

**JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT OF  
THE EIGHTEENTH ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING  
ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (AMMSTI-18)**

11 October 2019 | Singapore

1. The Eighteenth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation (AMMSTI-18) was held on 11 October 2019 in Singapore. It was chaired by H.E. Dr. Koh Poh Koon, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Republic of Singapore.
2. The Ministers congratulated Singapore for the successful hosting of various events in conjunction with the AMMSTI-18, which include:
  - i. the 51<sup>st</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Biotechnology (SCB-51);
  - ii. the 50<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Food Science and Technology (SCFST-50);
  - iii. the 55<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on S&T Infrastructure and Resource Development (SCIRD-55);
  - iv. the 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Meteorology and Geophysics (SCMG-41);
  - v. the 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Microelectronics and Information Technology (SCMIT-48);
  - vi. the 2019 Meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Marine Science and Technology (SCMSAT-2019);
  - vii. the 49<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Material Science and Technology (SCMST-49);
  - viii. the 49<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Sustainable Energy Research (SCSER-49);
  - ix. the 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Space Technology and Application (SCOSA-30);
  - x. the Joint Sub-Committees Meeting;
  - xi. the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Board of Advisers to ASEAN Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation (BAC-8); and
  - xii. the 77<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation (COSTI-77).
3. The Ministers expressed support to the development of the ASEAN Innovation Roadmap 2019-2025 as one of the Thailand's 2019 ASEAN Chairmanship Deliverables to provide the framework and platform to implement ASEAN Declaration on Innovation adopted at the 31<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2017.
4. The Ministers agreed that the ASEAN Innovation Roadmap 2019-2025 is intended to act as the guide to introduce the collective future ASEAN wants to create, and also the roles, processes and arrangements needed to coordinate, develop, implement, and adjust the initiatives under the Roadmap's Implementation Plan, which will be carried out during the period of 2020 to 2025.
5. The Ministers exchanged views on 1) The Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR): Workforce Readiness and Private Sector Engagement and 2) Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Talent Development. The approach should be

one of a whole-of-society involving all stakeholders and taking account the heterogeneity of the economic status of AMS. Upskilling and reskilling of the workforce and higher education curriculum reform should be informed by foresight studies. Initiatives to engage the private sector can be redesigned to create a more conducive innovation ecosystem.

6. The Ministers further expressed support for the role of COSTI as the Lead Sectoral Body on Innovation which shall lead the effort in coordinating existing and future work addressing cross-pillar and/or cross-sectoral issue on innovation.
7. Underscoring the importance of leveraging the paradigm shift in science and technologies to a sustainable and inclusive approach, the Ministers were pleased to note the establishment of ASEAN Standards Dosimetry Laboratory Network and the progress of the ASEAN Young Scientists Network, the ASEAN High Performance Computing (HPC) Shared Infrastructure Initiative and the ASEAN Diagnostics Development (DxD) Initiative, and welcomed the Initiative on ASEAN STI Platform for Disaster and Climate Resilience.
8. The Ministers were pleased to note that after the last 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN-China Joint Science and Technology Committee (ACJSTC-9) held 5 years ago in 2014, the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN-China Joint Science and Technology Committee (ACJSTC-10) was successfully held on 21 September 2019 in Nanning, China.
9. The Ministers welcomed the continued cooperation with Japan through the Japan-ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Platform (JASTIP), the Sakura Science Plan's Exchange Programme for Young ASEAN Officials Working in STI for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the proposed Japan-ASEAN STI for SDGs Bridging Initiative.
10. The Ministers were pleased to note the continued cooperation with India through the ASEAN-India Space Cooperation Programme, the ASEAN-India Collaborative R&D Programme (AICRD), and the ASEAN-India Research Training Fellowship (AIRTF) for ASEAN Researchers.
11. Encouraging strengthened utilisation of STI for economic growth, the Ministers endorsed ASEAN-ROK STI Training Programme 2019 and 2019 ASEAN-ROK Award for Excellence in Science, Technology and Innovation.
12. The Ministers welcomed progress in implementing the ASEAN-Russia Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (ARPASTI) and were pleased to note that after the last 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN-Russia Working Group in Science and Technology (ARWGST-8) held in 2017, the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN-Russia Working Group in Science and Technology (ARWGST-9) will be held on 7 November 2019 in Moscow, Russia.
13. The Ministers were pleased to note the progress in implementing and commencing projects/programmes under the funding instrument for ASEAN cooperation with EU and US, namely, the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), and the ASEAN-USAID Inclusive Growth in ASEAN through Innovation, Trade and E-Commerce (IGNITE) respectively.

14. The Ministers approved the following COSTI 2020 Priorities:
- a. Implementation of the ASEAN Innovation Roadmap 2019-2025 on:
    - i. Curriculum on human resources development
    - ii. Talent mobility system
  - b. The ASEAN Diagnostics Development (DxD) Initiative
  - c. ASEAN High Performance Computing (HPC) Shared Infrastructure Initiative
  - d. STI Framework for Action: Converging towards the Development of an ASEAN STI Platform for Disaster and Climate Resilience
  - e. ASEAN Young Scientists Network
  - f. Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) focusing on workforce readiness and private sector engagement
15. The Ministers congratulated the recipients of the 2019 ASEAN-US Science Prize for Women. The recipients were as follows:
- Winner: Dr. Yan Zhou, Singapore
  - Honourable Mention: Dr. Mary Donnabelle Balela, Philippines
16. The Ministers were informed that the 11<sup>th</sup> Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation (IAMMSTI-11) will be hosted by Thailand on 9 October 2020 in Bangkok.
17. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of the Singapore for the warm hospitality accorded to them and for the excellent arrangement made.

### LIST OF ASEAN MINISTERS

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. **H.E. Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Matsatejo Bin Sokiaw**, Deputy Minister of Energy, Manpower and Industry, Brunei Darussalam (representing H.E. Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mat Suny Bin Haji Md Hussein, Minister of Energy, Manpower and Industry, Brunei Darussalam)
- ii. **H.E. Kitti Settha Pandita Cham Prasadh** Senior Minister and Minister of Industry and Handicraft (MIH), the Kingdom of Cambodia
- iii. **H.E. Dr. Muhammad Dimiyati**, Director General of Strengthening for Research and Development, Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education (MoRTHE), the Republic of Indonesia (representing H.E. Prof. H. Mohamad Nasir, Minister for Research, Technology and Higher Education, the Republic of Indonesia)
- iv. **H.E. Mr. Houmphanh Intharath**, Vice Minister of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), the Lao People's Democratic

Republic (representing H.E. Prof. Dr. Boviengkham Vongdara, Minister of Science and Technology, the Lao People's Democratic Republic)

- v. **H.E. Madam Isnaraissah Munirah Majilis**, Deputy Minister of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment, and Climate Change (MESTECC), Malaysia (representing H.E. Madam Yeo Bee Yin, Minister of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia)
- vi. **H.E. Mr. Win Maw Tun**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education (MOE), the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (representing H.E. Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Union Minister of Education, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar)
- vii. **H.E. Prof. Fortunato T. de la Peña**, Secretary (Minister) of Science and Technology, Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Republic of the Philippines
- viii. **H.E. Dr. Koh Poh Koon**, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), the Republic of Singapore (representing H.E. Chan Chun Sing, Minister for Trade and Industry, the Republic of Singapore)
- ix. **H.E. Assoc. Prof. Soranit Siltharm, MD.**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation (MHESI), the Kingdom of Thailand (representing H.E. Suvit Maesincee, Minister of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation, the Kingdom of Thailand)
- x. **H.E. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bui The Duy**, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology, Ministry for Science and Technology (MOST), the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (representing H.E. Chu Ngoc Anh, Minister of Science and Technology, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)
- xi. **H.E. Dr. Aladdin D. Rillo**, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community, ASEAN Secretariat (representing H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN)

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