

# PRESS STATEMENT FOR THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME &

## SPECIAL ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON THE RISE OF RADICALISATION AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

### 29 SEPTEMBER - 2 OCTOBER 2015 KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

#### 10<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA) will be hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) in Kuala Lumpur from 29 September - 1 October 2015 and this meeting will be chaired by The Honourable Dato' Seri Dr. Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Deputy Prime Minister cum Minister of Home Affairs. This is a biennial meeting involving Ministers from the Southeast Asia that are tasked in overseeing transnational crime issues. Additionally, MOHA will also be hosting the Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism (SAMMRRVE) on 2 October 2015.

The AMMTC is entrusted to tackle eight areas of transnational crimes namely Terrorism, Trafficking in Persons, Cybercrime, Sea Piracy, Economic Crime, Money Laundering, Arms Smuggling and Illegal Smuggling of Drugs.

AMMTC is responsible to coordinate activities on relevant ASEAN bodies namely the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD), ASEAN Chiefs of National Police (ASEANPOL) and Directors-General of Immigration and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM).

All these sectoral bodies are under the ASEAN Political Security Community (APSC) which will make up the ASEAN Community targeted by the end of 2015 besides the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC).

The 10<sup>th</sup> AMMTC is expected to adopt two important Declarations namely the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Irregular Movement of Persons in Southeast Asia and the Kuala Lumpur Declaration in Combating Transnational Crime.

2 of 2 pur Declaration on Irregular Movement of Persons In Southeast Asia Emergency ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) on Irregular Movement of Persons in Southeast Asia that was held in Kuala Lumpur on 2 July 2015. The Declaration will highlight regional commitment to address irregular movement of persons that is closely linked to the issues of trafficking in persons and people smuggling, including the establishment of a trust fund to assist ASEAN Member countries in facing this issue.

The Kuala Lumpur Declaration in Combating Transnational Crime is to reflect renewed and continuous commitments by ASEAN to combat transnational crime issues since the adoption of ASEAN Declaration on Transnational Crime in 1997.

Another significant outcome of the 10<sup>th</sup> AMMTC is the endorsement of two important documents namely; the ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) and the ASEAN Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children (APA).

ACTIP reflects the ASEAN response to the problem of trafficking in persons in the region and which will be binding upon all ASEAN Member States. Hence, ASEAN Member States are expected to ensure that their domestic legislations are consistent with the ACTIP once the document comes into force. Meanwhile, APA would supplement the ACTIP to reflect regional resolve to combating trafficking in persons.

## Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism (SAMMRRVE)

The purpose of the Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism (SAMMRRVE) is to provide a platform for ASEAN Member States to exchange experiences, views and ideas on the best practices in handling the issues of radicalisation and violent extremism particularly in South East Asia. This is to showcase regional solidarity and resolve to tackle both issues that could lead to the commission of the acts of terrorism. Thi

SAMMRRVE is also in line with the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSC) 2178 adopted in New York on 24 September 2014. The Resolution requires all United Nations Member States to take concrete steps in addressing the threats posed by the Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) by building community resilience in countering violent extremism to prevent terrorism.

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