

**JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT
THE MEETING OF ASEAN MINISTERS
RESPONSIBLE FOR CULTURE AND ARTS (AMCA) WITH
DIALOGUE PARTNERS**

25 August 2016, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam

1. The ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) Meetings with Dialogue Partners, including the ASEAN Plus Three (AMCA+3), China, Japan and the Republic of Korea were held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 25 August 2016. The Meetings were held in conjunction with the Seventh AMCA Meeting, and was preceded by the relevant senior officials meetings.
2. The Meetings were officiated and chaired by H.E. Pehin Dato Major General (retired) Haji Halbi Md Yussof, Minister for Culture, Youth and Sports of Brunei Darussalam. H.E. Mr. Ding Wei, Vice Minister of Culture of China, co-chaired the ASEAN Plus China Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting. H.E. Hiroyuki Yoshiie, State 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. Mr. Bang Sun-gyu, President of Asia Culture Center (ACC), Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea, co-chaired the ASEAN Plus ROK Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting.
3. The Ministers noted that the earthquake of 6.8 Richter scale hit Myanmar on 24 August 2016 which severely damaged the archaeological sites in Bagan. The Ministers also noted that the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (or AHA Centre) is closely monitoring the situation and will provide assistance to the Government of Myanmar upon their request. The Ministers shared a common view that ASEAN shall work closely with Dialogue Partners to develop the disaster risk reduction measures and preparedness strategy to prevent and minimize losses of lives, cultural property and to join hands in restoration of heritage sites.
4. The Ministers noted the adoption of the ASEAN Strategic Plan for Culture and Arts 2016–2025 and expressed their support and encouragement for the Plus Three countries to join hands in the implementation of the Strategic Plan.
5. The Ministers were pleased with the progress of culture and the arts collaborations between ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries, including the organisation of the ASEAN Plus Three Mask Festival held in Thailand in July 2016, and the 9th and 10th ASEAN Plus Three Workshop on Cultural Human Resource Development and Cooperation conducted in different cities of China in August 2015 and July 2016, respectively.
6. The Ministers were of the view that there is a potential to further foster long-term partnership between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries by advancing and expanding city-level cultural exchange through joint cultural activities and art festivals under the ASEAN City of Culture and the East Asian Cultural Cities.

7. At the Third AMCA+China Meeting, the ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation of China's efforts in cooperation with AMS in the implementation of the Plan of Action on ASEAN-China Cooperation in Culture (2014 – 2018), and their interest to continue cooperation with China in the areas of culture and the arts, cultural industries, cultural heritage safeguarding, public cultural service system, culture and technology development, and creativity across China, including Hong Kong and Macau.

8. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed the proposal of China to host the 11th ASEAN-China Cultural Forum in China, and explored the possible approaches the Forum may take in the future. The Ministers noted the commemorative activities for the 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations. The ASEAN Ministers also appreciated China's Cultural Volunteer Programme.

9. At the Second AMCA+Japan Meeting, the ASEAN Ministers appreciated Japan's invitation to 'World Forum on Sport and Culture' in October 2016 and its efforts to promote cultural cooperation in media and performing arts by dispatching film and animation experts, and in copyright protection and utilisation by organising study visit and workshops, as well as the ASEAN-Japan Work Plan on Culture and the Arts to keep track of both sides' cooperation programmes for 2015-2018.

10. The ASEAN Ministers noted the proposed project titled "ASEAN Cultural Heritage Digital Archive" to be funded by Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund with the aim to support ASEAN Member States' efforts in sharing their digital archives and promoting public access to the digital archives of AMS through digitisation of cultural heritage collections.

11. At the Second AMCA+ROK Meeting, the ASEAN Ministers expressed appreciation of ROK's technical support through consulting activities, trainings, and culture-sharing projects such as the Training for ASEAN Children's Librarians and the Workshop on Improving the Current Status of ASEAN Mastercraft Designers.

12. The Meeting welcomed the establishment of the Asia Culture Center in Gwangju, and the ASEAN Culture House in Busan, and expressed their support to utilise these facilities to further advance ASEAN-ROK cultural and art exchanges.

13. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre for their active role in promoting culture and the arts exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries by convening events, trainings and media promotion.

14. The Ministers welcomed the invitation of Indonesia to the 2nd World Culture Forum which will be held on 10–14 October 2016 in Bali, and looked forward to its successful implementation.

15. The Ministers agreed to convene the next ministerial meetings in Indonesia in 2018.

16. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the People of Brunei Darussalam for the warm hospitality accorded to all delegations and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meetings.
