooperation".

26. We noted that the 11th Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT) Annual Conference was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 27 August 2013. We welcomed the greater involvement of the NEAT within the framework of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and in this regard, we encouraged our officials to look into NEAT's policy recommendations.

27. We welcomed the outcomes of the G-20 Summit held in St. Petersburg, Russia on 5-6 September 2013. We reiterated our support for the Chairman of ASEAN to continue to be invited to participate in the G-20 Summits on a regular basis.

28. We stressed the need to maintain peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula, and encouraged peaceful dialogue by creating a positive atmosphere for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks. We reaffirmed the importance of fully complying with the obligations in all relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. We reiterated our support for all efforts to bring about the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner and reaffirmed our commitments to fully implement the relevant UNSC Resolutions. We also emphasised the importance of addressing humanitarian concerns of the international community. We welcomed the Trust-building Process on the Korean Peninsula and the Initiative for Peace and Cooperation in Northeast Asia proposed by the President of the Republic of Korea.

ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan

2013 – 2017

This ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017 is a revision of the APT Cooperation Work Plan 2007-2017 based on the assessment and recommendations of the Mid-Term Review of the APT Cooperation Work Plan 2007-2017 adopted by the 14th APT Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 30 June 2013. This Work Plan will serve as the master plan to enhance APT relations and cooperation in a comprehensive and mutually beneficial manner for the period of 2013 – 2017 with the APT process as a main vehicle while continuing to support the central role of ASEAN in the evolving regional architecture. This Work Plan also contributes towards the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015.

In order to continue strengthening and deepening cooperation, the APT countries will pursue the following joint actions and measures as well as capacity building activities, through closer consultation and coordination with sectoral bodies, in accordance with their respective laws and regulations:

I. POLITICAL AND SECURITY COOPERATION

1.1 Deepening political and security cooperation

1.1.1 Utilise the APT process as the framework for building mutual understanding, confidence and solidarity. The APT countries are encouraged to constructively conduct, with increasing candour and transparency, exchanges on their strategic outlooks, assessments of national and regional developments and briefings on their respective strategies and plans on vital issues;

1.1.2 Continue to hold the APT Summit annually in conjunction with the ASEAN Summit;

1.1.3 Continue high-level consultations and increase exchanges between officials of the APT countries in the political and security areas;

1.1.4 Cooperate to strengthen the multilateral system as well as expand and deepen interaction and coordination, within multilateral frameworks, including the United Nations;

1.1.5 Cooperate to promote good governance, including strengthening the rule of law, promoting human rights, enhancing administrative effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency through policy dialogue, and to promote capacity building activities, and participation by relevant segments of society in policy-making process;

1.1.6 In the framework of applicable national and international law, intensify cooperation to combat corruption, including denying a safe haven to those guilty of public corruption;

1.1.7 Make efforts to progressively increase exchanges and cooperation between defence officials and exchange visits between military training institutions to promote trust and mutual understanding;

1.1.8 Strengthen cooperation through exchanges of experts, joint research projects and joint seminars in order to strengthen the linkages between APT government-affiliated policy and strategic research institutes; and

1.1.9 Enhance technical assistance and capacity building in support of efforts to address traditional and non-traditional security issues.

1.2 Strengthening peace and stability cooperation in the region

1.2.1 Strengthen cooperation and increase consultations through the relevant ASEAN-led mechanisms including the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus), and East Asia Summit (EAS) with the view to ensuring peace, security and stability in the region;

1.2.2 Promote peace building through, inter alia, sharing of experiences on peace building operations and exchanges of experts and academics on peace studies;

1.2.3 Enhance multilateral and regional cooperation in disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and related materials; and

1.2.4 Cooperate closely on action-oriented measures including participation of civil society and industrial sectors in opposing the proliferation of WMD by adopting and enforcing effective export controls, and on disarmament issues with the objective of total elimination of all WMD including nuclear weapons, in accordance with their national legislation and consistent with international law.

1.3 Combating transnational crimes and addressing other non-traditional security issues

1.3.1 Strengthen cooperation in the field of border management to jointly address matters of common concern, including forgeries of identification and travel documents,

by enhancing the use of relevant technologies to effectively stem the flow of terrorists and criminals, to monitor and curb their means of operations as well as enhancing cooperation to prevent the organisation, instigation and support for groups that carry out acts detrimental to the security and stability of APT countries;

1.3.2 Enhance cooperation in information sharing on terrorists and transnational criminal organisations, including their leaders and members, operational methods and supporting infrastructures, linkages, as well as criminal activities;

1.3.3 Implement measures to combat money laundering and terrorist financing, in accordance with the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF);

1.3.4 Work towards the elimination of smuggling of small arms and light weapons, as a major contribution to the national and international efforts of counter terrorism;

1.3.5 Support the implementation of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism;

1.3.6 Support the implementation of and the accession to relevant international conventions and protocols on counter terrorism and the finalisation of a UN comprehensive convention on international terrorism;

1.3.7 Ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism are implemented in accordance with international laws, in particular, regarding human rights, displaced persons and humanitarian concerns;

1.3.8 Cooperate to support development initiatives aimed at enhancing quality of life, rule of law, good governance and community awareness in order to reduce the conditions that terrorists seek to exploit;

1.3.9 Support ASEAN in attaining the Drug Free ASEAN 2015 goals;

1.3.10 Strengthen cooperation among law enforcement agencies in relation to extradition and mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the domestic laws of APT countries and other relevant treaties;

1.3.11 Strengthen cooperation in combating trafficking in persons and actively support the comprehensive implementation of the ASEAN Declaration against Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children including cooperation among law enforcement agencies; and

1.3.12 Strengthen cooperation and render mutual assistance in combating and suppressing cybercrimes including cooperation among law enforcement agencies, taking into account the need of each country to develop laws to address cybercrimes.

1.4 Enhancing maritime cooperation

1.4.1 Enhance maritime cooperation including in the area of maritime security through cooperative activities, such as safety of navigation, and in accordance with relevant international and regional treaties and agreements including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and through, inter alia, the promotion of information sharing, and technology cooperation projects such as through exchanges of visits of authorities concerned, training of personnel in search and rescue and other areas, where applicable; and

1.4.2 Forge closer cooperation in fighting against sea piracy, armed robbery against ships, hijacking and smuggling, in accordance with relevant international laws including through cooperation with relevant regional cooperative frameworks, without impinging on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of APT countries.

II. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION

2.1 Promoting trade and investment

2.1.1 Ensure that the ASEAN+1 FTAs with China and the Republic of Korea as well as the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership remain commercially meaningful to business in the region and promote the utilisation of these FTAs in order to enhance overall economic growth and development conducive to businesses;

2.1.2 Support the on-going process towards establishing the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), to facilitate economic activities among ASEAN and its Free Trade Agreement partners including the Plus Three countries;

2.1.3 Phase out tariffs and non-tariff barriers to ensure free flow of goods in APT countries, in accordance with the results of WTO negotiations and relevant FTA/EPA negotiations and continue to accord Generalised System of Preference (GSP) status and preferential treatment for Developing and Least Developed Countries;

2.1.4 Encourage discussion on mobility of labour and its influence on economies and other related issues, taking into account the respective circumstances of each country;

2.1.5 Strengthen cooperation in the multilateral trading system, especially in the World Trade Organisation (WTO), including jointly pursuing the successful conclusion of the negotiations of the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) and endeavour to ensure that the development dimension of the DDA is embodied in a comprehensive package that would deliver tangible, fair and effective development benefits to all developing and the least developed member countries;

2.1.6 Strengthen efforts to facilitate trade through improving customs procedures such as promotion of pre-arrival customs processing/clearance of goods, audit-based practices of customs control, standardisation of practices to assess customs value and origin determination;

2.1.7 Work towards expediting customs clearance and release, using ASEAN Single Window as a basis;

2.1.8 Promote the application of information and communication technology (ICT) in the field of customs for better management and service;

2.1.9 Promote the transparency of policies to facilitate trade and investment expansion, including those enhancing conducive business environment, business mobility and trade financing;

2.1.10 Encourage free flow of services and progressively liberalise trade in services in accordance with the results of the WTO negotiations and relevant FTA/EPA negotiations consistent with the WTO rules and principles;

2.1.11 Strengthen the role of the East Asia Business Council (EABC) in pushing forward economic cooperation in East Asia and to encourage appropriate activities aimed at promoting business interaction in the region;

2.1.12 Provide regional support to foster an attractive investment climate through sharing best practices, giving mutual encouragement, responding to the requirements of investors, extending technical assistance and exchanging statistical information;

2.1.13 Consider conducting comprehensive studies on the possible establishment of an East Asia Investment Area by expanding the ASEAN Investment Area.

2.1.14 Promote cooperation between investment promotion agencies and facilitate mutual investment promotion missions by respective business communities;

2.1.15 Promote understanding of each other's policies, regulations and legislations pertaining or related to trade, competition policy, services, investment and industry as well as the sharing of experiences and best practices among APT countries; and

2.1.16 Facilitate cooperation in regulatory framework to support trade, investment and business activities in ICT sector, harmonisation of frequency, standards and interoperability of products/services, and consumer protection.

2.2 Strengthening financial cooperation

2.2.1 Operationalise the strengthened Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) as part of the regional financial safety net;

2.2.2 Transform the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) to an international organisation to enhance further its role as an independent regional surveillance unit in contributing to effective monitoring and analysis of regional economies, early detection of risks, swift implementation and remedial actions, and effective decision-making of the CMIM;

2.2.3 Enhance the soundness and resilience of financial systems, and facilitate the cooperation and development of financial markets in the region;

2.2.4 Implement the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) New Roadmap+, focusing on its nine priorities, which include among others, the implementation of guarantee programme of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF) and the enhancement of ASEAN+3 Bond Market Forum (ABMF) activities; and

2.2.5 Explore the possibility of other mutually beneficial areas of financial cooperation, such as areas under infrastructure financing and disaster risk insurance.

2.3 Promoting standards and conformance

2.3.1 Cooperate to support ASEAN's efforts to adopt and use international standards as the basis for technical regulations, conformity assessment procedures and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) standards, as appropriate and consistent with WTO principles;

2.3.2 Promote information exchange with ASEAN regarding development of standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures, including the domestic implementation of WTO TBT agreements; and

2.3.3 Implement appropriate measures to ensure greater participation and contribution of ASEAN Member States in the international and regional bodies related to standards and conformance.

2.4 Enhancing cooperation in intellectual property rights

2.4.1 Promote the exchange of views, experiences and information in the creation, utilisation, protection, commercialisation of intellectual property (IP) and enforcement of intellectual property rights (IPR) and related issues of mutual concern;

2.4.2 Implement appropriate measures to strengthen IP systems and promote greater public awareness of IP and IPR issues in the fields of education and industries, the commercialisation of IP, the utilisation of IP information, and technology transfer, in accordance with the relevant provisions in the WTO TRIPS Agreement;

2.4.3 Promote the harmonisation of IP laws and systems, where possible, to enhance trade and investment in the region and facilitate intellectual property rights registration;

2.4.4 Promote cooperative activities to increase the level of knowledge among a broader section of government officials and IP professionals so that they may contribute to business growth and development; and

2.4.5 Endeavour to encourage technology-transfer policies on the part of multinational corporations operating in the region.

2.5 Promoting quality tourism

2.5.1 Promote the development of quality tourism through, where appropriate, the promotion of ASEAN's environmental management standards and certification programmes for sustainable tourism, and forge concrete collaboration in cultural and eco-tourism, medical tourism and health services, cruise tourism, youth exchange, human resources development, joint tourism marketing and promotion, and quality assurance, as well as safety measures for tourists; and

2.5.2 Promote linkages and strengthen cooperation among national tourism organisations and training institutions, covering areas such as tourism information exchange, human resource development and crisis communications, and encourage the involvement of the private sector in such cooperation.

2.6 Enhancing cooperation in food, agriculture, fisheries and forestry

2.6.1 Forge closer cooperation in agriculture in key areas of mutual interests, including research and development, technology transfer, crops, horticultural plants cultivation, biotechnology application, fertiliser, agricultural investment and infrastructure, post-harvest technology, food handling, food safety, livestock, fisheries, organic farming, and agricultural cooperatives;

2.6.2 Promote networking in areas of key mutual interest between government authorities concerned, as well as between agricultural and food-related research institutions of APT countries;

2.6.3 Cooperate in strengthening agricultural markets and promoting linkages and cooperation between relevant agriculture authorities to enhance accessibility of ASEAN agricultural products into global markets;

2.6.4 Promote cooperation in rural financial institutions, such as agricultural banks and micro-financing arrangements;

2.6.5 Provide opportunities for ASEAN farmers, including young farmers, and those engaged in agribusiness to learn and develop more efficient farming practices and management skills through training and information sharing with the Plus Three countries farmers;

2.6.6 Enhance capacity-building and human resources development in areas of agriculture where there is key mutual interest through training courses, seminars, workshops, job attachment and scholarship schemes;

2.6.7 Enhance further cooperation to ensure sustainable food security in the region by strengthening the implementation of the APT Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) agreement;

2.6.8 Enhance cooperation and exchange of information on major food commodities through strengthening the APT Food Security Information System (AFSIS);

2.6.9 Deepen cooperation so as to help address the challenges of sustainable forest management in the region through collaborative efforts, such as supporting global and regional initiatives, as appropriate, to reduce emissions from forest degradation and deforestation; strengthening cooperation on law enforcement to combat illegal logging and its associated trade; preventing forest fires; promoting reforestation of degraded lands; and encouraging a phased approach to forest certification;

2.6.10 Cooperate on fisheries and forest products development and promotion schemes; and

2.6.11 Promote regionalisation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

2.7 Enhancing energy cooperation

2.7.1 Pursue energy security, sustainable development and economic growth in an integrated approach taking into account specific and diverse national circumstances;

2.7.2 Promote energy diversification through information exchanges and research on alternative, new and renewable energy development such as solar, hydro, geothermal, clean coal technology, biofuels, biomass, natural gas including shale gas, and others, taking into consideration each country's specific national circumstances; and for those Member countries which choose to do so, the use of civilian nuclear energy, while giving careful and due regards to the security, environmental, health and internationally- recognised safety standards of the energy source;

2.7.3 Endeavour to create a more favourable market environment with a view to creating efficient energy market, facilitating regional energy production and trade, and promoting investment in energy infrastructure and facilities;

2.7.4 Promote energy efficiency improvement and energy conservation in sectors, such as the industrial, transport, residential / commercial and power sectors, where possible, through the setting of individual goals and formulating action plans;

2.7.5 Enhance cooperation on emergency preparedness by making full use of the APT Energy Security Communication System;

2.7.6 Promote greater cooperation and market transparency, including through the Joint Organisations Data Initiative (JODI), and intensify the exchange of energy data, where possible, and the sharing of national energy policies on a voluntary basis;

2.7.7 Explore means of supporting the national rural electrification programmes of concerned ASEAN Member States;

2.7.8 Support the work of the ASEAN Centre for Energy;

2.7.9 Consider specific projects and proposals on energy issues raised within various regional processes such as the EAS and APEC;

2.7.10 Promote dialogue with Middle East oil and gas producing countries to enhance mutual understanding and cooperation between producing and consuming countries;

2.7.11 Promote cooperation for diversification of energy transportation routes to enhance energy security; and

2.7.12 Conduct collaborative activities to exchange experience and build capacity on the use of clean and environmentally-friendly technologies.

2.8 Enhancing cooperation in minerals

2.8.1 Facilitate trade and investment in the mineral sector for mutual benefits, as well as forge closer cooperation in capacity building in the mineral sector;

2.8.2 Enhance collaboration in research and development activities for the sustainable development of the mineral sector;

2.8.3 Encourage private sector participation and public-private sector collaboration in the development and/or implementation of joint cooperation in programmes and activities related to the sustainable development of mineral resources in the region; and

2.8.4 Promote technical information exchange, share experiences and best practices on, among others, the development of the ASEAN Mineral Database, scientific and technological research and development of geosciences, the sustainable development of mineral resources.

2.9 Promoting small and medium enterprises (SMEs)

2.9.1 Foster a conducive business environment through encouraging information linkages to share and exchange knowledge and experience in both public and private sectors on policies and support programmes relating to SMEs, general management, finance, marketing, business development services and production technology, including but not limited to research and best practices;

2.9.2 Promote cooperation among SMEs in the region through mutually accepted technology transfer, mentoring, market research, management skill training, meetings and exchanges between potential SMEs, and training programmes among APT countries;

2.9.3 Explore e-commerce cooperation to enhance the collaboration, partnership, and internationalisation of SMEs within APT countries;

2.9.4 Jointly identify and overcome barriers in SME business partnerships, including in market development and access to common markets; and

2.9.5 Promote SME investments in ASEAN Member States, as well as alert SMEs to market opportunities in those countries; and

2.9.6 Make full use of the regular Joint Consultations between the ASEAN SME Agencies and SME Agencies of the Plus Three countries to strengthen the exchange of information and best practices among the relevant authorities and institutions of SMEs, encourage market expansion, discuss investment opportunities, and identify new areas of cooperation.

2.10 Development Cooperation

2.10.1 Support the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and other sub-regional endeavours such as the Cambodia-Lao PDR-Myanmar-Viet Nam (CLMV) cooperation, Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), the ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC), the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), the Cambodia-Lao PDR-Viet Nam (CLV) Development Triangle, the Greater Mekong Sub Region (GMS), the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) and the East-West Economic Corridor (EWEC) to narrow the development gaps in ASEAN in order to expedite regional integration; 2.10.2 Continue to develop resources and infrastructure jointly for growth areas and to continue mobilising and exploring the expansion of financial resources for development with active participation of the private sector and with further support from multilateral development banks; and

2.10.3 Promote development cooperation in accordance with international norms, rules and disciplines; and

2.10.4 Strengthen the support for human resource development in ICT sector to develop and upgrade ICT skills.

III. ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

3.1 Strengthening cooperation in environment and sustainable development

3.1.1 Forge closer cooperation in protecting and conserving the environment and promoting sustainable use of natural resources;

3.1.2 Forge closer cooperation in the following areas:

- (a) transboundary environmental pollution reduction, particularly transboundary haze pollution and transboundary movement of hazardous wastes;
- (b) biological diversity and natural heritage conservation and sustainable management;
- (c) application of advanced and environment-friendly technologies and best practices,
- (d) sustainable water resource management, including groundwater,
- (e) sustainable management of coastal and marine environment,
- (f) urban environmental management and governance, especially the ASEAN Initiative on Environmentally Sustainable Cities,
- (g) public awareness and education for sustainable development including environmental education,
- (h) multilateral environmental agreements, in particular climate change and chemical and chemical waste related conventions and partnerships, and
- (i) air quality management;

3.1.3 Enhance cooperation and coordination in capacity building in the area of environment through the following:

- (a) exchanges of information and experiences between and among government authorities, institutions and experts,
- (b) provision of training courses and scholarships and dissemination of information through seminars, workshops and conferences,
- (c) conducting joint research and development and networking among research / academic institutions, and
- (d) technology transfer;

3.1.4 Promote 3R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) and environmental sound management of waste; and

3.1.5 Promote sustainable development as a means to reduce negative aspects of development on the environment.

3.2 Strengthening cooperation in addressing the impact of climate change

3.2.1 Forge closer cooperation among APT countries to mitigate and adapt to climate change;

3.2.2 Strengthen cooperation, among others, in the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies to raise the capacity of APT countries to respond to climate change; and

3.2.3 Promote sharing of experiences in addressing socio-economic impacts of climate change, particularly on vulnerable groups.

IV. SOCIO-CULTURAL AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

4.1 Develop cooperative activities towards realising the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and consider supporting international efforts to develop a post-2015 development agenda; and

4.2 Strengthen the APT Cultural Cooperation Network (APTCNN), the East Asia Forum (EAF), the Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT) and the Network of East Asian Studies (NEAS), and consider their recommendations as supplementary source of inputs for policy formulation that is based on research and inter-sectoral consultations.

4.3 Forging closer cooperation in poverty alleviation

4.3.1 Open APT countries' markets to the products of their poorer citizens, including assistance in marketing their products, in accordance with multilateral or bilateral agreements and arrangements, and provide assistance to education, skills training, knowledge-sharing, public health, microcredits, the protection of their work environment and the building of effective national and community institutions;

4.3.2 Establish benchmarks and monitoring mechanisms to measure progress toward the MDGs, extending assistance to enhance the capacity to enable such progress to be made, such as networks among "poverty alleviation facilitators", and poverty-related data collection and monitoring systems, and performance evaluation system for poverty alleviation programmes. Strengthen the dialogue on the Post-MDGs international development agenda;

4.3.3 Forge closer cooperation between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries in capacity building in the area of rural development and poverty eradication for government officials, experts, practitioners through information and experience sharing activities, people-to-people exchange programme, and training courses;

4.3.4 Strengthen the APT SOM on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication;

4.3.5 Monitor the effects of trade liberalisation and economic integration and urbanisation on rural development and poverty alleviation programme, including social protection systems and ICT as a tool for rural development and poverty alleviation;

4.3.6 Support efforts to develop rural community resilience and productivity amidst emerging risks of climate change, natural disasters and food security through capacity building of rural communities and small-scale producers, and promotion of sustainable rural livelihoods and sustainable crop production intensification; and

4.3.7 Support efforts to promote the roles and participation of stakeholders through, among others, capacity building, people-to-people exchange programmes and training courses in poverty alleviation and community empowerment for village leaders, local communities, and nongovernmental organisations.

4.4 Promoting development of vulnerable groups

4.4.1 Support efforts to provide care to and promote social welfare and development of vulnerable groups, such as children, women living under poverty, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

4.4.2 Support efforts to ensure access of persons with disabilities to opportunities and protection against all forms of discrimination, including the promotion of their human rights;

4.4.3 Support efforts to promote equality between men and women through equitable participation of women in all spheres of life and equitable distribution of benefits for women in the development process by eliminating all forms of discrimination against them;

4.4.4 Strengthen cooperation in addressing challenges related to issues faced by the vulnerable groups, including unemployment, the increasing cost of living, street and domestic violence, and violence against women and children;

4.4.5 Support efforts to ensure child survival and full development, safeguard their rights, and encourage meaningful participation of children in society;

4.4.6 Support efforts to ensure adequate care for the elderly by promoting community-based approaches, and encourage elderly persons to contribute to the community;

4.4.7 Strengthen cooperation in developing human and economic potential of vulnerable groups through capacity and capability development to enable them to face socio-economic uncertainties; and

4.4.8 Share experiences and best practices on social security for vulnerable groups; and

4.4.9 Promote the use of ICTs for women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities to enhance building social and economic community.

4.5 Building capacity of civil service

4.5.1 Exchange experiences on key areas within public administration and reform, in particular, enhancement of human resource capabilities, promotion of effective and efficient civil service, public accountability, and good governance;

4.5.2 Share expertise and know-how in civil service matters and capacity development among APT countries;

4.5.3 Strengthen capacity development and knowledge in the respective civil services in the areas covered in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Blueprint;

4.5.4 Support effective implementation of the ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM) with the Plus Three Countries Work Plan (2012- 2015); and

4.5.5 Assist in reducing the gap in terms of capacity among ASEAN Member States.

4.6 Labour and migrant workers

4.6.1 Support the efforts to protect and promote labour rights, including the rights of migrant workers, and conditions of work, as well as to promote progressive labour practices in ASEAN Member States which take into account the ILO labour standards and international benchmarks, where appropriate;

4.6.2 Establish closer cooperation in capacity building for government officials in the priority areas of labour inspections, occupational safety and health, labour dispute settlement system, social protection system, employment services as well as public health and HIV / AIDS in the workplace through sharing of information and experiences, promoting regional best practices, and policy dialogue;

4.6.3 Promote effective and sound industrial relations in the region through regional and national social dialogues and sharing of good practices and experiences; and

4.6.4 Promote the development of labour markets, greater labour mobility, employment opportunities, and decent work for all, through activities to improve labour

market information systems and analysis, social insurance, skills and vocational training.

4.7 Promoting culture and people-to-people contact

4.7.1 Cooperate in the promotion of people-to-people contacts involving, inter alia, parliamentarians, government officials, academia, youth, media, cultural experts, sports persons and representatives of business, industries, and think tank institutions;

4.7.2 Identify and address common concerns in the areas of cultural heritage management, human resources development in the cultural context, and small and medium-sized cultural enterprises development;

4.7.3 Support efforts to engage civil society in developing a people-centered ASEAN Community;

4.7.4 Promote cultural understanding and greater awareness of each other's culture, through regularly held cultural festivals, film festivals, art exhibitions, workshops and other events, such as the East Asia Week;

4.7.5 Promote interaction, networking, and exchange of visits between government authorities involved in cultural affairs, as well as between cultural institutions, museums, archives and libraries, as well as artists, experts, practitioners in theatre, music, acrobatics, dance, folk art, and cinematography;

4.7.6 Render mutual assistance and cooperation for the protection, preservation, and restoration of cultural and historical heritage, both tangible and intangible, according to the laws and regulations of each country, enhance cooperation to combat pillage, illicit trafficking and smuggling of moveable cultural property;

4.7.7 Promote closer cooperation and collaboration between cultural, creative and design industries including joint venture and co-production;

4.7.8 Promote research and policy dialogue on the impact of globalisation, modernisation and ICT revolution on youth with a view to exchanging lessons learned and best practices; and

4.7.9 Intensify youth exchanges, for deeper mutual understanding and forging a sense of commonality, as well as continue to hold the APT Young Leaders Forum.

4.8 Enhancing cooperation in information and media

4.8.1 Promote exchanges and cooperation in the area of journalism, including press, radio, and television;

4.8.2 Promote cooperation and understanding among ASEAN and the Plus Three countries through news exchange and information / media persons exchange programmes;

4.8.3 Hold consultations and dialogues on broadcasting issues and media policies;

4.8.4 Conduct personnel training for the technicians and professionals in the TV and broadcasting sectors; and

4.8.5 Promote cooperation in content generation, including digital content, through co-production.

4.9 Strengthening cooperation in education

4.9.1 Encourage investments in education and training to accelerate learning opportunities for out-of-school children and youth and to upgrade the quality of educational institutions, including human resources development for teachers, lecturers and administrative personnel;

4.9.2 Promote collaboration, networking, and research and development among institutions and authorities involved in education;

4.9.3 Promote higher education cooperation, increase linkages between universities through the ASEAN University Network (AUN) and encourage credit transfers between universities in APT countries by establishing a working group on mobility and quality assurance in higher education under the existing APT mechanism on education;

4.9.4 Support research activities and exchanges of APT scholars and professionals interested in the APT relationship;

4.9.5 Continue to make efforts to expedite visa application procedures for students and intellectuals of ASEAN Member States who travel to the Plus Three countries for academic purposes, in accordance with existing national regulations;

4.9.6 Cultivate an East Asian identity through promotion of ASEAN Studies and East Asian Studies in the region; and

4.9.7 Promote education for sustainable development through various ways such as exchange of teachers and sharing of good practices.

4.10 Strengthening cooperation in science, technology, and innovation

4.10.1 Broaden cooperation between and among the scientific and technological communities, including on human resource development and networking on science, technology, and innovation, and promoting public-private partnership in APT countries;

4.10.2 Promote and engage in joint capacity building activities, exchange of information, and sharing of best practices in areas such as science, technology and innovation policies, technology transfer, commercialisation, products and scientific standards, investment and IPR management;

4.10.3 Promote research and technology development in areas of having potential for commercial applications such as biotechnology, food technology, new materials, microelectronics and information technology, marine resources, new and renewable energy, life science, medical devices and technology, and space technology;

4.10.4 Strengthen cooperation in meteorology addressing climate information and prediction services, weather observations and climate change; and 4.10.5 Raise the visibility of APT cooperation in science, technology and innovation through sustained efforts in promoting and participating in various initiatives of the APT Centre for the Gifted in Science (ACGS), the ASEAN Food Conference, ASEAN Science and Technology Week, and other relevant events such as science, technology, and innovation youth camp.

4.11 Strengthening cooperation in public health

4.11.1 Strengthen cooperation, including capacity building and technical assistance, among APT countries as agreed by the APT Health Ministers' Meeting;

4.11.2 Strengthen cooperation in capacity building in public health emergency disaster management including the response through whole-of-society

4.11.3 Promote networking among stakeholders in APT countries in the areas as agreed on the APT Health Ministers' Meeting;

4.11.4 Promote research and development and human resources development in the areas related to public health, including joint research and development, seminars, workshops, training courses and study tours as well as exchange of visits and scholarships for officials, health professionals and experts;

4.11.5 Enhance cooperation at the global and regional levels to prevent, control and reduce the impact of communicable and pandemic diseases;

4.11.6 Promote collaboration, exchanging and sharing experiences on Universal Health Coverage through, but not limited to, the activities of the APT Network on Universal Health Coverage;

4.11.7 Continue to improve ASEAN's emergency preparedness against the outbreak of pandemic influenza;

4.11.8 Increase collaboration on prioritised activities to improve accessibility to safe, quality, affordable and effective medicines and to promote the rational use of medicines including containing anti-microbial drug resistance; and

4.11.9 Intensify joint efforts in advocating, facilitating, and implementing relevant social and economic interventions in addressing non-communicable diseases and its risk factors including tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol and unhealthy diet, as well as sedentary life style.

4.12 Disaster management and emergency response

4.12.1 Strengthen cooperation in the addressing issues related to floods, landslides, earthquakes and other disasters such as through assistance to support national and regional network of early warning systems for tsunamis and other disasters, including through real-time information sharing and public awareness campaigns;

4.12.2 Promote education and raise public awareness on disaster management;

4.12.3 Render assistance, including collaborating on crisis management, to implement the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response; and

4.12.4 Enhance civil-military cooperation, coordination, and capacity building in disaster relief.

4.13 Promoting moderation

4.13.1 Promote moderation as a common value, and the empowerment of moderates in various religions as well as promote inter-faith and intercultural dialogue to enhance mutual understanding among different cultures and religions, as well as promote universal ideals of religious moderation and tolerance.

V. CONNECTIVITY COOPERATION

5.1 Support the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC);

5.2 Develop APT partnership to enhance connectivity through the timely implementation of the projects related to connectivity, in particular the 15 Priority Projects identified under the three-pronged strategies of the MPAC, namely physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity;

5.3 Explore the possibility of additional financing mechanisms / modalities under APT framework to support the implementation of ASEAN connectivity projects;

5.4 Study measures to promote infrastructure financing including private sector involvement and public-private partnership as well as multilateral development banks in connectivity projects;

5.5 Task our relevant Ministers to consider establishing study groups, through various mechanisms, to recommend ways and means to push forward APT partnership on Connectivity cooperation in relevant areas, covering the three-pronged strategies of the MPAC; and

5.6 Encourage the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) to work with the Plus Three countries to coordinate the efforts in connectivity under APT frameworks.

VI. INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT AND FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM

6.1 Continue strengthening the APT Cooperation Fund (APTCF);

6.2 Develop and conduct joint projects including the use of ICT to advance the objectives of this Plan, and, where appropriate, sub-regional activities and cooperative efforts that further the goals and objectives set forth in this Work Plan will be encouraged;

6.3 The ASEAN Secretariat to develop a schedule and time frame for implementation of this Work Plan as means to inform and monitor activities implemented to address measures under this Work Plan;

6.4 Develop appropriate monitoring and evaluation system / mechanism of the implementation of this Work Plan as well as project proposals, taking into account ASEAN's project management framework;

6.5 Regularly review this Work Plan through the existing mechanisms, with the ASEAN CPR Plus Three Meeting as the monitoring mechanism;

6.6 The ASEAN Coordinator for APT cooperation to prepare concise progress reports on the implementation of the Work Plan for submission to the annual APT Summit; and

6.7 Encourage ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre, and ASEAN-ROK Centre to exchange ideas and experiences in order to consolidate cooperative projects to promote trade, investment, tourism, cultural exchanges, and people-to-people contact between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.



Chairman's Statement of the 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 13 November 2014

1. The 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit, chaired by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, H.E. U Thein Sein, was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 13 November 2014. The Summit was attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea.
2. We expressed satisfaction with the progress on the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2013-2017) and looked forward to its timely and effective implementation.
3. We underscored the importance of further intensifying and expanding the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Cooperation for enhanced peace, security and prosperity in the East Asia region to achieve the goal of realising the ASEAN Community by 2015.
4. We reiterated that ASEAN Plus Three cooperation would remain as main vehicle in moving forward to realise its long-term goal of an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force in the evolving regional architecture. We acknowledged the effective role of other ASEAN-led mechanisms in regional architecture such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Minister's Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus) and the ASEAN Post- Ministerial Meetings with China, Japan and ROK.
5. The ASEAN Leaders encouraged the Plus Three countries to continue their support for the timely implementation on the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for the ASEAN Community (2009 - 2015) and their support for the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision. The ASEAN Leaders also encouraged the Plus Three countries to continue support the 2011 Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III).
6. We expressed the importance of APT cooperation in maintaining and enhancing regional peace, stability and growth in the East Asia regional architecture. To this light, we shared the view to intensify the mid to long-term APT cooperation in all areas of political, economic and socio- cultural sectors to facilitate further development in the East Asia region.

7. We emphasized that political and security cooperation was the key to strengthening peace and stability in the East Asia region. In this regard, we renewed our commitment to deepen cooperation to address the emerging challenges of both traditional and non-traditional security matters including cyber security, maritime security, terrorism, extremism, narcotic drugs, trafficking in persons, arms smuggling, and disaster management. We also underscored the need to promote common values and norms, such as good governance, rule of law, as well as the promotion and protection of human rights, including the rights of women, children and migrant workers through policy dialogue and capacity building activities.

8. We welcomed the sustainable growth of APT economic ties even though uncertainties in the global economy remained. Total trade between ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries in 2013 increased by 1.8% year-on-year which amounted to US\$726.4 billion and which accounted for 28.9% of ASEAN's total trade. In 2013, total foreign direct investment (FDI) flows from the Plus Three countries into ASEAN reached US\$35.1 billion, accounting for 28.7% of total FDI, these represented a 13.6% increase year on year. We remained committed to sustaining this momentum.

9. We reiterated our strong commitment to the development of SMEs in the region as a primary driving force for regional economic growth. To this light, we encouraged the business community to seize all feasible opportunities in order to gain the benefits from economic cooperation. We encouraged the boosting of existing ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to promote greater economic integration in the region. We therefore welcomed the launching of negotiations for upgrading the ASEAN-China FTA.

10. We welcomed the productive negotiation for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and looked forward to its successful and timely conclusion by the end of 2015. We expressed our belief that the RCEP would contribute significantly to economic integration and equitable economic development. We reiterated our commitment to ASEAN Centrality in the RCEP process.

11. We recalled the successful outcomes of the 17th ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting (AFMGM+3) held in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 3 May 2014. We welcomed the achievements of the APT Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meeting (AFCDM+3) held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar from 2 to 3 May 2014. We also welcomed the signing of the ASEAN Plus Three Macro Research Office Agreement on 10 October 2014, which would transform it into an international organisation. We looked forward to the early ratification of the AMRO Agreement by APT countries. We shared the view that we should promote cooperation

in enhancing the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) and the Asian Bond Markets Initiatives (ABMI).

12. We recognised the need to balance energy security with economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability. In this regard, we acknowledged the steady progress of stakeholder's cooperation on study, best practices sharing and policy works relating to energy security in the region. We stressed the increasing need to further explore new energy cooperation areas such as the use of clean and environmentally-friendly technologies. We further welcomed the outcomes of the 11th APT Ministers on Energy Meeting held in Lao PDR on 23 September 2014.

13. We recognised the importance of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) to serve as one of the APTERR in responding to the needs of victims of typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines and the floods in LAO PDR. As a way of improving efficiency of APTERR, we took note of the need to consider alternative foods in addition to rice. We agreed to continue to share technology and seek feasible ways to further strengthen the functions of APTERR and ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS). To this light, we welcomed the outcomes of the 14th Meeting of the APT Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF+3) held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 24 September 2014.

14. Acknowledging the impacts of the climate change, we recognised the need to further enhance our cooperation to promote environmental conservation and sustainable development. In this connection, the Plus Three countries noted the ASEAN Environment Minister's Statement to the 12th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD COP-12) held in Pyeongchang, ROK, from 6 to 17 October 2014, which expressed ASEAN's common understanding and commitment to actively take part in biodiversity conservation under CBD. We also looked forward to the 7th World Water Forum to be held in Daegu-Gyeongbuk, ROK, from 12 to 17th April 2015 which will serve as platform for strengthening international cooperation on tackling water challenges. We welcomed the 13th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Minister's Meeting held in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on 31 October 2014.

15. The Plus Three countries welcomed the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change 2014 adopted at the 25th ASEAN Summit. The Statement articulated ASEAN's common position on the ongoing negotiations towards a global climate change agreement under the UNFCCC framework that is applicable to all parties.

16. With regard to socio-cultural and development cooperation, we recognised the importance of strengthening the APT Cultural Cooperation Network (APTCCN), the East Asia Forum (EAF), the Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT) and the Network of East Asian Studies (NEAS). To this light, we endorsed NEAT Memorandum No 11 adopted at

the 21st NEAT Country Coordinator's Meeting (NEAT CCM) and the 12th NEAT Annual Conference in Phnom Penh from 28 to 30 September 2014. We noted the 3rd Meeting of the APTCCN in Singapore, from 26 to 29 August 2014 and looked forward to the holding of the 12th EAF in Bandar Seri Begawan from 25 to 27 November 2014.

17. We welcomed the 2nd APT Education Minister's Meeting (APTEMM) held in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 12 September 2014. We also highlighted the importance of creating a strong network between universities in the East Asia region through the ASEAN+3 Rector's Conference held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, from 6 to 7 November 2014. We noted the progress of implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education (2010-2017) in strengthening education cooperation and human resources development in the East Asia Region. We also reaffirmed the need to promote mobility of higher education and ensuring quality assurance in higher education amongst the ASEAN Plus Three countries.

18. We were committed to strengthening cooperation in the area of health, particularly to address the threats of disease outbreaks in the East Asia region. We agreed to focus on health cooperation in areas such as emerging infectious diseases, pandemic preparedness and response and traditional medicines in line with ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015). We also expressed our commitment to cooperate to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases, work towards the achievement of universal health coverage and ensuring healthy and active aging. In this regard, we welcomed Thailand's proposal to host a special ASEAN+3 Health Minister's Meeting on Ebola Preparedness and Response in Bangkok, Thailand, December 2014.

19. We noted the progress of ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation Work Plan through the implementation of media farm tour programme and convening of Nara Tourism Statistic Week. We also noted the outcomes of the 13th APT Tourism Ministers Meeting held and the 24th APT International Tourism Organisation (NTOs) Meeting held in Kuching, Malaysia, on 18 and 20 January 2014, respectively and the 25th NTOs Meeting held in Kuching, Malaysia, on 17 May 2014. To enhance cooperation in the Tourism Sector among the APT countries, we looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation in Myanmar in 2015

20. We noted the holding of the 2nd APT heads of Civil Services Meeting and the 2nd ACCSM+3 Joint Technical Working Group Meeting held in Myanmar on 26 September 2014. We took note of the progress achieved under the ACCSM+3 Work Plan (2012-2015). We were pleased to share information on national strategies and good practices in promoting good governance current and emerging challenges and opportunities for the civil service sector

in ASEAN Community building. We expressed continued support to the ASEAN Resource Centre (ARC) which provides training programmes for civil servants and in order to uphold the responsiveness, accountability, effectiveness and efficiency of the public services sector.

21. We realised the important of role of the information sector to raise ASEAB awareness and better understanding among the people. We encouraged the effective implementation of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation through Information and Media (2012-2017). To this light, we welcomed the 3rd APT Minister's Meeting Responsible for Information (AMRI+3) held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 12 June 2014.

22. We welcomed the outcomes of the 8th APT Labour Minister's Meeting held in Myanmar, on 23 May 2014 and the 6th APT Minister Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting held in Hue City, Viet Nam on 20 April 2014.

23. We encouraged the Plus Three countries to continue their support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and the 2012 Leader's Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity in order to enhance regional connectivity. We also attached importance to the support and cooperation from external parties and the private sector in the implementation of MPAC.

24. We recognised the efforts of the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVG II) in stock-tacking and evaluating APT cooperation over the past 15 years to further contribute to the strengthening and deepening of the APT process. To this light, we looked forward to the submission of the final report to the Follow up to the EAVG II Report at the 18th APT Summit in 2015.

25. We underscored the importance of strengthening international cooperation in disaster risk reduction. In this regard, we welcomed collaboration to achieve successful outcomes at the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015.

26. We underscored the importance of strengthening cooperation in science, technology, and innovation to strengthen competitiveness and increase connectivity in the East Asia Youth Exchange Programme for Young Scientist, to further promote the exchange of young people from ASEAN and the Plus Three countries in the field of science and technology.

27. We took note of the importance of the ASEAN- China Centre, ASEAN – Japan Centre and ASEAN – ROK Centre in promoting trade, investment, tourism, and people-to-people contacts. We further urged the full utilisation of the Centres to promote trade and investment in the larger context of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.

28. We welcomed the establishment of the East Asian Cultural Cities in Plus Three countries in 2014 in order to enhance people-to-people contacts in the region and looked forward to participate in the 14th Asian Art Festival in Quanzhou, Fujian province in China, in 2015.

29. We looked forward to the successful convening of the G20 Summit to be held in Brisbane, Australia from 15 to 16 November 2014. We reiterated our support for the Chairman of ASEAN to participate in the G20 Summits on a regular basis.

30. We underscored the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula. We reaffirmed our support for all efforts on denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner and encouraged the creation of necessary conditions for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks. We expressed support for a full compliance to the obligations guided by all relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. We also emphasised the importance of addressing humanitarian concerns of the international community. We welcomed the reunion of separated family between the ROK and the DPRK that took place in February and expressed hope for more frequent and larger scale family reunions in future. We welcomed the Trust-building Process on the Korean Peninsula and the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative proposed by the President of addressing human rights and humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the abduction issue.

Chairman's Statement of the 18th ASEAN Plus Three Summit

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 21 November 2015

1. The 18th ASEAN Plus Three Summit was chaired by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, the Honourable Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak and was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 21 November 2015. It was attended by all Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

2. We noted with satisfaction the progress in ASEAN Plus Three cooperation over the past 17 years and reiterated our commitment to further intensify and expand it to include all areas of cooperation, including cross-cutting issues such as Connectivity and narrowing the development divide. We reaffirmed ASEAN Plus Three cooperation as a driving force for enhanced peace, security and prosperity in the East Asian region, with the long term goal of building an East Asia community.

3. Recalling the East Asia Vision Group (EAVG) II Report which was adopted at the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 19 November 2012 recommending the realisation of an East Asia Economic Community by 2020 as the main pillar of ASEAN Plus Three vision, we adopted the Final Report on the Follow-up to the EAVG II Recommendations which would pave the way towards greater ASEAN Plus Three integration, complementing the initiatives of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017.

4. We acknowledged the importance of maintaining and enhancing peace, security and stability in the East Asian region and emphasised the need to enhance efforts to address emerging challenges in the areas of traditional and non-traditional security. Towards this end, we agreed to strengthen political-security cooperation as contained in the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2013-2017).

5. We welcomed the continued growth in trade and investment relations between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries. Total trade with Plus Three countries reached US\$727.1 billion in 2014, which accounted for 28.8 per cent of total ASEAN trade, while Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow from Plus Three Countries reached US\$26.7 billion, which amounted to 19.6 per cent in 2014. We expressed confidence

that through trade and investment relations, the region would maintain its positive growth trajectory despite on-going global financial instability.

6. We acknowledged that collaboration between ASEAN and Plus Three countries remained important in ensuring the strong economic foundation in the region and underlined that the full utilisation of the ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreement with the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea respectively would contribute significantly to enhancing sustainability of the Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises in the region.

7. We recognised the important role of the private sector in enhancing economic cooperation in the East Asian region and appreciated the continuous efforts made by the East Asia Business Council (EABC) in providing private sector feedback to deepen intra-regional trade and investment and in strengthening cooperation among the private sectors in ASEAN, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea through its various initiatives and activities. We welcomed the positive outcome of the inaugural ASEAN Plus Three interface with the East Asia Business Council and looked forward to more such dialogues between ASEAN Plus Three Leaders and the Council.

8. We expressed confidence that the region's economies will remain resilient and maintain their positive trajectory despite the volatile global economic environment. Given the immense potential of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) to further regional economic integration, uphold ASEAN centrality and further improve the region's influence on the global stage, we welcomed the substantial progress achieved in all areas of negotiations and tasked our Economic Ministers to further intensify efforts towards the early conclusion of negotiations.

9. Against the backdrop of heightened volatility in the global financial market, we reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) as part of the regional financial safety net to maintain financial stability in ASEAN and East Asia. To further complement CMIM, we welcomed the transition of the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) to an International Organisation, operating as an independent regional surveillance unit to monitor and analyse regional economies and support CMIM initiatives.

10. We acknowledged progress made under the Asian Bond Market Initiative (ABMI), particularly in developing efficient and liquid regional bond markets through the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF), the Cross-border Settlement Infrastructure Forum (CSIF), the ASEAN+3 Multi-Currency Bond Issuance Framework (AMBIF) and the ASEAN+3 Bond Market Forum (ABMF) to help alleviate financial volatility and contribute to economic and financial stability in the East Asia region.

11. We underscored the importance of strengthening and broadening tourism cooperation in promoting people-to-people linkages in the East Asian region and looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation in 2016.

12. We emphasised the importance of mitigating the threat of climate change to the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors in East Asia. We reaffirmed the important role of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement as a mechanism to strengthen regional food security and reducing poverty. To further improve its efficiency, we took note of the need to consider alternative staple food crops in addition to rice. To further complement APTERR, we encouraged the development of technology and a framework to have early warning information on impending food emergencies in the region through the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS). We further welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Plus Three Bioenergy and Food Security Framework 2015-2025 with the objective of supporting ASEAN Member States' efforts to ensure sustainable, food-secure and climate-friendly bioenergy for economic development. We also acknowledged the importance of establishing food value chains through Public-Private Partnership, and encouraged the sharing of best practices, development and exchanges of agro and agro-industry technologies, and market management to increase the value of food supply chains.

13. We recognised the need to ensure energy security in the region by promoting energy diversification through renewable energy development, energy efficiency and conservation and the use of green technology. We welcomed the enhancement and deepening of cooperation through knowledge transfer at an affordable cost in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency. Further, we took note that clean coal, including high efficiency coal-fired power generation would contribute towards energy security and the potential reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

14. We recognised youth as an essential asset to a nation's development and stressed the importance of continuous engagement at all levels. With over 60% of the ASEAN population today comprising those under 35 years of age, they will be the driving force in shaping the future of ASEAN. We welcomed the outcome of the ASEAN Young Leaders' Summit 2015, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 18-20 November 2015 with the theme '*Youth Driving the ASEAN Community*', which was an avenue for youth from around ASEAN to build and leverage networks towards creating a cohesive ASEAN identity.

15. We highlighted the need to address environmental issues effectively, particularly on trans-boundary pollution and to intensify efforts to ensure sustainable development in the region. We reaffirmed our commitment to the implementation of

sustainable forest management through enhancing capacity-building and the need to further strengthen cooperation and joint approaches in addressing forestry and environmental management issues.

16. The Plus Three Countries welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change at the 27th ASEAN Summit, which reaffirms ASEAN's commitment to collectively work towards addressing climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). We emphasised the commitment to conclude an ambitious, durable and legally binding global climate agreement acceptable to all at the Paris Climate Conference in December 2015.

17. We reaffirmed our commitment to enhancing cooperation in education at the regional level. The Plus Three Countries welcomed the adoption of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Higher Education at the 27th ASEAN Summit. We noted the progress in developing the ASEAN Plus Three Guidelines on Student Exchange and Mobility.

18. We noted with satisfaction the implementation of the ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters Plus Three (ACCSM+3) Work Plan (2012-2015) and looked forward to the adoption of the ACCSM+3 Work Plan 2016-2020 to further promote good governance.

19. We acknowledged the important role played by the information sector to ensure that multi-flow of information is in place to raise awareness on ASEAN and in the East Asia region. Towards this end, we looked forward to the full and effective implementation of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation through Information and Media (2012-2017).

20. We recognised the importance of Science and Technology as powerful enablers of economic development in the East Asia region and looked forward to the implementation of the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2016-2025 with clear and effective mechanisms to further cooperation with Dialogue Partners.

21. We expressed concern over the threat of infectious diseases in the region, including the recent outbreak of the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and encouraged the Plus Three Countries to continue supporting the Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) Programme, which has engendered fruitful collaboration in the region. We acknowledged the need to pursue stronger cooperation under the ASEAN post-2015 Health Development Agenda.

22. We reaffirmed our commitment to further strengthen regional cooperation in the area of disaster management and emphasised the importance of continued

support for the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) and the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), including its post-2015 work programme.

23. We recognised the importance for ASEAN to be better connected in ensuring freer movement of people, goods, services and capital. The ASEAN Leaders appreciated the Plus Three countries' support in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and welcomed their support and assistance to further enhance regional connectivity. We looked forward to the conclusion of a post-2015 ASEAN Connectivity agenda which would be bold, visionary and contain concrete and feasible measures which would contribute to seamless connectivity in the East Asia region. Noting that financing mobilisation is an important factor in moving the ASEAN Connectivity agenda forward, we welcomed progress in the establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank by China as well as the proposed Partnership for Quality Infrastructure by Japan to address infrastructure financing needs in the region.

24. We also recognised that regional integration and narrowing the development divide are priorities in the ASEAN community-building process and welcomed a post-2015 Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) agenda and a successor document to the IAI Work Plan II. Noting that IAI is cross-cutting in nature, we called for closer collaboration among the various ASEAN sectoral bodies in ensuring the full participation and realisation of regional commitments and initiatives.

25. We acknowledged the contribution made by Track 1.5 and Track 2 initiatives in promoting rich discussions on a wide range of issues, including the East Asia Forum (EAF), which provides a platform for think-tanks, business and academia to provide proposals for deepening East Asia regional cooperation. We further welcomed the contribution of the Network on East Asia Think-tanks (NEAT) in supporting East Asian community-building and noted with interest NEAT Memorandum No. 12.

26. We acknowledged the role played by the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre in promoting trade and investment, tourism and cultural exchanges. We encouraged these Centres to establish greater synergies with other establishments such as the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC), East Asia Business Council (EABC) and the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat in promoting ASEAN in the East Asia region in the larger context of the ASEAN Plus Three framework.

27. The ASEAN Leaders congratulated the Leaders of the Plus Three Countries on the successful convening of the 6th Trilateral Summit, held in Seoul, the Republic

of Korea on 1 November 2015 and expressed the view that the positive momentum in China-Japan-ROK trilateral cooperation would contribute to the promotion and maintenance of peace, stability and prosperity in the region.

28. The Leaders expressed concern over developments on the Korean Peninsula and underlined the importance of peace, stability and security in the region. We registered deep concern over the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's ballistic missile launch in May 2015 and emphasised the need to fully comply with all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and for parties to abide by their commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. We also called for the creation of necessary conditions for the early resumption of Six-Party Talks, which would pave way for the complete and verifiable de-nuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner.

II. ASEAN PLUS THREE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS

A decorative graphic consisting of three overlapping, curved lines in blue, yellow, and red, positioned below the main title. The blue line is the topmost and widest, curving downwards from the left and upwards towards the right. The yellow line is in the middle, curving upwards from the left and downwards towards the right. The red line is the bottommost and narrowest, curving upwards from the left and downwards towards the right.

II. ASEAN PLUS THREE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS

Chairman's Statement of the 12th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Bali, Indonesia, 21 July 2011

1. The 12th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea was held in Bali, Indonesia on 21 July 2011. The Meeting was chaired by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Dr. R. M. Marty M. Natalegawa.

2. The Ministers expressed their solidarity and support for the Government and People of Japan in their recovery and reconstruction efforts. They also expressed confidence of the early reconstruction of Japan.

Review and Future Direction of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation

3. The Ministers noted with appreciation the progress made by the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation and in the implementation of the 2nd Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). They stressed the need for further deepening political and security cooperation, as well as strengthening policy coordination and sustaining economic growth in the region.

4. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in maintaining and enhancing peace, security, and stability as indispensable conditions for development in the region. To that end, the Ministers decided to intensify political and security cooperation as provided for in the Work Plan with a view to ensuring peace, security, and stability in the region.

5. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of cooperation to promote good governance, strengthen the rule of law, and protect and promote human rights through policy dialogue and capacity building activities. The Ministers further decided to enhance cooperation in counter-terrorism, combating cyber crimes, maritime cooperation, and other non-traditional security issues.

6. The Ministers shared the view that terror threats, which may impede the enhancement of the ASEAN connectivity and ASEAN integration, still exist in the region and renewed their continued commitment to cooperate in combating transnational crimes as reflected in the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan. To that end, they reaffirmed the importance of reinforcing the ASEAN Plus Three framework in this area.

7. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction of developments made in ASEAN Plus Three financial cooperation. They welcomed the endorsement of the Operational Guidelines for Enhancing Effectiveness of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) by the Finance Ministers, which will contribute to swift and smooth activation of CMIM Agreement and welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Plus Three Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) in April 2011, which will contribute to early detection of risks, swift implementation of remedial actions, and effective decision-making of CMIM.

8. The Ministers appreciated the new proposals for studies in three possible areas of future ASEAN Plus Three financial cooperation: i) infrastructure financing; ii) disaster risk insurance, and iii) using local currencies for the regional trade settlement. They looked forward to positive outcomes of the said studies at an early date.

9. The Ministers recognised the rapid expansion of ASEAN Plus Three economic cooperation activities, including efforts such as current discussions at the ASEAN Plus Working Groups on four areas to liberalize trade among ASEAN Plus countries through consolidating ASEAN's Plus One FTAs and exploring possible modalities based on studies on the East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA) and the Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA). In this regard, they appreciated China's contribution of US\$ 1 million, which will help to move forward the process of the establishment of the EAFTA.

10. The Ministers appreciated the Republic of Korea's initiative to revitalize the East Asia Forum (EAF) and welcomed the concept paper on the EAF. In this regard, the Ministers looked forward to the adoption of the concept paper at the 9th EAF Meeting in Chendu, People's Republic of China, in September 2011.

11. The Ministers adopted the Terms of Reference of the East Asia Vision Group (EAVG) II. The Ministers noted with appreciation the Republic of Korea's efforts at preparing the initial draft of the Terms of Reference and looked forward to the inaugural meeting of the Group to be held in the Republic of Korea before the 19th ASEAN Summit and Other Related Summits and Meeting. In this regard, the Ministers

also looked forward to the final recommendations of the EAVG II to the Leaders at the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in 2012 which will stock-take all previous and current activities in order to chart the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.

12. The Ministers noted the convening of the 14th Network of East Asian Think Tanks (NEAT) Country Coordinators Meeting (CCM) in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, on 28-29 April 2011 and looked forward to the NEAT Meeting in Da Nang, Viet Nam, on 11-12 August 2011. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the NEAT's working group activities in various fields such as disaster management and appreciated the contributions of the NEAT and encouraged relevant ASEAN Plus Three sectoral bodies to look into the NEAT's policy recommendations.

13. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of ensuring food security in the region. In this regard, they looked forward to the signing of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement in October 2011, as a permanent mechanism to ensure food security in the region. The Ministers also encouraged further deliberations on the possibility of establishing modalities to achieve the same aims for other staple foods.

14. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to ensure energy security in the region by promoting energy diversification through information exchanges and researches on alternative, new, and renewable energy development, as well as energy conservation, energy efficiency, and the use of clean and environmentally-friendly technologies.

15. The Ministers underscored the importance of new proposals for cooperation in the ASEAN Plus Three framework which, among others, include cooperation in food safety and standards, water management, deforestation prevention and reforestation, as well as disaster management.

16. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the Informal ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers' Meeting in Bali, Indonesia, on 17-18 July 2011 as follow-up to the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders' agreement in the 13th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. The Ministers expressed their support for further cooperation to enhance the quality of education, regional competitiveness, and promote educational exchange and innovation in the region.

17. The Ministers welcomed Japan's proposal to hold an international conference/seminar in 2012 to share its experiences and lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake on 11 March 2011, as well as to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015. The Ministers shared the view that ASEAN Plus Three countries should further strengthen regional cooperation in this area.

18. The Ministers noted the progress of the work for the ASEAN Plus Three Memorandum of Cooperation on Tourism and looked forward to its signing in January 2012.

19. The Ministers also welcomed the progress in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and expressed support for the development of a connectivity master plan plus. They looked forward to the development of ASEAN Plus Three connectivity in the future.

20. The Ministers reaffirmed that the ASEAN Plus Three process would continue as a main vehicle towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force. At the same time, the Ministers reaffirmed their support for ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture and recognised the mutually reinforcing and complementary roles of the ASEAN Plus Three process and such regional fora as ASEAN Plus One, EAS, and ARF in the East Asian community building process.

Exchange of Views on Regional and International Issues

21. The Ministers noted that despite downside risks in the global recovery from an unprecedented international financial crisis, the East Asian economies were among the first to recover, and had become one of the key drivers of the global economic recovery. They reiterated their commitment to accelerating and deepening economic structural reforms, promoting domestic demand and employment, resisting protectionism, and further promoting trade and investment for the recovery and long-term prosperity of the world economy.

22. The Ministers welcomed the results of the G-20 Summit in Seoul, particularly the adoption of the agenda for development as provided in the Seoul Development Consensus for Shared Growth, as an integral part of the G-20 Framework for Strong, Sustainable, and Balanced Growth. The Ministers cited the agenda as in accordance with developing countries' interests and conducive to the generation of comprehensive and balanced ideas on the development of the global economic and financial architecture. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN Chair to continue to be invited to participate in the G-20 Summits on a regular basis.

23. The Ministers stressed the importance of maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, and in the region, and called on all concerned parties to make efforts to achieve the complete and verifiable denuclearization of the Korean peninsula in a peaceful manner. They encouraged the parties to create the necessary conditions for the resumption of the Six Party Talks. In this regard, they also underlined

the importance of sincere and constructive inter-Korean dialogue. They stressed the need for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council. They also emphasized the importance of addressing the issue of humanitarian concerns of the international community, such as abduction issue.

24. The Ministers emphasized the importance of enhancing cooperation to promote mitigation and adaptation, with the sufficient financial and technological support by the developed countries, as well as cooperation in international negotiations toward a comprehensive and balanced outcome in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities for the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Kyoto Protocol.

25. The Ministers shared the views of the necessity to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in 2012 and to consider the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit as an ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit.

26. The Ministers looked forward to the 13th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Cambodia in 2012.

Chairman's Statement of the 13th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 10 July 2012

1. The 13th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 10 July 2012. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia.
2. The Ministers were pleased with the achievements of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation over the past 15 years and took note of the fast growing and deepening of cooperation within the ASEAN Plus Three framework, including political and security, transnational crime, economic, finance and monetary, agriculture and forestry, energy, minerals, tourism, health, culture and arts, environment, science and technology, information and communication technology, social welfare, rural development and poverty eradication, disaster management, youth, women, education, among others.
3. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the substantive progress that was made in the implementation of the 2nd Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). The Ministers exchanged views on how to further implement the work plan more effectively and agreed to task the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN to work closely with the Ambassadors of the Plus Three countries to ASEAN and the ASEAN Secretariat to conduct a Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan.
4. The Ministers agreed to accelerate regional integration and to envision the long-term future of East Asia, in particular the East Asia community building.
5. The Ministers reaffirmed their strong commitment to further deepening and broadening of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation which will continue to serve as a main vehicle towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force.
6. The Plus Three countries reaffirmed their strong support to the central role of ASEAN in the existing regional mechanisms and in the evolving regional architecture and recognised the mutually reinforcing and complementary roles of the ASEAN Plus Three process and such regional fora as ASEAN Plus One, EAS, and ARF in the East Asian community building process.

7. The Ministers highlighted the importance for East Asian countries to spur the internal growth in the context of downside risks in the global economy, and to promote regional economic development in a sustainable and healthy way.

8. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and ASEAN Member States appreciated the strong support of the Plus Three countries in implementing the Master Plan. The Ministers noted the ASEAN's Paper on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity" and the initiatives contained therein, such as to designate the year 2012 as the "Visit ASEAN Plus Three Year" and to choose one of the cities in ASEAN Plus Three countries as "the Cultural City of East Asia." The Ministers supported Cambodia's proposal to designate Siem Reap City of Cambodia as "the Cultural City of East Asia in 2012." The Ministers also agreed that these initiatives should be launched in 2012 to mark the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.

9. The Ministers took note of the report on Workshop on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity hosted by Thailand on 15 June 2012 in Bangkok, and welcomed the proposal for the Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity to be adopted by the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders at the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to mark the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.

10. The Ministers expressed their commitment to supporting the ASEAN Coordinating Center for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Management (AHA Center) which promotes regional cooperation in disaster management, humanitarian assistance and emergency response to regional disasters.

11. The Ministers underlined the significant roles and contribution of the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and the ASEAN-Korea Centre in promoting trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.

12. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction on developments made in the ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting on strengthening the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM), including doubling its total size, increasing the IMF de-linked portion, and introducing the prices prevention function, and on enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Microeconomic Research Office (AMRO)'s organizational capacity.

13. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment for the sustainable and integrated food security in the region and agreed to strengthen regional efforts to enhance cooperation in the agriculture sector, especially investment in infrastructure, technology transfer

and technical assistance in order to increase agricultural production and productivity. In this connection, the Ministers stressed the importance of effective implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement, which was signed on 7 October 2011, in Indonesia. The Ministers were encouraged that the Agreement will come into force on 12 July 2012 and look forward to its full and effective implementation. The Ministers welcomed steady implementation of ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) and expected its future development based on the Proposal of Post-2012 AFSIS.

14. The Ministers welcomed convening of the 1st ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers' Meeting in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 4 July 2012 and expressed their satisfaction for the adoption of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education (2010-2017) in order to strengthen the educational cooperation and human resource development in the region. The Ministers also welcomed the endorsement of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation through Information and Media (2012 – 2017) and looked forward to its successful implementation. They welcomed the progress of the "CAMPUS Asia" initiative, by Japan, China, and the Republic of Korea and their intention to promote university exchanges with ASEAN countries. They reaffirmed the importance of promoting quality assurance in higher education among ASEAN Plus Three countries.

15. The Ministers looked forward to the signing of the ASEAN Plus Three Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on Tourism by the APT Tourism Ministers in the near future.

16. The Ministers took note of Malaysia's proposal to have a dialogue between the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders and Business Circle such as East Asia Business Council (EABC) during the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in Phnom Penh, in November 2012.

17. The Ministers underlined the importance of peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula and urged concerned parties not to conduct any further provocation and to comply with its obligations under the relevant UNSC resolutions and its commitment under the 2005 UNSC Six-Party Talks Joint Statement. The Ministers further reiterated the call for all parties concerned to explore all possibilities to engage in peaceful dialogue which would lead to creating an atmosphere of trust and confidence among the concerned parties.

18. The Ministers appreciated the important contribution of the Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT) and the East Asia Forum (EAF) to strengthen the East Asia Cooperation, and to move forward the East Asia Community Building in the long-term.

19. The Ministers looked forward to the finalization of the final report of the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVG II) at the forth Meeting of the EAVG II to be held on 5-7 September 2012, in Bali, Indonesia. The Ministers also looked forward to its submission to the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in November 2012.

20. The Ministers highly appreciated the support of the Plus Three Countries for the regular participation of the ASEAN Chair in the G20 Summits.

21. The Ministers agreed to organise the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit as a Commemorative Summit and to have Leaders' Joint Statement to Commemorate the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.

22. The Ministers welcomed Cambodia's initiative to hold two activities to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation, namely the "ASEAN Plus Three Youth Leaders' Symposium" to be held in September 2012, in Phnom Penh, and the "ASEAN Plus Three Joint Cultural Performance: Unity in Diversity" to be held in early November 2012, in Siem Reap; and China's initiative to hold the Symposium on Commemorating the 15th Anniversary of APT Cooperation in the second half of 2012 and publish a collection of documents on APT cooperation over the past 15 years.

23. The Ministers looked forward to the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Brunei Darussalam in 2013.

Chairman's Statement of the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 30 June 2013

1. The 14th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (ROK) was held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 30 June 2013. The Meeting was chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam.
2. The Ministers welcomed the good progress and achievements of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and reaffirmed their commitment to deepen and broaden the process, as guided by the Second Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders' Joint Statement on the Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation, to serve as a main vehicle towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community, with ASEAN as the driving force.
3. The Ministers reiterated the importance of ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture and agreed that the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation would continue to support the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and pave the way towards deeper regional integration. The Ministers also took note of Indonesia's call for ASEAN to formulate aspirational goals beyond 2015, such as doubling ASEAN's combined GDP and halving the percentage of people living in poverty in the ASEAN region by 2030.
4. The Ministers recalled the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) and its Plan of Action (2013-2017) and reaffirmed the commitment to implement it with the support of ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, including within the frameworks of the ASEAN Plus Three.
5. The Ministers reviewed with satisfaction the progress made by the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation through the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). The Ministers adopted the paper on the Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) and tasked the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN and the Ambassadors of the Plus Three countries to ASEAN to look into the recommendations and submit the

Revised ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2013-2017) to the 16th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan in October 2013.

6. The Ministers recognised the necessity to replenish the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund (APTCF) and look forward to its replenishment in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the APTCF.

7. The Ministers took note that the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVG II) Report was submitted to the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 19 November 2012 and in this regard, adopted the Concept Paper on the Follow-Ups to the EAVG II Report which outlined a comprehensive assessment to be taken in three phases from November 2013 to October 2014.

8. The Ministers looked forward to the implementation of the Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity which was adopted at the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 19 November 2012, and agreed to explore the possibility of additional financing mechanisms under the APT framework to support the implementation of ASEAN connectivity projects. The Ministers also reaffirmed the need to further promote cooperation to support the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II.

9. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in maintaining peace, security and stability which are indispensable conditions for development in the East Asia region hence agreed to further strengthen political-security cooperation, to deal with emerging challenges in both traditional and non-traditional security dimensions, inter alia the threat of terrorism and emerging cybercrimes. The Ministers also underscored the need to promote common values and norms, such as good governance, rule of law, as well as the promotion and protection of human rights through policy dialogue and capacity building activities.

10. The Ministers lauded the steady growth of the East Asia region, with the developing countries poised to grow at an average of 5.5% in 2013, up from 5.1% in 2012, notwithstanding the uncertainties in the global economy and financial markets.

11. The Ministers noted and welcomed the recent milestones achieved during the 16th ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting that took place in Delhi, India on 3 May 2013, in particular, finalisation of amendments to the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation Agreement, consensus on the draft Agreement to transform the ASEAN Plus Three Macroeconomic Research Office to an international organisation, endorsement of the work plan to implement the Asian Bond Markets Initiative New Roadmap+ and the initiative on "Fostering Infrastructure

Financing Bonds Development” to promote both issuance and demand of infrastructure financing bonds, as well as, the inauguration of the guarantee transaction of the Credit Guarantee Investment Facility.

12. The Ministers welcomed the commencement of negotiations on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in May 2013 in Brunei Darussalam which would serve to strengthen ASEAN Centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture and the interests of ASEAN Plus Three in supporting and contributing to economic integration, equitable economic development and strengthening economic cooperation among the participating countries. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their support for a process which will be in accordance with the Joint Declaration on the Launch of Negotiations for the RCEP and the Guiding Principle and Objectives for Negotiating the RCEP.

13. The Ministers reaffirmed their support to achieve greater energy security hence welcomed the decision of the 9th ASEAN Plus Three Ministers on Energy Meeting on 12 September 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia to balance energy security with economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability through strengthening regional commitments to the ASEAN Plus Three energy cooperation. The Ministers welcomed the steady progress of the activities in the field of energy security and acknowledged the importance of cooperation among stakeholders to study possible energy options for the region including, among others, civilian nuclear energy, oil stockpiling, coal and clean coal technologies.

14. The Ministers underscored the importance of ensuring food security in the East Asia region. In this regard, the Ministers recalled that the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement entered into force on 12 July 2012 and commended the initiative taken by the APTERR in response to the occurrence of flood damage in late 2012 in the Philippines as its first case. The Ministers also welcomed the successful implementation of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Project, looking forward to the further development of AFSIS into the ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Information System.

15. The Ministers also reaffirmed the importance of ensuring food safety in this region and the commitment to appropriately review and relax restrictions on imports from Japan after the nuclear accident, to promote trade, investment and travel in the region.

16. The Ministers recognised the increasing need to facilitate closer cooperation on environment and sustainable development in line with the Outcome of the United Nations on Sustainable Development 2012 (Rio+20). They noted the convening of the

11th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers' Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand on 27 September 2012, the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Leadership Programme on Sustainable Production and Consumption in Manila, the Philippines on 17-19 October 2012 and welcomed the proposal to hold the 2nd ASEAN Plus Three Youth Environment Forum with the theme "Youth and Sustainability" in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam in December 2013.

17. The Ministers welcomed the decision of the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers' Meeting in Phuket, Thailand on 6 July 2012 to align health cooperation initiatives with the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015) with specific focus on areas such as Emerging Infectious Diseases, Pandemic Preparedness and Response, and Traditional Medicines. They also reiterated the need to strengthen cooperation in addressing threats of disease outbreaks in the East Asia region.

18. The Ministers looked forward to the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education (2010-2017) which would help strengthen education cooperation and human resource development in the East Asia region. They also reaffirmed their support to promote quality assurance in higher education amongst the ASEAN Plus Three countries, including the convening of the 1st APT Working Group on "Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education among ASEAN Plus Three countries" and a related forum later this year in Tokyo.

19. The Ministers looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation in early 2014 which would be one of the key instruments to strengthen the good relationship and cooperation amongst the ASEAN Plus Three countries in the tourism sector.

20. The Ministers acknowledged the important and complimentary role played by the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre, and ASEAN-ROK Centre, which over the years, have helped facilitate and promote trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries. In this regard, the Ministers encouraged the three centres to exchange ideas and experiences in order to consolidate cooperative projects in ASEAN.

21. The Ministers recognised the need to strengthen cooperation in the information sector to raise the awareness of ASEAN and promote mutual understanding amongst the people of East Asia. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the endorsement of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Through Information and Media (2012-2017) at the 2nd Conference of the ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Information in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 1 March 2012.

22. The Ministers acknowledged the 4th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 23 May 2013 and the readiness of China, Japan and the ROK to continue supporting and cooperating with ASEAN youth programmes. They noted that new initiatives and programmes from the Plus Three countries offered more opportunities for further interaction and exchange of technical know-how between the young people from Southeast Asian countries and the Plus Three countries.

23. The Ministers appreciated the important role of the East Asia Forum (EAF) as a think-tank for East Asian regional cooperation between government, business, and academic circles. In this regard, the Ministers looked forward to the convening of the 11th EAF in Kyoto, Japan on 20-22 August 2013 with the theme of “Enhancing People-to-People Connectivity: Focusing on Tourism Cooperation”.

24. The Ministers appreciated the important contribution of the Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT) in supporting the ASEAN Plus Three, hence shared the determination for greater involvement of the NEAT within the framework of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.

25. The Ministers took note of China’s initiatives to hold several ASEAN Plus Three activities this year namely: the 5th East Asia Business Forum; APT Workshop on Law Enforcement Cooperation on Combating Telecom Fraud; 6th APT Forum on Biomass Energy; 5th APT Roundtable on Food Security Cooperation Strategy; Seminar and Training Course on the Prevention and Control of Animal Epidemic Disease; NEAT Working Group Meeting on Financing Infrastructure Connectivity in East Asia; 8th APT Workshop on Cooperation for Cultural Human Resource Development; 6th APT Media Cooperation Forum; APT Training Program on Understanding China; and International Symposium of East Asia Connectivity Partnership.

26. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance for the Chairman of ASEAN to continue to be invited to participate in the G-20 Summits on a regular basis.

27. The Ministers stressed the need to maintain peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula, and encouraged peaceful dialogue including the resumption of the Six Party Talks. The Ministers reiterated the importance of fully complying with obligations in all relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. The Ministers reiterated their support for all efforts to bring about the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner and reaffirmed their commitments to fully implement the relevant UNSC Resolutions to this end. The Ministers also

emphasised the importance of addressing the issues of humanitarian concerns of the international community.

28. The Ministers looked forward to the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in 2014.

Chairman's Statement of the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 9 August 2014

1. The 15th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (ROK) was held in Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, on 9 August 2014. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. U Wunna Maung Lwin, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
2. The Ministers welcomed with satisfaction the substantive progress and achievements of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation since the process began in 1997. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening, broadening and deepening the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in line with the Second Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders' Joint Statement on the Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and the recommendations of the East Asia Vision Group II.
3. The Ministers reiterated that the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation would serve as a main vehicle towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community, with ASEAN as the major driving force. The Ministers reiterated the importance of ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture and recognised the mutually reinforcing and complementary roles of the ASEAN Plus Three and other regional processes such as the ASEAN Plus Ones, East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and ADMM-Plus in moving towards the deeper regional integration of the East Asian community building process.
4. The Ministers reiterated the importance of implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015), strengthening of ASEAN Secretariat and formulating the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision as well as implementation of the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) and its Plan of Action (2013-2017). The Ministers reaffirmed the commitment to implementing them with the support of ASEAN's Dialogue Partners and other external partners, including within the framework of the ASEAN Plus Three.
5. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress made by APT cooperation through the implementation of the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). As a follow-

up to the recommendations of the Mid-Term Review of the Work Plan, the Ministers encouraged timely and effective implementation of the APT Cooperation Work Plan which had been revised with the new timeframe of 2013-2017. The Ministers underscored the importance of effective utilisation of the APT Cooperation Fund to further implement activities under the framework of the revised ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan.

6. The Ministers appreciated the important contribution of East Asia Vision Group (EAVG II) in reviewing the APT cooperation over the past 15 years and helping to find out ways and means to promote the APT cooperation in a more consolidated and meaningful context. The Ministers noted that the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) and the Ambassadors of the Plus Three countries had undertaken a general assessment of the EAVG-II Report and were currently identifying recommendations that were considered feasible and should be given priority for implementation. The Ministers further noted that the next step would be to establish action plans that would make up part of the final report to be submitted to the 18th APT Summit in 2015.

7. The Ministers welcomed Indonesia's efforts to propose a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in the wider Indo-Pacific region developed from the spirit of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in the Southeast Asia (TAC) and the 2011 Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (EAS Bali Principles). In this regard, they welcomed Indonesia's intention to host the 3rd EAS Workshop to further deliberate on the Indo-Pacific Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

Political and security cooperation

8. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of APT cooperation in maintaining peace, security and stability which were indispensable conditions for development in the East Asia region. They hence concurred to further strengthen political-security cooperation, to deal with emerging challenges in both traditional and non-traditional security dimensions, inter alia the threat of terrorism, disaster management, pandemic diseases, transnational and cyber security and maritime security. The Ministers underscored the need to promote common values and norms such as good governance, democracy, rule of law and human security, as well as the promotion and protection of human rights through policy dialogue and capacity building activities.

Trade and investment

9. The Ministers expressed satisfaction over ASEAN's robust trade with the Plus Three countries in spite of the uncertainties of the global economy. The Ministers

shared the view to continue strengthening regional cooperation in the areas of trade and investment facilitation. In this connection, the Ministers noted China's proposal for hosting an East Asia Investment Summit during the ASEAN and related summits in November this year.

10. The Ministers exchanged views on the importance of promoting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) development and highlighted their aspiration that the ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements with the Plus Three Countries would significantly contribute to enhancing the sustainability of the SMEs in the region, particularly in the CLMV countries.

11. The Ministers underscored the importance of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in strengthening ASEAN Centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture and the interests of ASEAN Plus Three. The Ministers underscored that RCEP supported and contributed to economic integration, equitable economic development and the strengthening of economic cooperation among the participating countries. The Ministers welcomed the holding of a series of negotiations on RCEP since May 2013 and welcomed the successful conclusion of the fourth round of RCEP negotiations in Nanning, China from 31st March to 4th April 2014 and the fifth round of RCEP negotiations in Singapore from 23 to 27 June 2014. The Ministers supported RCEP negotiations in accordance with the Joint Declaration on the Launch of Negotiations for RCEP and the Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating RCEP.

Financial cooperation

12. The Ministers welcomed the entry into force of the amended Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) Agreement. They were pleased with the progress made to ensure that the CMIM is operationally ready, including the completion of the revision of the Operational Guidelines of the amended CMIM Agreement. They noted the work done to develop the first full set of indicators of the "Economic Review and Policy Dialogue (ERP) Matrix", which consisted of various economic and financial indicators of all the ASEAN Plus Three members. The Ministers also welcomed the agreement of the ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (AFMGM+3) at their 17th Meeting to endorse the "Guidelines for further cooperation with the International Monetary Fund" which would help to enhance the CMIM's effectiveness.

13. The Ministers stressed the importance of transforming the ASEAN Plus Three Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) into an international organisation. In this regard, they welcomed AMRO's continued efforts to improve the quality of its surveillance reports. The Ministers reaffirmed commitments to exert their best efforts to complete their respective domestic processes as soon as possible to ensure the prompt signature and entry into force of the AMRO Agreement.

14. The Ministers recognised the progress made in the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI), especially in the ASEAN+3 Multi-currency Bond Issuance Framework (AMBIF), the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF) and the Cross-border Settlement Infrastructure Forum (CSIF). The Ministers welcomed the Summit on the Asian Credit System held on 23 June 2014 in Beijing, China. The Ministers also noted China's Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) initiative.

Tourism

15. Recognising tourism was an important instrument for the promotion of people-to-people connectivity, the Ministers looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation in 2015. The Ministers welcomed the APT Tourism Ministers' decision on establishment of the APT e-Tourism Working Group to implement the Work Plan. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the 13th Meeting of APT Tourism Ministers on 20 January 2014 in Kuching, Malaysia, and 24th and 25th APT National Tourism Organizations' (NTOs) Meetings on 18 January and 17 May 2014 respectively.

16. The Ministers welcomed the ASEAN-Korea Centre's proposal for holding the ASEAN Culture and Tourism Fair (ACTF) 2014 from 25 September to 1 October in Busan and Incheon, the Republic of Korea.

Food security and agriculture

17. The Ministers underscored the importance of ensuring food security and appropriate food safety, which played an important role in an emerging and resilient ASEAN Community. The Ministers looked forward to sharing new technologies in food security and also looked into enhancing the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR). The Ministers were pleased with the relief the APTERR provided in response to the impact of typhoon Haiyan in 2013 in Philippines. The Ministers noted holding of the 2nd APTERR Council Meeting on 29 May 2014. The Ministers welcomed the implementation of APT Comprehensive Strategy on Food Security and Bio-energy Development (APTCS-FSBD) and looked forward to the successful outcomes of the East Asia Modern Agriculture Workshop which will be held from 26 August to 7 September 2014 in Heilongjiang province, China.

Energy cooperation

18. The Ministers reaffirmed their support to achieving greater energy security, following the outcomes of the 10th APT Energy Ministers' Meeting on 25 September 2013, in Bali, Indonesia. The Ministers agreed to balance energy security with economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability through strengthening

regional commitments to the ASEAN Plus Three energy cooperation. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of stakeholder cooperation to enhance eco-friendly energy options for the region. Recognising that many countries, including ASEAN Plus Three countries choose coal-fired-power generation due to its affordability and availability as base load electricity, the Ministers acknowledged the importance of promoting higher efficiency coal-fired power generation as a pragmatic measure in addressing climate change.

Environment, climate change and sustainable development

19. The Ministers encouraged the continued growth of cooperation on environmental issues, particularly in addressing issues relating to environmental protection and sustainable development. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of strengthening cooperation to effectively address the impacts of climate change. The Ministers reaffirmed their determination to work towards the adoption of a post-2020 framework to the UNFCCC applicable to all Parties. The Ministers noted the holding of the Second APT Youth Environment Forum under the theme “Youth and Sustainability” from 2 to 4 December 2013. In order to raise environmental awareness, the Ministers noted the holding of the ASEAN Plus Three Seminar on Green Productivity Improvement from 17 to 21 March 2014 in Pyin Oo Lwin, Myanmar.

Track 1.5 and Track 2 networking

20. The Ministers appreciated the important role of the East Asia Forum (EAF) as a 1.5 track network between government, business, and academic circles. They were pleased with the range of topics the EAF covered, including energy and food security issues, deepening economic cooperation, enhancing connectivity in East Asia, narrowing the development gap in rural and urban communities and enhancing people-to-people connectivity. The Ministers welcomed Brunei Darussalam’s announcement to host the 12th EAF in Bandar Seri Begawan.

21. The Ministers noted greater involvement of the Network of East Asia Think-Tanks (NEAT) in supporting the APT cooperation process. The Ministers encouraged greater interaction between the APT SOM and NEAT to enable a clearer understanding of NEAT’s policy recommendations in order to create long term benefits for the APT cooperation process. The Ministers welcomed the 20th NEAT held in Cambodia from 20 to 22 June 2014.

Poverty alleviation

22. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of forging closer cooperation in poverty alleviation. They underscored that rural development and poverty eradication

were crucial to building a strong ASEAN community. In this regard, the Ministers noted the holding of 2nd ASEAN+3 Village Leaders Exchange Programme in China from 11 to 17 May 2014.

Labour and migrant workers

23. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of strengthening cooperation on issues relating to labour and migrant workers, particularly relating to the enhancement of a competitive labour force, which would lead to a harmonious, progressive and prosperous workplace in the region. In this regard, the Ministers noted the holding of the ASEAN Plus Three Labor Ministers Meeting on 23 May 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw.

People-to-people links

24. The Ministers emphasised the importance of fostering long-term and mutually beneficial youth relationships through effective and practical youth cooperation activities in line with the guidance given by the APT Leaders. In this regard, the Ministers acknowledged the importance of three regular forums for sharing information and discussing youth cooperation, namely the APT Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY+3), the APT Senior Officials Meetings on Youth (SOMY+3) and the APT Youth Caucus.

25. The Ministers reiterated the importance of APT cooperation in the areas of culture and the arts, especially with regard to the sharing of arts and culture policies, human resource development, preservation and protection of cultural heritage and the development of small and medium-sized cultural enterprises, including creative industry projects. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the Sixth ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA+3) held from 19 to 20 April 2014 in Hue, Viet Nam. The Ministers also welcomed the establishment of the East Asian Cultural Cities in Plus Three countries in 2014.

26. The Ministers expressed appreciation for Japan's international programme "Sport for Tomorrow", aimed at extending the values of sports and promoting the Olympic movement to more than 10 million people in over 100 countries, including ASEAN Plus Three countries.

Information and media

27. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to further promoting APT cooperation on information. In this regard, the Ministers encouraged the effective implementation of the Work Plan on Enhancing APT Cooperation through Information and Media (2012 – 2017). The Ministers noted the outcomes of the 3rd APT Ministers' Meeting Responsible for Information (AMRI+3) held in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 June 2014.

Education

28. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitments to strengthening cooperation to promote development in the education sector, work together to address common challenges related to education, and implement the APT Plan of Action on Education (2010-2017). In this regard, the Ministers looked forward to the 2nd ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (2nd APTFMM), which would take place on 12 September 2014 in Vientiane. The Ministers welcomed the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), to be held in Japan in November 2014 and expected further promotion of ESD beyond 2014.

Science and technology

29. The Ministers underscored the importance of strengthening cooperation in science, technology and innovation to strengthen competitiveness and increase connectivity in the East Asian region. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the 5th ASEAN COST+3 Teachers' Training and Students Camp Gifted in Science from 25 January to 1 February 2014 in Sweden, which was supported by the ROK. The Ministers looked forward to the convening of the 9th ASEAN Science and Technology Week in Indonesia, from 18-27 August 2014 with participation from ASEAN and the Plus Three countries under the theme, "innovations from the most dynamic region to earth". The Ministers welcomed Japan's new initiative to further promote the exchange of young people from ASEAN and the Plus Three countries in the field of science and technology.

Public health

30. The Ministers noted the progress of APT cooperation in health and underscored the importance of cooperation on communicable and emerging infectious diseases including the initiatives on Field Epidemiology Training Network, Risk Communication, Partnership Laboratories, Animal Health and Human Health Collaboration. They also noted specific disease management interventions, including for malaria, rabies and dengue. The Ministers noted the importance of cooperation and networking on aging, universal health coverage, non-communicable diseases, and disaster medicine.

31. The Ministers noted the importance of the full implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015) and the continued support of the Plus Three countries in its implementation. The Ministers looked forward to the successful convening of the ASEAN Health Ministers' Meeting and related meetings in Ha Noi, in September 2014. The Ministers welcomed the ASEAN Health Initiative, which would contribute to the improvement of health levels in ASEAN, proposed at the

ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit Meeting in December 2013. The Ministers also welcomed the 11th ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies in which ASEAN plus three members engaged in discussions about “Active Aging”.

Disaster management

32. The Ministers underscored the importance of closer cooperation in disaster management and building a disaster resilient society in the region in accordance with the ASEAN Declaration on Enhancing Cooperation in Disaster Management adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in 2013. In this regard, the Ministers supported the full operationalization of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Center) and implementation of phase two of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2010-2015). The Ministers looked forward to the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Sendai, Japan in March 2015.

33. The Ministers commended the massive search and rescue operation for the missing Malaysian airline MH370, hence reinforcing the need for continued regional collaboration and prompt actions in the future.

Connectivity

34. The Ministers stressed the importance of seamless connectivity in the East Asia region and looked forward to the effective implementation of the Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity adopted at the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in 2012. In this regard, The Ministers welcomed China's hosting of the 3rd International Symposium of ASEAN Plus Three Connectivity Partnership in Beijing. The Ministers also welcomed China's initiative to establish an East Asia maritime cooperation platform in order to strengthen maritime connectivity in the region.

35. Noting that ASEAN Connectivity would contribute significantly to regional integration and development, the Ministers supported the implementation of ASEAN connectivity projects and agreed to further support the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II.

Regional and international issues

36. The Ministers highlighted the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the region. In this regard, they reaffirmed their commitment to resolve issues in the South China Sea in a peaceful manner. The Ministers expressed their support for the ASEAN's Six-point Principles on the South China Sea on 20 July 2012 as well as

the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Current Developments in the South China Sea adopted on 10 May 2014.

37. The Ministers welcomed the commitment of ASEAN and China to fully and effectively implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties on the South China Sea (DOC). They called on all parties to work towards the early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).

38. The Ministers stressed the need to maintain peace, security and stability on the Korean Peninsula, and encouraged peaceful dialogue by creating necessary conditions for the early resumption of the Six-Party Talks. They reiterated their support for all efforts to bring about denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. They reaffirmed the importance of fully complying with obligations in all relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks.

39. The Ministers welcomed the reunion of separated families between the ROK and the DPRK that took place in February and expressed hope for more frequent and larger scale family reunions in future. They welcomed the convening of the 17th Asian Games in September in Incheon, ROK, where teams from both the ROK and the DPRK would participate. The Ministers also expressed their support for the Trust-building Process on the Korean Peninsula and the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI) as well as the Initiative for Peaceful Unification of the Korean Peninsula proposed by the President of the Republic of Korea. They also noted the meetings between Japan and the DPRK to address pending issues in accordance with the DPRK-Japan Pyongyang Declaration and expected concrete progress on the matter.

40. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance for the Chair of ASEAN to continue to be invited to participate in the G20 Summits on a regular basis.

Next meeting

41. The Ministers looked forward to the 16th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2015.

Chairman's Statement of the 16th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Minister's Meeting

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 6 August 2015

The 16th Meeting of Foreign Minister of ASEAN and the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 6 August 2015. The Meeting was chaired by His Excellency Dato Sri' Anifah Aman, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia.

Review and Future Direction of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation

1. The Ministers welcomed the substantive progress made in ASEAN Plus Three cooperation since its formation in 1997 and reiterated their commitment to further intensify and expand cooperation under the ASEAN Plus Three framework with ASEAN as the driving force for enhanced peace, security and prosperity in the East Asian region, with the long-term goal of building an East Asian community.

2. Mindful that within the next two decades, the ASEAN region is set to account for 40% of global GDP and 60% of the world's middle class, the Ministers reiterated the importance of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation as a main vehicle towards achieving greater regional integration, including through realising the ASEAN Community by the end of 2015.

3. The Minister recalled the East Asia Vision Group II Report, adopted by the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 19 November 2012 and which recommended realisation of an East Asia Economic Community by 2020 as the main pillar of ASEAN Plus Three vision. They looked forward to the final report on the follow-up to the EAVG II Report, to be submitted to the 18th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in November 2012.

4. The Ministers expressed satisfaction with progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2013 – 2017) and looked forward to its full and effective implementation.

5. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in maintaining peace, security and stability, which are indispensable condition for development in the East Asia region and agreed to further strengthen political-security cooperation as provided in the Work Plan.

6. The Ministers welcomed the continued growth in trade and investment relation between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries and expressed confidence that the region's economies will maintain their positive trajectory despite challenges due to uncertainties in the global economy. Given the Regional Comprehensive Economic, partnership's (RCEP) potential to further integrate ASEAN into the global economy, uphold ASEAN centrality and further improve the region's influence on the global stage, the Ministers welcomed the progress made in negotiations and urged participating countries to intensify efforts with the aim of a substantive conclusion by the end of 2015.

7. The Ministers acknowledged the continuous efforts by the East Asia Business Council to promote ASEAN among the private sector and entrepreneurs of East Asian countries. The Ministers looked forward to positive outcomes from the 18th ASEAN Plus Three Economic Minister's Consultations in August 2015 and welcomed the East Asia Business and Investment Forum to be co-hosted by Malaysia and China in August 2015

8. Recognising the importance of a regional financial safety net, particularly during financial crises, the Ministers welcomed the achievements made in enhancing the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) Operational Guidelines, conducting CMIM Test Runs under various scenarios and conducting a CMIM peace-time preparation exercise. To further complement the CMIM, the Ministers welcomed the signing of the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN +3 Macroeconomic Research Office in October 2014 and reaffirmed their commitment to exert their best efforts to complete their respective domestic procedures for the entry into force of the Agreement in 2015, to transform AMRO into an international organisation.

9. The Ministers noted the progress made under the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI), particularly in developing efficient and liquid bond markets in the region through the credit Guarantee and Investment facility (CGIF) , the ASEAN+3 Multi-Currency Bond Issuance Framework (AMBIF) and the ASEAN+3 Bond Market Forum (ABMF). The Ministers welcomed ASEAN+3 new initiatives comprising non-binding high-level guiding principles for macro-prudential policies (MPPs) and capital flow measures (CFMs), sharing of experience and future agenda in structural reforms as well as a study on "Using currency swap-financed trade settlement facility".

10. The Ministers underscored the importance of tourism as a tool in promoting economic development and people-to people connectivity, including through joint tourism marketing and promotion and exchange of cultural programmers. The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017 and looked forward to its full and effective implementation. They

looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation in 2016.

11. The Ministers expressed concern over the adverse effects of climate change to the East Asia region and welcomed continued cooperation and initiatives among ASEAN Plus Three countries to mitigate and adapt to the impact of climate change to agriculture, fisheries and forestry. The Ministers acknowledged the progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice reserve (APTERR) Agreement, ASEAN Food security Information System (AFSIS) and ASEAN Plus Three Comprehensive Strategy on Food Security and Bio-energy Development (APTCS-FSBD) in ensuring food security in the region.

12. Noting the convening of the 3rd APTERR Council Meeting on 22-33 April 2015 in Brunei Darussalam, the Ministers welcomed the implementation of APTERR's project for natural disasters as well as noted the efforts to transform AFSIS into a permanent mechanism to further strengthen food security in the region through systematic collection, analysis and dissemination of food security related information. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of establishing food value chains through Public Private Partnership and affirmed the importance of sustainable use of aquatic fishery resources, including cetaceans, based on scientific evidence.

13. The Ministers recognised the need for the ASEAN Plus Three countries to collaborate in conducting various energy cooperation projects to enhance energy security as well as new and renewable energy in pursuing environmental sustainability. The Ministers welcomed ASEAN's target of reducing regional Energy Intensity by 8 based on 2005 levels and of increasing the share of Renewable Energy to 15% by 2015 and looked forward to the convening of the 12th ASEAN Plus Three energy ministers' meeting 8 October 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.

14. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of contributions by Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as the backbone to ASEAN's economic integration, generating between 51% and 97% of employment in ASEAN. The Ministers acknowledged the progress made by the SME Working group in drafting an ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for SME Development post-2015 with a focus on access to finance, technology and innovation, markets, human resource development and an enabling policy and regulatory environment.

15. The Ministers recognised that youth are the leaders of tomorrow and pillars of a nation's development and welcomed the convening of the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on youth (5th AMMY+3) on 2-5 June 2015, in Siem Reap, Cambodia. They looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN Young Leader's

Summit 2015 on 18-20 November 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with the theme *Maximising Young Leader's Potential Towards One ASEAN community*.

16. The Ministers recognised the importance of addressing environmental issues including trans boundary environment pollution and ensuring sustainable development and welcomed the convening of the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Minister's Meeting on 26-31 October 2015 in Viet Nam. They reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of sustainable forest management through enhancing capacity-building and strengthening cooperation and joint approaches in addressing forestry and environmental management issues.

17. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of the plan of Action on Education (2010-2017) and welcomed the convening of the 3rd Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education among ASEAN Plus Three Countries on 11 June 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand and the Experts Meeting for ASEAN Plus Three Guidelines on Transcripts for Exchange Students in March 2016 on Tokyo, Japan.

18. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of strengthening cooperation on civil service and noted the progress made under the ASEAN conference on Civil Service Matters Plus Three (ACCSM+3) in implementing the Luang Prabang Joint Declaration on ASEAN Plus Three Civil Service Cooperation 2010. The Ministers welcomed the formulation of the ACCSM+3 Work plan 2016-2020 and highlighted the need for projects to foster effective civil service cooperation.

19. The Ministers underscored the need to enhance cooperation in the information sector to promote awareness of ASEAN and the East Asia region. The Ministers noted progress in the implementation of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation through Information and Media (2012-2017) and called for its implementation to be accelerated.

20. The Ministers looked forward to the implementation of the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2016-2025 in which clear and effective mechanisms for further cooperation with Dialogue Partners will be underlined. They noted the progress of implementation of the various initiatives under ASEAN COST +3 and looked forward to the convening of the 4th ASEAN Plus Three Junior Science Odyssey in Serpong, Indonesia from 24-29 August 2015, the 10+3 Young Scientists Exchange programme in Beijing, China from 19 to 23 October 2015, from 24 to 27 November in Jeju Island, ROK and the ASEAN Plus Three Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Forum in Daejeon, ROK on 20 October 2015 in conjunction with the World Science and Technology Forum.

21. The Ministers underscored the importance of cooperation in the areas of pandemic preparedness and response, Communicable diseases and emerging infectious diseases and noted the continuous progress made in health cooperation through the ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network (FETN), ASEAN Plus Three Partnership Laboratories (APL), Risk communication and disease-intervention activities including malaria, rabies and dengue. The Ministers called for the full Implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015) and looked forward to continuous support from the Plus Three countries to achieve the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda.

22. In light of recent developments regarding the spread of MERS in the region, the Ministers welcomed the convening of the APT Health Minister's Video Conference on the Outbreak of MERS-CoV on 27 July 2015, which aims to strengthen cooperation in addressing threats and outbreaks of pandemic diseases in the region.

23. The Ministers underscored the importance of forging closer collaboration in disaster management given the increasing number of calamities occurring in the region. Complementing disaster relief efforts, the ministers called for the full operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster management (AHA Centre) and the full implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster 2010-2015 as part of its commitment towards establishing a disaster resilient community by the year 2015.

24. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of forging closer cooperation in poverty alleviation. They underscored that rural development and poverty eradication were crucial to building a strong ASEA community. In this regard the ministers welcomed China's offer of RMB 100 million to facilitate poverty alleviation in rural areas in East Asia as well as the Setting up of pilot programmes on poverty reduction cooperation in the region.

25. The Ministers recognised that regional integration and narrowing development gaps are priorities in the ASEAN community-building process and in this regard welcomed a post -2015 Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) agenda and a successor document to the IAI Work Plan II. Noting that IAI is cross-cutting in nature, the Ministers called for closer collaboration among the Various ASEAN sectoral bodies in ensuring the full participation and realisation of regional commitments and initiatives.

26. The Ministers welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the Master plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) in promoting economic growth, narrowing development gaps and contributing to ASEAN integration and community-building and looked forward to the formulation of post-2015 Connectivity Agenda which should

be bold, visionary and contain concrete and feasible measures which will contribute to seamless connectivity in the East Asia region. Noting that financing mobilisation is an important factor in moving the ASEAN connectivity agenda forward, the Ministers welcomed progress in the establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank by China as well as the proposed Partnership for Quality Infrastructure by Japan to address infrastructure financing needs in the region.

27. The Minister acknowledged the important contribution of the East Asia forum (EAF) as a think-tank incorporating government, business and academia with a view to deepening East Asia region cooperation and hoted the convening of the 13th EAF held in Jeju, republic of Korea on 20-21 May 2015 with the theme prosperous East Asia throught Non-Tradional Security Cooperation and noted Cambodia's proposal to host the 14th East Asia Forum in 2016.

28. The Ministers also acknowledged the important contribution of the network of East Asia Think-tanks (NEAT) towards the APT cooperation process and commended the initiative of the APT senior Officials to invite the Chair of NEAT for a dialogue with a view to encouraging closer interaction and gaining deeper insights into the work and deliberations of NEAT as well as encouraging both sides to share ideas on how to further strengthen APT cooperation. In this connection, we welcomed the convening of the 22nd Country Coordinators Meeting (CCM) of NEAT in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in May 2015 and looked forward to the convening of the 23rd NEAT CCM/13th Annual Conference in Bandung, Indonesia in September 2015.

29. The Ministers took note of the convening of the Annual Meeting of Deans and Directors of Diplomatic Training Institutions of ASEAN Plus Three, which met for the tenth time in 2015 in Bali, Indonesia on 8-10 April 2015 to share experiences and best practices as well as promote greater institutional collaboration among the diplomatic institutions of the APT countries.

30. The Ministers recognised the role and contribution of the ASEAN-China Centre, the ASEAN-Japan Centre and the ASEAN-Korea centre in promoting trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges between the ASEAN member States and Individual Plus Three countries. They urged the three Centres to collaborate more closely in the large context of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.

Exchange of Views on region and international issues

31. The Ministers expressed concern over recent development on the Korean Peninsula and underlined the importance of maintaining peace, stability and security in the region. They registered deep concern over the Democratic People's Republic of

Korea's recent ballistic missile launches and highlighted the importance of trust-building activities on the peninsula, the need to fully comply with all relevant United Nations Security Council resolution and for all parties to comply with commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. The Ministers called for the creation of necessary conditions for the early resumption of Six-Party Talks which would pave the way for the complete and verifiable de -nuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner.

32. The Ministers discussed preparations for the upcoming ASEAN Plus Three Summit, scheduled to be held in November 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

33. The Ministers looked forward to the convening of the 17th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers 'Meeting, to be held in Lao PDR in 2016.

Joint Statement of the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (5th AMMTC+3) Consultation

Bali, Indonesia, 12 October 2011

1. We, the Ministers of ASEAN Member States, China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea responsible for combating transnational crimes, convened the 5th AMMTC+3 in Bali, Indonesia, on 12 October 2011. The Ministerial Meeting was preceded by ASEAN+3 Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime for the 5th AMMTC+3 Consultation. His Excellency Police General Timur Pradopo, Chief of Indonesian National Police, chaired the meeting. The Secretary-General of ASEAN also attended the Meeting.
2. We are committed to consolidate and further strengthen the efforts in preventing and combating transnational crimes with the objectives to sustain peace, security, and stability as well as prosperity in the region.
3. We praised the progress achieved in ASEAN's efforts in addressing the transnational crimes with the support of the Plus Three Dialogue Partners while maintaining the central role of ASEAN.
4. We tasked the SOMTC+3 to move forward in implementing concrete projects within and beyond the ASEAN Plus Three Work Plan to combat transnational crime.
5. We agreed to task SOMTC+3 to leverage the existing mechanisms with objective to measure, track, and better position our efforts to combat transnational crime in order to ensure the implementation of workplan of ASEAN Plus Three a success reality.
6. We welcomed the enhanced cooperation between ASEAN and its Plus Three Dialogue Partners particularly in the field of cyber crime investigation. This is a crucial step ahead as the current trends demonstrate the emerging challenges of cyber crime and its strong linkages to other transnational crimes, in particular terrorism and trafficking in persons.
7. We welcomed and appreciated all proposals and initiatives to organise constructive activities in dealing with transnational crime issues, such as the

convening of the “International Seminar on Sustainable Alternative Development in Moving Towards an ASEAN Drug Free 2015” in Chiang Mai in November 2011, the “Seminar on ASEAN+3 Law Enforcement Cooperation Against Telecommunication Fraud” in China in November 2011, and the “Law Enforcement Executive Meeting” in Tokyo in December 2011.

8. We welcomed the kind offer of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic to host the 6th AMMTC+3 Consultation in November 2013 in Vientiane.

9. We expressed our sincere gratitude and high appreciation to the Government and the people of the Republic of Indonesia for the warm and generous hospitality accorded to us and our respective ASEAN+3 delegations.

Joint Statement of the 6th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting Plus Three on Transnational Crimes (6th AMMTC+3)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 18 September 2013

1. We, the Ministers of ASEAN Member States, China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea responsible for combating transnational crime, convened the 6th AMMTC+3 in Vientiane, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on 18 September 2013. The Ministerial Meeting was preceded by Preparatory SOMTC+3 for the 6th AMMTC+3 on 16 September 2013. The 6th AMMTC+3 was chaired by H.E. Dr. Thongbanh Seng A phone, Minister of Public Security of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.
 2. We remain committed to further strengthen efforts to prevent and combat transnational crimes that continue to threaten our region, in order to ensure peace and stability.
 3. We acknowledged the progress in the efforts to fulfill the transnational crime component of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan 2007-2017.
 4. We tasked the SOMTC+3 to expedite efforts to enhance ASEAN+3 law enforcement cooperation, in order to fulfill the transnational crime component of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan which is to be completed by 2017.
 5. We welcomed the convening of the 7th AMMTC+3 in Malaysia in 2015.
 6. We expressed our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Government and people of the Lao People's Democratic Republic for their generous hospitality and excellent arrangements.
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Joint Statement of the 7th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (7th AMMTC+3) Consultation

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 30 September 2015

1. We, the Ministers of ASEAN Member States, China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea responsible for combating transnational crime, convened the Seventh ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (7th AMMTC+3) Consultation in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 30 September 2015. The 7th AMMTC+3 was chaired by Hon. Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Malaysia.
2. We remain committed to further strengthen efforts to prevent and combat transnational crimes that continue to threaten our region, in order to ensure peace and stability.
3. We took note of the outcomes of the Thirteenth ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (13th SOMTC+3) Consultation held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 10 June 2015.
4. We exchanged views on the need to further strengthen the existing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in combating transnational crimes, including addressing the emergence of new forms of transnational crimes.
5. We acknowledged the progress in the efforts to fulfill the transnational crime component of the Revised ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017.
6. We agreed that it is pertinent to utilise the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund (APCTF) for the implementation of the activities under the Revised ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017.
7. We welcomed the convening of the 8th AMMTC+3 Consultation in Myanmar in 2017.
8. We expressed our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Government and people of the Malaysia for their generous hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

Joint Media Statement of the 14th AEM+3 Consultations

Manado, Indonesia, 12 August 2011

1. The Fourteenth Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and Economic Ministers of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea were held on 12 August 2011 in Manado, Indonesia. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Mari Elka Pangestu, Minister of Trade of Indonesia; H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China; Mr. Kenji Goto, Deputy Director General, Ministry for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; and H.E. Kim Jong-Hoon, Minister for Trade of the Republic of Korea.
2. The Ministers exchanged views on regional and global economic developments, in particular Japan's economic recovery from the recent earthquake and tsunami. The Ministers recognised the importance of securing the prompt return of the smooth flow of goods, services and people in the region. The Ministers were pleased to note that ASEAN trade with the Plus Three Countries remained robust. In 2010, total trade recorded an increase of 28.9 per cent amounting to US\$533.3 billion, which was higher than before the decline in 2009. Exports and imports grew by 34.9 per cent and 23.5 per cent, respectively. Total trade with Plus Three Countries accounted for 26.1 per cent share of ASEAN's total trade in 2010.
3. Total foreign direct investment (FDI) flow from the Plus Three Countries into ASEAN remained on an upward trend, recording a surge of 62.4 per cent amounting to US\$14.9 billion in 2010 from US\$9.2 billion in 2009. FDI flow from the Plus Three Countries accounted for one fifth of the total FDI flows into ASEAN in 2010.
4. The Ministers recalled the Leaders' consensus that ASEAN Plus Three process continues to be a main vehicle to achieve the long-term goal of building an East Asian community. The ASEAN Plus Three process and the EAS should play a complementary and mutually reinforcing role with other regional mechanisms in community building efforts. Recommendations in the EAFTA and CEPEA Studies are currently being examined and considered in parallel.

East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA)

5. The Ministers were pleased to note the progress of the four ASEAN Plus Working Groups (APWGs) that were tasked to look into the recommendations of the EAFTA and

CEPEA Studies relevant to rules of origin, tariff nomenclature, customs procedures and economic cooperation. The Ministers welcomed the Seminar on EAFTA hosted by China on 1 March 2011 in Ma'anshan, Anhui Province of China. The Ministers noted that the APWG on Tariff Nomenclature has completed its work and urged the other APWGs to intensify their discussions and finalise their recommendations before the 19th ASEAN Leaders' Summit in November 2011.

6. The Ministers welcomed and exchanged views on the joint proposal by China and Japan, "Initiative on Speeding up the Establishment of an East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA) and Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA)".

7. To ensure the economic integration within ASEAN as well as with Dialogue Partners, the Ministers noted that ASEAN is still working on the structure and template for the ASEAN ++ FTA, which would include an appropriate institutional mechanism, and is taking into account the joint proposal by China and Japan in developing recommendations by November 2011.

8. The Ministers look forward to considering the ASEAN proposed structure and template for the ASEAN ++ FTA and would also give further consideration to the joint proposal by China and Japan at that time. The Ministers instructed Senior Officials to meet in November 2011 to initially consider these proposals and advise Ministers. The Ministers reiterated the importance of ASEAN Centrality in the expanded regional economic integration process.

ASEAN Plus Three Economic Cooperation

9. The Ministers appreciated the on-going Japanese cooperation including the effort of the training programme for improving the quality of logistics in ASEAN.

10. The Ministers recognised the recent adoption of the Terms of Reference of the East Asia Vision Group (EAVG) II by the 12th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 23 July 2011 in Bali, Indonesia. The Ministers looked forward to the final recommendation of the EAVG II to the Leaders at the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in 2012, which will stock-take all previous and current activities in order to chart the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.

11. The Ministers noted the progress made in the implementation of ASEAN Plus Three projects, including the ICT Cooperation Towards Co-Prosperity in East Asia Project currently implemented by the Republic of Korea. This project is intended to bridge the digital divide and to build capacity of developing countries.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam
 - ii. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia
 - iii. H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce, China
 - iv. H.E. Mari Elka Pangestu, Minister of Trade, Indonesia
 - v. H.E. Mahendra Siregar, Vice Minister of Trade, Indonesia
 - vi. Mr. Kenji Goto, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan
 - vii. H.E. Kim Jong-hoon, Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea
 - viii. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR
 - ix. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia
 - x. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar
 - xi. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines
 - xii. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore
 - xiii. Mr. Yangyong Phuangrach, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Thailand
 - xiv. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam
 - xv. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN
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Joint Media Statement of the 15th AEM Plus Three Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 29 August 2012

1. The Fifteenth Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and Economic Ministers of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea were held on 29 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China; H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; and H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade of the Republic of Korea.
2. The Ministers exchanged views on the global economic situation and recent economic development in ASEAN and in the Northeast Asian countries. Ministers expressed satisfaction with the progress in economic integration in the region and were pleased to note that ASEAN trade with the Plus Three Countries remained robust even in the context of the uncertainties of the global economy. In 2011, total trade recorded an increase of 26.2 per cent, amounting to US\$678.2 billion. Exports and imports grew by 34.9 per cent and 18.0 per cent, respectively. Total trade with Plus Three Countries accounted for 28.4 per cent share of ASEAN's total trade in 2011.
3. Total foreign direct investment (FDI) flow from the Plus Three Countries into ASEAN remained on an upward trend, recording an increase of 29.5 per cent amounting to US\$41.2 billion in 2011 from US \$31.8 billion in 2010. FDI flow from the Plus Three Countries accounted for nearly half (46.2 per cent) of the total FDI flows into ASEAN in 2011.
4. The Ministers noted the progress of the East Asia Vision Group (EAVG) II in developing the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation for the next ten years. Ministers looked forward to the final recommendation of EAVG II to the Leaders at the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in November 2012 in Cambodia.
5. The Ministers welcomed the progress in the preparation work for an FTA among China, Japan, and Korea (CJKFTA) and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), both of which are aimed at launching the negotiations within this

year. The Ministers shared the view that these initiatives would significantly contribute to deepening economic integration in the region.

6. The Ministers welcomed China's proposal to organise the "Workshop on Economic and Technological Development Zones in 10+3 Countries" in Beijing in November 2012. The workshop will study policy recommendations to accelerate economic development in the region through implementation of economic and technological development zones and explore cooperative opportunities in the area between ASEAN Plus Three countries.

7. The Ministers had a productive discussion with the East Asia Business Council (EABC) at the occasion of the consultation and appreciated its recommendations to strengthen cooperation to maintain better and faster development in the region and promote regional economic integration.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam
- ii. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia
- iii. H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce, China
- iv. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia
- v. H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan
- vi. H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea
- vii. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR
- viii. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia
- ix. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar
- x. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines
- xi. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore
- xii. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand
- xiii. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam
- xiv. S.G. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN

Joint Media Statement of the 16th AEM Plus Three Consultations

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 20 August 2013

1. The 16th Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and Economic Ministers of the People's Republic of China ("China"), Japan and the Republic of Korea ("Korea") were held on 20 August 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. The Consultations were co-chaired by The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce of China; H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; and H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy of Korea.

2. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the trade and investment relations between ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries, which remained robust even in the light of the uncertainties of the global economy. In 2012, ASEAN total trade with the Plus 3 countries recorded an increase of 5.0%, amounting to US\$712 billion. This increase could be attributed to ASEAN's imports from the Plus Three Countries, which grew by 11.0% totalling to US\$389.1 billion in 2012. While ASEAN's export to the Plus Three Countries decreased by 1.4%. Total trade with Plus Three Countries accounted for 28.8% share of ASEAN's total trade in 2012.

3. Total foreign direct investment (FDI) flows from the Plus Three Countries into ASEAN remained on an upward trend, recording an increase of 6.6% amounting to US\$46.7 billion in 2012 from US\$43.8 billion in 2011. FDI flows from the Plus Three Countries accounted for 43.6% of the total FDI flows into ASEAN in 2012.

4. The Ministers underlined the importance of the ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements with the Plus Three Countries in strengthening the internal drivers for economic growth in East Asia, especially in the light of uncertainties in the global economy and financial markets, by boosting demand within the region and promoting intra-regional economic development. In this regard, the Ministers urged businesses in East Asia to take full advantage of these FTAs.

5. The Ministers noted the progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) and welcomed the adoption of the paper on the Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan

(2007-2017) at the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The Ministers looked forward to the Revised ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2013-2017) expected to be submitted to the 16th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan in October 2013.

6. The Ministers noted that the final recommendations of the East Asia Vision Group (EAVG) II in developing the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation for the next ten years that were submitted to the Leaders at the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in November 2012 in Cambodia. Following the mandate of the Leaders, the Ministers requested relevant officials to consider the EAVG II recommendations relating to economic pillar for further action.

7. The Ministers consulted with the East Asia Business Council delegation, which reported the results of their works on doing business in the East Asian region. The Ministers appreciated EABC's initiatives and recommendations which further strengthen economic co-operation among ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries in order to establish investor confidence and create an conducive environment for business community in the region.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam
- ii. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia
- iii. H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce, China
- iv. H.E. Bayu Krisnamurthi, Vice Minister of Trade, Indonesia
- v. H.E. Tshimitsu Motegi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan
- vi. H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea
- vii. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR
- viii. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia
- ix. H.E. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar
- x. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines
- xi. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore
- xii. H.E. Niwattumrong Boonsongpaisan, Minister of Commerce, Thailand

- xiii. H.E. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam
 - xiv. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN
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Joint Media Statement of the 17th AEM Plus Three Consultations

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar 26 August 2014

1. The Seventeenth Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and Economic Ministers of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea were held on 26 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development of Myanmar; H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce of China; H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; and H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy of Korea.

2. The Ministers noted that the trade and investment relations between ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries retained its momentum despite challenges derived from uncertainties in the global economy. In 2013, ASEAN total trade with the Plus Three Countries recorded an increase of 1.8% year-on-year, amounting to US\$726.4 billion and accounting for 28.9% of ASEAN's total trade. Though ASEAN's imports from the Plus Three Countries grew by 2.1% year-on-year in 2013, the rate has moderated from 11.2% the previous year. ASEAN's exports to the Plus Three Countries grew by 1.5% year-on-year. Total foreign direct investment (FDI) flows from the Plus Three Countries into ASEAN reached US\$35.1 billion or 28.7% of total, representing a 13.6% increase from the previous year.

3. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the review and assessment of the East Asia Vision Group II's recommendations relating to the economic pillar. The Ministers concurred that closer coordination and stronger synergy among ASEAN Plus Three Countries are important in promoting intra-regional economic development. The Ministers looked forward to the final report of the review and assessment of the East Asia Vision Group II's recommendations, which would be presented to the ASEAN Plus Three Summit in November 2015. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of further improving efficiency of power generation, including higher efficiency coal-fired power generation as a pragmatic measure in addressing climate change.

4. The Ministers welcomed the increased utilisation of the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre's services by local businesses to obtain information on doing business and explore business opportunities in ASEAN. The

Ministers noted the capacity building activities undertaken by the Centres for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and urged the Centres to establish linkages with relevant regional business organisations, such as the East Asia Business Council (EABC) and ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC).

5. The EABC reported to the Ministers its activities as well as presented recommendations to further encourage trade and investment in the East Asia region. The Ministers underscored the role of businesses as drivers of economic growth in the region and commended the initiatives undertaken by the Council.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam
- ii. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia
- iii. H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce, China
- iv. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia
- v. H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan;
- vi. H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea;
- vii. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR
- viii. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia
- ix. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar
- x. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines
- xi. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore
- xii. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand
- xiii. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam
- xiv. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN

Joint Media Statement of the 18th AEM Plus Three Consultations

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 23 August 2015

1. Economic Ministers from the ten ASEAN Member States and Economic Ministers of People's Republic of China ("China"), Japan, and Republic of Korea ("Korea") met on 23 August 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for the Eighteenth AEM Plus Three Consultations. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohammed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia, H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce of China, H.E. Yoichi Miyazawa, Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry of Japan, and H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry, and Energy of Korea.
2. The Ministers were pleased with trade performance in the region. According to ASEAN Statistics, total trade of ASEAN with Plus Three countries reached USD 727.1 billion in 2014, accounting for 28.8 per cent of total ASEAN trade. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow from Plus Three Countries in 2014 amounted to USD 26.7 billion.
3. The Ministers reiterated that collaboration between ASEAN and Plus Three Countries remained important to keep the economic foundation in the region strong, especially in light of recent global financial instability. The Ministers reaffirmed leaders' statement that
4. ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with the Plus Three Countries would significantly contribute to enhancing the sustainability of the Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) in the region.
5. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to East Asia Business Council (EABC) for the continuous support to promote economic integration in the region. The Ministers noted the report by the EABC on the progress of its activities, and its submission of the recommendations which included, among others, supporting SMEs access to non-collateral financing; enabling SMEs access to project fund under the ASEAN Secretariat; promoting cross-border e-commerce in East Asia; and engaging stakeholders in RCEP negotiations and early conclusion thereof. The Ministers welcomed the inputs and looked forward to further inputs from the private sector to facilitate regional economic integration as envisaged under the RCEP.
6. The Ministers underscored the role of the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre, and ASEAN-Korea Centre in promoting trade and investment in the larger

context of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation. The Ministers also encouraged the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC), EABC and the three Centres to establish relevant linkages to support and promote MSMEs.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- i. The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E. Pan Sorasak, Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia;
- iii. H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce, China;
- iv. Mrs Sondang Anggraini, Adviser to the Minister on Trade and Diplomacy, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia (representing H.E. Thomas Trikasih Lembong, Minister of Trade, Indonesia);
- v. H.E. Yoichi Miyazawa, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan;
- vi. H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea;
- vii. H.E. Mrs Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR;
- viii. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia;
- ix. H.E. Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan, Minister of International Trade and Industry II, Malaysia;
- x. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar;
- xi. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines;
- xii. Mrs Ow Foong Pheng, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore (representing H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore);
- xiii. Mr Thawatchai Sophastienphong, Director General of the Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce, Thailand (representing H.E. Gen. Chatchai Sarikulya, Minister of Commerce, Thailand);
- xiv. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam (representing H.E. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam);
- xv. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 14th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' Meeting

Ha Noi, Viet Nam, 4 May 2011

I. Introduction

1. We, the Finance Ministers of ASEAN, China, Japan and Korea (ASEAN+3), convened our fourteenth meeting in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, under the co-chairmanship of H.E. Agus D.W. Martowardojo, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia and H.E. Yoshihiko Noda, Minister of Finance of Japan, with the first attendance of Mr. Benhua Wei, newly appointed Director of the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO). The President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) was also present at our meeting.

2. We exchanged views on recent global and regional economic development and our policy management. We reviewed progress of the regional financial cooperation since our last Meeting including the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) and the ASEAN+3 Research Group. We also discussed how to further strengthen our regional financial cooperation in the future.

II. Recent Economic and Financial Developments in the Region

3. The economic growth in the region, after having weathered the global financial crisis, has been resilient owing to robust domestic demand and buoyant exports. However, we are mindful of the risk factors, such as rising inflation coming from higher commodity and food prices and large capital flows in some countries, which have complicated the task of macroeconomic policy management and have challenged sustainable economic growth of the region. New uncertainties have also surfaced, such as events in the Middle East and North Africa region and the impact of earthquake in Japan over the regional economy.

4. Against this backdrop, we are determined to remain vigilant towards any adverse impact of the risks and vulnerabilities to our economic development and to adopt appropriate macroeconomic policies. We confirmed the importance of promoting fiscal soundness for sustainable economic development. We reiterated our commitment to accelerate and deepen economic structural reforms, promote domestic demand and employment, resist protectionism and further promote trade and investment. In dealing

with the large capital flows, we shared the view that it is important to take macroeconomic and other policies in a comprehensive manner, including macro-prudential measures when necessary. We are committed to strengthen regional macroeconomic policy dialogue and cooperation in order to jointly address potential risks.

5. In this connection, we welcomed that the Deputies deepened surveillance discussions regarding policy management to large capital flows and inflationary pressures in the region under the improved Economic Review and Policy Dialogue (ERPD). We encouraged them to utilize the inputs from the newly established AMRO.

6. We were pleased to note that the CMIM Agreement, effective on March 24, 2010, has played a positive role in safeguarding regional financial stability. In this context, we reiterated our commitment to further deepen regional financial cooperation in the years to come.

III. Strengthening Regional Financial Cooperation

[Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM)]

7. We endorsed the “Operational Guidelines for Enhancing Effectiveness of CMIM”, which is the operational manual for the currency swaps made pursuant to the CMIM Agreement, including the CMIM’s activation process in relation to the existence of the IMF Programs. We believe that these Guidelines will contribute to swift and smooth activation of CMIM Agreement.

8. We welcomed the establishment of AMRO, which, as the surveillance unit of CMIM, plays an important role to monitor and analyze regional economies, and to contribute to early detection of risks, swift implementation of remedial actions, and effective decision-making of CMIM. We expect AMRO to be fully operational soon, and are committed to promote the smooth and efficient operation of AMRO. We instructed the Deputies to review AMRO’s organizational capacity at the next Deputies’ meeting so that AMRO could fully meet its objectives. We also instructed the Deputies to launch a study to strengthen the legal status of AMRO to constitute an international organization with an international legal personality.

9. We shared the view that, under the current global financial environment, crisis takes place on a global scale and it spreads in a short period of time. It has demonstrated the importance of crisis prevention measures to deter contagion. Considering that the regional financial arrangement needs to be adapted to this new environment, we instructed the Deputies to initiate a study on the design of a possible crisis prevention function for CMIM, including the size, further collaboration with the IMF, and the role of AMRO.

[Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI)]

10. We welcomed establishment of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF) last November with an initial capital of US\$700 million. We expect the CGIF to initiate its guarantee operations in a timely manner, so that it could support issuance of corporate bonds and development of bond markets in the region.

11. We welcomed progress of ASEAN+3 Bond Market Forum (ABMF), a common platform to foster standardization of market practices and harmonization of regulations relating to cross-border bond transactions in the region. We recognised that, since its set-up, it has become an important forum for bond market experts of both public and private sectors in the region. We expect a stocktaking report on the current development of the member countries' bond markets by the end of 2011. We also recognised the progress of work at the technical working group on legal and regulatory feasibility reassessment of Regional Settlement Intermediary (RSI). We expect the technical working group to move on to the reassessment of business feasibility study on RSI.

12. We recognised that the ABMI has contributed to developing efficient and liquid bond markets in the region since the start of its activities in 2003 so that large savings in the region can be better utilized to increase investments in the region. Given the significant economic development in the region, we tasked the Deputies to discuss how to further enhance the ABMI, focusing on its objective, scope, including capital market, and framework.

[ASEAN+3 Research Group]

13. We appreciated the efforts made by the Research Group on three studies for 2010/2011 regarding regional monetary units, sudden capital flows, and fiscal and financial impacts of the climate change in the region. We endorsed three study topics for the 2011/2012 Research Group activities as follows: (1) Dealing with Commodity Price Volatility in East Asia; (2) Roles and Functions of the Banking Sector in the Financial System of the ASEAN+3 Region; and (3) Role of Regional Financial Safety Net in Global Architecture.

14. We acknowledged that the Research Group has played an important role in identifying and exploring subjects for possible regional financial cooperation from mid- and long-term point of views by mobilizing knowledge and expertise of private researchers and research institutions. We instructed the Deputies to look into how to further promote its activities and enhance interaction between ASEAN+3 officials and researchers.

[Areas for future regional financial cooperation]

15. We recognised that ASEAN+3 financial cooperation has presented significant achievements under such initiatives as CMIM, ABMI, ERPD and RG. We noted the work of the Taskforce on the Future Priorities of ASEAN+3 Financial Cooperation in assessing previous achievements and proposing new priority areas in order to bring regional financial cooperation to a higher and more strategic level. We tasked the Deputies to initiate studies, with the support from ADB as appropriate, in three possible areas for future cooperation; i) infrastructure financing, ii) disaster risk insurance, and iii) using local currencies for the regional trade settlement.

IV. Conclusion

16. We are of the view that, in order to strengthen regional economic monitoring and to enhance regional financial cooperation, the expertise and experiences held by the Central Bank Governors in the region are indispensable. Hence, we welcomed the participation of Central Bank Governors, and this gathering will then become “ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers’ and Central Bank Governors’ Meeting” from next year.

17. We expressed our appreciation to the governments of the Republic of Indonesia and Japan for their excellent arrangements as the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers’ Process in 2011. We also thanked the government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam for its warm hospitality.

18. We agreed to meet in the Philippines in 2012. Kingdom of Cambodia and Republic of Korea will be the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers’ Process in 2012.

Joint Statement of the 15th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting

Manila, Philippines, 3 May 2012

I. Introduction

1. We, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of ASEAN, China, Japan and Korea (ASEAN+3), convened our 15th meeting in Manila, the Philippines, under the co-chairmanship of H.E. Keat Chhon, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and H.E. Bahk, Jaewan, Minister of Strategy and Finance of the Republic of Korea. It was the first time that the Central Bank Governors participated in this meeting to share their expertise and experiences in strengthening the regional financial cooperation. The President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Director of ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) and the Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN were also present at our Meeting.

2. We exchanged views on the recent global and regional economic developments and policy responses. We reviewed the progress of regional financial cooperation achieved since our last Meeting, including the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), AMRO, the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI), the ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG), and Future Priorities. We also discussed measures to further strengthen our regional financial cooperation in the future.

3. We strongly believe that our agreement made today on strengthening the CMIM, including doubling its total size, increasing the IMF de-linked portion, introducing the crisis prevention function, and enhancing the ABMI by adopting New Roadmap+ will serve as another important step forward to strengthen the regional financial safety net and to pursue sustainable growth in the region.

II. Recent Economic and Financial Developments in the Region

4. We are pleased to note that, despite the heightened uncertainties in the global financial markets, the ASEAN+3 region has posted steady growth so far. This was underpinned by robust domestic demand and effective intermediation function provided by financial institutions in the region.

5. We are fully aware of the potential downside risks to the region's economic performance in 2012. The prolonged sovereign debt crisis in the Eurozone could continue to weigh on ASEAN+3 economies through trade and financial channels. Inflationary pressures remain, driven, in particular, by rising oil prices. We are also well aware of the increasing volatility in short-term capital flows and the interconnectedness of ASEAN+3 economies in intra-regional trade and financial market.

6. Under these circumstances, we are firmly determined to heighten our efforts against the impact of such potential risks, pursue appropriate macroeconomic policies, and further strengthen the regional financial safety net by effectively collaborating with AMRO, the ADB and the IMF while promoting intra-regional trade and investment.

III. Strengthening Regional Financial Cooperation

[Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM)]

7. Against this backdrop, we all committed to strengthening the CMIM as a part of the regional financial safety net, and unanimously agreed as follows:

- i. to double the total size of the CMIM from US\$120bn to US\$240bn;
- ii. to increase the IMF de-linked portion to 30% in 2012 with a view to increasing it to 40% in 2014 subject to review should conditions warrant;
- iii. to lengthen the maturity and supporting period for the IMF linked portion from 90 days to 1 year and from 2 years to 3 years, respectively; and those for the IMF de-linked portion from 90 days to 6 months and from 1 year to 2 years, respectively; and
- iv. to introduce a crisis prevention facility called "CMIM Precautionary Line (CMIM-PL)."

More details can be found in Annex 1.

8. We shall continue to engage the IMF in the areas of surveillance, financial safety net and capability development.

9. We requested the Deputies to work out necessary revisions of the current CMIM Agreement and the Operational Guidelines by the upcoming November Deputies' Meeting to reflect these agreements.

[ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO)]

10. We re-emphasized the importance of strengthening AMRO's role as an independent regional surveillance unit in contributing to effective monitoring and analysis of regional economies, early detection of risks, swift implementation of remedial actions, and effective decision-making of the CMIM. We commended AMRO's work in the past year on its institutional setup, including establishing basic rules and regulations, initiating the secondment scheme and building a good relationship with IFIs. We were also encouraged by the successful start of AMRO's surveillance activities, including submitting periodical regional and country economic surveillance reports, conducting country consultations to eight member countries and establishing cordial relationship with various authorities. We look forward to the continual enhancement of AMRO's organizational capacity into 2013.

11. In order for AMRO to play a pivotal role under the strengthened CMIM, we requested the Deputies to find out how AMRO's organizational capacity can be strengthened by the upcoming November Deputies' meeting. We encouraged AMRO to further enhance collaboration with relevant international financial institutions, including the ADB, the IMF, and the World Bank. We also instructed the Deputies to accelerate the preparation to institutionalize AMRO as an international organization. In this regard, we endorsed the Deputies' decisions to urge AMRO to prepare a work plan, including a concrete timeline, and Singapore to work with AMRO to come up with the first draft of the treaty. We also affirmed the importance of concluding the Host Country Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AMRO and Singapore to clearly define the responsibility of the Host Country. We welcomed Singapore's commitment to provide the necessary host country support which AMRO deems critical to pursue its mission as an independent surveillance unit, for example to provide budget and liquidity support, protect the member countries' data and information, and facilitate employment pass process.

[Asian Bond Markets Initiatives (ABMI)]

12. We fully took note of the role that the ABMI has played since 2003 in increasing the size of local currency bond markets, with diversified issuers and types of bonds issued. This progress under the ABMI has contributed greatly to developing efficient and liquid bond markets in the region by allowing regional savings to be used for regional investment. However, with the uncertainties lingering in the global financial market, we were of the same view that the ABMI is indispensable in preventing the occurrence of another crisis and alleviating volatility in the regional capital market.

13. We agreed to adopt New Roadmap+ in order to produce tangible and concrete outcomes going forward with the support from the ADB, and to reinvigorate the ABMI

discussions as we welcome 10 year anniversary since the launch of the ABMI. Nine priorities based on the three directions in New Roadmap+ are as follows. More details can be found in Annex 2.

- i. Launching guarantee programs of Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF);
- ii. Developing infrastructure-financing schemes (including Lao-Thai pilot project);
- iii. Fostering an investment-friendly environment for institutional investors & transmitting the ABMI knowledge to them;
- iv. Enhancing ASEAN+3 Bond Markets Forum (ABMF) activities (including Common Bond Issuance Program);
- v. Facilitating the establishment of the Regional Settlement Intermediary (RSI);
- vi. Further developing the government bond markets;
- vii. Enhancing financial access to consumers and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs);
- viii. Strengthening the foundation for a regional credit rating system; and
- ix. Raising financial awareness.

14. With regards to the CGIF, we welcomed the completion of the preparatory works to start the guarantee transactions and expect the CGIF to launch the initial guarantee soon. We are pleased to see the progress at the ABMF, in particular the first publication of comprehensive “ASEAN+3 Bond Market Guide,” which aims to encourage cross-border bond issuance and investment in the region’s local currency bond markets. We also took note of the progress on the ADB listing in Tokyo Pro-Bond market as a pilot project, securitization in Malaysia and Thailand, and collaboration with Association of Credit Rating Agencies in Asia (ACRAA). Furthermore, we recognised the progress made on the reassessment of the legal and regulatory feasibility for the establishment of the RSI. We encouraged further discussion on the RSI establishment and expect that the business feasibility reassessment will be accelerated and completed this year.

15. We recommended the ABMI Task Force (TF) to implement New Roadmap+ by developing a work plan and producing tangible outcomes so that we can push forward with the agreed agendas.

16. We welcomed the ABMI 10th Anniversary Seminar on 4 May in Manila, Philippines. We expect this Seminar to serve as an opportunity for us to review the achievements under the ABMI and exchange views with the private sector on the role of the ABMI in the face of changes in the global financial market.

[ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG)]

17. We appreciated the efforts made by the Research Group on three studies for 2011/2012 regarding i) dealing with commodity price volatility in East Asia, ii) the roles & functions of the banking sector in the financial system of the ASEAN+3 region, and iii) the role of the regional financial safety net in global architecture. We endorsed a study topic for the 2012/2013 Research Group activities as follows: The International Discussions on the Credit Rating Agencies and Enhancing Infrastructure to Strengthen the Regional Credit Rating Capacity in the ASEAN+3 Region. We also welcomed streamlining the process of the Research Group to ensure wider participation and enhanced interaction with researchers.

[Future Priorities of ASEAN+3 Financial Cooperation]

18. We welcomed the initial research findings on each of the three possible areas for ASEAN+3 financial cooperation: i) infrastructure financing, ii) disaster risk insurance, and iii) using local currencies for the regional trade settlement. We recognised the importance of these areas in regional economic growth and sustainability. To this end, we requested the Deputies to build on the initial findings, carry on more in-depth study and put forward concrete policy recommendations in the next phase, with the support from the ADB and the World Bank as appropriate.

IV. Conclusion

19. We expressed our appreciation to the governments of Cambodia and Korea for their excellent arrangements as the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Process in 2012. We also thanked the government of the Philippines for its warm hospitality.

20. We agreed to meet in New Delhi, India, in 2013. Brunei Darussalam and China will be the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Process in 2013.

Key Points for Strengthening the CMIM

1. Strengthening Crisis Resolution Mechanism (CRM)

i) Size

- a. To double the total size of the CMIM from the current US\$120bn to US\$240bn while keeping the current share of financial contributions and voting power among the member countries the same

ii) IMF De-linked Portion

- b. To increase the IMF de-linked portion to 30% in 2012 with a view to increasing it to 40% in 2014 subject to review should conditions warrant

iii) Maturity, Supporting period and Monitoring

- c. IMF linked portion: To lengthen the maturity period from 90 days to 1 year with 2 renewals, totaling up to 3 years in supporting period
- d. IMF de-linked portion: To lengthen the maturity from 90 days to 6 months with 3 renewals, totaling up to 2 years in supporting period
- e. To conduct monitoring on a bi-annual basis

iv) Name

- f. To adopt "CMIM Stability Facility (CMIM-SF)" as the name for CRM

2. Introducing Crisis Prevention Function(CPF)

i) Introduction

- a. To introduce one simplified crisis prevention facility

ii) Qualifications and Conditionality

- b. To allow Executive Level Decision Making Body (ELDMB, Deputies' Level Meeting) to flexibly apply the 5 qualification criteria, which are stipulated below, as ex-ante qualifications and ex-post conditionality after considering the economic reports by the requesting country and analyses by AMRO/ADB/IMF as the basis for the decision

< 5 qualification criteria >

- (i) External position and market access**
 - (ii) Fiscal policy**
 - (iii) Monetary policy**
 - (iv) Financial sector soundness and supervision**
 - (v) Data adequacy**
- iii) Name**
- c. To adopt “CMIM Precautionary Line (CMIM-PL)” as the name for CPF
- iv) Duration of Access, Arrangement period, Maturity and Monitoring**
- d. To set the Duration of Access of CMIM-PL at 6 months with 3 renewals, totaling 2 years in arrangement period
 - e. To set the Maturity at 6 months for the IMF de-linked portion and 1 year for the IMF linked portion
 - f. To conduct monitoring on a bi-annual basis
- v) Commitment Fee**
- g. To introduce the commitment fee of 0.15% to CMIM-PL, in principle
- vi) Relationship with CMIM-SF**
- h. The total amount that can be drawn by each member country, either for prevention or resolution purposes, should be within the maximum swap amount set aside for that country
 - i. To restrict dual-drawing from both CMIM-SF and CMIM-PL
 - j. To replace the CMIM-PL with CMIM-SF if any CMIM-PL recipient party is hit with crisis and needs additional support, depending on the decision made by ELDMB

ABMI ‘New Roadmap+’

- 1. Three Basic Directions: Prioritizing the ABMI issues and taking a step-by-step approach**
 1. To produce tangible outcomes, **current and critical ongoing issues need to be further developed.** (F: Follow-up issue)
 2. To strengthen the momentum for the ABMI discussion, **important but undiscussed issues related to bond markets should be added.** (A: Added issue)

3. To meet and accommodate the changing global financial needs, including mitigation of volatility in the capital flows, **relevant issues need to be addressed**. (R: relevant issue)
4. New Roadmap+ will be subject to **periodical reviews, for example 3 years of time, to reprioritize the agendas and/or introduce new items**. Given the different pace of progress, each Task Force (TF)* is encouraged to set its own review schedule.

2. Overview of New Roadmap+

Direction 1(F)	Follow-up issues that need to be addressed to produce tangible outcomes
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Launching CGIF guarantee programs (TF1) (2) Developing infrastructure-financing schemes (including Lao-Thai pilot project) (TF1) (3) Fostering an investment-friendly environment for institutional investors & transmitting the ABMI's knowledge to institutional investors (TF2) (4) Enhancing ABMF activities (including Common Bond Issuance Program) (TF3) (5) Facilitating the establishment of the RSI (TF4) 	

Direction 2(A)	Additional issues to be addressed to strengthen the momentum for the ABMI discussion
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Further developing the government bond markets (TF2) (2) Enhancing financial access to consumers and SMEs (TF3) (3) Strengthening the foundation for a regional credit rating system(TF4) 	

Direction 3(R)	New issues to be raised to meet the demands of a changing global financial market
(4) Raising financial awareness (TF4)	

TF1: Promoting Issuance of Local Currency-Denominated Bond

TF2: Facilitating the demand of Local Currency-Denominated Bonds

TF3: Improving Regulatory Framework

TF4: Improving Related Infrastructure for the Bond Markets

3. Timeline for New Roadmap+ categorized by Task Force

(F: Follow-up Issue, A: added issue, R: relevant issue)

Issues to be addressed	Roadmap	
	First	Second

< TF 1 >	Promoting Issuance of Local Currency-Denominated Bond (China, Thailand)	
1) Launching the CGIF guarantee programs (F)	√	
2) Developing infrastructure-financing schemes (F) - Including Lao-Thai pilot project	√	
3) Developing derivatives and swap markets		√

< TF 2 >	Facilitating the demand of Local Currency-Denominated Bonds (Japan, Singapore)	
1) Further developing the government bond markets (A) - Developing repo markets and securities borrowing and lending	√	
2) Fostering an investment-friendly environment for institutional investors & transmitting the ABMI's knowledge to institutional investors (F)	√	
3) Enhancing cross-border transactions		√

< TF 3 >	Improving Regulatory Framework (Malaysia, Japan)		
1) Enhancing ABMF activities (F) - Common Bond Issuance Program	√		
2) Enhancing financial access to consumers and SMEs (A)	√		
3) Improving bankruptcy procedures related to bond transactions		√	

< TF 4 >	Improving Related Infrastructure for the Bond Markets (Korea, Philippine)		
1) Facilitating the establishment of the RSI(F)	√		
2) Strengthening the foundation for a regional credit rating system (A)	√		
3) Raising financial awareness (R)		√	

< TACT >	Technical Assistance and Coordination Team (Brunei, Laos, Vietnam)		
1) Facilitating technical assistances(TA) to ASEAN member countries to strengthen their capacities in the bond market	√		

Joint Statement of the 16th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting

Delhi, India, 3 May 2013

I. Introduction

1. We, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of ASEAN, China, Japan and Korea (ASEAN+3), convened our 16th meeting in Delhi, India, under the co-chairmanship of H.E. Pehin Dato Abd Rahman Ibrahim, Minister of Finance II at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam, and H.E. Zhu Guangyao, Vice Minister of Finance of the People's Republic of China. The President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Director of ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) and the Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN were also present at our meeting.

2. We exchanged views on the recent global and regional economic developments and policy responses. We reviewed the progress of regional financial cooperation achieved since our last Meeting, including the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), AMRO, the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI), the ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG), and Future Priorities. We also discussed measures to further strengthen our regional financial cooperation in the future.

3. We are pleased to announce that we have finalized the amendment of the CMIM Agreement, reached consensus on the draft Agreement to transform AMRO to an international organization, and endorsed the work plan to implement the ABMI New Roadmap+. These achievements will be a significant step forward in our efforts to strengthen the regional financial safety net and contribute to sustainable economic growth and integration in the region.

II. Recent Economic and Financial Developments in the Region

4. We are pleased to note that, despite uncertainties in the global economy and financial markets, the ASEAN+3 region posted steady growth last year and is poised to sustain this momentum in 2013. Resilience of the regional economy has been underpinned by robust domestic demand, effective financial intermediation by the healthy banking system, and appropriate macroeconomic policies.

5. Global economic and financial conditions have been improving, but we recognise the remaining risks. Policy uncertainty, private deleveraging, fiscal drag and impaired credit intermediation continue to weigh on global growth prospects. We are also well aware that continuing global liquidity infusion could potentially induce excessive risk taking and leverage, credit expansion, and asset bubble. We shall remain vigilant on the unintended negative side effects stemming from extended periods of global monetary easing on the region as well as on the risk-on, risk-off sentiment in global financial markets that could amplify volatility in capital flows and adversely affect regional financial stability. We agree that monetary policy should remain oriented towards domestic purposes, namely domestic price stability, continuing to support economic recovery and securing financial stability according to the respective mandates of central banks.

6. Under these circumstances, we are strongly committed to enhancing our efforts to respond to such risks by making the necessary macroeconomic policy adjustments and where appropriate, adopting macro-prudential policies, and by further strengthening financial cooperation in the region.

III. Strengthening Regional Financial Cooperation

[Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM)]

7. We appreciated the work done by our Deputies to amend the CMIM Agreement to reflect the measures to strengthen the CMIM as agreed in May 2012. In this connection, the Finance Ministers welcomed the Central Bank Governors' involvement in the fundamental decision making process of the CMIM. At the same time, we remain committed to ensuring that the CMIM is operationally ready, and we instructed the Deputies to continue work on the necessary revisions of the current CMIM Operational Guidelines by the next ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting in 2014.

8. We welcomed the work of our Deputies and AMRO to develop the "Economic Review and Policy Dialogue (ERPD) Matrix". The matrix will consist of economic indicators of all ASEAN+3 members and will facilitate the assessment of members' qualification for the CMIM's crisis prevention facility. We instructed the Deputies and AMRO to continue work on the ERPD Matrix for the smooth implementation of the CMIM should the need arise.

9. We reaffirmed our commitment to further strengthening the CMIM as part of the regional financial safety net. Recognizing that enhancing the use of local currencies for settlement in trade, investment and capital transactions, and reducing the volatility of

capital flows in and out of the region would help mitigate the impacts of external risks, we endorsed further studies on “Ways to Improve the Use of Local Currencies under the CMIM” and “Joint Response to the Capital Flows at the ASEAN+3 Level”. We instructed the Deputies to consider ways to seek an effective cooperative relationship with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other multilateral financial institutions in the areas of surveillance, liquidity support arrangement and capacity development.

[ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO)]

10. We were pleased with the solid progress of AMRO as an independent regional surveillance unit since its establishment in 2011, particularly in conducting regional economic surveillance and contributing to effective decision-making of the CMIM. We encouraged AMRO to continuously find ways to properly, and in a timely manner, identify risks and challenges facing the region. We are committed to enhancing the organizational capacity of AMRO.

11. To further consolidate our endeavor, we agreed to transform AMRO to an international organization. This marks an important milestone in our joint efforts to enhance the effectiveness of our ASEAN+3 financial cooperation. We have reached consensus on the draft of “AMRO Agreement” and will proceed with the necessary domestic processes as early as possible for its prompt signature and entry into force. This would enable AMRO to conduct objective surveillance as a credible, independent international organization, contributing further to the regional financial stability along with the strengthened CMIM.

12. We also encouraged AMRO to further enhance cooperation with relevant multilateral and regional financial institutions including the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the IMF, and the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) particularly in areas which will be able to bolster institutional capacity of AMRO.

13. We welcomed the conclusion of the Host Country Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Singapore and AMRO, and expressed our appreciation to Singapore for its firm commitment to provide AMRO with the necessary host country support. We also welcomed the finalization of the text of the Headquarters Agreement (HQA) between Singapore and AMRO concurrently with the AMRO Agreement, which would be concluded once AMRO is reconstituted as an international organization.

[Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI)]

14. We acknowledged the continuous progress under the ABMI in promoting issuance and facilitating demand of local currency denominated bonds, as well as improving the regulatory framework and related infrastructure for the regional bond

markets. Against the backdrop of heightened volatility in the global financial market, our efforts under the ABMI to develop efficient and liquid regional bond markets will help alleviate volatilities and contribute to the economic and financial stability in our region.

15. We welcomed the inauguration of the guarantee transaction of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF), and expect the CGIF to seek more opportunities to provide guarantee to viable bond issuances in the region. We took note of the ASEAN+3 Bond Market Forum (ABMF) second phase study report and look forward to further discussion on the remaining key issues. We stressed the importance of new public-private round table discussions among market participants, the regulators and policy makers. We welcomed the completion of the business feasibility reassessment for the establishment of the Regional Settlement Intermediary (RSI). We agreed to set up a Cross-border Settlement Infrastructure Forum, which will be based on the voluntary participation of member countries, to discuss detailed work plans and related process for the improvement of the cross-border settlement in the region including the possibility of establishing the RSI. As part of the effort to strengthen the region's credit rating capacity, we endorsed further study based on the findings of the Research Group. We also welcomed the completion of the current phase of technical assistance programmes for Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam and note the progress of the technical assistance programme for the Philippines under the Technical Assistance Coordination Team (TACT).

16. We endorsed the work plan prepared by the ABMI Taskforces with the guidance of Deputies for the implementation of the ABMI New Roadmap+ with nine priorities adopted in May 2012. We expect the Taskforces to diligently carry out the work plan, with the support from the ADB, to achieve more tangible outcomes.

17. Furthermore, we recognised the great potential of the ABMI in developing debt instruments and fostering bond investment to help channel the substantial savings into infrastructure development in the region. In this regard, we endorsed an initiative on "Fostering Infrastructure Financing Bonds Development", which aims to promote both issuance and demand of infrastructure financing bonds. We expect the ABMI Taskforces to develop the detailed work plans while encouraging private sectors' involvement and taking into account current efforts of the region to improve synergies.

18. We note that the Asian Bond Fund (ABF) under the Executives' Meeting of East Asia Pacific Central Banks (EMEAP) has contributed to increasing the demand for the regional bond market. We advised the Deputies to consider what additional types of investment tools would further accelerate the development of the regional bond market.

[ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG)]

19. We appreciated the efforts and noted the findings made by the Research Group on the study for 2012/2013 on “The International Discussions on the Credit Rating Agencies and Enhancing Infrastructure to Strengthen the Regional Credit Rating Capacity in the ASEAN+3 Region”. We endorsed two new study topics for the 2013/2014 Research Group activities as follows: i) The Policy Recommendations for the Expansion of the Securitization Market in the ASEAN+3 Countries; and ii) SWOT Analysis on the Capital Market Infrastructures in the ASEAN+3 Member Countries and its Implications.

[Future Priorities of ASEAN+3 Financial Cooperation]

20. We welcomed the progress of the second phase studies on each of the three possible areas for ASEAN+3 financial cooperation: i) infrastructure financing, ii) disaster risk insurance, and iii) using local currencies for the regional trade settlement. We instructed the Deputies to continue in-depth studies, with the continued support from the ADB and the World Bank, and put forward policy recommendations that will contribute to the sustained and inclusive growth and development of the region.

IV. Conclusion

21. We expressed our appreciation to the governments of Brunei Darussalam and People’s Republic of China for their excellent arrangements as the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors’ Process in 2013. We also thanked the government of India for its warm hospitality.

22. We agreed to meet in Astana, Kazakhstan in 2014. Myanmar and Japan will be the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors’ Process in 2014.

Joint Statement of the 17th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting

Astana, Kazakhstan, 3 May 2014

I. Introduction

1. We, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of ASEAN, China, Japan and Korea (ASEAN+3), convened our 17th meeting in Astana, Kazakhstan, under the co-chairmanship of H.E. U Win Shein, Union Minister of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and H.E. Taro Aso, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Minister of State for Financial Services, Japan. The President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Director of ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) and the Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN were also present at the meeting.

2. We exchanged views on recent global and regional economic developments and policy responses. We reviewed the progress of regional financial cooperation achieved since our last Meeting, including on the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), AMRO, the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI), the ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG), and Future Priorities. We also discussed measures to further strengthen our regional financial cooperation in the future.

II. Recent Economic and Financial Developments in the Region

3. We welcome the prospects of strengthening global economic growth in 2014 supported by the steady growth in advanced economies. However, we remain vigilant in the face of potential global risks and vulnerabilities.

4. We are pleased to note that the ASEAN+3 region posted steady growth last year and is poised to sustain this momentum in 2014. Resilience of the regional economy has been underpinned by robust domestic demand and appropriate macroeconomic policies.

5. We recognise that accommodative monetary policy in advanced economies will normalise in due course with the timing being conditional on the outlook for price stability and economic growth in the respective economies. The conduct of monetary

policy should be communicated clearly and calibrated carefully and be mindful of its impacts on the global and regional economies.

6. We note that the volatility in the financial markets observed in early part of this year and the high levels of public and private debt stress the importance of managing the continuing challenges. Economies with domestic structural weaknesses such as high inflation, large current account deficits and substantial fiscal imbalances tend to be vulnerable to tightening of financial conditions. To address these conditions, greater emphasis is placed on maintaining sustainable current account balances and manageable fiscal balances.

7. We are committed to implementing the necessary structural reforms to improve the resiliency and growth-potential of our economies. Further, we stand ready to address such risks by putting into action the needed macroeconomic policy adjustments and, where appropriate, adopting macro-prudential policies and further strengthening financial cooperation in the region.

III. Strengthening Regional Financial Cooperation

Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM)

8. We reaffirm our commitment to further strengthen the CMIM as part of the regional financial safety net. We welcomed the report of our Deputies on the progress made to prepare during peace times to ensure that the CMIM is operationally ready. In particular, we welcomed the Deputies' achievements in completing the revision of the Operational Guidelines of the amended CMIM Agreement which contain the detailed arrangements for the operationalization of the CMIM. We instructed the Deputies, in cooperation with AMRO, to continue developing the CMIM operational readiness.

9. We welcomed the work of our Deputies to develop the first full set of indicators of the "Economic Review and Policy Dialogue (ERPD) Matrix" which consists of various economic and financial indicators of all ASEAN+3 members. The ERPD Matrix is intended to be used to assess members' qualification for the CMIM's crisis prevention facility. We instructed the Deputies, in cooperation with AMRO, to continue developing the matrix and to elaborate the ways the matrix will be used to assess a member's qualification for the CMIM crisis prevention facility.

10. We also agreed to endorse the "Guidelines for the further cooperation with the International Monetary Fund" to help enhance CMIM's effectiveness and AMRO's capacity. We took note of the progress in the study on "Ways to Improve the Use of

Local Currencies under the CMIM” and “Joint Response to the Capital Flows at the ASEAN+3 Level”.

ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO)

11. We are pleased to note the steady development of AMRO as an independent surveillance unit in the region. In particular, we are pleased that the Executive Committee (EC) of AMRO has decided to extend the term of office of the incumbent AMRO Director Dr. Yoichi Nemoto by two years, which will contribute to operational continuity and stability during AMRO’s formative stage. We support the continuous strengthening of AMRO’s organizational structure so that it can continue to meet the demands and expectations from the members. We remain committed to enhancing the organizational capacity of AMRO.

12. We welcome AMRO’s continuous efforts to improve the quality of its surveillance reports by expanding the scope of its analysis to include sector-level issues and risks stemming from external sources. We encouraged AMRO to continue its efforts to improve its analysis on the regional macroeconomic and financial situation, identify risks facing the region and suggest appropriate policy actions. We also welcome AMRO’s increasing contribution towards ensuring the smooth operationalization of the CMIM.

13. Recognizing the importance of transforming AMRO into an international organization to enable it to conduct surveillance activities effectively as an independent surveillance unit in the region, we reaffirm our commitment to complete our domestic processes as soon as possible for the prompt signature and entry into force of the AMRO Agreement. In this regard, we express our commitment to exert best efforts to complete our respective domestic processes.

14. We also welcomed the report by AMRO on the progress in the developing of secondary rules and other necessary transitional arrangements in preparation for the conversion of AMRO into an international organization. We support the review of AMRO’s human resources framework referencing the human resource frameworks of peer international financial institutions (IFIs) so that it can be compatible with and competitive against the practices of peer IFIs.

15. We appreciated the progress made by AMRO in furthering cooperation with other IFIs including the IMF where frequent exchange of views and information on the regional macroeconomic developments has been established. We encouraged AMRO to further strengthen such cooperation initiatives in order to help enhance AMRO’s institutional capacity and establish strategic partnerships with other IFIs to this end.

Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI)

16. We recognised the significant contribution of the ABMI in developing local currency bond markets across the region so as to allow the region's large savings to be channelled to finance its own investment needs. It is in this context that we endorsed the progress report and work plan prepared by the ABMI Taskforce with the guidance of the Deputies.

17. We acknowledged steady progress in the "Fostering Infrastructure Financing Bonds Development" technical assistance project. We expect further work by the ADB and the ABMI Taskforce in exploring new additional investment tools. We also took note of a set of key issues for expanding currency swap markets in the region. We recognised the progress of the ASEAN+3 Multi-currency Bond Issuance Framework (AMBIF) project, including the bilateral activities among AMBIF Working Group members to clarify commonalities and differences of bond issuance documentation and procedures, and we expect further collaboration with ASEAN+3 Bond Market Forum (ABMF) in this regard. We are pleased with the scaling-up of the guarantee capacity of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF) from US\$700 million to US\$1.75 billion. We welcomed the recommendations submitted by the Cross-border Settlement Infrastructure Forum (CSIF) and the direction of developing implementation roadmap of CSD-RTGS linkages as short-term and medium-term goal and integrated solution as long-term goal for making it possible to deliver securities smoothly and safely versus payment across borders. We are of the view that this is a practical and efficient approach to advance regional settlement infrastructure that promotes cross-border securities transactions in the region. We appreciated the renewed assessment for technical assistance (TA) needs, undertaken by the Technical Assistance Coordination Team (TACT).

ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG)

18. We appreciated the efforts and noted the findings made by the Research Group on the study for 2013/2014 on "The Policy Recommendations for the Expansion of the Securitization Market in the ASEAN+3 Countries" and "SWOT Analysis on the Capital Market Infrastructures in the ASEAN+3 Member Countries and its Implications". We instructed the Deputies to discuss the way forward for future Research Group activities.

Future Priorities of ASEAN+3 Financial Cooperation

19. We welcomed the progress of the studies on each of the three possible areas of ASEAN+3 financial cooperation: i) infrastructure financing, ii) disaster risk insurance,

and iii) using local currencies for the regional trade settlement. We instructed the Deputies to continue in-depth studies and put forward policy recommendations in each area.

IV. Conclusion

20. We expressed our appreciation to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Japan for their excellent arrangements as the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Process in 2014. We also thanked the Republic of Kazakhstan for its warm hospitality.

21. We agreed to meet in Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2015. Malaysia and the Republic of Korea will be the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Process in 2015.

Joint Statement of the 18th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting

Baku, Azerbaijan, 3 May 2015

I. Introduction

1. We, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of ASEAN, China, Japan and Korea (ASEAN+3), convened our 18th meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan, under the co-chairmanship of H.E. Dato' Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah, Minister of Finance II of Malaysia, and H.E. Kyunghwan Choi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Strategy and Finance of Korea. The President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Director of ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO), the Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN, and the Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) were also present at our meeting.

2. We exchanged views on recent global and regional economic developments and policy responses. We reviewed the progress of regional financial cooperation achieved since our last Meeting, including the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), AMRO, the Asian Bond Markets Initiatives (ABMI), Future Priorities, the ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG), and ASEAN+3 New Initiatives. We also discussed measures to further strengthen regional financial cooperation.

II. Recent Economic and Financial Developments in the Region

3. We are pleased to note that the ASEAN+3 region posted relatively high growth last year and is poised to sustain this momentum in 2015. This is attributable not only to external factors such as strong demand from the U.S. and low oil prices, but also in large part to robust domestic demand brought about by constant structural adjustment efforts and to the timely implementation of macroeconomic policy.

4. We recognise that the changes in monetary policy in some of the advanced economies should be clearly communicated in the current environment of diverging monetary policy settings and rising financial market volatility and carried out with keen awareness of their global impact and hence help us to take mitigating measures.

5. We note the need to respond preemptively to new challenges posed by changes in the economic environment and at the same time, consistently manage existing risks

and vulnerabilities. With ample global liquidity and the high levels of public and private debt, greater attention needs to be paid to the potential market volatility and asset price declines triggered by capital outflows. Meanwhile, though the unexpectedly low oil prices have benefited most economies, the possibility of a sharp run-up in oil prices cannot be ruled out.

6. We are committed to carrying out the necessary structural adjustments to improve the resilience and growth potential of our economies. Further, while dealing with macroeconomic and financial stability risks arising from large and volatile capital flows, the necessary macroeconomic policy adjustments could be supported by macro-prudential measures and capital flow management measures, where appropriate. We will work towards strengthening the region's responses to external shocks through continuing regional financial cooperation.

III. Strengthening Regional Financial Cooperation

[Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM)]

7. We remain committed to ensuring that the CMIM is operationally ready, as well as to further strengthening the mechanism as an essential part of the regional financial safety net. In this regard, we welcomed the amended CMIM Agreement, which entered into force on 17 July 2014. We also welcomed the Deputies' achievements in enhancing the CMIM Operational Guidelines (OG), conducting CMIM Test Runs under various scenarios, and undertaking the CMIM peace-time preparation exercise. We reaffirmed our commitment to ensuring the operational readiness of the CMIM, and thus tasked the Deputies, in cooperation with AMRO, to continue working on these exercises, and to reflect the lessons learnt in the OG.

8. With the introduction of the CMIM crisis prevention facility ("CMIM Precautionary Line" or "CMIM-PL") in July 2014, it is crucial to develop and operationalize the qualification assessment framework for member economies to access the CMIM-PL. In this regard, we welcomed the continuing work of our Deputies and AMRO to further develop the qualification indicators for the CMIM-PL, based on the Economic Review and Policy Dialogue (ERPD) Matrix, which consists of key economic and financial indicators of all ASEAN+3 members. We assigned the Deputies, in cooperation with AMRO, to continue to develop the ERPD Matrix and to explore ways to further utilize this tool in a more forward-looking manner.

9. We took note of the progress in the work on the potential increase in the IMF De-linked portion and tasked the Deputies to further advance the work on strengthening the CMIM as a part of the regional financial safety net.

10. We welcomed the commencement of the CMIM Studies on “Troika’s Financial Assistance Programs in the Euro Area for CMIM’s Future Reference” and “Comparative analysis of CMIM arrangement and market practices under International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA)” while taking into account the conditions within each region.

[ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO)]

11. We acknowledged the steady development of AMRO as an independent surveillance organization of the region, and welcomed its continuous efforts to improve the quality of its surveillance activities. We encouraged AMRO to continue its efforts to improve its analysis on the regional macroeconomic and financial situation, including through incorporating forward-looking elements to effectively highlight emerging risks in the region. We also welcomed AMRO’s contribution towards enhancing the effectiveness of the CMIM and continuing with its effort.

12. Establishing AMRO as an international organization remains crucially important. We welcome the signing of the Agreement Establishing ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO Agreement) in October last year. We reaffirmed our commitment to expedite our respective domestic procedure for the entry into force of the AMRO Agreement this year.

13. We welcomed the Deputies’ decision to strengthen AMRO’s capacity by formulating a strong strategic vision and having two Deputy Directors and one Chief Economist. We are confident that these three new senior management positions will be beneficial in building AMRO’s capacity and the fulfilling of its mandate as an independent surveillance unit. We encouraged the further development of a medium-term strategic vision for AMRO.

14. We appreciated the progress made by AMRO in cooperation with relevant International Financial Institutions (IFIs), such as frequent exchanges with the IMF and ADB on macroeconomic developments in the region, hosting joint seminars, and conducting joint studies. We encouraged AMRO to further strengthen such cooperation in order to enhance its institutional capacity and to establish strategic partnerships with other IFIs to this end.

[Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI)]

15. We recognised that the ABMI has contributed to developing local currency bond markets across the region, in order to allow the region’s large savings to be channeled to finance its own investment needs. Against the backdrop of heightened volatility in the global financial market, our efforts under the ABMI to develop efficient and liquid

regional bond markets will also help to alleviate the effects of such volatilities and contribute to the economic and financial stability in our region.

16. We took note of the increase of project guarantees by the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF), and we expect CGIF to seek more opportunities to provide guarantees to viable bond issuances, including project bonds, in the region. We welcomed the progress of discussion on facilitating demand for local currency-denominated bonds. We also noted the outcome of a study by the ADB on examining hedging markets in the region. We recognised the progress of the ASEAN+3 Multi-currency Bond Issuance Framework (AMBIF), and expect the first AMBIF pilot issuance in the first half of this year. We noted the progress of the Cross-Border Settlement Infrastructure Forum (CSIF) in exploring the viability of starting with bilateral linkages and ultimately developing and making transition into an integrated solution to advance regional settlement infrastructure that promotes cross-border securities transactions in the region. As an important step for the said goal, we welcomed the efforts by the CSIF for conducting the desktop study of bilateral CSD-RTGS linkage between HKMA and BOJ. We appreciated the on-going technical assistance programs for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines and Vietnam under the Technical Assistance Coordination Team (TACT).

[Future Priorities of ASEAN+3 Financial Cooperation]

17. We took note of the completion of the study on Infrastructure Financing. We welcomed work on disaster risk insurance based on the past study and expect further progress.

[ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG)]

18. We acknowledged that the RG has produced valuable researches throughout its 10 years of activities. We agreed to integrate the RG's research works into AMRO's thematic study so that the resources could be better oriented to meet members' needs and be utilized more efficiently.

[ASEAN+3 New Initiatives]

19. We endorsed non-binding high-level guiding principles for macro-prudential policies (MPPs) and capital flow measures (CFMs) as reference in dealing with risks to financial stability. We are also pleased to share our own experiences and future agenda in structural reforms to assist us in removing structural bottlenecks to sustainable growth. In addition, we welcomed the progress made in the study 'Using currency swap-financed trade settlement facility' which may facilitate the local currency usage in trade settlements.

IV. Conclusion

20. We expressed our appreciation to the governments of Malaysia and Korea for their excellent arrangements as the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Process in 2015. We also thanked the Republic of Azerbaijan for its warm hospitality.

21. We agreed to meet in Frankfurt, the Federal Republic of Germany in 2016. Lao PDR and China will be the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Process in 2016.

Annex

ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting, 3 May 2015, Baku, Azerbaijan

- ASEAN+3 Non-binding High-level Principles for Macro-Prudential Policies (MPPs) and Capital Flow Measures (CFMs)
 - A Collection of Members' Structural Reforms Experiences and Future Agenda
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Joint Media Statement of the 10th Meeting of ASEAN, China, Japan and Republic of Korea Tourism Ministers (10th M-ATM Plus Three)

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 18 January 2011

1. The Tenth Meeting of the ASEAN, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (ASEAN Plus Three/APT) Tourism Ministers was held on 18 January 2011 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in conjunction with the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2011 and the Fourteenth Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM). The Meeting was preceded by the APT NTOs Meeting held on 16 January 2011 in Phnom Penh. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism of Cambodia, with H.E. Mr. Jero Wacik, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Indonesia, acting as Vice Chairman.

2. Given the global economic slowdown in 2009 and 2010, the Ministers were pleased to note that tourist arrivals of APT countries in 2010 remained resilient with more than 101 million arrivals, which is 14.40 per cent growth compared to 2009. Intra-ASEAN+3 travel continued to be the important source market for the whole region, with more than 57 million arrivals or 56 per cent of share.

3. The Ministers welcomed the decisions of the APT and the respective ASEAN Plus One Summits held on 29 October 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, and expressed their full support to the implementation of the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). The Ministers also welcomed the adoption of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and the conclusions of the ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on Full Liberalisation of Passenger Air Services (MAFLPAS) and the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement, which will significantly enhance air accessibility to the region. The Ministers looked forward to the early conclusion of the ASEAN-ROK Air Transport Agreement and Japan's policy to further expand "Open Skies" with ASEAN Member States.

4. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2011-2015 which define the policies, programmes and projects of the ASEAN in the areas of tourism marketing, product development, quality tourism, human resources development, investment, and communication, among others. The Ministers from China, Japan and ROK expressed their strong support for, and willingness to provide assistance to ASEAN to successfully implement the ATSP.

5. In reviewing the implementation of tourism measures under the APT Cooperation Work Plan 2007-2017, the Ministers were pleased with the progress of APT joint activities implemented in 2010, including APT Youth Traveller Programme organised by Thailand on 15-21 November, 2010 in Bangkok, Cha am, Suphanburi and Sukhothai. In line with the APT Cooperation Work Plan and the ATSP, the Ministers tasked their officials to develop a work plan for APT Tourism Cooperation covering the development of quality tourism through, where appropriate, the promotion of ASEAN's environmental management standards and certification programmes for sustainable tourism and concrete collaboration in cultural and eco-tourism, cruise tourism, youth exchange, manpower development, joint tourism marketing and promotion, and quality assurance, as well as safety measures for tourists.

6. The Ministers appreciated China for its supports to ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat in participating at China International Travel Mart (CITM) 2010 through the establishment of ASEAN Common Area, and also the training provided to travel agents and NTOs staff. The Ministers looked forward to the early operation of the ASEAN-China Centre which will contribute to the expansion of the tourism sector, among others.

7. The Ministers thanked Japan for the support provided in implementing various ASEAN-Japan tourism projects/activities in 2010, including the convening of the Quality Service Training Workshop held on June-July 2010 in CLMV Countries, ASEAN Fair 2010 held on 15-20 September 2010 in Kagoshima city, the technical workshop on Sustainable Development of Tourism Destination for BIMP-EAGA held on November 2010 in Tokyo.

8. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the ROK for the concrete work programmes in further progressing tourism cooperation with ASEAN to implement the Plan of Action of the Joint Declaration on ASEAN- Republic of Korea Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity (2011-2015), such as the annual training program for ASEAN tour guides for their better understanding of Korean culture and language, marketing partnership and promotion, and publishing ASEAN pamphlets in Korean language.

9. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Cambodia for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

List of Ministers

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam;
 - ii. H.E. Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism, Cambodia;
 - iii. Mr. Lin Shan, Director General of China National Tourism Administration, China;
 - iv. H.E. Mr. Jero Wacik, Minister of Culture and Tourism, Indonesia;
 - v. H.E. Mr. Shuji Ikeguchi, Senior Vice-Minister for Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan;
 - vi. H.E. Dr. Mo Chul Min, Vice-Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Rep. of Korea;
 - vii. H.E. Mr. Somphong Mongkhonvilay, Minister, Chairman of Lao National Tourism Administration, Lao PDR;
 - viii. H.E. Dato Dr. James Dawos Mamit, Deputy Minister of Tourism, Malaysia;
 - ix. H.E. Mr. Soe Naing, Minister, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar;
 - x. H.E. Mr. Alberto A. Lim, Secretary of Tourism, Philippines;
 - xi. H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. Mr. Chumpol Silapa-archa, Minister of Tourism and Sports, Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Mr. Ho Anh Tuan, Vice Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. H.E. Mr. Sundram Pushpanathan, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Economic Community, ASEAN Secretariat.
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Joint Media Statement of the 11th Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan and Republic of Korea) Tourism Ministers (11th M-ATM+3)

Manado, Indonesia, 12 January 2012

1. The Eleventh Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan and the Republic of Korea) Tourism Ministers was held on 12 January 2012 in Manado, Indonesia, in conjunction with the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2012 and the Fifteenth Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM). The Meeting was preceded by the APT NTOs Meeting held on 10 January 2012 in Phnom Penh. The Meeting was chaired H.E. Dr. Mari Elka Pangestu, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy of Indonesia, with H.E. Prof. Dr. Bosengkham Vongdara, Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism of Lao PDR, as Vice Chairman.

2. Despite global economic slowdown in some major markets, the Ministers were pleased to note that the international tourist arrivals in ASEAN Plus Three countries in 2011 remained resilient with more than 147 million arrivals with 3.7 per cent growth compared to 2010.

3. The Ministers welcomed the decisions of the 14th APT Summit and the respective ASEAN Plus One Summits held on 18 October 2011 in Bali, Indonesia and expressed their full support to the implementation of the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). In further enhancing the realisation of the activities stipulated under the Work Plan, the Ministers tasked their senior officials to prepare a Memorandum of Cooperation on ASEAN Plus Three tourism cooperation for signing the 12th APT Tourism Ministers Meeting. The MOC is aimed at facilitating travel within ASEAN Plus Three countries, enhancing quality of tourism products and forge concrete collaboration in the tourism sector through joint activities and exchange of experience.

4. The Ministers also welcomed the entry into force of the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement, which will significantly enhance air accessibility between ASEAN and China. The Ministers highly valued Japan's cooperation on ongoing efforts for expansion of "Open Skies" with ASEAN countries. The Ministers looked forward to the early conclusion of the ASEAN-ROK Air Transport Agreement for a full open skies arrangement that includes the liberalisation of 3rd, 4th and 5th freedom traffic rights.

5. The Ministers noted with pleasure the establishment of the ASEAN-China Centre (ACC) based in Beijing that would strengthen ASEAN-China collaboration in tourism and promote flow of tourists between ASEAN and China. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers tasked their officials to work closely with ACC in implementing their undertakings that would contribute to further enhancing tourism sector in the region. The Ministers thanked China for its support to ASEAN Member States in participating at China International Travel Mart (CITM) 2011 through the establishment of ASEAN Common Area.

6. The Ministers were pleased with Japan's steady recovery from the damages caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake. The Ministers also expressed their appreciation to Japan for the support provided in implementing various ASEAN-Japan tourism projects/activities in 2011 for human resources development and promotion of travel to the ASEAN region through ASEAN-Japan Centre, including the convening of ASEAN Fair 2011 held on 21-26 September 2011 in Osaka, Technical Workshop on Cruise Tourism for ASEAN held in November 2011, in Tokyo and Osaka.

7. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the ROK for the concrete work programmes in further progressing tourism cooperation with ASEAN by convening the ASEAN Tourism and Culture Fair on 30 September – 3 October 2011 in Seoul, establishing ASEAN booth at the Korean Travel Fair 2011 on 2-5 June 2011 in Seoul, publishing ASEAN Tourism Guide, ASEAN tour programme development contest, and ASEAN tourism human resources development programme, among others.

8. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Indonesia for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E.Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism, Cambodia;
- iii. Ms. Zhang Xinhong, Deputy Director General, representing H.E. Mr. Shao Qiwei, Chairman of China National Tourism Administration;
- iv. H.E. Dr.Mari Elka Pangestu, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia;
- v. H.E. Mr.Ken Okuda, Senior Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan;

- vi. Mr. Shin Yong Eon, Director General, representing H.E. Mr. Choe Gwang Sik, Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Rep. of Korea;
 - vii. H.E. Prof. Dr. Bosengkham Vongdara, Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR;
 - viii. H.E. Dato' Sri Dr. Ng Yen Yen, Minister of Tourism, Malaysia;
 - ix. H.E. Mr. Htay Aung, Vice Minister for Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar;
 - x. H.E. Mr. Ramon R. Jimenez, Jr. Secretary of Tourism, Philippines;
 - xi. H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Second Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. Mr. Sombat Kuruphan, Vice Minister for Tourism and Sports, Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van Tuan, Chairman of Viet Nam National Administration of Tourism; and
 - xiv. Dr. Somsak Pipoppinyo, Director, Finance, Industry and Infrastructure Directorate, representing H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
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Joint Media Statement of the 12th Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan and Republic of Korea) Tourism Ministers (12th M-ATM+3)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 21 January 2013

1. The Twelfth Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan and the Republic of Korea) Tourism Ministers was held on 21 January 2013 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, in conjunction with the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2013 and the Sixteenth Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM). The Meeting was preceded by the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) NTOs Meeting held on 19 January 2013 in Vientiane. The Meeting was jointly co-chaired by H.E. Prof. Dr. Bosengkham Vongdara, Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism of Lao PDR, H.E. Mr. Wang Zhifa, Vice-Chairman of China National Tourism Administration, H.E. Mr. Yosuke Tsuruho, Senior Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan and H.E. Mr. Kwak Youngjin, 1st Vice-Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Rep. of Korea.
2. 2012 was a dynamic year for APT countries' tourism. The growth of international visitor arrivals has been significant. Enhanced connectivity particularly air accessibility amongst APT countries has contributed to this positive growth of 11.9 compared to 2011. In 2012, APT countries received more than 98 million international visitor arrivals. Intra-APT countries remained as the main source markets with the share of 64.8 per cent compared to total international visitor arrivals in 2011.
3. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the 15th APT Summit and the respective ASEAN Plus One Summits held on 19 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and supported the Mid-Term Review of the implementation of the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017).
4. In implementing the activities stipulated under the APT Work Plan, the Ministers adopted the APT Tourism Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017 covering quality tourism, skills development, joint tourism marketing and promotion, cruise tourism, and tourism crisis communications. The adoption of the APT Tourism Cooperation Work Plan would further promote linkages and strengthen cooperation among National Tourism

Organisations. The Ministers agreed to establish the APT Tourism Working Group to implement the Work Plan.

5. Noting the importance of APT tourism collaboration, the Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to deepen and broaden the collaboration. In this regard, the Ministers tasked their senior officials to expedite the finalisation of the Memorandum of Cooperation on APT Tourism Cooperation, which would be one of the key instruments to strengthen the good relationship and cooperation in tourism sector between ASEAN and Plus Three Countries.

6. The Ministers noted the successful completion of the year 2012 as “Visit ASEAN Plus Three Year”.

7. Noting the important role of accessibility amongst APT countries in sustaining tourism growth, the Ministers were pleased to note the progress of enhanced collaboration in the transport sector between ASEAN and China, Japan and ROK, particularly on initiatives of enhancing air connectivity between ASEAN and respective Plus Three Countries. The Ministers welcomed the conclusion of negotiations on Protocol 2 on the exchange of 5th freedom air traffic rights between ASEAN Member States and China under the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement that would create more air accessibility amongst cities in ASEAN and China. The Ministers appreciated Japan’s ongoing efforts for expansion of air connectivity with individual ASEAN countries. The Ministers looked forward to the early conclusion of the ASEAN-ROK Air Transport Agreement.

8. The Ministers acknowledged the important role of the ASEAN-Japan Centre, the ASEAN-Korea Centre and the ASEAN-China Centre in further promoting tourism exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries, and expressed their appreciation for their technical assistance provided in the area of tourism promotion, participation in major travel fairs and capacity building.

9. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers expressed appreciation to China for the support and assistance provided to ASEAN Member States through provision of complimentary booth at China International Travel Mart (CITM) 2012, tourism training, documentary shooting, and development of ASEAN tourism marketing website in Chinese language.

10. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers thanked Japan for assistance provided to ASEAN Member States particularly on the implementation of various ASEAN-Japan tourism projects/activities in 2012 for human resources development and promotion of travel to the ASEAN region through ASEAN-Japan Centre, including workshops on cruise tourism, training program for employees of tourism industry, and PR activities.

11. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers expressed their appreciation to ROK for its support to the development of ASEAN Tourism through several promotional activities and capacity building such as ASEAN Korean Language Training Course, ASEAN Tourism Guide Book and Mobile Application, etc. organised by ASEAN-Korea Centre and the 6th ROK-ASEAN Partnership Program organised by Korean Government inviting ASEAN tourism officials for enhancing their knowledge on Korean tourism policies.

12. The Meeting expressed sympathy and deepest condolences to the family of the late H.E. Chumpol Silapa-archa, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism and Sports of Thailand, and to the Government and people of Thailand for his passing away. It is a great loss not only to Thailand, but also to the ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Community for his significant contribution to the development of ASEAN Plus Three tourism cooperation.

13. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Lao PDR for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the Meetings.

LIST OF MINISTERS

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E.Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism, Cambodia;
- iii. H.E. Mr. Wang Zhifa, Vice Chairman of China National Tourism Administration;
- iv. Mr. I Gusti Putu Laksaguna, Inspector General of Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy Indonesia, representing Dr.Mari Elka Pangestu, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia;
- v. H.E. Mr. Yosuke Tsuruho, Senior Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan;
- vi. H.E. Mr. Kwak Youngjin, 1st Vice-Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Rep. of Korea;
- vii. H.E. Prof. Dr. Bosengkham Vongdara, Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR;

- viii. Dato' Dr. Ong Hong Peng, Secretary-General, Ministry of Tourism Malaysia, representing H.E. Dato' Sri Dr. Ng Yen Yen, Minister of Tourism, Malaysia;
 - ix. U Aung Zaw Win, Director General of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar representing H.E. Mr. Htay Aung, Minister for Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar;
 - x. H.E. Mr. Ramon R. Jimenez, Jr. Secretary of Tourism, Philippines;
 - xi. Mr. Lionel Yeo, Chief Executive, Singapore Tourism Board, representing H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Second Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. Mr. Sombat Kuruphan, Vice Minister for Tourism and Sports, Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Mr. Ho Anh Tuan, Deputy Minister of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. H.E. Mr. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
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Joint Media Statement of the 13th Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan and Republic of Korea) Tourism Ministers (13th M-ATM+3)

Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 20 January 2014

1. The Thirteenth Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan and the Republic of Korea) Tourism Ministers was held on 20 January 2014 in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, in conjunction with the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2014 and the Seventeenth Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM). The Meeting was preceded by the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) NTOs Meeting held on 18 January 2014.
2. The Meeting was jointly co-chaired by H.E. Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri bin Abdul Aziz, Minister of Tourism and Culture of Malaysia, H.E. Mr. Zhifa Wang, Vice-Chairman of China National Tourism Administration, H.E. Mr. Tsuyoshi Takagi, Senior Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan and H.E. Dr. Hyunjae CHO, 1st Vice-Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Rep. of Korea.
3. The Ministers were pleased to acknowledge the growth of international visitor arrivals to the ASEAN Plus Three region in 2013, where there were 230 million arrivals attributing to the increase of 4.37% as compared to 2012. Noting the important potential of intra-regional visitor arrivals, the Ministers shared the view to further strengthen joint tourism promotion collaboration in line with the APT Tourism Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017.
4. The Ministers noted the implementation progress of the APT Tourism Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017 covering quality tourism, skills development, joint tourism marketing and promotion, the cruise tourism, and tourism crisis communications, through the establishment of e-Tourism Working Group. Recognising that the APT Tourism Cooperation Work Plan would further promote linkages and strengthen cooperation among National Tourism Organisations, the Ministers requested country coordinators to prepare the detailed plans of respective measures.
5. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the 11th East Asia Forum held on 20-22 August 2013 in Kyoto, Japan, under the theme "Enhancing People-to-People Connectivity: Focusing on Tourism Cooperation", which discussed cooperation on

tourism resources, promotion of intra-regional tourism and tourism facilitation. Noting the importance of air connectivity amongst APT countries, the Ministers welcomed the progress of aviation collaboration between ASEAN and China, Japan and ROK, particularly with the recent conclusion of negotiations on the exchange of 5th freedom air traffic rights between ASEAN Member States and China; the agreement between ASEAN and Japan to look into concluding a regional air services agreement; and the discussion between ASEAN and ROK to establish the ASEAN-ROK Air Transport Agreement.

6. Recognising the important role played by the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre in promoting, among others, tourism and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries, the Ministers welcomed the suggestion for the Centres to exchange ideas and experiences in order to consolidate cooperative projects.

7. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers expressed appreciation to China for the provision of complimentary booths at China International Travel Mart (CITM) 2013, and the development of ASEAN Tourism documentaries of “Taste Southeast Asia” and “Discovery Southeast Asia” aired on CCTV.

8. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for the support in the implementation of various ASEAN-Japan tourism projects and activities in 2013 for human resources development and promotion of travel to the ASEAN region through the ASEAN-Japan Centre, including the ASEAN Local Culinary in ASEAN Festival 2013 in Yokohama on 5-6 October 2013, and ASEAN PR activities.

9. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers expressed their appreciation to ROK for its support to the development of ASEAN Tourism through several promotional activities and capacity building such as ASEAN Tourism HRD programme (June – August 2013), Korean Language Training Course, and participation at Korea World Travel Fair 2013 (30 May – 2 June 2013) in Seoul.

10. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Malaysia for the warm hospitality accorded to all delegations attending the ATF 2014 and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meetings.

LIST OF MINISTERS

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam;

- ii. H.E. Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism, Cambodia;
 - iii. H.E. Mr. Zhifa Wang, Vice Chairman of China National Tourism Administration;
 - iv. H.E. Dr. Mari Elka Pangestu, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia;
 - v. H.E. Mr. Tsuyoshi Takagi, Senior Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan;
 - vi. H.E. Dr. Hyunjae CHO, 1st Vice-Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Rep. of Korea;
 - vii. H.E. Mr. Chaleune Warintrasak, Vice Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR;
 - viii. H.E. Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri bin Abdul Aziz, Minister of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia;
 - ix. H.E. Mr. Htay Aung, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar;
 - x. H.E. Mr. Ramon R. Jimenez, Jr. Secretary of Tourism, Philippines;
 - xi. Mr. Lionel Yeo, Chief Executive, Singapore Tourism Board, representing H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Second Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. Mr. Sombat Kuruphan, Vice Minister for Tourism and Sports, Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Mr. Ho Anh Tuan, Deputy Minister of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. Mr. Tran Dong Phuong, Director, Finance, Industry and Infrastructure Directorate, representing H.E. Mr. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
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Joint Media Statement of the 14th Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan and Republic of Korea) Tourism Ministers

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 26 January 2015

1. The 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea) Tourism Ministers was held on 26 January 2015 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, in conjunction with the Eighteenth Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM) and the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2015. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. U Htay Aung, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar and H.E. Mrs. Du Yili, Vice Chairman of China National Tourism Administration. The Meeting was preceded by the Twenty-Sixth Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three (APT) NTOs held on 24 January 2015.
2. The Ministers were pleased with the growth in the arrival of international visitor where the APT region welcomed 241 million of visitors in 2014, an increase of 6.9% from 2013. The Ministers noted that intra-APT travel remained the main source of tourism growth in the region, accounting for 66% of the total international visitor arrivals in 2013.
3. The Ministers welcomed the successful conclusion of the 17th APT Summit and the respective ASEAN Plus One Summits held on 13 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar and encouraged the Plus Three Countries to continue to support the implementation of the 2012 Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity in order to further enhance connectivity in the region.
4. The Ministers commended the progress made in the implementation of the APT Tourism Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017 including the APT Tourism Students Summit held on 19-26 October 2014 in both Bangkok and Pattaya, and the APT Media Familiarisation Tour Programme to promote tourism knowledge and skills development.
5. The Ministers noted the importance of development of framework to exchange ideas on tourism statistics for APT countries and new methods for tourism statistics in order to have a better understanding of the development of tourism in APT countries. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the progress made in implementing the APT Tourism Cooperation Work Plan including the Nara Tourism Statistics Week held on 17-21 November 2014 in Nara, Japan.

6. The Ministers applauded the roles of the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre in promoting tourism and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries during the year 2014.

7. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers expressed their gratitude to China for the provision of complimentary booths at China International Travel Mart 2014, production of Discovery ASEAN and Taste of ASEAN which was screened on CCTV, live radio broadcast highlighting destinations in ASEAN, familiarisation tour by Chinese media to ASEAN Member States, and workshop for tour operators.

8. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers also expressed their appreciation to Japan for ASEAN-Japan Centre's Annual Work Program for FY2014 which includes exchange program for youth, technical workshop on community-based tourism for BIMPS, tourism and exchange public relations activities, CLMV Travel Mart, theme-based tourism promotion, exchange program on capacity building and culture, and career development support for ASEAN Students in Japan.

9. The ASEAN Tourism Ministers further expressed their gratefulness to the Republic of Korea (ROK) for their support to develop ASEAN Tourism through promotional activities and capacity building, amongst others, including the establishment of an official website of ASEAN-Korean Partnership <http://www.korea-asean.com>.

10. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Myanmar for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the Meetings.

List of Ministers

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E. Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism, Cambodia;
- iii. H.E. Mrs. Du Yili, Vice Chairman of China National Tourism Administration;
- iv. H.E. DR. Arief Yahya, Minister of Tourism, Indonesia;
- v. Ms. Yumi Yamaguchi, Senior Vice Commissioner, Japan Tourism Agency, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism;
- vi. Mr. Chulmin Kim, Director-General, Tourism Bureau, representing H.E. Mr. Kim Jongdeok, Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the Republic of Korea;

- vii. H.E. Mr. Chaleune Warintrasak, Vice Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR;
 - viii. H.E. Datuk Dr. Ong Hong Peng, Secretary General, Minister of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia, representing H.E. Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri bin Abdul Aziz, Minister of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia;
 - ix. H.E. Mr. Htay Aung, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar;
 - x. H.E. Mr. Ramon R. Jimenez, Jr., Secretary of Tourism, Philippines;
 - xi. Mr. Lionel Yeo, Chief Executive, Singapore Tourism Board, representing H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Second Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. Ms. Kobkarn Wattanavrangkul, Minister for Tourism and Sports, Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Mr. Ho Anh Tuan, Vice Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.
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Joint Press Statement of the 11th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (11th AMAF Plus Three)

Jakarta, Indonesia, 7 October 2011

1. The ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea held their Eleventh Meeting in Jakarta on 7 October 2011, under the chairmanship of H.E. Dr. Suswono, Minister of Agriculture, Indonesia.

2. The Ministers reaffirmed their strong support in advancing cooperation in food, agriculture, and forestry sectors as guided by the Second Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) which implies that linkages between the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan and the AMAF Plus Three cooperation projects should be further enhanced. In order to complement this decision, the Ministers supported and welcomed the development of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) Framework consisting of six (6) Strategic Areas, i.e. Strengthening Food Security, Biomass Energy Development, Sustainable Forest Management, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Animal Health and Disease Control and Cross-Cutting Issues.

3. The Ministers noted the progress and endorsed in principle the ASEAN Plus Three Comprehensive Strategy on Food Security and Bio-energy Development (APTCS-FSBD), the main goal of which is to provide umbrella for multi-sectoral cooperation among the ASEAN Plus Three Countries in ensuring long-term food security and bio-energy development.

4. The Ministers considered and endorsed the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement as a permanent scheme for meeting emergency requirements and achieving humanitarian purposes and affirmed their support for implementation of the scheme. The Ministers also agreed to expedite the process to get the agreement ratified in accordance with legal procedures and recognised

the possibility of re-adjustment in the financial contribution of ASEAN Member States facing financial difficulties.

5. The Ministers welcomed the aspiration by the Leaders at the 18th ASEAN Summit for the possibility of expanding coverage of the APTERR other than rice in times of emergency and in supporting the countries in vulnerable position as a result of food price volatility and surge in food demand. Along this line, the Ministers recognised the need to learn from experience and progress made in the implementation of the Agreement by focusing first on rice. The Ministers also recognised the need for adopting a step-by-step approach in considering expanding APTERR as a role model for other food commodities. Building on existing food security initiatives, the Ministers were of the view that relevant food security initiatives should be reviewed and enhanced to address concerns resulting from food price volatility and surge in food demand. The Ministers tasked the Senior Officials of ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries to work together in addressing the above concern towards ensuring long-term food security in the region.

6. The Ministers agreed and endorsed Proposal of Post-2012 ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) which would be operated after the end of current AFSIS Project in 2012. The objective is to establish AFSIS Network Centres (AFSIS NCs) as a self-sustaining mechanism. The proposed activities include ASEAN Food Security Analysis Report (AFSAR), Food Security Forecasting Model (FSFM) and Broadening Food Security Databases.

7. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction and appreciation on the various on-going projects' activities conducted and will be conducted by the Plus Three Countries and by the ASEAN Secretariat in the field of food security, agricultural technology, mangrove ecosystem conservation and sustainable use, biomass energy, climate change adaptation, statistics, data management, plant variety protection, plant quarantine, aquaculture and information sharing and so on. The Ministers endorsed two new project proposals from Japan that aim to strengthen capacity building for productivity enhancement and research in agriculture sector in ASEAN Countries.

8. The Ministers noted the necessity of further cooperation of ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries on sustainable fisheries for food security. The Ministers recognised the importance of assisting ASEAN by the Plus Three Countries on identified priority areas of cooperation to support the implementation of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 which was discussed in the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference held on 13-17 June 2011 in Bangkok, with emphasis on training and capacity building.

9. The Ministers agreed to have the 12th AMAF Plus Three Meeting in Lao PDR in 2012. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of the Republic of Indonesia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 11th AMAF Plus Three Meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam
 - ii. H.E. Mr. Chan Tong Yves, Secretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia
 - iii. H.E. Dr. Suswono, Minister of Agriculture, Indonesia
 - iv. H.E. Mr. Vilayvanh Phomkhe, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR
 - v. H.E. Mr. Noh Bin Omar, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia H.E. Mr. Ohn Than, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar
 - vi. H.E. Dr. Joel S. Rudinas, Undersecretary of Agriculture, Philippines
 - vii. H.E. Dr. Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development and Defence, Singapore
 - viii. H.E. Miss Supatra Thanaseniat, Permanent Secretary of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand
 - ix. H.E. Dr. Nguyen Thi Xuan Thu, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam
 - x. H.E. Mr. Zhu Baocheng, Senior Consultant of the Ministry of Agriculture, China (H.E. Mr. Michihiko Kano, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan)
 - xi. H.E. Mr. Kim, Jong-Jin, Deputy Minister for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Republic of Korea
 - xii. H.E. Mr. S. Pushpanathan, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community
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ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve Agreement Endorsed by the 11th AMAF Plus Three

Jakarta, Indonesia, 7 October 2011

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, The Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, being members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to collectively as "ASEAN Member States" or individually as "ASEAN Member State")

and

the Governments of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, being the Dialogue Partners of ASEAN (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Plus Three Countries" or individually as "ASEAN Plus Three Country")

hereinafter referred to collectively as "ASEAN Plus Three Countries" or individually as "ASEAN Plus Three Country".

RECALLING the Declaration of ASEAN Concord I and II signed in Bali, Indonesia, on 24 February 1976 and 7 October 2003 respectively, which provide that ASEAN Member States shall take cooperative action in their national and regional development programmes;

RECALLING the Agreement of the ASEAN Food Security Reserve signed in New York on 4 October 1979, which established the ASEAN emergency Rice Reserve for the purpose of meeting emergency requirements;

RECALLING that all participants at the 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Plus Three Countries (hereinafter referred to as "AMAF plus Three") in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on 11 October 2002, decided to launch the pilot project of the East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve (hereinafter referred to as "EAERR"), aiming at its expeditious establishment with a view to strengthening food security and eliminating poverty in the region:

RECALLING FURTHER that the EAERR pilot project has been implemented from 2004 to 2009 based on the collective efforts, support and cooperation of the ASEAN Plus Three countries;

RECALLING FURTHER the Cha-am Hua Hin statement on ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation and Food Security and Bio Energy Development declared by the leaders of ASEAN Plus Three Countries at the 12th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in Cha-am Hua Hin, Thailand, on 24 October 2009, which stated that the leaders will explore the possibility of establishing the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (hereinafter referred to as “APTERR”), based upon the experience of the EAERR in close coordination with relevant international organisations, and taking into account each ASEAN Plus Three Country’s commitment and consistency with international rules;

RECALLING FURTHER the Joint Press Statement adopted at the 9th Meeting of the AMAF Plus Three in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 11 November 2009, which stated the transformation of the EAERR pilot project into a permanent mechanism under the APTERR and its early realization immediately after the expiration of the EAERR pilot project;

RECOGNISING the high vulnerability of the countries in the region to calamity and to wide fluctuations in the production of basic foodstuffs particularly rice and hence to instability of the region’s food supply;

NOTING that the assurance of food security in the ASEAN Plus Three countries is the common goal of all ASEAN Plus Three Countries;

EMPHASIZING that the establishment of a rice reserve among the ASEAN Plus Three Countries based on the principle of collective self-reliance will contribute to the strengthening of the respective national economic resilience as well as the regional economic resilience and solidarity of the ASEAN Plus Three Countries;

REITERATING the need to coordinate national rice stock policies, which take into account the policies of other ASEAN Plus Three Countries, in conformity with their institutional and constitutional requirements;

AFFIRMING the need for the implementation of the APTERR to be consistent with relevant internationally recognised rules and regulations such as those under the World Trade Organization (WTO) and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); and

REAFFIRMING the need for effective and concerted action to be taken by the ASEAN Plus Three Countries aimed at strengthening food security in the region;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

Article I Definitions

For the purpose of this Agreement, the following definitions shall apply unless the context otherwise requires:

- a. **"APTERR"** means the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve established under Article III;
- b. **"APTERR PARTY"** means a Governments of an ASEAN Plus Three Country for which this Agreement is in force;
- c. **"Council"** means the APTERR Council established under Article VII;
- d. **"Earmarked emergency rice reserve"** means a certain quantity of rice, which is voluntarily designated in accordance with Paragraph 1 of Article IV, for the purpose of meeting emergency requirements of one or more APTERR parties. Such earmarked quantities of rice constitute a component of the APTERR;
- e. **"Emergency"** means the state or condition in which an APTERR Party, due to extreme and unexpected calamity, is unable to cope with the state or condition through its national reserve and is unable to procure the needed supply of rice through normal trade;
- f. **"Secretariat"** means the APTERR secretariat established under Article VIII; and
- g. **"Stockpiled emergency rise reserve"** means rice voluntarily donated to the APTERR in the form of cash fund and/or in-kind (rice), if necessary, through appropriate international organisation such as United Nation World Food Programme (WFP) and/or Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs). Such a stockpiled emergency rice reserve is used as an emergency stock to provided preparedness for an emergency situation, and constitutes another component of the APTERR. Stockpiled emergency rice reserve can be stored in storage of a donor country, prospective recipient countries, and/or host country which voluntarily stores the stockpiled emergency rise reserve.

Article II

General Provisions

1. The APTERR parties agree that, where appropriate, food security needs to be dealt with from several aspects, especially through:
 - a. the strengthening of the rice production base of the countries of the APTERR parties;
 - b. the prevention of post-harvest losses of rice;
 - c. the adoption of effective national rice stock policies and improved arrangements for meeting requirements of emergency rice supply;
 - d. the promotion of stability of rice price;
 - e. the adoption of policies and programmes for improving consumption and nutrition, particularly of the vulnerable groups within each of the countries of the APTERR Parties; and
 - f. the promotion of labour opportunities especially in the income particularly of the small rice farmers
2. Nothing in this Agreement shall effect in any way the rights on obligations of the respective APTERR Parties based upon relevant existing and future treaties and other international agreements. In the event of conflict between provisions of this Agreement and provision of the relevant treaties and other international agreements, the latter shall prevail to the extent of such a conflict.
3. This Agreement shall be implemented by the APTERR parties in accordance with the respective national laws and regulations of their countries and within the limits of their respective annual budgetary appropriations.

Article III

Establishment of APTERR

1. The APTERR Parties agree:
 - g. to establish the APTERR for meeting emergency requirements and achieving humanitarian purposes; and
 - h. that all activities related to the APTERR shall not distort normal international trade of rice.
2. The APTERR shall consist of the regional rice reserve in the form of physical stocks comprising the earmarked emergency rice reserve and the stockpiled emergency rice reserve or donations in cash or in kind.

Article IV Implementation

1. Each APTERR party shall earmark a certain Quantity of rice based on each APTERR party's voluntary decision, as set out in attachment 1 to this Agreement. Once earmarked it shall be a commitment subject to periodic review by the Council, taking into account of the general food situation in the region and in the world.
2. The amount of the earmarked quantity for the APTERR parties being the Governments of the ASEAN Member States is mobilized from rice pledged for the ASEAN Emergency Rice Reserve and shall cover the amount of the initial earmarked quantity provided for in the Second Protocol to Amend the Agreement on the ASEAN Food Security Reserve.
3. The release of rice reserved in the APTERR and replenishment of the earmarked rice shall be implemented in accordance with the rules and procedures to be set forth by the Council.

Article V Rice Information Exchange

1. For the effective functioning of the undertakings contained in Article IV, the APTERR Parties agree to furnish to the Secretariat, referred to in Article VIII, on a regular basis, information on their policies and programmes for rice reserve as well as on food security and other aspects of the food supply and demand situation, in particular rice. The secretariat shall circulate the said information to all APTERR parties.
2. On the basis of such data collected factual appraisals of the situation and outlook shall be prepared periodically and circulated to the APTERR parties by the Secretariat.
3. The information or data made available pursuant to this Article shall be treated as confidential, if necessary or requested by an APTERR Party.

Article VI Establishment of APTERR Fund

1. The APTERR parties agree to establish a fund, which shall be managed by the Council referred in the Article VII in order to support the operation and activities of the APTERR under this Agreement, hereinafter referred to as the "APTERR fund.
2. Each APTERR Party shall make contribution to the APTERR fund comprised of the Endowment Fund and contribution to the operational cost to support

the operation and activities of the APTERR , as set out in Attachment 2 to this Agreement.

3. The Council shall adopt and approve the financial modality and management of the APTERR Fund.

Article VII

APTERR Council

1. The APTERR Parties agree to establish an the APTERR Council.
2. The Council shall be composed of on representative from each APTERR Party, whereas the APTERR Secretariat, supported by the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board Secretariat, shall serve and facilitate meetings of the Council.
3. Decision of the Council shall be made on the basis of consensus among members of the Council.
4. The Council shall be responsible for the operation of the APTERR in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Council, as set out in Attachment 3 to this Agreement.
5. The APTERR Council shall be co- chaired by an APTERR Party from the ASEAN Member States and an APTERR Party from the Plus Three Countries by annual rotation in an alphabetical order.
6. The Council shall meet regularly at least once a year on any date to be determined by the Chairmen in consultation with members of the Council. The Chairmen may convene special meetings to discuss any urgent matters needing immediate resolutions.
7. Each APTERR Party shall identify an agency and a country coordinator to implement relevant policies and decision taken by the Council.

Article VIII

APTERR Secretariat

1. The APTERR Parties agree to establish an APTERR Secretariat to carry out its functions and responsibilities, in accordance with the function and responsibilities of the APTERR Secretariat, to be adopted by the Council. The Secretariat shall be conferred with a legal personality as may be required for the exercise of its function under national laws of the host country of the Secretariat office. The Secretariat shall be headed by a General manager to be appointed by the Council.

2. The location of the Secretariat office shall be decided by consensus by the APTERR Parties.

Article IX
Dispute Settlement

1. Any dispute between two or more APTERR parties relating to the interpretation, application or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled through consultation between them, with a view to the settlement of the dispute by negotiation or by any other peaceful means as may be agreed upon by them.
2. If the disputing APTERR parties are unable to achieve a peaceful settlement of the dispute pursuant to the procedure set forth in Paragraph 1 of this Article, any of APTERR Parties concerned may refer the dispute to the Council.

Article X
Final Provisions

1. This Agreement shall be open for signature and subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the ASEAN Plus Three Countries.
2. The Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Depository, referred to in Paragraph 7 of this Article, who shall promptly inform all signatory Governments of such deposit.
3. This Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date on which at last six ASEAN Member States and one Plus Three Country have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval.
4. For each ASEAN Plus Three Country that ratifies, accepts or approves this Agreement after the conditions set out in Paragraph 3 of this Article for the entry into force have been fulfilled, this Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.
5. Any APTERR Party may propose amendments to this Agreement at any time by communicating in writing to the Secretariat who shall promptly notify the other APTERR parties of the proposed amendments. Amendments to this Agreement shall be adopted by consensus of the APTERR Parties. Amendments involving new obligations for the APTERR Parties shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Depository, referred to in Paragraph 7 of this Article, of instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of all APTERR Parties. Amendments not involving new obligation for the APTERR parties shall enter into force for all APTERR Parties from the date of their adoption

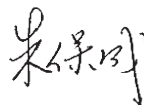
6. Attachment to this Agreement shall form an integral part of this Agreement. Modifications of attachments to this Agreement shall be proposed and adopted and enter into force in accordance with the procedure set forth in paragraph 5 of this Article
7. The Secretary-General of ASEAN shall be the Depository of this Agreement.
8. Each APTERR Party reserves the right to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this Agreement, for reasons of its essential national interests including national security, public order or public health. Any of such suspension or lifting of suspension shall be effective thirty days after written notifications have been received by the Secretariat.
9. Any APTERR Party may withdraw from this Agreement by giving written notification to the Depository referred to in paragraph 7 of this Article. Such withdrawal shall take effect upon expiry of six months from the date on which the notification of withdrawal is received by the Depository. Such withdrawal shall be promptly notified to all APTERR Parties by the Depository.
10. No reservation may be made to this Agreement.
11. The original of this Agreement shall be deposited in archives of the Depository referred to in paragraph 7 of this Article. Duly certified copies of this Agreement shall be transmitted by the Depository to each of the Governments signatory to this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorized by their respective Governments have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Jakarta, Indonesia this Seventh Day of October in the year Two Thousand and Eleven in a single original in the English language

For the Government of Brunei
Darussalam:

For the Government of the People's
Republic of China:



PEHN DATO YAHYA

Minister of Industry and Primary
Resources

ZHU BAOCHENG

Senior Consultant of the Ministry of
Agriculture

For the Royal Government of the
Kingdom of Cambodia:



CHAN TONG YVES

Secretary of State
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and
Fisheries

For the Government of Japan:



MICHIHIKO KANO

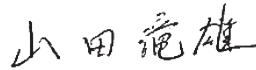
Minister of Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries of Japan

For the Government of the Republic
of Indonesia:



SUSWONO

Minister of Agriculture



TAKIO YAMADA

Ambassador of Japan to the
Association of Southeast Asian
Nations

For the Government of the Lao
People's Democratic Republic:



VILAYVANH PHOMKHE

Minister of Agriculture and Forestry

For the Government of the Republic
of the Philippines:



JOEL S. RUDINAS

Undersecretary of Agriculture

For the Government of Malaysia:



NOH BIN OMAR

Minister of Agriculture and Agro-
Based Industry

For the Government of the Republic
of Singapore:



MOHAMAD MALIKI BIN OSMAN

Senior Parliamentary Secretary for
National Development and Defence

For the Government of the Republic
of the Union of Myanmar:



OHN THAN

Deputy Minister of Agriculture and
Irrigation

For the Government of the Republic
of Korea



KIM, JONG-JIN

Deputy Minister for Food, Agriculture,
Forestry and Fisheries

For the Government of the Kingdom
of Thailand:

THEERA WONGSAMUT

Minister of Agriculture and
Cooperatives

For the Government of the Socialist
Republic of Viet Nam:



NGUYEN THI XUAN THU

Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural
Development

Attachment 1**Earmarked rice Quantity of each ASEAN Plus Three Country**

At the initial stage of operation, subject to the provisions of Paragraph 3 of Article II of this Agreement, the earmarked quantity of each ASEAN Plus Three Country for the APTERR is as follows:

Brunei Darussalam:	3,000 MT
Cambodia:	3,000 MT
Indonesia:	12,000 MT
Lao PDR:	3,000 MT
Malaysia:	6,000 MT
Myanmar:	14,000 MT
Philippines:	12,000 MT
Singapore:	5,000 MT
Thailand:	15,000 MT
Viet Nam:	14,000 MT
P.R. China:	300,000 MT
Japan:	250,000 MT
Republic of Korea:	150,000 MT
Total	787,000 MT

Attachment 2**Contribution to the APTERR fund**

Subject to the provision of Paragraph 3 of Article II of this Agreement, the capital contribution of the ASEAN Plus Three Countries for the Endowment Fund and the annual contribution of the ASEAN Plus Three Countries to the operational cost over the first five years are as follows:

Table 1 capital Contribution of ASEAN Plus Three Countries for Endowment Fund

	Plus Three Countries	(USD)
1	P.R. China	1,000,000
2	Japan	1,000,000
3	Republic of Korea	1,000,000

ASEAN Member States		(USD)
1	Brunei Darussalam	107,500
2	Indonesia	107,500
3	Malaysia	107,500
4	Philippines	107,500
5	Singapore	107,500
6	Thailand	107,500
7	Viet Nam	107,500
8	Cambodia	83,000
9	Lao PDR	83,000
10	Myanmar	83,000

Table 2 Annual Contribution of ASEAN Plus Three Countries to the Operational Cost over the First Five Years.

Plus Three Countries		(USD)
1	P.R. China	75,000
2	Japan	75,000
3	Republic of Korea	75,000

ASEAN Member States		(USD)
1	Brunei Darussalam	8,000
2	Indonesia	8,000
3	Malaysia	8,000
4	Philippines	8,000
5	Singapore	8,000
6	Thailand	8,000
7	Viet Nam	8,000
8	Cambodia	6,000
9	Lao PDR	6,000
10	Myanmar	6,000

Attachment 3

Terms of Reference (TOR) of APTERR Council

The Council established under Article VII of this Agreement shall have the following function:

1. To adopt the rules and procedures of the Council and the functions and responsibilities of the Secretariat, including its management, and to decide on their modification, as the Council may deem necessary;

2. To adopt and approve the financial modality and management of the APTERR fund;
 3. To adopt a standard operating procedure (SOP) for the release of emergency rice reserve stocks and replenishment of the earmarked rice in accordance with Article III and Paragraph 3 of Article IV of this Agreement;
 4. To approve an annual work plan and a budget plan of the APTERR;
 5. To approve an annual report concerning the activities of the APTERR as well as other reports prepared by the Secretariat;
 6. To report the APTERR activities, utilisation of the APTERR Fund and the emergency rice reserve stocks to the AMAF Plus Three through their Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-AMAF Plus Three);
 7. To supervise and coordinate the activities of the APTERR carried out by the Secretariat;
 8. To settle the dispute referred by any of the APTERR Parties under Paragraph 2 of Article IX of this Agreement;
 9. To select and appoint a general Manager from among the nationals of the ASEAN Plus three Countries, and to prescribe the powers, duties, condition of service and term of the office of the General Manager;
 10. To review the total amount of earmarked rice reserve under Paragraph 1 of Article IV of this Agreement;
 11. To issue public statements on matters related to the APTERR operations; and
 12. To perform such other functions as the Council may deem necessary to effectively implement and carry out the provisions of the APTERR Agreement.
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The 12th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (12th AMAF Plus Three)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 28 September 2012

1. We, the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea held our Twelfth Meeting in Vientiane on 28 September 2012, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Vilayvanh Phomkhe, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR.
2. We reaffirmed our strong support in advancing the AMAF Plus Three cooperation in food, agriculture, and forestry sectors, which corresponds to the Second Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). Complementing this decision, we supported and welcomed the development of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) Framework consisting of six (6) Strategic Areas, namely, Strengthening Food Security, Biomass Energy Development, Sustainable Forest Management, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Animal Health and Disease Control and Cross-Cutting Issues.
3. We noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of cooperation projects under the APTCS Framework, particularly on capacity building in agriculture production, post-harvest handling, training and extension, research and development in the areas of crops, livestock, fisheries, and forestry.
4. Following the signing of the APTERR Agreement during the 11th Meeting of the AMAF Plus Three held on 7 October 2011 in Jakarta, We welcomed the entry-into-force of the Agreement on 12 July 2012. In response to acute food emergency, we commended initiatives taken by the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) in releasing stockpile rice in Thailand, Lao PDR and Indonesia in 2011-2012. We welcome Thailand's offer to host the APTERR Secretariat subject to the completion of domestic process and urged the APTERR Council to finalise necessary arrangement for the full operationalization of APTERR.

5. We acknowledged successful implementation of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Project with achievements made on establishment of food security information network system, including website and databases, Early Warning Information, Agricultural Commodity Outlook Reports as well as supporting human resources development activities. We reiterated our support to transform the Project into the ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Information System as a self-sustained mechanism while noting an independent study will be undertaken to facilitate the finalization of Terms of Reference and the Rules of Procedure of the new AFSIS. We also support the AFSIS Workplan for 2013-2015.

6. Guided by the Cha-am Hua Hin Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on Food Security and Bioenergy Development adopted by the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders in 2009, We noted progress of cooperation activities in promoting biomass energy towards agriculture and rural development. We recognised the importance of and supported the planned collaboration between the agriculture and energy sector to ensure synergy of efforts in sustainable bioenergy development and achieving food security.

7. We agreed to meet again for the 13th AMAF Plus Three Meeting in Malaysia in 2013.

8. The Ministers from other ASEAN Member States, the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Lao PDR for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 12th AMAF Plus Three Meeting.

List of Ministers

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam
- ii. H.E. Prof. Dr. Chan Sarun, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia
- iii. H.E. Dr. Suswono, Minister of Agriculture, Indonesia
- iv. H.E. Mr. Vilayvanh Phomkhe, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR
- v. H.E. Dato' Mohd Hashim bin Abdullah, Secretary General, Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, representing Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia
- vi. H.E. Mr. Ohn Than, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar

- vii. H.E. Mr. Joel S. Rudinas, Under Secretary of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Philippines
 - viii. H.E. Dr. Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Defence, Singapore
 - ix. H.E. Mr. Theera Wongsamut, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand
 - x. H.E. Dr. Bui Ba Bong, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam
 - xi. H.E. Mr. Niu Dun, Vice Minister of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, People's Republic of China
 - xii. H.E. Mr. Tsukasa Iwamoto, Senior Vice Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan
 - xiii. H.E. Mr. Sang-Kil Lee, Vice Minister, Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Republic of Korea
 - xiv. H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community
-

Joint Press Statement of the 13th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (13th AMAF Plus Three)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 27 September 2013

1. We, the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea held our Thirteenth Meeting on 27 September 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry of Malaysia.
2. We reaffirmed our strong support in further enhancing cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry sector, including food security, as guided by the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders' Joint Statement on the Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.
3. In reviewing ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in 2012-2013, we were pleased with the good progress made in the implementation of the various on-going activities under the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) Framework, especially in the areas of food security, agricultural technology, climate change mitigation and adaptation, control and eradication of trans-boundary pest and animal diseases.
4. We noted with appreciation the good progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement that include the submission of instrument of ratification by all APTERR parties, the organisation of the 1st APTERR Council Meeting on 28 March 2013, the launching of the APTERR Secretariat on 29 March 2013 as well as finalisation of key documents to support the operationalisation of APTERR. We further tasked the SOM-AMAF Plus Three to expedite the nominations of Council Member, Country Coordinator and Coordinating Agency to support the full operation of the APTERR. We noted the implementation of the APTERR Tier 3 programme contributed by Japan in responding to the food emergency situations in Lao PDR and the Philippines in 2013. We encouraged to

expedite the process of legal personality of APTERR Secretariat for operationalisation of APTERR.

5. We noted the progress of the transformation of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) into a permanent scheme though the evaluation on its effectiveness and usefulness at the national and regional levels. We noted the progress of project initiated in 2013, in which AFSIS and Statistics Department of the MAFF closely cooperated in developing Food Security Forecasting Model project which has been supported by Japan. We encouraged the Plus Three Countries to support the capacity building at the national level of AMS during the transformation period.

6. We expressed satisfaction with the implementation progress of various activities to support the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Comprehensive Strategy on Food Security and Bioenergy, including (i) the ASEAN-FAO Project on Bioenergy and Food Security in ASEAN; (ii) SOM-AMAF Plus Three and SOME Plus Three Consultation Meeting, held on 30-31 October 2012 in Bangkok; and (iii) the 6th ASEAN Plus Three Biomass Forum, held on 16-19 May 2013 in Wuhan, China; (iv) the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Roundtable Meeting on Food Security, held on 10-11 July 2013, Harbin, China; (v) ASEAN Plus China Senior Officers Consultation Meeting on Agricultural Strategy Cooperation Framework and field study on rice research and production in the provinces of Heilongjiang and Hunan, held on 12-18 July 2013. We reaffirmed our support for the ASEAN-FAO Bioenergy and Food Security Project to formulate regional and national roadmaps for sustainable bioenergy.

7. We welcomed the OIE/Japan Trust Fund (JTF) Project on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Control in Asia in collaboration with the South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease (SEACFMD) Campaign. We noted the necessity of the new OIE/Japan Trust Fund (JTF) project under “One Health Concept”, where HPAI and Rabies planned to be covered.

8. We agreed to meet again at the 14th Meeting of AMAF Plus Three in Myanmar in 2014.

9. The Ministers from other ASEAN Member States, the People’s Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Malaysia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 13th AMAF Plus Three Meeting.

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam

- ii. H.E. Mr. San Vanty, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia
 - iii. H.E. Dr. Suswono, Minister of Agriculture, Indonesia
 - iv. H.E. Dr. Phouang Parisak Pravongviengkham, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR
 - v. H.E. Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia
 - vi. H.E. U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar
 - vii. H.E. Mr. Jose Eduardo E. Malaya III, the Philippine Ambassador to Malaysia, Philippines
 - viii. H.E. Dr. Mohamad Maliki bin Osman, Minister of State for National Development and Defence, Singapore
 - ix. H.E. Mr. Yukol Limlamthong, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand
 - x. H.E. Dr. Nguyen Thi Xuan Thu, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam
 - xi. H.E. Mr. Niu Dun, Vice Minister of Agriculture, PR China
 - xii. H.E. Mr. Taku Eto, Senior Vice-Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan
 - xiii. H.E. Mr. Lee Junwon, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Republic of Korea
 - xiv. Mr. Tran Dong Phuong, Director of Finance, Industries and Infrastructure Directorate, ASEAN Economic Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat.
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Joint Press Statement of the 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (14th AMAF Plus Three)

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 24 September 2014

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT

1. We, the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea held our Fourteenth Meeting on 24 September 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, under the Chairmanship of H.E. U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar.
2. We reaffirmed the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry as one of the main vehicles towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force and encouraged the Plus Three countries to continue supporting the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) and contribute to the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision.
3. In reviewing ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in 2013-2014, we were pleased with the good progress made in the implementation of the various on-going activities under the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) Framework, especially in the areas of food security and bio-energy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable forest management, agricultural Research and Development (R&D), control and eradication of trans-boundary pest and animal diseases, and human resource development.
4. We noted with appreciation the good progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement. We noted that the rice donated is approximately 6,730 MT in total, of which, 6,150 tons of stockpiled rice has been distributed to the Philippines to help people suffering from typhoon Haiyan. In this connection, we reaffirmed that providing prompt contributions to the

affected people is the key task of the APTERR to achieve the common goal of all ASEAN Plus Three Countries to assure food security in the ASEAN Plus Three region. We reiterated the important role of APTERR to serve as a permanent mechanism in addressing and enhancing food security in the region.

5. We noted the progress of the transformation of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) into a permanent mechanism. We appreciated the support made by the Plus Three Countries to enhance capacity of the AFSIS Secretariat.

6. We expressed our satisfaction with achievements of various activities to support the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Comprehensive Strategy on Food Security and Bioenergy, including (i) the 6th Roundtable on Food Security that will be held in November 2014 in Nanning, China, (ii) the Practical Action report on “Small- Scale Bioenergy Initiatives in ASEAN+3”, (iii) Launching Ceremony of the AFoCo Landmark Program in March 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar and (iv) the 7th East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum on 7 August 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

7. We noted Japan’s support on the Public Private Partnership Cooperation for Establishing Food Value Chain in some ASEAN Member States. Building on this initiative, we encouraged the initiative to be expanded to the regional level.

8. We agreed to meet again at the 15th Meeting of AMAF Plus Three in the Philippines in 2015.

9. We, the Ministers from ASEAN and Plus Three Countries expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and the people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 14th AMAF Plus Three Meeting.

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam
- ii. H.E. Ouk Rabun, PhD, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia
- iii. H.E. Dr. Suswono, Minister of Agriculture, Indonesia
- iv. H.E. Dr. Ty Phommasack, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR
- v. H E. Dato’ Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia
- vi. H.E. U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

- vii. H.E. Segfredo R. Serrano, Undersecretary of the Department of Agriculture, Philippines
 - viii. H.E. Dr. Mohamad Maliki bin Osman, Minister of State for National Development and Defence, Singapore
 - ix. H.E. Petipong Pungbun Na Ayudhya, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand
 - x. H.E. Dr. Le Quoc Doanh, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam
 - xi. H. E. Han Changfu, Minister of Agriculture, People's Republic of China
 - xii. H.E. Koya Nishikawa, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan
 - xiii. H.E. Yeo In-hong, Vice Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Republic of Korea
 - xiv. H.E. Dr. AKP Mochtan, Deputy Secretary General, Community and Corporate Affairs, ASEAN Secretariat
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Joint Press Statement of the 15th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (15th AMAF Plus Three)

Makati City, Philippines, 11 September 2015

1. We, the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea held our Fifteenth Meeting on 11 September 2015 in Makati City, Philippines, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Proceso J. Alcala, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Philippines.
2. We were pleased with the significant progress made in the implementation of cooperation activities and projects under the nine Strategic Thrusts of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) on Food, Agriculture and Forestry 2011-2015, including: strengthening food security; enhancement of capacity-building and human resource development, sustainable forest management, climate change mitigation and adaptation, strengthening of information system and knowledge networking and exchange; and enhancement of productivity, quality and marketability of agriculture and agricultural products.
3. In support of the Cha-am Hua Hin Statement on ASEAN plus Three Cooperation on Food Security and Bioenergy Development adopted by the ASEAN Leaders in 2009, we reaffirmed the promotion of bioenergy towards sustainable agriculture and rural development. In this regard, we adopted the ASEAN Plus Three Bioenergy and Food Security Framework 2015-2025 with the objective to assist ASEAN Member States in ensuring that sustainable, food-secure and climate-friendly bioenergy contributes to the economic development.
4. We appreciated the good progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement as it is the main mechanism for strengthening regional food security and reducing poverty. We noted that the

implementation of Tier 3 programme to aid the Super Typhoon Haiyan victims in the Philippines was completed with distribution of the total amount of 6,730 MT of rice contributed by China, Thailand, Malaysia and Japan. The last distribution was 580 MT of rice from Japan. We noted that the APTERR Secretariat has started the implementation of Tier 3 (pre-positioned stockpiled rice system) under Japan's 2015 contribution by seeking the prospective host countries to store the donated rice.

5. We noted the need to have preparatory stage to work on the details of ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) permanent mechanism, including consideration of various possible mechanisms and the arrangement of AFSIS Secretariat.

6. The ASEAN Ministers extended their appreciation to the Plus Three Countries for providing support in the implementation of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) on Food, Agriculture and Forestry 2011-2015.

7. We agreed to meet again at the 16th Meeting of AMAF Plus Three in Singapore in 2016. We expressed our sincere appreciation to the Government and the people of the Republic of Philippines for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 15th AMAF Plus Three Meeting.

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam
- ii. H.E. Dr. Ouk Rabun, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia
- iii. H.E. Dr. A. Amran Sulaiman, Minister of Agriculture, Indonesia
- iv. H.E. Dr. Phouang Parisak Pravongviengkham, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR
- v. H.E. Dato' Sri Ahmad Shabery Cheek, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia
- vi. H.E. U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
- vii. H.E. Proceso Alcala, Secretary of Agriculture, Philippines
- viii. Ms. Tan Poh Hong, Chief Executive Officer, Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority, Singapore
- ix. Dr. Wimol Jantrarat, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand

- x. H.E. Dr. Le Quoc Doanh, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam
 - xi. H.E. Chen Xiaohua, Vice Minister of Agriculture, People's Republic of China
 - xii. H.E. Toshiko Abe, State Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan
 - xiii. H.E. Oh Kyung Tae, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Republic of Korea
 - xiv. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary General of ASEAN
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Joint Ministerial Statement of the 8th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting

Jerudong, Brunei Darussalam, 20 September 2011

Introduction

1. The 8th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM+3) was held in Brunei Darussalam on 20 September 2011. The Meeting was chaired by Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy, at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam, and co-chaired by Mr. Wu Gui Hui, Chief Engineer and Director General of International Cooperation, National Energy Administration of China; H.E Keiro Kitagami, Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; and H.E. Jaedo Moon, Deputy Minister of Knowledge Economy of the Republic of Korea. The Meeting was participated by the Ministers of Energy of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

2. Amidst global developments, such as, the volatile geopolitical situation in the Middle East and the impact of nuclear accidents in Japan on energy security, the Ministers recognised that the current energy landscape remains highly uncertain. This is notwithstanding that energy demand will continue to rise, increasing the need to balance energy security with economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability. In this regard, the Ministers strengthened their commitment to the ASEAN+3 energy cooperation to secure a sustainable energy future for the region.

3. Recognising the need for improved linkages in energy cooperation, the Ministers agreed that enhancing intra-ASEAN connectivity will bring the region closer to its goal of achieving greater energy security. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the progress made by the Senior Officials Meeting on Energy +3 (SOME+3) Energy Cooperation that are key to diversification of energy sources, capacity building, information sharing and exchange, and promotion of sustainable development and low carbon growth economy.

Energy Security

4. On energy security, the Ministers acknowledged the importance of stepping up cooperation efforts to study possible energy options for the region which includes, among others, civilian nuclear energy, oil stockpiling, and coal and clean coal technologies. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for leading the Energy Security Forum in ASEAN+3 energy cooperation. The Ministers also welcomed Republic of Korea's continued contribution to capacity building in civilian nuclear energy, and Japan's establishment of the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Security.

5. On oil stockpiling, the Ministers urged the Meeting to pursue the following activities: (i) continued studies and development of the Oil Stockpiling Road Map (OSRM) in accordance with the four (4) principles and methodology; (ii) collecting annual information on the progress of each countries' oil stockpiling activities; and (iii) organise workshops to promote the implementation of each ASEAN country's OSRM, with the support and assistance of the +3 countries. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC) for organising workshops and to the +3 countries, especially Japan and JOGMEC for sharing their knowledge on oil stockpiling to enhance energy security and preparedness for the region.

6. Recognising that coal is a major fuel source for the region, while noting its environmental concerns, the Ministers welcomed further efforts to develop cooperation programmes on clean coal technologies (CCTs) including upgrading of low rank coal technologies and carbon capture and storage (CCS). The Ministers supported the initiative to engage the +3 countries in future meetings of the ASEAN Forum on Coal (AFOC) to foster closer cooperation and to promote positive collaboration on clean coal utilisation.

7. To enhance greater information sharing amongst the +3 countries, the Ministers welcomed continued collaboration with the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) in the conduct of capacity building programmes and development of regional energy outlooks to support policy research and analysis.

Oil Market and Natural Gas

8. Noting that volatile oil prices will continue to impact the region, the Ministers encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to further share and exchange information on countermeasures in response to the volatile oil prices in the world market. They also encouraged the countries to share their experiences and lessons learnt in seeking

creative solutions to address price volatilities and uncertainties in oil supply due to perceived risks of geopolitics and so on.

9. The Ministers shared the view that natural gas will play an increasingly prominent role in the global and regional fuel mix. In this regard, they agreed to step up cooperation in natural gas, including looking at the growing importance of LNG and unconventional gas. The Ministers also expressed their appreciation to China for leading the Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum.

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation

10. The Ministers noted the good progress of ASEAN's aspirational goals of reducing regional energy intensity by 8% and achieving the 15% target for regional renewable energy in total power installed capacity by 2015. The Ministers lauded the accomplishments of the CDM programme and expressed their appreciation to the Republic of Korea for continuation of the ASEAN+3 CDM Programme, and for leading the New & Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency & Conservation Forum.

11. The Ministers agreed to further develop initiatives to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency and conservation, including greater engagement with the private sector and relevant institutions.

12. Recognising that new and innovative solutions are part of the equation in meeting future energy needs, the Ministers highlighted that it is timely to look at initiatives relating to smart grid technologies, mass transportation and other demand side energy management directing towards reducing energy intensity in transportation sector.

Next Meeting

13. The Ministers agreed to meet again in Cambodia in 2012 for the 9th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

14. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government and people of Brunei Darussalam for the warm hospitality accorded and the excellent arrangements made for the 8th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- i. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy, at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E. Dr Ith Praing, Secretary of State, Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy of Cambodia;

- iii. Mr. Wu Gui Hui, Chief Engineer and Director General of International Cooperation, National Energy Administration of China
 - iv. H.E. Darwin Zahedy Saleh, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia;
 - v. H.E Keiro Kitagami, Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan;
 - vi. H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR;
 - vii. Hon. Dato' Sri Peter Chin Fah Kui, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia;
 - viii. H.E. Than Htay, Union Minister for Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
 - ix. H.E. Jose Rene D. Almendras, Secretary, Department of Energy, the Republic of the Philippines;
 - x. H.E. Jaedo Moon, Deputy Minister of Knowledge Economy of the Republic of Korea;
 - xi. H.E. S. Iswaran, Minister, Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Home Affairs and Trade & Industry of Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. Pichai Nariphaphan, Minister of Energy of Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Le Duong Quang, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
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Joint Ministerial Statement of the 9th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 12 September 2012

Introduction

1. The 9th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM+3) was held in the Kingdom of Cambodia on 12 September 2012. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia and co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Wu Yin, Vice Administrator, National Energy Administration of the People's Republic of China; H.E. Mr. Keiro Kitagami, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; and H.E. Mr. Kwansup Lee, Deputy Minister of Knowledge Economy of the Republic of Korea. The Meeting was participated by the Ministers of Energy of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

2. The Ministers recognised the progress made by the Japanese Government to bring TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Station to a stable condition and hoped that Japan would continue to share with the international community its accumulated knowledge and lessons learned from the accident. Amidst developments, such as, the volatile geopolitical situation in the Middle East and its implications on energy security, as well as rising energy demand, the Ministers recognised the need to balance energy security with economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability. They agreed to strengthen their commitment to the ASEAN+3 energy cooperation towards a sustainable energy future.

3. Recognising the need for improved linkages in energy cooperation, the Ministers agreed that enhancing ASEAN connectivity would bring the region closer to its goal of achieving greater energy security. The Ministers expressed their appreciation for the progress made by the Senior Officials Meeting on Energy +3 (SOME+3) Energy Cooperation. They noted that cooperation amongst the countries is a key to the diversification of energy sources, capacity building, information sharing and exchange, and the promotion of sustainable development and low-carbon growth economies.

Energy Security

4. On energy security, the Ministers acknowledged the importance of stakeholder cooperation to study possible energy options for the region including, among others, civilian nuclear energy, oil stockpiling, coal and clean coal technologies, and welcomed the steady progress of the activities. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for leading the Energy Security Forum in ASEAN+3 energy cooperation.

5. The Ministers welcomed the Republic of Korea's Second Phase Implementation Plan of the Human Resources Development for Civilian Nuclear Energy and Japan's progress of activities under the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Security.

6. On oil stockpiling, the Ministers welcomed the follow-up activities for 2012-2013, namely: (i) continuing studies and development of the Oil Stockpiling Road Map (OSRM); (ii) collecting annual information on the progress of each country's oil stockpiling activities; and (iii) organising workshops to promote the implementation of each ASEAN country's OSRM, with the support and assistance of the +3 countries. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC) for agreeing to organise the Workshop on Pre-project Phase and Decision Phase, and the Workshop on Construction Phase and Operation Phase of oil stockpiling development. These workshops are expected to enhance energy security and preparedness for emergencies in the region. The Ministers encouraged the ACE, in cooperation with JOGMEC, to continue to collect the Updated Country Report of ASEAN+3 Member Countries, and to finalise the OSRM Report. The Ministers also urged the ACE to continue its work on the questionnaires to identify country needs as a useful reference on OSRM activities. The Ministers encouraged the ASEAN countries to steadily implement their OSRMs, with the +3 countries and International Energy Agency (IEA) providing the support and assistance where appropriate.

7. Recognising that coal is a major fuel source for the region, despite environmental concerns on its use, the Ministers welcomed further efforts to develop cooperation programmes on clean coal technologies, such as the upgrading of low rank coal technologies, carbon capture and storage (CCS), coal gasification and coal liquefaction. The Ministers supported the initiative to engage the +3 countries in future meetings and activities of the ASEAN Forum on Coal (AFOC) to foster closer cooperation and promote positive collaboration on clean coal utilisation.

8. To enhance greater information sharing amongst the ASEAN+3 countries, the Ministers welcomed continued collaboration of the ACE with the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) in conducting capacity building programmes and developing regional energy outlooks in support of policy research and analysis. The Ministers encouraged the ACE to continue the collection of Oil Price Data of each ASEAN+3 Member Country on a monthly basis to be published in the ACE Website.

Oil Market and Natural Gas

9. Recognising that excessive oil price volatility might be a source of economic instability, the Ministers recognised the need to promote the transparent functioning of the oil markets, and expressed continued support for the Joint Organisations Data Initiative (JODI). The Ministers encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to further share and exchange information on countermeasures in response to the volatile oil prices in the global market. They also encouraged the countries to share their experiences and lessons learned in seeking solutions to address price volatilities and uncertainties in oil supply caused by perceived geopolitical risks.

10. Given the increasing prominent role natural gas will play in the global and regional fuel mix, the Ministers agreed to enhance cooperation in the natural gas sector, in particular LNG issues, unconventional gas, and increasing and encouraging private sector participation. The Ministers also commended the ACE and Indonesia for organising the 1st Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and the 1st ASEAN+3 Oil Market and Natural Gas Business Dialogue on 24-25 October 2011, and expressed their appreciation to China for leading the Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum.

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation

11. The Ministers noted the good progress in achieving the ASEAN's aspirational goals of reducing regional energy intensity by at least 8% by 2015 based on 2005 level, and the 15% target for the share of renewable energy in the total installed power capacity by 2015. The Ministers acknowledged the progress of the CDM programme and expressed their appreciation to the Republic of Korea for the continuation and expansion of the ASEAN+3 CDM Cooperation Programme including Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), and for leading the New and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Forum.

12. The Ministers noted the successful completion of ASEAN-Japan EE&C projects coordinated by the ACE, such as, the Promotion of Energy Efficiency and Conservation (PROMECC) and Multi-country Training Programme on EE&C

(MTPEC). The Ministers also noted the new energy efficiency cooperation initiatives as a next step towards ensuring more sustainable energy development in the region.

13. Recognising that new and innovative solutions are part of the equation in meeting future energy needs, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to Korea and Japan for sharing their experiences and plans relating to smart grid technologies. They encouraged China, Japan and Korea to also share their best practices on innovative financing schemes for RE and EE&C as well as on demand side energy management measures including mass transportation those designed to reduce energy intensity in the transportation sector.

Next Meeting

14. The Ministers agreed to meet again in Indonesia in 2013 for the 10th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

15. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government and People of the Kingdom of Cambodia for the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the 9th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- i. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E. Mr. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia;
- iii. H.E. Mr. Wu Yin, Vice Administrator, National Energy Administration of the People's Republic of China
- iv. H.E. Mr. Jero Wacik, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of the Republic of Indonesia;
- v. H.E. Mr. Keiro Kitagami, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan;
- vi. H.E. Mr. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao People's Democratic Republic;
- vii. H.E. Dato' Sri Peter Chin Fah Kui, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia;
- viii. H.E. U Than Htay, Union Minister for Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;

- ix. H.E. Mr. Jose Rene D. Almendras, Secretary, Department of Energy, the Republic of the Philippines;
 - x. H.E. Mr. Kwansup Lee, Deputy Minister of Knowledge Economy of the Republic of Korea;
 - xi. H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Minister, Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Home Affairs and Trade & Industry of the Republic of Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. Mr. Arak Chonlatanon, Minister of Energy of the Kingdom of Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Mr. Le Duong Quang, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
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Joint Ministerial Statement of the 10th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting

Bali, Indonesia, 25 September 2013

Introduction

1. The 10th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM+3) was held in Bali, Indonesia on 25 September 2013. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Jero Wacik, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources(MEMR) of Indonesia and co-chaired by Mr. Yang Kun, Chief Engineer, representing H.E. Wu Xinxiong, Administrator of National Energy Administration (NEA) of the People's Republic of China; H.E. Kazuyoshi Akaba, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan; and H.E. Han Jin Hyun, Vice Minister for Trade and Energy of Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) of the Republic of Korea. The Meeting was participated by the Ministers of Energy of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

2. The Ministers encouraged Japan to continue to share with the international community its accumulated knowledge and lessons learned from the accident of TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, including those on the safe and secure use of nuclear energy as well as on its related environmental impact. Amidst developments, such as, the volatile geopolitical situation in the Middle East and its implications on energy security, and taking into account the rising energy demand, the Ministers raised concern over energy security and environmental sustainability in the region. They agreed to strengthen their commitment to the ASEAN+3 energy cooperation towards energy security and sustainable energy future.

3. Recognizing the need for improved linkages in energy cooperation, the Ministers agreed that enhancing ASEAN connectivity would bring the region closer to its goal of achieving greater energy security. The Ministers expressed their appreciation for the progress made by the Senior Officials Meeting on Energy +3 (SOME+3). They noted that capacity building, information sharing and exchange amongst the countries are key to the cooperation and promoting sustainable development and low-carbon growth economies.

Energy Security

4. On energy security, the Ministers recognised the importance of stakeholder cooperation to study possible energy options for the region including, among others, civilian nuclear energy, oil stockpiling, clean coal technologies, and also welcomed the steady progress of the activities. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for leading the Energy Security Forum in ASEAN+3 energy cooperation.

5. The Ministers commended the progress of Republic of Korea's Second Phase Implementation Plan of the Human Resources Development for Civilian Nuclear Energy and Japan's status of activities under the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN). The Ministers noted the ACE-Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) Seminar on Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy, Nonproliferation and Security, held on 4-5 June 2013 in Viet Nam, where information on international effort and experience in national regulatory frameworks in enhancing nuclear security was exchanged. The Ministers further noted ISCN's activities, namely: the Regional Training Course on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Nuclear Facilities in July-August 2013, Regional Training Course on the Implementation of Nuclear Security on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities (INFCIRC/225/Revision 5) in August 2013, and International Training Course on State Systems of Accounting for and Control of Nuclear Material to be held in November 2013. The Ministers also noted the activities on Human Resource Development on international nuclear development by JAIF International Cooperation Center.

6. On oil stockpiling, the Ministers welcomed the follow-up activities for 2013-2014, namely:(a) to finalize the Results of Questionnaire Country Needs on the Development of Oil Stockpiling in ASEAN+3 Member States, (b) to undertake a detailed assessment of the oil stockpiling situation in AMS (Country Report), (c) to develop guidelines for the Development of Oil Stockpiling in National Level through a joint study, and (d) conducting a joint study with ASCOPE on Impact of Oil Stockpiling Roadmap (OSRM) on ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA).The Ministers appreciated the efforts of the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE),Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC)for jointly organizing the 1st Workshop of OSRM for ASEAN+3 under the theme "Pre-Project Phase and Decision Phase on the Development of Oil Stockpiling" held on 11 March 2013 in Korea and also appreciated the excellent hospitality and hosting arrangement provided by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) of Korea. The Ministers encouraged the ASEAN countries to steadily implement their OSRMs, with the +3 countries and International Energy Agency (IEA) providing the support and assistance where appropriate.

7. Recognizing that coal is a major fuel source for the region, the Ministers reiterated their collective call to step up efforts to develop cooperation programs on clean coal technologies, such as high efficiency coal-fired power generation, the upgrading of low rank coal technologies, carbon capture and storage (CCS), cokes making, coal gasification, coal liquefaction and develop the industry in the region. The Ministers expressed that tangible engagement by the +3 countries will contribute to future activities of the ASEAN Forum on Coal (AFOC) in order to foster closer cooperation and promote positive collaboration on clean coal utilization.

8. To enhance greater information sharing amongst the ASEAN+3 countries, the Ministers expressed the need for continued collaboration of the ACE and the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) in developing capacity building programs to support policy research and analysis. The Ministers noted the commencement of the new study on oil products information/specification by ACE and IEEJ, to prepare for emergency response protocol and identify the potential institutional barriers for securing oil supply.

Oil Market and Natural Gas

9. Noting that excessive oil price volatility might be a source of economic instability, the Ministers recognised the need to promote transparency in the oil markets, and expressed continued support for the Joint Organisations Data Initiative (JODI). The Ministers encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to further share and exchange information on countermeasures in response to oil prices volatility in the global market. They also encouraged the countries to share their experiences and lessons learned in addressing price volatilities and uncertainties in oil supply caused by perceived geopolitical risks.

10. Given the increasingly prominent role that natural gas will play in the global fuel mix, the Ministers agreed to enhance cooperation in the natural gas sector, in particular LNG, unconventional gas, by increasing and encouraging private sector participation. The Ministers noted the 2nd Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and the 2nd ASEAN+3 Oil Market and Natural Gas Business Dialogue which was held on 13-14 March 2013 in Incheon, Korea.

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation

11. The Ministers noted the good progress in achieving ASEAN's aspirational goals of reducing regional energy intensity by at least 8% by 2015 based on the 2005 level, and the 15% target for the share of renewable energy in the total installed power capacity by 2015. The Ministers welcomed China's initiative on Sustainable Development of New Energy, which encourages cooperation on policy and technology

exchange, sharing of best practices on wind, solar, hydro, nuclear energy and low carbon town. The Ministers acknowledged the progress of the ASEAN+3 CDM Cooperation Program and supported its new name, ASEAN+3 Cooperation on Mitigation Program and thanked Korea for leading the New and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Forum.

12. The Ministers noted the good start of the new schemes of the ASEAN-Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership Programme (AJEEP) including ECAP (Energy Conservation Workshop under AJEEP) program coordinated by The Energy Conservation Center, Japan (ECCJ) and ACE and noted the importance of continuous implementation of these new programs for the progress of the sustainable energy development in the region.

13. Recognizing that new and innovative solutions are part of the equation in meeting future energy needs, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to Korea and Japan for sharing their experiences and plans on smart grid technologies. The Ministers encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to initiate Roundtable Discussion/Workshop on Feed-In-Tariff, Green Building and Innovative Financing Scheme and Policy Instrument for RE and EE&C to step up collaborative partnerships involving greater private sector participation to accelerate deployment of innovative practices in energy sustainability.

Next Meeting

The Ministers agreed to meet again in Lao PDR in 2014 for the 11th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government and People of the Republic of Indonesia for the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the 10th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- i. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E. Dr. Ith Praing, Secretary of State, Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia;
- iii. Mr. Yang Kun, Chief Engineer, representing H.E. Wu Xinxiong, Administrator of National Energy Administration of the People's Republic of China
- iv. H.E. Jero Wacik, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of the Republic of Indonesia;

- v. H.E. Kazuyoshi Akaba, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan;
 - vi. H.E. Viraphonh Viravong, Vice Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao People's Democratic Republic;
 - vii. H.E. Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Maximus Johnity Ongkili, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia;
 - viii. H.E. U Zay Yar Aung, Union Minister for Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
 - ix. H.E. Carlos Jericho L. Petilla, Secretary, Department of Energy, the Republic of the Philippines;
 - x. H.E. Han Jin Hyun, Vice Minister for Trade and Energy of Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) of the Republic of Korea;
 - xi. H.E. S. Iswaran, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Home Affairs and Trade & Industry of the Republic of Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. Pol. Gen. Lt. Dr. Wichianchot Sukchotrat, Vice Minister for Energy of the Kingdom of Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Le Duong Quang, Vice Minister of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. H.E. Dr. AKP. Mochtan, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN.
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Joint Ministerial Statement of the 11th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting

Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, 23 September 2014

Introduction

1. The 11th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM+3) was held in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) on 23 September 2014. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR and co-chaired by H.E. Guan Huabing, China's Ambassador to Lao PDR, H.E. Daishiro Yamagiwa, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan; and H.E. Deputy Minister, Chung Yang Ho, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea. The Meeting was attended by the Ministers of Energy of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

2. The Ministers urged Japan to continue sharing with the international community its accumulated knowledge and strategic energy plan, including those on the safe and secure use of nuclear energy as well as on its related environmental impact. Amidst developments, such as, the volatile geopolitical situation in the Middle East and its implications on energy security, and taking into account the rising energy demand, the Ministers raised concern over energy sustainability in the region. The Ministers decided to strengthen their commitment to the ASEAN+3 energy cooperation towards achieving energy security, economic growth and environmental protection (3Es) at the same time and promoting international cooperation.

3. Enhancing improved linkages in energy cooperation, the Ministers confirmed that realizing ASEAN connectivity would bring the region closer to its goal of achieving greater energy security. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the progress made by the Senior Officials Meeting on Energy +3 (SOME+3). They noted that capacity building, information sharing and exchange amongst the countries are key elements of deepening cooperation and promoting sustainable development and low-carbon growth economies.

Energy Security

4. The Ministers welcomed the steady progress of stakeholder cooperation on study, best practices sharing and policy works relating to energy security for the region, among others; on oil, coal, and civilian nuclear energy. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for leading the Energy Security Forum in ASEAN+3 energy cooperation, and to China and Korea for supporting the energy security cooperation. The Ministers emphasized the importance of the Energy Security Forum in ASEAN+3 energy cooperation to serve as a platform to strengthen energy security and sustainable development within the region. The Ministers noted the 11th ASEAN+3 Energy Security Forum was held on 26 February 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

5. Commending the continuous conduct of ASEAN+3 Study on Oil Product Information and ASEAN+3 Oil Price Database as the references in helping identify policy options to ensure energy security, the Ministers encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to continue their valued contributions to the collection and submission of oil product quality information, oil price and energy data under the auspices of the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) to bolster the robustness of the reports.

6. On oil stockpiling, the Ministers appreciated the efforts of Oil Stockpiling Road Map (OSRM) Secretariat: ACE and Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC), for organizing the 2nd Workshop of OSRM for ASEAN+3 held on 25 February 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia and also appreciated the excellent hospitality and hosting arrangement provided by the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Cambodia with support from IEEJ. As the way forward, the Ministers welcomed the follow-up activities for 2014-2015, namely: (a) Continue to organise the Workshop of OSRM based on the Result of Country Needs by taking into consideration the specific needs of the various countries; (b) Conduct a detailed assessment of the oil stockpiling situation in ASEAN Member States (AMS), by conducting one day meeting/discussion with respective officials in each country for on-site data discussion; (c) Develop guidelines for the Development of Oil Stockpiling at National Level through a joint study; and (d) Conduct joint study with ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) on Impact of OSRM on ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA). On the progress, the Ministers noted that OSRM Secretariat has conducted the OSRM on-site data collection and discussion in Cambodia, Lao PDR and the Philippines, and requested OSRM Secretariat to continue the same activity with the other ASEAN+3 Member Countries.

7. Recognizing that coal is a major fuel source for the region, the Ministers reiterated their collective call to step up efforts to develop cooperation programs, promote policies on clean coal technologies (CCT), such as high efficiency coal-fired power generation, the upgrading of low rank coal technologies, carbon capture and storage (CCS), cokes making, coal gasification, coal liquefaction and develop the industry in the region. The Ministers expressed that tangible engagement by the +3 countries will contribute to future activities of the ASEAN Forum on Coal (AFOC) in order to foster closer cooperation and promote positive collaboration on clean coal utilization. Concerning the limitation of the public financial support for new coal-fired power plants (CFPP), the Ministers expressed their collective voice to continue technology transfer and public financial support by developed countries and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) in order to develop and deploy highly efficient CFPP which can significantly address both the increase of electricity demand and reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the region.

8. The Ministers also appreciated the efforts in the publication of ASEAN CCS Strategic Considerations by AFOC, ACE, Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute (GCCSI) and ASEAN CCT Handbook for Power Plant by AFOC, ACE and Japan Coal Energy Center (JCOAL). The Ministers welcomed the initiative of China to launch the “Conference on China-ASEAN Clean Coal Conversion Technology” at Ordos city of Inner Mongolia, and to organise the ASEAN representatives to visit the demonstration plants of coal to liquids (CTL), coal to olefins (CTO), synthetic natural gas (SNG) and methanol to gasoline (MTG) and so forth.

9. The Ministers commended the completion of Korea’s Second Phase 2012-2014 ASEAN+3 HRD Program for Civilian Nuclear Energy (CNE) for ASEAN Countries jointly implemented by Korea Nuclear Association for International Cooperation (KNA) and ACE that successfully trained 49 participants for Senior Policy Makers Course and 63 participants for Working Level Course and Japan’s Capacity Building Support Activities on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Nuclear Security with the use of the expertise of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA)’s Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN) in 2011- 2014. In line with the priority needs of ASEAN on Nuclear Cooperation, the Ministers welcomed the plan to organise the 2nd ACE-JAEA Seminar with focus on Nuclear Security Culture, US–ASEAN Workshop on Civil Nuclear Power in Developing a Safe and Secure Nuclear Power Program: The Essential Elements; and China-ACE Capacity Building on Experience Sharing for New Nuclear Power Builds for ASEAN. The Ministers also noted the activities on Human Resource Development on international nuclear development by Japan Atomic Industrial Forum (JAIF) International Cooperation Center.

Oil Market and Natural Gas

10. Oil price is expected to stay in a relatively high range caused by supply fundamentals that are not enough to support the current demand level and geopolitical situations. Thus, the Ministers encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to continue sharing and exchanging information on counter measures in response to oil prices volatility in the global market.

11. Recognizing the latest world and the ASEAN+3 oil and natural gas market situation and economic impact and constraints of shale gas revolution, the Ministers encouraged the continuation of study and information sharing on best practices and experiences and latest technologies on oil and gas exploration and production from the +3 countries as well as from advanced countries, namely; the United States and Canada. Given that the ASEAN+3 countries will see strong growth in natural gas demand, the Ministers affirmed the importance of competitive natural gas prices and further promotion of flexible gas markets including relaxation of destination clauses. The Ministers also encouraged enhancing cooperation in the natural gas sector, in particular LNG and unconventional gas, by increasing and encouraging the private sector participation to be facilitated by ASCOPE.

12. The Ministers noted the 3rd Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and the 3rd ASEAN+3 Oil Market and Natural Gas Business Dialogue was held on 26-27 March 2014 in Manila, the Philippines. The Ministers welcomed the initiative of the Forum and Business Dialogue to develop a report on Oil and Gas Market at the national level, to compile Unconventional Gas Situation in ASEAN+3 and to continue information sharing on best practices and experiences and latest technologies on oil and gas exploration and production from +3 countries as well as from advanced countries, among others. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Philippines for leading the Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and Business Dialogue.

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation

13. The Ministers noted the good progress in achieving ASEAN's aspirational goals of reducing regional energy intensity by at least 8% by 2015 based on the 2005 level, and the 15% target for the share of renewable energy in the total installed power capacity by 2015. The Ministers acknowledged the great potentials of renewable energy for energy security especially hydropower resources which will continue to remain a cost effective solution in this region for quite a long time. The Ministers acknowledged the progress of the ASEAN+3 Mitigation Cooperation Program and welcomed its capacity building activities for 2014-2015. The Ministers thanked Korea for leading the New and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Forum.

14. The Ministers noted the progress of the ASEAN-Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership Programme (AJEEP) including ECAP (Energy Conservation Workshop under AJEEP) program, and Energy Efficiency Market Transformation with Information Provision Scheme (EMTIPS) coordinated by The Energy Conservation Center, Japan (ECCJ) and ACE and further noted the importance of continuous implementation of these programs for sustainable energy development in the region.

15. The Ministers recognised the importance to foster innovative solutions and they encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to initiate information sharing/capacity building and site visit in Smart Grid/Smart Community projects, Potential Energy Service Company (ESCO), RE Assessment, Rural Electrification Business Model, Green Buildings, Waste-to-Energy, Smart Grid Technologies. The Ministers welcomed the proposal of Japan to organise Roundtable Discussion on smart grids to be held tentatively in 2014/2015.

16. The Ministers welcomed the Republic of Korea's new offer for "Cooperation Program on Integration of Renewable Energy and Energy Storage System (RE+ESS)" to promote efficient use of and stable supply of energy using renewable resources through developing and applying ESS technologies. The Ministers also noted that ACE has been tasked to review the proposal for further action.

17. The Ministers encouraged China to implement her proposed initiative on New Energy Sustainable Development Initiative, consisting of four (4) proposals, namely: i) China-ASEAN Nuclear Power Capacity Building Program; ii) Seminar on ASEAN Emergency Response in Case of Power Failure; iii) ASEAN Region Electricity Grid Inter-connection Study; and iv) China-ASEAN Clean Coal Conversion Technology Exchange and Promotion. The Ministers welcomed the China's activity on EAS Clean Energy Forum, which encourages cooperation on policy and technology exchange, sharing of best practices on nuclear power, solar, biomass, clean coal and smart energy township so as to promote the electricity for all and realize the equalization of energy for basic public service.

Next Meeting

18. The Ministers agreed to meet again in Malaysia in September 2015 for the 12th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

19. The delegation of ASEAN+3 Countries, the ASEAN Secretariat and the ACE expressed their appreciation to the Government and People of the Lao PDR for the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the 11th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

List of Ministers

- i. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam;
 - ii. H.E. Suy Sem, Minister of Mines and Energy of Cambodia;
 - iii. H.E. Guan Huabing, China's Ambassador to Lao PDR;
 - iv. H.E. Susilo Siswoutomo, Vice Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia;
 - v. H.E. Daishiro Yamagiwa, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan;
 - vi. H.E. Chung Yang Ho, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea;
 - vii. H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR;
 - viii. H.E. Dato' Seri DiRaja Mahdzir Bin Khalid, Deputy Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia;
 - ix. H.E. U Aung Htoo, Deputy Minister of the Ministry for Energy of Myanmar;
 - x. H.E. Loreta G. Ayson, Undersecretary, Department of Energy of the Philippines;
 - xi. Mr. Chee Hong Tat, Chief Executive of Energy Market Authority of Singapore, representing H.E. S. Iswaran, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Home Affairs and Trade and Industry of Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee, Minister for Energy of Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Dr. Cao Quoc Hung, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. H.E. Dr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Economic Community.
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Joint Ministerial Statement of the 12th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 8 October 2015

Introduction

1. The 12th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM+3) was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 8 October 2015. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Maximus Johnny Ongkili, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water (MEGTW) of Malaysia and co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Zhang Yuqing, Deputy Administrator of National Energy Administration (NEA) of China, Mr. Hirohide Hirai, Director-General for International Energy and Technology Cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, representing H.E. Motoo Hayashi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan; and H.E. Mr. Chung Yang Ho, Deputy Minister for Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) of the Republic of Korea. The Meeting was also attended by the Ministers of Energy of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

2. The Ministers affirmed the need to achieve energy security with economic efficiency and environmental sustainability. The Ministers recognised the importance of developing high quality energy infrastructure, bearing in mind the lifecycle costs, environmental impacts and safety aspects of projects. The Ministers affirmed the importance of ASEAN+3 cooperation towards energy sustainability in the region.

3. The Ministers noted the endorsement of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2016-2025 at the 33rd AMEM and acknowledged that enhancing energy connectivity and market integration would contribute towards achieving energy security, accessibility and sustainability for the region. In this regard, the Ministers underlined their commitment to support ASEAN in its implementation of the APAEC through various activities, such as capacity building, knowledge sharing and information exchange amongst countries.

Energy Security

4. The Ministers welcomed the steady progress of cooperation and collaboration in sharing best practices and policy development relating to energy security for the

region, on oil, coal, liquefied natural gas (LNG) and civilian nuclear energy, amongst others. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for leading the Energy Security Forum in ASEAN+3 energy cooperation, and to China and Korea for supporting the cooperation. The Ministers noted the 12th ASEAN+3 Energy Security Forum held on 19 May 2015 in Jakarta, Indonesia and emphasised the importance of the energy security forum in ASEAN+3 energy cooperation as a platform to strengthen energy security and sustainable development within the region.

5. The Ministers encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to continue to share information which are helpful references in identifying and developing policy options to ensure energy sustainability in the region.

6. On oil stockpiling, the Ministers appreciated the efforts of Oil Stockpiling Road Map (OSRM) Secretariat: ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC), for organising the 3rd Workshop of OSRM for ASEAN+3 held on 18 May 2015 in Jakarta, Indonesia which was hosted by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (MEMR) of Indonesia with support from the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ). The Ministers also appreciated Japan for organising the Energy Security on Oil Capacity Building Programme for Director General Level held on 15-19 June 2015 in Tokyo, Japan, in which the participants exchanged information and discussed current issues and the directions of future cooperation, amongst others, on Japan's petroleum policies and emergency response measures.

7. As the way forward, the Ministers welcomed the follow-up activities for 2015-2016, namely: (a) to continue to organise the Workshop of OSRM based on the Result of Country Needs by taking into consideration the specific needs of the various countries; (b) to conduct a detailed assessment of the oil stockpiling situation in ASEAN Member States (AMS) through meeting/discussion with respective officials in each country for on-site data; (c) to develop guidelines for the development of oil stockpiling at national level through a joint study; (d) to conduct joint study with ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) on impact of OSRM on ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA); and (e) to implement the Energy Security on Oil Capacity Building Programme for ASEAN for Director Level. The Ministers noted the conduct of on-site data collection and discussion in the AMS, and looked forward to the progress report at the next Meeting.

8. Recognising that coal continues to be a major fuel source in the region, the Ministers reiterated their collective call to step up efforts to develop partnership programmes, continue public financial support for new coal-fired power plants, promote policies for clean coal technologies (CCT) including high efficiency coal-

fired power generation, which will contribute to energy security and the reduction of GHG emissions, the upgrading of low rank coal technologies, and coal gasification/liquefaction, and develop of the industry in the region. The Ministers expressed that tangible engagement by the +3 countries will contribute to future activities of the ASEAN Forum on Coal (AFOC) in order to support and promote positive collaboration on CCT and enhance public perception on it. In this regard, the Ministers reiterated their collective call to the +3 countries to deepen cooperation with ASEAN through knowledge transfer in clean coal and carbon mitigation technologies which can both significantly address both the increase in electricity demand and the need to reduce GHG emissions.

9. The Ministers supported the safe and efficient development of nuclear power in AMS. As a clean energy resource which functions as a base load power source, the Ministers recognised the importance of nuclear power in advancing energy security and sustainable economic growth as well as in developing diversified energy strategies, addressing the increase of electricity demand and reducing GHG emissions. The Ministers encouraged ASEAN+3 to exchange their experience and best practices, to pursue practical cooperation including in improving nuclear safety performance and coordinating emergency response and preparedness mechanisms, and to help AMS to develop nuclear power, under the precondition of commitment to safety, security and nonproliferation.

10. The Ministers expressed appreciation to China for organising the 1st ASEAN-China Capacity Building on Civilian Nuclear Energy held on 1-7 June 2015 in Shenzhen, China and noted the agreement signed between the ACE and China General Nuclear Power Corporation (CGN) to implement the activities under the AMEM+3/SOME+3 Work Programme in the area of capacity building on nuclear energy. The Ministers welcomed the continuous capacity building activities on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear security tapping on the expertise of Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA)'s Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN). The Ministers noted the successful convening of the ACE-JAEA Seminar on Nuclear Security Culture held on 16-17 March 2015 in Dalat, Vietnam. The Ministers welcomed continuous cooperation for capacity building between ACE and JAEA in the region.

Oil Market and Natural Gas

11. Recognising the current global and the ASEAN+3 oil and natural gas markets, the Ministers encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to continue sharing and exchanging information on policy updates, best practices, experiences, technologies on oil and gas exploration and production, human resource development, and challenges and opportunities. The Ministers emphasised the necessity for continued investment in oil

and gas development and production for stable and competitively priced supply in future. Given the increasing gas demand and changing gas flow in the region, the Ministers noted the importance of enhancing gas security and promoting flexible LNG markets.

12. The Ministers expressed appreciation to Thailand for organising the 4th Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and the 4th ASEAN+3 Oil Market and Natural Gas Business Dialogue on 5-6 February 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Ministers welcomed the recommendation of the Forum and Business Dialogue to further study the benefits of relaxation of destination clauses in LNG transaction and gas market reform and competitiveness.

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation

13. The Ministers acknowledged the potential of renewable energy, especially hydropower generation which will continue to remain a cost effective supply of electricity in the region in the long-term, in addressing energy security and environmental sustainability. The Ministers acknowledged the progress of the ASEAN+3 Mitigation Cooperation Programme, such as capacity building on energy efficiency standards and labeling (EE S&L), policy consultation to develop an action plan for EE S&L, participation of Member States in the Energy Korea 2014 - International Energy Forum, and 2015 Mitigation Capacity Building. The Ministers welcomed the ASEAN+3 Mitigation Cooperation Work Programme 2015-2016 and looked forward to a progress update at the next Meeting. The Ministers thanked the Republic of Korea for leading the New and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Forum.

14. The Ministers also noted the progress of the ASEAN-Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership Programme (AJEEP), including ECAP (Energy Conservation Workshop under AJEEP) and Energy Efficiency Market Transformation with Information Provision Scheme (EMTIPS) coordinated by Energy Conservation Center, Japan (ECCJ) and ACE. The Ministers further affirmed the importance of continued implementation of these programmes for sustainable energy development in the region.

15. The Ministers expressed appreciation to Japan for organising the Roundtable Discussion on Smart Grids and Smart Community on 10-11 March 2015 in Tokyo, Japan. The Ministers noted the key points in promoting the smart community and grid, amongst others, identification of costs and benefits, necessity of making government-led model projects that are commercially viable and sustainable, development of clear policy, roadmap and national strategy by governments, and necessity to balance conventional power generation and smart grids with renewables to ensure stable electricity systems.

16. The Ministers recognised the importance of fostering innovative solutions and encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to continue and initiate information sharing, capacity building and site visits to smart grid/community projects, policy/economic analysis and modeling on renewable energy (RE), business model for energy service companies (ESCO), and waste-to-energy systems.

New Initiatives

17. The Ministers encouraged the Republic of Korea to continue the implementation of the Renewable Energy and Energy Storage System (RE+ESS) initiative to promote the efficient use and stable supply of energy using renewable resources through developing and deployment of ESS technologies. The Ministers also welcomed the new proposal of Korea on “Improvement of Energy Safety Management System”, and looked forward to the progress report at the next Meeting.

18. The Ministers encouraged China to continue to implement the proposed New Energy Sustainable Development Initiative, consisting of: i) China-ASEAN Nuclear Power Capacity Building Programme; ii) Seminar on ASEAN Emergency Response in Case of Power Failure; iii) ASEAN Region Electricity Grid Inter-connection Study; and iv) China-ASEAN Clean Coal Conversion Technology Exchange and Promotion.

Next Meeting

19. The Ministers consented to meet again in Myanmar tentatively in the 3rd week of September 2016 for the 13th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

20. The delegation of ASEAN+3 Countries, the ASEAN Secretariat and the ACE expressed their appreciation to the Government and People of Malaysia for the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the 12th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

List Of Ministers

- i. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister’s Office of Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E. Dr. Ith Praing, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Cambodia;
- iii. H.E. Mr. Zhang Yuqing, Deputy Administrator of National Energy Administration of China;
- iv. Mr. Jarman, Jr., MSc., Director General of Electricity, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia, representing H.E. Mr. Sudirman Said, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia;

- v. Mr. Hirohide Hirai, Director-General for International Energy and Technology Cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, representing H.E. Motoo Hayashi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan;
 - vi. H.E. Mr. Chung Yang Ho, Deputy Minister for Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea;
 - vii. Hon. Dr. Khammany Inthirath, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR;
 - viii. H.E. Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Maximus Johnity Ongkili, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia;
 - ix. H.E. U Zay Yar Aung, Union Minister for Energy of Myanmar;
 - x. H.E. Mdm. Zenaida Y. Monsada, Officer-in-Charge, Secretary of Department of Energy of the Philippines;
 - xi. H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry) of Singapore;
 - xii. H.E. General Anantaporn Kanjanarat, Minister of Energy of Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Mr. Hoang Quoc Vuong, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.
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Joint Statement of the 4th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (4th AMMSWD+3)

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 7 September 2013

1. We, the Ministers/Head of Delegations responsible for social welfare and development of ASEAN Member States, People's Republic of China, Japan, and Republic of Korea convened the Fourth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (4th AMMSW D+3) which carried the theme "Social Development for All" on 7 September 2013 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

Social Development for All

2. We recognised the importance of promoting accessibility and quality of social protection schemes that are responsive to the needs of vulnerable groups including the poor and low income households, single parents, children, older people, persons with disabilities, and victims of disasters. We shared information on the achievements made and challenges encountered by the ASEAN Plus Three Countries in implementing national legislations, policies, and programmes to promote social development for all, including one-stop services, women's economic empowerment, maternal health and early childhood care, education, assistance and livelihood programme for the poor, social welfare and services, social safety net, social insurance, pension, care for the elderly, and labour market intervention to promote employability.

3. We acknowledged the importance of community-based approach and the need to move away from charity-based approach in ensuring effectiveness and sustainability of social protection in addressing their vulnerabilities. We encouraged greater awareness and involvement of family, community, private sector, and other stakeholders in the realisation of social development for all. We agreed to strengthen the ASEAN Plus Three collaboration in social welfare and development through projects and activities that provide opportunities to learn from each other's achievements, good practices, and lessons learned.

ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on Social Welfare and Development

4. We noted the deliberations of the Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (8th SOM SWD+3) held on 5 September 2013 including the planned projects and activities initiated by ASEAN Member States for the involvement and support of the Plus Three countries.

5. We commended the efforts of the People's Republic of China in implementing social welfare and development policies and programmes for vulnerable groups in the country. We recognised China's efforts to promote social welfare policies, from providing residual social services to building up a moderate benefit-all society. We appreciated China's initiatives on the strengthening of its substantial cooperation with the ASEAN Plus Three Countries through its support to the comparative studies on social welfare policies among the ASEAN Plus Three Countries and plan to convene a High Level Forum on Social Services for the Elderly in 2014.

6. We acknowledged the importance of long-term care systems in preparation for ageing society. We appreciated the continuing commitment of Japan to convene the annual ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies as an effective venue for information sharing, capacity enhancement, and building partnerships amongst the social welfare, health and labour sectors. We noted the recommendations for effective natural disaster response and management for vulnerable groups of the 10th Meeting held on 23-25 October 2012 in Tokyo. We welcomed the plan to convene the 11th Meeting with the theme "Active Ageing" on 3-5 December 2013 in Tokyo. We also noted the joint projects of Japan and Thailand on "the Development of a Community-Based Integrated Health Care and Welfare Services Model for Thai Older Persons" and "Long-term Care Service Development for the Frail Elderly and Other Vulnerable People" as the issue of ageing is shared by most ASEAN Member States in the coming decades.

7. We acknowledged the initiative of the Republic of Korea to achieve welfare for all citizens especially in promoting community-based services for older people to ensure that they are adequately cared for. We appreciated the initiative of the Republic of Korea through the Project entitled "Community-Based Services for Older Persons" led by HelpAge Korea which provides an opportunity to share good practices and lessons learnt in addressing the concerns of ageing societies through the participation of family and community in the response.

8. We recognised the valuable and continuing support of the Plus Three Countries in the joint efforts to strengthen services for vulnerable groups towards promoting a caring society. We reiterated the continued interest of ASEAN Member States to

dialogue and engage with the Plus Three Countries, and to explore new initiatives in support of the realisation of the ASEAN Community building by 2015.

Fifth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development

9. We expressed appreciation to Indonesia for its readiness to host the Fifth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development in 2016.

10. We were most thankful to the Royal Government of Cambodia for its warm and generous hospitality accorded to us and our respective delegation, and the excellent arrangements for the Meeting. We also expressed our sincere appreciation to the ASEAN Secretariat for its support to the Meeting.

List of Ministers or their representatives attending the Fourth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development

- i. The Honourable Penin Dato Haji Hazair Abdullah
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports
Brunei Darussalam
- ii. H.E. Dr. Ith Samheng
Minister of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation
Cambodia
- iii. H.E. Li Liguo
Minister of Civil Affairs
People's Republic of China
- iv. H.E. DR. Salim Segaf Al-Jufri M.A.
Minister of Social Affairs
Indonesia
- v. H.E. Keigo Masuya
Senior Vice-Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare
Japan
- vi. H.E. Park Yong Hyun
Assistant Minister of Office for Social Welfare Policy of Ministry of Health and Welfare Republic of Korea
- vii. H.E. Onechanh Thammavong
Minister of Labor and Social Welfare
Lao PDR

- viii. H.E. Datuk Rohani Abdul Karim
Minister of Women, Family and Community Development
Malaysia
 - ix. H.E. Dr. Myat Myat Ohn Khin
Union Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
Myanmar
 - x. H.E. Corazon Juliano-Soliman
Secretary/Minister Department of Social Welfare and Development
The Philippines
 - xi. H.E. Chan Chun Sing
Minister for Social and Family Development
Singapore
 - xii. Mr. Vichien Chavalit
Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
Thailand
 - xiii. H.E. Pham THI Hai Chuyen
Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
Viet Nam
 - xiv. H.E. Le Luong Minh
Secretary-General of ASEAN
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Joint Ministerial Statement of the 4th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 23 May 2013

1. The Fourth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth (4th AMMY+3) was held in Brunei Darussalam on 23 May 2013. The Meeting was held in conjunction with the Eighth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY VIII) and was preceded by ASEAN Plus Three Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting on Youth on 21 May 2013.
2. The Ministers met to exchange views on youth cooperation between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries, and to explore further possibilities to strengthen cooperation among youth in the East Asian region.
3. The Meeting was officiated and chaired by H.E. Pehin Dato Hazair Abdullah, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports of Brunei Darussalam. In his opening address, he welcomed all Ministers and their delegations to the meeting and to Brunei Darussalam. He noted the recent development in youth affairs in the region and reiterated the important role of the youth in ASEAN cooperation towards the achievement of an ASEAN Community by 2015.
4. The meeting was co-chaired by Japan.
5. The Ministers noted the relevant decisions of 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit, and other ASEAN meetings with China, Japan and Republic of Korea since their last meeting in 2011.
6. The Ministers noted the steady progress of youth cooperation activities in the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan 2007-2017.
7. The Ministers recognised the active roles that youth have been playing to mark the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in 2012. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the “APT Youth Leaders’ Symposium” held on 18-19 October 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and the preparation of “The ASEAN+3 Eco-Tourism Event for Youth”.
8. The ASEAN Ministers highlighted the need to continue engagement with youth at all levels in building ASEAN today, and empower them to being our tomorrow’s leaders. In this connection, the ASEAN Ministers exchanged views on the future priority areas of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation on youth, and stressed on the importance of fostering long-term and mutually beneficial youth relationships through

effective and practical youth cooperation activities in line with the guidance given by the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders.

9. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Plus Three countries for their excellent support and friendship in organising youth programmes, including 2012 China-ASEAN Youth Camp, China-ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Exchange Programme, ASEAN Youth Leaders Training Programme by China, and GMS Youth Friendship Programme by China and Thailand; the Ship for Southeast Asian Youth Program (SSEAYP), which celebrate its 40th commemorative year along with the 40th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation, Kizuna (Bond) Project, and Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) Program by Japan, and a series of activities of the ASEAN-Korea Future-Oriented Youth Exchange Programme by Korea in 2012.

10. The Meeting noted that a new phase of ASEAN-China Youth Camp and ASEAN Youth Leaders Training Programme will be implemented by China; the second instalment of the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS 2.0) by Japan; and the 4th ASEAN-Korea Frontier Forum (AKFF) by ROK in 2013. The Ministers were of view that these will help to further strengthen cooperation among youth between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries, and promote our relations to a higher and more strategic level.

11. The Ministers of China, Japan and Korea noted the desire and commitment of ASEAN towards youth development and promoting their roles to build ASEAN of tomorrow, and agreed that the youth are not only key stakeholders in the future of ASEAN but also in a larger East Asia context.

12. The Ministers from China, Japan and Korea acknowledged new initiatives of ASEAN, including the ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme (AYVP), ASEAN Young Professional Volunteer initiatives, and the ASEAN Youth Programme Fund. They shared views in realizing these initiatives through which it will promote greater awareness of ASEAN youth, and engage ASEAN youth on different platforms in promoting social dialogues and people-to-people exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.

13. The Ministers looked forward to engaging more youth cooperation in efforts to building peace, stability and a brighter future for younger generations in East Asia.

14. The 5th AMMY+3 meeting is scheduled to be held in 2015 in Cambodia.

15. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Brunei Darussalam for its hospitality as the host of 4th AMMY+3.

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Meeting on Youth

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 4 June 2015

1. The Fifth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth (5th AMMY+3) was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 4 June 2015. The Meeting was held in conjunction with the Ninth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY IX) and was preceded by the Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting for the 5th AMMY+3 on 3 June 2015.

2. The Meeting was officially opened and co-chaired by His Excellency Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport of Kingdom of Cambodia and (H.E) Assistant Minister Aelee Shon of Gender Equality and Family of the Republic of Korea. H.E. Dr. Hang Chuon Naron welcomed all Ministers and their delegations to the meeting and to Cambodia, where he also expressed his appreciation for the initiatives and activities carried out under Brunei Darussalam's chairmanship, which further strengthened regional partnership in youth affairs and development in the region towards the ASEAN Community 2015.

3. The Ministers noted the relevant decisions of other ASEAN Meetings since they last met in 2013 and exchanged views on the future priority areas of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation on youth in line with the directives given by the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders. In this connection, the Ministers stressed on the importance of fostering long-term and mutually beneficial youth exchanges through effective and practical youth cooperation activities.

4. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Plus Three countries for their continuous support and friendship in organising youth exchange programmes. The Ministers noted that China continues to organise the China-ASEAN Youth Camp, GMS Youth Friendship Program and the ASEAN Young Leaders Training Program, to further promote the mutual trust and understanding between the Chinese and ASEAN young people, and contribute to the regional economic development and social cooperation. China will continue to send young volunteers to ASEAN countries according to their practical necessity, engaging in the field of the local economy, education, sports development, language teaching, healthcare, etc. The Ministers also took note that China has been actively preparing and proceeding with the

establishment of China-ASEAN Youth Exchange and Activity Center, with the aim of providing a permanent headquarter with better facilities and environment for the China-ASEAN youth exchanges and activities.

5. The Ministers noted that Japan has implemented the Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program (SSEAYP) with the support of ASEAN Member States since 1974 to promote friendship and mutual understanding between youth in Japan and ASEAN. With the aim to strengthen “heart-to-heart” understanding, “JENESYS 2.0” (Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths) was successfully implemented in various themes from 2013 to 2015 under Japan’s initiative. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed the subsequent project “JENESYS2015”, which aims at promoting mutual trust and understanding among the youths of Japan and participating countries to build basis for future friendship and cooperation.

6. The Ministers acknowledged that the Republic of Korea has promoted mutual understanding between Korea and ASEAN Member States by consistently implementing the Intergovernmental Youth Exchange Program, and various exchange programs through youth organizations and has supported interactions and cooperation between youth of ASEAN Member States and Plus Three countries by holding events including International Youth Forum and Youth Camp for Asia’s Future annually. The 16th ASEAN-Korea Future-Oriented Youth Exchange Project was held in January 2015 to promote cross-cultural understanding and trust between ASEAN and ROK youths, with the theme ‘ASEAN-Korea Youths, United as One through Sports Activities’. In addition, the 5th ASEAN-Korea Frontier Forum was held in November 2014 in Busan that provided the youth participants with a simulation forum and a model of ASEAN-ROK Summit, where they can voice out their opinion, debate responsibly and practice public speaking skills.

7. The Ministers commended SOMY+3 for strengthening mutual understanding between the youths in ASEAN Plus Three countries. They shared views in promoting social dialogues and people-to-people exchanges including exchanging views on youth policy and youth cooperation projects between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.

8. The Ministers looked forward to engaging more youth cooperation in efforts to building peace, stability and a brighter future for younger generations in East Asia.

9. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Kingdom of Cambodia for hosting the 5th AMMY+3 and looked forward to meet again in 2017 in Indonesia.

Joint Statement of the 7th ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting (7th ALMM+3)

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 11 May 2012

Introduction

1. The ASEAN Labour Ministers and their counterparts from People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (the Plus Three Countries) gathered in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 11 May 2012 to review the progress of the cooperation under frameworks of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and exchange views on issues relating to efforts improving social protection and skill development.

2. The Seventh ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Meeting (7th ALMM+3) was attended by the Ministers responsible for labour from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam, People's Republic of China, Japan, and Republic of Korea, and their respective delegations. The Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) and staff representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat were also in attendance. The list of the ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers is enclosed.

Exchange of Views on Improving Social Protection and Skills Development In the Region

3. The Ministers shared information and exchanged views on the achievements, experiences, and constraints in implementing social protection and developing skilled labour in their respective countries. The Ministers agreed that closer cooperation among ASEAN Plus Three Countries should be promoted towards coherent and inclusive social protection, skills development, and improved labour market information systems.

4. The Ministers noted that Myanmar is in the process of drafting of a new law for a comprehensive and inclusive social security system, including for retired and unemployed citizens, and an Employment and Skills Development Law. The Ministers congratulated Myanmar for its recently concluded by-elections held in April 2012, and encouraged Myanmar to continue with its labour reforms towards stability and development in the country.

Status of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in Labour

5. The Ministers were pleased to note the outcomes of the China-ASEAN HighLevel Seminar on Social Insurance which was successfully convened on 14-16 September 2011 in Chengdu City, China. The Ministers expressed appreciation to China for its commitment to continue such kind of activities of information sharing among ASEAN Member States and China, including the plan to convene the High Level Conference on Social Insurance Administration tentatively in October 2012 in China.

6. The Ministers expressed appreciation to Japan for its continued support to the on-going projects of ASEAN-ILO/Japan Programme on Industrial Relations, ASEAN-ILO/Japan Programme on Unemployment Insurance and Employment Services, ASEAN-Japan Collaboration on Occupational Safety and Health, ASEAN- Japan Fund for Building Social Safety Net, and ASEAN-Japan Collaboration Programme of Human Resources Development. The Ministers supported the plan to convene the 10th ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies in October 2012 in Tokyo, Japan.

7. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress of the ASEAN-Japan HRD Collaboration Programme for CLMV, including the Training Course on Measures for Skill Promotion on 25 July - 3 August 2011 both in Japan and the Philippines, which was followed by a series of national seminars in CLMV Countries in December 2011. The Ministers requested Japan to continue the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan HRD Collaboration Programme for CLMV.

8. The Ministers noted with appreciation the completion of numerous joint programmes supported by the Republic of Korea, including the 12th Human Resources Development Programme for Officials of ASEAN Countries in March 2011 in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, under the theme "International Migration Policies and Socio-Economic Development". The Ministers expressed their support to the plan of the Republic of Korea to share its skills development policies and experiences with ASEAN Member States in conjunction with the opening of the Global Skills Promotion Centre in the end of 2012.

Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting

9. The Ministers looked forward to further exchange of views on joint labour initiatives at the Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting in Myanmar in 2014.

Concluding Remarks

10. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Royal Government of Cambodia, particularly the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training, for the warm hospitality extended to the ASEAN delegates and excellent arrangement of the Meeting.

List of Ministers/Representatives attending the Seventh ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting, 11 May 2012, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

- i. H.E. Vong Sauth
Minister of Labour and Vocational Training, Cambodia
- ii. H.E. H. A. Muhaimin Iskandar
Minister of Manpower and Transmigration, Indonesia
- iii. H.E. Bounkhong Lasoukanh
Vice Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Lao PDR
- iv. H.E. Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam
Minister of Human Resources, Malaysia
- v. H.E. Aung Kyi
Minister of Labour, Myanmar
- vi. H.E. Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz
Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment, The Philippines
- vii. H.E. Tan Chuan-Jin
Minister of State for Manpower, Singapore
- viii. H.E. Phadermchai Sasomsub
Minister of Labour, Thailand
- ix. H.E. Pham Thi Hai Chuyen
Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, Viet Nam
- x. H.E. Hu Xiaoyi
Vice Minister of Human Resources and Social Security, China
- xi. H.E. Toshiaki Ota
Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan

- xii. H.E. Lee Chae Pil
Minister of employment and labor, Republic of Korea
 - xiii. H.E. Dato' Misran Karman
Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural
Community, The ASEAN Secretariat
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Joint Statement of the 8th ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting (8th ALMM+3)

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 23 May 2014

Introduction

1. The ASEAN Labour Ministers and their counterparts from People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (the Plus Three Countries) gathered on 23 May 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, to review the progress of the cooperation under frameworks of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and exchange views on strategies and initiatives to strengthen the cooperation particularly relating to the enhancement of competitive labour force for harmonious, progressive and prosperous workplace.

2. The Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Meeting (8th ALMM+3) was attended by the Ministers/representatives responsible for labour from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam, People's Republic of China, Japan, and Republic of Korea, and their respective delegations. The Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) and staff representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat were also in attendance. The list of the ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers is enclosed.

Exchange of Views on Enhancing Competitive Labour Force for Harmonious, Progressive and Prosperous Workplace

3. The Ministers shared information and exchanged views on the achievements, experiences, and challenges in enhancing the competitiveness of labour force for harmonious, progressive and prosperous workplace in their respective countries. The Ministers agreed that closer cooperation among ASEAN Plus Three Countries should be enhanced to promote quality vocational training and education, improve labour market information systems and national competency standards.

Status of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in Labour

4. The Ministers expressed appreciation and welcomed the initiatives of the People's Republic of China to convene the ASEAN-China High Level Seminar on

Social Insurance System focusing on pension insurance in September 2014, and the ASEAN-ILO/China Dissemination Seminar on improving Employment Services focusing on sharing of experiences on employment services among ASEAN Member States and China. The Ministers expressed appreciation to China to continue programme especially training development.

5. The Ministers expressed appreciation to Japan for its continued support to the on-going projects of the ASEAN-ILO/Japan Programme on Industrial Relations and ASEAN-ILO/Japan Project of Promoting and Building Income Security and Employment Services in ASEAN. The Ministers also expressed appreciation for the ASEAN-Japan Fund for Building Social Safety Net which has been utilised to support various projects and activities in ASEAN aimed at strengthening social protection that contribute to the implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection. The Ministers requested future cooperation with Japan in the areas of industrial relations, labour standards and unemployment insurance.

6. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress of the ASEAN-Japan HRD Collaboration Programme for CLMV, including the Training Course on Management of Vocational Training Institutions (Career Guidance and Training Support Services) on 10-19 September 2013 both in Japan and Malaysia, which was followed by a series of national seminars in CLMV Countries in December 2013 and January 2014. The Ministers requested Japan to continue the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan HRD Collaboration Programme for CLMV. The Ministers noted with appreciation the completion of numerous joint programmes supported by the Republic of Korea, including the 13th Human Resources

7. Development Programme for Officials of ASEAN Countries (13th HRDP) held on 10-21 February 2014, the ASEAN-ILO-Korea Fellowship Training on Employment Insurance (EI) for ASEAN Region: Learning from Korean Experience on Operating Unemployment Insurance Linked with Employment Services held on 7-12 October 2013, and the ASEAN-ILO-Korea Fellowship Training on Employment Injury Insurance (EII) for ASEAN countries: Learning from Korean experience on Linkage between Prevention, Compensation and Return to Work held on 14-20 October 2013 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The Ministers supported the plan to convene the follow-up ASEAN+3 HRD Forum on National Competency Standard and the ASEAN-ILO Korea Fellowship Trainings on Employment Insurance and Employment Injury Insurance, tentatively in October 2014 in Korea.

Ninth ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting

8. The Ministers looked forward to further exchanges of views on joint labour initiatives at the Ninth ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting in Lao PDR in 2016.

Concluding Remarks

9. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, particularly the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, for the warm hospitality extended to the ASEAN delegates and excellent arrangement of the Meeting.

List of Ministers/Representatives attending the Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting, 23 May 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Haji Halbi
Deputy-Minister of Home Affairs
Brunei Darussalam
- ii. H.E. Dr. Ith Samheng
Minister of Labour and Vocational Training
Cambodia
- iii. H.E. H. A. Muhaimin Iskandar
Minister of Manpower and Transmigration
Indonesia
- iv. H.E. Madame Baykham Khattiya
Vice-Minister of Labour and Social Welfare
Lao PDR
- v. Dato' Saripuddin Kasim
Secretary General
Malaysia
- vi. H.E. U Aye Myint
Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security
Myanmar
- vii. H.E. Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baloz
Secretary of Labor and Employment
The Philippines

- viii. Mr. Loh Khum Yean
Permanent Secretary for Manpower
Singapore
 - ix. M.L. Puntrik Smiti
Deputy Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Labour Thailand
 - x. H.E. Pham Thi Hai Chuyen
Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
Viet Nam
 - xi. H.E. Alicia dela Rosa-Bala
Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural
Community
The ASEAN Secretariat
 - xii. H.E. Yang Zhiming
Vice Minister of Human Resources and Social Security
China
 - xiii. H.E. Atsuko Muraki
Vice-Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare
Japan
 - xiv. H.E. Lee Baek Soon
Ambassador Republic of Korea
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Joint Media Statement of the 5th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts, ASEAN Plus Three and ASEAN Plus China

Singapore, 24 May 2012

1. The ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) and the AMCA Plus Three (AMCA+3) held their Fifth Meeting in Singapore on 24 May 2012. The Ministers also held the First AMCA Plus China (AMCA+China) meeting on the same day at the same venue.

2. The AMCA Meeting was attended by Pehin Dato Haji Hazair, Minister for Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam; Mr Him Chhem, Minister for Culture and Fine Arts, Cambodia; Ms Wiendu Nuryanti, Vice Minister for Culture (Ministry of Education and Culture), Indonesia; Bouangeun Xaphouvong, Vice Minister for Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR; Dr Rais Yatim, Minister for Information, Communications and Culture, Malaysia; Mrs Sanda Khin, Deputy Minister for Culture, Myanmar; Prof Felipe M. de Leon Jr., Chairman of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, the Philippines; Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts, Singapore; Mrs Sukumol Kunplome, Minister for Culture, Thailand; Mr Huynh Vinh Ai, Deputy Minister for Culture, Sports and Tourism, Vietnam; and Dato Misran Karmain, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community.

3. The AMCA+3 Meeting was attended by the above leaders and the Plus Three Leaders: Mr Cai Wu, Minister for Culture, PRC; Mr Masayuki Shibata, Director General, Commissioner's Secretariat, Japan and Mr Oh Joon, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Singapore.

4. The AMCA+China Meeting was attended by the above ASEAN leaders and Mr. Cai Wu, Minister for Culture, PRC.

5. The Meeting was officially opened by Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts, Singapore. In his opening address, he welcomed all Ministers and their delegations to the Meeting and to Singapore. He stressed the importance of the AMCA platform forging a strong regional identity

for ASEAN and noted the many projects that have been undertaken towards that goal. He also highlighted the progress that ASEAN had achieved in deepening cultural collaboration with its Dialogue Partners and outlined Singapore's plans as host of the ASEAN City of Culture.

6. In his speech, Dr Yaacob noted that at the 11th Conference of ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (AMRI), ASEAN Ministers had acknowledged the emergence of social media as an important tool for communications and interaction in ASEAN today. In addition, Dr Yaacob said that ASEAN could leverage more on social media platforms such as Facebook, to raise awareness of ASEAN and initiatives such as the ASEAN City of Culture.

7. During the plenary session, the Ministers reviewed the progress of cultural collaborations within ASEAN and outlined priorities for the next two years. The meeting reviewed the progress of the ASEAN Declaration on Unity in Cultural Diversity Towards Strengthening ASEAN Community, the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, all of which are important enablers towards building an ASEAN Community by 2015.

8. Supporting this, the Ministers agreed to enhance ASEAN cooperation in the areas of culture and arts focusing on human resources development, protection and promotion of ASEAN cultural heritage and development of small and medium-sized cultural enterprises, including creative industry projects.

9. The Ministers agreed that there is a need to focus on youth involvement in culture through the different platforms, be it through new and social media, cultural voluntarism, cultural entrepreneurship or people-to-people exchanges and connectivity programmes.

10. At the Fifth Meeting of AMCA+3, the Ministers noted the steady progress achieved in the AMCA+3 collaboration in cultural related areas. The meeting noted the constructive role that the AMCA+3 co-operation mechanism had played in facilitating closer cooperation in the areas of cultural heritage protection, cultural human resource development and the cultural industries, as well as facilitating discussions on policy sharing in the implementation of arts and culture policies. The Ministers also endorsed the draft Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in Culture.

11. At the First Meeting of AMCA+China, the Ministers reviewed the progress in cultural cooperation between ASEAN and China and agreed on the proposed priority areas and modalities articulated in the Concept Paper on ASEAN-China Cooperation on Culture and the Arts, which was based on the 2005 ASEAN-China Memorandum of

Understanding on Cultural Cooperation and the 2011 ASEAN+China Culture Ministers meeting in Chongqing. The meeting also agreed on the operational guidelines of the AMCA+China meetings including the objective, scope of activities and structure of the meeting.

12. The Ministers of ASEAN+3 countries would be making a call on Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at the Istana on 25 May.

13. The Fifth ASEAN Festival of the Arts, to be held in conjunction with the Fifth Meeting of AMCA, would be attended by Ministers of ASEAN and Plus Three Countries. The gala show, to be held at the National Museum Singapore on 25 May, will feature performers from the 10 ASEAN countries. Themed "Unity in Cultural Diversity", the gala show aims to promote the ASEAN common identity and celebrate cultural diversity within ASEAN.

14. Singapore, as the Chair of AMCA and host for the 5th AMCA meeting, was designated as the ASEAN City of Culture for 2012-2013, during the meeting. The ASEAN City of Culture concept was first discussed and adopted at the Third Meeting of AMCA on 12 January 2008 at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar and was launched in 2010 with Pampanga, Philippines, designated as the first ASEAN City of Culture. The ASEAN City of Culture initiative aims to strengthen the ASEAN identity and raise the profile of ASEAN in the region and internationally, celebrate ASEAN arts and culture and promote the growth of the region's creative industries, as well as promote People to People Engagement.

15. The next AMCA, AMCA+3 and AMCA+China Meetings are scheduled to be held in 2014 in Vietnam.

Joint Media Statement of the ASEAN-Dialogue Partners Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting

Hue City, Viet Nam, 20 April 2014

1. The ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) Meetings with Dialogue Partners, including the ASEAN Plus Three, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (AMCA+3) were held in Hue, Viet Nam on 19 - 20 April 2014. The Meetings were held in conjunction with the Sixth AMCA Meeting, and was preceded by the relevant senior officials meetings.
2. The Meetings were officiated and chaired by H.E. Hoang Tuan Anh, Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam.
3. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed the initiative of Japan and the Republic of Korea to convene the ASEAN Plus Japan, and ASEAN Plus ROK ministerial meetings on culture and the arts.
4. H.E. Cai Wu, Minister of Culture of China, co-chaired the ASEAN Plus China Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting.
5. H.E. Hakubun Shimomura, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, co-chaired the ASEAN Plus Three and ASEAN Plus Japan Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meetings.
6. H.E. Dr. Kim Sung-il, Assistant Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea, co-chaired the ASEAN Plus ROK Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting.
7. During the plenary sessions, the Ministers reviewed the progress of cultural collaborations between ASEAN and Dialogue Partners, and outlined priorities for the next two years.
8. The Ministers noted several new initiatives proposed by ASEAN aiming to promote culture and art cooperation and leverage them to reach wider group of peoples, especially young generations via cultural volunteerism, cultural entrepreneurship or people-to-people exchanges and connectivity programmes.

9. With regard to the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation mechanism, the Ministers noted the steady progress of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in Culture, outcomes of culture-related activities in the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan 2007-2017, and its reflection in a new ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan 2013-2017.

10. The Ministers reiterated the importance of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in the areas of culture and arts, especially on the sharing of the implementation of arts and culture policies, human resources development, cultural heritage and development of small and medium-sized cultural enterprises, including creative industry projects.

11. The ASEAN Ministers noted that the Plus Three countries established the East Asian Cultural Cities in 2014 to further promote cultural cooperation and support friendship among the Plus Three countries. The Ministers from the Plus Three countries proposed to foster long-term partnership between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries by advancing and expanding city-level cultural exchange.

12. At the Second Meeting of AMCA+China, the ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation to China for successfully organising a series of cooperation activities in the areas of human development for culture and arts, network of young artists, and creativity.

13. The Ministers adopted the Plan of Action on ASEAN-China Cooperation in Culture (2014 – 2018) to deepen cultural and art cooperation between two parties.

14. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to China for its readiness in preparation for several exhibitions, performances, touring, visits, trainings and lectures, art contests, forums, etc. to be implemented in the 2014 ASEAN-China Cultural Exchange Year.

15. At the Inaugural Meeting of AMCA+Japan, the Ministers recognise the role that culture has contributed for the success of the commemorative events for the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation in 2013.

16. Japan shared the information on the outcomes of cultural exchanges between the two sides thus far, and introduced Japan's new policy on cultural exchanges in Asia, announced in December 2013 under the name "WA Project - Toward Interactive Asia through "Fusion and Harmony" as well as concrete proposals in the area of culture exchange, developing human resources, copyright systems and student exchange. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed those proposals and looked forward to their contribution in the promotion of people-to-people connectivity, culture and arts between two parties.

17. The Inaugural AMCA+ROK Meeting recalled the outcomes of the 1st Korea-Southeast Asian Culture Ministers Meeting held in Gwangju on 6 September 2013. The ASEAN Ministers further reiterated that the establishment of the Asian Culture Complex, a project which is currently being carried out by the ROK, can serve as a platform to strengthen existing cooperation between the ROK and ASEAN in the area of arts and culture.

18. The Ministers agreed to further cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK to promote mutual understanding, collaboration on cultural resources conservation and utilisation, capacity building and training programmes, cultural and art exchanges, and joint culture and art creation and production.

19. Recognising the important role played by the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and ASEAN-ROK Centre in promoting, among others, tourism and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries, the Ministers tasked senior officials to work with the Centres to exchange ideas and identify the possible areas of cooperation.

20. The Ministers welcomed ROK's proposal to convene a Special ASEAN Plus Three and ASEAN Plus ROK Ministers Responsible for Culture and The Arts Meetings in Gwangju, ROK in 2015 for the special occasion of the Asian Culture Complex's inauguration.

21. The Ministers agreed to convene the next ministerial meetings in Brunei Darussalam in 2016.

22. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Viet Nam for the warm hospitality accorded to all delegations and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meetings./

List of Ministers

The Meetings were attended by:

- i. H.E. Pehin Dato Hazair Abdullah, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E. Phoeung Sackona, Minister of Culture and Fine Arts, Cambodia
- iii. H.E. Cai Wu, Minister of Culture, P.R. China
- iv. H.E. Wiendu Nuryanti, Vice Minister for Culture, Ministry of Education and Culture, Indonesia

- v. H.E. Hakubun Shimomura, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan
 - vi. H.E. Dr. Kim Sung-il, Assistant Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Republic of Korea.
 - vii. H.E. Bouangeun Xaphouvong, Vice Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR;
 - viii. H.E. Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri bin Tan Sri Abdul Aziz, Minister of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia;
 - ix. H.E. Aye Myint Kyu, Union Minister for Culture, Myanmar;
 - x. H.E. Prof. Felipe M. De Leon, Jr., Chairman of National Commission for Culture and the Arts, the Philippines;
 - xi. H.E. Wong Shyun Tsai Lawrence, Acting Minister of Culture, Community and Youth, Singapore
 - xii. Ms. Chansuda Rukspollmuang, Deputy Permanent Secretary for Culture, representing Minister of Culture, Thailand;
 - xiii. H.E. Hoang Tuan Anh, Minister of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Viet Nam; and
 - xiv. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
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Joint Media Statement of the 11th Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (11th AMRI) and Second Conference of ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Information (2nd AMRI+3)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1 March 2012

1. Malaysia hosted the Eleventh Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (11th AMRI) and the Second Conference of ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Information (2nd AMRI+3) in Kuala Lumpur, on 1st March 2012.
2. The conferences were preceded by the Senior Officials Meeting for the 11th AMRI on 28th February 2012 and the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting for the 2nd AMRI+3 on 29th February 2012.

Opening Ceremony

3. The Conference was officiated by the Honourable Tan Sri Dato' Haji Muhyiddin bin Haji Mohd Yassin, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia at the Royale Chulan Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. In his Opening Address, the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister emphasized the need to lay out a multi-platform framework, engaging both the main stream and the social media to facilitate the free flow of information to enlighten the ASEAN people. He urged this be given utmost priority so that the people of the ASEAN region are not left in the dark as to this important development and are empowered with the right kind of information. The Malaysian National Anthem 'Negaraku' and ASEAN Anthem 'The ASEAN Way' were played at the opening ceremony.
4. The Conference was chaired by His Excellency (HE) Dr. Rais Yatim, Minister of Information, Communications and Culture, Malaysia. The list of Ministers from all ASEAN Member States as well as Plus Three Countries is presented in Annex 1.

11th AMRI's Theme: "Media: Connecting Peoples and Bridging Cultures Towards One ASEAN Community"

5. The Chairman in his opening statement highlighted that ASEAN should leverage on the popularity of social media that would keep it current and relevant as

a disseminator of information. He expressed his view that the Information Ministers should re-look their engagement through new media and the social network, especially with the younger generation, otherwise they may not be able to play an effective role in promoting ASEAN awareness or building the ASEAN Community.

6. At the Conference, the Ministers agreed to adopt the theme “Media: Connecting Peoples and Bridging Cultures Towards One ASEAN Community”. The Ministers recognised that the theme was highly relevant as both the new and traditional media would continue to play a significant role in the dissemination of information to the peoples of ASEAN, subsequently connecting them beyond their borders and bridging the cultural gap.

ASEAN Digital Broadcasting

7. The ASEAN Ministers noted the progress in the implementation of digital broadcasting in ASEAN Member States towards Analogue Switch-Off from 2015 to 2020. The Ministers also endorsed the ‘Guidelines for ASEAN Digital Switch-Over’ which will serve as a shared blueprint to aid all Member States in their transition towards digital broadcasting. This guideline is based on the best practices of the various ASEAN Member States and referencing the “Guidelines for the transition from analogue to digital broadcasting” developed by the ITU.

8. In addition, the Ministers supported the ADB’s initiatives to embark on the joint production of a television series entitled, ‘Colours of ASEAN’ in High Definition (HD) to be completed by December 2013. The Ministers noted that ADB will seek funding from the ASEAN-COCI to support this project.

9. In the area of technical standards, the Ministers noted that ADB recognises that Digital Video Broadcasting – Terrestrial Second Generation (DVB-T2) is a more advanced technology compared to DVB-T and acknowledges the benefits of migrating directly to DVB-T2. The Ministers also noted that the ADB will be developing common specifications for DVB-T2 receivers to enjoy economies of scale.

10. The Ministers also took note of Japan’s input on the constantly evolving digital technology and that adoption of the standard may vary under different socio-economic situations.

New and Social Media

11. The Ministers recognised the emergence of new and social media as an important tool for communications and interaction in ASEAN today. The Ministers agreed that efforts should be made to leverage on social media to promote ASEAN awareness towards achieving an ASEAN Community by 2015.

12. To this end, the Ministers called for active discussion among ASEAN Member States to identify appropriate programmes and activities that would utilise social media positively to inculcate cultural values, understanding and solidarity among the peoples of ASEAN.

13. To reflect current realities of social media, the Ministers considered the proposal to consolidate the ASEAN Culture and Information Portal and the ASEAN Media Portal, incorporating new media elements. The Ministers concurred that both portals could be integrated and requested the ASEAN Secretariat to study and make recommendations on improvements to be made.

14. In addition, the Ministers considered the proposal to review the current format of the successful ASEAN Quiz programme. After a decade of implementation, the Ministers recognised that it is timely to have a more structured and standardised format both at national and regional levels as well as, a repository of quiz questions based on a complementary curriculum developed by the Education Sector. By including an online element, the proposal will provide easier access to ASEAN resources, with a view to enhancing knowledge and increasing awareness of ASEAN among the younger generation.

The role of AMRI in the ASEAN Community Building Efforts

15. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint, in particular the ongoing projects to increase ASEAN awareness such as the television and radio news exchanges (ASEAN TV News and ASEAN-In-Action) and the implementation of the ASEAN Quiz.

16. Appreciating the need to implement a comprehensive communications plan to meet the vision of One ASEAN Community by 2015, the Ministers directed a technical working group to study the immediate communications need and recommend an effective communications plan, using media channels that are available in Member States. It is envisioned that this plan will promote a clearer understanding on what One ASEAN Community means for the entire region and its peoples.

Development of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on Information

17. ASEAN Plus Three Ministers endorsed the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Through Information and Media 2012 – 2017, which listed out programmes ASEAN and the Plus Three countries could collaborate on. ASEAN Member States have agreed to take the lead in coordinating 17 concrete activities listed in the Work Plan. ASEAN Ministers appreciated the support provided by the Plus Three Countries towards the implementation of these projects.

Closing and Acknowledgment

18. The Ministers agreed to convene the 12th Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (12th AMRI) and its related meetings with Dialogue Partners in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in 2014.

19. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Malaysia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 11th AMRI Conference. The Conference was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality.

ANNEX I

- i. HE Dr. Rais Yatim, Minister of Information, Communications and Culture, Malaysia – Chairperson of 11th AMRI and 2nd AMRI+3
- ii. HE Pehin Datu Singamanteri Colonel (R) Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Awang Haji Mohammad Yasmin bin Haji Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office, Brunei Darussalam
- iii. HE Dr. Khieu Kanharith, Minister of Information, Kingdom of Cambodia
- iv. HE Mr. Freddy Herman Tulung, Director General of Information and Public Communication, Republic of Indonesia
- v. Mr. Savankhone Razmouny, Vice Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
- vi. HE Datuk Maglin Dennis D'Cruz, Deputy Minister of Information, Communications and Culture, Malaysia
- vii. HE Mr. Soe Win, Deputy Minister of Information, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
- viii. HE Mr. Herminio B. Coloma Jr., Secretary, Presidential Communications Operations Office, the Philippines
- ix. HE Ms. Grace Fu, Senior Minister of State for Information, Communications and the Arts & the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore
- x. HE Tongthong Chandransu, Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office, Thailand
- xi. HE Nguyen Thanh Hung, Vice Minister of Information, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
- xii. HE Mr. Wang Chen, Minister of State Council Information Office, People's Republic China

- xiii. HE Mr. Tetsuo Yamakawa, Vice Minister for Policy Coordination, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan
 - xiv. HE Mr. Kim Yong Hwan, Vice Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Republic of Korea
 - xv. HE Dato' Misran Karmain, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community
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Joint Media Statement of the 12th Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information and Third Conference of ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Information

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 12 June 2014

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar hosted the Twelfth Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (12th AMRI) and the Third Conference of ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Information (3rd AMRI+3) in Nay Pyi Taw, on 12 June 2014.

2. The Conferences were preceded by the Senior Officials Meeting for the 12th AMRI on 10 June 2014, and the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting for the 3rd AMRI+3 on 11 June 2014.

Opening Ceremony

3. The Conference was officiated by the Vice President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Dr. Sai Mauk Kham. In his Opening Address, the Honourable Vice President emphasised that as we are moving forward to set up a people-centred ASEAN Community and enhancing connectivity for an ASEAN Community, media cooperation plays an important role in linking our societies and encouraging civil society to participate in regional-community building. He referred to the outcomes of the 11th AMRI Meeting held in Malaysia in 2012 on the positive role that social media can contribute to enhance cultural values, understanding and solidarity amongst peoples of ASEAN. As such, he concluded that the theme for the 12th AMRI Meeting – “Social Responsible Media for a Peaceful and Prosperous Community” – is timely to further promote media development and cooperation in building the ASEAN Community.

4. The ASEAN Anthem ‘The ASEAN Way’ was played at the opening ceremony.

5. The Conference was chaired by His Excellency (HE) U Aung Kyi, Union Minister, Ministry of Information of Myanmar. The list of Ministers from all ASEAN Member States and the Plus Three Countries is presented in ANNEX 1.

6. The Chairman in his opening statement stated that the year 2014 is an important year for Myanmar as she is taking the rotating chair of ASEAN for the first time after joining ASEAN in 17 years. 2014 is also a key timeline towards marking the establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015. He further highlighted that Myanmar is taking all necessary steps to implement the responsibilities of ASEAN Chair in accordance with the theme for 2014 ASEAN Chair as “Moving Forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community”. In this regard, he stressed that the information and media sector shall be engaged and cooperated with the governments and other stakeholders to ensure sufficient information about ASEAN will reach our peoples, and to provide an opportunity to educating peoples about the benefits of ASEAN’s integration and ASEAN community building process.

Steady Progress of Information and Media Cooperation

7. Appreciating the need to implement a comprehensive communications plan to meet the vision of One ASEAN Community by 2015, the Ministers called for stronger coordination and effective communication among the different sectoral bodies in implementation of the ASCC Blueprint, optimizing opportunities for cross-sectoral cooperation to inform the public about the benefit of ASEAN’s integration and community building.

8. The Ministers noted a steady progress and outcomes of key projects aiming to increase ASEAN awareness and mutual understanding through the ASEAN information and media cooperation process, such as the television and radio news exchanges (ASEAN Television News and ASEAN-in-Action respectively), and the ASEAN Quiz (regional and national levels), etc.

9. The Ministers noted with satisfactions that several initiatives have been taken up to address the requirement of a growing population using social media, amongst those which include the new website for ASEAN’s culture and information which replaces the ASEAN Media Portal and the ASEAN Culture and Information Portal, social media and an ASEAN Virtual Learning Resources Centre (AVLRC). All of which will serve as resourceful platforms that enable online users seamless navigations on culture, history and place of interest in ASEAN.

10. With regard to digital broadcasting, the Ministers welcomed initiatives that were identified to benefit leapfrogging to Digital Video Broadcasting – Terrestrial Second Generation (DVB-T2), and noted regional efforts in the implementation of the ‘Guidelines for ASEAN Digital Switch-Over’ (2015 – 2020). The Ministers commended the completion of the first-ever TV co-production programme on ‘Rice: Seed of Life’ in a series of ‘Colours of ASEAN’ in High Definition format.

11. In the area of technical standards, the Ministers endorsed a recommendation on the development of an ASEAN-wide DVB-T2 Integrated Receiver Decoder (IRD) specification to reap the benefits of economies of scale for affordable DVB-T2 IRDs in ASEAN Member States who already adopted DVB-T2 for DTTB.

Social Responsible Media for a Peaceful and Prosperous ASEAN Community

12. The Ministers agreed that the information and media shall cover more cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder issues to support creating a sense of belonging and enhancing deeper mutual understanding among ASEAN Member States about their culture, history, religion and civilisation. The Ministers also highlighted the need to deepen media cooperation to support community building through closer coordination, joint projects, media networking and human resources development especially the younger generation, to support ASEAN's concerted efforts in promoting ASEAN awareness and building the ASEAN Community.

13. At the Conference, the Ministers agreed to adopt the ***Declaration on Social Responsible Media for a Peaceful and Prosperous Community***. The Declaration (appeared as ANNEX 2) is a guiding document to further strengthen cooperation in the fields of information and media through undertaking programmes and joint activities, and by leveraging on all forms of media.

14. The Ministers shared positive views on the necessary expansion and improvement of the information and media cooperation in ASEAN so that it will effectively enhance the existing programmes in disseminating information on ASEAN, and educate our peoples on the progress of the ASEAN community building process. In this regard, the Ministers noted the set up of three Working Groups, namely ASEAN Digital Broadcasting (ADB), Working Group on Information, Media, and Training; and Working Group on Content and Production, to strengthen the information and media cooperation in ASEAN.

Enhancing Cooperation with Dialogue Partners

15. The Ministers exchanged views on the progress of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and possible measures to further enhance cooperation between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries in the field of information and media.

16. The ASEAN Plus Three Ministers reviewed the progress of the ASEAN-China Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN-China Cooperation through Information and Media (2010-2015), and the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Through Information and Media (2012 – 2017). The Ministers noted that several initiatives are being discussed to further enhance cooperation between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries

17. The ASEAN Ministers appreciated China's efforts to use broadcasting and publications for fostering the ASEAN-China friendly ties and good-neighborly relationships. The ASEAN Ministers noted that China pays great attention to the friendly exchanges and cooperation in the field of information and media within the ASEAN Plus Three framework with the understanding that the AMRI+3 is an important mechanism for pragmatic cooperation aimed at promoting mutual understanding and trust and maintaining peace, stability and development in the region.

18. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed the progress of cooperation with Japan on digital content, especially local content development and human resource development. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation for Japan's plan on cooperation to promote authorised distribution of broadcast content, share knowledge of content, and strengthen people and cultural exchange based on the recognition that information and media could contribute to enhancing ASEAN connectivity including people-to-people connectivity.

19. The ASEAN Ministers noted a proposal from the Republic of Korea on possible ways in which ASEAN and the ROK could collaborate, in addition to the ASEAN Plus Three framework. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed the furtherance of media exchanges with the ROK, including exchanges in digital broadcasting technology as well as co-production of digital content, exchanges and training of journalists and the development of human resources.

Closing and Acknowledgment

20. The Ministers agreed to convene the 13th Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (13th AMRI) and its related meetings with Dialogue Partners in the Philippines in 2016.

21. The Ministers expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government and people of Myanmar for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 12th AMRI Conference. The Conference was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality.

ANNEX 1

List of Ministers

- i. H.E. Dato Paduka Haji Abd. Wahab bin Juned, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Brunei Darussalam;
- ii. H.E. Dr. Khieu Kanharith, Minister of Information, Cambodia;

- iii. Dr. Suprawoto, Secretary-General, representing Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Indonesia;
 - iv. H.E. Mr. Savankhone Razmouny, Vice Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR;
 - v. H.E. Mr. Jailani bin Johari, Deputy Minister of Communications and Multimedia, Malaysia;
 - vi. H.E. U Aung Kyi, Union Minister of Information, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
 - vii. H.E. Mr. Sonny Coloma, Secretary, Presidential Communications Operations Office, Philippines;
 - viii. H.E. Dr. Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Communications and Information, Singapore;
 - ix. H.E. Mr. Pisanu Suvanajata, Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar, representing Minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office;
 - x. H.E. Mr. Nguyen Thanh Hung, Vice Minister of Information and Communications, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;
 - xi. H.E. Mr. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN;
 - xii. H.E. Mr. Cai Mingzhao, Minister of State Council Information Office, People's Republic of China;
 - xiii. Mr. Soichiro Seki, Director General for International Affairs, Global ICT Strategy Bureau, representing Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan;
 - xiv. H.E. Mr. Sun Gyu Bang, Deputy Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Republic of Korea.
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Joint Statement of the 1st ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 4 July 2012

1. The First ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (1st APT EMM) was convened on 4 July 2012 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in conjunction with the Seventh ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (7th ASED) and the First East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (1st EAS EMM). The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Im Sethy, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport of Cambodia and H.E. Hirofumi Hirano, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan. The Meeting was attended by Ministers and senior officials responsible for education of ASEAN Member States, as well as China, Japan and Republic of Korea. The ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN University Network (AUN) Secretariat, and the Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) Secretariat, were also in attendance.
2. The Ministers noted with appreciation the progress in the ASEAN Plus Three process and the implementation of the “ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017)” adopted in 2007 aimed at broadening ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in education.
3. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitments in strengthening cooperation and joint efforts to promote development in the education sector and to address common challenges of education in the region. In this regard, the Ministers agreed to endorse the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education: 2010 – 2017 (Plan of Action) which details wide-ranging areas of cooperation, concrete plans, proposals and future direction in the education sector, to realise the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007- 2017) and to contribute to the ASEAN community building process.
4. The Ministers also noted the significance of education in the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, and agreed to harness the ASEAN Plus Three extensive mechanisms and leverage education’s positive spillover effect on regional connectivity.
5. The Ministers reaffirmed that the ASEAN Plus Three education process will support the realization of the long-term goal of building an East Asian community. As such, the Ministers emphasised their strong commitment to strengthen regional cooperation on education by convening the APT Education Ministers Meeting (EMM) on a biennial basis, in conjunction with the ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASED). The Ministers agreed to promote an effective coordination mechanism with

relevant regional and international organisations including the ASEAN University Network and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation.

6. The Ministers adopted the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting, which provides a clear process for effective coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Plan of Action: 2010 – 2017, while providing a dialogue on broad educational strategies, common interest and concerns under the framework of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.

7. China appreciated the efforts from all the ASEAN Plus Three countries for the education cooperation and development in the region. The Ministers noted China's proposal to convene the First APT Rectors' Conference in Peking University in 2012.

8. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and welcomed Japan's intention to invite the ASEAN Plus Three to the World Conference on UN Decade of ESD to be organised in 2014 by UNESCO and the Government of Japan. The Ministers welcomed the SEAMEO-Japan ESD Award established in April 2012, which aims to honour schools which made superior ESD efforts in SEAMEO member countries and to encourage ESD's popularity.

9. The Ministers supported Japan's initiative to set up a higher education quality assurance center for Asia and share with other ASEAN Plus Three countries the achievements and experiences of various collaborative activities in the ASEAN Plus Three countries, which will contribute actively to the Plan of Action in the area of quality assurance.

10. The Ministers noted Japan's proposals to set up a new working group of the APT EMM to strengthen cooperation and links among the ASEAN Plus Three countries on the Plan of Action in the area of quality assurance, which will further develop and consolidate future quality assurance efforts and deepen debate on these points. The Ministers agreed that Japan's proposal would be discussed at SOM-ED+3 to ask for its recommendation.

11. The Ministers noted ROK's appreciation of the efforts of ASEAN Plus Three countries to enhance educational cooperation and development in this region. Recalling the Master Plan for the ASEAN Cyber University, agreed by the delegates of the ASEAN Member States and ROK in 2011, ROK has made concerted efforts to explore a collective credit transfer system which will be functioned among CLMV countries in mid-September 2012, including tailored e-learning content development and a full-fledge capacity building plan. Noted is that a credit transfer framework will be expanded to ASEAN Member States in 2014, further to be a foundation to establish

the ASEAN Cyber University in 2015. Supposed that the ASEAN Cyber University will be designed as a new platform for academic exchange and higher education through e-learning, ROK reaffirmed that this visionary project will be implemented in a coordinated and collaborated manner with the support and cooperation of all ASEAN Member States, with their support and cooperation.

12. The Ministers further reiterated the need to enhance human resource development through the education cooperation, which is regarded as a significant factor on the success of building a dynamic, prosperous and people-oriented ASEAN community and East Asia as a whole. In that context, the Ministers welcomed new initiatives to enhance education cooperation in ASEAN and the East Asian Region.

13. The Ministers expressed full support to Lao PDR to host the 2nd APT EMM in 2014.

14. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Indonesia for the warm hospitality and arrangements made in hosting the 1st APT EMM and to the ASEAN Secretariat for its technical assistance to the Meeting.

Joint Statement of the 2nd ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 12 September 2014

1. The Second ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (2nd APT EMM) was held on 12 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, in conjunction with the Eighth ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (8th ASED) and the Second East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (2nd EAS EMM). The Meeting was preceded by the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting (5th SOM-ED+3) held on 10 September 2014 in Vientiane.

2. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Phankham Viphavanh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education and Sports, Lao PDR and H.E. Hwang Woo-yea, Minister of Education Republic of Korea (ROK). The Meeting was attended by Ministers and Senior Officials responsible for Education of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN University Network (AUN) Secretariat, and the Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) Secretariat, were also in attendance.

3. The Ministers welcomed the launch of the ASEAN State of Education Report 2013 and noted the importance of having a baseline against which to measure future performance in the area of education cooperation in the region. The Ministers noted the ASOER's role in highlighting the importance of education in achieving developmental goals, as well as its impact towards achieving equitable economic development and shared prosperity. With less than a year before the establishment of the ASEAN Community in 2015, the Ministers are committed to prioritising the key areas of connectivity, mobility, human resource development, IT and English Language training which are keys to enhancing human development in ASEAN. The Ministers agreed on the need to strengthen CLMV's capabilities towards increasing the education profile and active participation at the APT framework.

4. The Ministers affirmed the general objective of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education (2010-2017) is to encourage APT member countries to expand their efforts in implementing the Plan at the national and bilateral levels to the regional level.

5. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the “1st Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education among ASEAN Plus Three Countries” in September 2013 in Tokyo, Japan and the further progress toward the 2nd Working Group in October 2014 in Bali, Indonesia.
6. The Ministers welcomed Japan’s report on the initiative to support Japanese universities’ educational collaboration with universities in the APT countries. The Ministers also welcomed China’s Report of the First APT Rector’s Conference in Peking University in 2012.
7. The Ministers acknowledged the increasing importance of e-learning and IT literacy in the modern world and welcomed ROK’s progress on the ASEAN Cyber University project whose 3-phase process will be implemented based on the evaluation by the ACU Secretariat by 2020.
8. The Ministers welcomed ROK’s plans to launch “Training courses for ASEAN engineering students” to gain first-hand experiences in local Korean universities and businesses, and to hold “ASEAN-Korea Rectors’ Forum” in December 2014 in Busan to celebrate the 25 years of ASEAN-Korea relations.
9. The Ministers welcomed the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), to be held in November 2014 in Japan and expected further promotion of ESD beyond 2014.
10. The Ministers welcomed the UNESCO World Education Forum, to be held in the ROK in May 2015 and expected further promotion of post-2015 EFA agenda in the APT countries and elsewhere in the world.
11. The Ministers agreed that education cooperation under APT requires a coordination mechanism and requested SOM-ED+3 to explore it further. In addition, given the regional education cooperation activities under ASEAN, ASEAN Plus Three and the East Asia Summit, The Ministers acknowledged Senior Officials on Education efforts to look at coordinating mechanism to avoid duplication and ensure that the three frameworks are working closely to achieve respective objectives and ensure efficiency in the allocation of resources as well as in the scheduling of meetings.
12. The Ministers took note of the AUN progress report under the ASEAN Plus Three University Network, including the activities of the AUN/SEED-Net.
13. The Ministers welcomed Malaysia’s hosting of the 3rd APT EMM in conjunction with the 9th ASED and the 3rd EAS EMM in 2016.

14. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Lao PDR for the warm hospitality extended to the delegates and the excellent arrangements made in hosting the 2nd APT EMM. The Ministers also expressed their appreciation to the ASEAN Secretariat for its valuable contributions to the meeting.

Joint Statement of the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting

Phuket, Thailand, 6 July 2012

1. WE, the Ministers of Health of ASEAN Member States, representing Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, The People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, convened the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting on 6 July 2012 in Phuket, Thailand, in the spirit of unity and our ultimate goal to achieve good health for all ASEAN Plus Three citizens. We discuss progress in implementing joint activities in the health sector, especially the topic of Universal Health Coverage, share our concerns and express our commitment to strengthen our collaboration.

2. We confirm that our collaboration shall align with the "ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015)", endorsed by the 10th AHMM) with specific focus on collaborative areas that include Emerging Infectious Diseases, Pandemic Preparedness and Response, and Traditional Medicine as identified by the 1st ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD held in July 2011, in Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. We welcome any additional collaboration agreed in future meetings.

3. We recognise the significant and concrete roles played by the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) on poverty reduction and universal access to essential health services to support the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals. We commit to collectively accelerate the progress towards UHC in all countries by tasking the ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD to discuss the formation of an ASEAN Plus Three network on UHC. We agree to share and collectively build up the national and regional capacity to assess and manage the equitable and efficient health systems to support UHC. We concur and will collectively move the issue of UHC to be discussed and committed at the highest regional and global development forum, including the ASEAN Plus Three Summit, and the United Nations General Assembly.

4. We express deep concerns on the increasing unhealthy lifestyle and risk behaviours, which eventually lead to the rapidly increasing chronic non-communicable diseases. We are fully aware that these risk behaviours relate closely to the Social Determinants of Health (SDH) and need to be tackled through Health in All Policies

(HiAP) movements. We will collectively advocate, facilitate and implement more social and economic interventions to halt and reverse the increasing trend on tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol and unhealthy diet, as well as sedentary life style. We commit to implement the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (A/RES/66/2) based on the targets set by the World Health Organization (WHO)

5. We note the progress made in ASEAN Plus Three collaborations in the areas of traditional medicine and maternal and child health. We also note the progress made in the areas of Communicable and Emerging Infectious Diseases such as the initiatives on Field Epidemiology Training Network (FETN), Risk Communication, Partnership Laboratories, Animal Health and Human Health Collaboration, specific disease interventions including malaria, rabies and dengue. We appreciate and strongly support the cross-sectoral work for health development. We strongly support the newly-established ASEAN Plus Three FETN. We support the effort and commit to cooperate in multi-country studies, joint outbreaks investigation, contain and control outbreaks of diseases of regional significance such as dengue, severe hand foot mouth disease, and anti-microbial drug resistance. We commit to achieve and maintain core-competency as stipulated by the International Health Regulations (IHR) not later than 2014.

6. We acknowledge the efforts made by the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD) in convening the first two consecutive Meetings. We strongly urge them in maximising the avenue of the ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD to strengthen current collaborations. We task the ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD to explore models of technical cooperation such as identifying and the matching of health priorities between ASEAN and Plus Three, including seeking opportunities from Plus Three and other sources for technical support. Also we subscribe to monitoring the progress of these identified collaborative areas and identifying new areas of working together.

7. We recognise the contribution by, and commit to collaborate closely with development partners, especially the World Health Organization, the development banks, bilateral development partners, civil society organisations and private sectors.

We look forward to further exchanges of views and joint collaboration in health development at our next meeting in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in 2014.

Joint Statement of the 6th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting

Ha Noi, Viet Nam, 19 September in 2014

1. WE, the Ministers/Heads of Delegations responsible for health of ASEAN Plus Three Countries, representing Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, convened the 6th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting on 19th September in 2014 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, in the spirit of unity and with the ultimate goal to achieve quality of health for all ASEAN Plus Three citizens.

2. We discuss progress in implementing joint activities in the health sector, especially in strengthening Primary Health Care for Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (NCD) and shared our concerns and commitments to strengthening our cooperation.

3. We acknowledge our efforts of the ASEAN Plus Three health cooperation to collectively advocate and facilitate further social and economic measures to halt and reverse the increasing trends on modifiable risk factors of NCD. We recognise the need to strengthen the prevention and control of NCD, risk factors and underlying determinants through people-centered primary health care and Universal Health Coverage (UHC). We also note that mental health is an important cause of morbidity and contribute to the global NCD burden, for which there is a need to provide equitable access to effective programmes and health-care interventions.

4. We undertake to work closely to promote an enabling environment to facilitate healthy lifestyles and choices and to strengthen primary health care system for NCD prevention and control. We re-affirm our commitment to the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCD 2013-2020 endorsed by the 66th World Health Assembly in 2013 as well as Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Noncommunicable Diseases adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in 2013.

5. We note the efforts of ASEAN Plus Three health cooperation in the areas of traditional medicine, health-related issues of ageing, NCD, disaster health management,

maternal and child health, pandemic preparedness and response, communicable diseases and emerging infectious diseases. We also note the continuous progress made in the ASEAN Plus Three health cooperation through the ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network (FETN), ASEAN Plus Three Partnership Laboratories (APL), Animal and Human Health Cooperation, Risk Communication, and through the project activities addressing specific disease-interventions including malaria, rabies and dengue.

6. We express our concerns on the ongoing threat of the Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) and we encourage the Plus Three Countries to continue supporting the EIDs Programme that has brought fruitful collaboration.

7. We acknowledge the efforts of ASEAN Plus Three health cooperation in calling for rabies elimination by 2020 through the adopted ASEAN Rabies Elimination Strategy with engagement of the government and other stakeholders to support capacity strengthening and cooperation of both animal health and human health under the one health approach.

8. We re-emphasise the significance of UHC, following the joint statement made by the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting (APTHMM) in July 2012 in Phuket, Thailand, to improve the well-being of all citizens and to achieve sustainable development and equity for our society. We advocate UHC as one of the health priorities in the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda and welcome the establishment of the ASEAN Plus Three UHC Network. We urge the Network to accelerate the implementation of its action plan and activities. We welcome advocacy efforts to achieve UHC and will strive to further elevate and strengthen commitment by working through highest regional fora including ASEAN Plus Three Summit.

9. We share the view to strengthen health financing scheme and expansion the health coverage, where appropriate, in each ASEAN Plus Three Country. We also reaffirm to share experiences in increasing technical capacity to develop affordable systems of health financing in order to reduce out-of-pocket payment and ensuring quality health services. We aspire to improve the access to essential medicines and cost effective health technologies to diagnose and treat medical problems. We commit to build up a sufficient capacity of well-trained health workers at all levels to provide appropriate and adequate services to our people.

10. We appreciate the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation on HIV and AIDS, especially the efforts in Getting to Zero New HIV infections, Zero Discrimination and Zero AIDS-related Deaths. We express our concerns on the decreasing global budget for HIV and AIDS, and as such, share the view to have long-term and sustainable cooperation of

ASEAN Plus Three on HIV and AIDS. We also note the need to strengthen cooperation on building capacity and surveillance on HIV and AIDS and enhancing HIV and AIDS prevention and control activities in the border areas.

11. We recognise that ASEAN Plus Three countries are now facing an aging population, and its health related issues. We appreciate initiatives on Active Aging led by Japan within ASEAN, including the ASEAN-Japan Regional Conference on Active Ageing and ASEAN-Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies. We welcome the outcomes of those meetings and expect to build a sustainable collaborative network among ASEAN Plus Three Countries.

12. We recognise that health development is a shared responsibility. Hence, inclusive participation of other sectors in the policy development process is a requirement for Health in All Policies (HiAP).

13. We share the view in further strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and jointly working in overcoming the challenges, and at the same time, promote a sense of belonging and identity among ASEAN people.

14. We also welcome the ASEAN Health Initiative, which would contribute to the improvement of health in ASEAN, proposed at the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit Meeting in December 2013. We support this Initiative by Japan which is in alignment with the priority health issues in ASEAN.

15. We reaffirm the importance of strengthening capacity in Disaster Health Management in ASEAN which was newly identified as an area for collaboration and reflected as a priority area in the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda. We welcome Japan's initiative to strengthen Disaster Health Management capacity in ASEAN.

16. We acknowledge the support of development partners, World Health Organization, Asian Development Bank, Global Fund, bilateral development partners, civil society organisations and private sectors and commit to collaborate closely with them in the future.

17. We confirm our ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda through the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Official Meeting of Health Development (SOMHD) in the implementation of relevant work plans, enhancing multi-sectoral stakeholders engagement, information sharing and mobilisation of technical and financial support from ASEAN Plus Three Countries and dialogue partners. We acknowledge the need to pursue stronger commitments and cooperation from other sectors in addressing cross-cutting issues that has implication to the health sector including disaster management and humanitarian

assistance, regional mechanism in responding to impacts of pandemics or other biological health threats, access to medicines and health care and noncommunicable diseases.

We look forward to further exchanges of views and joint cooperation in health development at our next meeting in Brunei Darussalam in 2016.

Joint Statement of ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Special Meeting on Ebola Preparedness and Response

Bangkok, Thailand, 15 December 2014

We, the Health Ministers of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Japan and Republic of Korea met on 15 December 2014, in Bangkok, Thailand, to deliberate on the effective preparedness and response to the threat of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD /Ebola) outbreak.

DEEPLY CONCERNED with the rapid spread of Ebola outbreak in West Africa; currently affecting most parts of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone and beyond and by the fact that this Ebola outbreak in West Africa has proven to be the largest in our time;

BEING AWARE of the declaration of the World Health Organization (WHO) in August 2014, following the advice of the Organization's Emergency Committee, that the Ebola outbreak in West Africa constituted a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) in view of the virulence of the virus, the intensive community and health facility transmission patterns, and the weak health systems in the currently affected and most at-risk countries;

RECOGNIZING the responsibility of WHO Member States to abide by the International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005) under which Ebola has been declared as a PHEIC, and the requirement for strengthened national core capacities in the effective implementation of IHR;

RECALLING Resolution of the United Nations Security Council on 18 September 2014 that expressed deep concern about the detrimental impact of Ebola on the affected countries; and called on member states to provide urgent resources and assistance and also urged member states to implement relevant Temporary Recommendations issued under IHR 2005 regarding the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, and lead the organization, coordination and implementation of national preparedness and response activities;

RECOGNIZING that effective implementation of basic public health measures and public health system has played an important role in containing Ebola occurrences;

EQUALLY CONCERNED that the spread of Ebola has advanced far beyond the capacities of infrastructures and resources in public health system and other essential public services of affected countries, while noting the call of WHO for a coordinated international response to stop and reverse the international spread of Ebola;

RECOGNIZING the valuable role of the United Nations (UN) and WHO for the establishment of UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) to coordinate

Endorsed at the ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers' Special Meeting on Ebola Preparedness and Response, 15 December 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

the efforts of UN actors, international community and international partners to ensure a rapid and coherent response to relieve Ebola crisis;

APPRECIATING the initial Ebola response efforts and mobilization of resources made by the ASEAN Plus Three Member States that includes urgent aid from the region to West Africa not only financial aid to affected countries and UN organizations but also much needed support of Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU), holding centers and human resources inputs followed by strong commitment to capacity building including public health training;

BEING MINDFUL of the risks that all the currently unaffected countries including the ASEAN Plus Three Member States; especially those with extensive interactions in travel, business, industry and labor force with Ebola affected countries; may encounter the situations in which the Ebola virus is introduced from an affected country through international travel;

RECOGNIZING that at present a vaccine for prevention of Ebola infection is not available, nor is an approved therapeutic drug for treatment of Ebola patients; although the development of these medical tools has been rapidly accelerated during the course of outbreak in West Africa, especially with the provision of the WHO Ethical Panel that in the circumstances of current Ebola outbreak, it is considered ethical, if certain conditions are met, to offer drug or vaccine for which safety and efficacy have not been proven in humans as potential treatment or prevention;

BEING AWARE of the high potential in science and technology of the ASEAN Plus Three Member States which has contributed to the development of diagnostics, vaccines and therapeutic drugs for many emerging infectious diseases in the past decades such as HIV/AIDS and avian influenza; including the research and development on therapeutic agents being undertaken in some Member States in response to Ebola threats;

EMPHASISING that strengthening and providing primary health care and healthcare systems linked to implementation of Universal Health Coverage and human resources development in response to public health emergencies are key components to enhance regional capacity from threats posed by Emerging Infectious Diseases including Ebola;

RECOGNIZING the strategic framework and the active implementation under the IHR 2005, Asia-Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED) and the existing ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development on Communicable Diseases, Emerging Infectious Diseases and Pandemics including ASEAN Plus Three collaborations on surveillance, laboratory and risk communication;

RECALLING the 12th ASEAN Health Minister Meeting, the 6th ASEAN Plus Three Health Minister Meeting, and the 5th ASEAN China Health Minister Meeting in September 2014 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, where the Health Ministers expressed their serious concern over the on-going threat of emerging infectious diseases; and in particular, the Joint Statements of the aforementioned Health Minister Meetings that affirmed the pledge to join hands to strengthen regional mechanisms and increase national capacity to prevent such emerging infectious diseases including Ebola;

RECALLING the Chairman's Statement of the 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit on 13 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, reaffirming the support of ASEAN Plus Three Heads of States/Governments to strengthen cooperation in addressing the threats of disease outbreaks in the East Asian region, and to focus on health cooperation in areas such as emerging infectious diseases, pandemic preparedness and response, in line with the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015);

RECALLING the Joint Statement/Declaration of the 9th East Asia Summit on Regional Response to Outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease adopted on 13 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar which reaffirmed declarations to strengthen national and regional collaboration and responses to Ebola outbreak through existing bilateral, regional and multilateral channels;

DO HEREBY DECLARE OUR RESOLVE TO;

I. AT NATIONAL LEVEL:

1. Broadening the scope of existing emerging infectious disease preparedness plans at national level to cover potential pandemics and Ebola;
2. Ensuring appropriate assessments of national capacity to respond to emerging infectious disease outbreaks including potential pandemics as well as Ebola, drawing

on WHO technical guidance including WHO Ebola Response Roadmap where required;

3. Implementing effective and appropriate health surveillance at points of entry for people whose travel history include Ebola-affected countries;
4. Providing highest level of policy and resource support to the implementation of emerging infectious diseases including Ebola preparedness planning, including multi-sectoral simulation exercises, and establishment of emergency operation centers where appropriate to ensure sufficient capacities for effective coordinated response;
5. Increasing public awareness of emerging infectious diseases including Ebola by providing adequate information to the public and setting up an emergency public information and warning systems whenever it is needed;

II. AT REGIONAL LEVEL among the ASEAN Plus Three Member States:

1. Stepping up collaboration in prevention and control of trans-boundary emerging infectious diseases through sharing and exchanging of information, training and sharing of expertise and good practices to strengthen personnel capacity in essential areas of work, joint outbreak investigation and response where appropriate and upon request, laboratory support for investigation and confirmation of emerging infectious diseases including Ebola, and efficient cross-border referral as well as contact tracing mechanisms and good follow-up of travelers from affected Countries, as needed, among the ASEAN Plus Three Member States and access to stockpiles of essential medical supplies;
2. Strengthening regional mechanism including those under the ASEAN Plus Three framework to ensure proper preparedness and response to emerging infectious diseases including Ebola; with technical support from all relevant UN system entities;
3. Strengthening effective communication channels, among Ministers of Health, and Health Senior Officials and key contact points of the ASEAN Plus Three Member States, and strengthening existing IHR communication mechanism, for early warning and sharing of information essential for efficient national and international response to emerging infectious diseases including Ebola in a timely manner;
4. Promoting the collaboration and provision of financial support and sharing of resources from available sources within the ASEAN Plus Three framework and technical support from international organizations on research and development to increase the availability of intervention tools for prevention, detection, treatment and control of emerging infectious diseases; whereas in an immediate term, focusing the collaborative efforts to accelerate the development of vaccine and therapeutic agents for Ebola;

5. Strengthening health systems with continuous efforts of ASEAN Plus Three to develop human resources for health; to strengthen primary health care; to achieve Universal Health Coverage including through implementation of action plan and its activities in ASEAN Plus Three UHC Network; and to support enhancing capacity of preparedness and response to Emerging Infectious Diseases.

III. AT GLOBAL LEVEL:

1. Fully supporting the Ebola affected countries through collaboration with relevant International Partners in intensifying surveillance and response activities and strengthening national capacities in response to the Ebola outbreak;

2. Urgently providing additional resources and assistance, where appropriate, to the affected countries; including financial resources, equipment, human resources, laboratory services, logistics, Ebola treatment units and non-Ebola medical clinics as well as emergency medical evacuation capability for movement of international aid workers potentially exposed to Ebola to locations for appropriate medical care;

3. Calling on all relevant actors to cooperate closely and maximize synergies to respond effectively and immediately to Ebola outbreak including to mobilize and provide essential resources and technical expertise to the Ebola affected countries to accelerate recovery and improvement of public health systems and to prevent future outbreak;

TASKING Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (SOMHD) in coordination with ASEAN Working Group on Pandemic and Response and in close collaboration with ASEAN Plus Three Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) Cooperation to keep updating and regularly review the progress on this matter and to work in close consultation with the ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers with the support of WHO with a view to following up on the implementation of this statement;

We hereby declare effective implementations of the aforementioned measures for peace, security and well-being of our people.

Adopted at Bangkok, Thailand this Fifteen of December in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen at the ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers' Special Meeting on Ebola Preparedness and Response.

Joint Statement of ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers' Special Video Conference on the Threat of MERS-CoV in the Region

27 July 2015

We, the Health Ministers/Heads of Delegations of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam, China, Japan and Republic of Korea conducted a Special Video Conference on 27 July 2015, to discuss ways forward in enhancing preparedness and response to Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) in the Region.

RECALLING the Joint Statement of the 6th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers' Meeting In September 2014 in Hanoi, Vietnam;

REITERATING the agreed upon measures stated in the outcome documents of the 9th East Asia Summit on Regional Response to Outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease adopted on November 2014, and the Special ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers' Meeting on Ebola in December 2014 to enhance preparedness, surveillance and response to threatening Emerging Infectious Diseases among ASEAN Plus Three Member States;

CONCERNED with the incidence of MERS-CoV reported in 26 countries globally, including the importation of the infection into five ASEAN Plus Three Member States;

APPRECIATING the commitment of the governments of the Republic of Korea, China, Thailand and the Philippines in their efforts to contain the outbreak of MERS-CoV in May and June of 2015, along with Malaysia in 2014;


COMMENDING the preparedness efforts of other ASEAN Plus Three Member States in facing the threat of MERS-CoV, including surveillance and capacity building;

BEING AWARE of the continuing threat of MERS-CoV in the region as a result of international travel, including but not limited to Hajj Pilgrimage and Umrah, and the significant impact of any potential MERS-CoV outbreaks in the region to public health, society and the economy;

We, the ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers/Heads of Delegations, agree to enhance the preparedness and response to MERS-CoV by:

1. Strengthening in-country disease surveillance and leveraging on existing regional risk assessment mechanisms on MERS-CoV with the technical support of international organizations including WHO;
2. Ensuring relevant and timely information sharing with other member states whenever there are new cases of MERS in any member state for accurate risk assessment. This internal communication will not replace the IHR mechanism;
3. Where appropriate, coordinating cross border contact tracing and outbreak investigations through joint multi-country collaboration, including ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network (FETN) platforms;
4. Taking appropriate measures to manage risks by having access to diagnostic laboratories, adopting adequate infection prevention and control measures and risk communication for MERS-CoV;
5. Supporting the sharing of best practices of MERS-CoV management and relevant research opportunities or outcomes, and thus welcome the initiative of Republic of Korea to convene an international meeting to share experiences of MERS-CoV;

We, hereby pledge our commitments to effectively implement the aforementioned measures for peace, security and well-being of our people.



**III. OTHERS
REPORT OF THE EAST
ASIA VISION GROUP II
(EAVG II)**

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE EAST ASIA VISION GROUP II REPORT TO THE ASEAN PLUS THREE COMMEMORATIVE SUMMIT, 19 NOVEMBER 2012, PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

Your Majesty, Excellencies,

The East Asia Vision Group II (EAVGII) was established following the decision of the 13th ASEAN Plus Three Summit on 29 November 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam.

Since its establishment, the EAVGII has actively worked during the past eleven months. It has met on four occasions, namely 20-22 October 2011 in Seoul, the Republic of Korea; 13-14 February 2012 in Nha Trang, Viet Nam; 7-9 May 2012 in Tokyo, Japan; and 5-7 September 2012 in Bali, Indonesia, to review the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in the past 15 years, and to recommend concrete measures and direction for further enhancing, expanding and deepening ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in the next 15 years and beyond.

The EAVGII has adopted a forward-looking vision, with relevant strategies and guiding principles, and identified key elements for advancing the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation. We believe that such initiatives and recommendations are in line with the aspirations of the peoples of ASEAN Plus Three countries.

With the assistance of our supporting experts, we, the EAVGII have prepared the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVGII) Report with recommendations and hereby submit it for your kind consideration.

Please accept, Your Majesty, Excellencies, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Signed and submitted on 1st November 2012



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Professor of International Relations,
Seoul National University and, Former
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
The Republic of Korea (Co-Chair)



H.E. Amb. Meas Kim Heng
Advisor to Deputy Prime Minister,
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Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
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H.E. Dato' Kamarudin Mustafa

Former Ambassador of Malaysia to Sweden, Denmark, Iceland and Norway
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H.E. Than Tun

Member, Commission on Assessment of Legal Affairs and Special Issues, Pyithu Hlautlaw (Parliament)
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H.E. Amb. Rosario G. Manalo

Representative of AICHER, and Concurrently Senior Foreign Affairs Advisor, Department of Foreign Affairs
Philippines



H.E. Amb. Chew Tai Soo
Ambassador-at-Large
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H.E. Dr. Suthad Setboonsarng
Former Thailand Trade
Representative
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H.E. Amb. Nguyen Hoang An
Former Ambassador of Socialist
Republic of Viet Nam to Indonesia
Viet Nam

Report of the East Asia Vision Group (EAVG) II: Realising an East Asia Economic Community¹ by 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The EAVG I was launched against the backdrop of the 1997 Asian financial crisis. East Asian nations then felt the need to mutually cooperate in overcoming the crisis, which served as a momentum to recognise an East Asian identity. As a result, East Asian nations institutionalised cooperation in political-security, economic-financial, socio-cultural realms, and began the process of building an East Asia community.
2. The EAVG II took stock of all of the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) cooperation activities and evaluated how these activities have contributed to developing the APT cooperation and community-building in East Asia. Based upon such stock-taking, the EAVG II studied the future direction of the APT cooperation mechanism, and also prepared a new vision for regional cooperation and community building.
3. The EAVG II recognises that the APT cooperation showed significant progress during the last decade. The core focus of cooperation in the political and security area was confidence-building, which helped to build the spirit of cooperation among participating countries. Cooperation in the economic and financial area has been the most advanced and has achieved many tangible results. Much progress has also been made in the area of socio-cultural cooperation.
4. The EAVG II recognises that there still remain many challenges, such as territorial disputes, an arms race, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and non-traditional security issues that could seriously undermine peace and stability in East Asia. The EAVG II also recognises many new economic challenges such as the shrinking demand from outside the region and instability of the international financial market after 2008 global financial crisis. The EAVG II is concerned with socio-cultural challenges such as increase of aging population, decline of working age population, along with the growing development gap in the region and environmental challenges.

¹ It is the understanding of the EAVG II that the term "East Asia Economic Community" will be and remain an inter-governmental entity. It does not mean or imply that members of this community would be required to transfer any competence to any entity that may be created by the community. The General Principles outlined in Section IV of the Introduction remain applicable in the development of the East Asia Economic Community, in particular, the mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity.

In addition, the EAVG II recognises the cross-cutting challenges such as natural disasters in which all the dimensions of political-security, economic-finance, and socio-cultural cooperation are connected.

5. Faced with the challenges, the EAVG II recommends the realisation of an East Asia Economic Community by 2020 as the main pillar of our new vision. The East Asia Economic Community will be composed of four key elements: (i) single-market and production base; (ii) financial stability, food and energy security; (iii) equitable and sustainable development; and (iv) constructive contribution to the global economy. Our new vision, however, is not limited to the creation of the East Asia Economic Community. We need to enhance efforts of cooperation in political-security, as well as social-cultural areas. EAVG II also recognises the importance of cross-sectoral cooperation.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

6. The EAVG II makes the following recommendations for the realisation of an East Asia Economic Community by 2020:

Cross-sectoral Cooperation

- Promotion of regional connectivity in East Asia;
- Closer cooperation on disaster prevention and management;
- Undertaking of strategic programmes to produce a qualified, competent and well-equipped labour force;
- Narrowing the development gap through various economic development initiatives to contribute towards poverty alleviation; and
- Engagement of various stakeholders to reflect their views in the process of East Asia community building.

Political and Security Cooperation

- Promotion of good governance, strengthening of the rule of law, and promotion and protection of human rights through policy dialogue and capacity building activities;
- Enhanced cooperation in disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and related materials; and
- Enhanced cooperation in addressing non-traditional security issues, particularly counter-terrorism, cybercrime, drug and human trafficking, and maritime security.

Economic Cooperation

- East Asia's proactive support for the establishment of a free trade area under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

- Establishment of a region wide mechanism building on the ASEAN Single Window, once it is established, to integrate the trade-related windows of East Asian countries into a single unit;
- Conducting of a study on establishing an East Asia Infrastructure Investment Fund to expand private sector investment on infrastructure in East Asia;
- Conducting of a study to establish an appropriate mechanism to facilitate and coordinate efforts of promoting trade and investment;
- Conducting of a study to explore the usefulness of the establishment of an East Asia monetary fund;
- Expansion of issuance of government and corporate bonds denominated in local currency and strengthened function of Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility(CGIF);
- Expansion of the coverage of the APT Emergency Rice Reserve(APTERR) to include other staple food in times of emergency;
- Strengthening of cooperation efforts in the efficient supply and use of natural resources, energy saving practices, oil stockpiling, civilian use of nuclear energy, and development of green technology; and
- Creating of an East Asia Comprehensive Technology Research Institute.

Socio-cultural Cooperation

- Strengthening of joint R&D activities to further improve public health services of the region;
- Making greater efforts to reduce polarisation pertaining to urban-rural areas, domestic-external sectors, and large-small and medium sized companies;
- Joint efforts to address issues regarding regulation of migrant workers taking into account the fundamental rights and dignity of migrant workers without undermining the application by the receiving states of their laws, regulation and policies;
- Cooperation in improving access to education to help children complete primary education and to increase secondary school enrollment rates in less-developed countries;
- Facilitation for the leading universities in the region to establish a network of East Asian universities based on the ASEAN University Network platform;
- Reducing of the digital divide by more-advanced countries in the region offering comprehensive ICT training programmes to less-developed countries;
- Making efforts in forest cooperation through sound forest policies, proven technologies, research, community projects and education in the context of sustainable forest management;

- Sharing of information on water resources management and coordinate policies together;
- Establishment of an Asian edition of UNESCO, to foster education and science and ensure the preservation of the historic sites and rich cultural heritage of the East Asia region;
- Strengthening of people-to-people connectivity through joint tour programmes, promotion of intra-regional travel through visa facilitation, as well as an East Asian volunteers' programme;
- Strengthening of cooperation of East Asian public broadcasting stations; and
- Increase of the support of East Asian nations for East Asian Studies at major universities.

Institutional Arrangements

- Review and streamlining of existing mechanisms to pursue East Asia community building in an effective manner;
 - Further strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat to better facilitate ASEAN Plus Three cooperation; and
 - More and effective coordination between the ASEAN and the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariats.
 - Strengthening of the APT Cooperation Fund and establishing of new funding mechanisms.
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REPORT OF THE EAVG II

Introduction

I. Mandate of the EAVG II

1. The East Asian Vision Group (EAVG) I, which was tasked to draw up a vision for mid-to-long term cooperation in East Asia, presented to the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit in 2001 its final report titled “East Asia community of Peace, Prosperity and Progress,” which laid a solid groundwork for the future direction of East Asian regional cooperation.

2. Taking into account that 2011 marks the 10th anniversary of the EAVG Final report and that 2012 marks the 15th anniversary of APT cooperation, the Republic of Korea (ROK) proposed to set up the EAVG II at the 2010 Ha Noi APT Summit to review and assess all cooperation activities implemented/being implemented within the framework of APT, and carefully reflect on the future direction of the APT process and regional cooperation in East Asia. The APT Leaders welcomed the proposal of the ROK and agreed to “task relevant officials to implement this initiative.” The Terms of Reference of the EAVG II appears as **ANNEX A**.

3. Carrying out the above mandate, the ASEAN Member States, China, Japan and the ROK have appointed their Eminent Representatives to participate in the EAVG II (List of the Eminent Representatives appears as **ANNEX B**) and Supporting Experts (**ANNEX C**). The EAVG II held four Meetings in the ROK, Viet Nam, Japan and Indonesia, respectively under the co-chairmanship of the chair of ASEAN (Indonesia in 2011 and Cambodia in 2012) and the ROK.

4. The EAVG II took stock of all of the APT cooperation activities and evaluated how these activities have contributed to developing the APT cooperation and community-building in East Asia.

5. Based upon such stock-taking, the EAVG II studied the future direction of the APT cooperation mechanism, and also presented a new vision of regional cooperation and community building. The EAVG II is mandated to submit its Final Report to the APT Commemorative Summit in 2012 in Cambodia.

II. Assessment of the Past Decade and New Challenges

6. The EAVG I was launched against the backdrop of the 1997 Asian financial crisis. East Asian nations then felt the need to mutually cooperate in overcoming the crisis, which served as a momentum to recognise an East Asian identity. As a result, East Asian nations institutionalised cooperation in the political-security, the economic-financial, and the socio-cultural realms, and began the process of community-building in East Asia.

7. As we can see from the results of stock-taking which appears as **ANNEX D**, efforts towards building an East Asia community recommended by the EAVG I showed significant progress during the last decade.

7.1 While the core focus of cooperation in the political and security area remains primarily on confidence-building, the APT process has helped to build the spirit of cooperation among participating countries. These countries also recognised the importance of regional cooperation to tackle non-traditional security issues. In this regard, more opportunities could be pursued by the APT countries in this area. The APT countries recognise the importance of maintaining and enhancing peace and stability in the region and are striving to strengthen cooperation to deal with emerging challenges to peace in both traditional and non-traditional security issues.

7.2 Cooperation in the economic and financial fields has been the most advanced and has achieved many tangible results. Under the mid-to-long term East Asia Study Group (EASG) recommendations for the creation of a regional financing facility, a number of specific measures were discussed and implemented through the APT Finance Ministers' Meeting. As a result, the Chiang Mai Initiative has now evolved into a multilateral swap system. The APT Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) was established in May 2011 in Singapore to monitor, assess, and report on the macroeconomic status and financial soundness of the APT region. Furthermore, the Asian Bond Markets Initiatives (ABMI) New Roadmap+ has been adopted to facilitate the utilisation of savings for growth. The Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF) was also established in May 2011 as a regional credit guarantee and investment trust fund in Asia to boost long-term investment in the region.

7.3 Much progress has also been made in the field of socio-cultural cooperation, especially in the areas such as health, education, and environment. In health, the APT Emerging Infectious Disease Programme was developed to reduce the impact of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases in the region. One of its key initiatives, the APT Partnership Laboratories, was established in 2009 and aims to further strengthen the laboratory surveillance and networking on health issues within the region. The APT cooperation in education

was given a recent boost with the convening of the inaugural APT Education Ministers' Meeting, to be held bi-annually, in 2012. We should continue to build on such progress.

8. The achievements highlighted above are attributable to the efforts and commitment of all countries in East Asia as well as to the central role of ASEAN in the process. The progress made in the past decade, however, has yet to establish an East Asian identity and deepen regional integration that would realise the vision of an East Asia community of peace, prosperity and progress, as presented by the EAVG I.

9. The EAVG II recognises that peace and stability were shared desire. Nevertheless, there still remain many challenges, such as territorial or border disputes, an arms race, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and non-traditional security issues that could seriously undermine regional peace and stability.

10. The EAVG II also recognises many new economic challenges. With its high dependence on the global market, the East Asian economy is faced with shrinking demand from the industrialised world and instability of the international financial market after the 2008 global financial crisis.

11. The EAVG II is also concerned that East Asia's economic growth will gradually slow down as the aging population increases, the working age population declines, and the demand for welfare increases. At the same time, it takes a long time to narrow the development gap within and between the East Asian countries. The scarcity and depletion of natural resources for economic development also constitute a challenge. Environmental challenges that are derived from both the low level of economic development and rapid industrialisation in the region would require a decades-long task of sustainable development in the region.

12. In addition, East Asia could strengthen cooperation in disaster management, given the recent natural disasters in the region such as the earthquake and tsunami in Japan and the floods in many countries, especially in Cambodia and Thailand in 2011. Initiatives to promote sustainable development and attaining the Millennium Development Goals should also be emphasised. Social changes, such as migration and urbanisation are rapidly turning into pressing challenges to countries in East Asia, and the issues of water resource management, food security, energy security, climate change, and transnational crimes demand special attention.

III. The New Vision

13. Faced with the above challenges, the EAVG II recommends the realisation of the East Asia Economic Community by 2020 as the main pillar of our new vision.

Based on the on-going efforts of ASEAN to realise the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015, the successful launching of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) and the APT Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) and other efforts of financial stabilisation, and the prospect of trade-liberalisation with the start of the negotiations of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), East Asia is now ready to design and establish an East Asia Economic Community that manages the efforts of cooperation in trade, finance, investment, and equitable and sustainable development. The EAVG II therefore recommends that East Asian nations start the wide-ranging efforts as outlined below for the establishment of the East Asia Economic Community by 2020. East Asia needs to exert greater efforts to maintain peace and stability and ensure progress and development in the region.

14. At the same time, East Asia cooperation should build upon the central role of ASEAN which remains as the key driving force of the East Asia community building process.

15. Our new vision, however, is not limited to the creation of the East Asia Economic Community. We need to enhance efforts of cooperation in the political-security, as well as the social-cultural areas. The EAVG II also recognises the importance of cross-sectoral cooperation as outlined in the next section.

16. To promote community building in East Asia, the EAVG II proposes an approach that pertains to the following three pillars:

Political-Security Pillar

16.1 It is important to deepen political and security cooperation in East Asia. This region requires intensified and enhanced efforts to promote common values and norms on political and security issues building upon the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the United Nations Charter and relevant international law subscribed by East Asian countries. In this regard, the EAVG II proposes to prioritise cooperation to promote good governance, strengthen the rule of law, and promote and protect human rights through policy dialogue and capacity building activities.

16.2 The EAVG II further recognises the importance of maintaining peace and stability to ensure progress and development in the region. In this connection, the EAVG II proposes to strengthen policy dialogue and capacity building activities in the political and security. The EAVG II further proposes to enhance security cooperation such as

non-traditional security issues particularly on counter-terrorism, cybercrimes and maritime security.

Economic Pillar

- 16.3 In order to realise the long-term goal of community-building in East Asia, the EAVG II proposes to establish the East Asia Economic Community which is composed of four key elements: (i) single-market and production base; (ii) financial stability, food and energy security; (iii) equitable and sustainable development; and (iv) constructive contribution to the global economy.
- 16.4 The East Asia Economic Community seeks to create a single-market and production base through the establishment of the RCEP. The RCEP will contribute to expanding intra-regional trade in goods and services, and investment, as well as making the region an attractive investment area.
- 16.5 The CMIM, AMRO, and ABMI should continue to be strengthened to serve as a financial safety-net in time of regional and global crises. The possibility of establishing an East Asia monetary fund should be studied. There will be an expansion of local currency bond markets for the purpose of fully utilising regional savings. The local currency market should be enhanced to promote long-term investments and foster domestic consumption in East Asia.
- 16.6 For the equitable economic development of the region, joint efforts could be taken to promote private sector investments into the less developed countries in the region, through the setting up of a possible East Asia Infrastructural Investment Fund (EAIIF). In addition, East Asia will put in more efforts to enhance the industrial capacity and human resource development of less-developed countries by sharing knowledge, financial resources, and technologies.
- 16.7 The East Asia Economic Community will also contribute to the global economy by continuing to open up its markets and revitalising global multilateral trade negotiations particularly the early conclusion of the Doha Development Agenda negotiations. The East Asia Economic Community will provide more support to less-developed countries in the region.

Socio-cultural Pillar

- 16.8 This pillar should be the key area of East Asia cooperation because it is for the benefit of the people who live in the region. East Asia will respond to the newly rising socio-cultural challenges by building a caring and sharing society. Human resource development is especially important as the global economy is rapidly transforming itself into a knowledge-based digital economy.
- 16.9 Human development in East Asia aims for extended life expectancy and higher standard of living. East Asia's caring and sharing society will emphasise the value of sustainable development, strengthened social protection, and closer cooperation within the region in various social policies, disaster and natural resources management, and food and health issues. East Asia will respect human rights of all genders, ages, nationalities, and physical ability and expect multinational corporations to behave in socially responsible ways.
- 16.10 The cultural heritage of East Asia should be preserved and promoted, while attempts at cultural innovations should be encouraged and pursued. East Asia should strive to become a cultural and heritage centre of the world in the 21st century.

IV. Guiding Principles

17. In order to promote community building in East Asia, the following principles should be observed:
- 17.1 Those enshrined in the United Nations Charter, Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia and the universally recognised principles of international law and other relevant regional instruments;
- 17.2 Mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity;
- 17.3 Enhancement of mutual understanding, responsibility, trust and friendship;
- 17.4 The principle of consensus and consultation in pursuing cooperation that is of mutual interest and moving at a pace comfortable to all countries;
- 17.5 The central role of ASEAN in the existing regional mechanisms and in the evolving regional architecture;

- 17.6 An open, transparent, inclusive and forward looking process towards East Asia integration;
- 17.7 The mutually reinforcing and complementary roles of the APT process, the main vehicle for regional community building and such regional fora as the East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) to promote community building in East Asia; and
- 17.8 Other guiding principles suggested by the EAVG I.

Agenda for Cooperation

I. Cross-sectoral Cooperation

1. In pursuing East Asia integration, the EAVG II recognises the cross-cutting challenges that could affect the community building. Hence, the EAVG II proposes the following:

- 1.1 Priority should be given to further regional connectivity in East Asia in order to contribute to community-building and to support economic development in East Asia. The objectives of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), which aims to enhance physical, institutional, and people-to-people linkages and contribute towards ASEAN's goal of the integrated Community in 2015, should be expanded to promote regional connectivity in East Asia. The Plus Three countries should contribute to the realisation of the MPAC and assist in its implementation.
- 1.2 Cooperate more closely on disaster prevention and management. The EAVG II encouraged regional cooperation in the fields of emergency preparedness, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief with the focus on the most vulnerable people, through the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), including strengthening the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), sharing experiences and lessons learned, conducting training and capacity building. Extending mechanisms and experiences of ASEAN to the Plus Three countries will enhance region-wide cooperation.
- 1.3 Ensure that human resources are well-prepared for and benefit from East Asia integration by undertaking strategic programmes to produce a qualified, competent and well-equipped labour force;

- 1.4 Focus on narrowing the development gap within and between countries in the region through various economic development initiatives, including growth areas, as it would in turn contribute towards poverty alleviation; and
- 1.5 Engage various stakeholders, including governments, businesses, scholars and civil societies to reflect their views in the process of East Asia community building.

II. Political and Security Cooperation

A. Political Cooperation

2. The EAVG II emphasises the need to promote common values and norms as enshrined in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, the United Nations Charter, and relevant international law subscribed by East Asian countries.

3. The EAVG II supports the strengthening of the framework for building mutual understanding, confidence and solidarity, including the ensuring of peaceful settlement of disputes and renunciation of the threat of use of force. The East Asian countries could develop further in a transparent manner exchanges on their strategic outlooks, as well as assessments of national and regional developments.

4. The EAVG II proposes further the promotion of cooperation in the area of good governance, including strengthening the rule of law as well as enhancing administrative effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency, through policy dialogue and capacity building activities.

5. The EAVG II encourages closer cooperation on the promotion and protection of human rights.

6. The EAVG II underscores the importance to the Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) approach as more concrete actions should be taken in the future to spearhead programmes and events to further advance peace, security and harmony in order to promote moderation in both regional and international arena.

7. East Asia should strengthen engagement and collaboration with other countries in the region including through mechanisms and frameworks, such as the ARF, the ASEAN Defense Ministerial Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) and the EAS, which are complementary and mutually reinforcing.

8. East Asia should also strengthen its engagement at the global level by enhancing its participation through inter-regional cooperation, such as the APEC and the G-20 and others as well as by promoting interaction with other regional groupings through appropriate mechanisms such as ASEM and Forum for East Asia – Latin

America Cooperation (FEALAC).

B. Security Cooperation

9. The EAVG II urges East Asia to step up its security cooperation efforts in both traditional and non-traditional security issues.

10. The region's waters serve as routes for half of the world's trade. Therefore, maintaining maritime security, stability and freedom of navigation is crucial to peace and prosperity of East Asia, and the world at large. At the same time, maritime conflict and oceanic pollution will destroy the region's rich repository of natural resources. The EAVG II thus urges East Asia to enhance cooperation by undertaking concerted efforts, including developing regional codes of conduct to ensure maritime security, promoting freedom of navigation, preventing maritime conflicts, and protecting the oceanic environment.

11. East Asia should also enhance cooperation in disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and related materials.

12. Non-traditional security issues such as transnational crimes including cybercrime, drug trafficking and human trafficking are becoming major threats to East Asia. In order to protect and improve both the human and national security of countries in the region, the EAVG II proposes that East Asia continues to enhance cooperation in addressing non-traditional security issues in a comprehensive manner through existing mechanisms.

13. The development gap and income disparities unleash the problems of human trafficking in East Asia. Human trafficking not only violates the individual rights of victims, encourages corruption, and increase transnational crimes, but also hinders the East Asia community building process by distorting people-to-people relationships. In this regard, the EAVG II calls for a concerted effort towards preventing human trafficking.

III. Economic Cooperation

A. Single Market and Production Base

14. The expansion of trade and investment has played a crucial role in the economic growth of the region. In the trade area, the APT now accounts for a quarter of global GDP, as well as a quarter of global trade, while one third of the entire APT trade is intra-regional. With economic stagnation in the developed world, East Asia should increase its intra-regional trade and investment further through institutional integration that eliminates tariff and non-tariff barriers.

15. In order to expand intra-regional trade and to avoid negative impacts caused by the entangled web of bilateral and sub-regional FTAs, the EAVG II recommends East Asia to proactively support the establishment of a free trade area under the RCEP, which will, among others, increase the market access for less-developed countries in the region.

16. East Asia needs to speed up its efforts to enhance trade efficiency and competitiveness through effective trade facilitation programmes. In this context, the EAVG II recommends a region-wide mechanism building on the ASEAN Single Window, once it is established, to integrate the trade-related windows of East Asian countries into a single unit in order to facilitate custom clearances and reduce transaction costs.

17. Productivity of the industries in East Asia will be further improved by the promotion of investment activities within East Asia to create a diversified and dynamic production base and through improving the business environment. The improvement of East Asia's investment climate will lead to an investment expansion.

18. For less-developed countries in the region, infrastructural development is the key in attracting investment. The EAVG II, therefore, finds it crucial to study establishing an East Asia Infrastructure Investment Fund (EAIIF) to expand private sector investment in infrastructure in East Asia and utilise savings in the region with the view to enhancing regional connectivity.

19. China, Japan, and the ROK are each operating ASEAN Centres in order to encourage their domestic companies to invest in ASEAN. The EAVG II recommends that the Plus Three countries establish channels for mutual connection among the ASEAN Centres to strengthen their cooperation.

20. In order to facilitate and coordinate the above efforts of promoting trade and investment, reducing barriers, harmonising regulations, and planning and implementing development assistance, the EAVG II recommends a study to establish an appropriate mechanism.

B. Financial Stability

21. The Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), as a regional financing facility, is one of the successful recommendations made by the EAVG I that were carried out during the last decade. In order to further strengthen the function of financial stabilisation, the EAVG II recommends a study to explore the usefulness of the establishment of an East Asia monetary fund.

22. The ABMI has contributed to the development of local currency bond markets, which enable East Asia to use its domestic savings productively for long-term investment. The EAVG II calls for the expanded issuance of government and corporate bonds denominated in local currency and the strengthened function of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF), so that East Asia can achieve a more balanced growth.

C. Food Security

23. By 2030, the population in Asia will be over 3 billion. The increase in income in this region will stimulate more demand for food. Given the fluctuations in the weather around the world, East Asia should have a strong mechanism to ensure the stability of the supply of food in the region. East Asia is operating the APT Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) to meet the emergency requirements of the region. The EAVG II recommends that East Asia expand the coverage of the APTERR to include other staple food in times of emergency.

24. The EAVG II recommends stronger cooperation on food supply by improving the productivity of the agricultural industry. Developing high yielding varieties and technologies will stabilise the food supply. There is also a need to recognise the importance of maritime resources and to ensure the safe, stable and sustainable supply of fisheries stocks in the East Asia region.

D. Energy Security

25. Energy security has also become more challenging as the demand for energy grows and the supply of energy becomes less certain. East Asia should strengthen the Energy Security Forum (ESF) to coordinate the optimum management of energy supply facilities, including the collection and sharing of information on the energy market, energy saving technology and alternative energy, to ensure the stability of its supply and demand in the region.

26. The rapid industrialisation and income growth of emerging economies are accompanied by the exploitation of natural resources as demand for natural resources increases. Increasing demand for natural resources will also raise the price imposing a huge economic burden on the East Asian region. The EAVG II urges East Asia to step up its cooperation efforts in the efficient supply and use of natural resources, energy saving practices, oil stockpiling, civilian use of nuclear energy, and development of green technology.

E. Equitable and Sustainable Development

27. Equitable economic development and narrowing the development gaps among and within countries in East Asia are necessary not only for the creation of the East Asia community but also for maintaining peace and stability in the region. Balanced growth not only allows the people of less-developed countries to benefit from the growth of East Asia, but also enables the people of developed countries to benefit from increasing regional demand. In order to achieve a balanced growth, East Asia needs to cooperate in improving the industrial capacity and human resources of less-developed countries by sharing knowledge on development and promoting investment in a responsible manner.

28. As East Asia brings down its trade and investment barriers, economies in the cross-border areas will have a better chance to grow. The EAVG II, therefore, urges active participation of developed countries and private sectors in the development of resources and infrastructure in cross-border areas.

29. The EAVG II recommends that East Asia strengthen its cooperation on sustainable development and create an East Asia Comprehensive Technology Research Institute (EACTRI), which will be jointly operated by East Asian countries to develop new technologies to facilitate the structural transformation and to improve absorption capacities of less-developed countries. The EACTRI may be located in a middle-income country in the region to act as a bridge between the developed and the less-developed countries.

F. Active Engagement with the World Economy

30. East Asia's economic development since the 1960s was prompted by the liberalisation of the global trading system. Since the 2008 financial crisis, however, protectionist tendencies and over-intensified competition have been working as hindrances to the continued growth of world trade. As a major beneficiary of the liberalised global trading system, East Asia should proactively contribute to the development of the global trading system.

31. The EAVG II calls for East Asia's proactive participation in revitalising global multilateral trade negotiations, particularly the early conclusion of the Doha Development Agenda negotiations. At the same time, East Asia is encouraged to render more efforts to open up its markets.

32. By 2020, East Asia is expected to produce around a third of the world's GDP. To play a major important role in the global stage, the EAVG II recommends that the

East Asian countries closely coordinate and provide more support and assistance to the less-developed countries in the region and the world at large.

33. East Asia's proactive response to climate change signifies its willingness to fulfill global obligations and commitments and contribute to the sustainable development of the world. Therefore, the EAVG II calls for closely coordinated efforts, together with the international society, to reduce Green House Gases and joint endeavors towards developing and transferring green technologies.

IV. Socio-Cultural Cooperation

A. Human Development

34. Despite significant improvements in the field of public health, more efforts should be undertaken to reduce maternal and infant mortality. Considering the high mortality rates and the continuous spread of pandemics, HIV/AIDS and malaria in the less-developed countries, the EAVG II recognises the necessity for strengthened joint R&D activities to further improve public health services of the region.

35. The rapid economic development of East Asia has been accompanied by severe social problems, such as a rise in inequality within and between countries, an aging population, and urban congestion. Faced with these social problems, East Asian countries need to enhance and improve social welfare and protection mechanisms.

36. The EAVG II recommends that East Asian nations make great efforts in reducing polarisation pertaining to urban-rural areas, domestic-external sectors, and large-small and medium sized companies. Polarisation has harmed particularly women, youth, elderly and disabled. Thus, more effective social policies should be implemented to protect the weak and the vulnerable.

37. The aging population can deteriorate the economic dynamism of the region and increase the demand for welfare spending. A low birth rate which rapidly disintegrates the traditional family system is another concern in East Asia. To effectively respond to these demographic problems, the EAVG II urges East Asia to strengthen its demographic policy cooperation including information sharing and joint research.

38. The EAVG II believes that East Asia should promote corporate social responsibility. Especially in Southeast Asia, multinational corporations are encouraged to be socially responsible in terms of technology transfer and contribution to the development of the local economy.

39. Freer movement of labour will play a positive role in improving economic efficiency. However, low-skilled migrant workers are often employed in declining industries and

manual labor under insecure conditions. The EAVG II calls for joint efforts for the receiving states and the sending states to address issues regarding the regulation of migrant workers taking into account the fundamental rights and dignity of migrant workers without undermining the application by the receiving states of their laws, regulation and policies.

B. Education and Training

40. The EAVG II urges East Asian nations to cooperate in improving access to education to help children complete primary education and to increase secondary school enrollment rates in less-developed countries. At the same time, provision of quality education leads to human resources development, which is the foundation of equal economic opportunity and continued economic development.

41. The EAVG II recommends that East Asian governments encourage and facilitate the leading universities in the region to establish a network of East Asian universities based on the ASEAN University Network platform. This network will play a role in improving university-level curricula in less-developed countries and reduce the quality gap between educational institutions in the region. This network could include student and credit exchange programmes.

42. In the age of the knowledge economy, reducing the digital divide is of great importance, particularly for less-developed countries. Therefore, the EAVG II urges more-advanced countries in the region to offer comprehensive ICT training programmes to less-developed countries.

43. The uneven economic growth across geographical areas brings about discrepancies in the wage rate and labour migration across the region. The improvement of skills and the management of migration, both skilled and unskilled labour, will ensure the human development in the region.

C. Environment and Climate Change

44. Environmental problems caused by natural disasters, rapid industrialisation and urbanisation call for East Asia's increased efforts to protect the ecosystem and devise environment-friendly development strategies.

45. A green growth strategy can make economic growth more energy efficient. This will enable East Asia to combat climate change and protect its environment, while promoting economic development. The EAVG II recommends that East Asian nations put more efforts to the development of green growth strategies that include green technology innovations and increased production and consumption of green products.

46. The EAVG II acknowledges that the protection of the ecosystems in the East Asia region will become a matter of growing concern caused by the rapid industrialisation of the region. The EAVG II underscores the importance of all types of forests in their contribution to socio-economic development, environmental protection and biodiversity conservation at the national, regional and global levels. To this end, East Asia should foster greater efforts in forest cooperation through sound forest policies, proven technologies, research, community projects and education in the context of sustainable forest management.

47. Instability in the global ecosystem has caused frequent floods and droughts, while industrialisation has led to an increased demand for water resources. Moreover, issues related to the use of water resources originating from international rivers are complex problems. To prevent insufficient or unstable water resources from becoming a permanent economic problem of the region, the EAVG II urges that East Asia should share information on water resources management and coordinate policies together.

48. Cross-border environmental problems have negative impacts on the quality of life and have become too complex to be handled by individual countries. The EAVG II recognises that continued and enhanced joint efforts by East Asia are necessary to solve transnational environmental problems, such as haze in Southeast Asia and yellow dust in Northeast Asia.

D. Building an East Asian Identity

49. The EAVG II underscores the importance of consolidating the East Asian identity and hence recommends for joint efforts by cultural and educational organisations to foster a stronger sense of identity and community through the exchange of experts and expansion of such networks. The EAVG II also proposes for the establishment of an Asian edition of UNESCO, to foster education and science and ensure the preservation of the historic sites and rich cultural heritage of the East Asia region.

50. The EAVG II recommends that East Asia strengthen its cultural cooperation so as to increase awareness on the region's rich cultural heritage. East Asian countries shall further share their common identity through deeper knowledge of regional history and broader cultural exchanges.

51. The EAVG II believes that intra-regional tourism, including joint tour programmes, is an important way of increasing people-to-people connectivity. East Asian countries are, therefore, recommends the promotion of intra-regional travel through visa facilitation.

52. To contribute to people-to-people connectivity, the EAVG II recommends an

East Asian volunteers' programme that could encourage people in East Asia to serve countries in the region.

53. Media connectivity in East Asia serves as a shortcut to mutual understanding. The EAVG II thus proposes to strengthen cooperation of East Asian public broadcasting stations. The exchange of programmes and co-production would facilitate communication among East Asians and contribute to the creation of common identifiers of an East Asian culture.

54. The EAVG II recommends that East Asian nations increase their support for East Asian Studies at major universities. Knowledge on the region's history, languages, politics, economy, culture, and society would deepen mutual understanding and build a stronger East Asian identity.

V. Institutional Arrangements

55. In order to pursue East Asia community building in an effective manner, the EAVG II proposes that existing mechanisms be reviewed and streamlined. In this respect, the EAVG II recommends further strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat to better facilitate ASEAN Plus Three cooperation, and more and effective coordination between the ASEAN and the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariats.

56. Given the changing regional and global environment and the increasing pace of regional integration in East Asia, there is a need to accelerate and intensify the cooperation activities in various areas. In addition, ASEAN Plus Three countries should also consider appropriate mechanisms to accomplish this vision.

57. In line with the above, a professional study should be conducted to:

- a) Assess the performance of the existing coordination and management arrangements in cooperation activities with regard to the four coordination functions:
 - i. Among ASEAN Plus Three countries in each area;
 - ii. Across areas at the regional level;
 - iii. Among the stakeholders; and
 - iv. With the major non-East Asian countries.

- b) Determine the coordination and management system of these areas of cooperation, given the constraints of funding and limitations of the ASEAN Secretariat and the best practices in the international organisations and private sector.

- c) Strengthen and expand the East Asia Forum (EAF) as a connectivity hub among various stakeholders involving business, governments, NGOs, and scholars.

58. The private sector should be given the opportunity to participate in determining the direction of future cooperation activities. They should also consider supporting the implementation of this vision through appropriate means.

59. The EAVG II recommends strengthening the APT Cooperation Fund and establishing new funding mechanisms.



Terms of Reference of the East Asia Vision Group II

I. Background

1. With a strong track record of cooperation over the past 14 years, ASEAN Plus Three has evolved into one of the most institutionalized regional mechanisms, making great contributions to East Asia in its march toward a community.
2. The East Asia Vision Group (EAVG), which was tasked to draw up a vision for mid-to-long term cooperation in East Asia, presented to the ASEAN Plus Three Summit in 2001 its final report titled “East Asia community of Peace, Prosperity and Progress”, which laid a solid groundwork for the future direction of East Asia regional cooperation. Carrying the vision set forth by EAVG, the East Asia Study Group (EASG) recommended 26 projects in 2002 to be pursued for building East Asia community. Building upon the groundwork laid by EAVG and EASG, ASEAN Plus Three has undertaken a variety of projects over the past decade.
3. Taking into account that this year marks the 10th anniversary of the EAVG final report and next year marks the 15th anniversary of ASEAN Plus Three, it would be timely and relevant to review and assess all of the cooperation works implemented/being implemented in the framework of ASEAN Plus Three - their achievements and challenges - and carefully reflect on the future direction of ASEAN Plus Three process and regional cooperation in East Asia.
4. To that end, the Republic of Korea has proposed to set up the East Asia Vision Group II at the 2010 Ha Noi ASEAN Plus Three Summit. The ASEAN Plus Three leaders welcomed Korea’s proposal and agreed to “task relevant officials to implement this initiative”.

II. Purpose and Role

5. The EAVG II (hereinafter referred to as “Group”) will take stock of all of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation activities, which includes the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan(2007-2017) and projects recommended by the EAVG and EASG. The Group will evaluate how these cooperation activities have contributed to developing the ASEAN Plus Three mechanism and building a community in East Asia.
6. Based on such stock-taking, the Group will study the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three mechanism: identify promising areas and explore new areas of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation. The group will also study a new vision of regional cooperation and community building with consideration of mutually reinforcing and complementary roles of the ASEAN Plus Three process and such regional mechanism as EAS in promoting East Asian community building, based on the principle of ASEAN Centrality.

III. Organization and Operation

7. The Group will be composed of representatives from ASEAN Plus Three countries. Each government will appoint one eminent representative. One ASEAN Secretariat representative appointed by ASEAN Secretary General will also join the Group. Each representative may designate one expert who will support his/her activities in the Group.
8. The Group may consider holding a separate session back-to-back with its meeting, to discuss with experts or resource persons, including those from non-ASEAN Plus Three countries upon consensus of ASEAN Plus Three countries.
9. The ASEAN Member State assuming the Chairmanship of ASEAN and one of the Plus Three countries shall co-chair the meetings. The Plus Three country co-chair shall be selected by the Plus Three countries. The co-chairs shall prepare the agenda for the meeting.
10. The Group may meet four times prior to the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in 2012. The first meeting is expected to be held in Seoul during the second half of the year 2011. The succeeding meetings will be held alternatively once in one of the ASEAN member countries and then in one of the Plus Three countries. The agenda and procedural rules will be determined at the first meeting.
11. The costs of international travel and accommodations for those referred to in Paragraph 7, as well as the administrative cost of the meeting will be borne by the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund. For the first meeting, the Republic of Korea will bear the above mentioned costs of the meeting.

III. Time Frame

12. Each ASEAN Plus Three country will appoint its eminent representative to the Group by the end of the first half of the year 2011.
13. The Group will remain operative until the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in 2012 in Cambodia. The Group will report its progress to the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in 2011 in Indonesia and submit its final report to the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in 2012.

LIST OF EMINENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE EAVG II AND THEIR BIOGRAPHIES

I. BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

H.E. Dato Erywan Pehin Yusof
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei
Darussalam

Dato Erywan Pehuin Yusof is the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam. He completed his combined Degree with Honours in Genetics and Biophysics at Leeds University and his MSc in Genetics and its Application at the University Colleague Sweansea in the UK.

II. THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

H.E. Meas Kim Heng
Advisor to Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and
International Cooperation of the
Kingdom of Cambodia

H.E. Meas Kim Heng is currently the Advisor to Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia. His last assignments were as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Cambodia to Australia and New Zealand from 2004-2008. He was Director-General of Directorate-General of ASEAN Affairs from 1999-2004 and Director of Asia and Oceania Department from 1994-1995. He also served at the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Washington, DC from 1995-1999.

III. THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

H.E. Jusuf Wanandi

Co-founder and Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies Foundation (CSIS) and Senior Fellow of the CSIS

Mr. Wanandi is the Co-founder and Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees of the CSIS Foundation and Senior Fellow of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Jakarta. He is Chairman of the Indonesia National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (INCPEC) and Co-Chair of CSCAP Indonesia and Board of Trustees of the CSIS Foundation and Senior Fellow of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Jakarta. He is Chairman of the Indonesia National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (INCPEC) and Co-Chair of CSCAP Indonesia and concurrently member of the Steering Committee of CSCAP (Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific). He is also President Director of the publishing.

IV. LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

H.E. Mr. Soubanh Srithirath

Chairman of the Lao National Commission for Drug Control and Supervision

Mr. Srithirath joined the Lao Revolutionary Forces for National Liberation in 1961. From 1974-1975, he held the position of Director of Cabinet, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao Coalition Government and from 1976—1981 he served as General Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also held several other positions such as Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the United Nations, New York (1981-1982); Deputy-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Responsible for International Organizations Affairs, and Western and Developing Countries. Concurrently: responsible for the Lao National Commission on the border demarcation with Myanmar (1982-1998). From 1990 up to the present, he is the Chairman of the Lao National Commission for Drug Control and Supervision.

Mr. Phongsavanh Sisoulath

Deputy Director-General, ASEAN Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lao People's Democratic Republic

Mr. Phongsavanh Sisoulath is the Deputy Director-General of the ASEAN Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People Democratic Republic.

V. MALAYSIA

H.E. Dato' Kamarudin Mustafa

Former Ambassador of Malaysia to Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, and Norway

Dato' Kamarudin Mustafa had served in the Government as an Administrative and Diplomatic Officer from 1974 – 2007. He was the Undersecretary for Southeast Asia and South Asia-Pacific of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1996 – 1998. His last assignment was as Ambassador of Malaysia to Sweden from 2007 – 2010. During his tenure in Government, he had served at the Missions in Islamabad, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Bandar Seri Begawan, New York, Ghana and Russia.

VI. UNION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MYANMAR

H.E. Than Tun Member,
Commission on Assessment of Legal Affairs and Special Issues, Pyithu Hlauttaw (Parliament) of Myanmar

Mr. U Than Thu is now serving as a member of Pyithu Hlauttaw (Parliament) Commission of Assessment of Legal Affairs and Special Issues.

VII. THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**H.E. Sonia****Cataumber-Brady**

Foreign Affairs
Adviser, Department
of Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of the
Philippines

Ambassador Sonia Cataumber-Brady is a Foreign Affairs Adviser in the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines. She was Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs for Policy and SOM Leader (2003-2006), Assistant Secretary of Policy Planning and Coordination (1999-2002), Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Myanmar (1995-1999), Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Thailand and Permanent Representative to Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (2002-2003), and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to China, Mongolia and Democratic People's Republic of Korea (2006-2010). She holds an AB Literature Broadcast Journalism (magna cum laude) from the University of Sto. Tomas, Manila and MA in International Relations from the University of Southern California, USA.

H.E. Rosario G. Manalo

Representative to AICHR and concurrently Senior Foreign Affairs Advisor, Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines

Ambassador Rosario G. Manalo is a Senior Foreign Affairs Adviser in the Department of Foreign Affairs and concurrently serves as the Philippines' Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and Philippine Representative to the Board of Governors of the Asia-Europe Foundation. She served as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary (AEP) to the European Economic Community (1979-1987), AEP to the Kingdom of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (1985-1987), AEP to France, Portugal and UNESCO (1990-1994), AEP to Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Finland; Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania (1994-1997), and Deputy Foreign Minister (1997-2002). She is the current Dean of the School of International Relations and Diplomacy, Philippine Women's University; Professor at Ambassador Rosario G. Manalo is a Senior Foreign Affairs Adviser in the Department of Foreign Affairs and concurrently serves as the Philippines' Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and Philippine Representative to the Board of Governors of the Asia-Europe Foundation. She served as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary (AEP) to the European Economic Community (1979-1987), AEP to the Kingdom of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (1985-1987), AEP to France, Portugal and UNESCO (1990-1994), AEP to Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Finland; Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania (1994-1997), and Deputy Foreign Minister (1997-2002). She is the current Dean of the School of International Relations and Diplomacy, Philippine Women's University; Professor at the University of the Philippines, Ateneo de Manila University, DLSU-College of Saint Benilde; Lecturer at the University of Asia and Pacific, Miriam College, and The Foreign Service Institute; and Fellow at the National Defense College of the Philippines.

VIII. THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**H.E. Chew Tai Soo**

Ambassador-at-Large
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Singapore

Mr Chew Tai Soo is currently Ambassador-at-Large, and concurrently, Senior Adviser, in the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He is also Singapore's Ambassador (Non- Resident) to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Mr Chew was Singapore's Ambassador to France from 2004 to 2007. He was concurrently accredited to Spain and Portugal. Before France, Mr Chew was Ambassador to Japan from 1998 to 2004. He was the Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador-at-Large from 1995 to March 1998. He was Singapore's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York and concurrently the High Commissioner to Canada and Ambassador to Mexico from 1991 to 1995. From 1982 to 1986 he served as Singapore's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva. He joined the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1972 after several years in the private sector. Mr Chew graduated from the University of Manchester in United Kingdom in 1964.

IX. THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

H.E. Dr. Suthad Setboonsarng
Former Trade Representative of
the Kingdom of Thailand

Dr. Suthad used to serve as the Thailand Trade Representative (2009-2011), a special representative of the Prime Minister in negotiation trade and investment issues with other countries and international organizations. Dr. Suthad had been working on international trade and taxes issues in ASEAN, including trade and investment strategy and policies for both the government and leading multinational corporations, especially, the automotive and consumer product industries during his term as Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers. Dr. Suthad was recognised for his contribution in the implementation of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), the accession of Viet Nam.

X. THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

H.E. Nguyen Hoang An
Former Ambassador of the
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
to Indonesia

Nam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1971 after graduating from the Academy of Diplomacy. He held the position of Director-General at the Foreign Ministry until he retired in February 2009.

XI. PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

H.E. Prof. Zhang Yunling

Professor, Academy Member and Director of International Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS), President of China Association of Asia-Pacific Studies, People's Republic of China

ZhangYunling, professor, Academy Member and Director of International Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS), President of China Association of Asia-Pacific Studies. He is a member of National Committee of Chinese Political Consultant Conference. He is also vice chairman of China Committee of PECC, Vice president of China-ROK Friendship Association, Board member of ERIA. He was Director of Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies from 1993-2007. He served as a member of East Asia Vision Group (2000-2001), member of Official Expert Group on China-ASEAN Cooperation (2001), member of ASEM Task Force (2003-2004), Chairman of Joint Expert Group for Feasibility Study on EAFTA (2005-2006), member of Joint Expert Group of CEPEA (2006-2009), Chairman of China-Republic of Korea Joint Expert Committee(2010-). Latest Publication: China and Asia Regionalism (English,2010), China and World: New change, understanding and Identification (Chinese, 2011).

XII. JAPAN

H.E. Dr. Tanaka Akihiko
President, Japan International
Cooperation Agency

Akihiko Tanaka is the President of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Before joining JICA in April 2012, Dr. Tanaka held multiple positions at the University of Tokyo. He served as a Professor of International Politics, Director of the Institute of Oriental Culture (from 2002-2006), Director of the International Relations Division (from 2008-2010), and Vice President (from 2009-2012).

XIII. THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

H.E. Dr. Yoon Young-kwan
Professor of International
Relations, Seoul National
University and Former Minister
of Foreign Affairs and Trade of
the Republic of Korea

Dr. Yoon (Ph.D., SAIS, The Johns Hopkins University) is Professor of International Political Economy at Department of International Relations, Seoul National University. After serving as Chairman of Committee of Foreign Relations, Security, and Unification of Presidential Transition Team, he served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Korean government (2003-04). Before he joined the faculty of Seoul National University in 1990, he taught at University of California at Davis for three years. He established and served as the president of the Korean Institute for Future Strategies and the Korea Peace Institute, private non-profit research institutes. He is currently director of the Center for International Studies, Seoul National University. He wrote several books and published about 50 articles in the field of international political economy, Korea's foreign policy, and inter-Korean relations, some of which appeared in *World Politics*, *International Political Science Review*, *Asian Survey*, *Project Syndicate*, etc.

XIV. ASEAN SECRETARIAT**H.E. Nyan Lynn**

Deputy Secretary-General of the ASEAN Political-Security Department, ASEAN Secretariat

H.E. Mr. Nyan Lynn joined the Myanmar Foreign Service in 1972. Before becoming the Deputy Secretary-General of the ASEAN Political-Security Department at the ASEAN Secretariat, he was the Permanent Representative of Myanmar to ASEAN.

LIST OF SUPPORTING EXPERTS OF THE EAVG II

I. BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

1. **Ms. Jessica Tiah Hui Leng**
Second Secretary, ASEAN Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam

II. THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

2. **Mr. Heng Sokphal** Deputy Director and Head of East Asia Affairs Division, ASEAN - Cambodia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Kingdom of Cambodia

III. THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

3. **Mr. Pitono Purnomo**
Special Adviser to the Director General of ASEAN Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Republic of Indonesia
4. **Dr. Ditya Agung Nurdianto**
Second Secretary and concurrently the Head of Section for the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Republic of Indonesia

IV. LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

5. **Mr. Bounthala Panyavichith**
Director of External Relations Division, ASEAN-Laos, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lao People's Democratic Republic

V. MALAYSIA

6. **Mr. Mohd Norizam Mohd Tahil**
Director of ASEAN Economic Community Division, ASEAN-Malaysia National Secretariat

VI. UNION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MYANMAR

7. **Ms. Ni Tar Myint**
Head of Branch-2, ASEAN Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Union of the Republic of Myanmar

8. **Mr. Aung Lwin**
Deputy Director of ASEAN Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Union of the Republic of Myanmar

VII. THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

9. **Mr. Julio Amador III**
Foreign Affairs Research Specialist, Center for International Relations and
Strategic Studies (CIRSS) of the Foreign Service Institute, the Republic of
the Philippines
10. **Ms. Joycee A. Teodoro**
Foreign Affairs Research Specialist, CIRSS of the Foreign Service Institute,
the Republic of the Philippines

VIII. THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

11. **Ms. Berwine Sim**
Desk Officer of the ASEAN Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the
Republic of Singapore
12. **Mr. Jaspal Dhillon**
Desk Officer of the ASEAN Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the
Republic of Singapore

IX. THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

13. **Mr. Mongkol Visitstump**
Director of ASEAN Division II, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs, the Kingdom of Thailand
14. **Ms. Saranjit Srisarkun**
Counsellor, ASEAN Division II, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs, the Kingdom of Thailand
15. **Mr. Pichaya Lapasthamrong**
Third Secretary, ASEAN Division II, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry
of Foreign Affairs, the Kingdom of Thailand

X. THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

16. **Mr. Tran Duc Binh**
Deputy Director-General, ASEAN Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

17. **Mr. Phan Minh Giang**
Director of the Division for ASEAN External Relations, ASEAN Department,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

XI. PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

18. **Mr. Wang Yuzhu**
Professor, the National Institute of International Strategy (the former
institute
of Asia-Pacific Studies), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and
the Head of Department of Regional Cooperation and Global Governance,
NIIS, People's Republic of China

XII. JAPAN

19. **Dr. Chisako T. Masuo**
Associate Professor of the Graduate School of Social and Cultural Studies,
Kyushu University, Japan

XIII. THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

20. **Dr. Bunsoon Park**
Senior Fellow, Samsung Economic Research Institute(SERI), the Republic
of Korea
21. **Dr. Geun Lee**
Professor of Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National
University, the Republic of Korea

XIV. ASEAN SECRETARIAT

22. **Mr. Bala Kumar Palaniappan**
Head of External Relations Division 2, External Relations Directorate,
ASEAN Political and Security Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat
23. **Ms. Fifi Anggraini Arif**
Technical Officer, External Relations Directorate, ASEAN Political and
Security Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat
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SUMMARY OF STOCK-TAKING ON THE ASEAN PLUS THREE POLITICAL-SECURITY COOPERATION

The process of East Asia community-building, which started with the convening of the first (informal) ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit in the aftermath of the Asian financial crisis, promised closer ties and cooperation between Southeast and Northeast Asian states. This stock-taking exercise focuses only on political security cooperation of the APT. The stock-taking analysis looks at the implementation of APT cooperation in political and security field, both in terms of progresses and challenges. The assessment is divided into two sub-sections, namely before the adoption of the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017), which covers the period of 1997-2007, and after the adoption of the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017), which covers the period of 2008-2011.

Records of APT political and security cooperation during the period 1997-2007 suggest that its activities mainly focused on two types of activities, namely official dialogues and exchanges of views as well as combating transnational crimes (TNCs). Since the first (informal) summit in 1997, the summits serve as an important venue for APT leaders to engage in dialogues and exchange of views. During those occasions, leaders consistently expressed their commitment to work together in order to face challenges confronting the region, and their desire to promote closer cooperation among the APT countries. They also used the summit to exchange views on regional and global issues confronting the region. Similar exercises were also carried out at the meetings of APT Foreign Minister (APTFMM).

While the summits and APTFMM functioned primarily as forums for dialogues, its effects on the process of cooperation should not be underestimated. ASEAN's experience suggests that dialogue plays an important role in creating comfort among participants due to their effects on building confidence and trust. ASEAN's experience also suggests that confidence and trust among participants would strengthen the willingness to embrace and engage in more meaningful and concrete forms of cooperation, leading to the creation of the habit of cooperation. As such, the summit and other official meetings serve as an important confidence and trust-building exercise.

However, it is important to recognise that cooperation in political and security field has been more concrete and progressing faster in the field of combating transnational crimes (TNCs). The emphasis on TNCs in the early stage of APT cooperation clearly demonstrates the recognition by the regional states on the importance of addressing these problems. Therefore, it is not surprising to see that since the beginning, cooperation in this area has progressed rapidly and quickly become more

institutionalised.

The APT Work Plan Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime, endorsed in August 2006 by APT participating states, provides the basis for APT countries to cooperate on legal matters, information exchange/intelligence sharing, law enforcement cooperation, and training and capacity-building in order to combat TNC. It also contains a list of comprehensive and concrete measures and programs that would contribute to the strengthening of cooperation among the APT countries in seven areas: terrorism, illegal drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, money laundering, arms smuggling, sea piracy, international economic crime, and cyber crime, each with a “lead shepherd”.

The issuance of the 2nd Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the adoption of the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) in November 2007 provided a new impetus and stronger foundation for the APT to take political-security cooperation into the next stage. In this regards, the willingness and readiness of APT participating countries to expand political and security cooperation are clearly outlined in five areas of priority in a comprehensive list of cooperative measures, namely deepen political and security cooperation; peace and stability cooperation in the region; counter-terrorism; maritime cooperation; and other non-traditional security issues.

Despite such a comprehensive framework and concrete measures for cooperation, the assessment on the implementation of the Work Plan suggests that progress has been slow and uneven. During the period of 2007 to 2011, for example, various political and security-related activities undertaken within the APT framework only covered two out of five areas of cooperation, namely in the areas of (1) deepen political and security cooperation and (2) transnational crime. Even in these two areas, in addition to the convening of various official meetings, activities undertaken tend to take the forms of seminar, conference, and symposium among officials in charge of respective fields.

A general explanation can be given with regards to the reasons why APT cooperation in political and security field -except in the field of transnational crimes- has been slow and uneven. While cooperation political-security field within the APT framework has been limited and uneven, many of the measures outlined in the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) have in fact been carried within ASEAN Plus One frameworks.

This stocktaking exercise concludes by offering three options that need to be considered by the APT in deciding how it would want to proceed in the future.

First Option: The APT can continue its efforts to undertake political-security cooperation as outlined in the Work Plan (2007-2017). This will require the APT to speed up the implementation of the Work Plan so that it could address not only the

gap between political-security field and other fields of cooperation, but also within the political-security field itself.

Second Option: The APT can remove cooperation on political-security issues from its agenda, and concentrate instead on strengthening, deepening, and expanding functional cooperation in other areas, especially economic cooperation, finance, trade, investment and social-cultural cooperation. This option would then require an agreement to “transfer” political-security cooperation into the East Asia Summit (EAS) process.

Third Option: The APT maintains its main characteristic as a process for functional cooperation as in Option Two, but it will still take up security issues that are relevant, or have direct bearing on, functional cooperation. For example, the APT can adopt an agenda of cooperation on strengthening cooperation in dealing with those problems that could hamper ASEAN connectivity plans such as port safety and terrorism. It can also cooperate on those issues that could derail economic development and growth such as infectious diseases, frauds, and natural disasters.

SUMMARY OF STOCK-TAKING REPORT ON ASEAN PLUS THREE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION

The evolution of ASEAN Plus Three (APT) has been slow but gradual in its progress to contribute to East Asia in its march toward a community. Now in its 15th anniversary since APT began, it is timely and relevant to take stock and assess all relevant cooperation activities implemented/being implemented in the framework of APT – their achievements and challenges – and consider thoroughly on the future direction of APT process and regional cooperation in East Asia. Therefore, this study is conducted to assist the Eminent Representatives of the EAVG II with a study on APT economic and financial cooperation. The study focuses on five cooperation areas, namely, trade and investment, financial cooperation, food and agriculture, connectivity and energy.

Trade and Investment

Among the major goals of the EAVG Report in 2001 was to achieve closer economic cooperation in the areas of trade, investment, finance and development. Key recommendations that remain up to these dates include the establishment of the East Asian Free Trade Area (EAFTA) and liberalization of trade well ahead of the APEC Bogor Goal, and the expansion of the Framework Agreement on an ASEAN Investment Area to all East Asia.

Another progress in trade and investment is the launch of the “Second Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the APT Cooperation Work Plan”. The Cooperation Work Plan places more importance on the cooperation process of East Asia in the global context including cooperation in the WTO, trade facilitation, liberalization of trade and services.

As for the progress of EAFTA, at the 12th AEM+3 meeting, the ministers welcomed the EAFTA Phase II Study. They considered recommendations from Phase I and Phase II studies to establish working groups in rules of origin, tariff nomenclature, customs cooperation, and economic cooperation. At the 13th AEM+3 meeting, they were tasked to look at the recommendations that EAFTA and CEPEA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership of East Asia, another initiative by Japan for East Asia) should be considered in parallel.

For investment cooperation, recommendations from EASG, both short- and medium- to long-term, had functioned very little in practice. Even the Cooperation Work Plan emphasized the importance of investment cooperation; it had not been able to stir the interests among APT members in an important way.

In summary, the gradual approach in advancing trade and investment cooperation produces little results. The evidence is neither an EAFTA nor an East Asia Investment Area was created during the past 12 years. APT process should study how to make it better functions and set proper mechanisms for both short- and, medium- and long-term measures and action plans.

Financial Cooperation

The 1997/98 Asian financial crisis has alarmed East Asia for the better management of macroeconomic policy and financial systems. The Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) was set up in 2000, building upon the ASEAN Swap Arrangement, as the bilateral swap arrangement. In 2009, it was multilateralized to be the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM). The CMIM also has drawbacks. The scale of the swap arrangement is too small as compared to the US bilateral swaps. The system is too slow to serve the rapid need of liquidity support as the participating countries need to agree to contribute on each incident when any participating members need supports. Most importantly, the participating countries retain the right to decline to contribute. The ASEAN plus three countries also launched the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) in 2003 to promote the use of local-currency bond markets. Recently in 2008, there was the new road map for the ABMI which highlighted in four areas; promoting the issuance of local currency bonds, facilitating the demand for such bonds, improving the regulatory framework, and improving bond market infrastructure.

It is import for APT to involve other stakeholders, especially, the private sector to form a joint public-private partnership to strengthen this regional effort. The new version of CMIM must have a larger amount of funding and involves more countries. As the region that shares about 25% of global GDP, APT needs a credible regional monetary institution.

Food and Agriculture

Even though the area of food and agriculture was not mentioned in the EAVG Report I in 2001, it has become an important topic in the region and in the global context. By October 2011, the APT Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry developed the APT Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) Framework consisting of six strategic areas, i.e. strengthening food security, biomass energy development, sustainable forest management, climate change mitigation and adaptation, animal health and disease control, and cross-cutting issues.

In May 2009, the APT Leaders adopted APT Comprehensive Strategy on Food Security and Bio-energy development with the view to providing the guarantee multi-

sectoral cooperation among APT countries in ensuring long-term food security and bio-energy development. The APT Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) was signed by the AMAF+3 in October 2011, a permanent scheme for meeting emergency requirements and achieving humanitarian purposes.

The problem of food and agriculture cooperation in APT is the protection of the farm sector which has large number of voters. However, as food security can be a threat to economic stability in the region, APT has to confront the issue now. APTERR is a good positive step forward.

Connectivity

According to the UN-ARTNeT database, there are more than 130 preferential trade agreements enforced in the Asia-Pacific region. With the implementation of several regional and preferential agreements, tariff and non-tariff barriers have the tendencies to reduce tremendously. As such, the connectivity to moving forward to become an important agenda to improve trade and investment performance as is considered to be fully integrated with transaction costs in international trade. It is expected to develop ASEAN+3 Connectivity Partnership and finalize the framework to be endorsed in the ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers Meeting in July 2012 and the ASEAN+3 Summit in 2012.

APT has been working with ASEAN on the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). There are also other connectivity initiatives in APT or APT-related agreements such as GMS, IMT-GT, ASEAN-China, ASEAN-Japan and ASEAN-ROK.

However, the progress of APT connectivity is very slow as there is no permanent body on connectivity. Precisely, there is still no APT transport or connectivity ministers' meeting. However, there is the initiation of an APT Transport Ministers Meeting in the 18th ASEAN summit in Jakarta and APT summit in Hanoi in 2011. In that ASEAN summit, the idea of APT Connectivity Partnership is proposed in order to extend physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity from ASEAN connectivity to other key markets and sources including the Plus three countries.

Energy Cooperation

The APT region is one of the major primary energy consumers in the world, especially in non-renewable energy resources. However, the region has very low reserves in oil and energy with self-sufficient ratio around 72 percent, in addition to the world's major risk of energy depletion, particularly in crude oil. Another major concern about world energy is a skyrocket rise and high volatility in oil prices since 2005.

Due to the great concern regarding energy security, APT Energy Minister agreed

upon the five-point initiatives for energy cooperation among ASEAN and plus three countries in September 2002, as a part of the 8th International Energy Forum. The five-point initiatives consist of the creation of emergency energy security network, the development of oil stockpiling, joint studies on the APT oil market, the improvement of natural gas development and the improvement of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

After that, a Fora of Experts for each initiatives are formed. There have been 7 ASEAN Ministers on Energy+3 (China, Japan, Korea) Meeting (AMEM+3) and nine Senior Officials Meeting on Energy+3 (China, Japan, Korea) Consultations (SOME+3 Consultations).

The progress of the five-point initiatives is still limited. Most of the initiatives are at very preliminary stage such as APT oil market, natural gas development and the improvement of energy efficiency and renewable energy. Some other initiatives such as oil stock piling are on voluntary and non-binding, causing a big gap between developed member countries and least developed member countries.

SUMMARY OF STOCK-TAKING REPORT ON ASEAN PLUS THREE SOCIO-CULTURAL COOPERATION

1. The East Asia Vision Group II (EAVG II) was mandated by the Leaders at the 13th ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit in 2010 to stock-take, review and identify the future direction of APT cooperation. The EAVG II will first evaluate APT cooperation activities, including the progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the first EAVG (EAVG I)¹, the East Asia Study Group (EASG)², and the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2007 to 2017). Based on this stock-taking, the EAVG II will consider the future direction of regional cooperation and community building in East Asia. This stock-taking report focuses on APT socio-cultural cooperation.

2. The 2001 EAVG I report was seen as having taken a balanced approach. It had recommended that cooperation be based on common interest and shared values and principles. A key principle of cooperation was deemed to be “people-focused”. The APT should affirm this principle. On the whole, many of the recommendations of the EAVG I and EASG have been carried out. This includes a wide array of cooperation areas such as health, education, and environment. In health, the APT Emerging Infectious Disease Programme was developed to reduce the impact of emergent and resurgent infectious diseases in the region. One of its key initiatives, the APT Partnership Laboratories, was established in 2009 and aims to further strengthen the laboratory surveillance and networking on health issues within the region. In environment, workshops have been organised for the sharing of expertise between ASEAN and the Plus Three Partners. APT cooperation in education was given a recent boost with the convening of the Informal APT Education Ministers’ Meeting in 2011. The inaugural APT Education Ministers’ Meeting, to be held bi-annually, will be convened in 2012. We should continue to build on such progress. For example, education is a great equaliser not only within a society, but also between the developing and developed countries. It would help to narrow the development gap and raise standards of living in our region. We should continue to forge greater cooperation in education to enhance the skills of our peoples and build the leaders of the future.

3. At the same time, it might be worthwhile for the APT to re-visit recommendations from the EAVG I that have not been implemented, assess the reasons why (e.g.

¹ The EAVG I was formed in 1999 to “offer a common vision for East Asia that reflects the rapidly changing regional and global environment, as well as to provide future direction for cooperation among East Asian nations.” It submitted its report to the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders in 2001.

² The EASG was established in 2001 to assess the recommendations of the EAVG I. It submitted its report to the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders in 2002.

due to lack of political will, resources, etc), and considered in 2001 to assess the recommendations of the EAVG I. It submitted its report to the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders in 2002 if it would be useful for future regional cooperation. Water resource management is one such example. Water is intrinsically linked to the most immediate challenges of the region, including food security, climate change and economic growth. Long-term planning, careful management of water resources, judicious investment in infrastructure and effective use of technology are necessary to ensure an adequate and sustainable supply of water. As such, the EAVG II recommends cooperation in water resource management as one of the concrete projects for future regional cooperation.

4. It is also worth considering new areas of cooperation to meet the changing needs of the region. Given the recent natural disasters in the region like the Tohoku earthquake in Japan and the floods in Cambodia and Thailand in 2011, the EAVG II recommends strengthening cooperation in disaster management. This is also provided for in the APT Work Plan (2007 to 2017). The APT could study the Plus One and larger fora to see where they can add-value to the APT. For example, the US had provided assistance to APT member countries struck by natural disasters, like the Tohoku earthquake in Japan, Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar, and the Aceh tsunami in Indonesia. At the 6th East Asia Summit (EAS) in November 2011, the US had circulated a non-paper on “EAS Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief Priorities” as well as a “Rapid Disaster Response Agreement”. Indonesia and Australia had also tabled a joint non-paper on “A Practical Approach to Enhance Regional Cooperation on Disaster Rapid Response”.

5. Finally, it is stressed that the APT process should support and reinforce ASEAN's own integration agenda. In this regard, in considering the future direction of East Asian cooperation and community building, the EAVG II recommends that the key basis for future cooperation in the APT is to further the objectives of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). The APT could find synergies between the implementation of the MPAC and East Asian community building. The MPAC aims to enhance physical, institutional, and people-to-people linkages and contribute towards ASEAN's goal of an integrated Community in 2015. It may also be worthwhile to recall that the EAVG I envisioned an East Asia that remains “outward-looking and open to the rest of the world”. The APT should affirm this principle. The APT should also continue to find complementarities with other regional mechanisms such as the EAS in promoting East Asian cooperation and community building.

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