Joint Press Statement of the Fourteenth Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General Of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM)

Nay Pyi Taw, 13-14 December 2010

1. The 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM) was held on 13-14 December 2010 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. It was chaired by U Maung Maung Than, Director-General of the Department of Immigration and National Registration, Ministry of Immigration and Population, Myanmar, and was attended by the Directors-General of Immigration and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the ASEAN Member States, representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat, and DGICM's dialogue partner, Australia.

2. The Meeting noted the updates on implementation of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Visa Exemption, and lauded the successful conclusion of the bilateral MOUs among Lao PDR and Myanmar and Cambodia and Thailand.

3. The Meeting recommended to conduct another Ad-Hoc Technical Working Group Meeting on the financial reimbursement procedures related to the Provision of Emergency Assistance by ASEAN Missions in Third Countries to Nationals of ASEAN Member States in 2011 as deliberated during the Consular Luncheon.

4. The Meeting also noted the report of the 6th ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum (AIIF) held on 13 December 2010 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Meeting commended the important role of the AIIF in sharing immigration intelligence information among ASEAN Member States and highlighted that the AIIF can serve as a forum to identify the gaps in immigration intelligence sharing.

5. While noting the need for strengthening regional collaboration and cooperation on immigration, DGICM would further pursue the possibility of holding Consultations with its Dialogue Partners, regional and international organizations to discuss the issues of mutual interest and benefit.

6. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN and the Meeting expressed gratitude to the warm hospital accorded by the Government and the People of Union of Myanmar.
