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I. ASEAN SUMMIT DOCUMENTS

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Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 11 May 2014

1. The 24th ASEAN Summit, under Myanmar's Chairmanship theme, "***Moving forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community***", was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar from 10 to 11 May 2014. The Summit was chaired by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Excellency U Thein Sein. The Summit was attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States and the Secretary-General of ASEAN. Thailand was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister of its caretaker government as special envoy.
 2. We, the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States had productive discussions during the 24th ASEAN Summit, focusing on the timely realization of the ASEAN Community by 2015, strengthening ASEAN Institutions and envisioning a strategic direction for the ASEAN Community post-2015. We also exchanged views on regional and international issues and discussed ways to further deepen and strengthen ASEAN's external relations.
- Towards a Peaceful and Prosperous ASEAN Community**
3. Reflecting the Chair's theme of "***Moving forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community***", we underscored the importance of ASEAN unity as a foundation for all our efforts in promoting regional peace, stability and enhancing economic development. ASEAN unity was recognised as the core foundation for realising a politically cohesive, economically integrated and socially responsible ASEAN Community.
 4. We reiterated our commitment to a rules-based community which would guarantee peace, security and stability throughout the region. In pursuit of ASEAN's goals and objectives in the political and security field, we committed to forging harmonious and shared values and norms among ASEAN Member States. We underscored the importance of taking a holistic approach to comprehensive security through shared responsibility.
 5. We reaffirmed our pledge to strengthen democracy, enhance good governance and the rule of law and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms. In this regard, we committed to adhere to the principles of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, peaceful settlement of disputes and non interference in internal affairs as reflected in the ASEAN Charter, which are in line with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and international law to complement global efforts for international peace and security.
 6. We stressed the importance of continuing to strengthen cooperation under the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Declaration on Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN), and the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ). We reaffirmed the TAC was the key code of conduct for governing inter-state relations in the region and a foundation for maintaining regional peace and stability. In this context, we welcomed the adoption of the revised guidelines for accession to the TAC by Foreign Ministers and agreed to further consider the remaining requests from other countries to accede to the TAC, in accordance with the revised guidelines.
 7. We reiterated our commitment to a Southeast Asian region free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, as stated in the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ) and the ASEAN Charter.

We expressed hope for the early accession of all nuclear-weapon states to the Protocol to the SEANWFZ without reservation.

8. We shared the common view that despite widespread opportunities for our region, numerous challenges also existed. We agreed to continually look forward, planning for future issues, that would challenge and shape our region. We agreed that trust, communication, and management of differences were a common responsibility of the wider region. In this regard, we welcomed Indonesia's efforts to propose a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in the wider Indo-Pacific region.
9. We expressed our satisfaction with the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Charter, in providing the legal status and institutional framework for ASEAN since its adoption in 2007. In this respect, we urged ASEAN Member States for the timely ratification of all outstanding legal instruments.
10. We recognised continued progress on the implementation of the ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC) Blueprint, particularly by ensuring peace and harmony among ASEAN Member States and global partners. We appreciated efforts by ASEAN Member States to push forward the implementation of APSC Blueprint and urged them to continue implementation. We reaffirmed our belief that measures taken to implement the APSC Blueprint would pave the way for regional peace, stability and security, which would contribute to regional growth and prosperity by providing a stable and predictable economic environment. We welcomed those ASEAN Member States that volunteered to shepherd the implementation of remaining action lines under the APSC Blueprint.
11. We welcomed the draft Concept paper on Establishing A Direct Communications Link in the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Process to be adopted by the ASEAN Defence Ministers at their Eight Meeting on 20 May 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, which will provide a permanent, rapid, reliable and confidential means by which any two ASEAN Defence Ministers may communicate with each other to arrive at mutual decisions in handling crisis or emergency situations, in particular related to maritime security.
12. We take note of the progress of discussions by our officials on the proposal to extend our support to ASEAN Member States that do not have permanent representation in third countries to help their respective nationals in need of consular assistance. This would add meaning to the raising of the ASEAN flag alongside the national flags of ASEAN Member States in the ASEAN missions abroad and, in this regard, we task our relevant officials to continue their deliberations on consular assistance for ASEAN nationals in third countries.
13. We reiterated our strong belief that peace, stability and equitable economic growth within ASEAN would enable our peoples to enjoy their human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD) and the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the AHRD. In this respect, we acknowledged and commended the ongoing efforts of the ASEAN Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) on its various programs and activities. We looked forward to the review of the TOR of AICHR on both the promotion and protection of human rights within ASEAN. This review would be undertaken by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting.
14. We took note of the important contributions made by various mechanisms under the ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC), the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting AMM), ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), ASEAN Law Ministers Meeting (ALAWMM), ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and the ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF), to maintain and promote peace, security and stability in the region.
15. We underlined the importance of strengthening synergies among ASEAN mechanisms and other regional security mechanisms, to effectively tackle the challenges of non-traditional security threats, including cyber-crime; space security; terrorism; piracy and armed robbery against ships, transnational crime, including drug trafficking, human trafficking and illegal arms trafficking; infectious disease; climate change; water resource management; natural disasters and illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (IUU). We tasked respective Ministers to enhance inter-agency and cross-sectoral coordination within

ASEAN as well as with external partners, to improve resilience and enhance capacity to tackle these emerging transnational issues.

16. We emphasized the importance of military to military cooperation to build mutual trust and confidence. We endorsed the ADMM and ADMM-Plus' action oriented efforts to advance practical cooperation amongst our militaries. We looked forward to further progress in practical cooperation led by the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups.
17. Given the complex nature and challenges of trafficking in persons, while welcoming the progress made by the previous Working Group Meeting, we reaffirmed our continued commitment to the process of ACTIP and RPA to meet the urgent need to combat trafficking in person in the region.
18. We welcomed Viet Nam's offer to host the 5th ASEAN Maritime Forum and the 3rd Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum from 26 to 28 August 2014 in Da Nang, Viet Nam. In this regard, we are hopeful that the forum would facilitate discussion and exchange of views to further enhance maritime cooperation and foster trust building in the region.
19. We looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN Plus Three forum on good governance on 25 September 2014 in Myanmar. We believed the forum would contribute to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of public administration, enhancing institutional capacity within the ASEAN Community and increasing the independence and transparency of judicial and legislative systems in the region.
20. We commended several efforts to operationalise the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR). We urged the AIPR to work towards fulfilling its role to provide ASEAN as well as regional and global partners with recommendations, research and analysis in the areas of peace, conflict management and conflict resolution. We welcomed the convening of the AIPR Symposium on Peace and Reconciliation Initiatives and Processes in Manila and the Symposium on Peace and Reconciliation: Principles and Best Practices in Bali, which demonstrated the capacity of this body to enhance peace and reconciliation efforts in the region. We encouraged the AIPR to take a proactive role in identifying areas of work, in accordance with its Terms of Reference, which would complement and add value in implementing the ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC) Blueprint. We urged the AIPR to coordinate and work closely with regional think-tanks, including the ASEAN Institute for Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) and the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asian Pacific (CSCAP).
21. We welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) as a regional centre of excellence in addressing explosive remnants of war (ERW). We urged the ARMAC to play a pivotal role in capacity building for interested ASEAN Member States and to facilitate cooperation between interested ASEAN Member States as well as relevant international and regional institutions.
22. We appreciated the significant contribution of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) to the ASEAN community building process. We welcomed the convening of the interface meeting with representatives of AIPA and tasked relevant Ministers to follow-up on meeting recommendations. We looked forward to the outcomes of the 35th AIPA to be held from 14 to 20 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, which would further strengthen the role of AIPA in supporting the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and in the development of the ASEAN Community post-2015 Vision.
23. We recognised the importance of our engagement with relevant ASEAN stakeholders, including the role of youth and civil society in realizing the ASEAN Community by 2015. We encouraged their continued constructive engagement in the ASEAN Community building process and acknowledged their contribution towards achieving a people-oriented ASEAN Community which would bring benefit to all our peoples.
24. We agreed that all efforts to achieve the ASEAN Community should bring forth tangible improvements and long-term benefits to our peoples and the generations to come. It should also fulfill the expectations of our peoples for a peaceful region with sustained growth, equitable development and social progress. In this context, we highlighted the importance of pursuing an

inclusive and sustainable development path through narrowing development gaps within ASEAN and strengthening the productive capacity and competitiveness of ASEAN Member States, while continuing to promote peace and stability as a solid foundation and core of all ASEAN activities.

Towards a Resilient and Vibrant ASEAN Community

25. We recognised that ASEAN economic performance remained robust despite domestic and global challenges. In this respect, we agreed to remain vigilant in implementing outstanding action lines in the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by 2015. We agreed to intensify our efforts to ensure timely implementation of high-impact measures identified last year.
26. Acknowledging the importance of outreach programs to promote awareness and understanding of the AEC, we looked forward to the launch of the AEC Booklet “Thinking Regionally, Prospering Globally – The ASEAN Economic Community 2015: Messaging for our Future” and the development of the ASEAN Communication Master Plan.
27. We noted the progress of work on trade facilitation, including the progress on tariff elimination, trade facilitation and non-tariff measures. We welcomed the efforts of ASEAN Member States to strengthen customs and cross-border cooperation to expedite trade transactions and looked forward to the timely operationalisation of the ASEAN Customs Transit System. We reaffirmed our commitment to the free flow of goods in the region and welcomed progress towards establishing the ASEAN Single Window (ASW). We encouraged all ASEAN Member States to prioritise the development of their respective National Single Window to ensure its timely implementation. In this regard, we looked forward to the finalisation of the Protocol on the Legal Framework to Implement the ASW.
28. We noted on-going activities aimed at improving ASEAN investment regimes and promoting ASEAN as a single investment destination. We welcomed the launch of the Invest ASEAN website, which would serve as the main platform for information on investing in the region and ASEAN’s initiatives in this area.
29. We were satisfied with continued progress on liberalizing trade in services. We looked forward to the commencement of negotiations on the ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA), which would enhance and build upon the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) and other related initiatives. We looked forward to the conclusion of ATISA by the end of 2015, noting that it would lay the foundation for the post-2015 ASEAN policy on trade in services.
30. We noted progress made under the ASEAN Capital Market Forum (ACMF), with the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding by Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand to establish a Framework for the Cross-Border Offering of the ASEAN Collective Investment Scheme (CIS), which is expected to further promote cross-border investment and flow of fund products among the countries involved. We looked forward to the early signing of the Protocol to Implement the Sixth Package of Financial Services Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS).
31. We looked forward to the “Conference on Financial Inclusion- Enhancing Microfinance and Mobile Banking for Unbanked peoples in the ASEAN Region” which would be held in Myanmar in 2014. We were convinced that this conference would contribute to deepening the ASEAN financial sector by promoting ASEAN people’s access to finance.
32. Recognising the contribution of SMEs to the region’s economic growth, we welcomed the progress made by the SME Working Group (SMEWG) in implementing the SME Strategic Action Plan, establishing the ASEAN SME Service Centre and creating a SME Credit Rating model by the end of 2014. We were also encouraged by SMEWG’s work in creating a good policy environment for SME development in the region including to enable SMEs and entrepreneurs active role in the regional supply chain.
33. We noted with satisfaction cooperation in the food, agriculture and forestry sectors in order to facilitate the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015. We welcomed the successful outcome of the 35th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF), the 13th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry

- (AMAF+3) and the 3rd ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AIMAFF) that was held from 23 to 29 September 2013 in Kuala Lumpur. We looked forward to the 36th AMAF which would be hosted by Myanmar from 20-26 September 2014.
34. To support the competitive position of ASEAN agricultural products in international markets, we agreed we needed to focus on developing and applying quality management systems. In this regard, we reaffirmed our commitment to promote cooperation and technology transfer amongst ASEAN Member States, as well as with dialogue partners, international organizations and the private sector.
 35. We reiterated the importance of food security cooperation in the region and supported the development of the second phase of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and its Strategic Plan of Action (SPA-FS), with increased focus on ensuring a sufficient supply of safe and nutritious foods that meet the dietary requirements of our populations. Owing to many emerging threats to food security, we agreed to promote a common and unified position to ensure sustainable food security and nutrition in ASEAN.
 36. We reaffirmed the importance of joint ASEAN efforts in responding to the impacts of climate change. In this regard, we agreed to apply Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), which would contribute to regional food security and maintaining environmental protection.
 37. We were pleased with progress made on the implementation of the Brunei Action Plan (BAP) and the ASEAN Transport Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2011-2015. In particular we noted the conclusion of the Eighth Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) and urged remaining Member States to make concerted efforts to complete the Ninth Package of Services Commitments by August this year. We also acknowledged the Study on Formulating an ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM), Implementing Strategy and Protocol 2 on the Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights of the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement and the launch of the ASEAN-Japan Transport Statistics Book. We welcomed the establishment of a task force to develop the post-2015 vision for ASEAN transport cooperation and the successive plans for the BAP and ATSP.
 38. In order to strengthen ASEAN's competitiveness and enhance connectivity in the region, we reaffirmed our strong commitment to developing an efficient, secure, sustainable and integrated transport network including completion of the ASEAN Highway Network (AHN), Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL), ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM) and the ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM) initiatives.
 39. We welcomed progress on the implementation of the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2011-2015 and commended on-going efforts to promote sustainable tourism. We look forward to the establishment of a regional secretariat to facilitate the implementation of the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for tourism professionals in Indonesia in 2015. We supported the ASEAN National Tourism Office commencing work on the formulation of the post-2015 vision for ASEAN tourism cooperation, including the development of a plan to replace the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2011-2015.
 40. We commended the good progress made on the implementation of the ASEAN ICT Master plan 2015 (AIM 2015) and agreed to further intensify our efforts for its timely completion. We also supported further efforts to strengthen regional digital inclusion to increase ICT adoption, particularly in rural areas, to enable all ASEAN citizens to have equal opportunity to participate in the regional development process through the rollout of national broadband networks, improvements of national Universal Service Obligations (USOs) and collaboration with relevant sectors such as education.
 41. We recognised the importance of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) as a platform for achieving equitable economic development in the region and narrowing the development gap between ASEAN-6 and CLMV countries. In this regard, we reaffirmed our support for CLMV cooperation as well as support for the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015) and welcomed the completion of its mid-term review. Following the review, we looked forward to the effective implementation of the IAI

until 2015. Owing to the cross-cutting nature of the development gap and its significance to the ASEAN integration process, we agreed to task our officials to initiate discussions on developing the post-2015 for the IAI. We welcomed closer collaboration between ASEAN and other Mekong sub-regional cooperation mechanisms, such as the Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) the Mekong-Japan, Mekong-Korea and ACMECS.

42. Acknowledging the importance of the ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development (AFEED), we were pleased to note that in collaboration with the World Bank, ASEAN is currently developing a monitoring tool to track the level equitable economic development in the region. The monitoring tool would provide ASEAN Member States with a common basis for both understanding trends in equitable development across the region and identifying areas of concern, while also analysing factors affecting changes in equitable development. The monitoring tool would also support the formulation of ASEAN-wide policies to promote equitable economic development.
43. We welcomed progress on the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), which would promote economic growth, narrow development gaps and contribute to ASEAN integration and community building. Connecting ASEAN Member States within the region and with the rest of the world, we noted that the MPAC would enhance ASEAN's competitiveness, promote deeper social and cultural understanding and greater people mobility. We appreciated the continued efforts of the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) in facilitating the implementation of the MPAC. We recognised the importance of mobilizing financial and technical resources, utilisation of the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF) as well as the promotion of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) as a model for financing infrastructure projects. In this regard, we looked forward to the 5th ASEAN Connectivity Symposium entitled "Catalysing Public-Private Partnerships to Finance ASEAN Connectivity" which would be held in Myanmar in September this year. We were pleased with Dialogue Partners' support for the MPAC and encouraged Ministers to further engage and collaborate with Dialogue Partners, external parties and the private sector to implement the MPAC.
44. Acknowledging the vital role of the private sector in ASEAN integration, we welcomed the continued efforts of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) to improve business integration and support outreach programs on ASEAN initiatives in the lead up to AEC 2015. We commended the 1st Joint Consultation Meeting of ASEAN Business Councils and urged ASEAN-BAC to continue consultations. We looked forward to the ASEAN Business Investment Summit (ABIS) and ASEAN Business Awards in Myanmar in November this year.
45. Acknowledging the role of ASEAN plus one Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) in strengthening the AEC, we supported the existing commitments of the ongoing ASEAN plus one FTAs and the idea of prioritizing the negotiations of the RCEP to be concluded in 2015 which would support ASEAN's integration into the global economy. In this regard, we welcomed progress on the implementation of ASEAN plus one FTAs, particularly the substantial conclusion of the Trade in Services and Investment Chapters of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and looked forward to the signing of the ASEAN-India Trade in Services and Investment Agreement and the signing of the ASEAN-India Agreement on Services and Investment (AIASA). We encouraged continued effort to enhance the implementation of the ASEAN-China, ASEAN-Korea and ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTAs. While recognising the opportunities in forging an economic partnership with Hong Kong, we welcomed the commencement of the ASEAN-Hong Kong negotiations in July this year and looked forward to its early conclusion.
46. We reaffirmed our efforts to maintain peace and stability and promote economic dynamism in the region, aimed at ensuring ASEAN peoples could enjoy the full benefits of ASEAN integration.

ASEAN for its Peoples

47. We re-emphasized our continued efforts to move towards a people-oriented ASEAN Community which would ensure the well-being of the peoples of ASEAN. In this regard, we are committed to creating an environment which would allow our peoples to participate in and benefit from the process of ASEAN Community building.

48. Noting our commitment to eliminate violence against women and children, we welcomed the launch of the ASEAN best practices in eliminating violence against women and violence against children. We supported the concrete initiatives and joint collaboration between the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and stakeholders on projects and activities aimed at implementing the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children in ASEAN. We welcomed the concrete initiatives for collaboration between ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) particularly in implementing the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children in ASEAN through Dialogue with NGOs and CSOs. We also urged for inclusion of initiatives that would further enhance the role of women and children in formulating the ASEAN Community's post 2015 Vision.
49. We noted that ASEAN Civil Service Authorities were increasing cooperation within the ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM) forum. We stressed this was an important forum for addressing issues of common concern, establishing common projects and learning from one another to become even better at serving the region, its governments and the public. In this regard, we expressed our satisfaction with the cooperation of ASEAN's Civil Service Authorities during Myanmar's Chairmanship of the 17th ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM). We emphasized the need for building civil service capabilities and acknowledged the role of the ACCSM in the promotion of effective and efficient civil service, public accountability and good governance.
50. In order to promote sustainable rural development, robust rural economic growth and poverty alleviation, we reiterated our commitments to implement projects under the endorsed Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (2011-2015).
51. Underscoring the role of ASEAN Youths as the region's next generation of leaders and their tremendous potential to contribute to the community building process, we welcomed efforts to implement the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Youth Entrepreneurship and Employment. We welcomed a series of youth exchange events and encouraged all stakeholders to intensify efforts to strengthen the entrepreneurial skills of young people and increase youth employment.
52. Noting the importance of human resource development, knowledge and education to the success and sustainability of the ASEAN Community, we encouraged strengthened cooperation on education and looked forward to the launching of ASEAN Virtual Learning Centre (AVLRC) in 2014. We reaffirmed our belief that the AVLRC would become a major reference tool for those studying and gathering information about ASEAN Member States and ASEAN as a Community. We agreed the AVLRC would not only distribute information about ASEAN, but would also promote coordination on cross-sectoral issues.
53. Recognising the importance of health care for the peoples of ASEAN, we emphasised the need for the effective implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Non-communicable Diseases, and welcomed the ongoing activities under the ASEAN Work Programme for HIV AIDS and implementation of the ASEAN Declaration of Commitment: Getting to Zero New HIV Infections, Zero Discrimination, Zero AIDS-Related Deaths. We commended the establishment of the ASEAN Business Coalition on HIV AIDS (ASEAN BCA) and ASEAN Red Ribbon for Outstanding Workplace Awards (ARROW) by the ASEAN Senior Labour Officials as platforms for greater participation of the private sector in HIV prevention, control and non-discrimination in the workplace.
54. In order to encourage inclusive development in the ASEAN Community, we acknowledged the importance of social protection policies in combating poverty, reducing inequalities, improving living standards and unlocking the productive capacities of vulnerable groups. In this regard, we tasked Ministers to step-up the progress on the implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Framework for Social Welfare and Development, aimed at safeguarding the rights, providing equal opportunities and raising the quality of life and living standards for the elderly, persons with disabilities, children and other vulnerable groups.

55. Recognising the contribution of migrant workers to both the society and economy of ASEAN, we reiterated the importance of creating a secure and prosperous ASEAN Community by improving the quality of life of the peoples of ASEAN and safeguarding the human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals, including the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers. In this regard, we tasked Ministers to work towards the timely finalisation of the ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers.
56. We stressed the importance for ASEAN to further enhance cooperation on climate change. We tasked the ASEAN Socio Cultural Community (ASCC) to develop a Joint Statement on Climate Change for our consideration at the 25th ASEAN Summit.
57. Noting our region was prone to natural disasters, we supported efforts to synergize the existing regional Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) mechanism with the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER). We appreciated the conduct of the Mentawai Megathrust Disaster Relief Exercise (MMDiREx) 2014 in West Sumatra by the Indonesian Government in March 2014.
58. We welcomed the adoption by the ASEAN Coordinating Council of the Terms of Reference of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator. We hoped this would facilitate the timely activation and thus effective implementation of the mandate of the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator in the event of major disasters.
59. Stressing the importance of maintaining ASEAN's rich biodiversity and preserving the environment, we welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatlands Ecosystem (2014-2020) at the 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment (AMME). We also acknowledged the successful completion of the Seminar on Green Productivity Improvement, held at the Central Institute of Civil Service, Upper Myanmar from 17 to 21 March 2014. This seminar was one of the nine pilot projects of ACCSM+3 Work Plan.
60. We noted that transboundary haze pollution remains a concern in the region. In this regard, we agreed to further intensify regional and international cooperation including those under the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP), particularly to promote efforts among ASEAN Member States to ensure the full and effective implementation of the zero burning techniques in land clearing. We acknowledged that the ASEAN Sub-regional Haze Monitoring System (HMS) is a useful tool to assist in monitoring and internal enforcement actions against irresponsible parties contributing to fires. We urged the MSC countries to take the necessary action in order to operationalise the HMS. We looked forward to Indonesia's early ratification of the AATHP.
61. Stressing the important role of culture in the ASEAN Community and ensuring ASEAN's sustainable development, we noted the need for enhanced cooperation in the area of arts and culture. We emphasised the importance of developing a common ASEAN identity and raising people's awareness of the ASEAN Community. In this regard, we welcomed the success of the 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (6th AMCA) and the Inaugural Meetings between ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts and Japan, and Republic of Korea held in Hue, Viet Nam from 19 to 20 April 2014.
62. We commended Indonesia's efforts to promoting harmony among civilizations with the hosting of the 6th the United Nations Alliance of Civilization (UNAOC) Global Forum in Bali, Indonesia from 29 to 30 August 2014.

ASEAN in the Regional and Global Context

63. We exchanged views on regional and international issues and stressed the importance of maintaining peace, stability and security not only within the region but also throughout the world.
64. We expressed serious concerns over the on-going developments in the South China Sea. We reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace and stability, maritime security, freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea. We called on all parties to the DOC to undertake full and

- effective implementation of the DOC in its entirety in order to create an environment of mutual trust and confidence; to exercise self-restraint, not to resort to threat or use of force, and to resolve disputes by peaceful means in accordance with the universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). We emphasized the need for expeditiously working towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC). In this regard, we noted the importance of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on the current developments in the South China Sea issued on 10th May 2014 at the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting.
65. We were encouraged by recent indication that good progress has been made in the negotiations between Iran and P5+1. We hope that a comprehensive agreement would be achieved that would fully address the international community's concerns over the nature of Iran's nuclear program.
66. We expressed concerns over suspension of the negotiations on the Middle East Peace Process. We reiterated ASEAN's support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people for an independent state of Palestine and a two-state solution where both countries could live side by side in peace. We called upon Israel and Palestine to constructively engage in peace negotiations and reiterated our call for all parties to make efforts to remove obstacles related thereto, in particular, the construction of illegal settlements in the occupied Palestinian Territories to reach a final status agreement.
67. We shared the concerns of the international community on the use of chemical weapons in Syria which has caused the loss of lives. We expressed our deep concern over the continued deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Syria and emphasized the need to ensure unrestricted access to humanitarian assistance was provided to those in need. We further stressed the importance of ensuring the safety and security of civilians, and in this regard, we underscored the importance of resolving the crisis in a peaceful manner and supported all efforts, particularly by the United Nations, including the adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2118 and 2139.
68. We welcomed the convening of inter-Korean family reunions at a mountain resort in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in February 2014. We reiterated the importance of fully complying with the obligations under all relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions and its commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six Party Talks. We highlighted the importance of enhancing dialogue and creating a conducive environment for the early resumption of the Six-party Talks, which would pave the way for the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner.
69. We recognised the need to further strengthen coordination and synergy among regional economic architecture, including APEC, ASEAN and G20, in order to create complementarities and avoid duplication of work. We hoped collaboration would increase in future, particularly in the areas of connectivity and infrastructure, food security, sustainable development, energy security, climate change and disaster response and preparedness.
70. We welcomed the outcomes of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting in Sydney, Australia from 22 to 23 February 2014. We appreciated the G20's commitment to develop ambitious, but realistic policies with the aim to increase global growth by more than 2 percent over the next five years and developing new measures, in the context of maintaining fiscal sustainability and financial sector stability, to significantly raise global growth. We were pleased with the opportunity to share ASEAN's views on current issues affecting the global economy in the G20 through regular participation of the ASEAN Chair. We continued to support the work of the G20 to achieve strong, balanced and sustained growth.
71. We noted APEC's ongoing contribution to the promotion of open trade and investment, economic development and prosperity and welcomed progress towards achieving the Bogor Goals of free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific by 2020. Referring to the APEC Blueprint on Connectivity, we anticipated this would take into account the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity. We looked forward to the APEC Blueprint on Connectivity providing concrete outcomes to enhance connectivity in both South East Asia and the greater Asia Pacific region. We expressed

support for China's hosting of the 2014 APEC Summit.

72. We congratulated Indonesia for hosting a successful 9th WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali, which reaffirmed the WTO's role as the pre-eminent forum for multilateral trade negotiations. We welcomed the outcomes of the conference, including the "Bali Package" of decisions aimed at streamlining trade, allowing developing countries more options for providing food security, boosting least-developed countries' (LDC) trade and helping LDCs to obtain greater benefits from the multilateral trading system.

External Relations

73. We discussed the way forward to further consolidate and enhance ASEAN's role in the international arena. We stressed the importance of promoting ASEAN's profile and strengthening its leadership role. We reiterated our commitment for ASEAN to remain united, cohesive and resilient and continue to play a central role in the evolving regional architecture. We also reiterated our commitment to further encourage the participation of our peoples and all the stakeholders in the ASEAN community building process. In this regard, we tasked respective Ministers for complete implementation of the Plan of Action of the Bali Concord III.
74. We expressed our satisfaction with the improvement of ASEAN's external relations and agreed to further enhance and strengthen our partnerships through various ASEAN-led mechanisms, including the ASEAN Plus One and Plus Three (APT) mechanisms, the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Plus, as well as through the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum, while adhering to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) and the Declaration of the EAS on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations "Bali Principles".
75. Noting the EAS was one of the primary ASEAN-led mechanisms, we agreed to further consolidate and strengthen it. We also agreed measure the coherence and effectiveness of various programs and activities within the EAS.
76. We welcomed the adoption of the Guidelines for ASEAN's External Relations, which would be used for developing and exploring cooperation with new interested external parties. Acknowledging the rapidly changing dynamics of our region and the globe, as well as the increased interest of external parties in ASEAN cooperation, we looked forward to HLTF's recommendations on ASEAN's conduct of external relations, especially on the issue of moratorium. We believed it was necessary for ASEAN to continue to renew its cooperation and partnerships in order to benefit from new opportunities.
77. We appreciated the support of Dialogue Partners and their recognition of ASEAN centrality and leadership in regional cooperation and in the evolving regional architecture. We encouraged all dialogue partners to firmly support ASEAN's efforts in maintaining and ensuring an environment of peace, security, stability and economic prosperity in the region, and to effectively address challenges, including natural disasters, climate change, water security, energy and food security. We further encouraged Dialogue Partners to continue to broaden and deepen their relations and partnerships with ASEAN across the political, economic and socio-cultural pillars and to support the successful building of the ASEAN Community in 2015.
78. We welcomed the progress made by the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group (ACCWG) in its deliberations on Timor-Leste's application for ASEAN membership and encouraged the ACCWG to proceed with the studies mandated to the ACCWG Sub Working Groups.
79. We welcomed commemorative activities to mark the anniversary of relations with our Dialogue Partners, including, the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations and the 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations. We looked forward to the ASEAN-New Zealand Commemorative Summit in 2015 in Malaysia to mark the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue Relations. We also looked forward to the 10th Anniversary of the East Asia Summit (EAS) in 2015.

ASEAN Institutions for ASEAN Community

80. We underscored the important role played by the ASEAN Secretary General and the ASEAN Secretariat in moving towards an ASEAN Community. In this regard, we encouraged further strengthening of the role of ASEAN Secretary General and the ASEAN Secretariat by providing greater facilitation and coordination of the ASEAN Member States in carrying out their commitments under various agreements and by monitoring and reporting the progress of ASEAN's work under respective pillars as well as ASEAN's relation with its dialogue and external partners.
81. We welcomed the establishment of the High Level Task Force (HLTF) on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs. We believed its work would enhance the efficiency and procedural coherence of ASEAN Institutions and activities, thereby enabling ASEAN to respond more effectively to the changing dynamics of the region. We noted with satisfaction the progress of the first and second meetings of the HLTF. We looked forward to the HLTF submitting its recommendations to the 15th ASEAN Coordinating Council Meeting.

Vision for ASEAN's Future

82. We acknowledged the achievements made thus far by ASEAN over the past 46 years, would serve as a basis for the future vision of the ASEAN Community.
83. We recognised that the future vision of the ASEAN Community must take into consideration both the present and emerging issues facing our region, as well as those issues facing the globe. In this context, we commended the progress of the work by the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group (ACCWG) in formulating the ASEAN Community's Post 2015 vision and encouraged them to develop a comprehensive, achievable, action oriented and time bound Vision.
84. Finally, we again reiterated our resolve to expedite the full implementation of the ASEAN Community Blueprints with high quality in order to realize the ASEAN Community by 2015 including IAI Work Plan II. We further stressed the need to develop

apost-2015 ASEAN Vision, which maintains the future relevance, credibility and centrality of our organization among the global community of nations. We also re-emphasised our commitment to transform our organisation into a truly people-oriented ASEAN.

Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on Realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 11 May 2014

We, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as "ASEAN") namely 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, gathered here on the occasion of the 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 11th May 2014;

Reaffirming our commitment to the aims and purposes of ASEAN as set forth in the Bangkok Declaration of 8th August 1967, in particular to promote regional cooperation in Southeast Asia in the spirit of equality and partnership and thereby contribute towards peace, progress and prosperity in the region;

Adhering to the purposes and principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter and upholding the Charter of the United Nations;

Recalling the ASEAN Vision 2020 (1997), the Declaration of ASEAN Concord II (Bali Concord II) (2003), the Cebu Declaration on the Acceleration of the Establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015 (2007), the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015), the Bali Declaration on an ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) (2011), the

Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building (2012) and the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision (2013);

Welcoming the progress made in implementing the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) as well as other measures and commitments set out in various ASEAN declarations and plans of action;

Recognising the urgency of the successful establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015;

Realising that the success of the ASEAN Community can be ensured only by sustained efforts to further deepen and broaden the integration process and to narrow the development gap within and among ASEAN Member States and by enhancing ASEAN's capability in addressing current and emerging issues of common interest and concern in a timely manner;

Commending the on-going efforts of ASEAN in formulating the ASEAN Community's post-2015 vision;

Reiterating our commitment to further strengthen efforts to enhance ASEAN integration and narrow the development gap by building on existing initiatives such as the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), the Ha Noi Declaration for Narrowing the Development Gap for Closer ASEAN Integration (2001), the Vientiane Declaration on Enhancing Economic Cooperation and Integration among Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam (2004) and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (2010);

Reaffirming our commitment to working closely with all our partners through various ASEAN-led processes, such as ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three (APT), East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus);

Stressing the importance of cooperation among ASEAN Member States and the realisation of an ASEAN Community that is politically cohesive, economically integrated and socially responsible.

DO HEREBY AGREE:

1. To strengthen ASEAN unity and solidarity as well as ASEAN's central role in maintaining and promoting peace, stability, harmony and prosperity in the region;
2. To further enhance ASEAN cooperation in promoting democracy, good governance and the rule of law, and promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, with due regard to the rights and responsibilities of the ASEAN Member States, so as to further enhance a rule-based community of shared values and norms;
3. To promote and uphold the rule of law in the conduct of relations, including in the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law;
4. To promote the sharing of norms, principles and values as enshrined in the ASEAN instruments such as the ASEAN Charter, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles) and the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) for peace, stability and development in the region;
5. To explore the possibility for a regional framework based on the principles contained in the TAC and in line with the Bali Principles on Mutually Beneficial Relations, and welcomed Indonesia's efforts to propose for an Indo-Pacific framework;
6. To further promote ASEAN's efforts in peace and reconciliation in the region through relevant mechanisms and entities associated with ASEAN, including the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR);
7. To strengthen cooperation for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), especially calling on all parties to exercise self-restraint and non-use of force, as well as refrain from taking actions that would further escalate tension and to work towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) as reflected in the ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea.
8. To work closely with the Nuclear Weapon States on the early signing and ratification of the Protocol to the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-

- Free Zone (SEANWFZ) without reservations by Nuclear Weapon States;
9. To strengthen ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture through ASEAN-led processes such as ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three, East Asia Summit, ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus, and ASEAN Regional Forum;
 10. To expedite the implementation of the remaining action lines under the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) through concrete programmes and activities;
 11. To help strengthen the needs assessment capacity of the ASEAN Member States to identify constraints faced by individual ASEAN Member States in carrying out internal procedures with a view to accelerating the ratification of ASEAN agreements and ensuring effective implementation of ASEAN agreements and other instruments;
 12. To ensure the timely formulation of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision in line with the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision;
 13. To strengthen ASEAN institutions and mechanisms in order to further improve efficiency and effectiveness, taking into account the expansion of ASEAN activities, the on-going discussion of the possibility of the potential enlargement of ASEAN membership, the geopolitical and geo-economic developments in the region, and growing interest by external parties to engage ASEAN;
 14. To further strengthen ASEAN's external relations mechanisms to effectively engage with its Dialogue Partners and other external parties in building a mutually beneficial partnership to contribute to ASEAN's community building process as well as peace, security, stability and development in the region;
 15. To intensify our efforts in realising the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015 and implement the initiatives to achieve the ASEAN Single Market and Production Base, including the trade facilitative initiatives such as the ASEAN self-certification system and the ASEAN Single Window, the ASEAN Customs Transit System, as well as other measures for the free flow of goods, services, investment and skilled labour and freer flow of capital;
 16. To continue undertaking concerted action towards realising regional transport connectivity initiatives including the implementation of the ASEAN Single Aviation Market Agreement and the development of the ASEAN Single Shipping Market framework;
 17. To accelerate efforts in enhancing regional connectivity through the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, which is critical in creating a more efficient regional market, enhancing ASEAN competitiveness and advancing the community building process;
 18. To ensure a competitive ASEAN through improved policies and regulations for competition, intellectual property and consumer protection that foster open and efficient markets;
 19. To further promote equitable economic development by assisting ASEAN Member States in meeting the commitments for economic integration, operationalising the ASEAN Framework on Equitable Economic Development (AFEED) and advancing the interests of SMEs and entrepreneurs in the region;
 20. To expedite the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II by further enhancing technical and development cooperation to narrow the development gap and alleviate poverty, and initiate work on developing the Post-2015 work plan for the IAI;
 21. To continue to strengthen ASEAN's external economic integration to advance our collective interests in the region through the on-going ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements (ASEAN+1 FTAs) with Dialogue Partners, and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP);
 22. To intensify efforts in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) cooperation in ASEAN, as well as with Dialogue Partners, and promote the productive capabilities of ASEAN Member States to enable our peoples to keep pace with dynamic technological advancement with a view

to encouraging a competitive, sustainable and inclusive ASEAN;

23. To enhance efforts to empower women, youth, children, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups by encouraging their active participation in and helping them benefit from the ASEAN community-building process;
24. To strengthen and empower the existing ASEAN mechanisms and multi-sectoral actions to improve prevention, preparedness, response, relief and recovery on disasters in a more coordinated manner by utilising the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) as the main common platform for disaster management in ASEAN and enhancing the capability of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre);
25. To strengthen the environmental resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change of the ASEAN Community by effectively implementing the ASEAN Climate Change Initiative (ACCI) and the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change (AAP-JRCC);
26. To expedite the implementation of the Bali Concord III Plan of Action (2013-2017) in all three pillars of ASEAN to raise the profile of ASEAN at the global level;
27. To further promote the sense of belonging to the ASEAN Community among our peoples through the formulation and implementation of the ASEAN Communication Master Plan to articulate benefits of regional integration and to foster awareness and understanding on the work of ASEAN; and
28. To continue strengthening constructive and meaningful engagement with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, the academia, parliamentarians, youth and civil society groups, in order to contribute to forging a people-oriented, people-centered ASEAN.

Adopted in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on the Eleventh Day of May in the Year of Two Thousand and Fourteen.

Joint Statement of the 10th Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia- Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area Summit (10th BIMP-EAGA Summit)

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 11 May 2014

1. We, the Leaders of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines held the 10th BIMP-EAGA Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 11 May 2014 to assess the progress of cooperation and provide further direction in achieving our shared vision for BIMP-EAGA. We reviewed and reaffirmed BIMP-EAGA's contribution towards realizing the ASEAN Community 2015.
2. We noted with satisfaction the progress achieved under the four strategic pillars of connectivity, food basket, tourism and environment of the BIMP-EAGA implementation Blueprint (IB) 2012-2016. We likewise acknowledged the progress made in the implementation of the Priority Infrastructure Projects. In particular, we took note of the completion and official opening of the Brunei Darussalam-Malaysia Friendship Bridge that links Brunei Darussalam to Sarawak, Malaysia; the road improvement projects in Pontianak-Tayan Road section in Indonesia; and the port improvement projects in Puerto Princesa, Palawan. To sustain the momentum, we tasked our Ministers, Senior Officials, Clusters and Working Groups in collaboration with local governments and the private sector to accelerate efforts to ensure the timely implementation of prioritized projects and for their inclusion in the national development plans.
3. We are pleased that under the connectivity pillar, transport initiatives continue to be sustained, noting its critical role in linking the subregion's economic corridors and in enhancing trade and tourism. We welcome the commencement of flights between Pontianak and Kuching by Indonesia's Express Air; and between Kota Kinabalu and Puerto Princesa by Malaysia's MASwings. We called on low cost carriers operating in the subregion to explore co-terminalization and code-share arrangements to

better connect areas that are not being served by the national carriers.

4. We recognized the significant role of shipping services in enhancing connectivity and maritime trade in BIMP-EAGA in view of its archipelagic geography. We urged relevant transport authorities to expedite efforts in realizing the Davao-General Santos-Bitung shipping service. As sea routes remain critical in our connectivity network, we will jointly examine ways to promote a more integrated shipping sector.
5. We emphasized the importance of pursuing a multi-sectoral approach to realize BIMP-EAGA's goal of becoming the regional food basket and a premier ecotourism destination. We urged that strategies should also be combined with more community-based actions to allow greater opportunities for economic and social development in the rural areas.
6. We reiterated the need to expand cooperation in environmental management of our resource-rich subregion and promote clean and green technologies. We also stressed the importance of building resilience and capacity in rural farming and fishing communities to adapt to climate change.
7. We are encouraged by active participation of the private sector and the increasing number of private sector-led projects. In this regard, we look forward to the conduct of the 2nd BIMP-EAGA and IMT-GT Trade Fair and Business Leaders' Conference to be held on 23 - 26 October 2014 at Davao City, Philippines. The event will provide the opportunity for Small and Medium Enterprises of the two subregions to access new markets and develop potential partners.
8. We noted that social and cultural activities can contribute in laying the foundation for greater understanding among the diverse communities within the subregion. We therefore urged our Ministers and Senior Officials to explore the inclusion of a socio-cultural pillar under the BIMP-EAGA cooperation.
9. We thanked our Regional Development Advisor, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), for its continued support in the implementation of the IB

2012-2016 and in providing technical assistance in the areas of connectivity, infrastructure, energy, trade facilitation and environment. We acknowledged and welcomed the study report conducted by ADB that mapped the potential benefits of promoting closer links and improving coordination between ASEAN, BIMP-EAGA and other subregions. We also urged ADB to consider further expanding its support including providing assistance in the delivery of projects.

10. We appreciated the ASEAN Secretariat's cooperation in aligning the BIMP-EAGA priorities with the ASEAN Community 2015. We urged the ASEAN Secretariat to deepen its partnership with and support to BIMP-EAGA.
11. We look forward to a more dynamic engagement by all stakeholders to move forward the BIMP-EAGA's relations with Development Partners.
12. We expressed our gratitude to the Government and the people of Myanmar for the warm hospitality and to the Government of Indonesia for the Summit arrangements.

Joint Statement of the 8th Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT)

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 11 May 2014

1. We, the Leaders of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Kingdom of Thailand, met today in Republic of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 8th Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) Summit to review the progress towards subregional cooperation and integration in IMT-GT. We recognize that in its 20th Anniversary Year, IMT-GT will continue to optimize its potentials based on its subregional comparative advantages and strengths to enhance competitiveness and to narrow the development gap.

2. In the past twenty years, we witnessed the expansion of the IMT-GT to cover the 14 provinces of the Southern region of Thailand, the 10 provinces in Sumatera island of Indonesia and the 8 states of Malaysia. We are encouraged by the satisfying progress in increasing connectivity; expanding trade, investment and tourism; and developing agriculture and Halal products and services along the five IMT-GT connectivity corridors. We congratulated the IMT-GT Ministers on the establishment of the Centre for IMT-GT Subregional Cooperation (CIMT) and thank host country Malaysia for advancing CIMT's establishment. We are also encouraged that the CIMT will facilitate coordination of activities and explore new initiatives for subregional cooperation. We therefore pledge our full support and cooperation in strengthening the CIMT.
3. In celebrating the progress made in our 20th Anniversary, we are cognizant that this time should also be used to reflect on the program's performance, with a view towards improving its deliverables to allow IMT-GT to reach its true potential. With the more challenging context of inclusive growth, we therefore reflect on the commitment and dedication of all stakeholders to capitalize on the IMT-GT strengths towards greater inclusivity in our future development. We task Ministers to review IMT-GT's progresses over the past 20 years and identify future strategic directions to further improve the impacts of our cooperation.
4. We reaffirmed the importance of IMT-GT in narrowing the development gaps within the overall context of ASEAN. We reiterate our commitment and contribution to the ASEAN Community 2015. We task Ministers to further monitor and realize the IMT-GT commitment as members of ASEAN by building upon strategic linkages between IMT-GT and ASEAN especially in the infrastructure sector focusing firstly on transport.
5. We are pleased with the progress made in the IMT-GT Implementation Blueprint (IB) 2012 - 2016. We task Ministers to accelerate project delivery in cooperation areas as follows: Halal Products and Services, especially Halal Science and Technology, Halal Collaboration and Conformance especially in the Harmonization of Halal Standards; tourism, especially in establishing thematic routes; Trade and Investment, especially in establishing Special Border Economic Zone; Human Resources Development, especially in Mutual Recognition Arrangements and Education; and Agriculture, Agro-processing and Environment, especially for sustainable and green activities. We welcome the Ministers' initiative to undertake a Mid-Term Review of the Implementation Blueprint (IB). We take note of the IMT-GT Project Manual to enhance project identification and implementation, and ADB's effort to provide IMT-GT Officials with the necessary capacity building to use this Manual.
6. We thank the Chief Ministers and Governors' Forum for initiating the IMT-GT Green Cities Initiative. In this regard, we congratulate the state of Melaka for undertaking the initiatives such as the Green City Benchmarking and Baseline Indexing; Energy Efficiency for State Owned Government Buildings; and Electric Management Unit Systems. We take note of the Green City Action Plan (GCAP) for the City of Melaka, to transform Melaka into an Integrated Urban Development Hub. We take note the establishment of the IMT-GT International Green Training Institute in Melaka this year. We task Ministers to commence similar GCAPs for Songkhla and Medan. We task all stakeholders to use the GCAPs to develop more concrete projects in contribution towards an IMT-GT Green Cities Initiative.
7. We are encouraged by the initial study for the Special Border Economic Zone (SBEZ) leveraging on the development potential along designated IMT-GT Corridors. We underlined the importance of the SBEZ as one of the driving forces for growth especially for new production bases to tap into regional and global value chains. In undertaking this initiative, we urge IMT-GT Ministers to realize the SBEZ in order to capture the benefits of SBEZ and priority border areas for local communities with these key tasks: (i) develop a pipeline of projects such as roads, border towns, border facilities, and industrial parks; and (ii) determine the soft infrastructure requirements. It is also important to task Ministers to develop the necessary institutional support for the comprehensive study of SBEZ including the creation of the SBEZ Special Implementation Task Force.
8. Connectivity remains the key development focus for our Subregion. While we acknowledge progress made in our Priority Connectivity Projects (PCP), we

urge Ministers to fast track the implementation and provide the corresponding software connectivity, including facilitating air, land and sea linkages. Under sea linkages, we welcome the study for the Belawan-Penang-Trang Rollo Ferry route. We also take note that the Melaka-Dumai RoRo terminal in Tanjung Bruas, Melaka will be scheduled to complete by the end of 2014.

9. We reaffirm our commitment to encourage continuous initiatives of the private sector as the prime mover to enhance future economic activities in IMT-GT. In this regard, we welcome the 2nd BIMP-EAGA and IMT-GT Trade Fair and Business Leaders Conference to be held in Davao City, the Philippines from October 23 - 26, 2014. We wish this unique, collaborative, festive event will be utilised fully by the Small and Medium Enterprises in this region.
10. We would like to make a special mention of the role and assistance provided by ADB, our regional development partner and advisor for the 20 years of IMT-GT 's journey. We welcome ADB's continued strategic support in our next phase of growth and prosperity.
11. We express our gratitude to the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements for the Summit and to the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand as the technical host of the Summit.

Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
12 November 2014**

WE, the Heads of State or Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), namely 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, on the occasion of the 25th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar;

RECALLING the spirit in which the ASEAN founding fathers gathered in Bangkok in 1967 to create the Association and reaffirming our commitment to the aims and purposes of the Association as set forth in the Bangkok Declaration of 8 August 1967, in particular to promote regional cooperation in Southeast Asia in the spirit of equality and partnership and thereby contribute towards peace, progress and prosperity in the region;

REAFFIRMING our vision stated in ASEAN Vision 2020 as a conceit of Southeast Asian nations, outward looking, living in peace, stability and prosperity, bonded together in partnership in dynamic development and in a community of caring societies;

REAFFIRMING our commitment to the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) to realize the ASEAN Community by 2015;

REAFFIRMING our commitment to the Bali Declaration on the ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) and its Plan of Action (2012-2017);

REITERATING our pledge in the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision to develop the ASEAN Community's post-2015 vision with the aspiration to a Southeast Asian region bound by One Vision, One identity, One Community;

RECOGNISING the achievements of the three ASEAN community pillars, political and security, economic and socio-cultural, as well as the current and emerging challenges facing ASEAN;

DETERMINED to shape a bold and forward-looking future for ASEAN which will enhance and strengthen the ASEAN Community and enable the realisation of a politically cohesive, economically integrated, socially responsible, and a truly people-oriented, people-centred and rules-based ASEAN;

COMMENDING the work of the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group in coming up with the central elements of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision;

DO HEREBY:

- **ENDORSE** the central elements annexed to this Declaration as the basis to develop the Post-2015 Vision of the ASEAN Community;
- **NOTE** that the work on the central elements of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision is an on-going process;
- **TASK** the ASEAN Coordinating Council to oversee the overall process of developing the Post-2015 Vision and the attendant documents of the three community pillars for the period of 2016-2025 to be submitted together to the 27th ASEAN Summit; and
- **DECIDE** that the ASEAN Coordinating Council establish a High Level Task Force to assist the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group.

ADOPTED in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, this Twelfth Day of November in the year Two Thousand and Fourteen.

CONSOLIDATED CENTRAL ELEMENTS OF THE ASEAN COMMUNITY'S POST-2015 VISION

Overarching elements

- Promote Southeast Asia as a region of peace, stability and prosperity, as well as an inter-connected, and a caring and sharing community with unity in diversity;
- Continue to consolidate the ASEAN Community and deepen ASEAN integration as the foundation for its post-2015 vision, with enhanced and expanded cooperation and coherence among the three ASEAN Community pillars;
- Promote ASEAN as a rules-based community bound by shared principles, values and norms;
- Promote ASEAN as a people-oriented, people-centred community through, among others, active engagement with all relevant stakeholders;
- Build a resilient community with enhanced capacity and capability to collectively respond to emerging trends and challenges;
- Promote inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth, as well as sustainable development, consistent with the UN's post-2015 development agenda;

- Promote development of clear and measurable "ASEAN Development Goals" to serve as ASEAN benchmark for key socio-economic issues;
- Maintain an outward looking ASEAN;
- Enhance ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture;
- Build ASEAN's common platform to discuss global issues of common concern so as to raise ASEAN's profile and enhance its relevance in the global community by continuing to be an active and credible global partner that contributes and responds to key global issues of common concern and implementing the Bali Concord III (2011-2022) and its Plan of Action (2012-2017);
- Enhance ASEAN's institutional capacity and its working methods to be able to tackle emerging challenges and support increased cooperation, especially by strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of ASEAN Organs.

ASEAN Political-Security Community

An ASEAN Political-Security Community where peace, stability and security prevail and the peoples live in a safe and secured environment, with shared principles, values and norms, with enhanced external relations in depth and scope, strengthened ASEAN's centrality in the regional architecture, and an ASEAN common platform on global issues.

Adhering to ASEAN's Basic Principles

- Continue to adhere to the fundamental principles as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia and other instruments of ASEAN as well as international law and norms as the basis of relations among ASEAN Member States;
- Promote adherence to shared values and norms such as promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, good governance, the rule of law, anti-corruption, and democracy;

Maintaining and Enhancing Peace, Security and Stability

- Continue to maintain and enhance peace, security and stability in the Southeast Asian region and beyond;

- Continue to uphold the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) in preserving Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction;
- Promote the primacy of diplomacy in the peaceful settlement of disputes, and adopt peaceful international and regional dispute settlement mechanisms to address differences and disputes in the region and beyond;
- Strengthen ASEAN's solidarity, cohesiveness and harmony and increase ASEAN's capacity, preparedness, responsiveness and resilience with a comprehensive approach to security;
- Strengthen maritime security and promote maritime cooperation in the region and beyond through the strengthening of ASEAN and ASEAN-led mechanisms and the adoption of internationally accepted maritime conventions and norms;
- Continue to strengthen mutual trust and confidence and enhance cooperation among ASEAN Member States, as well as with external partners which can contribute to ASEAN's community building efforts, to promote cooperation in areas and on issues of mutual interest and concern;
- Strengthen peace-oriented values, friendship and harmony with a view to establishing a community where the people fully enjoy, among others, their right to peace;
- Maintain and enhance ASEAN's unity, neutrality, centrality and leadership in its engagement with external partners;
- Continue to develop and share the norms of conduct in Southeast Asia and beyond, bring into full play the principles, instruments and mechanisms of regional political-security cooperation as enshrined in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia and the Declaration on the Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles), among others, and explore a legally binding instrument enshrining such norms and principles that will apply to the wider region;
- Maintain and enhance ASEAN's unity, neutrality, centrality and leadership in the evolving regional architecture and strive to promote its regional interests;
- Work towards an open, transparent, inclusive and rules-based regional architecture to promote regional security, prosperity and common stability; and
- Enhance information-sharing among ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ASEAN Plus One, the ASEAN Plus Three (APT), the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM), the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), the ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) and the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF).

Deepening and Expanding ASEAN's External Relations

- Deepen, enhance and invigorate relations with ASEAN Dialogue Partners in the Spirit of ASEAN Centrality, towards more effective, equal, mutually beneficial and meaningful dialogue partnership;
- Continue to strengthen mutual trust and confidence and enhance cooperation with other external partners;
- Maintain ASEAN's outward-looking approach and expand ASEAN's external relations by reaching out to new potential countries and organisations, which can contribute to ASEAN's community building efforts, in line with the Guidelines for ASEAN's External Relations;

ASEAN Economic Community

An ASEAN Economic Community for 2016-2025 (AEC 2025) that includes an integrated and highly cohesive economy, a competitive, innovative and dynamic ASEAN, a resilient, inclusive and people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN, enhanced sectoral integration and cooperation, and a global ASEAN.

- Create a deeply integrated and highly cohesive ASEAN economy that would support sustained high economic growth and resilience even in the face of global economic shocks and volatilities;
- Incorporate a sustainable growth agenda that promotes the use of green technology and green energy;
- Engender more equitable and inclusive growth in ASEAN to narrow the development gaps, with

poverty significantly reduced if not eliminated, sustained high growth rate of per capita income of the low and lower middle income ASEAN Member States, and a rising middle class;

- Promote the principles of good governance, transparency and responsive regulations and regulatory regimes through active engagement with the private sector, community-based organisations and other stakeholders of ASEAN;
- Promote the use of the ASEAN Protocol on Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism and develop other approaches to speed up dispute resolution;
- Foster robust productivity growth through innovation and technology development, which entails human resource development and intensified regional research and development with commercial application to increase ASEAN's competitive edge to move up the global value chain into higher technology-intensive manufacturing industries and knowledge intensive market services;
- Promote wider Asia connectivity through ASEAN and sub-regional cooperation and projects to achieve greater infrastructure connectivity supported by strong institutional and people-to-people connectivity and movement of skilled people and talents;
- Create a more dynamic and resilient ASEAN capable of responding and adjusting to emerging challenges, including robust national and regional mechanisms to address issues related to food security, energy security, natural disasters and other economic shocks, as well as the emerging trade-related issues and global mega trends;
- Maintain ASEAN's role as the centre and facilitator of economic integration in the East Asian region to reinforce ASEAN centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture; and
- Enhance ASEAN's participation in global economic governance and work towards building a common position, voice, and visibility in addressing key global issues including those raised at global economic forums such as the G20.

ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community

An ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community that is inclusive, sustainable, resilient, dynamic and engages and benefits the people.

- Enhance commitment, participation and social responsibility of ASEAN peoples through an accountable and inclusive mechanism for the benefit of all;
- Promote equal access and opportunity for all, as well as promote and protect human rights;
- Promote balanced social development and sustainable environment that meet the current and future needs of the people;
- Enhance capacity and capability to collectively respond and adapt to emerging trends and challenges; and
- Strengthen ability to continuously innovate and be a proactive member of the global community.

Declaration on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
12 November 2014**

WE, the Heads of State / Government of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as "ASEAN"), namely 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, on the occasion of the 25th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;

REITERATING our resolve to take all appropriate measures to fully and effectively implement the ASEAN Charter;

RECALLING the Chairman's Statement of the 23rd ASEAN Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan which reiterates the importance of ASEAN's centrality in the evolving regional architecture as well as ASEAN's capacity to realize the ASEAN Community in 2015 and beyond;

REAFFIRMING our commitment to strengthening ASEAN's institutional capacity to support the ASEAN Community building, through streamlining and improving its work processes and coordination among ASEAN Organs and Bodies, enhancing the conduct of ASEAN's external relations and strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat;

COMMENDING the High Level Task Force on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs (HLTF) Representatives for their relentless efforts in coming up with valuable recommendations for strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and reviewing the ASEAN Organs, which have been submitted to the ASEAN Coordinating Council;

ENDORISING the decision of the ASEAN Coordinating Council approving the Report and Recommendations of the HLTF;

DO HEREBY AGREE:

1. To enhance the capacity of ASEAN in seizing opportunities presented and addressing challenges confronting our region;
2. To maintain ASEAN as an outward-looking organization and enhance ASEAN's external relations, including ASEAN's centrality in the evolving regional architecture;
3. To strengthen the capacity of and coordination among ASEAN Organs, including improving the work processes across the three community pillars in order to accelerate ASEAN's community-building and integration efforts;
4. To ensure that the ASEAN Secretariat be provided with adequate financial resources and competent manpower so that it can fully support ASEAN's community-building and regional integration efforts;
5. To task the ASEAN Coordinating Council and the ASEAN Community Councils, with the support of

the relevant senior officials and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN, to implement the HLTF Recommendations, noting the recommended time-bound targets; and

6. To task the Secretary-General of ASEAN to report annually the progress of implementing the HLTF Recommendations.

ADOPTED in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, this Twelfth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen.

ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change 2014

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
12 November 2014**

WE, the Heads of State/Government 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, Member States of ASEAN, on the occasion of the 25th ASEAN Summit;

REMEMBERING our commitments made in the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on Realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 (2014); ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change (2012); the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Climate Change to the 17th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 7th Session of the COP serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (2011); the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Joint Response to Climate Change (2010); the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to the 15th Session of the COP to the UNFCCC and the 5th Session of the COP serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (2009); the ASEAN Declaration on the 13th session of COP to the UNFCCC and the 3rd session of the CMP to the Kyoto Protocol (2007); and the ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability (2007);

NOTING the wide-ranging and collaborative research and policy development work in recent years by ASEAN Member States on sustainable development, land use and landscapes, and on forest conservation and governance, as recognised, for example, at the Forests Asia Summit 2014;

REITERATING our commitment to the UNFCCC, and its principles and provisions, as a framework for international collaboration on climate change mitigation and adaptation;

REAFFIRMING the UNFCCC's core principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and that developed country Parties should take the lead in combating climate change and the adverse effects thereof in accordance with this principle, while agreeing that renewed efforts by all Parties to the UNFCCC are required to ensure mitigation goals are met;

WELCOMING the Warsaw Framework for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+), and the financial support provided by the United States, Norway and the United Kingdom, as an important outcome of COP19 and a critical step in better valuing and protecting global forest carbon stocks;

PRAISING strengthened efforts to mobilize the long-term financing commitments from developed countries to support developing countries and least developed countries in pursuing ambitious mitigation and adaptation efforts;

RECOGNIZING the United Nations Climate Summit held in New York on 23 September 2014;

HIGHLIGHTING the urgency with which renewed mitigation efforts are required given the latest reports prepared for the International Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC's) Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) predict that, without additional mitigation, global mean surface temperatures will increase in 2100 from 3.7°C to 4.8°C compared to pre-industrial levels, and that substantial reductions beyond 2020 will be required to limit temperature change to 2°C relative to pre-industrial levels;

POINTING to the clear evidence of climate change in our region over the past four decades, which has major consequences for agriculture, energy supply and livelihoods;

REEMPHASISING that climate change is already having significant impacts causing major loss and damage throughout the ASEAN region, and disproportionately affecting developing countries, with the experiences with Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar and Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines providing stark evidence of the destructive impacts and disaster-prone nature of the region that cannot be ignored;

RECOGNISING the important role that forest conservation and sustainable management of forests throughout ASEAN will play in helping to mitigate global climate change, reduce the risks of extreme weather events and other climate-driven disasters, and provide sustainable economic livelihood opportunities for local communities;

WELCOMING decision 1/CP.17 of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in which Parties decided to launch a process to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties by 2015 to be implemented from 2020; and recognising that the 2015 global agreement must be balanced and comprehensive, including key areas of the Durban mandate such as mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation;

ACKNOWLEDGING that universal participation is an essential ingredient for greater ambition in the 2015 agreement and in that regard, all Parties have a common obligation to submit an intended nationally determined contribution as part of the 2015 global agreement, while recalling the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

EXPRESSING the view that technology transfer, capacity building and financial assistance from developed countries to developing countries are vital to supporting Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) and Intended Nationally Determined Contributions and other activities on climate change effectively and efficiently in the long run;

VALUING the importance of pursuing climate change mitigation and adaptation actions that are consistent with broader sustainable development goals to the achievement of food security and poverty alleviation throughout the ASEAN region;

RECOGNIZING the progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Multi-Sectoral

Framework on Climate Change: Agriculture and Forestry towards Food Security (AFCC), the ASEAN-German Program on Climate Change: Agriculture, Forestry and related sectors (GAP-CC) through newly proposed 'Forestry and Climate Change (FOR-CC)', and the ASEAN-Swiss Partnership Programme on Social Forestry and Climate Change (ASFCC) endorsed by the 36th Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (36th AMAF);

ACKNOWLEDGING the role of regional forums, including ASEAN, in supporting countries to collaborate on the local, regional and global challenges of climate change;

DO HEREBY DECLARE TO:

1. **CALL** upon all Parties to the UNFCCC, including ASEAN Member States, to take note of the findings in the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report;
2. **URGE** Parties to take immediate action on ratifying the Doha Amendments to the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol;
3. **AFFIRM** that increasing pre-2020 ambition must be primarily achieved through the implementation of the 2nd commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and the outcomes of the Bali Action Plan in accordance with principles and provisions of the Convention, with developed country Parties taking the lead;
4. **CONTINUE** to investigate increased renewable energy and energy efficiency potential throughout the ASEAN region in recognition that such efforts can be the fastest and most efficient way of closing the "ambition gap";
5. **CALL** upon all Parties to the UNFCCC, including ASEAN Member States, to work effectively and in good faith to adopt a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all by the end of 2015, and to table their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions well in advance of COP-21 in Paris in December 2015 or by first quarter 2015 by those Parties ready to do so;
6. **URGE** developed countries to continue to show leadership, recognising historical responsibilities, including by coming forward early with ambitious Intended Nationally Determined Contributions by March 2015;
7. **AFFIRM** that we will put forward our Intended Nationally Determined Contributions well in advance of COP-21 in Paris, or by first quarter 2015 for those Parties ready to do so, as mandated by the decisions reached at COP-19 in Warsaw. These Intended Nationally Determined Contributions will reflect our diverse national circumstances and be made in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and contribute to a 2015 agreement that is under the Convention and applicable to all Parties;
8. **REQUEST** support for developing countries and least developed countries in the context of paragraph 2(d) of decision 1/C.19 in the preparation of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, and to pursue low carbon development opportunities that can enable new mitigation efforts, especially focusing on renewable energy development, energy efficiency, and clean fossil energy technologies and forestry, to be included in their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions;
9. **URGE** developed countries to provide assistance to ASEAN Member States to enhance protection of the remaining forests, biodiversity and ecosystem services that can contribute to ambitious forest conservation and sustainable forest management goals in ASEAN Member States' Intended Nationally Determined Contributions;
10. **URGE** all Parties to the UNFCCC to recognise the extreme vulnerability of ASEAN Member States to climate change, and therefore the importance of adaptation activities and enhancing capacity in the 2015 agreement;
11. **SUPPORT** the notion that apart from mitigation, contributions could also include adaptation, in the context that all Parties would submit intended contributions which are nationally determined;
12. **ENCOURAGE** Parties to the UNFCCC to develop adaptation strategies that are consistent with, and address the threats identified in, the IPCC AR5 Working Group II report on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation;

13. **UNDERTAKE** concerted efforts to systematically rehabilitate our region's mangrove forests, in recognition of their critically important roles in mitigation and adaptation, particularly their provision of disaster risk reduction services by minimizing the impacts of coastal storms and flooding;
14. **ENCOURAGE** developed countries to recognise the potential to support the ASEAN region to continue transition to renewable energy sources and increasing energy efficiency, as part of efforts to embrace low carbon futures;
15. **ENCOURAGE** developed countries to increase commitments, in terms of capacity building, technical assistance, technological transfer and financing, for developing countries and least developed countries to pursue ambitious mitigation and adaptation objectives in Intended Nationally Determined Contributions;
16. **ENCOURAGE** developed countries to accelerate their contributions to the Green Climate Fund, to mobilise it as a matter of priority, noting that the distribution process should be effective, predictable and easy to access;
17. **AFFIRM** that finalisation and operationalisation of the Loss and Damage Mechanism is of urgent priority, and welcome the application of insurance oriented financial mechanisms, such as crop insurance, throughout the ASEAN region with the support of developed countries;
18. **AGREE** that enhanced financing from developed countries is critical for least developed countries and developing countries to pursue green economy pathways that can preserve forest carbon sinks and to adapt to the emerging risks of climate change;
19. **ENCOURAGE** developed countries to prioritise financial and technological support for developing countries and least developed countries to rapidly pursue decentralized renewable energy supply options, which is critical to allow poor communities currently lacking electricity to pursue a clean energy future;
20. **ENHANCE** the potential of REDD+ to contribute to green development by protecting the remaining global forest carbon stocks and biodiversity resources, enhancing forest carbon stocks and thereby increasing carbon removal reversing land degradation, providing green products by sustaining management of forests improving the livelihoods of the rural poor, and aiding adaptation and mitigation efforts;
21. **ENCOURAGE** ASEAN Member States to strengthen existing regional collaborations, including in REDD+ readiness activities, in order to capitalise opportunities under REDD+ framework and future climate regime, recognizing differences in national circumstances and arrangement of REDD+ and/or forest related programmes in individual ASEAN Member States.
22. **ENCOURAGE** all Parties to the UNFCCC to ensure that sustainable REDD+ financing mechanisms are developed and implemented in order to enhance the potential for REDD+ to contribute significantly to global mitigation objectives;
23. **URGE** all Parties to progress in results-based REDD+ financing, taking into consideration conditions relating to forest protection and the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, and the principle that local communities and governments should be supported in promoting genuine efforts to halt deforestation;
24. **REITERATE** the need to increase ongoing capacity building assistance from developed countries to assist developing countries and in particular least developed countries with REDD+ implementation, including the incorporation of non-carbon benefits into systems and activities, taking into account different phases of REDD+ implementation in developing countries;
25. **ENCOURAGE** developed countries to fully implement obligations regarding land use, land use change and forestry, noting that all future actions or negotiations concerning land use land use, change and forestry should take into account the full range of ecosystem services provided by forests and wetlands;
26. **ENCOURAGE** the establishment of a network of research centres in ASEAN Member States to share knowledge and lessons learnt on climate adaptable agricultural products, which will enable us to combat the impacts of climate change on

agricultural production patterns and promote regional food security;

27. **INCREASE** our cooperation to improve our collective capacity to deal with climate and weather management, including undertaking collaborative research to better understand how climate change will influence the weather systems of the ASEAN region and technology development on climate outlooks and forecasting to better manage risks, building the capacity of decision makers from different sectors and different geographic scales to link climate knowledge with humanitarian and development action, and developing regional-scale, high resolution climate models for the ASEAN region;
28. **STRENGTHEN** ASEAN rapid response capacity to be more efficient and effective in the event of natural disasters through existing mechanisms under the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER);
29. **STRESS** the importance of fast capitalization of the Adaptation Fund to continue funding priority projects since countries are already affected by climate change;
30. **SEEK** assistance in the form of technology transfer, for both the public and private sectors to support strengthened mitigation and adaptation efforts, which should be easily transferrable, subject to low costs and exempt from unreasonable patent fees;
31. **REQUEST** ongoing support from developed countries to ASEAN Member States to better understand, develop and implement Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) process;
32. **CONTINUE** to promote ASEAN's experiences in other regional forums to progress collaborative efforts on climate change;
33. **COMMIT** ourselves to pursuing a successful COP20 as a crucial step towards elaborating a 2015 agreement at COP21 for the post-2020 period.

Adopted in Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, this Twelfth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen.

Chairman's Statement of the 25th ASEAN Summit: "Moving Forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community"

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
12 November 2014**

1. The 25th ASEAN Summit, under Myanmar's Chairmanship theme, "*Moving forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community*", was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, from 12 to 13 November 2014. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Excellency U Thein Sein chaired the Summit. The Summit was attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States and the Secretary-General of ASEAN.
2. We, the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States had productive discussions during the ASEAN Summit, focusing on strengthening ASEAN institutions and ASEAN-led mechanisms in the evolving regional architecture, maintaining and enhancing ASEAN centrality, developing the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision. We also exchanged views on regional and international issues and strengthening external relations and partnerships.

Realisation of the ASEAN Community

3. We welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) and reiterated our commitment to expedite the implementation of the remaining action lines by 2015 with a view to creating a politically cohesive, an economically integrated and a socially responsible ASEAN Community that will effectively respond to current and future opportunities and challenges, in line with ASEAN's motto, "*One Vision, One Identity, One Community*". We looked forward to the celebration of the establishment of the ASEAN Community in 31st December 2015 through a meaningful activities that will provide greater opportunities for ASEAN citizens from all sectors of society to understand ASEAN better and experience its community building endeavours and the benefits that it delivers.

4. We commended the successful development of the central elements of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision. We noted that these elements will be used as the basis for longer term vision of ASEAN Community. Development of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision would further promote ASEAN as a region of peace, stability, and prosperity and to play a constructive role in the global community and make meaningful contributions to regional and international peace and security. In this regard, we are pleased to adopt the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post 2015 Vision. We tasked the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC) to oversee the overall process of developing the Post-2015 Vision to be submitted to the 27th ASEAN Summit and to develop the attendant documents to implement the vision.
5. We welcomed the launching of the ASEAN Communication Master Plan (ACMP) which will provide the overall framework for all three community pillars to communicate ASEAN's Community building efforts to the people of ASEAN and encouraged its robust implementation. We also noted that the ACMP would facilitate communication of common messages about the character, deliverables and vision of the ASEAN Community to the public and key stakeholders in ASEAN, including local communities, youth, women, governments, businesses, Civil Society Organisations, think-tanks, opinion multipliers who are encouraged to engage constructively in the ASEAN Community Building process. We tasked the ASEAN Ministers Meeting responsible for Information (AMRI) in collaboration with three Community Councils and sectoral Ministerial bodies to implement effectively this ACMP.

Maintaining ASEAN Centrality

6. Acknowledging the rapidly changing regional and international dynamics, we reiterated the importance of maintaining ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture and in our engagement with external parties. We remained committed to identifying the best approaches to address emerging challenges, and respond effectively to the shifting regional geo economics and geo-politics, especially in relation to peace, stability, security and prosperity in the region and beyond. We highlighted the need to further develop a rules-based and norms-based regional

architecture, by promoting the norms and principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, other instruments and declarations, such as the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ), the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), and the Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles).

Strengthening ASEAN Institutions

7. We commended the High Level Task Force on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs (HLTF) for their Report and Recommendations which aims to improve coordination and work process among ASEAN Organs within and across the three Community Councils, and enhance the capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat as well as to streamline and enhance the conduct of ASEAN's external relations. We called upon relevant ASEAN Organs to ensure timely and effective implementation of the recommendations, in particular, the recommendations relating to the Strengthening of ASEAN Secretariat. In this regard, we are pleased to adopt the Declaration on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs and look forward to full implementation of the HLTF's Recommendations in due course. We tasked the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC) and the ASEAN Community Councils, with the support of the relevant senior officials and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR), to implement the HLTF Recommendations within time bound targets.

ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC)

8. We noted with satisfaction the achievements made by ASEAN over the past year to maintain and enhance peace, security, stability and further strengthen peace-oriented values in the region. In this respect, we welcomed the growing interest of non-ASEAN countries to accede to the TAC. Bearing in mind the current regional and global developments, we further underscored the need for synergy between the various initiatives proposed concerning the establishment of new regional security architecture. We affirmed the importance for ASEAN to be at the forefront of efforts to consider a legally binding treaty

- or agreement, enshrining those norms, values and principles, in particular the TAC and the Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles) that will apply to the wider region, as well as complement and enhance existing regional security instruments and arrangements. In this connection, we encouraged our respective Ministers to make further deliberation on this issue.
9. Acknowledging the importance of the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ) as an instrument to ensure regional peace, security and stability, we reaffirmed our commitment to preserving Southeast Asia as a nuclear weapon-free zone and free from all other weapons of mass destruction, as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter. We encouraged the full and effective implementation of the Plan of Action on Strengthening the Implementation of the SEANWFZ Treaty (2013-2017). We welcomed the outcomes of the 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, from 25 to 27 August 2014 and its decision on the ASEANTOM as an ASEAN body under the APSC Pillar in the Annex 1 of the ASEAN Charter.
 10. We recognised the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of the citizens of ASEAN. We commended the ongoing efforts of the AICHR to increase public awareness of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD), particularly through the conduct of the region-wide ASEAN Youth Competition on Arts and Human Rights. We welcomed the AICHR's assessment of its work over past five years and recommendation submitted to the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the review of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the AICHR. We noted the forthcoming AICHR Workshop on the Development of Legal Instrument on Human Rights and Workshops on Mechanisms to Protect Women and Girls from Violence to be held in Manila, the Philippines, in early 2015.
 11. We noted the AICHR Annual Report 2014 and welcomed the completion of the first thematic study on Corporate Social Responsibility and Human Rights in ASEAN. We noted the outcome of First Thematic Human Rights Dialogue between the Thai Government and the AICHR on Migrant Workers held in Bangkok this year which would help in strengthening AICHR's functions in the promotion and protection of human rights in advancing towards a people-oriented and people-centred ASEAN Community. We were satisfied with the progress made at the first coordinating meeting for the AICHR Thematic Study on Right to Peace and Workshop on Human Rights, Environment and Climate Change. Acknowledging that human rights is a cross-cutting issue, we encouraged enhanced coordination and consultation among AICHR, the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children and other relevant sectoral bodies, to develop synergy among these bodies and mainstream human rights into the work of ASEAN across the three Community Pillars.
 12. We recognised the significant role of the ASEAN Defence Ministers in the realisation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community and welcomed the Three-Year Work Programme (2014-2016) which was adopted at the 8th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) in Nay Pyi Taw on 20 May 2014. We were also encouraged by their continuous efforts to promote practical cooperation among the ASEAN defence establishments, such as the setting up of a Direct Communications Link for the ASEAN Defence Ministers to communicate with each other in time of crisis and emergency.
 13. We encouraged the strengthening of civil-military coordination in the areas of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief management and in addressing non-traditional security challenges. We also looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN Regional Forum Disaster Relief Exercise (ARP DiREx) in Kedah, Malaysia, in 2015.
 14. We supported the ongoing confidence-building measures undertaken under the ARF framework. We further encouraged the development of an effective and applicable approach of preventive diplomacy and its utilization in the ARP process. We welcomed the outcomes of the ARF Seminar on Preventive Diplomacy and Mediation Training in Bandar Seri Begawan from 7 to 10 October, in which practical efforts such as trainings, capacity building activities and close collaboration with other regional and international organisations are identified as important in these endeavours.

15. We welcomed the success and fruitful outcomes of the 5th ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMP) and the 3rd Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMP) on 27 and 28 August 2014 respectively in Da Nang, Viet Nam, which have contributed to the promotion of dialogue in confidence-building in maritime cooperation and maritime security for peace, stability, maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation in the region. We looked forward to convening the 6th AMP which will be held back-to-back with the 4th EAMP in 2015.
16. We recognised the importance of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism (ACCT), and we reiterated our commitment to exert greater efforts in countering terrorism as reflected in the ASEAN Comprehensive Action Plan on Counter Terrorism to fulfil the ACCT. We also welcomed the active engagement of external partners in fully supporting our goal to prevent, and suppress terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.
17. We acknowledged the steady progress in the implementation of the Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crimes (SOMTC) Work Programme 2013-2015 in addressing all priority areas under SOMTC. We also welcomed the establishment of the SOMTC Working Group on Cybercrime to address increasing threat of cybercrime and charting ASEAN's capabilities in fighting this threat. We welcomed the outcomes of the 14th ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) which was held in Bandar Seri Begawan on 22-27 June 2014. We reaffirmed our continued commitment to furthering the process of finalizing the ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) and the Regional Plan of Action (RPA) in early 2015 to combat trafficking in persons in the region.
18. We welcomed the operationalisation of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) as an ASEAN institution for research activities on peace, conflict management and conflict resolution. We encouraged the AIPR's to continue its work in providing ASEAN, as well as regional and global partners, with research, analysis and recommendations in the area of peace, conflict management and conflict resolution in coordination with other regional mechanisms as well as think-tanks, the ASEAN Institute for Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) and the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP). We also encouraged the AIPR to take a proactive role in identifying area of work, in accordance with its Terms of Reference, which would complement and add value to the implementation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint. We noted the forthcoming AIPR Symposium on the Role of Women and Children in Conflict Situation to be held in Manila, the Philippines in early 2015.
19. We welcomed the efforts towards the establishment and operationalisation of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) which serves as a regional center of excellence in addressing the humanitarian aspects of the explosive remnants of war (ERW) for interested ASEAN Member States. In this regard, we encourage the ASEAN Member States to accelerate the process of nominating their representatives to the Steering Committee of ARMAC in accordance with the TOR of ARMAC which was adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit on 9 October 2013 in Brunei Darussalam.
20. We recognized the important role of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) in contributing towards ASEAN Community building and integration efforts particularly on promoting the awareness of ASEAN and ASEAN Community. We welcomed the fruitful outcomes of the 35th General Assembly of AIPA, held from 15 to 19 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR as a continuous effort to strengthen cooperation as well as in contributing to the development of the ASEAN Community's Post 2015 Vision.

Timor-Leste's Official Application for ASEAN Membership

21. We were encouraged by the progress of the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group (ACCWG) in the consideration of all relevant aspects to the application by Timor-Leste, as well as its possible implication on ASEAN, and agreed to explore the possibility of Timor-Leste's participation in ASEAN activities within the context of its need for capacity building.

ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)

22. We are pleased to note that the economic performance of the ASEAN region remains robust in a global economic environment that continues to

- be challenging and uncertain. ASEAN's real GDP grew by 5.1% in 2013. Although regional economic growth is projected to soften to around 4.6% in 2014, this is seen to be caused by temporary domestic factors and regional growth is forecast to pick up to 5.3% in 2015.
23. Total trade of ASEAN economies reached USD 2.5 trillion in 2013, or an increase of 1.4% from 2012. The slower growth in 2013 was due to a slowdown in the growth of total merchandise imports from 6.6% to 1.5%, while growth of total merchandise exports slightly grew from 1% to 1.3%. Export growth in the region is expected to be higher but still modest in 2014, reflecting the projected broad-based but still modest upturn in the volume of world trade in 2014. Continued confidence in ASEAN was reflected in stronger FDI inflows of USD122.4 billion in 2013, compared with USD114.3 billion in 2012.
24. We recognised the downside risks that could adversely affect regional trade and investment activities, including the deepening geopolitical risks; subdued and uneven recovery in the advanced economies; sharper than expected moderation in China's economic growth; and potential adverse developments in global financial markets. Critical to managing these risks is to maintain ASEAN's resilient macroeconomic fundamentals and financial stability, address domestic weaknesses especially in infrastructure, and continue to implement the measures to deepen economic integration in order to sustain and improve the region's competitiveness for trade and investments.
25. We noted the continuing progress made in the implementation of the ABC Blueprint which has implemented 82.1% of the 229 prioritised AEC deliverables identified for 2013, in line with the 2012 Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building that called for priority activities and key measures to address the challenges and obstacles in realizing the ABC. An additional 61 key deliverables for 2014-2015 have also been implemented as of October 2014. Realising the ASEAN is now at the tail-end of the implementation of the ABC Blueprint, we encouraged to speed up the priorities in 2015 will be to fast-track the implementation of the prioritised ABC deliverables, communicate the ABC to stakeholders, and finalise the AEC's post-2015 agenda for deeper regional economic integration. We committed to firmly address the remaining challenges and continue to pursue economic integration with urgency and resolution.
26. We noted the progress made in trade liberalisation and facilitation initiatives in the region, such as the on-going work to eliminate tariffs, address Non Tariff Barrier (NTB) effects of Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs), self certification pilot projects, establishment of the ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR), ASEAN Single Window (ASW), and the ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS). We look forward to the signing of the Protocol on the Legal Framework to Implement the ASEAN Single Window (PLF) by the ASEAN Finance Ministers by the first half of 2015. We look forward to the completion of the signing of the ASEAN Medical Device Directive (AMDD) as another milestone for integration of the Medical Device standards and technical requirements in the region.
27. As another step forward towards the realisation of free flow of services under the ASEAN Economic Community 2015, we look forward to the completion of the signing of the 9th Package of Services Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) and the Protocol to Implement 6th Package of Financial Services Commitments under AFAS by the ASEAN Finance Ministers.
28. To facilitate ongoing effort of ASEAN Member States to improve their investment regime, we noted with satisfaction that our Economic Ministers have signed the Protocol to Amend ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA) in August 2014. We looked forward to the full implementation of the Protocol that will enable each ASEAN Member State to improve their investment reservations expeditiously.
29. In facilitating the mobility of professionals and skilled labour, we look forward to the completion of the signing of the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Accountancy Services by the Economic Ministers as well as the endorsement of the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQR) by Economic and Education Ministers. We encouraged the sectoral Ministries and agencies concerned to continue their collaboration in ensuring proper implementation of these agreements.

30. We recognised that the development of SMEs remains a key component of the work on the equitable economic development pillar. The establishment of the AEC Community by 2015 will provide more opportunities to SMEs in respect of market access and simplified rules. However, challenges remain in ensuring that SMEs will fully realise these benefits. We urged the mainstreaming of SME considerations particularly in their post-2015 work programmes, including in the areas of tariffs, NTBs, rules of origin and standards, so that SME interests are addressed across these sectoral bodies.
31. We welcomed the contribution of women and young entrepreneurs to the activities of ASEAN, particularly in enhancing their contribution to SME development. We welcomed efforts to look into more programmes that enhance their capacity to engage in the activities of the ASEAN Community. We also considered the need to work closely with ASEAN Young Entrepreneur Association (YEA) and the ASEAN Women Entrepreneurship Network (ASEAN WEN) to collaborate on these matters.
32. We thanked the World Bank for its technical assistance to ASEAN in drafting the ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development (AFEED) Monitoring Report. We welcomed the Report which aims to provide a common basis for understanding progress in realising the principles of the AFEED and identifying areas for priority action and initiatives.
33. We reiterated the importance of the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit this year in further engaging with our private sector partners and to promote ASEAN as a single investment destination. We also welcomed the convening of the 1st Japan Public-Private Sector Dialogue on New Industries on 26 August 2014, the ASEAN-US Business Summit on 28 August 2014, both held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar and the 2nd AEC Symposium held on 13 October 2014 in Yangon, as outreach to the private sector.
34. We emphasised the importance of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) especially in supporting infrastructure development in ASEAN. We welcomed the ASEAN Principles for PPP Frameworks to be adopted on a voluntary basis and thanked the OECD for its support which will help to create a predictable and efficient PPP environment and to address issues related to cross-border projects.
35. We welcomed the progress achieved in the implementation of the ASEAN Single Aviation Market, particularly the establishment of the ASEAN Aviation Regulatory Monitoring System and the development of a Database on Operation and Planning of Air Navigation Systems in ASEAN. On aviation co-operation with Dialogue Partners, we welcomed the convening of the 1st ASEAN-Japan Working Group Meeting on Regional Air Services Arrangement in October 2014 which initiated discussions on the ASEAN Japan Air Services Agreement and its related instruments and looked forward to the convening of the 1st ASEAN-EU Aviation Working Group (AEAWG) Meeting in December 2014 to develop a concrete work plan for establishing a comprehensive air transport agreement between ASEAN and the EU. We also looked forward to the adoption of the Memorandum of Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation Mechanism for Joint Oil Spill Preparedness and Response, and the Implementation Framework of the ASEAN Single Shipping Market at the forthcoming ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting in end of November 2014 in Mandalay, Myanmar.
36. We were pleased to note the ASEAN tourism performance for 2013 where there were 99.2 million international tourists visiting the region, posting excellent growth of 11.73% compared to 2012. To ensure the sustainability of this growth is in line with the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2011-2015, we commended efforts to maintain and further enhance ASEAN's appeal by ensuring outstanding quality of services are provided through the development of tourism standards for industries and human resource. In facilitating skilled tourism workers' mobility within the region through the implementation of MRA on Tourism Professionals, we looked forward to the establishment of ASEAN's registration system, training references, master trainers, master assessors and regional secretariat by 2015.
37. We welcomed the progress made in implementing the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation 2010-2015 including ASEAN Power Grid (APG) and Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP). We lauded the initiative by Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand to explore cross border

- power trade to enhance multilateral electricity trading beyond neighboring borders to support the realisation of APG. We also commended the timely completion of Zawtika (Block M-9, Myanmar) which serves as the 12th interconnection project in the TAGP Map and the ongoing efforts to complete the construction of Sarawak-West Kalimantan interconnection by 2015 as planned.
38. We noted with satisfaction the on-going progress and achievements made in ASEAN cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry to move toward the realization of the ASEAN Community 2015. In particular, we were pleased with the endorsement of (i) ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework and the new Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security in 2015-2020; (ii) ASEAN Guidelines on Good Aquaculture Practice; (iii) ASEAN Standard on Organic Agriculture; (iv) ASEAN Good Animal Husbandry; (v) ASEAN Good Agricultural Practice (GAP); and (vi) ASEAN Standards for agricultural commodities to ensure food safety and support the competitive position of ASEAN agricultural products on world markets. We reiterated the importance to develop a common and unified position to ensure sustainable food security and nutrition in ASEAN.
 39. We welcomed the efforts undertaken to expedite the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II for the remaining period of the Work Plan. We recognized that the initiative for ASEAN integration is cross-cutting in nature and as such, efforts to narrow the development gap must be a shared responsibility among all ASEAN sectoral bodies in ensuring full participation and realization of regional commitments and initiatives. Therefore, we encouraged all ASEAN sectoral bodies to include, where possible, additional components for CLMV countries in all regional programmes endorsed by the sectoral bodies, including those in collaboration with Dialogue Partners and External Parties.
 40. We welcomed the initial discussions by the IAI Task Force on the post 2015 agenda for the IAI and advised our officials to consider the recommendations of the Mid-Term Review of the IAI Work Plan II in developing the subsequent Work Plan.
 41. We welcomed closer collaboration between ASEAN and other Mekong sub regional' cooperation mechanisms to enhance the capacity of CLMV and address developmental issues effectively.
 42. We welcomed the complete signing of the amended Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CNIIM) Agreement and efforts to further improve the readiness of the CMIM as a regional safety net, including the revision of the operational guidelines and the completion of the Economic Review and Policy Dialogue (ERPD) matrix for discussion on the macroeconomic development in the region.
 43. We appreciated the progress of the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) in contributing to the channelling of funds in the ASEAN+3 countries into more efficient utilization in the region. In this regard, we welcomed the scaling-up of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF) capacity from USD 700 million to USD 1.75 billion to further promote the issuance of local currency bonds.
 44. Recognising the benefits of sound and sustainable economic relations with partner countries, we reinforced our commitment to global and regional economic partnerships, and we are pleased to note the considerable progress in our various ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements, including the signing of the First Protocol to Amend the Agreement establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) and the ASEAN-India Trade in Services and Investment Agreements. We also welcomed the progress of the work done under the on-going negotiations for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and commencement of the ASEAN-Hong Kong Free Trade Agreement (AHKFTA) negotiations. We urged all Parties to intensify efforts to advance the RCEP negotiations with a view to concluding the Agreement by end 2015. We were confident that these efforts will further integrate ASEAN into the regional and global economy.

ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community

45. We acknowledged the report of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council to the 25th ASEAN Summit, and noted the progress of implementation of the ASCC Blueprint. We welcomed the meaningful deliberation and fruitful discussion at the 12th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council (12th ASCC Council), which was held on 30 September 2014 in Bagan, Myanmar. We noted

with appreciation the formulation of the ASCC Post-2015 Vision Statement and the Central Elements and encouraged the ASCC to further expedite their work in developing the Post 2015 Vision for the ASEAN Community as well as respective Plans of Action (PoA) to implement the Vision.

46. While acknowledging the challenges faced by ASEAN, which call for a more coordinated response and comprehensive solutions, we reiterated our commitment to build an ASEAN Community that is people-oriented and people-centred and vibrant and socially responsible. We urged all sectoral bodies, relevant stakeholders including the private sector, the academia, parliamentarians, women, youth and civil society groups to engage constructively to this end.
47. We noted the progress in the implementation of priority areas in the ASCC Pillar during Myanmar's 2014 Chairmanship which include; response to Climate Change, Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction, poverty reduction, the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers. In this regard, we adopted the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change 2014 and encouraged to accelerate the finalisation of drafting process of Instrument on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in near future.
48. We reaffirmed our commitment to address climate change at the national, regional and global level. We also reiterated our commitment to biodiversity conservation by welcoming the Statement of the ASEAN Environment Ministers at the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP-12) held from 15 to 17 October 2014 in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea. We welcomed the successful outcomes of the 15th Informal Ministerial Meeting on Environment (15th IAMME), which was held on 30 October 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.
49. We noted with satisfaction the outcomes of the 2nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) convened in Bandar Seri Begawan on 16 October 2014, including the adoption of the strategy "**One ASEAN, One Response 2020 and Beyond: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One**". This Strategy, which will be launched in 2015, will ensure ASEAN to respond effectively and efficiently to regional disasters. We also recognised the importance of ASEAN rapid response capacity and looked forward to the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan, which will adopt the post-2015 Hyogo Framework as a follow up to the 2005-2015 framework. We welcomed the adoption of the Statement of the 9th East Asia Summit on Rapid Disaster Response.
50. We encouraged the promotion of synergy and coordination among the relevant internal ASEAN mechanisms related to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, using AADMER as the regional policy backbone and common platform. In this regard, we welcomed the progress made by the Joint Task Force Meeting to Promote Synergy with Other Relevant ASEAN Bodies on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADRR) which under the chairmanship of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) held two meetings in Bandar Seri Begawan from 20 to 22 May and 15 October 2014, with the participation of the representatives from the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM), ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM), ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Health Development (SOMHD), Senior Officials' Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSOD) and other relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies.
51. We expressed our commitment to redouble efforts on poverty reduction, strengthen social safety nets, promote inclusiveness and sustainability in sharing the region's wealth and development, and enhance the role of women, youth, community leaders, and other stakeholders in national development. We noted the convening of the Third ASEAN Forum on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication in Bohol, the Philippines, on 16 June 2014, as a platform of dialogue between the governments and non governmental organisations on strategies to enable enterprises for economic inclusion of the poor. We encouraged that projects and activities under the endorsed ASEAN Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (2011-2015) had to be implemented to promote the involvement of communities and stakeholders in poverty reduction and rural development. Under this ASEAN Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication, we welcomed the convening of the

- ASEAN Forum on Social Entrepreneurship on 30 October 2014 in Singapore to discuss the role of social entrepreneurship and share good practices and views on developing social enterprises in ASEAN.
52. We committed to develop a competitive ASEAN labour force towards the ASEAN Community by 2015 and to strengthen labour market information exchange, to tackle the labour market issues such as skills mismatch, skills development, life-long learning, skills recognition and national qualifications as well as sound industrial relations. We welcomed the positive outcomes of the 23rd ASEAN Labour Ministers' Meeting in Nay Pyi Taw held on 22 May 2014 under the theme **"Enhancing Competitive Labour Force for Harmonious, Progressive and Prosperous Workplace"** and looked forward to the "ASEAN Conference of Senior Officials on Strengthening the Protection and Empowerment of Women Migrant Workers" from 14 to 15 November 2014 in the Philippines. We were pleased with the result of the 10th ASEAN Skills Competition in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, from 19 to 28 October 2014 that brought together around 300 young skilled competitors from ASEAN Member States on 23 official and 2 demonstration areas of skills. We called the ASEAN Labour Ministers to accelerate the implementation of labour related strategic objectives of the ASEAN Socio Cultural Community Blueprint.
53. We noted the outcomes of the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) Workshop on Advancing and Monitoring Women's Political Participation in the ASEAN Region Project held in February 2014 in Cambodia, which included the sharing of best practices and a Synthesis Report of national studies on women's political participation. We recognised the efforts of the ACW to increase awareness and support in the implementation of gender responsive planning and budgeting through the holding of the Regional Training on Social Protection and Gender Budget Analysis held from 27 to 29 August, 2014 in Jakarta. We also noted the successful convening of the 13th Meeting of the ACW, ACWC-ACW Consultation Meeting, and 6th ACW+3 Meeting in Yangon, Myanmar, from 15 to 17 October 2014. In addition, we welcomed the outcomes of the ASEAN-ROK project Development and Delivery of Livelihood-based e-Service for ASEAN Women held in October 2014 in the Republic of Korea (ROK) including a plan for the development and delivery of an e-Service toolkit tailored to the specific areas of ASEAN women's concerns to be disseminated across ASEAN Member States.
54. We welcomed the Declaration on Social Responsible Media for a Peaceful and Prosperous Community adopted at the 12th AMRI Meeting in June 2014. This Declaration will serve as a guiding document to further strengthen cooperation in the fields of information and media.
55. We welcomed the endorsement of the structure for the ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQR) by the Education and Economic Ministers. The AQR, common reference framework, will enable comparisons of qualification of skilled labour across ASEAN Member States and increase mobility and quality assurance of higher education. To strengthen the quality of education in ASEAN, towards the establishment of ASEAN Community in 2015, we welcomed the launching of an ASEAN Curriculum Sourcebook and ASEAN State of Education Report (ASOER). We welcomed the proposal to form a task force to develop a comprehensive ASEAN Five-Year Work Plan on Education (2016-2020).
56. We noted with appreciation the ongoing ASEAN Student Exchange Programme (ASEP) which started in July 2000. The ASEP is aimed at cultivating cooperation, networking, and promoting greater understanding and respect of the different cultures within ASEAN.
57. We called for the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Youth Entrepreneurship and Employment adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit, and also encouraged the youth exchange activities that enhance cross-cultural understanding among ASEAN youths and ASEAN awareness, promote youth entrepreneurship and sustainable employment. We noted with satisfaction the successful convening of the ASEAN-Japan Young Entrepreneurs Forum held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, and the ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Assembly held from 18 to 20 September 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand.

58. We noted with satisfaction the actions taken by the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSOD) to establish an ASEAN network of experts on inclusive entrepreneurship. We noted with satisfaction the successful convening of the ASEAN-Japan Young Entrepreneurs Forum and ASEAN-Japan Youth Leaders Forum held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 30 November - 1 December 2013 and 25-28 February 2014, respectively. We were pleased with the implementation of the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) Work Plan (2011-2015) as the Priority Areas and Joint Actions for 2014-2020 of the ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs' Network (AWEN) under the Coordination of Viet Nam. We also looked forward to the ASEAN Conference of Senior Officials on Sharing of Good Practices in Social Protection for Women in Enterprise Development from 4 to 5 December 2014 in the Philippines. We noted the inaugural Meeting of the ASEAN Business Coalition on HIV and AIDS in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 6 to 7 November 2014 which prepared for the First ASEAN Red Ribbon for Outstanding Workplace Awards next year.
59. We reaffirmed our commitment in reducing the development gap and promoting social justice in this region giving priority to the implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection to further promote the welfare of the ASEAN citizens. We welcomed the activities in promoting opportunities for vulnerable groups, including women, children, persons with disabilities, and older people, and the inclusion of Family Development in the priorities under the Strategic Framework on Social Welfare and Development (2011-2015).
60. We welcomed the ASEAN Social Work Consortium (ASWC) Work Plan (2014-2015) that was developed at the Third ASWC Conference held in Bangkok from 14 to 15 August 2014. We were also pleased with the efforts on building child-friendly ASEAN including through convening of the Third ASEAN Children's Forum in Bangkok from 2 to 5 June 2014 and also the on-going implementation of the Work Plan to Support the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (2014-2016).
61. We were pleased with the ongoing efforts to implement the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children in ASEAN and the formulation of a holistic framework for its implementation. We welcomed the launching of campaign spot of 2014 which is part of the annual public campaign. We also welcomed the work towards the establishment of the Network of Social Service Agencies (NOSSA) and a regional review of the management and treatment of trafficked women and children by the ACWC. We noted the development of the Gender Sensitive Guidelines for Handling of Women Victims of Trafficking in Persons.
62. We noted the progress of the ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM) through the successful convening of the 17th ACCSM and ASEAN+3 Heads of Civil Service Meetings from 24 to 26 September in Yangon, Myanmar. We noted that post-2015 priority areas of ASEAN cooperation on civil service include enhancing workforce competencies, building institutional capacity, strengthening leadership, reviewing the ASEAN Resource Centers, public sector reform and improving civil service competency standards. It has also been agreed that Malaysia hosts the inaugural ASEAN Chief Secretaries/ Head of Civil Service Retreat & ASEAN Public Service Games 2015.
63. We acknowledged the positive outcomes of the 12th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting and its related meetings held from 15 to 19 September 2014, in Hanoi, Viet Nam under the theme "**Better-Health for ASEAN Community Beyond 2015**". We were deeply concerned about the rising trend of Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) and their associated effects, the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) and the Ebola Virus Disease, and their potential negative impacts on health as well as socio-economic development. In this connection, we highlighted the importance of Universal Health Coverage (URC) and the need for ASEAN Member States to develop and strengthen health care systems to better respond to EIDs and other diseases by providing our peoples with access to quality and affordable medical services. We supported joint efforts to promote multi-sectoral collaboration to enhance regional capability for disease prevention and control.

64. We commended the successful conclusion of the ASEAN Project on Rehabilitation and Sustainable Use of Peatland Forests in South East Asia (2009-2014) which contributed to the implementation of ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy. We welcomed the endorsement of successor ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems (2014-2020) at the 9th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution in 2013.
65. We noted that transboundary haze pollution remained a concern in the region. In this regard, we welcomed Indonesia's ratification of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP), as part of the efforts among ASEAN Member States to ensure the full and effective implementation of the zero burning techniques in land clearing. We noted the initiatives by Sub-regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution (MSC) countries to take the necessary actions in order to operationalize the ASEAN Sub-regional Haze Monitoring System (HMS). In the meantime, we encouraged MSC countries to share hotspot areas that cause transboundary haze on Government-to-Government basis.
66. We welcomed the launching of the ASEAN Institute for Green Economy (AIGE) in Myanmar to spur collaboration in sustainable development and greening the regional economy. We looked forward to the AIGE to serve as a centre of excellence on Green Economy, being responsive to regional environmental, climate and economic issues, and contributing to building capacity, fostering research, catalysing and facilitating green technologies, improving management practices and promoting national and international cooperation.
67. We noted with appreciation the successful conduct of various events to celebrate the 9th ASEAN Science and Technology Week hosted in Bogor, Indonesia, from 18 to 27 August 2014. We also noted the 8th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology held on 25 August 2014 in Bogor, Indonesia, had adopted the vision and goals of the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) (2015-2020). We looked forward to the completion and adoption of the APASTI (2015-2020) by December 2014.
68. We welcomed the appointment of the Philippines, through the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development-Department of Science and Technology (PCHRD-DOST), as official secretariat of the ASEAN Network for Drugs, Diagnostics, Vaccines, and Traditional Medicines Innovation (ASEAN-NDI) agreed during the 15th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. We noted the importance of the role of ASEAN-NDI in facilitating the direction that would address the region's current and emerging public concerns through collaborative mechanisms and innovation-driven regional partnerships. We commended the ongoing effort of the ASEAN-NDI to develop ASEAN Herbal Medicine database which would align research initiatives on plants used as traditional medicine. We encouraged the ASEAN-NDI to continue its work in convening experts in ASEAN to develop other collaborative projects on drugs, diagnostics and vaccine development.
69. We welcomed the Hue Declaration on Culture for ASEAN Community's Sustainable Development adopted at the 6th Meeting of ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) held in Hue City, Viet Nam, on 19 April 2014. We are confident that this Declaration will encourage ASEAN Member States in promoting culture as a pillar of sustainable development.

ASEAN Connectivity

70. To establish a competitive and resilient ASEAN Community, we underscored the importance of implementing the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). The MPAC will promote economic growth, narrow development gaps, and contribute to deeper social and cultural understanding and greater people mobility. We appreciated the continued efforts of the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) in monitoring and facilitating the implementation of the MPAC. We tasked the ACCC to undertake a comprehensive review of the implementation of the MPAC and formulate a Post-2015 agenda for ASEAN Connectivity.
71. We also welcomed the convening of the 5th ASEAN Connectivity Symposium on 10 September 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, which provided a useful platform for the participants to share their views on the implementation issues and financing options for

MPAC such as especially ways of fostering private sector involvement, especially through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). We commended the ERIA for its support for the Symposium and its continued contribution towards implementation of MPAC to enhance connectivity in the region. We welcomed the launching of the ASEAN Connectivity video clips, on 9 August 2014 at the sideline of the 47th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nay Pyi Taw, showcasing the vision, rationale and progress in advancing ASEAN Connectivity.

72. We welcomed that first phase of the ASEAN Virtual Learning Resource Centre (AVLRC) to be launched in April 2015, which is one of the 15 priorities of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and became a major reference toll for those studying and gathering information about ASEAN countries or ASEAN as Community.
73. We were pleased with the ACCC's engagement with Dialogue Partners, external parties as well as the private sector in the implementation of the MPAC. We welcomed the successful convening of the 1st ACCC-EU meeting on Connectivity on 11 September 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, and noted the positive outcomes of the meeting, including efforts to support the implementation of the MPAC and enhance connectivity between the two regions. We looked forward to the outcomes of the ACCC PPP Networking Forum to be held from 16 to 17 December 2014 in Manila, the Philippines, supported by the ERIA and the European Union.

External Relations

74. We were committed to continue engagements with our Dialogue Partners. We expressed appreciation to our partners for their support on ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture. We agreed to focus our cooperation with external parties in priority areas of ASEAN such as enhanced connectivity, narrowing development gaps, and in addressing emerging challenges including climate change, disaster management, transnational crimes, and sustainable use of water resources. In this regard, we reaffirmed our commitment to work closely with all dialogue partners and other external parties through a proactive, outward-looking, and synergised approach across all ASEAN-led mechanisms, such as ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three, ADMM-Plus, ARF and EAS.
75. We welcomed the commemorative activities to mark the anniversary of relations and partnerships with Dialogue Partners, including the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia dialogue relations and 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK relations. Agreeing to elevate ASEAN's relations with Australia to a strategic level, we renewed our commitment to enhance cooperation with Australia in order to realise the full potential of the Comprehensive Partnership. In this regard, we looked forward to the successful convening of the ASEAN-Australia Commemorative Summit to be held in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 November 2014. We also expressed our commitment to further promote the ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership and looked forward to the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit to be held in Busan, ROK, from 11 to 12 December 2014 to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of dialogue relations.
76. We also looked forward to the successful convening of a Commemorative Summit to mark the 40th year of ASEAN-New Zealand dialogue relations in 2015. We welcomed New Zealand's commitment to deliver high-level initiatives and programmes as part of the Commemorative Summit. We noted Russia's proposal to convene an ASEAN-Russia Commemorative Summit in 2016 and welcomed its offer to establish an Eminent Persons Group (EPG) to review the existing cooperation and recommend the future cooperation between ASEAN and Russia.
77. We acknowledged the progress of cooperation with our Dialogue Partners over the past year. In particular, we noted China's proposal and initiatives under the 2+7 Cooperation Framework and appreciated the many cultural events taking place during the ASEAN-China Cultural Exchange Year 2014. We welcomed the fruitful exchange of views at the Informal ASEAN-EU leaders' Meeting, the first informal meeting since 2007, held in October 2014 in Milan.
78. We expressed satisfaction with the progress of ASEAN-India strategic relations over the past year, particularly the ongoing implementation of the ASEAN-India Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity. We also agreed to further strengthen our cooperation with Japan and appreciated Japan's establishment of the Japan-

- ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) 2.0, which would support the implementation of measures under the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action (2011-2015) and the Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation.
79. We looked forward to the adoption of the “ASEAN-U.S. Joint Statement on Climate Change” at the 2nd ASEAN-U.S. Summit. This Statement reflected the firm commitment by ASEAN and the U.S. to jointly tackle the issues of climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and to work towards a successful outcome of the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in 2015 in Paris.
80. We were pleased with the progress of implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2013-2017). We welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Plus Three Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education among APT member countries in order to further develop human resources and enhance people-to-people links and understanding. We noted with satisfaction the successful convening of the ASEAN Plus Three Forum on Good Governance as well as the ASEAN Plus Three Labor Ministers’ Meeting in Myanmar. We looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation at the forthcoming 14th ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Ministers’ Meeting, to be held in conjunction with the ASEAN Tourism Forum in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, in January 2015.
81. We welcomed the significant progress made by the East Asia Summit including the adoption of the Plan of Action (PoA) to implement the Phnom Penh Declaration on the EAS Development Initiative. We reaffirmed our commitment to further promote the EAS as a Leaders-led forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic, political, and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia based on the principles, objectives and modalities of the EAS as reflected in the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the EAS, the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration on the Commemoration of the 5th Anniversary of the EAS and Declaration of the EAS Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles). We further
- reaffirmed ASEAN’s central role in the EAS, and ASEAN’s commitment to work in close partnership with all EAS participating countries to ensure that the EAS would continue to be a component of the emerging regional architecture. We expressed our appreciation to the non-A SEAN EAS Participating Countries for their unwavering support for the realisation of the ASEAN Community and for broader and deeper regional integration. We welcomed efforts to review the EAS in order to further strengthen and consolidate the process and looked forward to the outcomes of the review at the 10th anniversary of the EAS in 2015. Further we highly valued the role the EAS in maintaining and promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia by addressing the issues of common concern and interests.
82. We noted with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the United Nations (UN), and looked forward to the adoption of the ASEAN-UN Work Plan 2015. We noted the regular ASEAN-UN Ministerial Meeting at the sideline of the annual UNGA meetings and encouraged both sides to continue to take advantage of these meetings to further ASEAN-UN interaction. We looked forward to working with the UN to develop the next phase of our cooperation, which will incorporate sustainable development objectives, in line with the ASEAN Community’s Post-2015 Vision and the UN’s Post 2015 Development Agenda. We welcomed the presence of a UN Liaison Officer in Jakarta to strengthen joint activities and to implement the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership.
83. We noted with satisfaction ASEAN’s engagement with regional groupings such as the Pacific Alliance and Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). We looked forward to strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation between ASEAN and these regional groupings as well as with other potential groups. We encouraged enhanced engagement between the CPR and Ambassadors of regional groupings to ASEAN in Jakarta. We welcomed increased cooperation between ASEAN and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and looked forward to the 4th ASEAN-GCC Ministerial Meeting in Myanmar in 2015.
84. We welcomed the Guidelines for ASEAN’s External Relations as a basis for developing and

widening ASEAN's relations and cooperation with other potential countries and organisations. In this respect, we welcomed the adoption of the Joint Statement on ASEAN-Norway Partnership which would pave way for forging closer cooperation between ASEAN and Norway, issued in the sidelines of the 47th AMM in Nay Pyi Taw in August 2014.

Regional and International Issues

85. We reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace and stability, ensuring maritime security and safety, and freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea. We further underscored the principles as contained in the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea, the Joint Statement of the 15th ASEAN-China Summit on the 10th Anniversary of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties (DOC) in the South China Sea, and the related ASEAN Statements adopted during the 24th ASEAN Summit. We welcomed the positive progress in the consultations for implementing the DOC and the agreement to work towards the early conclusion of the Code of Conduct (COC) based on consensus. In this regard, we agreed to intensify consultations with China on measures and mechanisms to ensure and further enhance the full and effective implementation of the DOC in its entirety, and on the early conclusion of COC. In this respect, we looked forward to seeing more early harvest measures to promote and enhance trust and confidence in the region.
86. We remained concerned over the situation in the South China Sea. We reaffirmed the collective commitments to ensuring the resolution of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, without resorting to the threat or use of force, while exercising self-restraint and avoiding activities that further complicate the situation or escalate tensions in the region. We further stressed the importance of the collective commitments of ASEAN Member States to peace, stability, maritime security and mutual trust in the region and the need to create conditions conducive for the peaceful settlement of disputes.
87. We were encouraged by recent high-level meeting between DPRK and ROK officials. We underlined the importance of peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula and reiterated calls for full compliance with all obligations under relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. We reiterated our support for all efforts to bring about the denuclearization of the Korea Peninsula in a peaceful manner.
88. We expressed concern over the rise of violence and brutality committed by terrorist/extremist organisations and radical groups in Iraq and Syria, noting that these groups not only pose a threat to the people of Iraq and Syria, but also to all countries in Middle East, and if left unchecked, to the rest of the world. We denounced all acts of destruction, violence, and terror in all its forms and manifestations and expressed our support for the UN Security Council Resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014). We reiterated our commitment to work with the international community to fight against extremism, radicalism and terrorism and address its root causes, including through the promotion of the Global Movement for Moderates (GMM), to prevent further violence and brutality, in accordance with international law and the UN Charter.
89. We recognised that moderation has a role in the pursuit of long lasting peace as a tool to counter extremism and terrorism, diffuse tensions and negate radicalisation. We further affirmed support for the Global Moment of Moderates in moving the moderation agenda forward to counter intolerant, violent and militant extremism; deliver economic, political and social justice; and call for greater cooperation and understanding among cultures, religions and civilisations aimed at drowning out the voices of extremists.
90. On the situation in the Middle East, we reaffirmed our support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people for an independent state of Palestine and a two-state solution where both countries and peoples can live side by side in peace. We welcomed the Egypt brokered ceasefire agreement between Israel and Palestine and called on all parties to fully comply with the ceasefire, and urged both Israel and Palestine to resume peace talks.

91. We expressed grave concern about the current Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak, which constitutes a threat to international peace and security. We encouraged regional cooperation to respond to the Ebola crisis. In this regard, we welcomed the Joint Statement of the 9th East Asia Summit on Regional Response to the Outbreak of the Ebola. We welcomed the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2177 (2014), and the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 69/1 calling for support to the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER). We reaffirmed the importance of preparedness by all countries for early detection, prevention of spread and quick response to suspect EVD. We called for countries to seek technical assistance from the World Health Organisation (WHO) to improve capacity and establish appropriate systems and processes where necessary. Underscoring the urgent need for a regional commitment to respond to the Ebola crisis, we looked forward to EAS Leader's adoption of the Joint Statement on Regional Response to the Outbreak/Spread of Ebola.
92. We welcomed the outcomes of the 10th Asia-Europe Summit, where Leaders of ASEM partners exchanged views on economic, financial, regional and global issues as well as traditional and non-traditional security challenges. Highlighting the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability, they also discussed the way forward in creating an enabling environment for prosperity.
93. We welcomed the outcomes of the 2014 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting and noted APEC's ongoing contribution to the promotion of the open trade and investment, regional economic integration, sustainable economic development and prosperity in the Asia Pacific. We were pleased with the progress made towards achieving the Bogor Goals of free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific by 2020. We expressed our support for the APEC Blueprint on Connectivity, which takes into consideration the MPAC, and looked forward to it providing concrete outcomes to enhance connectivity in both Southeast Asia and the greater Asia Pacific region. We also expressed support for the chairmanship of the Philippines of APEC in 2015.
94. We reaffirmed our commitment to supporting the multilateral trading system. We underscored the importance of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement in advancing initiatives to enhance the movement, release and clearance of goods. We expressed concern over the impasse in the adoption of the Protocol of Amendment of the Trade Facilitation Agreement at the WTO in July 2014. In this regard, we tasked our Economic Ministers to work closely with other WTO Members to expedite the adoption of the Protocol and enable the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, in accordance with the Ministerial decision in Bali 2014.
95. We appreciated the G20's commitment to developing ambitious but realistic policies aimed at increasing their collective GDP by more than two percent over the next five years. In the context of maintaining fiscal sustainability and financial sector stability, we supported the G20 to develop new measures to raise global growth. We were pleased with the continued opportunity for ASEAN to share its views on current issues affecting the global economy through the regular participation of the ASEAN Chair at G20 meetings. ASEAN continues to support the work of the G20 to achieve strong, sustainable and balanced growth. We expressed our support for Australia's hosting of the G20 Summit in 2014.
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II. ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY

ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM)

ASEAN Statement: ASEAN Condemns the Terrorist Attack

Kunming, China, 7 March 2014

The ASEAN Member States extend their condolences to the Government of the People's Republic of China, and to the families of the victims of the terrorist attack at the railway station on 1st March 2014, in Kunming, the People's Republic of China.

- ASEAN strongly condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.
- ASEAN renews its commitment to work with China to further intensify its cooperation to combat all forms of terrorism.
- ASEAN supports the efforts of the Government of the People's Republic of China to bring the perpetrators to justice.

ASEAN Statement on Signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro

30 March 2014

1. ASEAN welcomes the signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro

between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front on 27 March 2014 in Manila.

2. ASEAN commends the constructive role of Malaysia as the Facilitator of the peace agreement and acknowledges the contributions of Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Indonesia to the peace agreement.
3. ASEAN continues to support lasting peace and development in areas of the southern Philippines covered by the Agreement.

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Current Developments in the South China Sea

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 10 May 2014

ASEAN Foreign Ministers expressed their serious concerns over the on-going developments in the South China Sea, which have increased tensions in the area.

They urged all parties concerned, in accordance with the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), to exercise self-restraint and avoid actions which could undermine peace and stability in the area; and to resolve disputes by peaceful means without resorting to threat or use of force.

They reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace and stability, maritime security, freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea as well as the ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China

Sea and the Joint Statement of the 15th ASEAN-China Summit on the 10th Anniversary of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea.

They also called on all parties to the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) to undertake full and effective implementation of the DOC in order to create an environment of mutual trust and confidence. They emphasised the need for expeditiously working towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Developments in Thailand

ASEAN Member States continue to follow closely the recent developments in the Kingdom of Thailand and emphasize their full support for a peaceful resolution to the ongoing challenge in the country through dialogue and in full respect of democratic principles and rule of law.

ASEAN Member States reaffirm the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the developments in the Kingdom of Thailand issued in Tokyo on 14 December 2013 and further underline the importance of democratic process in restoring law and order, promoting national reconciliation and the return of normalcy in Thailand, in accordance with the will and interests of the people of Thailand.

ASEAN Member States expressed confidence in the resilience of the Thai nation to overcome the present difficulties and stand ready to extend all appropriate support based on the principles provided in its Charter.

Statement of ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the Tragic Incident of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17

19 July 2014

ASEAN Member States strongly condemn the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 in Eastern Ukraine on 17 July 2014. We express shock at the tragic deaths of the 298 people of multiple nationalities on board the airline.

Flight MH17 was flying over non-restricted airspace, and following a flight path which had been declared safe by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO). It is a flight route that is utilised by many international airlines plying the Asia-Europe route.

ASEAN Member States underline that it is imperative that we find out precisely what happened to Flight MH17. We call for a full, independent and transparent investigation into the catastrophe. We emphasise that investigations must not be hindered.

ASEAN Member States hereby convey our profound sorrow and condolences to the families and loved ones of those on board Flight MH17.

Joint Statement on ASEAN-Norway Partnership

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 8 August 2014

WE, the Foreign Ministers 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, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Norway;

RECOGNISING the long standing relations between ASEAN Member States and Norway, and Norway's keen interest to engage ASEAN to promote peace and prosperity in the region;

RECALLING the accession of Norway to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) on 1 July 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan and reaffirming the joint commitment to promoting the principles, common values and norms stipulated in the ASEAN Charter and the TAC;

REAFFIRMING ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture with the view to promoting peace, stability and prosperity in the region;

REAFFIRMING our respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, renunciation of threat or use of force, peaceful settlement of disputes, mutual respect and mutual benefit;

ACKNOWLEDGING Norway's significant efforts in providing humanitarian assistance to ASEAN following Cyclone Nargis in 2008 and Typhoon Haiyan in 2013;

EXPRESSING desire to continue working closely together on the basis of the friendship, goodwill and understanding for the realisation of an ASEAN Community, including the narrowing of development gap through the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI); and the implementation of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision;

HEREBY state the following:

1. We launch the ASEAN-Norway Partnership that is action-oriented, mutually beneficial and forward-looking, and comprising political and security cooperation, economic cooperation and socio-cultural cooperation including, but not limited to, the following areas:

Political and Security Cooperation

2. We engage in dialogue and support efforts to realise the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), as set out in the APSC Blueprint.
3. We promote the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as a code of conduct governing inter-state relations in the region for the

promotion of peace and stability as well as uphold the principles of moderation and tolerance as a common value.

4. We enhance ASEAN's capacity building efforts in preventive diplomacy, peaceful settlement of disputes, and conflict management and conflict resolutions; support the work of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR); and enhance cooperation through capacity building efforts with ASEAN Member States in UN Peacekeeping Operations and civilian capacity in post-conflict peace building.
5. Norway welcomes the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) by the ASEAN Leaders at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan in 2013, and expresses its support for the operationalisation of the Centre.
6. We promote maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation and overflight, unimpeded commerce, the exercise of self-restraint, the non-use of force or threat to use of force and the resolution of disputes by peaceful means, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the relevant standards and recommended practices by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
7. We foster greater collaboration in multilateral and regional frameworks, in particular the United Nations to contribute to the peace, stability, development and prosperity of the region and the world.
8. Norway continues to support the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) in the promotion of human rights in ASEAN.
9. We enhance cooperation in countering terrorism, economic crimes, and other transnational crimes; and, in supporting criminal justice and law enforcement as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Leaders' Joint Statement in Enhancing Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons in Southeast Asia and the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015.

Economic Cooperation

10. Norway pledges to support the realisation of an ASEAN Economic Community, including through technical cooperation in capacity-building and training in the areas of trade and investment opportunities and other areas of mutual interest in strengthening regional efforts to achieve inclusive economic growth.
11. We enhance economic cooperation in areas to be mutually agreed upon between ASEAN and Norway, focusing on trade and investment facilitation.
12. We promote greater interactions between the private as well as public sectors in ASEAN and Norway with a view to enhance mutual trade and investment and recognise the pivotal role of the business community, including strengthening business networks and raising awareness on business opportunities in ASEAN and Norway.
13. Norway continues to support ASEAN's work on strengthening regional capacity to develop and implement economic and social policies to mitigate the effects of economic integration.
14. We encourage collaboration through sharing experience in the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) sector, in particular those relevant for the implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for Small and Medium Enterprise Development including transfer of technology to generate SMEs role in the regional and global supply chain.
15. Norway pledges to support ASEAN Connectivity including the implementation of Master Plan of ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) by, among others, encouraging greater involvement of the private sector.
16. Norway will continue to support the realization of the CLMV Priority Action List through the promotion of human resources development and the enhancement of capacity building, particularly to develop and implement policies and measures to mitigate social and economic disparities within the region.
17. We explore the opportunities to transfer relevant know-how and provide technical assistance in trade related matters, including infrastructure development, to CLMV countries.

18. We seek ways and means to develop and enhance industrial cooperation in the areas of, among others, seafood processing, maritime industry, as well as information and communication technology.
19. We encourage collaboration through sharing of experiences and investment in the energy sector to promote energy security in ASEAN including in the areas of power generation, oil and gas, as well as renewable energy.
20. We seek ways and means to support private – public collaboration that promotes sustainable agricultural commodity production.

Social and Cultural Cooperation

21. We strengthen socio-cultural cooperation in support of the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for the Attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
22. Norway pledges to support ASEAN's efforts to build civil service capability, with a particular focus on promoting effective and efficient civil service, public accountability and good governance.
23. Norway continues its support for ASEAN's work on promoting women and youth entrepreneurship.
24. We foster greater collaboration in disaster risk management and emergency response.
25. Norway continues to support the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) to facilitate cooperation and coordination among ASEAN Member States and with relevant UN agencies and international organisations.
26. Norway continues to support the work of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), particularly in its work of preventing, protecting and helping victims of violence against women and violence against children in ASEAN, including to support the implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection and the Declaration on Elimination of Violence against Women and Children in ASEAN, adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit.

27. We support the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, including to support the ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2011-2020).
28. We promote technical cooperation and assistance on human security in line with UN General Assembly Resolution 66/290.
29. We agreed to further strengthen collaboration to address climate change and its emerging impacts, by reducing air pollution, adapting to and mitigating global warming, and improving the global environment, *inter alia*, through sustainable natural resources management and biodiversity conservation; the promotion of energy efficiency, renewable energy and other clean energy programmes and technologies which will contribute to enhanced food production, sustainable development, agricultural productivity and environment as well as natural resources sustainability. Assistance will also be provided to developing countries to prepare and implement Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD)-Plus strategies and mechanisms.
30. Norway pledges to share expertise on sustainable development and conservation of biodiversity.
31. We enhance collaboration in promoting sustainable forest management, and support ASEAN's work plan for strengthening forest law enforcement and governance in the ASEAN region.
32. We foster cooperation to enhance the ASEAN Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) Mechanism for surveillance, prevention, preparedness, and responses to EIDs, particularly at cross border areas.
33. We reinforce mutual cooperation and assistance in human resource development through promoting further education sector linkages student and youth exchanges and scholarships.
34. We foster greater cooperation in research, science and technology development, technology transfers and establishment of networks of scientific and technological institutions with the active participation of private sector and other relevant agencies.
35. We promote people-to-people exchanges, as well as interfaith dialogues and exchanges of cultural activities in order to further strengthen public diplomacy and understanding between ASEAN and Norway.

Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI)

36. Norway continues to support ASEAN's efforts in narrowing the development gaps within ASEAN, and pledges to *inter alia*, through support for the effective implementation of the IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015) in accordance with Guidelines for IAI Projects for ASEAN Dialogue Partners and External Parties and its successor documents as well as through other sub-regional frameworks.

Other Areas of Cooperation

37. We agree that, in the future, ASEAN and Norway may, upon mutual agreement, enter into other areas of cooperation than those specified in this Joint Statement.

Implementation Arrangements

38. We agree that the implementation of measures in the Joint Statement will be funded by the Norwegian ASEAN Regional Initiative Fund.
39. We task our officials to implement and to review regularly the Progress of implementation of the Joint Statement on the ASEAN-Norway Partnership.

ADOPTED in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on the Eighth Day of August in the year Two thousand and Fourteen.

Joint Communiqué 47th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 8 August 2014

1. We, the Foreign Ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), met on 8 August 2014 at the 47th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. His Excellency U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar chaired the Meeting. We had fruitful deliberation under the theme "*Moving forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community*".

Realising an ASEAN Community

2. We are encouraged by the adoption of the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the Realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 at the 24th ASEAN Summit held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 10-11 May 2014, which provided policy guidance to ensure the successful establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015. We welcomed the progress of implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) and reiterated our continued commitment for the realisation of a politically cohesive, economically integrated, socially responsible, people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN Community by 2015 and beyond.

ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision

3. We welcomed the progress of work by the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision in formulating the ASEAN Community's post-2015 vision. We welcomed the submissions by all ASEAN Member States of their proposed central elements of the ASEAN Community's post-2015 vision and looked forward to the ACCWG's recommendations on the central elements to be submitted to the 25th ASEAN Summit through the 15th Meeting of the ASEAN Coordinating Council.

ASEAN Charter

4. We reaffirmed our commitment to undertake all necessary measures to effectively implement the ASEAN Charter which provides the legal and institutional framework for the community building and integration process as well as for ASEAN to be a rules-based organisation. We welcomed ASEAN Member States' efforts in carrying out internal procedures to ratify outstanding legal instruments under the ASEAN Charter, and we encouraged the ratification of ASEAN agreements by all ASEAN Member States. We welcomed the recent ratification of the Protocol to the ASEAN Charter on Dispute Settlement Mechanisms and the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations by Cambodia.

Promoting ASEAN's Principles, Norms and Values

5. We agreed to maintain and promote ASEAN as a flag-bearer for regional norms of good conduct, through the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Treaty for the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ Treaty), the Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations, and the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) which have gained strong support from external partners both within and outside the region.

ASEAN's Centrality

6. Recognising the rapidly changing regional strategic landscape, we underscored the importance of strengthening ASEAN's unity and cohesiveness in advancing our collective regional interests in order to preserve ASEAN's centrality in the regional architecture. We will continue to further enhance ASEAN's common voice in matters of common interest and concern, particularly issues related to regional peace, stability, security, and development. In this regard, we welcomed the constructive and fruitful discussion on strengthening ASEAN Centrality at the Special ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on ASEAN Centrality in Ha Noi on 26-27 June 2014.
7. To maintain ASEAN's credibility as a key regional and international player, we agreed to raise the role of ASEAN in the international arena through the implementation of the Bali Concord III Plan

of Action (2013-2017). We agreed that ASEAN can demonstrate its centrality and leadership in the evolving regional architecture by effectively responding to existing and emerging challenges, and by being proactive in engaging Dialogue Partners and other external parties.

Narrowing the Development Gap and Initiative for ASEAN Integration

8. Recognising that seamless regional integration and full enjoyment of shared benefits is essential for the success of the ASEAN Community, we agreed to redouble our efforts of Narrowing Development Gap (NDG) among ASEAN Member States. In this respect, we expressed our support for the full implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II (2009-2015) and tasked our officials to initiate work on developing the Post-2015 work plan for the IAI as decided by our Leaders at 24th ASEAN Summit. We further looked forward to the outcomes of the IAI Task Force's deliberation on its recommendations with a view to identifying concrete practical actions and programmes to effectively support CLMV's integration efforts. In this regard, we welcomed the continued support and assistance by the ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Dialogue Partners as well as other external partners in the efforts to contribute towards a full regional integration in ASEAN. We also emphasised the importance of enhancing our work on an ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development (AFEED).

9. We acknowledged the achievements made by relevant sub-regional initiatives such as the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), the Indonesia – Malaysia – Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Viet Nam (CLMV) and Cambodia-Laos-Viet Nam (CLV) Development Triangle. We further welcomed closer collaboration between relevant sub-regional mechanisms in the region, including the Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI), Friends of the Lower Mekong Initiative (FLMI), the Mekong-Japan, Mekong-Korea, Mekong-Ganga Cooperation and Ayeyawady-ChoPhraya Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS). We also encouraged sharing of experience regarding the development

and sustainable utilisation of water resources between countries in Danube and Mekong regions.

Enhancing efficiency and coherence of ASEAN institutions

10. We noted with satisfaction the progress of work of the High Level Task Force (HLTF) on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs. This should ensure improved efficiency and coordination of ASEAN organs and bodies together with deepened ASEAN's external relations and a strengthened ASEAN Secretariat in accordance with the ASEAN Charter and other ASEAN decisions, which would enable the ASEAN Community to cope with the existing and emerging challenges facing the region. We encouraged the HLTF to be bold in their recommendations, and looked forward to the HLTF's recommendations to the 15th ASEAN Coordinating Council Meeting (15th ACC) later this year.

ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY

11. Recognising that regional peace and stability was a precondition for growth and an important factor in ASEAN's future, we reaffirmed our commitment to enhance our efforts in political and security cooperation to contribute to the peace and security of individual ASEAN Member States as well as for the whole ASEAN Community.

Implementation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint

12. We welcomed the significant progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint which aims to promote peace and security in the region by elevating ASEAN's political and security cooperation to a higher plane. We agreed to intensify work on the remaining action lines under the APSC Blueprint. We commended the efforts of ASEAN Member States to expedite the implementation of the APSC Blueprint by volunteering to lead and co-lead the remaining action lines. We also encouraged relevant sectoral bodies to expedite the completion of on-going action lines under their purview.

Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia

13. We recognised the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as the key code of conduct governing inter-state relations in Southeast Asia and provided a foundation for the maintenance of regional peace and stability. We welcomed the growing interest of other non-ASEAN Member States to accede to the TAC, and agreed to consider new applications in accordance with the Revised Guidelines for Accession to the TAC. We reaffirmed the importance of further upholding the principles enshrined in the TAC, which aim to promote perpetual peace, everlasting amity and cooperation among its parties, thus contributing to our strength, solidarity and closer relationship among the peoples of the region.

Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone

14. We stressed the importance of strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime to maintain peace, security and prosperity in the region. We reaffirmed our commitment to preserve Southeast Asia as a nuclear weapon-free zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter. We further reaffirmed our commitment to uphold the SEANWFZ Treaty. We underlined the importance of full and effective implementation of the SEANWFZ Treaty and the Plan of Action to Strengthen the Implementation of SEANWFZ Treaty (2013-2017) which was adopted by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on 30 June 2013.
15. We reiterated our commitment to work closely with the Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) on the early signing and ratification of the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty without reservations by NWS. We also acknowledged the need to work closely with the NWS to address our concerns over the NWS' proposed reservations to the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty.
16. To support the realisation of the objective of the SEANWFZ Treaty and ASEAN Charter, we envisaged the significance of the full adherence of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) in the region. Therefore, as an essential step to achieve it, we stressed the vital importance of ratification of the CTBT by all ASEAN Member States as soon as possible.

Cooperation between ASEAN and the International Atomic Energy Agency

17. Recognising the central role of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in nuclear non-proliferation and the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, we agreed to explore ways to formalise relations between ASEAN and the IAEA.

Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in ASEAN

18. Underlining the importance of fostering the development and well-being of our peoples, we reaffirmed our commitment to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of peoples in the region in accordance with the principles of the ASEAN Charter, the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD) and the ASEAN Leaders' Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the AHRD. We noted the 2014 annual report of the AICHR and welcomed the progress of work undertaken by the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), the overarching human rights institution in ASEAN, including in the dissemination and implementation of the AHRD, which contributes actively to the building of the ASEAN Community. We commended the efforts of the AICHR on its various programs and activities and encouraged it to work in close consultation, coordination and collaboration with the ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, engage in dialogue with other ASEAN bodies and entities associated with ASEAN as well as consult, as may be appropriate, with other relevant institutions, external partners and entities concerned with the promotion and protection of human rights.
19. We welcomed the completion of its Thematic Study on Corporate Social Responsibility and Human Rights in ASEAN and noted the progress made at the first Coordination Meeting for the AICHR Thematic Study on the Right to Peace held on 18 July 2014 in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR. We also welcomed the Workshop on Human Rights, Climate Change and the Environment, which would be held in Myanmar and the workshop with ASEAN Sectoral Bodies concerned on Comparative Law Studies, which is expected to be held in Vientiane this year.

20. Cognizant of the fact that the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the AICHR shall be initially reviewed five years after its entry into force by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers, we reiterated our commitment to review the TOR of the AICHR with a view to further enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights in ASEAN.
21. We recognised the progress of work by the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) in implementing the ACWC Work Plan 2012-2016. We welcomed the progress on the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children in ASEAN which was adopted by the Leaders at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in October 2013. We noted the convening of a training course in Singapore on 8-10 April 2014 for frontline ASEAN social workers who work with women and children victims of violence, so as to arm participants with new skills and training to help them push back the wall of violence and make a positive difference to those they serve in their home countries.
22. Acknowledging that human rights is a cross-cutting issue, we encouraged enhanced coordination and consultation among AICHR, the ACWC and other relevant sectoral bodies to further promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of the peoples of ASEAN. Mindful of the structure of AICHR as an overarching human rights institution in ASEAN, we tasked the ASEAN Secretariat to extend full support to the AICHR as it endeavors to promote and protect human rights in ASEAN.

Promoting Good Governance, Democracy and the Rule of Law

23. We commended the activities being undertaken under the purview of the ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM), including activities to promote transparency, accountability, participatory and effective governance which reflect our commitment to the Rule of Law. We welcomed the convening of the Regional Workshop on Elections as a Means to Promote Democracy and Security in ASEAN: Experiences and Best Practices as well as the meeting of the research team on experiences and lessons

learned from the practice of democracy held on 7-9 July 2014 in Jakarta. The Regional Workshop served as a forum for the discussion of experiences and best practices in the holding of elections in a professional, non-partisan and transparent manner and how the convening of elections in such manner can promote democracy and security in ASEAN. We looked forward to the convening of other activities regarding the promotion of the democratic principles.

ASEAN Security Outlook

24. We welcomed the first annual publication of the ASEAN Security Outlook (ASO) in 2013 which we believed would contribute to the promotion of transparency in security-related policies and complement ASEAN's confidence building efforts in the region. We looked forward to its second publication later this year.

ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation

25. We welcomed the progress of work of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR), especially the outcomes of the second meeting of Governing Council of the AIPR and the first meeting of the Advisory Body of the AIPR in Bali in April 2014, and appreciated their efforts to fully operationalise the AIPR. We welcomed the holding of the AIPR Symposium on Peace and Reconciliation Processes and Initiatives in Manila, the Philippines, on 7-8 April 2014 and the Symposium on Peace and Reconciliation: Principles and Best Practices in Bali, Indonesia on 22-23 April 2014. To fulfill its role, we encouraged the AIPR to engage relevant stakeholders, including the civil society, to promote peace, reconciliation, conflict management, conflict resolution, and peace-building. We also encouraged the AIPR to collaborate with relevant regional and international think-tanks.

ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre

26. We welcomed the efforts towards the operationalisation of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) which serves as a regional centre of excellence in addressing the humanitarian aspects of the explosive remnants of war (ERW) for interested ASEAN Member States. With a view to implementing the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the Establishment of the

ARMAC, ASEAN Member States are invited to nominate their representatives to the Steering Committee of ARMAC as early as possible in accordance with the TOR of ARMAC which was adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit on 9 October 2013 in Brunei Darussalam.

Maritime Cooperation

27. Acknowledging the significance of shipping and maritime trade for countries in the region, we stressed the importance of greater cooperation and coordination to ensure peace, stability, safety of sea-lanes, freedom of navigation, unimpeded commerce, maritime security and maritime safety as well as the sustainability of the marine environment in the region. In this respect, we emphasised the need to make full use of the existing ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)/ADMM-Plus, ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF)/Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF), and ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) to enhance cooperation and promote mutual trust and understanding.
28. Given the broad, multi-dimensional and complex nature of maritime issues, we acknowledged the importance of the AMF as a value-added forum for dialogue and coordination among concerned agencies in order to address regional maritime issues in a holistic and integrated manner. In this respect, we commended the AMF's efforts in identifying the scope of action and future work to avoid duplication of work among sectoral bodies under all three pillars of the ASEAN Community. We also stressed the importance of the EAMF as a platform for ASEAN and its dialogue partners to discuss maritime-related issues across the political, economic, and socio-cultural pillars while promoting practical actions. We welcomed the convening of the fifth ASEAN Maritime Forum and the third Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum on 26-28 August 2014 in Viet Nam.

Defence and Security Cooperation

29. We were satisfied with the progress of defence cooperation under ASEAN within the ADMM, between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners under the ADMM Plus, and the ASEAN Security Policy

Conference (ASPC) as well as the Defence Officials' Dialogue under the ambit of the ARF. We expressed our support on the outcomes of the 8th ADMM held on 20 May 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, including, among others, the adoption of the ADMM Three-Year Work Programme 2014-2016, the operationalisation of the ASEAN Defence Industry Collaboration (ADIC), the adoption of the Concept Paper on the Establishment of Direct Communication Link in the ADMM process, and the adoption of the Additional Protocol to the Concept Papers for the Establishment of the ADMM and ADMM-Plus.

30. We emphasised the importance of defence and military-to-military cooperation to build mutual trust and confidence. We noted the good progress of the ADMM and ADMM-Plus' action-oriented efforts to advance practical cooperation amongst our militaries. We looked forward to further progress in practical cooperation led by the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups.

ASEAN Regional Forum

31. Recognising the continued progress and increasing role of the ARF as the primary forum to foster constructive dialogue and consultation on political and security issues of common interest and concern in the Asia-Pacific region, we expressed our commitment to work with participating partners to further strengthen the ARF process. We reaffirmed the importance of a phased approach to the ARF process, moving from Confidence Building Measures, Preventive Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution at a pace comfortable to all to address common regional challenges. In this regard, we supported the efforts of the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy and the ARF SOM in, *inter alia*, reviewing and making recommendations on the implementation of the Ha Noi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement. This will also help the ARF cooperation process become more action-oriented so that it can effectively contribute to enduring peace and stability in the region. We expressed our support to advance the ARF process to its second stage, through the implementation of action-oriented, practicable preventive diplomacy activities, including the Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy. We welcomed the ARF's work in Disaster Relief, Counter-Terrorism

and Transnational Crime, Non-proliferation, and Disarmament and Maritime Security issues. We underscored the need for the ARF to continue pursuing synergy and effective coordination with the ADMM-Plus and other ASEAN-led mechanisms.

Non-traditional security issues

32. Recognising that greater regional integration brings additional challenges, we reaffirmed our resolve to respond to non-traditional security issues in an effective and timely manner, particularly in combating transnational crimes and trans-boundary challenges. In this regard, we welcomed the outcomes of the 8th AMMTC held in Lao PDR on 15-19 September 2013 and the progress of the implementation of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) Work Programme (2013-2015). We looked forward to the effective implementation of the eight priority areas under the SOMTC Work Programme, namely trafficking in persons, counter terrorism, illicit drugs trafficking, money laundering, arms smuggling, sea piracy, international economic crime, and cybercrime.

Trafficking in Persons (TIP)

33. Recalling the ASEAN Leaders' Joint Statement in Enhancing Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons in Southeast Asia adopted at the 18th Summit held on 8 May 2011 in Jakarta, we note the progress on drafting an ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) and a Regional Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (RPA). We looked forward to the conclusion of the ACTIP and RPA in 2014 and its submission to the 26th ASEAN Summit in 2015. We emphasised the importance of the continued engagement between the AMMTC and our Dialogue Partners in combating trafficking in persons.

Counter Terrorism

34. We welcomed the ratification of the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT) by all ASEAN Member States in January 2013 and the completion of the review process of the ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter Terrorism (ACPoA on CT) in 27 March 2013. We encouraged relevant sectoral bodies to enhance their cooperation and coordination in addressing the root causes of terrorism, countering, preventing,

and suppressing terrorism, disrupting terrorists' networks, protecting the peoples of ASEAN and reducing the vulnerability of critical infrastructures against terrorist attacks. We must also promote harmony, tolerance and understanding among the societies.

Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking

35. Mindful of the target year for a Drug Free ASEAN in 2015, we encouraged all relevant ASEAN bodies to intensify their efforts to fulfill the vision outlined in the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015. We welcomed the convening of the ASEAN Special Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters in 2012 and 2013. We looked forward to the outcomes of the Third ASEAN Special Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters to be hosted by Indonesia in December 2014.

Disaster Risk Reduction, Management, Relief and Rehabilitation

36. Emphasising ASEAN's vision for disaster-resilient nations and a safer ASEAN Community, we were pleased to note the progress of ASEAN's work on disaster management and the commencement of the implementation of the Work Programme Phase 2 (2013-2015) of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER). We encouraged all relevant sectoral bodies to implement the ASEAN Declaration on Enhancing Cooperation in Disaster Management, which was adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit held in Bandar Seri Begawan in October 2013.
37. We welcomed the establishment and commencement of work of the Joint Task Force comprising officials from the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and senior officials from other relevant ASEAN bodies to promote synergies on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR). We were satisfied with its work to develop processes for the rapid deployment of resources from relevant ASEAN sectors as well as to develop strategies to further utilise the resources and processes developed by other ASEAN-led mechanisms, in particular the EAS, ADMM Plus and ARF, while maintaining ASEAN Centrality.

38. Noting that our region is prone to natural disasters and recognising the importance of disaster mitigation and preparedness, we welcomed the co-hosting of ARF Disaster Relief Exercises (DiREx) by Malaysia and China in February 2015 in Malaysia. ARF DiREx aims to improve civilian-military coordination efforts, create synergy, and synchronise efforts towards supporting the effective implementation of AADMER as the common platform for disaster management of the region. We also welcomed the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (TOR-SG-AHAC) at the 14th ACC on 10 May 2014. The TOR-SG-AHAC provides a clearer definition of the role of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as humanitarian assistance coordinator as mandated at the 14th ASEAN Summit in March 2009.
39. In the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan, we realised that developing community resilience against natural disasters through capacity-building activities and projects are crucial to the long-term recovery and rehabilitation of affected areas. We noted the need to focus also on disaster prevention and early warning systems and disaster preparedness and mitigation programs. In this regard, we welcomed the pre-conference meeting on continuing support for the recovery of the communities affected by the Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) on 15 July 2014 at the ASEAN Secretariat and looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN High-Level Conference on Assistance for the Recovery of Yolanda-Affected Areas (ARYA) and the ASEAN Community Rebuilding Technical Workshop on 14 August 2014 in Manila.
40. We welcomed the convening of the 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (6th AMCDRR) held in Bangkok on 22-26 June 2014 under the theme "Promoting Investments for Resilient Nations and Communities", which provided regional inputs to the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint

41. We welcomed that the AEC has completed the third phase of implementation of the AEC Blueprint (2012-2013) and has now moved on to the fourth and final phase of implementation (2014-2015).

Transportation

42. We appreciated further efforts and progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Transport Plan 2011-2015, especially on key transport initiatives which include the ratification of the ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM), Open Skies agreements, ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM), Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL), ASEAN Highway Network (AHN) and facilitation of cross-border movement of goods and passengers by road vehicles. We welcomed the conclusion of the Study on Formulating an ASSM Implementing Strategy and the 8th Package of Commitments on Air Transport Ancillary Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services.

Energy

43. We noted the completion of the Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2010-2015 which shows that ASEAN is on track to meet most of the key targets set out in the said plan of action. We welcomed the good progress of ASEAN power grid interconnection projects including the two priority projects between Peninsula Malaysia and Sumatra in Indonesia, and between Sarawak in Malaysia and West Kalimantan in Indonesia as well as the signing of the Instrument to extend the Memorandum of Understanding on the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline until 20 May 2024. We looked forward to the 32nd ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting and related Meetings which will be held on 22-24 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

44. We further noted the good progress made towards completing the ASEAN Information and Communication Technology Master Plan 2015 (AIM 2015), especially in the area of digital

inclusion which will allow ASEAN citizens to take part in social-economic development processes. We recognise the need to further intensify cooperation to make ICT a key enabler for the region's social and economic integration.

Finance

45. We welcomed the continued strong efforts to deepen and integrate our capital markets, and the on-going efforts to further liberalise our financial services sub-sectors. We were encouraged by the bigger role undertaken by ASEAN in macro-economic policy communication and took note that the region's stability has also been encouraged by the strengthening of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) as the regional financial safety net.

Food, Agriculture, and Forestry

46. We also appreciated the significant progress to enhance ASEAN's long-term competitiveness and sustainable development of ASEAN's food, agriculture and forestry products, through developing and implementing ASEAN best practices, including the initiative to establish an ASEAN certification and accreditation mechanism to support their implementation which will bring benefits to farmers in this region.

Tourism

47. We noted that for 2013, ASEAN received 99.2 million visitors or an increase of 11.73% from 2012. The implementation of the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2011-2015 has been progressing well with 75% of the measures for 2013 having been duly completed. These include the completion of 144 toolboxes for hotel divisions; the ASEAN Tourism Qualification Equivalent Matrix, which will serve as key references for tourism industry and training institutions in delivering the programme under the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Tourism Professionals; and the development of comprehensive tourism standards for green hotel, homestay, spa services, public toilet, clean tourist city and community based tourism, and their certification processes that will help to enhance the quality of human resources, services and facilities in the region.

48. We welcomed the progress in engaging our +1 FTA partners. ASEAN has just commenced FTA negotiations with Hong Kong in July 2014. Separately, we welcomed other efforts to enhance economic cooperation with our Dialogue Partners.

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

49. We acknowledged that the AEC must continue to be able to benefit the community at large, particularly the SMEs, entrepreneurs and the youth. To this end, we reiterated the need to provide special attention towards supporting the work in these areas. We were encouraged to note that the SME Working Group is developing an ASEAN Benchmark for SME Credit Rating Methodology and working on the establishment of SME Service Centres with Sub-regional and Regional Linkages in ASEAN Member States by the end of this year.

Information Outreach

50. As 2015 approaches, we are aware that information outreach will be key towards the success and inclusiveness of the AEC. In this regard, we would need to undertake more effective communication with our ASEAN citizens and to this end, we welcomed the publication of the AEC Booklet "Thinking Globally, Prospering Regionally – The ASEAN Economic Community 2015" prepared by the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI).

Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership

51. We noted the progress of negotiations since May 2013 on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) which plays an important role in strengthening the regional economic architecture and fostering equitable economic development. We welcomed the successful conclusion of the fifth round of negotiation of RCEP in June 2014 in Singapore and looked forward to the 2nd RCEP Ministerial Meeting to be held on 27 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, during the 46th ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting. We expressed our aspiration on the timely conclusion of RCEP negotiations in accordance with the RCEP Leaders' Joint Declaration on the Launch of Negotiations for the RCEP as well as its Guiding Principles and Objectives.

ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

Implementation of the ASCC Blueprint

52. We welcomed the significant progress in the implementation of the ASCC Blueprint. We looked forward to the acceleration of the implementation of the remaining action lines under the ASCC Blueprint in order to realise a people-oriented and people-centered ASEAN Community.
53. We reiterated our commitment to enhance the well-being and livelihood of the peoples of ASEAN by providing them with equitable access to opportunities for human development, social welfare and justice as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter.

Environment

54. We stressed that it is important to ensure a balanced agenda for development and environment protection so that we can achieve our development goals without sacrificing the opportunities of our generations to come. In this regard, we commended the efforts and valuable contributions by the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment (AMME) and its sectoral bodies by playing a pivotal role in promoting environmental protection and sustainable development through the implementation of the ASCC Blueprint. We looked forward to the 15th Informal Ministerial Meeting on Environment, which will be held in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on 30 October 2014. We also encouraged continued and enhanced efforts with regard to exploring potential new areas of cooperation with Dialogue Partners and regional/international organisations to implement existing ASEAN initiatives on environmental sustainability.
55. We expressed our satisfaction on the progress of cooperation in the area of environmental conservation. We welcomed the progress of activities and programmes in ensuring environmental sustainability which includes, among others, (i) the ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatlands Ecosystem (2014-2020), (ii) the ASEAN Environmental Education Action Plan (AEEAP) 2014-2018, (iii) the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change, and (iv) the Agreement on the Establishment of the

ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity. We also noted the valuable contribution by ASEAN's external partners in the implementation of activities and programmes towards achieving environmental sustainability.

Haze

56. We noted that transboundary haze pollution remains a concern in the region. In this regard, we agreed to further intensify regional and international cooperation including those under the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP), particularly to promote efforts among ASEAN Member States to ensure the full and effective implementation of the zero burning techniques in land clearing. We acknowledged that the ASEAN Sub-regional Haze Monitoring System (HMS) is a useful tool to assist in monitoring and internal enforcement actions against irresponsible parties contributing to fires. We urged the MSC countries to take the necessary action in order to operationalise the HMS. We looked forward to Indonesia's early ratification of the AATHP.

ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)

57. We noted the conduct by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) of a Workshop on the Review of the Agreement on the Establishment of the ACB with stakeholders on 21-22 July 2014. We recognised the role of the ACB as a regional centre of excellence dedicated to the promotion of regional collaboration on biodiversity conservation.

Climate Change

58. We emphasised the need for the full implementation of the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change to realise the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Joint Response to Climate Change by all ASEAN Member States, and encouraged further cooperation in response to climate change through information sharing, consultation, cooperation programmes and collaboration in international negotiations and forums, where appropriate. We appreciated the Working Group on Climate Change for its efforts in the implementation process of the Action Plan and encouraged the Working Group to finalise the text of an ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate

Change for consideration for the Leaders' adoption at the 25th Summit.

59. We emphasised the importance of strengthening the resilience of the ASEAN Community to the impacts of climate change by effectively implementing the ASEAN Climate Change Initiative (ACCI). We looked forward to the UN Climate Summit to be held in New York in September 2014, and reaffirmed the importance of adopting at COP-21 a new global agreement applicable to all Parties under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Migrant Workers

60. Recognising the contribution of migrant workers to both society and economy of ASEAN, we reiterated the importance of safeguarding the human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals, including the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers, in accordance with national laws, regulations, and policies. In this regard, we urged the ASEAN Committee on the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers (ACMW) to facilitate the timely finalisation of the zero draft of an ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of migrant workers' rights.

Rural Development and Poverty Eradication

61. We reiterated the importance of implementing on-going projects under the endorsed Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (2011-2015), which is aimed towards ensuring sustainable rural development, robust rural economic growth and poverty alleviation. In this regard, we agreed to promote the development path through green economy and green growth.
62. We looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN Forum to Promote Best Practices in Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Development on 25-28 August 2014 in Kuala Lumpur. The forum will serve as an avenue to share best practices on sustainable rural infrastructure development and reflect on country-level initiatives, progress and challenges in efforts to develop the rural areas through infrastructure. We also noted the proposals for the two projects to be spearheaded by the Philippines, namely "Food Security and

Price Spikes: Stocktaking of Responsive Social Protection Policies for the Vulnerable Poor" and the "ASEAN Regional Capacity Development to Enhance Accountability of Local Government in Delivering Social Protection Program through Community Driven Development."

Health

63. We underlined the need for continued strengthening of various measures to promote cooperation in regional health development. In this respect, we encouraged health officials to intensify efforts for the effective implementation of health-related work plans set out under the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015).
64. Recognising the heavy burden of Non-Communicable Diseases to the socio-economic development of our region, we encouraged relevant sectors to implement the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Non-Communicable Diseases in ASEAN which was adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit on 9 October 2013.
65. We reaffirmed our commitment towards the establishment of (i) the ASEAN Risk Communication Resource Centre (RCRC) to provide training and research in risk communication, to support efforts in managing health emergencies; and (ii) the ASEAN Risk Assessment Center (ARAC) which will serve as a coordinating centre on risk assessment in ASEAN to provide risk assessment output and scientific opinion to assist in the management of food safety issues of common interest to ASEAN.

Culture

66. We emphasised the importance of promoting culture as a pillar of sustainable development and supported the integration of culture in development policies and strategies at the local, national, regional and international levels. To this end, we noted the on-going work by the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts to formulate the Hue Declaration on Culture for ASEAN Community's Sustainable Development.
67. We highlighted the importance of culture as a vital element in building an ASEAN identity and unifying force for ASEAN Community building. We therefore underscored the importance of

formulating the ASEAN Awareness Campaign in cultivating our common identity through the adoption of national and regional communication plans.

68. We underlined the importance to promote ASEAN identity through fostering of greater awareness of the diverse culture and heritage of the region. In this regard, we encouraged respective officials to further promote cultural exchanges and cooperation as well as strengthen cooperation in information sector.

Youth

69. Recognising that our youths are the future of ASEAN, we stressed the importance of strengthening cooperation to promote education for youth. We welcomed the recently completed Inaugural ASEAN State of Education Report which provides an overview of the education landscape in ASEAN and the continued implementation of the two regional youth volunteer programmes; namely: the ASEAN Youth Volunteers Programme (AYVP) and the ASEAN Young Professionals Volunteers Corps (AYPVC). We also recognised the potential of youth in contributing towards the ASEAN community building process, and the importance of encouraging greater awareness of ASEAN through different platforms to promote dialogue and people-to-people exchanges. In this respect, we welcomed Malaysia's intention to organise the ASEAN Youth Leaders' Summit in 2015.

Science and Technology

70. For ASEAN to remain competitive in this dynamic global environment, ASEAN needs to cultivate the innovative culture among our peoples. In this regard, we looked forward to the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI 2015-2020) by 2014.

Sports

71. Sports provides the opportunity for greater people-to-people interaction. In this regard, we encouraged respective officials to implement the Vientiane Declaration on Sports Cooperation in ASEAN and looked forward to a work plan to implement the declaration.

Social Welfare and Development

72. We welcomed the Strategic Framework on Social Welfare and Development (2011-2015), which aims to address the pressing issues relating to elderly people, persons with disabilities, children and family development and noted the implementation of the projects and activities under the Framework.

Cross-cutting issues

73. We also called for the leadership that will be needed for defining distantly regional positions and strengthen ASEAN centrality in the areas under its purview-in an increasingly complex environment with cross-cutting issues by leveraging the diverse institutions and highly networked sectoral bodies.

ASEAN CONNECTIVITY

74. To ensure the success of ASEAN integration and a competitive and resilient ASEAN Community, we underscored the importance of the full implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) which would promote economic growth, narrow development gaps, and promote deeper social and cultural understanding and greater people mobility. We appreciated the continued efforts of the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) in monitoring and facilitating the implementation of the MPAC.
75. We encouraged the ACCC to work with National Coordinators and relevant Sectoral Bodies in exerting greater efforts to mobilise appropriate resources including financial and technical ones, utilise the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF) as well as develop Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) as a model for financing infrastructure projects. The development of a set of Principles for effective PPP frameworks would enable the efficient harnessing of private sector expertise and supporting governments in obtaining attractive infrastructure investment in the region.
76. We looked forward to the 5th ASEAN Connectivity Symposium with the theme "Catalysing Public-Private Partnerships to Finance ASEAN Connectivity" which would be held in Myanmar

in September this year and the ACCC PPP Networking Forum: Towards an ASEAN PPP Agenda in Manila, the Philippines, on 16-17 December 2014. We noted the on-going work of the ASEAN-PPP Programme, the PPP Guidelines and the Scoping Study on Risk Mitigation Instruments towards building the capacity of ASEAN Member States in preparing and delivering PPP projects. We called for the continued support of Dialogue Partners, external parties and the private sector to contribute to the implementation of the MPAC.

Timor-Leste's Official Application for ASEAN Membership

77. We were encouraged by the progress by the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group (ACCWG) in the consideration of all relevant aspects related to the application by Timor-Leste, as well as its possible implications on ASEAN, and agreed to explore the possibility of Timor-Leste's participation in ASEAN activities within the context of its need for capacity building.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

78. We reaffirmed our efforts to continue enhancing ASEAN's external relations. In this regard, we reiterated the importance of ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture and reaffirmed our commitments to work closely with all our partners through various ASEAN-led mechanisms, including ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three, ARF, ADMM-Plus and EAS, in ensuring the maintenance of peace, stability, security and prosperity in the region.
79. We noted with satisfaction the important developments in ASEAN's external relations, in particular the progress made with our Dialogue Partners over the past year. We also welcomed the accreditation of Ambassadors to ASEAN from seventy-eight non-ASEAN Member States and one regional organisation.
80. We acknowledged the rapidly changing dynamics of our region and the world, as well as the increased interest of external parties in ASEAN cooperation and the potential for ASEAN to benefit from new

opportunities, including through the use of the Guidelines for ASEAN's External Relations. We looked forward to the HLTf's recommendations on ASEAN's conduct of external relations, including through, among others, the issue of moratorium.

ASEAN-Australia

81. We noted with satisfaction that 2014 marked the 40th Anniversary of the ASEAN-Australia dialogue relations and welcomed a series of commemorative activities. In this respect, we looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-Australia Commemorative Summit in conjunction with the 25th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits in November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, and the adoption of a joint statement that will set the future direction of our relations.
82. We reaffirmed the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership and looked forward to the adoption of a new Plan of Action (POA) to Implement the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership (2015-2019) to succeed the POA 2008-2013.
83. We noted with appreciation Australia's continued support to the region in preventing trafficking in persons through the five-year Australia-Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons (AAPTIP), which was launched in March 2014, as Australia's successor programme to the Australia-Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons (AAPTIP).
84. We appreciated Australia's continued support for ASEAN integration and ASEAN Community building efforts, especially through the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme (AADCP) Phase II and the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement Economic Support Programme (AECSP).
85. We acknowledged Australia's on-going support for the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Relief (AADMER) and collaboration with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) to strengthen cooperation in disaster management.

86. We supported efforts to promote mutual understanding and strengthen the institutional and people-to-people linkages between Australia and countries in the region, especially in education. We welcomed the pilot programme of the New Colombo Plan and the expansion of this programme to all ASEAN Member States from 2015. We noted Australia's commitment of A\$100 million over five years to implement the New Colombo Plan.

ASEAN-Canada

87. We noted the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-Canada Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership (2010-2015). We welcomed the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership Program (ACEPP) which provides CAD\$10 million funding support to ASEAN's projects and community-building efforts.
88. We noted that the ASEAN Economic Ministers' Road-show to Canada in June 2014 was a good opportunity for ASEAN and Canada to explore ways to enhance economic, trade and investment cooperation.
89. We noted with appreciation Canada's support to enhance ASEAN Secretariat's information management and documentation system through ASEAN Online.

ASEAN-China

90. We noted with satisfaction the collective commitment of ASEAN and China to further strengthen ASEAN-China relationship by enhancing mutual trust and confidence and promoting cooperation in the political-security, economic, and social-cultural areas as outlined in the Joint Statement of the 16th ASEAN-China Summit in Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership, as well as the Joint Statement of the 15th ASEAN-China Summit on the 10th Anniversary of the Declaration on the Code of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC).

91. We welcomed China's commitment to support ASEAN Community building efforts and enhance ASEAN-China relations, through among others, China's proposals and initiatives to support ASEAN Connectivity initiatives, advance maritime cooperation, and intensify people-to-people exchanges. In this regard, we looked forward to working closely with China to further strengthen the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership.

92. We reiterated the importance of effective utilisation of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA) in order for ASEAN and China to be able to achieve the targets of two-way trade volume of US\$ 500 billion by 2015 and US\$ 1 trillion by 2020, as well as two-way investment of US\$ 150 billion in the next 6 years. We welcomed the efforts to strengthen economic cooperation which will contribute to improving overall market access and lead to increasing total trade volume and investment flows between ASEAN and China, including the initiative for an upgraded ACFTA.

93. We welcomed the various meaningful activities held in ASEAN Member States and China in connection with the 2014 ASEAN-China Cultural Exchange Year, including the Opening Ceremony on 7 April 2014 in Beijing. We also looked forward to future activities to promote people-to-people exchanges and cooperation in relevant fields as well as supporting the ASEAN-China Plan of Action on Culture Cooperation.

94. We noted with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the 2011-2015 Plan of Action (POA) to implement the Joint Declaration on the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity.

95. We welcomed the First Country Coordinators Meeting of the Network of ASEAN-China Think-Tanks (NACT CCM) which was held on 3 July 2014 in Beijing, China, and looked forward to an increase in academic exchanges between ASEAN and China.

ASEAN-EU

96. We noted with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to Strengthen the ASEAN-EU Enhanced

Partnership (2013-2017). We welcomed the EU's continued support for ASEAN to successfully build the ASEAN Community by 2015 through various development cooperation programmes such as the ASEAN Regional Integration Support by the EU (ARISE), the ASEAN Air Transport Integration Project (AATIP) and the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI).

97. We welcomed the successful convening of the 20th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting (AEMM) on 23 July 2014 in Brussels and noted the positive outcomes of the meeting, including the decision to enhance connectivity between the two regions and support for the implementation of the MPAC; enhancing maritime security and safety cooperation such as information sharing and capacity building; and working towards upgrading the partnership to a strategic one.
98. We appreciated the EU's support for ASEAN's institution building and 2015 Community building goals through its commitment of €170 million for the period of 2014 - 2020, including its significant contribution to enhancing ASEAN Connectivity and narrowing the development gap. We also encouraged the EU to constructively engage with and support ASEAN sub-regional cooperative mechanisms and initiatives.
99. We welcomed cooperation between ASEAN and the EU on maritime issues and noted the outcomes arising from in-depth discussions of the ASEAN-EU High Level Dialogue on Maritime Cooperation in Jakarta in November 2013.
100. We welcomed the convening of the 1st ASEAN-EU Policy Dialogue on Connectivity on 24-28 February 2014 in Brussels and called for the EU's continued support and cooperation in the implementation of the MPAC to forge greater ASEAN-EU connectivity. We also noted with satisfaction that the EU, including the European Investment Bank, agreed to explore financial support to the infrastructure connectivity inspired by the MPAC.
101. We welcomed the adoption of the Joint Declaration on EU-ASEAN Aviation Cooperation at the 1st EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit held on 11-12 February 2014 in Singapore, and noted the EU's intent to start negotiations on

a comprehensive EU-ASEAN air transport agreement. In this regard, we looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-EU Aviation Working Group which will discuss and monitor progress in the entire range of areas of cooperation in aviation.

102. We reaffirmed our commitment to strengthen cooperation between ASEAN and the EU, including the possibility of resuming negotiations of an ASEAN-EU Free Trade Agreement, upon realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community by the end of 2015. We noted the progress of the bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations and discussion between individual ASEAN Member States and the EU, and we looked forward to the convening of the 13th Consultations between ASEAN Economic Ministers and the EU Trade Commissioner which is expected to be held in August 2014 in Myanmar.
103. We welcomed the ASEAN-EU Emergency Management Programme (AEEMP), which would provide support to ASEAN Member States, the AHA Centre, and the ASEAN Secretariat.

ASEAN-India

104. We noted the progress of work under the ASEAN-India Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2010-2015). We looked forward to the effective implementation of the Vision Statement of the 2012 ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit.
105. We encouraged ASEAN-India cooperation to further address transnational and non-traditional security challenges, particularly in the field of combating terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, maritime security and cyber-crime.
106. We agreed to further promote maritime cooperation to address common challenges on maritime issues, including sea piracy, search and rescue at sea, maritime environment, maritime connectivity, freedom of navigation, fisheries and other areas of cooperation.
107. We noted that the total two-way trade between ASEAN and India grew by 5.3% in the past

years and called for further encouragement and promotion of business-to-business contact to achieve greater trade and investment between ASEAN and India. In this regard, we looked forward to the signing of the ASEAN-India Services and Investment Agreements at the forthcoming 12th AEM-India Consultations in August 2014.

108. We expressed our appreciation on the support of India in the implementation of the MPAC as it will enhance regional integration and better linkages between ASEAN and India. We encouraged further India's support, especially in the field of maritime connectivity and information and communication technology (ICT). We looked forward to the expeditious conclusion of the existing ASEAN-India transport initiatives including the ASEAN-India Air Transport Agreement and the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway Project and its extension to Lao PDR and Cambodia, and the development of the new highway also linking Viet Nam, which will enhance connectivity between and beyond both sides, and strengthen trade, investment, businesses and tourism flows.
109. We recognised that ASEAN and India are moving forward in enhancing cooperation in the field of science and technology by utilising the ASEAN-India Science and Technology Development Fund.
110. We also noted with satisfaction the successful convening of the Delhi Dialogue VI in March 2014 and the 2nd Round Table on ASEAN- India Network of Think Tank (AINTT) in September 2013 in Vientiane.
111. We reiterated the need to strengthen ASEAN-India cooperation in agriculture and energy in order to ensure long-term food security and energy security, especially with the use of appropriate technologies, for the benefit of the peoples in our region.

ASEAN-Japan

112. We noted with satisfaction the progress made in ASEAN-Japan relations in the past year, including the outcomes of the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship

and Cooperation. In this connection, we agreed to further strengthen our cooperation across all areas of political-security, economic and social-cultural development.

113. We appreciated Japan for establishing the Japan -ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) 2.0, which amounts to USD 100 million, as the continuation of JAIF to support the implementation of projects under the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action 2011-2015 and the Implementation Plan of the Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation. We also welcomed effort to realise the Heart-to-Heart Partner pillar of the ASEAN-Japan Vision Statement through the WA Project.
114. We valued Japan's important role and significant contribution to the implementation of the MPAC. We welcomed Japan's initiative for the conclusion of a regional air services agreement with ASEAN at the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in December 2013. We looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-Japan Working Group on Regional Air Services Arrangements, and recognised that it is important for ASEAN to pursue a mutually beneficial, liberal and substantial agreement with Japan to strengthen air connectivity in support of tourism, trade and investment flows.
115. We noted the contribution of Japan to the efforts in narrowing development gap toward ASEAN integration through the promotion of sharing and exchange of experience and good practices between ASEAN Member States, particularly the CLMV countries.

ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK)

116. We noted with satisfaction that this year marks the 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK dialogue relations and welcomed the overall progress of cooperation over the years. In this respect, we welcomed a series of commemorative activities throughout the year and looked forward to the successful convening of the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit in Busan, ROK, on 11-12 December 2014 to give momentum to substantively enhance partnership cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK in the years to come.

117. We welcomed the progress of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity 2011-2015.
118. We noted the discussion on political and security cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK, through a dedicated agenda on political security-related matters during the 18th ASEAN-ROK Dialogue in Busan, ROK.
119. We emphasised the importance of fully utilising the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area (AKFTA) and ASEAN-Korea Business Council to reach the target of USD150 billion trade volume by 2015.
120. We welcomed the Extension of the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Forest Cooperation (AFoCo) Agreement. We looked forward to the effective implementation of the Agreement to support sustainable forest management and other forest-related activities, including prevention of deforestation and forest degradation as well as address the impact of climate change.
121. We looked forward to the conclusion of the ASEAN-ROK Air Services Agreement, and recognised that it is important for ASEAN to pursue a mutually beneficial, liberal and substantial agreement with the ROK to strengthen air connectivity in support of tourism, trade and investment flows.

ASEAN-New Zealand

122. We noted the progress of implementation of the ASEAN-New Zealand Plan of Action (2010 - 2015) and the successful implementation of the four flagship initiatives, namely the ASEAN-New Zealand Scholarships Programme, Young Business Leaders Exchange Programme, Initiatives on Disaster Risk Management Programme and the Agricultural Diplomacy Programme.
123. We looked forward to the convening of an ASEAN-New Zealand Commemorative Summit in 2015 in Malaysia and other commemorative activities to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the ASEAN-New Zealand dialogue relations. We noted that the 21st ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue in February 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, had discussed the deliverables of the Commemorative Summit, including the ASEAN-New Zealand Plan of

Action (2015-2020), with a view to renewing the commitments to further broaden and deepen the dialogue relations.

124. We noted with satisfaction New Zealand's continued support to ASEAN in the education sector, particularly the English Language Training for Officials (ELTO) programme and the ASEAN – New Zealand Scholarship Flagship Programme to build capacity for to the ASEAN Member States, especially the CLMV.
125. We noted with appreciation New Zealand's continued support to ASEAN in strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat through the AANZFTA Support Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat.

ASEAN-Russia

126. We noted the progress of the implementation of the Roadmap of the Comprehensive Programme of Action between ASEAN and the Russian Federation for 2005-2015. We looked forward to implementing more concrete activities, focusing on industry, finance, SMEs, information, sports, and disaster management, ICT, environment management cooperation, and people to people interactions between ASEAN and Russia.
127. We appreciated Russia's commitment in contributing USD1.5 million annually to the ASEAN-Russian Federation Dialogue Partnership Financial Fund (ARDPFF) since 2011. We encouraged the utilisation of the ARDPFF to facilitate and expedite the remaining work of the current Comprehensive Programme of Action.
128. We continued to work with Russia to further enhance our cooperation to implement the ASEAN-Russia Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism through dialogue and capacity building.
129. We welcomed Russia's interest to support ASEAN Connectivity and noted their intention to work with the ACCC.

ASEAN-US

130. We noted with satisfaction the successful convening of the First ASEAN-US Summit held in October 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, which

symbolised efforts of both sides to elevate the ASEAN-US partnership to a strategic level, and acknowledged the progress of implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership for Enduring Peace and Prosperity (2011 – 2015).

131. We welcomed the US' continued support for the ASEAN Community building efforts through various development cooperation programmes, including the ASEAN Connectivity through Trade and Investment project (ACTI) and the ASEAN-US Partnership for Good Governance, Equitable and Sustainable Development and Security (ASEAN-US PROGRESS) launched in December 2013.
132. We encouraged both sides to fully utilise the ASEAN-US Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) and the Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) initiative to further create economic opportunities and shared prosperity. We welcomed the US-ASEAN Business Summit scheduled to take place in August 2014.
133. We welcomed the progress of ASEAN-US cooperation in various areas, including maritime security, transnational crime, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, energy, education, rule of law, and development in the Lower Mekong sub-region.

ASEAN Plus Three

134. We expressed our satisfaction with the comprehensive ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Framework and took note of the progress of implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2013-2017) and on-going work to undertake a review and assessment of the recommended actions in the Report of the East Asia Vision Group II.
135. Recognising the importance of enhancing exchanges among businesses, peoples and information among the ASEAN Plus Three participating countries, we looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation at the forthcoming 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Ministers, which would be held in conjunction with the ASEAN Tourism Forum in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, in January 2015.
136. We noted the intention of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat to institutionalise and consolidate its cooperation with the ASEAN Secretariat.
137. Encouraged by the substantial progress made on the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement, we further recommended deeper cooperation among the ASEAN Plus Three countries to strengthen food security cooperation in the region. We also underlined our support for the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) to be further strengthened and developed into the ASEAN Plus Three food security information system.
138. We welcomed the steady and continued focus on finance and monetary cooperation, in particular the implementation of the CMIM and the Asian Bond Market Initiative (ABMI). We noted that the 17th Meeting of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (AFMGM+3) on 3 May 2014 in Astana, Kazakhstan, welcomed the completion of the revised Operational Guidelines of the amended CMIM agreement and agreed to endorse the "Guidelines for the Further Cooperation with the International Monetary Fund" to help enhance CMIM's effectiveness.
139. We looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN Plus Three forum on good governance on 25 September 2014 in Myanmar. We believed the forum would contribute to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of public administration, enhancing institutional capacity within the ASEAN Community and increasing the independence and transparency of judicial and legislative systems in the region.
140. We took note of the importance of the Trilateral cooperation as complementary part of the ASEAN Plus Three partnership. In this regard, we encouraged the holding of dialogue or other consultation mechanisms among China, Japan and the Republic of Korea to ensure smooth and swift transition of the ASEAN Plus Three co-ordinatorship.

East Asia Summit

141. We welcomed the significant progress made by the East Asia Summit process. We reaffirmed

our commitment to further promote the EAS as a Leaders-led forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic, political, and economic issues of common interest based on the principles, objectives and modalities of the EAS as reflected in the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the East Asia Summit, the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration on the Commemoration of the 5th Anniversary of the East Asia Summit, and the 2011 Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles), with ASEAN as the driving force.

142. We looked forward to the adoption of the Plan of Action to Implement the 2012 Phnom Penh Declaration on EAS Development Initiative at the 4th EAS Foreign Ministers Meeting to be held on 10 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
143. We expressed our appreciation to the non-ASEAN EAS Participating Countries for their unwavering support to the ASEAN Community building process through various initiatives, including the implementation of the MPAC.
144. Further to our Leaders' commitment in promoting food security and cooperation, we welcomed the convening of three study group meetings of the East Asia Summit Track II Study Group on Enhancing Food Security through Sustainable Fisheries Management and Marine Environment Conservation.
145. We underscored the importance of promoting maritime cooperation so that we could effectively manage maritime-related issues, including maritime security, maritime connectivity, freedom of navigation, search and rescue, marine environmental protection, and fisheries.

Engagement with other external parties

146. We agreed to adopt the Joint Statement on ASEAN-Norway Partnership, which would serve as a roadmap for the ASEAN-Norway Partnership that is action-oriented, mutually beneficial and forward-looking, and comprising political and security cooperation, economic cooperation and socio-cultural cooperation.

ASEAN Regional Forum

147. We reaffirmed the importance of the ARF as a primary forum to foster constructive dialogue, consultation, and cooperation on political and security issues of common interest and concern. We reiterated ASEAN's centrality and active role as the driving force within the ARF process. We also reiterated our commitment to implement the Ha Noi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement to advance the ARF process toward a Preventive Diplomacy phase, while continuing efforts in Confidence Building Measures, through the implementation of concrete, action-oriented, and practical activities. We underscored the need for the ARF to continue pursuing synergy and effective coordination with the ADMM Plus and other ASEAN-led mechanisms.

REGIONAL SECURITY ARCHITECTURE

148. We reiterated the importance of preserving ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture. Recalling the Leaders' decision in the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on Realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015, we tasked the officials to explore the possibility for a regional framework, such as a TAC-like treaty, based on the principles contained in the TAC and in line with the spirit of the 2011 Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles). In this regard, we welcomed Indonesia's effort to propose a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in the wider Indo-Pacific region and looked forward to further details from Indonesia. We therefore welcomed Indonesia's proposal to host the 3rd EAS Workshop on Regional Security Architecture.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

South China Sea

149. We remained seriously concerned over recent developments which had increased tensions in the South China Sea and reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace, stability, maritime security as well as freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea.
150. We reaffirmed our commitments to the principles stipulated in the 2012 Statement of the ASEAN

Foreign Ministers on ASEAN's Six Point Principles on the South China Sea, the 2012 Joint Statement of the 15th ASEAN-China Summit on the 10th Anniversary of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea, and the ASEAN Foreign Minister's Statement on the Current Developments in the South China Sea which was issued on 10 May 2014.

151. We urged all parties concerned to exercise self-restraint and avoid actions which would complicate the situation and undermine peace, stability, and security in the South China Sea and to settle disputes through peaceful means, without resorting to the threat or use of force, including friendly dialogue, consultations and negotiations, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
152. We further stressed the importance of the collective commitments of ASEAN Member States and China to peace, stability, maritime security and mutual trust in the region and the need to create conditions conducive for the peaceful settlement of disputes. We agreed to intensify consultations with China on measures and mechanisms to ensure and further enhance the full and effective implementation of the DOC in its entirety, particularly Articles 4 and 5 as well as substantive negotiations for the early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC). We tasked our Senior Officials to follow up on this matter.
153. We took note of the Progress Report on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea to be submitted to the ASEAN-China Post-Ministerial Conference, and tasked officials to work with China to finalise the objective and structure and elaborate the substance of the COC, including concrete elements which would promote trust and confidence, prevent incidents, manage incidents should they occur. We also tasked officials to work on a series of early-harvest measures.
154. We underscored the importance of maintaining the momentum of consultations and expeditiously working towards the early conclusion of the COC following the constructive outcomes of the

7th ASEAN-China Senior Officials Meeting on the Implementation of the DOC (SOM on DOC) held on 21 April 2014 in Pattaya, Thailand and the 10th and 11th ASEAN-China Joint Working Groups on the Implementation of the DOC (JWG on DOC) held on 18 March 2014 in Singapore and 25 June 2014 in Bali, Indonesia, respectively. In this regard, we looked forward to more substantive discussions at the 8th SOM on DOC to be convened back-to-back with the 12th JWG on DOC in October 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand.

155. We noted the paper on the Triple Action Plan introduced by the Philippines and other proposals on Article 5 of the DOC raised by other ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the South China Sea.

Korean Peninsula

156. We welcomed the holding of inter-Korean family reunions in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the outcome of the recent dialogue between Japan and the DPRK to settle pending issues. However, we expressed our concern over the recent developments in the Korean Peninsula, particularly over the testing of ballistic missiles, and reiterated calls for full compliance with relevant UNSC Resolutions and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. We highlighted the importance of enhancing dialogue and creating an atmosphere conducive for the early resumption of the Six-Party Talks which would pave the way for a peaceful denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. To this end, we highly recommended that the ARF, of which all Six-Party Talks participants are members, could contribute to forging a conducive atmosphere for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks.

Ukraine

157. We expressed our support for the peaceful efforts taken by all parties to resolve the situation in Ukraine. We reiterated our concern over the situation in Ukraine and called upon all parties concerned for a broad dialogue aimed at de-escalation and peaceful political solution in compliance with the fundamental principles of international law. We thus underlined the urgent need to de-escalate tensions in Eastern Ukraine,

and for all parties to agree on an immediate, genuine and sustainable ceasefire. We urged all concerned parties to come together to negotiate a resolution peacefully in accordance with international law.

The Downing of Malaysia Airlines MH-17

158. We recalled our Joint Statement issued on 19 July 2014 condemning the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 in Donetsk Oblast, Ukraine, on 17 July 2014 which killed 298 people. While recognising that parties controlling the area of the crash site and surrounding areas have facilitated efforts towards gaining access thereto, more needs to be done to ensure that all remains may be gathered and repatriated as soon as possible and in a dignified manner. We demanded that all military activities, including by armed groups, be halted in the immediate and surrounding crash site to allow safe and unimpeded access to the site by the international investigation team probing the cause of the crash. We further demanded that those responsible for the heinous act be held to account and swiftly brought to justice.

Middle East

159. We strongly condemned the loss of thousands of civilian lives and countless wounded, and the targeting of schools designated as safe-houses/shelters managed by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) as well as civilian institutions in Gaza, including the Al-Shifa Hospital, the Al-Aqsa Hospital and the Islamic University of Gaza and places of worship. We also strongly condemned the hiding of weapons in UN premises and the use of human shields, which put innocent civilians in the harm's way. We called on the international community, in particular the United Nations Security Council to act swiftly and decisively to end the current crisis through dialogue and negotiation. We demand full respect for international humanitarian law, including the protection of civilians and the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance.

Syria

160. We expressed deep concern over the continued deterioration of the humanitarian situation in

Syria and condemned the use of chemical weapons in Syria which has caused the loss of lives. We supported the joint efforts of the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in dismantling Syria's chemical weapons stockpiles. We supported the provision of humanitarian aid to alleviate the suffering of civilians and underlined the need to ensure unrestricted access to humanitarian assistance. We underscored the importance of resolving the crisis in a peaceful manner and supported all efforts, particularly by the United Nations, including the adoption of the UNSC Resolutions 2118, 2139 and 2165.

Iraq

161. We condemned the recent attacks by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in Iraq which threatened the peace and stability of the region. We called on the Iraqi government to effectively resolve the situation and called on all parties to ensure access to humanitarian assistance to those affected by insecurity and conflict.

Afghanistan

162. We welcomed the recent elections in Afghanistan, which marked an important step towards a peaceful political transition in the country. We reaffirmed our commitment to Afghanistan's transition and looked forward to the orderly and peaceful transition to a new administration.

G-20

163. We welcomed the outcomes of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meetings, as well as the recently concluded G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting in July 2014. We appreciated the G-20's commitment to develop ambitious but realistic policies with the aim of increasing global growth by more than two percent over the next five years and developing new measures, in the context of maintaining fiscal sustainability and financial sector stability, to significantly raise global growth. We were pleased with the opportunities to share ASEAN's views on current issues affecting the global economy in the G-20 through the regular participation of the ASEAN Chair at the G-20 meetings. We continued to

support the work of the G20 to achieve strong, sustainable and balanced growth. In this regard, we expressed our support for Australia's hosting of the 2014 G-20 Summit.

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

164. We noted APEC's on-going contribution to the promotion of open trade and investment, regional economic integration, economic development and prosperity, and welcomed progress towards achieving the Bogor Goals of free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific by 2020. We expressed our support for the APEC Blueprint on Connectivity taking into account of the MPAC. We looked forward to the APEC Blueprint on Connectivity providing concrete outcomes to enhance connectivity in both Southeast Asia and the greater Asia Pacific region. We expressed our support for China's hosting of the 2014 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting.

World Trade Organisation (WTO)

165. We reaffirmed our support and commitment to a balanced, transparent and rules-based multilateral trading system as embodied by the WTO. We welcomed the outcomes of the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference held in December 2013 in Bali, Indonesia, including the "Bali Package" of decisions on trade facilitation, agriculture and development, including issues of interest to least-developed countries. Effective implementation of these decisions will provide a huge boost the global economy by streamlining customs procedures globally, strengthening food security, and ensuring greater integration of developing countries, and in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs), into the global trading system.

48th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting

166. We looked forward to the 48th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting and Post Ministerial Conferences (48th AMM/PMC)/16th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting(16th APT FMM)/5th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting (5th EAS-FMM) and 22nd ASEAN Regional Forum (22nd ARF) to be held in Malaysia in 2015.

**Fourth Friends of the Lower Mekong Ministerial Meeting
Joint Statement**

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 9 August 2014

On August 9, 2014, the U.S. Secretary of State and the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Cambodia, Japan, Lao PDR, Myanmar, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Viet Nam, the Managing Director of the EU, and senior representatives of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank joined the ASEAN Secretary-General in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar for the fourth Friends of the Lower Mekong (FLM) Ministerial Meeting. FLM advances sustainable and equitable growth and narrows the development gap within ASEAN through jointly coordinated development assistance.

At the Meeting, Ministers noted that the Mekong River is a powerful economic engine that underpins much of the economic growth and vitality of Southeast Asia. Sustaining broad-based economic growth will require smart infrastructure, responsive institutions, and resilient natural systems. Ministers agreed to continue to focus FLM on delivering a sustainable future for the Mekong, with special focus given to this issue in the lead-up to the ASEAN Economic Community to be realized in 2015. Ministers underlined that building partnerships at the local, national, regional, and inter-regional levels is critical to addressing Mekong development and water-related challenges. Ministers also called for stronger cooperation on regional connectivity, sustainable water resources management, and environmental matters and agreed that transforming emerging challenges of the water, energy, and food security nexus into opportunities for growth and sustainable development is a shared priority.

To that end, Ministers committed to working together with donors, ASEAN, the Mekong River Commission, and other regional institutions to promote complementary efforts in the sub-region. Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to promote sustainable approaches to development; support the implementation of standards, safeguards, and economic and scientific analysis to maximize the positive benefits of infrastructure development; build technical capacity of regional institutions; and mobilize new investments necessary to achieve long-term economic growth, such as green

infrastructure, clean energy, climate-smart agriculture, and platforms to foster innovation. Ministers also agreed to explore opportunities for further dialogue in the near-term, and agreed to seek increased involvement of private sector and other LMI development partners in future dialogues. Ministers also encourage greater scientific, technical, and financial support of the developing partners for narrowing the development gap among ASEAN members in general and among Mekong partner countries in particular.

Ministers welcomed the concerted efforts of all FLM Members to advance sustainable development in the sub-region and to jointly support regional development priorities. Ministers welcomed several examples of successful joint collaboration, including Japan's commitment to support the Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) women's entrepreneurship network called Women's Entrepreneurial Center for Research, Education, Access, and Training for Economic Empowerment (WECREATE). Ministers also welcomed efforts to coordinate between sub-regional frameworks, as is the case with the United States' and Japan's commitment to closer collaboration between Mekong-Japan cooperation and LMI, coordination between the Initiative for ASEAN Integration and LMI, and between the ADB's Greater Mekong Sub-Region program and LMI. Ministers noted that collaboration among FLM Members should seek to improve sustainability, strengthen regional capacity, support development of scientific data and analysis, and promote smart infrastructure development.

Ministers agreed that a future "Extraordinary Meeting" that includes member country officials from appropriate line ministries could explore the theme of advancing sustainable development in the Lower Mekong sub-region.

Heads of Delegation:

1. Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Wunna Maung Lwin (co-chair);
2. Secretary of State of the United States of America John Kerry (co-chair);
3. Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia Hor Namhong;
4. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Thongloun Sisoulith;
5. Acting Foreign Minister of Thailand Sihasak Phuangketkeow;
6. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign

- Minister of Viet Nam Pham Binh Minh;
7. Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia Julie Bishop;
8. Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Fumio Kishida;
9. Senior Official of New Zealand Alison Mann;
10. Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea Yun Byung-se;
11. Managing Director of the External Action Service of the European Union Viorel Isticioaia-Budura;
12. Cambodia Country Director of the Asian Development Bank Eric Sidgwick;
13. Lead Economist of the World Bank Claudia Sadoff;
14. Secretary-General of ASEAN Le Luong Minh.

Seventh Ministerial Meeting of the Lower Mekong Initiative Joint Statement

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 9 August 2014

On August 9, 2014, the Foreign Ministers of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam, the Secretary-General of ASEAN and the U.S. Secretary of State met in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, for the Seventh Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) Ministerial Meeting.

Ministers affirmed LMI's effectiveness during its first five years in addressing complex, transnational development and policy challenges through dozens of cooperative programs led by LMI's six pillars focused on: agriculture and food security, connectivity, education, energy security, environment and water, and health, and cross-pillar areas such as gender. Through the pillars, LMI Members have advanced the vision of narrowing the development gap in ASEAN and accelerating economic integration in the lead-up to establishing the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015.

At their annual gathering, Ministers announced a renewed Lower Mekong Initiative program for the next five years that includes focusing the organization on its most successful, in-demand Signature Programs, while simultaneously elevating cross-cutting thematic discussions like the nexus of food, water, and energy security.

LMI Signature Programs

As LMI crosses its five-year anniversary, Ministers agreed that LMI should give permanent status to activities that have proven successful in meeting the Initiative's strategic objectives and are strongly supported by partner countries. While LMI currently supports a wide variety of highly valuable programs, and will continue to do so, partner countries and the United States committed to delivering the following regular programs, which we believe illustrate the effective nature of LMI:

- **Connect Mekong** – This program promotes physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity through the delivery of trainings, technical assistance and Best Practice Exchanges, leveraging U.S. experts from across many agencies and the private sector to foster trade, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Activities seek to narrow the development gap in ASEAN and promote the realization of the ASEAN Community in 2015.
- **Smart Infrastructure for the Mekong (SIM)** – In its first year, LMI countries submitted twelve proposals through this technical and scientific assistance program which supports environmentally sound and socially equitable infrastructure, clean energy, and land/water use. Ministers welcomed these proposals and looked forward to review and adoption of appropriate projects in the future.
- **Connecting the Mekong through Education and Training (COMET)** – The five-year workforce development project, with an initial commitment of \$4 million, will assist universities and vocational centers to increase the number of skilled workers in the ASEAN priority sectors through online education and in-person training. COMET will include strategic partnerships with the business community, including Microsoft and Cisco Systems.
- **Professional Communication Skills for Leaders (PCSL)** – PCSL develops technical English proficiency in mid- to upper-level government officials so that they can present ideas and actively contribute to LMI meetings and other regional fora in the official working language. The program, in its third year, is highly rated by LMI countries.

- **Women's Entrepreneurial Centers of Resources, Education, Access, and Training for Economic Empowerment (WECREATE)**. Ministers affirmed their support for WECREATE and welcomed the upcoming launch of the first Center in Cambodia, which will form part of a regional network to promote women's entrepreneurship under LMI. Ministers reaffirmed the importance of integrating gender issues across development and policy planning.
- **The Emerging Pandemic Threats (EPT) Program** - EPT promotes early detection and response to diseases in animals before they become threats to human health. Ministers affirmed the importance of the Global Health Security Agenda broadly and the need to enhance regional capacity for disease prevention, surveillance, detection, and response across multiple sectors, including human and animal health, and the environment.

Cross-Cutting Themes

In addition to elevating Signature Programs, partner countries and the United States will focus LMI policy dialogues on cross-cutting areas that represent the most pressing regional challenges – such as the nexus of food, water, and energy security; connectivity; and women's empowerment and gender equality. These areas are vital to the sustainable development and economic growth of the Lower Mekong sub-region. Cross-cutting discussions that bring together stakeholders working to address regional challenges will provide a venue for government officials, academia, research institutions, the private and banking sectors, and other LMI development partners to jointly improve policy approaches and launch appropriate capacity-building programs.

Eminent and Expert Persons' Group

Ministers announced their countries' designees to the Eminent and Expert Persons Group (EEPG). Ministers tasked the group with finding concrete ways to promote a sustainable future for the Mekong River Basin. They agreed that the group will subsequently report their findings to senior officials at the next LMI Senior Officials Meeting.

LMI and ASEAN

Ministers praised the recent increase in information sharing between LMI members and the ASEAN

Secretariat, and strong ASEAN participation at LMI meetings, notably the March 2014 LMI Regional Working Group in Vientiane, Lao PDR, and the June 2014 LMI Senior Officials' Meeting in Yangon, Myanmar. Ministers agreed to promote continued programming collaboration so that LMI can productively support narrowing the development gap in ASEAN and identified priorities under the Initiative for ASEAN Integration.

Summary

Finally, Ministers lauded the ongoing work under each of LMI's six pillars – agriculture and food security, connectivity, education, energy security, environment and water, and health – comprising over twenty-five active interagency programs, which together with in-depth policy discussions advance economic growth, strengthen regional integration, and promote sustainable development. Noting the promise and success of the first five years, Ministers charged the pillars to continue to focus efforts on their most effective activities. Ministers reaffirmed their commitments to LMI as a primary driver of Lower Mekong sub-regional economic integration and sustainable growth for the next five years.

Heads of Delegations:

1. Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Wunna Maung Lwin (co-chair); 2. Secretary of State of the United States of America John Kerry (co-chair); 3. Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia Hor Namhong; 4. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thongloun Sisoulith; 5. Acting Foreign Minister of the Royal Kingdom of Thailand Sihasak Phuangketkeow; 6. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Pham Binh Minh; 7. Secretary-General of ASEAN Le Luong Minh.

Chairman's Statement on the Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) 10+1 Sessions

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 9-10 August 2014

1. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC)+1 Sessions with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, namely Australia, Canada, China, the European Union, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America were held in Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 9 and 10 August 2014.
2. These meetings provided an opportunity to review dialogue relations, including the future cooperation and direction of relations, as well as exchange views on regional and international issues.

i) PMC+1 Session with Australia

The ASEAN+1 Session with Australia was co-chaired by H.E. Albert F. del Rosario, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines and the Hon. Julie Bishop MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia.

3. The Meeting strongly condemned the downing of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH17 in eastern Ukraine on 17 July, which resulted in the tragic loss of 298 innocent civilians. Ministers expressed their deepest condolences to the families of the victims and called for the urgent and full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2166. The Meeting demanded a full, thorough and independent investigation into the downing of Flight MH17 and called on all states and parties to cooperate towards this end. The Meeting also insisted that those responsible for this incident to be held to account and that all parties cooperate fully with efforts to establish accountability.
4. The Meeting welcomed the 40th anniversary of ASEAN-Australia dialogue relations this year and looked forward to the ASEAN-Australia Commemorative Summit in November in Nay Pyi Taw, with a view to holding more regular ASEAN-Australia leaders' meetings in the future.

5. The Meeting supported efforts to intensify people-to-people links especially in education. ASEAN Ministers welcomed the pilot program of the New Colombo Plan and its expansion to all ASEAN Member States from 2015. The Meeting noted Australia's commitment of A\$100 million over five years to implement the New Colombo Plan, which supports young Australian undergraduates to study and undertake internships in the Indo-Pacific region. ASEAN Ministers also welcomed the Australia Awards program, which provides ASEAN youth long-term and short-term study and professional development opportunities in Australia.
 6. The Meeting acknowledged Australia was a key partner in supporting the ASEAN Economic Community and deepening economic integration to increase prosperity and strengthen trade and investment. The Meeting recognized the strong linkages between Australia's economic diplomacy and ASEAN's economic integration agenda. The Meeting welcomed the joint Australia-Singapore workshop on infrastructure connectivity. The Meeting also welcomed the launching of the ASEAN Connectivity video clips on the sidelines of the 47th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting.
 7. The Meeting highlighted work to implement the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA). The Meeting welcomed the finalization of the First Protocol to Amend the AANZFTA, which will assist in improving administrative efficiency and encourage enhanced business utilization of the Agreement. The Meeting welcomed the strong growth in trade, which has more than doubled in the past decade to A\$92 billion.
 8. The Meeting emphasized the importance of concluding a modern, comprehensive and high-quality Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). The Meeting recognized the positive role that RCEP can play in supporting ASEAN's regional economic integration objectives and the building of an ASEAN Economic Community.
 9. The Meeting welcomed Australia's presidency of the G20 and engagement with ASEAN Member States. The Meeting noted Australia's aim to see the G20 Summit deliver concrete outcomes in jobs and global economic growth.
 10. The Meeting agreed to deepen cooperation in the East Asia Summit, ASEAN Regional Forum, ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus and the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum to help foster a stable strategic environment and rules-based, open and inclusive regional order.
 11. The Meeting welcomed Australia's contribution to combatting human smuggling and trafficking in persons. ASEAN welcomed Australia's co-chairing with Indonesia of the Bali Process and the \$50 million Australia-Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons (APTIP), which is strengthening criminal justice responses to trafficking at regional and national levels.
 12. The Meeting highlighted the importance of regional efforts in disaster management and agreed to strengthen coordination and collaboration, and to implement lessons learned from the tragic Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda).
 13. The Meeting underscored shared interests in the maintenance of peace and stability, respect for international law, unimpeded trade and freedom of navigation and overflight in the South China Sea.
 14. The Meeting emphasized the need for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and early conclusion of a Code of Conduct.
 15. The Meeting reaffirmed the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership and adopted a new Plan of Action for 2015 to 2019. The Meeting also agreed that a Joint Statement would be drafted for adoption by Leaders at the ASEAN-Australia Commemorative Summit in November in Nay Pyi Taw, as an opportunity to set the mature partnership to a more strategic direction, founded on shared interests in regional peace and prosperity.
- ii) PMC + 1 Session with Canada**
16. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with Canada was co-chaired by H.E. K Shanmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law of Singapore, and the Hon. John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada.

17. The Meeting took note of the progress of implementation of the ASEAN-Canada Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership (2010-2015) in areas such as trade and investment, connectivity, human rights, disaster management and strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the positive developments in ASEAN-Canada cooperation, such as the inauguration of the Canada-ASEAN Business Forum by Canadian Minister of International Trade, the Hon. Ed Fast in Singapore in October 2013, and the ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Roadshow to Canada from 1 to 5 June 2014.
 18. The Meeting welcomed the ongoing implementation of the multi-faceted programme on the Mitigation of Biological Threats in ASEAN Countries (CAD6 million), and a project on Improving Counter-Terrorism Investigation and International Cooperation in ASEAN (CAD3 million). In addition, the Meeting noted Canada had contributed CAD4.5 million over three years to join Singapore and the Asian Development Bank in supporting the ASEAN Infrastructure Centre of Excellence. The Meeting also expressed appreciation for Canada's support for ASEAN Online, and looked forward to Canada's continued contributions to the strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat.
 19. The Meeting welcomed Canada's plans to expand its diplomatic footprint in the ASEAN region. Canada announced plans to establish a stand-alone mission to ASEAN and to place diplomatic resources in Cambodia and Laos, thereby extending representation to all 10 ASEAN Member States. Canada also announced several new cooperation projects to support peace and security in the ASEAN region.
 20. The Meeting welcomed Canada's commitment to support the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and discussed opportunities for further collaboration between ASEAN and Canada in this area, including the promotion of private-public partnership (PPP) projects.
 21. The Meeting agreed on the importance of formulating a vision for the next phase of ASEAN-Canada cooperation, which would build on current achievements and support ASEAN's Post-2015 priority areas as laid out in the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision and the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration of Realization of ASEAN Community in 2015. In this context, the Meeting discussed potential areas for cooperation, such as education and research, clean technology and small and medium enterprises, which could be included in the new ASEAN-Canada Plan of Action (2015-2020). The Meeting encouraged Canada to explore further cooperation in agriculture and infrastructure network linkages that would significantly contribute to the bridging of the development gap in ASEAN.
- iii) PMC + 1 Session with China**
22. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with China was co-chaired by H.E. Sihasak Phuanketkeow, Permanent Secretary and acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and H.E. Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.
 23. The Ministers expressed their heartfelt condolences to the tragic loss of lives caused by the strong earthquake in Yunnan Province, China, on August 3, 2014. Similar message of sympathy was expressed to the Chinese Delegation at all ASEAN related meetings under the 47th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting.
 24. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress of ASEAN-China cooperation, especially the implementation of the Plan of Action (2011-2015) to implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity, through a broad spectrum of cooperative activities in the political-security, economic, and socio-cultural fields. The Meeting further tasked the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) to undertake necessary preparations and identify priorities areas for a new Plan of Action for the period 2016-2020.
 25. The Meeting welcomed the successful outcomes of the 20th ASEAN-China Senior Officials' Consultations (ACSOC) on 22 April 2014 in Pattaya City, Thailand, and reaffirmed their commitment to follow-up the decisions made by the Leaders at the 16th ASEAN-China Summit to commemorate the 10th Anniversary

- of the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership on 9 October 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.
26. The Meeting reaffirmed the importance for China to continue its support for ASEAN Community Building efforts, as well as ASEAN's unity and centrality in the evolving regional architecture.
 27. The Meeting welcomed China's proposals and initiatives under the 2+7 Cooperation Framework for ASEAN-China relations, and looked forward to working closely with China.
 28. The Meeting underscored the value of regional economic integration and noted the encouraging process toward further trade liberalization and the upgrading of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA) with a view to achieving the two-way trade goal of USD500 billion by 2015 and USD1 trillion by 2020, and two-way investment of USD150 billion by 2020.
 29. The Meeting highlighted the importance of 2014 as the ASEAN-China Cultural Exchange Year and appreciated cooperation in organising meaningful cultural events and exchange programmes, which would help enhance mutual understanding between peoples of both sides.
 30. The Meeting welcomed the 1st Country Coordinators Meeting of the Network of ASEAN-China Think-Tanks (NACT CCM) which was held on 3 July 2014 in Beijing, China, and looked forward to an increase in academic exchanges between ASEAN and China.
 31. The Meeting expressed their support for enhanced cooperation between ASEAN and China on connectivity. ASEAN appreciated China's continued support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) through the engagements between the Chinese Working Committee of the China-ASEAN Connectivity Cooperation Committee with the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee. The Meeting welcomed China's proposal to set up the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to provide financial support to regional infrastructure projects, with an emphasis on supporting the implementation of the MPAC.
 32. The Meeting underscored the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea, in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
 33. The Meeting reiterated the commitment to the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in its entirety and to work towards the early conclusion of a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC). ASEAN reaffirmed its view that the objective of the COC is to promote trust and confidence, prevent incidents, and manage incidents should they occur, which would help create a conducive environment for the eventual resolution of disputes.
 34. The Meeting appreciated the continued ASEAN-China consultations and dialogue for mutual trust, confidence and cooperation, and acknowledged the successful outcome of the 10th Meeting of ASEAN-China Joint Working Group on the Implementation of the DOC (JWG on DOC) on 18 March 2014 in Singapore, the 7th Meeting of the ASEAN-China Senior Officials' Meeting on the Implementation of the DOC (SOM on DOC) on 21 April 2014 in Pattaya City, Thailand, and the 11th JWG on DOC on 25 June 2014 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting took note of the Progress Report on the Implementation of the DOC and Consultations on the COC and looked forward to the 8th SOM on DOC and 12th JWG on DOC in Bangkok in October 2014.
 35. The Meeting reaffirmed its determination to ensure the successful outcome of the 17th ASEAN-China Summit in November this year and to promote constructive dialogue and cooperation for peace, stability, and prosperity in the region and beyond.
- iv) PMC + 1 Session with the EU**
36. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) 10+1 Session with the EU was co-chaired by H.E. Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam, and H.E. H.E. Viorel Isticioaia Budura, Managing Director of the European External Action Service (EEAS).

37. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress of ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations, and the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to Strengthen the ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership (2013-2017).
38. The EU reiterated its support for ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture in East Asia and its important contribution to promoting dialogue and cooperation for peace, security, stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. The Meeting commended the EU for its contribution to the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and applauded the EU and Myanmar for the successful co-chairing of the ASEAN Regional Forum Inter-Sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and the related Defense Officials Dialogue (2013-2014).
39. The Meeting welcomed the agreement, made at the recent 20th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting (AEMM) on 23 July 2014 in Brussels, to enhance maritime security and safety cooperation, especially in information sharing and capacity building as well as building upon the outcomes of the ASEAN-EU High-level Dialogue on Maritime Co-operation which was held on 18-19 November 2013 in Jakarta.
40. The Meeting welcomed the resumption of the EU-ASEAN Senior Officials' consultations on Transnational Crime, which took place in June 2014 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to intensify EU-ASEAN cooperation in the fight against terrorism and transnational crime, notably illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, cybercrime; as well as in the mitigation of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks.
41. The Ministers underscored the importance of maintaining peace, stability and prosperity in the region and promoting maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation and over-flight, unimpeded commerce, the exercise of self-restraint, including the use or threat to use of force, and the resolution of disputes by peaceful means, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the relevant standards and recommended practices by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
42. The EU Ministers noted that the ASEAN Ministers have called on all parties to undertake full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and emphasized the need for working towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).
43. The Meeting noted the progress of the bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations and discussions between individual ASEAN Member States and the EU and reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cooperation between the two regions, including the possibility of resuming negotiations of an ASEAN-EU Free Trade Agreement, upon realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community by the end of 2015.
44. The Meeting agreed to step up cooperation on Connectivity. The Meeting reaffirmed support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and to enhance connectivity between the two regions, particularly in the area of physical infrastructure, communication systems and sophisticated technologies. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the visit by the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity (ACCC) to Belgium and Luxembourg in February 2014 to explore ways to cooperate in this area.
45. The Meeting reiterated the commitment to enhance ASEAN-EU cooperation in the area of emergency response in disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM), including through the exchange of knowledge and best practices, and capacity building. The Meeting welcomed the Post Haiyan Tacloban Declaration adopted at the ASEM Manila Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management held on 4-6 June 2014 as a template on best practices in DRRM.
46. The Meeting stressed the importance of sustainable development and management of water resources, environmental protection and renewable energy, which interlinks the three dimensions of development: economic, social and environmental sustainability. In this context, the Meeting welcomed the sharing of experiences regarding the development and sustainable

utilization of water resources and other trans-boundary water issues between the countries in the Danube and Mekong river regions.

47. ASEAN Ministers welcomed the significant increase of EU financial support to 170M€ (2014-2020) to help ASEAN Community building, and narrowing development gaps, including by maximising synergies with the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI).

v) PMC + 1 Session with India

48. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with India was co-chaired by H.R.H. Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam, and H.E. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India. The Meeting congratulated India on the recent elections and in this regard, welcomed H.E. Sushma Swaraj to her first ASEAN PMC+1 Session with India.
49. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the overall progress of the ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership and reaffirmed its contribution to regional growth and prosperity and global peace and security. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-India Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2010-2015) and noted the Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN-India Plan of Action and agreed to task officials to begin the drafting of the new ASEAN-India Plan of Action. The Ministers mandated the officials to examine inclusion of further collaboration in areas such as education and vocational skills training, healthcare, pharmaceuticals and medical training in the new PoA.
50. The Meeting welcomed India's engagement in the region through ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ARF, EAS and ADMM Plus. The Meeting also welcomed India's 'Look East policy' within the framework of the ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership, particularly in supporting the ASEAN Community Building process covering the three pillars of ASEAN Community, connectivity, and in strengthening ASEAN centrality.
51. The Meeting agreed to further strengthen efforts to tackle trans-national security challenges particularly in the areas of terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons and cybercrimes. The Meeting also encouraged efforts to implement the ASEAN-India Joint Declaration for Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism.
52. The Meeting agreed to promote maritime cooperation including through engagement in the ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) and its expanded format to address common challenges on maritime issues, sea piracy, search and rescue at sea, maritime environment, maritime security, maritime connectivity, freedom of navigation, fisheries and other areas of cooperation.
53. The Meeting welcomed the conclusion of negotiations of the Trade in Services and Investment Agreements and looked forward to the signing of the agreements by the end of 2014.
54. The Meeting discussed and agreed to task officials to finalize the modalities for operationalization of the ASEAN-India Centre. The Meeting also noted that India's proposal under economic cooperation to set up an ASEAN-India Trade and Investment Centre would be further discussed at the upcoming 12th AEM-India Consultations.
55. The Meeting highlighted the importance of transportation networks between Southeast Asia and South Asia, and welcomed India's commitment to support the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) through both hard and soft infrastructure linkages. The Meeting encouraged both sides to look into the possibility of taking concrete steps towards the development of the Mekong-India Economic Corridor. In this regard, the Meeting welcomed the convening of the Inter-Sessional Meeting between ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and India on Connectivity held on 6-8 March 2014, New Delhi, India, to explore greater cooperation for ASEAN-India connectivity.
56. The Meeting encouraged the ongoing development of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and its extension to Laos and Cambodia as an initiative to increase greater ASEAN-India physical connectivity. The Meeting also highlighted the importance of linking the ASEAN and India regions through maritime connectivity, under the umbrella of the MPAC,

and welcomed India's participation at the ASEAN Maritime Working Group Meetings.

57. The Meeting noted with appreciation India's on-going work in the region to support ASEAN community building efforts through the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) with the objective of narrowing the development gap. The Meeting highlighted India's role in establishing and supporting Entrepreneurship Development Centre (EDC) and Centre for English Language Training (CELT) in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam and the on-going annual programmes for people-to-people exchanges between students, diplomats, farmers, media and members of the strategic communities in ASEAN Member States and India.
58. The Meeting welcomed India's proposal to hold the Delhi Dialogue VII on 11-12 March 2015 and welcomed Foreign Ministers to attend.
59. The Meeting highlighted the importance of strengthening ASEAN and India cooperation on global issues of concern such as food security, energy security, disaster management and climate change.

vi) PMC + 1 Session with Japan

60. The ASEAN PMC + 1 Session with Japan was co-chaired by H.E. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia, and H.E. Fumio Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.
61. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the good progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action (2011-2015) to carry out the Joint Declaration for Enhancing ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership for Prospering Together, and agreed to speed up the implementation of the PoA in an effective and timely manner.
62. The Meeting welcomed the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in Tokyo, Japan, in 2013, to mark the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation, and reaffirmed their determination to effectively implement the Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation and its Implementation Plan. The Meeting also stressed the need to further enhancing and accelerating cooperation and support towards the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and the ASEAN's Post-2015 Vision.
63. The ASEAN Ministers appreciated Japan's continued support for ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture, including the ASEAN Regional Forum, the ASEAN Plus Three, the East Asia Summit, and the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus.
64. The Meeting appreciated Japan's support to the convening of the AIPR Symposium on Peace and Reconciliation Initiative in Manila in April 2014. The Meeting also welcomed Japan's intention to support a regional seminar on the establishment and operationalization of ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC).
65. In view of promoting maritime security, unimpeded trade, and freedom of navigation and over flight on the high seas, the Meeting called for self-restraint and peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the United Nations Conventions on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The Meeting noted the three principles of international law of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.
66. The Meeting underscored the need for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and recognized the need for ASEAN and China to reach an early conclusion of a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).
67. The Meeting exchanged views on the Korean Peninsula and the need to exercise maximum self-restraint and create conducive environment for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks and the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.
68. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to collaborate on human rights and support the work of ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR). In this regard, the Meeting welcomed the visit of AICHR representatives to Japan in April 2014.

69. The Meeting hailed the launch of the ASEAN-Japan Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (1st AMMTC + Japan) Consultation in the Lao People's Democratic Republic in September 2013 as well as the successful continuation of the ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism Dialogue since 2006. The ASEAN Ministers looked forward to adopting the Joint Declaration for Cooperation in the Fight against Terrorism and Transnational Crime to be adopted at the ASEAN-Japan Summit in 2014.
70. The Meeting welcomed the progress of cooperation in the area of cyber security, including through capacity building, technical cooperation, critical information infrastructure protection, joint awareness raising activities, establishing information sharing framework and exchange of information on Anti-Spam measures, and hailed the inaugural ASEAN-Japan Cybercrime Dialogue which was held on May 28, 2014 in Singapore.
71. The ASEAN Ministers expressed thanks to Japan for its continued strong support to ASEAN integration and welcomed the additional contribution of USD 100 million to the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF 2.0) as announced by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to support the Implementation Plan of the Vision Statement of the ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation adopted by the Leaders at the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in 2013.
72. The Meeting reaffirmed the important and continued role played by the ASEAN-Japan Centre to promote trade, investment, tourism and exchange of persons between ASEAN and Japan. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the Centre's active contribution to the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation through conducting more than 250 events and programme activities.
73. The Meeting reaffirmed its intention to strengthen "ASEAN-Japan Disaster Management Cooperation", which was stated at the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in December 2013. In this connection, the Meeting decided to collaborate for the success of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015.
74. Recognizing that urgent and concrete actions are required to address climate change, the Meeting welcomed the initiative by Japan and interested ASEAN Member States to implement the Joint Crediting Mechanism as a tool to achieve low carbon and sustainable growth in the region, in pursuit of the ultimate objective of the Convention.
75. Underscoring the importance of people-to-people contacts and cultural exchanges, ASEAN Ministers highly appreciated the exchange program of Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) 2.0. The Meeting welcomed the various sports exchange projects between ASEAN and Japan under the Japan's initiative, "Sport for Tomorrow" programme. The Meeting also expressed appreciation to Japan for its relaxation of visa requirement which lead to the increase of tourism in both ASEAN and Japan.
- vii) PMC+1 Session with the Republic of Korea (ROK)**
76. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with ROK was co-chaired by H.E. Dr. R. M. Marty. M. Natalegawa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and H.E. Yun Byung-se, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea.
77. The Meeting welcomed various commemorative activities in 2014 to mark the 25th anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations. The Meeting looked forward to the successful convening of the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit, scheduled to be held in Busan, ROK, on 11-12 December 2014, which would renew the commitment to bring ASEAN-ROK relations to new heights.
78. The Meeting noted the substantial progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity 2011-2015. The Meeting also stressed the need to prioritise the remaining measures of the PoA since it would expire by the end of next year, and tasked their officials to draft a new and more comprehensive PoA to reflect the nature of the ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership as soon as possible.
79. The Meeting welcomed the progress in further strengthening political and security cooperation

between ASEAN and the ROK, through a dedicated agenda on security-related matters during the 18th ASEAN-ROK Dialogue in Busan, ROK, on 18-20 June 2014.

80. The Meeting highlighted with satisfaction the increasing trade volume between ASEAN and the ROK and noted the encouraging progress toward further liberalization and improvement of the ASEAN-ROK Free Trade Area (AKFTA) for mutual economic benefit. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to reach the target of USD150 billion in two-way trade by 2015.
81. The Meeting welcomed the ROK's initiative to inaugurate an ASEAN-ROK Business Council during the forthcoming ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit to intensify economic cooperation, particularly among private sectors. The Meeting further noted the ROK's intention to hold a CEO Summit at the sidelines of the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit in December 2014.
82. The Meeting welcomed the 5th anniversary of the ASEAN-Korea Centre (AKC) and recognized its significant role in promoting ASEAN-ROK cooperation. The Meeting also expressed its appreciation for the ROK's continuous commitment and support to the ASEAN-Korea Centre with its increased contribution to the Centre's financial budget year 2014. The Meeting further encouraged the optimization of the Centre's activities to further promote trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchange, and to raise the awareness of ASEAN in the ROK, including those to celebrate the commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations, while maintaining close consultation with AMS in the conduct of its activities.
83. The Meeting welcomed the extension of the ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation (AFoCo) Agreement signed by the Permanent Representatives to ASEAN/relevant ASEAN Officials and the Ambassador of the ROK to ASEAN in Jakarta. The Meeting encouraged the efforts to implement projects in the area of forestry to support the sustainable forest management and addressing the impact of climate change.
84. The Meeting also encouraged the ROK to support the work and full operationalization of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Center), as well as the implementation of the second phase of the Work Programme of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) 2013-2015.
85. The Meeting looked forward to the launch of the ASEAN Community in 2015 and encouraged additional efforts to be made to implement the remaining measures under the three ASEAN Community Blueprints. In this regard, the Meeting reaffirmed its commitment to enhance regional connectivity particularly through the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) in all dimensions including physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity. The Meeting also encouraged further cooperation in promoting innovative financing mechanism such as Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) to properly address the challenge of resource mobilization needed for connectivity related projects. The Meeting looked forward to an active and fruitful discussion at the next meeting between ACCC and the ROK's Task Force on Connectivity.
86. The Meeting appreciated the role of the ROK's mission to ASEAN in Jakarta and welcomed the successful outcomes of the 1st ASEAN-ROK Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) between the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) and the ROK Ambassador to ASEAN. The Meeting took note of and recognized the benefits of ROK's proposal at the JCC Meeting on the transition to a programme-based approach in utilizing the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund.
87. The Meeting stressed the need to maintain peace, security and stability on the Korean Peninsula and encouraged the resumption of Six Party Talks in accordance with the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement. The Meeting reiterated its support for all efforts to achieve the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner as well as creating the positive atmosphere for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks conducive to substantial progress on the denuclearization.

88. The Meeting reaffirmed its support for the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI) by recalling the welcoming position expressed in the Chairman's Statement of the 16th ASEAN-ROK Summit. The meeting appreciated the on-going efforts by the ROK to promote regional peace and cooperation through NAPCI.
89. The Ministers welcomed Indonesia's efforts for 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 (Bali Principles).
90. We noted the progress of the work of the High Level Task Force (HLTF) on strengthening ASEAN Secretariat and reviewing the ASEAN organs. We look forward for recommendations that would strengthen the ASEAN Secretariat, improve efficiency and coordination among ASEAN organs and bodies as well as in deepening ASEAN's external relations.
- viii) PMC + 1 Session with New Zealand**
91. The ASEAN PMC + 1 Session with New Zealand was co-chaired by H.E. Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR, and the Hon. Murray McCully, Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand.
92. The Meeting reviewed the progress of ASEAN-New Zealand relations and expressed satisfaction with the overall progress made over the past year in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-New Zealand Comprehensive Partnership 2010-2015, including the Areas of Focus of the Plan of Action for the period 2013-2014 and the Four Flagship Initiatives.
93. The Meeting agreed that ASEAN and New Zealand would continue to discuss ways to strengthen two-way cooperation over 2014/15, including in the areas of business-to-business interactions, people-to-people contacts, education, SME development, technology and innovation, connectivity, agriculture, food and energy security, disaster management and sanitary and phytosanitary matters.
94. The Meeting looked forward to the convening of the Commemorative Summit to mark the 40th year of ASEAN-New Zealand dialogue relations in 2015 and welcomed New Zealand's commitment to deliver high-level initiatives and programmes as part of the Commemorative Summit. In this regard, the Meeting welcomed the New Zealand Inc. ASEAN Strategy for ASEAN announced by New Zealand Prime Minister in July 2013 as a whole of Government commitment to build New Zealand's political, economic and people-to-people relationships with the ASEAN region.
95. The Meeting noted the successful outcomes of the 21st ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue including the timelines for conclusion of the Joint Outcome Documents of the ASEAN-New Zealand Commemorative Summit. In this connection, the Meeting noted the progress in preparing a new ASEAN-New Zealand Plan of Action 2015-2020, and expressed the hope that the refreshed Plan of Action would enable New Zealand to make a practical and valuable contribution to ASEAN's Community building process.
96. The Meeting appreciated New Zealand's continued support to combating terrorism and transnational crime in the region, including through the Work Programme to Implement the ASEAN-New Zealand Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism. The Meeting noted the importance of furthering trade and economic relations through supporting the implementation of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) and advancing the negotiations towards a Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). The Meeting also acknowledged New Zealand's efforts in narrowing the development gap within ASEAN through the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI).
97. Looking ahead to the 2015-2020 period, the Meeting underscored the importance of further enhancing cooperation including in ASEAN connectivity initiatives; trade, investment and economic integration: investing in future leaders; climate change and disaster risk management; agriculture; and knowledge and skills.

98. The Meeting welcomes the recent appointment of New Zealand's first stand-alone Ambassador to ASEAN in an effort to deepen its relations with ASEAN.

ix) PMC + 1 Session with the Russian Federation

99. The ASEAN PMC + 1 Session with the Russian Federation was co-chaired by H.E. Dato' Sri Anifa Aman, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, and H.E. Morgulov Igor Valdimirovich, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

100. The Meeting expressed profound sorrow and deep condolences to the families of the victims of the tragic downing of a civilian aircraft of the Malaysian Airlines MH17 on 17 July over Ukrainian territory. The Meeting stressed the need for a swift, full and thorough, transparent, objective and independent investigation into the plane crash, in line with the UNSC Resolution 2166 on 21 July 2014.

101. The Meeting emphasized the significance of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership as an important factor contributing to peace, stability and sustainable development of the Asia-Pacific, and expressed mutual desire to upgrade it to a qualitatively new level and agreed to start preparation for a third ASEAN-Russia Summit.

102. The Meeting noted that the year 2014 marks the 10th anniversary of the Russian Federation's accession to the TAC. This reflected the importance it attached to the TAC as an essential code of conduct governing inter-states relations and its continuous commitment to promote regional peace and stability. The Meeting noted Russia's proposal for a new regional architecture and agreed that all dialogue on emerging architecture of security and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific should be built upon ASEAN Centrality and existing documents, including the TAC.

103. The Meeting underscored the importance of maintaining regional peace and stability by promoting maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation and peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

104. The Meeting welcomed Russia's support towards the cooperation of ASEAN and China for the full

and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Code of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and for the early conclusion of Code of Conduct (COC).

105. The Meeting reviewed the progress of the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan of Action to Promote Cooperation between ASEAN and the Russian Federation (2005-2015) and agreed to enhance cooperation in the fields of political and security, economic and socio-cultural priorities, trade and economy, investment, energy, transport, agriculture and food security, science and technology and management of natural resources and environment. The Meeting recognized the valuable role that the Russian Federation could play in contributing towards the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, especially in the transportation and infrastructure sectors.

106. The Meeting noted the important role of the ASEAN Centre in promoting people-to-people connectivity through education, tourism and culture. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the First ASEAN-Russia Youth Summit and performances of ASEAN-Russia Symphony Orchestra of Young Musicians in 2013. The Meeting looked forward to organizing more activities to enhance the awareness of ASEAN through education, sports and culture exchanges. The Meeting further encouraged all ASEAN Member States that have not ratified ASEAN-Russia Agreement on Cultural Cooperation to do so expeditiously to enable the implementation of these initiatives in the agreement.

107. The Meeting noted the status of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership Financial Fund (ARDPFF) and encouraged both sides to propose Joint projects to ensure better utilization of the existing Fund.

108. The Meeting noted that the Comprehensive Plan of Action to Promote Cooperation between ASEAN and the Russian Federation (2005-2015) was expiring in 2015 and underlined the need to start work on a new CPA in line with the priority areas of Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on ASEAN's Post-2015 Vision and Nay Pyi Taw Declaration of Realization of ASEAN Community in 2015.

x) PMC + 1 Session with the United States of America (U.S.)

109. ASEAN PMC +1 with the United States of America was co-chaired by H.E. U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Hon. John Kerry, Secretary of State of the United States of America.
110. The Meeting discussed the progress and future direction of ASEAN-U.S Dialogue Relations and agreed to promote closer engagement between ASEAN and the U.S. through ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue Relations as well as through ASEAN-led mechanisms such as East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus), Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF). The Meeting underlined the importance of the United States' continued support to ASEAN Community building, and ASEAN integration efforts through various programs including through sub-regional initiatives such as the Lower Mekong Initiative.
111. The Meeting took note of the progress in implementing the Plan of Action on the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership for Enduring Peace and Prosperity (2011-2015). In this respect, ASEAN and the U.S. agreed to pursue a comprehensive and multi-dimensional approach of cooperation, encompassing political and security, economic, socio-cultural as well as developmental matters.
112. The Meeting agreed to work together to promote the rule of law, good governance, democracy, human rights and to address traditional and non-traditional security issues such as terrorism, maritime security, cybercrime and trafficking in persons through greater engagement, information and exchange and cooperation. In this respect, ASEAN welcomed the U.S.'s support program, the ASEAN-U.S. Partnership for Good-Governance, Equitable and Sustainable Development and Security (ASEAN-U.S. Progress).
113. The Meeting stressed the importance of the collective commitments of ASEAN Member States and China to peace, stability, maritime security and mutual trust in the region and the need to create conditions conducive for the peaceful settlement of disputes.
114. The Meeting emphasized that ASEAN Member States and China should fully and effectively implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) particularly Article 5 of the DOC. The U.S. Secretary of State underscored this point, commenting that clarifying and freezing "activities that would complicate or escalate disputes" would help lower tensions and lower the risk of conflict. The Meeting urged all parties to work towards the early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC), which will contribute to further enhancing peace, stability and security in the region.
115. The Meeting recognized efforts by ASEAN and the United States to promote positive maritime cooperation in the region. The Meeting highlighted the Philippines and U.S. led Expanded ASEAN Seafarer Training (EAST) program, congratulated Indonesia and the United States for completing a successful three-year co-chairmanship of Maritime Security Inter-Sessional Meetings, and encouraged the Philippines and the United States as they assume the co-chairmanship through 2017.
116. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to promote disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful use of nuclear energy towards a safer and better world through, among other things, collective efforts on nuclear security, nuclear safety, and capacity building to ensure safeguards and standards in accordance with the IAEA guidelines. The Meeting shared the views that the early signature by nuclear powers to the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty, which will contribute positively to keeping the region free of nuclear weapons. In this respect, the Meeting discussed the possibility of developing a Joint ASEAN-U.S. Vision on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation to support the goal of a world without nuclear weapons and the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone.
117. The Meeting noted the progress of implementation of the ASEAN-U.S. Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) and recognized the importance of the U.S.-ASEAN Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) initiative and its contribution to the ASEAN Economic Community.

118. The Meeting welcomed the U.S. support program, ASEAN Connectivity through Trade and Investment Project (ACTI), for ASEAN Single Window, Trade and Investment facilitation and SME development. The Meeting noted that there are other potential areas for support such as trade finance, trade logistics development, productivity enhancement programs, trade related capacity development including enhancement of capacity for ASEAN services.
119. The Meeting recognized the contribution of the U.S. ASEAN Business Council in enhancing the ASEAN-U.S. commercial relations and welcomed the ASEAN-U.S. Business Summit scheduled in August, 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw.
120. The Meeting agreed to enhance cooperation in areas of climate change, clean energy, food security and noted the progress of implementing the U.S. Asia Pacific Comprehensive Energy Partnership (USACEP) for clean, renewable and sustainable energy as well as for development of energy infrastructure. As the energy issue is closely linked with climate change, the Meeting took note of the progress of work in drafting the ASEAN-US Joint Statement on Climate Change to be announced at the 2nd ASEAN-US Summit in November 2014.
121. The Meeting recognised that climate change and unsustainable human activities pose a great threat to wildlife and depletion of biodiversity causing negative impacts to current and future generations and agreed to work together to preserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystems and protect wildlife and natural habitats in the region. In this regard, the Meeting welcomed the United States' support for the ASEAN/EAS declaration on Combating Wildlife Trafficking to be issued in November 2014.
122. The Meeting agreed to deepen socio-cultural and people-to-people ties through continued cooperation in areas of education, health, environment protection and cultural exchanges. In this respect, the Meeting took note of the English Language Program being jointly organized by U.S. and Brunei Darussalam and the ASEAN-U.S. Fulbright initiative and the Young Southeast Asia Leaders Initiatives (YSEALI), a new youth initiative launched in December 2013.
123. The Meeting recognised the growing frequency and severity of disasters in the Asia Pacific region and agreed to further strengthen cooperation in disaster mitigation and preparedness and welcomed the United States' continued support for the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre).
124. The Meeting agreed to strengthen ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue Relations by drafting a post-2015 ASEAN-U.S. Plan of Action that will sustain our collective efforts to maintain peace, stability in the region and by strengthening collaboration for mutual benefits and progress through closer trade, investment and people-to-people ties.

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Rise of Violence and Brutality Committed by Terrorist/ Extremist Organisations in Iraq and Syria

26 September 2014

ASEAN Member States expressed concern over the rise of violence and brutality committed by terrorist/extremist organisations and radical groups in Iraq and Syria, noting that these groups not only pose a threat to the people of Iraq and Syria, but also to all countries in Middle East, and if left unchecked, to the rest of the world.

ASEAN denounces all acts of destruction, violence, and terror in all its forms and manifestations and reiterates its commitments to the implementation of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism and the ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter Terrorism, both of which aim to prevent and suppress terrorism by addressing its root causes and disrupting terror networks and financing channels.

ASEAN supports the UN Security Council Resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014) which call on the international community to suppress the flow of foreign terrorist fighters and financing to prevent terrorist groups and their supporters from posing a threat to international peace and security as well as to prevent and suppress the recruiting, organizing, transporting or equipping of individuals who travel to a State other than their States of residence or nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning, or preparation of, or participation in terrorist acts or the providing or receiving of terrorist training, and the financing of their travel and of their activities.

ASEAN renews its commitment to work with the international community to fight against extremism, radicalism and terrorism and address its root causes, including through the promotion of the Global Movement for Moderates (GMM), to prevent further violence and brutality, in accordance with international law and the UN Charter.

ASEAN deems it imperative for the international community to work together in unity in the fight against terrorism, extremism and radical groups, wherever they occur.

ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM)

Joint Statement by the ASEAN Defence Ministers on MH370

Honolulu, US, 3 April 2014

We, the Defence Ministers of the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) express our deepest sympathies to the family members of the passengers and crew on board the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370.

We acknowledge that the member nations of ASEAN have participated in the search operations directly and indirectly since the plane went missing on 8th March 2014.

From the South China Sea, the Andaman Sea to the Indian Ocean- ASEAN has continued to assist in every way possible, true to the spirit of regional cooperation and friendship without any hesitation in sharing of information, assets and expertise.

We believe that Malaysia has done its level best in its response to this unprecedented predicament given the sheer scale of the Search and Rescue (SAR) operation which is the biggest and most complex we have ever seen.

We reaffirm our commitment for greater cooperation between each member nation especially in the field of disaster management under the framework of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response. This incident stressed upon us the importance of information and resource sharing as we strive to be in the utmost state of readiness in mitigating potential calamities and risks.

ASEAN's unity will remain solid and is totally committed to assisting Malaysia in coordinating this massive SAR to locate MH370. We are resolute in finding a closure to this tragic chapter in aviation history. Our thoughts and prayers remain with the families in these difficult times.

Joint Declaration of the ASEAN Defence Ministers on Defence Cooperation towards Peaceful and Prosperous ASEAN Community

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 20 May 2014

WE, the Defence Ministers of 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 Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist

Republic of Viet Nam, and the Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam, gathered in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 20 May 2014 for the Eighth ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (hereinafter referred to as "ADMM");

ADHERING with full commitments to the principles and purposes enshrined in the ASEAN Charter;

RECALLING the establishment of the ADMM in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in May 2006, as a monumental milestone for the evolution of ASEAN security and defence cooperation in contributing towards building the ASEAN Political Security Community;

RECALLING the Bali Declaration of ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) in 2011, which calls for further reinforcement in strengthening the ASEAN Community in line with the ASEAN Charter, in which the fundamental principles, values, and norms are stipulated;

BEARING IN MIND the need for ASEAN Member States to respond effectively to regional security challenges in accordance with the principles of comprehensive security as stated in the ASEAN Charter;

GUIDED by the fundamental principles enshrined in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) and the ASEAN Charter, including the renunciation of the threat of use of force and exercise of self-restraint, mutual respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as upholding international law;

INSPIRED by and united with close cooperation and collaboration to implement as guided in the ASEAN Community Blueprints to the way of ASEAN Community by 2015 with the view of promoting a people-oriented ASEAN in which all ASEAN Member States are to share and benefit from each other;

EXPRESSING satisfaction with the positive results of the Eighth ADMM, which was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 20 May 2014 under the theme "Defence Cooperation Towards Peaceful and Prosperous ASEAN Community" in keeping with the goals of a cohesive, peaceful and resilient region with shared responsibility for comprehensive security;

DETERMINED to strengthen a dynamic, cohesive, resilient and integrated ASEAN Community and reaffirming the ADMM's role as the highest ministerial

defence and security consultative and cooperative mechanism within ASEAN that promotes ASEAN norms of dialogue and consensus-based decision making and adhering to the established ASEAN protocols and practices;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the significant progress which has been made in the area of defence and security cooperation since the ADMM was established in 2006;

RECOGNISING the existing civil-military cooperation that plays a very important role and encouraging them to enhance interoperability in addressing non-traditional security challenges;

EMPHASISING the important role of the ADMM to contribute to ASEAN's efforts in maintaining its unity and solidarity in order to continue to play its central role in the regional architecture;

REAFFIRMING the ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional security architecture and ASEAN's role as the primary driving force in cooperating and collaborating with the Plus countries to deal with security issues and non-traditional threats;

WELCOMING the outcomes of the Second ADMM-Plus held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 29 August 2013, which encourages the establishment of practical measures to reduce vulnerability to miscalculations and to avoid misunderstanding and undesirable incidents at sea;

REAFFIRMING the strategic importance of the ADMM-Plus as a premier forum for strategic dialogue in defence and security issues among ASEAN and the Plus countries;

COMMENDING the remarkable achievements of the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups in the five priority areas of cooperation, namely, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), Maritime Security, Peacekeeping Operations, Military Medicine, and Counter Terrorism;

COMMENDING the notable achievements of the ASEAN militaries in building trust and confidence through a number of meetings and activities, while noting with satisfaction the results of the "11th ASEAN Chiefs of Defence Forces Informal Meeting (ACDFIM), which was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 5 March 2014;

OBSERVING the complex and fast changing regional security environment and the devastating effects of natural disasters;

SUPPORTING the outcomes of the 24th ASEAN Summit and the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on Realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015, which calls for the strengthening of cooperation for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), especially calling on all parties to exercise self-restraint and non-use of force, as well as refrain from taking actions that would further escalate tension and to work towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in South China Sea (COC) as reflected in the ASEAN's Six Point Principles on the South China Sea and welcoming confidence-building measures of communication lines and hotlines and non-use of force commitments among ASEAN Member States that will promote further peace and stability;

ACKNOWLEDGING the solidarity of all ASEAN Member States as reflected by the concerted efforts in the search and rescue mission of the missing airplane flight MH370 and recognising the unwavering support from all Member States in this new phase of this unprecedented search.

DO HEREBY DECLARE TO:

1. **Adopt** the ADMM Three-Year Work Programme 2014-2016, which will serve as a guide in prioritising activities of the ADMM, while noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Three-Year Work Programme 2011-2013;
2. **Adopt** the Concept Paper on Establishing a Direct Communications Link in the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Process, which will provide a permanent, rapid, reliable and confidential means by which any two ASEAN Defence Ministers may communicate with each other to arrive at mutual decisions in handling crisis or emergency situations, in particular related to maritime security;
3. **Adopt** the Additional Protocol to the Concept Papers for the Establishment of an ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus, which will refine and clarify the working mechanisms and procedures of the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus;
4. **Acknowledge** the adoption of the Terms of Reference for Consultative Group of ASEAN Defence Industry Collaboration, which could start the implementation of collaboration of activities;
5. **Enhance** practical cooperation in non-traditional and transnational security concerns and develop coordination mechanisms for military participation in the conduct of combined trainings and exercises in HADR, emergency response operations, search and rescue missions, post-crisis management and rehabilitation, as emphasised by the ADMM Three-Year Work Programme;
6. **Deepen** friendly ties between ASEAN and the Plus countries on strategic as well as defence and security issues affecting the region, which contribute to the promotion of regional peace and security;
7. **Welcome** the adoption of the new work plans of the six ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups that will strengthen practical cooperation under the ADMM-Plus and look forward to the successful implementation of the work plans;
8. **Increase** mutual understanding among ASEAN defence establishments;
9. **Deepen** regular consultations on defence matters and work together to counter threats and challenges to regional peace;
10. **Facilitate** interactions between the defence and military officials of ASEAN Member States and develop practical cooperation in the field of defence and security by enhancing confidence-building measures through increased opportunities for exchanges and interactions;
11. **Explore** possibility for practical cooperation on traditional security concerns;
12. **Welcome** the significant achievements of the inaugural ADMM-Plus Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief and Military Medicine Exercise (ADMM-Plus HADR and MM Ex) in Brunei Darussalam in June 2013, the ADMM-Plus Counter Terrorism Exercise (CTX) in Indonesia in September

2013, the ADMM-Plus Maritime Security Field Training Exercise (FTX) in Australia in October 2013 and ADMM-Plus Table-Top Exercise (TTX) on Peacekeeping Operations in the Philippines in February 2014, as landmark cooperation amongst defence forces of ASEAN Member States and the Plus countries;

13. **Welcome** Malaysia's Chairmanship of ASEAN and its hosting of the 9th ADMM and the 3rd ADMM-Plus in 2015.

Done at Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, this Twentieth Day of May in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen, in a single original copy in the English Language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

PEHIN DATU SINGAMANTERI COLONEL (RTD)
DATO SERI SETIA (DR) HAJI MOHAMMAD YASMIN
HAJI UMAR
Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

GENERAL TEA BANH
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National
Defense

For the Republic of Indonesia:

H.E. PURNOMO YUSGIANTORO
Minister of Defence

For the Lao Peoples' Democratic Republic:

For Malaysia:

DATO' SERI HISHAMMUDDIN TUN HUSSEIN
Minister of Defence

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

LIEUTENANT GENERAL WAI LWIN
Union Minister for Defence

For the Republic of the Philippines:

VOLTAIRE T. GAZMIN
Secretary of National Defense

For the Republic of Singapore:

DR. NG ENG HEN
Minister for Defence

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

GENERAL PHUNG QUANG THANH
Minister of National Defence

**Joint Statement by the
ASEAN Defense Ministers on the
Tragic Plane Crash in Lao PDR**

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 20 May 2014

We, the Defence Minister of the Member States of the Association Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), met in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 20 May 2014.

We express our deepest condolences and sympathies to the Government and People of the Lao Peoples' Democratic Republic on the tragic plane crash in Xieng Khouang province on 17 May 2014 which had taken the lives of several Lao leaders and senior government officials.

We are saddened by the passing of our colleague Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense Lieutenant General Douangchay Phichith and his wife Madam Thanda Phichith. Lieutenant General Douangchay Phichith had been part of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) since its inauguration in 2006. His passing is a great loss not only to Lao PDR and the Lao Ministry of National Defense but also to the ADMM. Our thoughts are with the people of Lao PDR, as well as the family of Lieutenant General Douangchay Phichith, during this time of sorrow.

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)

Joint Press Statement of the 18th Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Department and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (18th DGICM)

**Bandar Seri Begawan,
Brunei Darussalam, 2-3 September 2014**

1. The 18th Meeting of The ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of The Ministries of Foreign Affairs (18th DGICM) was convened in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 2-3 September 2014. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Azmi bin Haji Hafneh, Acting Director of Immigration and National Registration, Brunei Darussalam 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, and the representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. Guest of Honour, The Honorable Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Awang Haji Othman, Minister of Home Affairs, officially graced the Opening Ceremony of the 18th DGICM.
3. The meeting is an annual gathering of ASEAN Immigration Departments and the Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs to share valuable insights and experiences over issues of common interest and concerns in the progression of realising the ASEAN Community goals.
4. The Meeting commended the continuous efforts of and commitment by the ASEAN Member States in addressing irregular movement of people, illegal migration, trafficking in persons and labour trafficking, and encouraged enhanced collaboration in these areas.
5. The Meeting welcomed the ratification by Myanmar and Brunei Darussalam of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Visa Exemption for ASEAN Nationals on 16 November 2013 and 15 May 2014, respectively.
6. The Meeting took note of the recommendations of the Regional Workshop on ASEAN Common Visa held in Jakarta on 30 September to 1 October 2013 where the workshop agreed that the concept of an ASEAN Common Visa would require the study of the various legal, operational and infrastructural pre-requisites. The Meeting agreed to elaborate the issues through an Ad-Hoc Working Group on ASEAN Common Visa.
7. As per the request from the Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM), the meeting was briefed on SEOM's proposal regarding the ASEAN Business Travel Card (ABTC). The Meeting agreed that more discussions would be required.
8. The Heads of Consular Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs deliberated on the outstanding Guidelines for the Provision of Emergency Assistance by ASEAN Missions in Third countries to Nationals of ASEAN Member States in Crisis Situations. The meeting agreed to hold an Ad-Hoc Working Group meeting to discuss this matter further. The meeting was also briefed on the outcome of the ASEAN Regional Forum Workshop on Consular, Contingency Planning and Crisis Management held on 20-21 May 2014 in Bali, Indonesia.
9. The 10th ASEAN Intelligence Forum (AIIF) took place on 1 September 2014, back to back with the 18th DGICM. The AIIF accentuates bilateral and regional cooperation in the area of immigration, fraudulent visa and travel documents, border management, and modus operandi of transnational criminal networks in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. Cognizant of the fact that more challenges will be encountered upon the relaxing of regional borders after the establishment of the ASEAN Community in 2015, the AIIF also made recommendations to ASEAN's Post-2015 Agenda and priority areas.

10. The Meeting welcomed the offer by Cambodia to host the 19th DGICM in Phnom Penh in 2015.
11. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN and expressed gratitude to the warm hospitality accorded by the Government of Brunei Darussalam.

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters (AMMDM)

Chairman's Statement of the 3rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters

Jakarta, Indonesia, 3 December 2014

1. The Third ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters (3rd AMMDM) was held on 3 December 2014 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Head of the National Narcotics Board of the Republic of Indonesia, Police Commissioner General Anang Iskandar chaired the 3rd AMMDM. The Meeting was attended by ASEAN Ministers responsible for drug matters, the Secretary-General of ASEAN, Heads of anti-drugs Agencies and their respective delegations.
2. The Meeting was officiated by H.E. Jusuf Kalla, the Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia.
3. The Ministers took note of several achievements and progress made, since the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in July 2000 in Bangkok, when the ASEAN Foreign Ministers agreed to advance the target year for realizing a Drug-Free ASEAN from 2020 to 2015. In this regard, the Meeting commended the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD) and its five Working Groups for their strong commitment and collective contribution to the realisation of ASEAN's regional goal. Notwithstanding the progressive development achieved at the national and regional level, the Ministers expressed their grave concern about the escalating threat of the production, trafficking and abuse of illicit drugs in the region and through the region. The Ministers therefore re-affirmed their strong commitment and readiness to enhance regional cooperation and to continue their relentless work in mitigating the scourge of illicit drugs.
4. In realising the ASEAN's regional vision of ASEAN being free from the menace of illicit drugs, the Ministers agreed the regional aspiration of "Drug Free ASEAN," which signifies ASEAN's resilience and commitment towards a zero tolerance approach to protect the people and communities from illicit drugs, shall be maintained.
5. The Ministers also shared their views that as many challenges remain, and new challenges such as New Psychoactive Substances are emerging, strong national and regional commitment should be translated into operational and concrete actions. To deal with this new challenge, the Ministers may consider the possibility of conducting a study on New Psychoactive Substances in the region.
6. In compliance with the ASEAN Leaders' recommendation for intensified and concerted efforts to realise the vision and goal of Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 and in facing the formidable challenge that threaten the health, security and prosperity of ASEAN people and in responding to the drug problem in the region beyond 2015, the Ministers expressed their views and underlined the following points:
 - i) Underscored that as the relentless action against threat of drugs and abuse is a continuing and life-long effort, further hard work and more coordinated and effective actions beyond 2015 are needed.
 - ii) Noted the contribution and progress made in the implementation of the work program of ASOD and further tasked ASOD to continue their concerted efforts in the attainment of a healthy and secure ASEAN Community beyond 2015.
 - iii) Re-emphasized the need for implementing a new paradigm to manage the risk of drugs, with a new strategy and approach that attain the balance between the treatment and

- prevention approach with the law enforcement approach.
- iv) Recognised the importance of ensuring the availability of treatment services with recognised evidence based practices for drug users to be able to reintegrate into society.
 - v) Assigned ASOD to develop best practices and standards for key measures on drug control in Post 2015 such as treatment and rehabilitation as well as drug prevention and legal measures to be nearly at the same level throughout the region.
 - vi) Acknowledged that regional integration can facilitate illicit activity and can expose ASEAN to a greater number of drug syndicates activity that require enhanced cooperation and well-coordinated national and regional responses.
 - vii) Underlined the importance of securing an appropriate national budgetary allocation so that national drug agencies can maximise progress to cut drug supply and demand.
7. The Ministers lauded the successful collaboration among the ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force (AAITF) which resulted, *inter alia*, in the apprehension of drug syndicates through control delivery and sharing of information.
 8. The Meeting appreciated Thailand's briefing on the progress of the ASEAN-Narco establishment and called on ASEAN Member States to continue its good work so that ASEAN-Narco can support national and regional efforts in reducing both supply and demand.
 9. The Meeting welcomed the comprehensive concept paper from the ASEAN Secretariat on the institutionalisation of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters, and agreed to propose the institutionalization to the ASEAN Leaders through the ASEAN Political Security Community Council in order to strengthen regional collaboration against drugs at the highest level.
 10. The Meeting noted the ongoing work on the regional review by the UNODC Experts on "Achieving a Drug Free ASEAN 2015: Review and Recommendations Post 2015," and looked forward to the finalization of the report during the Regional Review Meeting which will be held on 4-7 February 2015.

11. The Meeting welcomed with great appreciation the offer by the Government of Malaysia to host the 4th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters in 2015.
12. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality, in keeping with ASEAN's journey towards a region of "One Vision, One Identity, One Community".

ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

Chairman's Statement of the 21st ASEAN Regional Forum

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 10 August 2014

1. The Twenty-First Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 10 August 2014. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
2. The Meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministers and Representatives of all ARF participants and the Secretary-General of ASEAN. The List of Delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.

Overview of the ARF Process

3. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the ARF as a primary political and security forum to foster peace, stability and prosperity in the region through dialogue and cooperation.
4. The Ministers supported ASEAN's pivotal role in guiding the ARF process in cooperation with other participants. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction on ARF participants' adherence to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as they have envisaged in the ARF Vision Statement. They underlined the importance of ARF participants' continued commitment to uphold the

purpose and principles of the TAC as it signifies the guiding code of conduct for promoting perpetual peace, everlasting amity and cooperation among the countries of the region.

5. The Ministers reiterated their commitment to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of the Forum as a primary political and security dialogue for cooperation in the Asia Pacific and a central pillar in the evolving regional security architecture. In this respect, they planned to strengthen the ARF's role in addressing traditional and non-traditional security, and common regional challenges in the region by taking a holistic approach while upholding the principles of the ARF decision-making process, by consensus, noninterference, gradual approach, voluntary participation and moving at a pace comfortable to all participants.
6. The Ministers reiterated their commitments to implement the Hanoi Plan of Action to realise the ARF Vision Statement. They also expressed their satisfaction on the progress of dialogue, cooperation and achievements of the ARF, which enhance confidence and understanding among its participants through the phased approach of confidence building measures, preventive diplomacy and conflict resolution. They are also pleased with the various cooperative activities undertaken under the four pillars of cooperation, namely disaster relief, counter-terrorism and transnational crime, non-proliferation and disarmament, and maritime security. The Ministers recognised that mutual trust needed to continue to be strengthened among the countries in the region and therefore, Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) should run through the entire process of the ARF. In an interdependent world, they encouraged all countries to seek and promote common, comprehensive and sustainable security through dialogue and cooperation.
7. The Ministers stressed the need to exert greater effort in advancing the ARF process from Stage One of Promotion of Confidence Building Measures to Stage Two of Development of Preventive Diplomacy through action-oriented activities and implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy and abiding by the ASEAN Regional Forum Concept and Principles of Preventive Diplomacy.
8. The Ministers recognised that the challenges

facing the region were increasingly complex, requiring greater regional coordination and cooperation. In this regard, the Ministers underlined the importance of addressing traditional and non-traditional security challenges confronting the region by focusing on those issues most relevant to the ARF mandate, capabilities and membership.

9. Recognising the importance of coordination and coherence between various ASEAN-led regional security mechanisms, the Ministers underlined the importance of strengthening synergies among regional security mechanisms, including the ARF, the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), and the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF), to effectively tackle the challenges facing the region.

Highlights of Discussions on Regional and International Security Issues

10. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar from 10 to 11 May 2014 which was held with the theme ***"Moving Forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community"***. The Summit called to strengthen ASEAN unity for the establishment of a peaceful, prosperous, dynamic and forward looking ASEAN Community resilient to both existing and emerging challenges.
11. The Ministers expressed their condolences to the families and friends of the passengers and crew of Malaysian Airlines flight MH370. They noted that the search for flight MH370 was a pertinent example of the importance of international cooperation in search and rescue activities. The Ministers also expressed their condolences to the families of the victims of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 and to the people and governments of the victims' countries of origin. The Ministers further condemned in the strongest terms the downing of Malaysia Airline flight MH17 on 17 July 2014, resulting in the tragic loss of 298 lives. They called for an immediate cessation of all military activities, including by armed groups, in the area surrounding the crash site to allow for the rapid identification and repatriation of victims' remains. They highly appreciated the timely adoption of the UN Security Council Resolution 2166 and supported international efforts to establish a full, swift, thorough and independent investigation into the incident in accordance with international civil

- aviation guidelines. The Ministers called for a swift, full, thorough and independent investigation into the downing of flight MH17 and called on all states and parties to cooperate towards this end.
12. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of promoting peace, stability and security, maritime security, unimpeded trade, and freedom of navigation and over flight. The Ministers stressed the importance of peaceful resolution of disputes and issues in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The Ministers called on all parties concerned to exercise self-restraint and to avoid actions that would complicate the situation. In this regard, the Ministers underscored the full and effective implementation of the Declaration of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and substantive consultations for Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC). Noting ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea, the Joint Statement of the 15th ASEAN-China Summit on the 10th Anniversary of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on Recent Development in South China Sea issued on 10th May 2014, the Ministers underscored the need to build trust and confidence among all parties. They welcomed the commencement of official consultations among ASEAN Member States and China on the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) and looked forward to its early conclusion, on the basis of consensus which would further contribute to enhancing peace, stability, security and prosperity in the region.
 13. The Ministers underlined the importance of peace, security and stability in Korean Peninsula. Most Ministers stressed the need for immediate steps towards the denuclearisation and full compliance with the obligations under all relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions as well as commitments under the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. The Ministers reaffirmed their support for all efforts to achieve the denuclearisation of the Korea Peninsula in a peaceful manner and encouraged for creating conducive environment for early resumption of the Six-Party Talks. The Ministers welcomed the reunion of separate families between the ROK and DPRK which took place in February 2014 and expected to have regular reunions in the future and emphasised the importance of addressing humanitarian issues. The Ministers welcomed the DPRK to participate in the 17th Asia Games in the Republic of Korea in September 2014. The Ministers also noted the meetings between Japan and DPRK to address pending issues in accordance with the DPRK-Japan Pyongyang Declaration and expected a concrete progress on the matter.
 14. The Ministers expressed grave concern over the current situation in Ukraine. They welcomed the efforts by relevant parties to find a political solution to the Ukraine Crisis and looked forward to the settlement of the crisis under the framework of the Geneva Statement of 7 April 2014, the roadmap of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Geneva Consensus and the Joint Declaration by the Foreign Ministers of Russia, Ukraine, Germany and France of 2 July 2014. They called on all parties to adhere to the fundamental principles of international law reflected in the Charter of the United Nations and resolve the disputes peacefully, through dialogue and consultation.
 15. The Ministers discussed the situation in the Middle East and reiterated their support for comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East. The Ministers noted the United Nations Security Council's Press Statement on Middle East issued on 12 July 2014 and expressed their serious concern over the escalation of the conflict in Gaza, which had resulted in the loss of hundreds of civilian lives. The Ministers called for the de-escalation of the conflict, restoration of peace, an immediate ceasefire between the concerned parties and for respect of international humanitarian law, especially the protection of civilians and the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance. The Ministers urged the international community to act swiftly and decisively to support an end to the current crisis through dialogue and negotiation. They underlined the urgent need for all parties to work towards a resumption of the diplomatic process and to pursue a two state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
 16. The Ministers expressed deep concern over the continued deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Syria. They condemned the use of chemical weapons by anyone under any circumstances

and welcomed the result of the United Nations and OPCW's (Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons) work in overseeing the dismantling of Syria's chemical weapons stockpiles. They welcomed the appointment of the new UN Special Envoy and underscored the importance of resolving the crisis in a peaceful manner through an inclusive, democratic and transparent political process based on the Geneva Communiqué and the wishes of Syrian people. They urged all parties in Syria to demonstrate political will, enhance mutual understanding, exercise restraint and commit to seeking common ground in accommodating their differences. They supported all efforts, particularly by the United Nations, including the adoption of the UNSC Resolutions 2118, 2139 and 2165.

17. The Ministers condemned the acts of the self-declared Islamic State and the Levant (ISIL) in Iraq which threatened the peace and stability of the region. They supported efforts for national unity and for the swift formation of a new Iraqi government through building inclusive political process. The Ministers called on all parties to ensure the protection of civilians and respect of human rights and International Humanitarian Law during military operations.
18. The Ministers welcomed the holding of the recent elections in Afghanistan. They reaffirmed their commitment to Afghanistan's transition and looked forward to the orderly transition to a new administration. The Ministers highlighted the need to advance economic development in Afghanistan and underscored the need to eliminate the threats from terrorist groups and the trafficking of illicit drugs. The Ministers supported China in holding the Forth Foreign Ministerial Conference of the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process on Deepening Cooperation for Sustainable Security and Prosperity of the Heart of Asia Region in Tianjin in the second half of this year.
19. The Ministers supported international cooperative efforts in nonproliferation, disarmament and the peaceful use of nuclear energy. They underlined the importance of preserving Southeast Asia as a region free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, as stated in the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) and the ASEAN Charter. They welcomed Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, including the 2012 P5 Joint Declaration regarding the status, as a concrete contribution to nuclear non-proliferation and promoting confidence and predictability in the region.
20. The Ministers discussed Iran's nuclear issues and expressed their support for negotiations between E3/EU+3 (China, France, Germany, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, the United States of America) and Iran to conclude a comprehensive nuclear agreement at an early date. In this regard, they welcomed the extension of nuclear talks until 24 November 2014 under the framework of the Joint Plan of Action, which was agreed on 24 November 2013.
21. The Ministers discussed non-traditional security threats and challenges, including cyber-crime, space security, terrorism, drug trafficking, human trafficking, illegal arms trafficking, infectious diseases, climate change, natural disasters, and illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to continue their cooperation, including, where appropriate through information sharing and capacity building, in addressing increasing criminal activities in the region. The Ministers noted the unique challenges and vulnerabilities faced by small island developing states, including in the Pacific region. They welcomed the upcoming United Nations Conference on Small Island Developing States to be held in Samoa in September 2014.
22. The Ministers expressed condolences to the victims, their families and the people of the countries that had suffered from recent natural disasters, including Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda in the Philippines in 2013 and Typhoon Rammasun in China, Philippines and Vietnam in 2014 and the recent earthquake in Ludian, Yunna Province of China. Noting the region was prone to natural disasters, the Ministers stressed the need to intensify cooperation in the areas of disaster preparedness, disaster relief and management, and rehabilitation and recovery through existing regional and international mechanisms for regional stability and sustainable economic and social development. They reiterated the importance of creating synergies for effective implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) as the common platform for disaster management in

- ASEAN and supported the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) as the operational arm of AADMER. They stressed that civil-military cooperation and coordination were crucial for effective disaster relief and response and supported practical engagement among military and other agencies through the ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (ARF DiREx). In this regard, they welcomed the Post – Haiyan Tacloban Declaration (June 2014) and discussions on increasing practical cooperation and promoting more integrated coordination and synergies in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) among ASEAN-related mechanisms in particular the ADMM/ADMM Plus, the ARF, the EAS, and the newly-convened ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM). The Ministers welcomed the planned ARF DiREx 2015 to be conducted from 1 to 6 February 2015 in Malaysia and co-chaired by Malaysia and China, and the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be hosted by Japan in March 2015.
23. The Ministers reiterated their strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and expressed their strong commitment to strengthening the United Nations central role in coordinating international action against terrorism and transnational organised crime. They welcomed active cooperation between the ARF and other international and regional organisations in these vital areas. The Ministers encouraged effective implementation of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including at the regional level. They noted that the Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) provided a mechanism to counter violent extremism and commended its work. The Ministers were satisfied with the capacity building and joint research programmes on counter-terrorism provided by the South East Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT).
 24. The Ministers expressed deep concern about the world drug problem, which continues to threaten public health, safety and well-being and to undermine social, economic and political stability and sustainable development. They expressed their commitment to countering the world drug problem, which remains a common and shared responsibility, through an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies, in line with relevant UN drug conventions and other relevant norms and principles of international law. They welcomed intensification of the dialogue in the ASEAN Regional Forum on combating illicit drug trafficking which is one of priority areas of the ARF Work Plan for Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime.
 25. Recognising that space systems are vital in providing critical services such as telecommunications, air and sea navigation, electronic commerce, climate monitoring, disaster management, national security and defence, the Ministers acknowledged the importance of international cooperation to prepare a legally binding document on the prevention of an arms race in outer space and on the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, including transfer of technology.
 26. Noting the global challenges of information and communications technology (ICT) space, the Ministers recognised that increased international efforts were required to improve the security of ICT space and to develop common understandings about the norms that apply to state behavior in ICT space. They highlighted the need for the region to develop measures to address misperception and miscalculation, including a framework to manage and respond to a ICT incidents or events of potential regional security significance. The Ministers tasked officials to complete the draft ARF work plan on security in the use of ICT on the basis of consensus at the next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD in Malaysia in late 2014 and to submit the plan to the 22nd ARF Ministerial Meeting.
- Review of Activities of the Current Inter-Sessional Year (July 2013-July 2014)**
27. The Ministers noted the value of the ARF process in providing opportunities for dialogue and cooperation on peace and security in the region both at Track 1 and Track 2 level. In this regard, they expressed their satisfaction with the success of activities undertaken during the current intersessional year (July 2013 – July 2014).
 28. The Ministers commended the work of the ARF Senior Officials Meeting (ARF SOM) held on 9 June 2014 in Yangon, Myanmar and the ARF Intersessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy

(ARF ISG on CBMs and PD) co-chaired by Myanmar and the European Union from 9 to 10 December 2013 in Yangon, Myanmar and on 9 April 2014 in Brussels, Belgium. The Ministers noted the reports of the meetings and endorsed their recommendations. The Report of the ARF SOM and the Co-Chairs' Summary Reports of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD appear as **ANNEXES 2, 3 and 4**.

29. Recognising the valuable contributions of the defence officials to the ARF process, the Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the ARF Defence Officials' Dialogue (DOD) co-chaired by Myanmar and the European Union and looked forward to their continued role of the DOD in improving synergies between the ARF and ADMM-Plus. In this respect, the Ministers noted the Reports of the ARF DOD and the 11th ARF Security Policy Conference (ASPC). The Co-Chairs' Summary Reports of the DOD in December, April and June appear as **ANNEXES 5, 6 and 7**.
30. The Ministers took note of the progress of ARF Track 1 activities in implementing the Work Plans on the four ARF priority areas of cooperation, namely counter-terrorism and transnational crime, disaster relief, maritime security and non-proliferation and disarmament.
31. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the following Inter-Sessional Meetings and endorsed their recommendations. The Reports appear as **ANNEXES 8, 9, 10 and 11**.
 - a. 13th ISM on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR), co-chaired by Myanmar, China and Japan, held in Chengdu, China from 26 to 28 February 2014.
 - b. 12th ISM on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ISM on CTTC), co-chaired by Indonesia and New Zealand, held in Bali, Indonesia from 14 to 16 April 2014.
 - c. 6th ISM on Maritime Security (ISM on MS), co-chaired by Indonesia, the Republic of Korea and the United States, held in Bali, Indonesia from 22 to 23 May 2014.
 - d. 6th ISM on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ISM on NPD), cochaired by the Philippines, Australia and Japan, held in Tokyo, Japan from 8 to 9 July 2014.
32. The Ministers also noted the following ARF

Track 1 activities, workshops and seminars that were held during the current inter-sessional year 2013-2014:

- a. 2nd ARF Workshop on Non-proliferation Nuclear Forensics, Bangkok, Thailand, 10-12 September 2013;
 - b. ARF Workshop on Measures to Enhance Cyber security – Legal and Cultural Aspects, Beijing, China, 11-12 September 2013;
 - c. 6th ARF Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting, Beijing, China, 15-17 October 2013;
 - d. 17th ARF Heads of Defence Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting (HDUCIM), Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 11-14 November 2013;
 - e. ARF Workshop on Countering Illicit Trafficking of CBRN Materials, Manila, the Philippines, 20-21 November 2013;
 - f. 8th ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 17-18 February 2014;
 - g. ARF Maritime Security Workshop on Marine Environmental Protection Cooperation: Preparedness and Response to Pollution Incidents Involving Hazardous and Noxious Substances, Honolulu, United States, 4-5 March 2014;
 - h. ARF Roundtable on Training Resources for Preventive Diplomacy, Wellington, New Zealand, 20-21 March 2014;
 - i. ARF Workshop on Cyber Confidence Building Measures, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 25-26 March 2014;
 - j. ARF Seminar on the Regional Cooperation on Offshore Oil Spill, Qingdao, China, 27-28 March 2014;
 - k. ARF Workshop on Consular Contingency Planning and Crisis Management, Bali, Indonesia, 20-21 May 2014;
 - l. 2nd ARF Seminar on UNCLOS, Manila, the Philippines, 28-29 May 2014.
33. The Ministers also noted the successful conduct of a seminar on the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy with a focus on EU-ASEAN security cooperation, open to all ARF members, and which

held in Brussels in March 2014.

Programme of Work for the Next Inter-Sessional Year (August 2014-July 2015)

34. The Ministers expressed their commitment to continue efforts for confidence building measures and promoting preventive diplomacy. In this respect, they expressed their shared view that the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD and the ARF DOD played an instrumental role for that purpose and welcomed Malaysia and Japan as the Co-Chairs of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD and the ARF DOD in the next inter-sessional year. They noted that the meetings of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD and ARF DOD for the inter-sessional year 2014-2015 would be held in Melaka, Malaysia in November 2014 and in April 2015 in Japan.
35. The Ministers indicated that terrorism and transnational organised crime continue to represent some of the most complex and pressing challenges facing the region. They acknowledged this was a critical area for cooperation in the ARF region and welcomed Thailand and China as the Co-Chairs of the ISM on CTTC. The Meeting noted the proposal by the European Union and Indonesia to co-lead the new priority area on Trafficking in Persons. The Ministers adopted the new ARF Work Plan on CTTC for the implementation period of 2014-2015 which appears as **ANNEX 12**.
36. While stressing the importance of addressing the threats posed by the weapons of mass destruction, the Ministers encouraged the ISM on NPD to continue pursuing non-proliferation and disarmament measures. They welcomed progress in implementing the ARF Work Plan on NPD. They also welcomed Malaysia, Canada and New Zealand as Co-Chairs for the next ARF ISM on NPD for the inter-sessional year 2014-2015. They encouraged ARF participants to formulate and propose activities under the ARF Work Plan on NPD. The ARF Work Plan on NPD appears as **ANNEX 13**.
37. Highlighting the importance of shipping and seaborne trade to the ARF participants in the region, the Ministers stressed that it is critical to ensure peace, stability, freedom of navigation and Maritime Security (MS) in the region. In this respect, they welcomed the Philippines, Japan and the United States as the next Co-Chairs of

the ISM on MS for the next inter-sessional year and encouraged the ISM on MS to develop concrete and effective measures and build norms in addressing the maritime challenges, using existing arrangements and mechanisms in the region as a starting point. They also commended Indonesia's instrumental role in advancing the ARF Maritime Security cooperation as co-chair for all six ARF ISMs on MS, which has enabled ARF participants to exchange views and best practices on maritime security.

38. The Ministers emphasised that cooperation in disaster risk reduction and management was a key priority on the ARF agenda. In this regard, the Ministers tasked respective officials to further strengthen cooperation and discussion on building resilience and preparedness for disasters while continuing to strengthen measures for disaster response and relief under the purview of the ISM on DR and the Co-Chairmanship of Myanmar, China and Japan.
39. The Ministers reaffirmed the procedure for all proposed ARF Track 1 activities to be discussed at the ARF ISG/ISM level and endorsed at the ARF SOM before adopted by the ARF Ministers. The Ministers adopted the List of Track 1 Activities for the next inter-sessional year (August 2014 - July 2015) which appears as **ANNEX 14**.

Future Direction of the ARF Process

40. The Ministers reaffirmed that the future of ARF is to be guided by the ARF Vision Statement and shaped by the changing global and regional political and security landscape. In this context, they tasked respective officials to ensure the effective implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action through regular monitoring, reviewing and updating in order for the realisation of the ARF Vision Statement.
41. The Ministers discussed their intention to further strengthen the ARF process through continued implementation and enhancement of confidence building measures (CBMs) and development of norms and capacity for preventive diplomacy. The Ministers were also mindful of the ARF's ultimate goal of cooperation in conflict resolution in the future. The Ministers instructed respective officials to discuss and formulate more concrete and result-oriented activities in existing areas of

cooperation in order to generate more tangible benefits to the peoples of the region, and explore new areas of common interests and concern in order to grasp the growing dimensions of security challenges. In this context, the Ministers urged officials to speed up activities to implement the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy while maintaining momentum in the field of CBMs.

42. The Ministers committed to enhance the ARF's role and its relevance in evolving regional security architecture. In this regard, they noted the need to further develop the existing EEP system and welcomed the research of 'Improving the ARF-EEPs System' supported by the Republic of Korea. They also affirmed the need to strengthen partnership with Track 2 organisations such as the ASEAN Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS), the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) and the Asia Pacific Centre for Strategic Studies (APCSS) as well as other regional security organisations.
43. The Ministers recognized the importance of the establishment of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) as a centre of excellence to encourage effort to address explosive remnants of wars (ERW) for ASEAN Member States. They welcomed the adoption of the TOR on ARMAC adopted by ASEAN Leaders at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in 2013 and looked forward to the full operationalisation of ARMAC.
44. The Ministers considered the role of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) and its capacity to contribute to the ARF process through providing services such as monitoring regional security trends, identifying potential flashpoints in Asia and Pacific and recommending preventive diplomacy measures.
45. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the ARF Annual Security Outlook (ARF ASO) served to enhance transparency among ARF participants and called for continued contributions to the ARF ASO from a broader range of participants. They also commended activities for the enhancement of security policy transparency and establishment of closer networks and communication channels among the ARF participants.
46. The Ministers expressed their appreciation for

the contribution and support of the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat in coordinating various activities and providing secretarial assistance including in preparing the updated Matrix on the Implementation Status of the Hanoi Plan of Action. They tasked the ARF Unit to play a role in facilitating information sharing on the schedule of activities between the ARF and the ADMM-Plus. The Ministers noted the Matrix of ARF Decisions and their Status (1994-2014) which appears as **ANNEX 15** and the Joint Calendar of the ADMM, ADMM Plus and ARF as appears as **ANNEX 16**.

ARF Statement on Cooperation in Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration from Marine Oil Spill Incidents

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 10 August 2014

Acknowledging that the demands of modern commerce require marine exploration, production and transport of large amounts of oil at sea; and

Conscious that oil pollution can arise from ships, off-shore units, sea ports and oil handling facilities;

Recognizing that oil spillage impacts people, marine ecosystems and the marine environment; and

Recognizing further that large incidents can also negatively impact the local and regional socio-economy and culture, including by causing marine pollution, habitat loss and degradation, loss of tourism, trade, and investment.

With this in mind, prompt and effective action is essential in order to minimize the impacts resulting from a marine oil spill incident, and should be taken initially at the national level.

Reaffirming that national authorities will continue to endeavor to promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic

instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, with due regard to the public interest and without distorting international trade and investment;

Recognizing that cooperative regional responses between industry and relevant government agencies are often needed and acknowledging the actions and capabilities already developed by industry in relation to prevention, intervention (including subsea well intervention) and overall response capability:

Recognizing the importance of:

- Trained personnel
- Availability of relevant technology, equipment and facilities;
- Measures and arrangements to prepare for and respond to oil pollution incidents
- Joint research and development programs
- Bilateral and multilateral cooperation, agreements, and arrangements in preparedness and response
- Coordinated responses
- Joint exercise programs
- Exchange of information on major oil spill incidents

Recognizing that regional level response is often necessary, the ARF participants underscore the following for incident management:

- *Promoting* and endeavoring to exchange preparedness and response capabilities;
- *Promoting*, as appropriate, the holding of international symposia on relevant subjects, including technological advances in oil-pollution combating techniques and equipment;
- *Preparing* administrative measures with due regard to national legislation to facilitate upon request by the affected state expeditious arrival, utilization and departure from an affected state's territory of ships, aircraft and other modes of transport engaged in responding to a marine oil pollution incident or personnel, cargo, material and equipment required to deal with such an incident;
- *Encouraging* entities to maintain written oil spill contingency plans;
- *Encouraging* operators to ensure appropriate

arrangements for oil spill response equipment to respond to oil spill incidents before help arrives;

- *Protecting* human life, restoring the health and productivity of oceans and marine ecosystems, maintaining biodiversity, and encouraging conservation as well as sustainable use for present and future generations;
- *Promoting timely*, effective coordinated response arrangements to a marine oil spill incident;
- *Minimizing* immediate and long-term damage to the environment, and *striving* to restore the environment at a reasonable cost and in a timely manner;
- *Working in close* coordination with affected states;
- Subject to capabilities and the availability of relevant financial and other resources, *cooperating* and providing advisory services, technical support and equipment for the purpose of responding to a pollution incident, when the severity of such incident so justifies, upon the request of any participating State affected or likely to be affected.

Consistent with the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement, ARF participants reiterate the need for further regional cooperation on the following goals on a voluntary basis:

- Strengthening implementation of existing plans and protocols – such as the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), the ASEAN Oil Spill Response Action Plan (OSRAP), the Global Initiative for Southeast Asia (GI-SEA), and the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, 1990 (OPRC Convention) – including in relation to awareness, capabilities (equipment, training, interoperability, information sharing, domain awareness), and institutional capacity;
- Designating point of contact in the organization vested with responsibility for coordination of oil spill response and facilitating working relationship between the designated points of contact;
- Increasing the region's potential to prevent, prepare, respond to and restore from marine oil spill incidents by creating opportunities for ARF participants to: 1) share best practices and provide training to help alleviate capability and capacity shortcomings; 2) understand regulatory and other frameworks through engagement with international

organizations; 3) facilitate government-industry collaboration and cooperation through engagement opportunities; and 4) establish an expert network on oil spill response to foster technical information exchange; and

- Developing an ARF work plan focused on practical cooperation, with a view to the eventual development of a cooperative plan for mutual assistance from ARF participants and organizations in the event of a major oil spill incident which exceeds the response capability of a State.

The ASEAN Regional Forum Statement on Strengthening Coordination and Cooperation on Maritime and Aeronautical Search and Rescue

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 10 August 2014

The chairman of ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), on behalf of its participants, issued the following statement:

Expressing sympathies to the families of those on the missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 in March 2014 and the victims on the car ferry Sewol of the Republic of Korea in April 2014, and extending appreciation for the search and rescue (SAR) efforts by the participating nations in the above-mentioned incidents,

Realizing that incidents at sea and in the air pose a risk to human lives and property in the region,

Recalling the efforts ARF has made in promoting maritime and aeronautical SAR coordination and cooperation among its participants,

Recognizing the importance of the provisions on international maritime and aeronautical SAR in *the Convention on International Civil Aviation and its Annex 12 on Search and Rescue, the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS 1974/88), the*

International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR 1979), the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS 1982), the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR Manual) as well as the provisions in the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs 1972),

Realizing that the effectiveness and efficiency of regional SAR capacity and cooperation needs to be further enhanced,

Calling for regional countries to further strengthen SAR coordination and cooperation at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels, including through dialogue and cooperation in ARF,

ARF participants reiterate the importance of the following statements, among others, in regional coordination and cooperation on maritime and aeronautical SAR:

- Saving lives should be the top priority and SAR services should be provided in a prompt and appropriate manner,
- Assistance should be provided to any person in distress at sea regardless of the nationality, status of the person, or circumstances in which that person is found,
- Unless otherwise arranged, ARF participants should bear their own costs for the conduct of SAR operations,
- Maritime and aeronautical SAR cooperation under *the framework of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, and the Convention on International Civil Aviation* should be promoted to enhance and support the capacity of regional countries, and promote a confidence building process, and can augment the regional ARF disaster relief cooperation,

ARF participants should endeavor to take the following measures to strengthen regional cooperation on maritime and aeronautical SAR:

- Encourage active participation in SAR operations for major maritime and aeronautical incidents in the region and the support for efficient and effective search and rescue operations in case of request or agreement by a related state, in accordance with

- international law, and respecting relevant national laws,
- Work together in establishing advanced SAR capability among participants, through information sharing, exchange of best practices and capacity building, including exchange of professional and advanced technologies and equipment,
 - Promote workshops and consultations on SAR cooperation, including existing regional table-top and field training SAR exercises,
 - Consistent with existing provisions of cooperation identified in relevant conventions and other instruments, take appropriate measures to strengthen communication and coordination among national Rescue Coordination Centers (RCCs),
 - Encourage further discussion of military and civilian SAR coordination and cooperation on information sharing and SAR operations, including within the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), both at national and regional levels,
- Build the region's recognition of existing mechanisms and commitments including *the Convention on International Civil Aviation*, *the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue* and other relevant international arrangements, better utilize existing regional SAR coordination centres, and explore more effective and efficient modalities of SAR cooperation and coordination in the Asia Pacific,
 - Support the work on continuous improvement of the *International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual* and SAR practices in the region, consistent with *the Convention on International Civil Aviation and its Annex 12 on Search and Rescue as well as the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue*,
 - Consider taking additional measures, if necessary, as appropriate to enhance the implementation by all ARF participants of *the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS)* and other relevant international instruments in an effort to observe good seamanship at sea and minimize incidents that result in SAR efforts.
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III. ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council

Key Outcomes of the 12th AEC Council Meeting, 46th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Meeting and Related Meetings

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
25-28 August 2014**

INTRODUCTION

1. The 46th AEM and Related Meetings were held from 25-28 August in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. Economic Ministers from the ten ASEAN Member States (AMS) attended the meetings, which included the ASEAN Economic Community Council (AECC), AEM, ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council, ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council, Cambodia Laos Myanmar and Viet Nam (CLMV) Economic Ministers, the ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC), Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and consultations with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners (i.e. Australia, Canada, China, Japan, New Zealand, Russia, Republic of Korea and the United States). ASEAN Economic Ministers also had consultations with ASEAN Business Advisory Council and EU-ASEAN Business Council. Two private sector events were also held at the margins of the 46th AEM including 1st Public-Private Dialogue on New Industries and 2nd US-ASEAN Business Summit.

PROGRESS OF THE ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

2. The 46thAEM/12th AECC reviewed the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint since the 24th ASEAN Summit. ASEAN has implemented 82.1% of the 229 prioritised key deliverables targeted for completion by 2013. This is in line with the 2012 Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building to achieve AEC integration results by 2015 by focusing on priority areas and measures that potentially have the most impact in achieving the AEC. As of mid-August 2014, 52 key deliverables for 2014-2015 have also been implemented.
3. Key achievements noted/endorsed during the 46th AEM include the following:
 - (a) **Pillar 1 (Single Market and Production Base):** implementation of both 1st and 2nd Self-Certification Projects which are trade facilitation initiatives to help reduce transaction costs and improve ease of doing business particularly for small and medium enterprises (SMEs); finalization of ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQR) which will provide a standard for cross-referencing among the different National Qualification Frameworks of AMS; completion of ASEAN Medical Device Directive (AMDD) which will help to facilitate access of medical device products in the region; the 9th and penultimate Package of Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) is nearing completion reflecting another step towards the realization of free flow of services under the 2015 AEC; a Protocol to Amend the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA) was signed to provide the mechanism for the amendment or modification of ACIA reservation schedule; and new ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Accountancy, which replaces the earlier framework agreement, has been finalized;

- (b) **Pillar 2 (Competitive Economic Region):** AMS continued to promote greater awareness of competition policy and law in the region through various regional competition advocacy tools, including a web portal (www.aseancompetition.org) and collaterals (comprising a brochure and pamphlet); the latest lists of official recalled/banned products and of voluntary recalled products in ASEAN were updated on the ASEAN Committee on Consumer Protection (ACCP) website (www.aseanconsumer.org); ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC) commissioned a study to assess the implementation of the ASEAN IPR Action Plan 2011-2015; an ad-hoc Task Force on Trade Marks was established to ensure the completion of the Trade Marks related action lines by 2015; Joint Declaration on EU-ASEAN Aviation Cooperation was adopted during the EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit (EAAS) held in February 2014 in Singapore; establishment of ASEAN Telecommunications Regulators Council (ATRC) cooperation framework; and drafting of ASEAN Principles for PPP Framework with support from OECD;
- (c) **Pillar 3 (Equitable Economic Development):** Priority was given on delivering initiatives under the SME Action Plan 2010-2015; deliberation on strategic visions and goals for the post-2015 action plan; provision of technical assistance programmes under the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and the US Programme on ASEAN Connectivity through Trade and Investment (ACTI); Consultations with ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) on further support for SME programmes; drafting of the first ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development (AFEED) Monitoring Report with support from the World Bank; and
- (d) **Pillar 4 (Integration into the Global Economy):** signing of the First Protocol to Amend the Agreement establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA); negotiations for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) continued to progress after five rounds; and commencement of ASEAN-Hong Kong Free Trade Area Trade Negotiation.
4. Similarly, the 46th AEM noted/endorsed the progress of activities with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners:
- (a) **ASEAN-FTA Partners (RCEP):** Concluded five rounds of negotiations since its launch in November 2012; good progress has been made in key areas of negotiations including trade in goods, trade in services and investment, economic and technical cooperation, intellectual property, competition and legal and institutional issues; establishment of the additional working groups and sub-working groups;
- (b) **ASEAN-Canada:** Progress made toward achieving all objectives of the 2012-2015 Work Plan to Implement the ASEAN-Canada Joint Declaration on Trade and Investment; pleased with the outcomes of the June 2014 AEM Roadshow to Canada and agreed to undertake follow-up activities; welcomed the recent announcements that Canada will establish a mission to ASEAN and name a dedicated ambassador, as well as appoint resident representation in Cambodia and Lao PDR; held a dialogue with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council (CABC);
- (c) **ASEAN-CER (Australia and New Zealand):** Signed the First Protocol to Amend the Agreement establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area and endorsed the target date of entry into force by 31 March 2015 upon ratification of at least four AMS, Australia and New Zealand; pleased with the momentum of the implementation of the AANZFTA Economic Cooperation Support Programme (AECSP) which will run until end-December 2015;
- (d) **ASEAN-China:** Endorsed the Elements Paper for the ACFTA upgrade and agreed to the commencement of negotiations on the upgrade as soon as possible; establishment of the Sub-Committees on Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures (STRACAP), and Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures tasked to develop the work programme to implement the related Protocol on Technical Barriers to Trade and SPS; welcomed the commencement of the ASEAN-Hong Kong Free Trade Area (AHKFTA) negotiations;

- (e) ASEAN-EAS: Emphasised the importance of prioritizing cooperative efforts between ASEAN and EAS partners; need to identify areas for prioritized cooperation with focus towards 2015 and beyond and the need to tailor cooperation activities answering the changing development needs of ASEAN and reflecting the interest of EAS partners; expressed concern about the inability of WTO Members to implement the Bali Package in accordance with the Ministerial decision in Bali;
- (f) ASEAN-Japan: Significant progress made towards concluding the Trade in Services and Investment negotiations and tasked officials to finalise the Trade and Investment Chapters into the AJCEP Agreement by end-2014; pleased with the improvements made on the ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap incorporating the recommendations from the ASEAN-Japan Economic Forum; appreciated the AEM-METI Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee (AMEICC) Working Group to implement the activities under the Roadmap; noted the outcomes of the 1st ASEAN-Japan Public-Private Dialogue on New Industries held in the sideline of the 46th AEM;
- (g) ASEAN-Republic of Korea: Progress made in further liberalization of the sensitive track under the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Goods Agreement; tasked the AKFTA Implementing Committee to continue their discussions; welcomed the adoption of the Guidelines for the ASEAN-Korea Economic Cooperation (AKEC) Fund; noted that the 2nd ASEAN-Korea Commemorative Summit will be held in December 2012;
- (h) ASEAN-Plus Three Countries: Appreciated the work and activities by the East Asia Business Council (EABC), including the recommendations from the RCEP Working Group of EABC which would help ensure business-relevant and friendly outcomes of the RCEP negotiations; received the progress report of the review and assessment of the East Asia Vision Group II's recommendations relating to the economic pillar; supported the institutionalisation of joint cooperation among the ASEAN-China, ASEAN-Japan and ASEAN-Korea Centres for better coordination; urged the ASEAN-China, ASEAN-Japan and ASEAN-Korea Centres to establish linkages and work closely with relevant regional business organisations in developing SME capacity; discussed the preparations for the 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in November 2014;
- (i) ASEAN-Russia: Progress of the activities under the ASEAN-Russian Trade and Investment Cooperation Work Programme; tasked senior officials to start developing the Post-2015 Work Programme; noted Russia's interest to explore collaboration on e-commerce and requested Russia to organize a workshop on e-commerce; and
- (j) ASEAN-US: Implementation of activities under the ASEAN-US Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA) and the Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) Initiative in 2014; pleased with the continued support of US in the areas of trade facilitation (including ASEAN Single Window), small and medium enterprises (SMEs) development and cooperation on standards and conformance; welcomed the 2nd ASEAN-US Business Summit held on the margins of the 46th AEM; reaffirmed commitment to further deepen trade and investment ties through initiatives of mutual interest.

KEY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES TO AEC

5. Although there has been significant progress in the implementation of the AEC Blueprint measures, challenges still remain in achieving the AEC by end-2015. The bottlenecks in Pillar 1 especially need to be highlighted because it is this pillar that has the most direct impact on the region's trade, investment and growth prospects. Efforts have to be redoubled for the AEC targets to reduce and abolish non-tariff and regulatory barriers in goods, services and investment to be achieved.
6. ASEAN is now at the tail-end of the implementation of the AEC Blueprint. Thus, the priorities from now until end-2015 will be to: (i) fast-track the implementation of the high-impact, prioritised AEC deliverables, (ii) communicate the AEC particularly to ASEAN SMEs, citizens and other

key stakeholders; and (iii) finalise the AEC's post-2015 agenda, a critical component of which is to deal expeditiously with any unfinished agenda from AEC 2015.

7. The Ministers noted that overall, the ASEAN region has remained robust in a global economic environment that continues to be challenging and uncertain. With limitations to growth prospects in other parts of the world, ASEAN remains an attractive market in itself because of AMS' robust growth rates that are generally based on sound fundamentals. The challenge is to ensure that AMS effectively implement measures to deepen economic integration and provide an environment that is conducive for business activities to further boost economic growth and development in the region. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to intensify efforts to implement the AEC Blueprint and to communicate the AEC to various stakeholders in the lead-up to end-2015.

ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM)

Joint Media Statement of the 20th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Retreat

Singapore, 26-27 February 2014

1. The 20th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Retreat was held on 26-27 February 2014 in Singapore. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Myanmar's Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, chaired the Retreat.

Economic Outlook for ASEAN

2. ASEAN economic growth performance in the past two years has been quite resilient due to strong domestic demand and investment. In the medium

term, ASEAN's economic outlook remains robust, anchored by rising domestic demand particularly private consumption and infrastructure investment. With world trade expected to gain momentum in 2014-2015, ASEAN exports are also expected to contribute more to the region's growth performance. Prospects for FDI flows to ASEAN remain promising as more FDI is expected in a wide range of sectors such as infrastructure, finance and manufacturing.

3. However there are some downside risks, including capital outflows, sharp currency depreciations, emerging inflationary pressures and tightening financial conditions, which could dampen economic growth. Maintaining ASEAN's resilient macroeconomic fundamentals is key to managing these risks. Deeper economic integration will also further enhance investment and trade, and support growth in the region.

Priorities for 2014

4. The Ministers discussed and agreed on the priorities of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2014, which include raising awareness on the AEC; operationalising the ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development; strengthening regional cooperation for SME development; and developing a regional framework for public-private partnership. Several agreements and protocols which would further deepen market integration, particularly in easing the flow of services, as well as services and investment agreements with Japan and India, are also targeted to be signed within this year.
5. The Ministers discussed the current progress in the implementation of the AEC Blueprint, including the pilot case studies on nontariff barriers. The Ministers requested the officials to draw lessons from the cases resolved, institutionalise the mechanism, publicise the successful cases, continue the exercise and increase the engagement with the private sector. The Ministers reaffirmed the intention to continue working towards achieving the targets of the AEC 2015 as set out in the AEC Blueprint.
6. The Ministers conveyed their strong support and cooperation to Myanmar, which is taking on the ASEAN Chairmanship for the first time since joining the regional grouping in 1997.

RCEP

7. The Ministers noted the good progress made in the ongoing negotiations of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Since the negotiations on the RCEP commenced in May 2013, three rounds of negotiations have been completed. Participating countries continued to deepen their detailed and technical work on trade in goods, trade in services and investment in the relevant Working Groups. Work has also begun in other areas with the recent creation of Working Groups on intellectual property, competition, economic and technical cooperation, and dispute settlement. The Ministers agreed on the importance of maintaining the negotiating momentum to ensure the successful negotiation of the RCEP by the end of 2015.

Trade Facilitation

8. The Ministers welcomed the Bali Package achieved in the World Trade Organisation's Ninth Ministerial Conference in December 2013, and recognised that the package was a set of balanced outcomes that address the needs of all Members. In particular, the Ministers acknowledge the value of the meaningful implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, which will advance initiatives being undertaken in the region to simplify customs procedures, ease the flow of goods across borders and provide certainty for business. ASEAN is committed to the expeditious implementation of this multilateral binding agreement, which also provides capacity building support to developing countries and LDCs to help them implement the agreement.

AEC Post-2015 Vision

9. The Ministers highlighted that the 2015 target is not an end-date to conclude the initiatives of realising the ASEAN Economic Community. Rather, the pursuit of expanding and deepening market integration will need to continue beyond 2015, in order to sustain regional economic development and resilience as well as enhance ASEAN's role in East Asia and the global economy.
10. Recalling the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision which was adopted by Leaders at the 23rd ASEAN Summit on 9 October 2013, the Ministers supported the High Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic

Integration (HLTF-EI)'s decision to form a Working Group to develop a draft framework for enhanced ASEAN economic integration for the next ten years (AEC 2016-2025).v

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam;
2. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia;
3. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia;
4. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR;
5. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia;
6. H.E. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar;
7. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines;
8. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
9. Ms. Srirat Rastapana, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Thailand;
10. H.E. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam;
11. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Media Statement of the 23rd Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Customs

Da Lat, Viet Nam, 3-5 June 2014

1. The 23rd Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Customs was held from 3-5 June 2014 in Da Lat, Viet Nam. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuc, Director-General, Viet Nam Customs. All 10 ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat attended the Meeting.
2. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary General of ASEAN, opened the Meeting on 3rd June 2014. In his opening address, H.E. Le Luong Minh emphasised the increasing importance of Customs in trade facilitation and integration for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). He noted that there are challenges that Customs Administrations of ASEAN must deal with and need to stay focused

- on the customs agenda under AEC despite the challenges.
3. The ASEAN Directors-General of Customs Meeting reviewed the works of the ASEAN customs committees/working groups. Also, the chairmanship of the Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation Working Group, Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working group and Customs Capacity Building Working Group has already expired at the 23rd Meeting of ASEAN Directors-General of Customs. The Meeting endorsed the following recommendations from the Coordinating Committee on Customs (CCC): (a) Singapore to continue her chairmanship of the Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation Working Group for 2014-2016; (b) Malaysia to continue her chairmanship of the Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group for 2014-2016; and (c) Indonesia to chair the Customs Capacity Building Working Group for 2014-2016.
 4. Key achievements during the past year include the following:
 - a. After the new ASEAN Agreement on Customs was signed on 30 March 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, eight, up from five, Member States have since notified or deposited instruments of ratification with the Secretary General of ASEAN upon the completion of their internal procedures;
 - b. the development of the *ASEAN Customs Enforcement Bulletin Volume V* and the *ASEAN Customs Post Clearance Audit Bulletin Volume V*;
 - c. 13 (up from 11 since the last Directors-General Meeting) of the AEC Scorecard deliverables for Customs Integration have been fully implemented by all Member States.
 - d. The Meeting discussed the progress on Protocol 7 (Customs Transit System) to the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit where nine Member States had signed the Protocol and the remaining Member States would sign the Protocol as soon as possible. The Meeting also noted that on ASEAN Agreement on Customs, eight Member States had notified the ASEAN Secretariat on the completion of their internal procedures.
 - e. The Meeting held consultation sessions with the Customs Administrations of China, Japan and Korea, and the World Customs Organisation to strengthen Customs-to-Customs partnerships in the region.
 - f. The Meeting held consultation sessions with the US-ASEAN Business Council (USABC) and the Conference of Asia-Pacific Express Carriers (CAPEC), to strengthen Customs-to-Business partnerships in the region.

Joint Media Statement of the 46th ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) Meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 25 August 2014

1. The 46th Meeting of the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) was held on 25 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. It was chaired by H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar. The 46th AEM was preceded by a preparatory meeting of the Senior Economic Officials (prep-SEOM). The AEM also held joint meetings with the 28th ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council and the 17th ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council.

Economic Performance

2. The Ministers welcomed the continuing economic expansion in the ASEAN region with real GDP growth of 5.1% in 2013 despite the weak global recovery. Although growth is projected to soften to 4.7% in 2014, the reasons are seen to be temporary domestic factors and regional growth is forecast to pick up to 5.4% in 2015 as economic conditions, such as exports and investment, improve in the larger ASEAN economies. The Ministers will continue to monitor any possible risks but are confident of ASEAN's economic resilience and prospects amidst strong sentiments going into the ASEAN Economic Community 2015 and improving global growth.

3. Despite challenges from the modest global growth environment in 2013, the Ministers were pleased to note that ASEAN's total merchandise exports grew by 1.3% in 2013, higher than 1% in 2012. However, ASEAN's merchandise imports declined from 6.6% to 1.5% over the same period. The Ministers appreciated that ASEAN economic integration has helped to boost intra-ASEAN trade to US\$608.6 billion in 2013, a 2% increase year on year. Intra-ASEAN trade accounted again for the highest share of both ASEAN's total exports (26%) and total imports (22.4%).
4. China remained the top external destination of ASEAN's exports in 2013, standing at US\$152.5 billion or 12% of total, followed by EU-28 (US\$124.4 billion or 9.8% of total), Japan (US\$123 billion or 9.7% of total) and the United States (US\$114.5 billion or 9% of total). Export growth in the region is expected to increase slightly in 2014, reflecting the projected broad-based, but still modest, upturn in the volume of world trade in 2014. Further improvements to world trade growth in 2015 are expected to hinge on a return to positive growth in EU trade flows that account for a third of world trade. On imports, China was also the top external import origin, standing at US\$198 billion or 15.96% of total, followed by EU- 28 (US\$121.8 billion or 9.8% of total), Japan (US\$117.9 billion or 9.5% of total) and the United States (US\$ 92.4billion or 7.45% of total).
5. The Ministers remained upbeat on the prospects for future ASEAN growth, noting that the continued confidence in ASEAN was reflected in stronger FDI inflows of USD122.4 billion in 2013, compared with USD114.3 billion in 2012. The European Union (EU-28) was the top source of FDI inflows to ASEAN in 2013, accounting for 22% of total inward FDI to ASEAN. Japan was the second largest, with a share of 18.7%, followed by Intra-ASEAN at 17.4%. Intra-ASEAN direct investment has been growing and accounting for a larger share, reaching US\$21.3 billion in 2013. The fourth largest source of FDI inflows to ASEAN was China, at US\$8.6 billion or 7.02% of total. In 2013, the majority of the FDI inflows to ASEAN went to the services sector, and about a third to manufacturing. Among the services subsectors, financial services were the biggest recipient of FDI, followed by other services activities, real estate activities and wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles.
6. The Ministers noted that economic performance of the newer ASEAN Member States (AMS) —Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam (CLMV) — held up in 2013, with robust growth from the services sector bolstering overall output expansion. External trade further contributed to output growth as total trade of CLMV economies reached USD312.4 billion in 2013, an increase of 15.2% from 2012. FDI inflows received by the four economies, amounting to USD13.2 billion in 2013, supported several sectors including construction and manufacturing. Reflecting the upbeat prospects for overall growth in the region, the Ministers were likewise encouraged by the positive growth outlook for CLMV economies in 2014 and 2015. Growth prospects are expected to be anchored on the continued strong performance of the services sector, while exports are likely to get a boost from the projected upturn in world trade.
7. Overall, the Ministers remained optimistic of the region's growth prospects, noting the continued recovery in the United States and Japan, as well as the upturn in the Eurozone growth which were within expectations. The Ministers expressed determination to enhance efforts at sustaining an environment of macroeconomic and price stability to support the realisation of the goals of ASEAN integration and committing towards advancing ASEAN's trade and investment facilitation and liberalisation agenda so as to continue to bring prosperity and narrow the development gap in ASEAN.

Implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint

8. The Ministers considered the latest update which showed that ASEAN has implemented 82.1% of the 229 AEC key deliverables targeted for completion by 2013. This is in line with the 2012 Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building to achieve AEC integration results by 2015 by focusing on priority areas and measures that potentially have the most impact in achieving the AEC.
9. The Ministers also noted that some of the remaining measures will have strong bearing on the impact of the AEC 2015 and resolved to make greater efforts to ensure expeditious implementation of the pending measures in the key deliverables and the ASEAN Blueprint. The Ministers thanked

ERIA for its work on the AEC Scorecard Phase 4 Study which highlighted some remaining work on customs, services and investment.

AEC Post-2015 Vision

10. The Ministers noted that the AEC 2015 Blueprint had set the groundwork for an extensive economic integration agenda for ASEAN, noting that ASEAN's regional integration efforts in the last decade were undertaken in a challenging environment of a global financial crisis in 2008 and slowing growth in the developed countries. The Ministers were encouraged by the beneficial impact of regional integration in mitigating, to some extent, the impact of these global challenges on ASEAN's economic performance and competitiveness. The Ministers tasked the High-Level Task Force on Economic Integration to continue developing the AEC Post-2015 vision, stressing the need for a forward-looking agenda to guide ASEAN's work towards becoming a truly integrated single market, supported by robust institutional and regulatory frameworks, over the next ten years.

Trade in Goods

11. The Ministers welcomed the significant progress made on ASEAN tariff liberalisation where the import duties for 89% of its tariff lines have been eliminated and this will be further liberalised as ASEAN works towards the realisation of AEC 2015, with flexibility for CLMV up to 2018.
12. The Ministers noted the progress of ASEAN in addressing non-tariff measures/barriers (NTM/NTBs). These efforts include: (i) the reclassification of the ASEAN NTMs database which is aligned with the new UNCTAD NTM Classification system, (ii) the establishment of an interagency body at the national level in each AMS to strengthen coordination of domestic efforts to address NTM/NTBs, and (iii) the steps to address the actual NTMs faced by businesses as identified under the "Matrix of Actual Cases on NTM/NTBs", which is regularly uploaded onto the ASEAN Secretariat Website.
13. The Ministers commended the smooth implementation of both 1st and 2nd Self-Certification Pilot Projects, with participation from 302 and 14 certified exporters, respectively. The Ministers

welcomed the intention of Cambodia and Myanmar to join the 1st Self-Certification Pilot Project and Thailand and Viet Nam to join the 2nd Self-Certification Pilot Project. The Meeting urged that the work on the convergence of the two pilot projects be expedited in order to achieve an ASEAN-wide Self-Certification Scheme by 2015. The Meeting emphasised that this is one of the trade facilitation initiatives which will help to reduce transaction costs and improve ease of doing business, particularly for SMEs.

14. The Ministers noted the progress of each AMS in establishing their respective National Trade Repository (NTR), and welcomed AMS' in-principle agreement on the structure of the ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR) as a good step forward on the establishment of the ATR. Once operational, the ATR will serve as a regional interface to link each AMS's NTR, which will help to enhance transparency and access to information regarding the regulatory environment of each AMS, and greatly facilitate doing business in the region.

ASEAN Single Window

15. The Ministers commended the progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Single Window (ASW), in particular the successful connectivity testing conducted by seven participating AMS on the exchange of ATIGA Form D and ASEAN Customs Declaration Document under the scaled-down version of the ASW Pilot Project.
16. The Ministers urged AMS to ensure the timely commencement and completion of the full-fledged pilot testing of the ASW and the evaluation of the ASW Pilot Project.
17. The Ministers called on AMS to expedite the completion of the Protocol on the Legal Framework to Implement the ASW (PLF) that would govern cross-border data exchange among AMS in the "live" implementation of the ASW.
18. Noting the importance of the National Single Windows (NSWs) in the implementation of the ASW, the Ministers urged the remaining AMS to expedite the development and implementation of their respective NSWs to ensure the timely realisation of the ASW.

ASEAN Customs Transit System

19. The Ministers commended the progress of the preparation for the ASEAN Customs Transit System pilot project and urged ASEAN Customs to finalise the text of Protocol 2 (Designation of Frontier Posts) and the remaining AMS to expedite their domestic clearance for the signing of Protocol 7 (Customs Transit System), including their Technical Appendix, of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFFAGIT).

Standards and Conformance

20. The Ministers noted the progress made by the ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ) on eliminating Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) in ASEAN through harmonisation of standards and technical requirements, development and implementation of MRAs and harmonisation of regulatory regimes.
21. The Ministers commended the completion of the ASEAN Medical Device Directive (AMDD) as another milestone for integration of the Medical Device sector in the region. The AMDD provides a harmonised system of placement of medical devices into ASEAN market, based on common key components of medical device regulatory controls to safeguard public health, as well as to reduce technical barriers, thereby facilitating access of medical device products in the region. Regulators in ASEAN will implement common requirements for all 10 AMS, providing a more efficient and cohesive system that would benefit the industry, regulators and consumers in the region.
22. The Ministers tasked AMS to facilitate the transposition of the ASEAN Harmonised Electrical and Electronic Regulatory Regime into respective national legislations/regulations and to expedite the negotiation of the Mutual Recognition Arrangements on automotive, prepared foodstuff, building and construction materials and bio equivalence study report.
23. The Ministers urged AMS to expedite the finalisation of the ASEAN Agreements on Traditional Medicines and Health Supplements (TMHS) and the completion of the harmonisation of Technical Requirements on Traditional Medicines and Health Supplements that will form part of the said Agreements.

Trade Facilitation

24. The Ministers stressed the importance of making progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Trade Facilitation Work Programme and reaffirmed the significance of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement in advancing initiatives to enhance the movement, release and clearance of goods. The Ministers expressed deep concern over the impasse in the adoption of the Protocol of Amendment of the Trade Facilitation Agreement at the WTO in July 2014. The Ministers agreed to work closely with WTO Members to expedite the adoption of the Protocol to enable the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.

Trade in Services

25. The Ministers welcomed the progress towards the completion of the 9th Package of Services Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS). The 9th and penultimate AFAS Package reflects another step forward towards the realisation of free flow of services under the ASEAN Economic Community 2015, through the opening up of an even wider range of services sectors and subsectors for trade and investment in the region.
26. The Ministers noted the progress of discussions for the enhancement of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS), which started in the last quarter of 2013 and which will be called as the ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA). The Ministers tasked the officials to intensify their work in completing the ATISA as a comprehensive and forward-looking agreement which further broadens and deepens ASEAN's services integration as well as ASEAN's integration into the global value chains.

Investment

27. The Ministers noted the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA), which serves as ASEAN's main economic instrument in realising free flow of investment. In particular, the Ministers noted the progress of discussions on the built

in agenda of the ACIA, the completion of which would further enhance the implementation and effectiveness of the Agreement.

28. The Ministers welcomed the signing of the Protocol to Amend ACIA, which provides the mechanism to facilitate amendment or modification of AMS' reservation list, especially with respect to their ongoing liberalisation efforts.
29. The Ministers further noted the continued efforts of ASEAN to promote the region as a single investment destination and to further improve their respective investment regimes through the on-going projects relating to investment promotion and facilitation.

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

30. The Ministers re-affirmed the importance of the small and medium enterprises' (SMEs) role in ASEAN community building and their important contribution towards supporting growth, providing jobs and in contributing to creativity and innovation. They agreed on the need for the SME Working Group to enhance efforts to promote the value of the AEC and to prepare ASEAN SMEs to be more competitive so as to ensure that they can reap benefits, harness new opportunities and address new challenges from the AEC. They welcomed the progress on the various SME initiatives, particularly those relating to access to finance and markets. The Ministers tasked the SME Working Group to intensify efforts to identify early harvest initiatives from the SME Policy Index Study for implementation by 2015, as well as expeditiously complete the remaining initiatives in the SME Strategic Action Plan 2010-2015.
31. The Ministers welcomed the commencement of the study on the Post-2015 Action Plan, which also includes an assessment of progress of current initiatives. The Ministers took note of the SME Advisory Board's reflection on the need for better cross-sectoral and cross-agency efforts and coordination to provide better outcomes for SMEs. The Ministers welcomed the various initiatives of the Dialogue Partners and other External Parties under the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMD)

as implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the US programme on ASEAN Connectivity through Trade and Investment (ACTI) and the efforts of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC), the East-Asia Business Council and US-ASEAN Business to focus on SME activities.

Intellectual Property (IP)

32. The Ministers were briefed on the work to complete the remaining initiatives that make up the IPR Action Plan (2011-2015). Given the importance of a well-functioning and efficient IPR system for supporting the investment and business environment, the Ministers urged the completion of initiatives under the Plan as soon as possible. In particular, they welcomed efforts to speed up the implementation of key trademark initiatives through the establishment of an ad-hoc Task Force on Trade Marks to ensure the completion of the related initiatives by 2015. The Ministers also noted the good progress of AMS on accession to international protocols such as the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and the Madrid Protocol by 2015.
33. The Ministers appreciated the role of dialogue and other external parties in facilitating the achievement of the IPR initiatives and to this end, welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the European Patent Office (EPO) in 2014 and the endorsement of the ASEAN-China Work Programme 2014-2015 and the ASEAN Intellectual Property Offices (IPOs)-Japan Patent Office (JPO) Action Plan 2014-2015. The Ministers were pleased with the outcomes of the ASEAN-OHIM (EU Office of Harmonisation in the Internal Market) Heads of IP Offices Meeting held on 26-28 May 2014 in Madrid/Alicante, Spain, which agreed on a list of priority areas for IP cooperation in the context of the current EU-ASEAN Project on the Protection of IP (ECAP-III) as well as the proposal for a post-ECAP III cooperation agreement (ECAP-IV). They further noted the continued emphasis on capacity building programmes on IP enforcement and trademarks under the cooperation programmes with the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Competition Policy

34. The Ministers stressed the importance of having competition law in place in AMS by 2015 to promote

market competition. The Ministers welcomed the progress in the implementation of competition policy and law (CPL) in AMS. The five AMSs which do not have competition legislation in place are at various stages of drafting their respective legislation.

35. Recognising the importance of promoting greater awareness of competition policy and law to various stakeholders in the region, in particular the business community, the Ministers were pleased to note that the ASEAN Experts Group on Competition (AEGC) has developed a web portal (www.aseancompetition.org) and a set of regional competition advocacy collaterals comprising a brochure and pamphlet. The Ministers also noted the holding of the 4th ASEAN Competition Conference on 16-17 July 2014 in Manila on enforcement, and the sharing of knowledge on remedies and innovative approaches towards combating anti-competitive market conduct.
36. The Ministers welcomed the continued technical assistance extended to ASEAN competition officials through the Competition Law Programme under the ASEAN-Australia New Zealand FTA programme and the BMZ (GIZ) programme.

Consumer Protection

37. The Ministers highlighted the particular need for stronger consumer protection in AMS noting that consumer protection regulations and recourse mechanisms must be strengthened to meet the demand of increasingly sophisticated consumers in ASEAN. In this context, the Ministers commended Myanmar on the passing of its consumer protection law in March 2014, bringing the total number of AMS with consumer protection legislation to nine. The Ministers welcomed the on-going work on notification of banned/recalled products, the completion of the Complaint and Redress Mechanism Models and Guidelines in February 2014, and the holding of a Workshop on enhancing cross-border law enforcement investigations in e-commerce and cross-border complaints.

ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS)

38. The Ministers noted that the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) is finalising its Strategic Plan 2016-2020, for the ACSS Committee's adoption at its Fourth Session in October 2014. The Ministers further noted the need to put

emphasis on dissemination and communication of statistics along with institutional strengthening and improving response to ASEAN data needs.

39. The Ministers welcomed the commencement of the second four-year statistical programme EU-ASEAN Capacity Building Programme for Monitoring Integration Progress and Statistics (EU-ASEAN COMPASS) in June 2014, with the overall objective of improving the availability of timely, accurate, comparable and relevant statistics to facilitate the monitoring of ASEAN community building and decision-making.

Public-Private Sector Engagement

40. The Ministers discussed the role of the private sector in ASEAN integration and agreed that the strengthening of private-public sector engagement remains a key consideration of ASEAN in facilitating the achievement of the AEC 2015. To this end, the Ministers commended the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) on its work priorities for 2014 including the promotion of the competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to ensure inclusive and sustainable development, particularly of women and youth in ASEAN. The Ministers welcomed ASEAN-BAC's continuation of its joint consultations with the ASEAN-Dialogue Partner business councils and the holding of its annual ASEAN Business and Investment Summit at the sidelines of the 25th ASEAN Summit. The Ministers also welcomed other engagements with the private sector, including the 7th Federation of Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in ASEAN (FJCCIA) Dialogue, which was held on 24 June 2014 in Manila, the Philippines; the convening of the 2nd US-ASEAN Business Summit at the sidelines of the 46th AEM, and the forthcoming 2nd AEC Symposium in October 2014 in Yangon, Myanmar.

External Economic Relations

41. The Ministers welcomed major advancements in the ASEAN+1 FTAs. These efforts are expected to refresh the current FTAs and bring AMS to a higher level of engagement with dialogue partners. Among the key achievements were the finalisation of the Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the AANZFTA and the ASEAN-India Trade in Services and Investment Agreements.

The Ministers further welcomed the adoption of the elements paper on the upgrading of the ASEAN-China FTA (ACFTA), the progress made on further liberalisation under ASEAN-Korea FTA, and the commencement of the ASEAN-Hong Kong FTA negotiations.

42. The Ministers reiterated the importance of RCEP as a modern and comprehensive high quality economic partnership agreement among AMS and its FTA partners. In particular, the potential of RCEP in supporting and contributing to economic integration and equitable growth in the region provides immense value for all its participating members. The Ministers recognised the good progress made on several fronts, after five rounds of negotiations, which will lay the ground work for the timely conclusion of RCEP negotiations by 2015.

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Principles

43. The concept of PPP is gaining traction in ASEAN given that the region needs an estimated USD 60 billion each year in infrastructure financing. Ministers recognised that Governments will need to enlist the participation of the private sector to meet this requirement. To this end, the Ministers welcomed the progress made by the OECD in assisting ASEAN to develop the ASEAN Principles for the PPP Framework, which will help to create a predictable and efficient PPP environment, and to address cross-border projects that take into account jurisdictional and dispute resolution issues.

ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development (AFEED)

44. The Ministers noted the on-going work with the World Bank on the AFEED Monitor which provides a common basis for understanding trends in equitable development across the region and analyses differences in levels of development between AMS as well as between the ASEAN-6 and CLMV. The AFEED Monitor is targeted for submission to the ASEAN Leaders at the 25th ASEAN Summit in November 2014.

Technical Assistance and Capacity-Building

45. Technical assistance and capacity building remains a cornerstone in supporting ASEAN integration efforts. The Ministers expressed appreciation for the efforts and assistance rendered by ASEAN's

dialogue partners and other external parties in providing the necessary resources to help ASEAN in its integration effort. They include the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme Phase II, ASEAN Regional Integration Support from the EU (EU-ARISE), the EU-ASEAN Capacity Building Programme for Monitoring Integration Progress and Statistics (EU-ASEAN COMPASS), the US ASEAN Connectivity through Trade and Investment (ACTI), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) projects as implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the support provided by the Asia Development Bank, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam;
2. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia;
3. H.E. Ros Seilava, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Cambodia;
4. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia;
5. H.E. Mahendra Siregar, Chairman, Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board;
6. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR;
7. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia;
8. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar;
9. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines;
10. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
11. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand;
12. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam;
13. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Media Statement of the 2nd Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Ministerial Meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 27 August 2014

1. The Economic Ministers from the 16 RCEP Participating Countries attended the 2nd RCEP Ministerial Meeting held on 27 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Ministers were encouraged by the progress made after five rounds of negotiations since its launch in November 2012. The Ministers reiterated their commitment to conclude the RCEP negotiations, in line with the vision endorsed by the Leaders in the Guiding Principles for a modern, comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial economic partnership agreement that would support the achievement of the ASEAN Community and deeper regional economic integration.
2. The Ministers noted the economic performance of RCEP Participating Countries remained strong amidst risks in the global economy. RCEP economies' combined output reached US\$21.3 trillion in 2013, which accounts for nearly 30% of world output. Trade and investment flows in RCEP economies also remained strong. In 2013, total trade of RCEP economies amounted to US\$10.7 trillion (29.0% of global trade), while total FDI inflows to RCEP economies reached US\$339.8 billion (23.4% of global FDI inflows). With almost half of the world's population, RCEP economies represent a massive market. The Ministers recognised the immense potential within RCEP which, upon successful conclusion, would spur economic dynamism through better market access, enhance deeper economic integration, create shared opportunities and help improve the standard of living for billions of people of this region.
3. The Ministers strongly encouraged continued engagement among all Participating Countries to achieve meaningful progress in the agreed scope of negotiations. The Ministers welcomed the establishment of the additional working groups and sub-working groups. The Ministers commended

the good progress made in the areas of trade in goods, trade in services and investment. The Ministers also commended the progress made in other areas under negotiations, such as economic and technical cooperation, intellectual property, competition and legal and institutional issues.

4. The Ministers remain optimistic that the rounds of negotiations scheduled in the RCEP Work Programme will deliver significant outcomes. The next negotiation round will be held from 1-5 December 2014 in Greater Noida, India. The Ministers urged all Parties to build on the good progress so far achieved and to further intensify efforts to advance negotiations for timely conclusion.
5. To this end, the Ministers reiterated the aim to complete the RCEP negotiations by end-2015.

LIST OF MINISTERS

(a) The Hon. Andrew Robb AO MP, Minister for Trade and Investment, Australia; (b) The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; (c) H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; (d) H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce, People's Republic of China; (e) Mr. Sumanta Chaudhuri, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, India [representing H.E. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, India]; (f) H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia; (g) H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; (h) H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea; (i) H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; (j) H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; (k) H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; (l) The Hon. Tim Groser, Minister of Trade, New Zealand; (m) H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; (n) H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; (o) H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; (p) H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; and (q) H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Media Statement of the 6th CLMV Economic Ministers' Meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 28 August 2014

1. The Sixth Cambodia - Lao PDR - Myanmar - Viet Nam (CLMV) Economic Ministers' Meeting (EMM) was held on 28 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam.
2. The Ministers noted the robust growth of merchandise trade for Myanmar and Viet Nam, with an increase of 26.7% and 16.2%, respectively, in 2013. Meanwhile, Cambodia and Lao PDR's merchandise trade experienced a slight decline of 1.8% and 4.4%, respectively. Combined merchandise trade of CLMV constituted approximately 12.4% of ASEAN's total merchandise trade. The Ministers acknowledged the CLMV's potential to significantly contribute towards the regional production network and agreed to effectively implement the commitments under the AEC Blueprint, especially in the areas relating to trade facilitation. In the same period, total foreign direct investment (FDI) into the four countries totalled US\$13.2 billion, compared to US\$11.6 billion in 2012. The Ministers emphasized the need to step up efforts in attracting FDIs, especially by the least developed Member States.
3. The Ministers were pleased with the achievement of the CLMV Action Plan for 2013 and 2014. The Ministers noted the difficulties in implementing some activities due to financial constraint and encouraged senior economic officials to explore financial and technical cooperation with Dialogue Partners. The Ministers emphasized the importance of achieving these activities in contributing towards the overall goals of achieving regional economic integration and narrowing the development gap.
4. The Ministers also noted the CLMV countries' implementation status of the priority key deliverables of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and the progress of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)

negotiation. The Ministers underscored the need to intensify efforts to meet the deadlines of AEC and conclude the RCEP negotiation in 2015. The Ministers agreed that the CLMV Action Plan 2015 should focus on building the capacity of CLMV officials to achieve these targets and disseminating information to stakeholders on the regional economic integration efforts.

5. The Ministers endorsed the CLMV Action Plan 2015 which includes 11 priority activities, which are related to economics-trade, human resource development, capacity building on RCEP negotiations and coordination mechanism.
6. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to ASEAN, dialogue partners and external parties for the support in the development of CLMV, in particular the implementation of CLMV Action Plan. The Ministers look forward to the continued cooperation in achieving the objectives of regional economic integration and narrowing the development gap.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 2. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 3. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 4. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 5. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
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ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Accountancy Services

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, 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, Member States of the Association of South East Asian Nations (hereinafter collectively referred to as "ASEAN" or "ASEAN Member States" or singularly as "ASEAN Member State");

RECOGNISING the objectives of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (hereinafter referred to as "AFAS"), which are to enhance cooperation in services amongst ASEAN Member States in order to improve the efficiency and competitiveness, diversify production capacity and supply and distribution of services of their services suppliers within and outside ASEAN; to eliminate substantially restrictions to trade in services amongst ASEAN Member States; and to liberalise trade in services by expanding the depth and scope of liberalisation beyond those undertaken by ASEAN Member States under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (hereinafter referred to as "GATS") with the aim to realising free trade in services;

NOTING that Article V of AFAS provides that ASEAN Member States may recognise the education or experience obtained, requirements met, and license or certification granted in other ASEAN Member States, for the purpose of licensing or certification of service suppliers;

NOTING the decision of the Bali Concord II adopted at the Ninth ASEAN Summit held in 2003 calling for completion of Mutual Recognition Arrangements (hereinafter referred to as "MRAs" or singularly as "MRA") for qualifications in major professional services by 2008 to facilitate free movement of professionals/skilled labour/talents in ASEAN;

RECALLING the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Framework on Accountancy Services signed by the ASEAN Economic Ministers

on 26 February 2009 in Cha-am, Thailand, which lays down the broad principle and framework for the negotiations of bilateral or multilateral MRAs on accountancy services between or among ASEAN Member States; and

DESIRING to conclude multilateral MRA under Article V of the ASEAN MRA Framework on Accountancy Services to promote the flow of relevant information and exchanging expertise, experiences and best practices suited to specific needs of ASEAN Member States;

HAVE AGREED on this ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Accountancy Services (hereinafter referred to as "this Arrangement") as follows:

ARTICLE 1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Arrangement are:

- 1.1 To facilitate mobility of accountancy services professionals across ASEAN Member States;
- 1.2 To enhance the current regime for the provision of accountancy services in the ASEAN Member States; and
- 1.3 To exchange information in order to promote adoption of best practices on standards and qualifications.

ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS

In this Arrangement, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 2.1 **Accreditation** refers to quality assurance of qualified accountants by National Accountancy Bodies and/or Professional Regulatory Authorities.
- 2.2 **Certification** refers to the issuance of a certificate or license to those who have met specified requirements for registration by either a National Accountancy Body or a Professional Regulatory Authority.

- 2.3 **Country of Origin** refers to the ASEAN Member State where the Professional Accountant is registered as a member of the National Accountancy Body and/or is licensed to practise accountancy by the National Accountancy Body and/or the Professional Regulatory Authority.
- 2.4 **Criteria or Standards** refers to the conditions required by a National Accountancy Body and/or a Professional Regulatory Authority to be met by the Professional Accountant.
- 2.5 **Domestic Regulations** refers to laws, by-laws, regulations, rules and orders of the respective ASEAN Member States, as well as directives, guidelines and standards relating to Accountancy Services issued by the respective National Accountancy Bodies and/or Professional Regulatory Authorities.
- 2.6 **Host Country** refers to the ASEAN Member State where the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA) applies to practise or is authorised to practise accountancy services.
- 2.7 **National Accountancy Body (NAB)** refers to the designated professional accountancy body as listed in **Appendix I**. ASEAN Member States may have different nomenclatures for this term.
- 2.8 **Participating ASEAN Member State** refers to an ASEAN Member State which has not ceased its participation in this Arrangement pursuant to Article 11.4 or has re-participated in this Arrangement pursuant to Article 11.5.
- 2.9 **Professional Accountant** refers to a natural person who is a national of an ASEAN Member State and is assessed by the National Accountancy Body and/or Professional Regulatory Authority of any participating ASEAN Member States as being technically, morally, ethically and legally qualified to undertake professional accountancy practice. ASEAN Member States may have different nomenclatures and requirements for this term.
- 2.10 **Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA)** refers to the designated government body or its authorised agency in charge of regulating the practice of accountancy services as listed in

Appendix I. ASEAN Member States may have different nomenclatures for this term.

- 2.11 **Recognition** refers to acceptance by a National Accountancy Body and/or a Professional Regulatory Authority of demonstration of compliance with their requirements.
- 2.12 **Registered Foreign Professional Accountant (RFPA)** refers to an ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA) who has successfully applied to and is authorised by the National Accountancy Body and/or Professional Regulatory Authority of a Host Country to work in that Host Country.
- 2.13 Words in the singular include the plural.

ARTICLE 3 SCOPE

- 3.1. This Arrangement shall cover the provision of accountancy services covered under Central Product Classification (hereinafter referred to as "CPC") 862 of the Provisional CPC of the United Nations, except for signing off of the independent auditor's report and other accountancy services that requires domestic licensing in ASEAN Member States.
- 3.2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, cross-border movement of Professional Accountants providing external auditing services and other accountancy-related services that requires domestic licensing in ASEAN Member States may continue to be facilitated through bilateral and/or multilateral MRAs between or among ASEAN Member States.

ARTICLE 4 RECOGNITION, QUALIFICATIONS, AND ELIGIBILITY

4.1 Qualifications to Apply to be an ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA)

A Professional Accountant is eligible to apply through the Monitoring Committee of his or her Country of Origin, to be registered as an ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA) on

the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Register (ACPAR) provided that he or she possesses the following qualifications:

- 4.1.1 has completed an accredited accountancy degree or professional accountancy examination programme recognised by the National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA) of the Country of Origin or Host Country, or has been assessed and recognised by the National Accountancy Body and/or Professional Regulatory Authority as having the equivalent of such a degree;
- 4.1.2 possesses a current and valid professional registration certificate in the Country of Origin issued by the National Accountancy Body (NAB) or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA), of that Country of Origin and in accordance with its policy on the registration, licensing and/or certification of the practice of accountancy;
- 4.1.3 has acquired relevant practical experience of not less than three (3) years cumulatively within a five (5) year period following the qualification referred to in Article 4.1.1 above;
- 4.1.4 has complied with the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy of the Country of Origin; and
- 4.1.5 has obtained certification from the National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA) of the Country of Origin, that he or she has no record of any serious violation of technical, professional or ethical standards, local and international, applicable to the practice of accountancy.

4.2 ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA)

- 4.2.1 Upon receiving an application from a Professional Accountant pursuant to Article 4.1, the Monitoring Committee of his or her Country of Origin shall submit the application on his or her behalf to the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating

Committee (ACPACC). In doing so, the Monitoring Committee shall:

- 4.2.1.1 assess the Professional Accountant according to the Guidelines on Criteria and Procedures in **Appendix II**; and
- 4.2.1.2 be guided by **Appendix III** in preparing an Assessment Statement for the purpose of the application.

- 4.2.2 Upon acceptance of the application by the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee and payment of the necessary fees, a Professional Accountant shall be emplaced on the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants Register (ACPAR) and accorded the title of ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA).

4.3 Eligibility of an ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA) to Practise in a Host Country

- 4.3.1 An ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA) shall be eligible to apply to the National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA) of a Host Country to be registered as a Registered Foreign Professional Accountant (RFPA). The applicant shall submit with his application a sworn undertaking to:
 - (a) be bound by local and international codes of professional conduct in accordance with the policy on ethics and conduct established and enforced by the Country of Origin;
 - (b) be bound by Domestic Regulations of the Host Country; and
 - (c) work in collaboration with a local Professional Accountant in the Host Country subject to the Domestic Regulations of the Host Country.

- 4.3.2 Upon approval, the successful applicant shall, subject to Domestic Regulations, be permitted to work as a Registered Foreign Professional Accountant (RFPA) in the Host Country, not in independent practice, but in collaboration with designated Professional

Accountants in the Host Country, within such area of his own competency as may be approved by the National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA) of the Host Country.

ARTICLE 5
NATIONAL ACCOUNTANCY BODY AND/OR
PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA) of each participating ASEAN Member State shall be responsible for the following:

- 5.1 Considering applications from and registering ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs) as Registered Foreign Professional Accountants (RFPAs);
- 5.2 Monitoring and assessing the professional practice of the Registered Foreign Professional Accountants (RFPAs) and ensuring the compliance of such practice with this Arrangement;
- 5.3 Reporting to relevant local and international bodies the developments in the implementation of this Arrangement;
- 5.4 Maintaining high standards of professional and ethical practice in accountancy within the ASEAN Member State to which they belong;
- 5.5 Where the ASEAN Member State to which the National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA) belongs is a Host Country, notifying the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) Secretariat (set up under Article 7.5) promptly in writing when a Registered Foreign Professional Accountant (RFPAs) practising in that ASEAN Member State has contravened this Arrangement,
- 5.6 Where the ASEAN Member State to which the National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA) belongs is a Country of Origin, notifying the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) Secretariat (set up under Article 7.5)

promptly in writing when an ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA):

- (a) is no longer qualified to practise accountancy services in that ASEAN Member State, has not complied with Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy of that ASEAN Member State, or;
 - (b) has seriously violated technical, professional or ethical standards either in that ASEAN Member State or in the Host Country whereby such violations have led to deregistration or suspension from practice;
- 5.7 Promulgating rules and regulations to enable the implementation of this Arrangement; and
 - 5.8 Exchanging information with one another regarding laws, practices and prevailing developments in the practice of accountancy within the region with the view to harmonisation in accordance with regional and/or international standards.

ARTICLE 6
MONITORING COMMITTEE

- 6.1 A Monitoring Committee (MC) shall be established in and by each participating ASEAN Member States to develop and maintain a process of submitting, on behalf of Professional Accountants eligible under Article 4.1, applications to be emplaced on the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants Register (ACPAR) maintained by the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants Coordinating Committee.
- 6.2 The Monitoring Committee (MC) shall also be authorised to certify the qualification and experience of individual Professional Accountants directly or by reference to the National Accountancy Bodies (NABs) and/or Professional Regulatory Authorities (PRAs).
- 6.3 The specific responsibilities of the Monitoring Committee (MC) for the development and maintenance of the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants Register (ACPAR) are set out in Articles 6.4 below and in **Appendices II, III and V** to this Arrangement.

6.4 The Monitoring Committee (MC) of each participating ASEAN Member State shall further undertake to:

6.4.1 Ensure that all Professional Accountants registered as ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs) by the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) Secretariat comply fully with the requirements specified in this Arrangement, and that a substantial majority of these Professional Accountants have demonstrated their compliance through the procedures and criteria as shown in **Appendices II, III and V**;

6.4.2 Ensure that Professional Accountants applying for registration as ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs) are required to provide evidence that they have complied with the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy of the Country of Origin;

6.4.3 Ensure that Professional Accountants registered as ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs) apply from time to time for renewal of their registration, and in so doing, provide evidence that they have complied with the Continuing Professional Development policy of the Country of Origin;

6.4.4 Ensure the implementation and execution of the amendments agreed to under Article 9.4 as directed by the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC); and

6.4.5 Where Article 5.5 or 5.6 is applicable, withdraw and deregister the said ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA) from the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants Register (ACPAR).

ARTICLE 7

ASEAN CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

7.1 The ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) shall be established and shall have the authority to confer

and withdraw the title of ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA). This authority may be delegated in writing from time to time by the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) to the Monitoring Committee (MC) in each participating ASEAN Member States. The ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) shall comprise of one appointed representative from each Monitoring Committee (MC) of the participating ASEAN Member States.

7.2 The functions of the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) shall include:

7.2.1 Facilitating the development and maintenance of the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants Register (ACPAR);

7.2.2 Promoting the acceptance of ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs) in each participating ASEAN Member Country as possessing general technical and professional competence that is substantially equivalent to that of Professional Accountants registered or licensed in the Country of Origin;

7.2.3 Developing, monitoring, maintaining and promoting mutually acceptable standards and criteria for facilitating practice by ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs) throughout the participating ASEAN Member States;

7.2.4 Seeking to gain a greater understanding of existing barriers to such practice and to develop and promote strategies to help governments and licensing authorities reduce those barriers and manage their processes in an effective and non-discriminatory manner;

7.2.5 Encouraging the relevant government and licensing authorities to adopt and implement streamlined procedures for granting rights to practice ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs), through the mechanisms available within ASEAN;

7.2.6 Identifying and encouraging the implementation of best practice for the preparation and assessment of accountants; and

- 7.2.7 Continuing mutual monitoring and information exchange by whatever means that are considered most appropriate, including but not limited to:
- (a) sharing of information and regular communication concerning assessment procedures, criteria, systems, manuals, publications and lists of recognised Professional Accountants; and
 - (b) informing all National Accountancy Bodies (NABs) and/or Professional Regulatory Authorities (PRAs), when it has been notified that an ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA) is no longer qualified to undertake professional accountancy practice in the Country of Origin, has not complied with the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy of the Country of Origin, or has seriously violated technical, professional or ethical standards either in the Country of Origin or the Host Country, whereby such violations have led to deregistration or suspension from practice or withdrawal from the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants Register (ACPAR).
- 7.3 The ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) may, whenever it deems appropriate, invite the non-participating ASEAN Member States to attend as observers to its meetings.
- 7.4 The ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) shall report its progress of work to ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Services (CCS).
- 7.5 The administration of the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) shall be facilitated by a Secretariat. The establishment and funding of the Secretariat shall be decided by the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC).
- 7.6 General Meetings of the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) shall be held at least once in each two (2) year period to deal with applications

for emplacement on the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Register and/or applications by Monitoring Committees to review the Guidelines on Criteria and Procedures (**Appendix II**), Assessment Statement (**Appendix III**), Assessment Statement Flowchart (**Appendix V**) and other related guidelines, procedures and documentation, and recommend any amendments.

ARTICLE 8 MUTUAL EXEMPTION

- 8.1. The participating ASEAN Member States recognise that any arrangement, which would confer exemption from further assessment by the National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA), where applicable, that control the right to practise in each Member State, could be concluded only with the involvement and consent of the National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA) and the relevant government agencies;
- 8.2 The participating ASEAN Member States note that licensing or registering authorities have statutory responsibility for protecting the welfare, public safety, environment, and social stability of the community within their jurisdictions, and may require Professional Accountants seeking the right to professional accountancy practice to submit themselves to some form of supplemental assessment;
- 8.3 The participating ASEAN Member States consider that the objectives of such assessment should be to provide the relevant authorities with a sufficient degree of confidence that the Professional Accountants concerned:
- 8.3.1 understand the general principles behind applicable codes of practice and laws;
 - 8.3.2 have demonstrated a capacity to apply such principles safely and efficiently; and
 - 8.3.3 are familiar with other special requirements operating within the Host Country.

**ARTICLE 9
AMENDMENTS**

- 9.1 Any ASEAN Member State may request in writing any amendment to all or any part of this Arrangement.
- 9.2 Unless otherwise provided by this Arrangement, the provisions of this Arrangement may only be modified through amendments mutually agreed upon in writing by the Governments of all participating ASEAN Member States. Any such amendment agreed to shall be made in writing and shall form part of this Arrangement and shall come into force on such date as may be determined by all the ASEAN Member States.
- 9.3 Notwithstanding Article 9.2 above, any amendment to **Appendix I** can be made administratively by the ASEAN Member State concerned and notified in writing to the ASEAN Secretary-General, and the ASEAN Secretary-General shall thereafter notify the rest of the ASEAN Member States of the same.
- 9.4 Notwithstanding Article 9.2 above, the provisions in **Appendices II, III** and **V** and other related guidelines, procedures and documentation may be modified through amendments mutually agreed upon in writing by all the National Accountancy Bodies (NABs) and/or Professional Regulatory Authorities (PRAs) of the participating ASEAN Member States, provided that the amendments shall not contradict or modify any of the provisions in the main text of this Arrangement. All approved changes shall be implemented by the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC).
- 9.5 Any amendment agreed to under Article 9.4 shall be done in writing and shall form part of this Arrangement and shall come into force on such date as may be determined by the participating ASEAN Member States.
- 9.6 Any amendment shall not prejudice the rights and obligations arising from or based on this Arrangement prior or up to the date of such amendment.

**ARTICLE 10
DISPUTE SETTLEMENT**

The provisions of the ASEAN Protocol on Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism, done at Vientiane, Lao PDR on the 29 November 2004, shall apply to disputes concerning the interpretation, implementation, and/or application of any of the provisions under this Arrangement.

**ARTICLE 11
FINAL PROVISIONS**

- 11.1 The terms and definitions and other provisions of the GATS and AFAS shall be referred to and shall apply to matters arising under this Arrangement for which no specific provision has been made herein.
- 11.2 In the event that any provision in Articles 1 to 11 is inconsistent with any provision in **Appendices II** to **V**, the provision in Articles 1 to 11 shall take precedence.
- 11.3 This Arrangement shall enter into force on the date of signature by all ASEAN Member States.
- 11.4 Any ASEAN Member State wishing to cease participation in this Arrangement shall notify the ASEAN Secretary-General in writing at least twelve months prior to the date of its effective date of non-participation, and the ASEAN Secretary-General shall thereafter notify the rest of the ASEAN Member States of the same.
- 11.5 Notwithstanding Article 11.4, ASEAN Member State who wishes to re-participate in this Arrangement shall notify the ASEAN Secretary-General in writing of its effective date of re-participation, and the ASEAN Secretary-General shall thereafter notify the rest of the ASEAN Member States of the same.
- 11.6 This Arrangement shall be deposited with the ASEAN Secretary-General, who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof to each ASEAN Member State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective governments, have signed this Arrangement.

DONE at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, this thirteenth day of November in the year Two Thousand and Fourteen in a single original copy in the English Language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

LIM JOCK SENG

Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

SUN CHANTHOL

Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce

For the Republic of Indonesia:

MUHAMMAD LUTFI

Minister of Trade

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

KHEMMANI PHOLSENA

Minister of Industry and Commerce

For Malaysia:

MUSTAPA MOHAMED

Minister of International Trade and Industry

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

KAN ZAW

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development

For the Republic of the Philippines:

GREGORY L. DOMINGO

Secretary of Trade and Industry

For the Republic of Singapore:

LIM HNG KIANG

Minister for Trade and Industry

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

CHUTIMA BUNYAPRAPHASARA

Permanent Secretary

Acting for the Minister of Commerce

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

VU HUY HOANG

Minister of Industry and Trade

APPENDIX I

LIST OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTANCY BODIES (NAB) AND/OR PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY AUTHORITIES (PRA)

ASEAN Member State	Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA)	National Accountancy Body (NAB)
Brunei Darussalam	Ministry of Finance	Brunei Institute of Certified Public Accountants (BICPA)
Cambodia	National Accounting Council (NAC), Ministry of Economy and Finance	Kampuchea Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Auditors (KICPAA)
Indonesia	Ministry of Finance	Indonesian Institute of Certified Public Accountant (IAPI) Indonesian Institute of Accountants (IAI) Indonesian Institute of Certified Management Accountants (IAMI)
Lao PDR	Ministry of Finance	Lao Institute of Certified Public Accountants (LICPA)
Malaysia	Ministry of Finance Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA)	Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA)
Myanmar	Myanmar Accountancy Council (MAC)	Myanmar Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA)
The Philippines	(1) Professional Regulation Commission (2) Board of Accountancy	Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA)
Singapore	Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority	Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (ISCA)
Thailand	The Oversight Committee on Accounting Professions, Ministry of Commerce (MOC)	Federation of Accounting Professions (FAP) Ministry of Commerce (MOC)
Viet Nam	Ministry of Finance	Viet Nam Association of Certified Public Accountants (VACPA) Viet Nam Association of Accountants and Auditors (VAA)

APPENDIX II

ASEAN CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS GUIDELINES ON CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES

The purpose of these guidelines is to assist Monitoring Committees (MCs) of ASEAN Member States to develop a statement of criteria and procedures for submission to the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC). In accordance with this Arrangement, the eligibility of a Professional Accountant for designation as an ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA) is determined by reference to five performance criteria, which are to be considered as a package. Some of these criteria are relatively objective in nature, while others shall require the Monitoring Committee (MC) to exercise a measure of professional judgement. These notes represent the benchmarks against which each criterion should be considered.

1.1 Completed an accredited or recognised accountancy degree or program, or assessed and recognised as possessing the equivalent

In order to be listed on an ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants Register (ACPAR), Professional Accountants must demonstrate to the relevant Monitoring Committee (MC) a level of academic achievement at, or following, completion of formal education substantially equivalent to that associated with successful completion of:

- 1.1.1 a degree delivered and accredited in accordance with the best practice guidelines developed by a recognised institution of each ASEAN Member State; or
- 1.1.2 an accountancy program accredited by a body independent of the education provider, or an examination set by an authorised body within a Member State, provided that the accreditation criteria and procedures, or the examination standards, as appropriate, have been submitted by one Monitoring Committees (MCs) to, and have been endorsed by the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC).

This approach does not restrict participation to Member States in which accountancy programs are accredited, or examinations set, by an independent professional body, and does not imply that acceptable academic achievement can be demonstrated only within the context of an accountancy degree program.

1.2 Been assessed within their own jurisdiction as eligible for professional accountancy practice

The assessment may be undertaken by the Monitoring Committee (MC) or by the National Accountancy Body (NAB) and/or Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA), where applicable, within the Country of Origin.

1.3 Gained a minimum of three (3) years cumulatively within a five (5) year period post qualifying practical experience

The exact definition of practical experience shall be at the discretion of the Monitoring Committee (MC) concerned, but the work in question should be clearly relevant to the fields of accountancy in which the Professional Accountants claim expertise.

1.4 Complied with the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy at a satisfactory level

The nature and extent of the required compliance with Continuing Professional Development (CPD), and the manner in which such compliance is audited, shall remain at the discretion of the Monitoring Committee (MC) concerned, but should reflect the prevailing norms for such compliance by Professional Accountants within the ASEAN Member States.

1.5 Registered ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPA) must agree to the following:

- 1.5.1 **Codes of professional conduct.** All Professional Accountants seeking registration as ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs) must also agree to be bound by local and international codes of professional conduct and with the policy on ethics and conducts

established and enforced by the Country of Origin and by any other jurisdiction within which they are practising. Such codes normally include requirements that Professional Accountants place the welfare, public safety, environment, and social stability of the community above their responsibilities to clients and colleagues, practice only within their area of competence, and advise their clients when additional professional assistance becomes necessary in order to implement a program or project. Monitoring Committees (MCs) are required to certify that at registration the candidate has signed a statement of compliance with such applicable professional codes.

1.5.2 **Accountability.** ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs) must also agree to be held individually accountable for their actions taken in their professional work, both through requirements imposed by the licensing and/or registering body in the jurisdictions in which they work and through the legal processes of such jurisdictions.

APPENDIX III

ASEAN CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

The preparation of an Assessment Statement for assessing Professional Accountants seeking registration as an ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ACPA) shall involve identification and assessment of the following elements by the Monitoring Committee (MC) in each participating ASEAN Member States.

- 1.1 One or more mechanisms for accrediting or recognising:
 - 1.1.1 structured educational programs which qualify accountants to enter professional accountancy practice; and/or

- 1.1.2 assessment instruments which provide an alternative or supplementary mechanism for Professional Accountants to demonstrate that they have reached an appropriate educational standard.

- 2.1 One or more mechanisms for assessing qualified accountants as being eligible for professional accountancy practice, normally after those graduate accountants have completed a period of supervised or monitored professional experience.
- 3.1 A mechanism for confirming that Professional Accountants have:
 - 3.1.1 gained a minimum of three (3) years cumulatively within a five (5) year period post qualifying practical experience;
 - 3.1.2 complied with the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy of the Country of Origin at a satisfactory level; and
 - 3.1.3 complied with, and are bound by, an appropriate code of conduct.
- 4.1 A mechanism for ensuring that registrants are audited at regular intervals to ensure that they have continued to comply with the conditions of registration.

For each element, the Assessment Statement for each ASEAN Member State may include:

- 4.1.1 mechanisms applicable to Professional Accountants in all disciplines;
- 4.1.2 mechanisms applicable to Professional Accountants in specified disciplines,
- 4.1.3 national, regional and provincial mechanisms, and
- 4.1.4 existing or superseded mechanisms

which are recognised by the Monitoring Committee (MC) of each ASEAN Member State in assessing candidates for registration as ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants (ACPAs). The Monitoring Committee (MC) may attach restrictions to any or all mechanisms (for example, by requiring that assessment under a mechanism be accepted only in respect of graduate Accountants who completed that process by a specified date, or who gained a specified minimum period of practical experience in the relevant discipline(s)). All such restrictions must be clearly identified.

Assessment Statements are intended to be dynamic documents, with necessary amendments being effected by the responsible Monitoring Committee (MC) from time to time and notified to the ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC), through the Secretariat.

APPENDIX IV

MONITORING COMMITTEE SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATION FOR ASEAN CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT REGISTRATION

Name of Applicant: _____

Qualification, and place and date obtained: _____

Registered Accountant Registration No. (Home Country): _____

Registered Accountant Registration Date (Home Country): _____

Registered Accountant's Discipline: _____

ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants Register Discipline: _____

Certified Compliance with ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Criteria: _____

Completed an accredited or recognised accountancy program, or assessed recognised equivalent	
Been assessed within their own country as eligible for professional accountancy practice	
Gained a minimum of three years practical experience since graduation	
Complied with the Continuing Professional Development policy of the Country of Origin at a satisfactory level	
Confirmed signature on statement of compliance with codes of ethics	

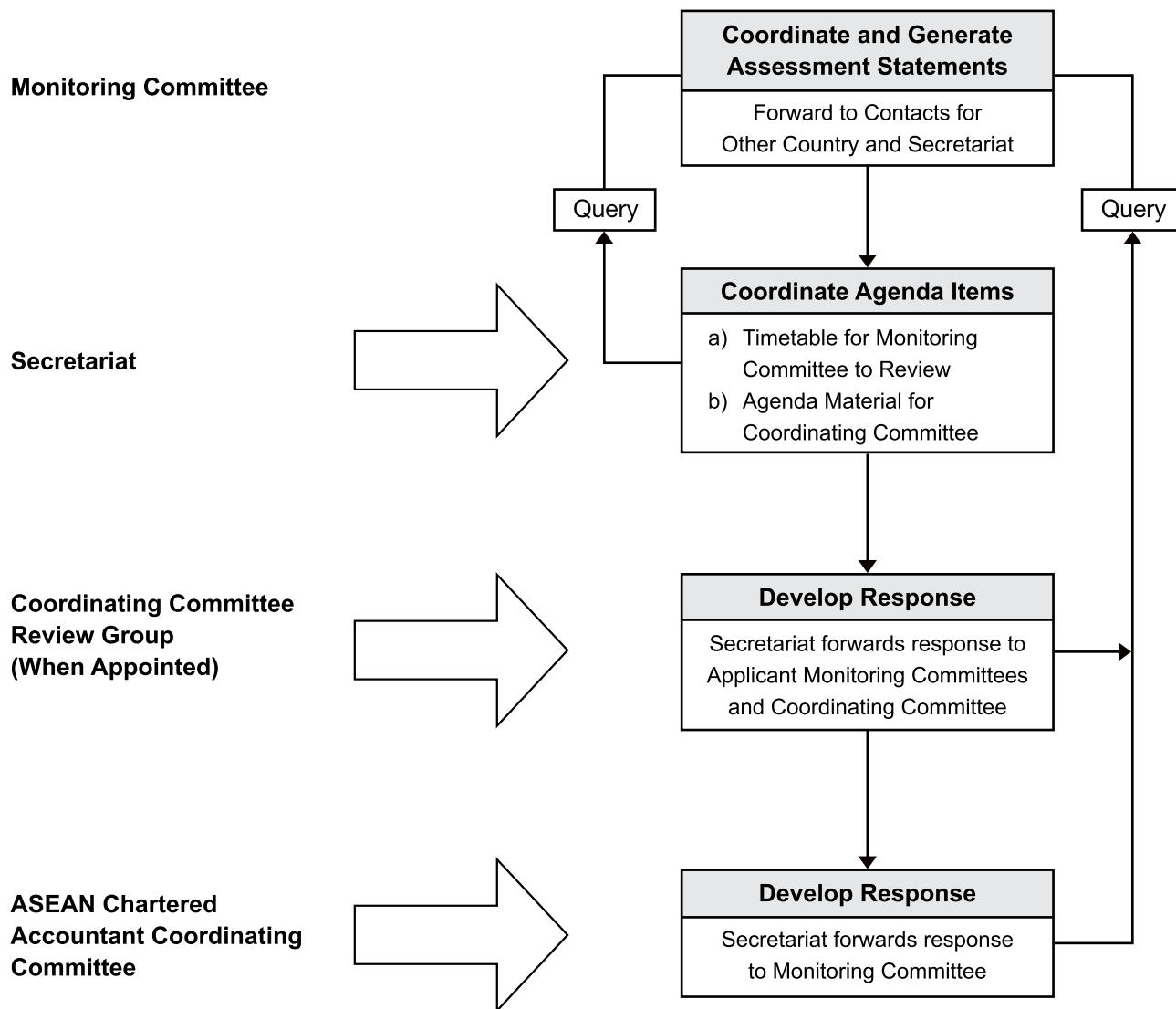
Signed

Officer Delegated

ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Monitoring Committee

APPENDIX V

ASSESSMENT STATEMENT FLOW CHART



Joint Media Statement of the 4th Session of the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Committee

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
14-16 October 2014**

Introduction

1. We, the ASEAN heads of statistical offices and members of the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Committee, convened this fourth session in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 14-16 October 2014 with greater confidence in realising the goals formulated in 2009 of becoming a forward looking and reliable provider of relevant, timely and comparable statistics in support of the ASEAN Community by 2015. We further commit to strive towards a sustainable statistical development in ASEAN beyond 2015.
2. Mr. San Myint, Acting Director General of the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presided over the Meeting. Dr. Abdul Rahman Hasan, Chief Statistician of the Department of Statistics, Malaysia, co-chaired the Meeting.

Deepening Regional Cooperation in Statistics in ASEAN

3. We are pleased to announce the endorsement of the ASEAN Framework of Cooperation in Statistics (AFCS, Revised Version.1) and the adoption of the ACSS Strategic Plan 2016-2020 as enabling mechanisms to accelerate ACSS' response to statistical requirements arising from the ASEAN Leaders' initiatives toward an ASEAN Community by 2015. The AFCS and the Plan provide a clear direction on the targets and priorities to strengthen national coordination among data producers and promote wider practice of the ASEAN-help-ASEAN cooperation in statistics.
4. We look forward to greater support and investment in statistics from our Governments and Development Partners in ensuring the effective implementation of the Plan. We are heartened by the ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting

appreciation of the progress in developing the Plan, and remain confident of the recognition and support by the relevant ASEAN higher bodies.

Enhancing Dissemination and Communication of Statistics

5. We are encouraged by the pace of progress in dissemination and communication of statistics through increased availability of and accessibility to ASEAN statistics. We endeavour to continue the simultaneous issuance of press releases to broaden awareness and visibility of ASEAN statistics. We are pleased to note the release of two new statistical publications, namely the ASEAN Community in Figures -Special Edition and the ASEAN Yearbook on International Merchandise Trade Statistics, prior to the ASEAN Summit.

Broadening the Scope of Statistical Support and Cooperation

6. Cognizant of the statistical developments in the international front as well as the increased demand for statistics on ASEAN integration monitoring, we endeavour to meet the statistical priorities arising from the finalisation of the ASEAN Community Post-2015 agenda. We support the inclusion of statistics on ASEAN connectivity in the Broad Framework for the Sustainable Development of ASEAN Statistics, the effective implementation of the System of National Accounts Forum, and the development of groundwork for the new statistical priorities.

Strengthening Partnership for Sustained Capacity Building

7. We welcome the commencement of the four-year EU-ASEAN Capacity Building Programme for Monitoring Integration Progress and Statistics (COMPASS) in June 2014. COMPASS aims to improve the quality of statistics and to facilitate the monitoring of ASEAN community integration. We also look forward to the Programme's focused support to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam.
8. We are grateful for the continued support from international organisations and other development partners in our pursuit of excellence of ASEAN statistical products and services.

Hosting of the Meeting

9. Our sincere appreciation to the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, through the Central Statistical Organisation of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, for the strong leadership, excellent arrangements and the warm hospitality extended to the participants of the Fourth Session of the ACSS Committee.
10. It is with much pleasure that we welcome the confirmation by the Department of Statistics, Malaysia to chair and host the Fifth Session of the ACSS Committee in Putrajaya in 2015.

ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Committee

1. BRUNEI DARUSSALAM: Mr. Bahrum Haji Kadun
2. KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA: Mdm. Hang Lina
3. REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA: Dr. Suryamin
4. LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC: Ms. Phonesaly Souksavath
5. MALAYSIA: Datuk Dr. Abdul Rahman Hasan
6. THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR: Mr. San Myint
7. REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES: Dr. Lisa Grace S. Bersales
8. REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE: Ms. Wong Wee Kim
9. KINGDOM OF THAILAND: Ms. Wilailuck Chulewatanakul
10. THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM: Dr. Nguyen Bich Lam
11. ASEAN SECRETARIAT: Dr. Melanie Milo

Nay Pyi Taw, 16 October 2014

ASEAN Agreement on Medical Device Directive

Bangkok, Thailand, 21 November 2014

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, Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), hereinafter collectively referred to as "Member States" or singularly as "Member State";

MINDFUL that in the year 1992, the ASEAN Heads of Government declared that an ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) shall be established in the region and that in 1995, they agreed to accelerate its implementation to the year 2003;

NOTING the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement which entered into force on 17 May 2010 provides for cooperation to supplement and complement the liberalisation of trade including, among others, the harmonisation of standards, conformity assessment procedures and technical regulations as a means of reducing technical barriers to trade;

MINDFUL that the Declaration of ASEAN Concord II (Bali Concord II) adopted by the ASEAN Heads of Government during the 9th ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia on 7 October 2003, commits ASEAN to deepen and broaden its internal economic integration and linkages, with the participation of the private sector, so as to realise an ASEAN Economic Community;

MINDFUL that the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community has been accelerated from 2020 to 2015 which will create ASEAN as a single market and production base;

REITERATING their commitments to the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade of the World Trade Organisation, which encourages the Contracting Parties to enter into negotiations for the conclusion of agreements for the mutual recognition of results of each other's conformity assessment and mandates, among other matters, the elimination of unnecessary

obstacles to trade including those relating to technical regulations;

RECALLING the ASEAN Framework Agreement for the Integration of Priority Sectors and the ASEAN Sectoral Integration Protocol for Healthcare signed on 29 November 2004 in Vientiane, Lao PDR; and

HAVING regard to the objectives of harmonised medical device regulations, common technical documents and the progress made in implementation.

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- (1) Each Member State shall undertake all necessary measures to ensure that only medical devices which conform to the provisions of this ASEAN Agreement on Medical Device Directive (hereinafter referred to as "Agreement") and its Annexes may be placed on the markets of that Member State.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of this Agreement each Member State shall require that the person responsible for placing the medical device in that Member State or the authorised representative shall register the medical device with the Regulatory Authority of that Member State.
- (3) Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, each Member State shall require that the person responsible for placing the medical device in that Member State or the authorised representative shall be licensed by the Regulatory Authority of that Member State before placing the medical device in that Member State.

ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE

- (1) This Agreement shall apply to medical devices and their accessories. For the purposes of this Agreement, accessories shall be treated as medical devices in their own right. Both medical devices and accessories shall hereinafter be referred to as devices. For the purpose of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires, the terms;

- (a) "medical device" shall mean any instrument, apparatus, implement, machine, appliance, implant, *in vitro* reagent and calibrator, software, material or other similar or related article;
 - (i) intended by the product owner to be used, alone or in combination, for human beings for one or more of the specific purpose(s) of;
 - (a) diagnosis, prevention, monitoring, treatment or alleviation of disease;
 - (b) diagnosis, monitoring, treatment, alleviation of or compensation for an injury;
 - (c) investigation, replacement, modification or support of the anatomy or of a physiological process;
 - (d) supporting or sustaining life;
 - (e) control of conception;
 - (f) disinfection of medical devices; and
 - (g) providing information for medical or diagnostic purposes by means of *invitro* examination of specimens derived from the human body;
 - (ii) which does not achieve its primary intended action in or on the human body by pharmacological, immunological or metabolic means, but which may be assisted in its intended function by such means.
- (b) "accessory" means an article that is intended specifically by its product owner to be used together with a particular medical device to enable or assist that device to be used in accordance with its intended purpose.
- (c) "adverse event" means either a malfunction or a deterioration in the characteristics or performance of a supplied medical device or use error, which either has caused or could have caused or contributed to death, or injury to health of patients or other persons.
- (d) "authorised representative" means any person in a Member State who, explicitly designated by the product owner, acts and may be addressed by authorities and bodies in a Member State instead of the product owner with regard to the latter's obligations under this Agreement, and relevant laws and regulations of the Member State.

- (e) “authorised distributor”, in relation to the placing on the market of a medical device, means any person who has been authorised by the product owner or authorised representative to distribute the medical device in that Member State.
- (f) “custom-made medical device” means any device specifically made in accordance with a duly qualified medical practitioner’s written prescription which gives, under his responsibility, specific design characteristics and is intended for the sole use of a particular patient. For the purposes of this definition, a duly qualified medical practitioner is defined as a person who is duly qualified by the relevant laws and regulations of the Member State where the custom-made medical device is used.
- For purposes of clarity, mass produced devices which need to be adapted to meet the specific requirements of the medical practitioner or any other professional user shall not be considered to be custom-made medical devices.
- (g) “device intended for clinical investigation” means any device intended for use by a duly qualified medical practitioner when conducting clinical investigations as referred to in **Annex 8** (Clinical Investigation), in an adequate human clinical environment. For the purposes of conducting of clinical investigation, a duly qualified medical practitioner is defined as a person who is duly qualified by the relevant laws and regulations of the Member State where the clinical investigation is carried out, and by virtue of his professional qualifications, is authorised to carry out such investigation.
- (h) “Field Safety Corrective Action (FSCA)” means any action taken by a product owner to reduce a risk of death or serious deterioration in the state of health associated with the use of a medical device. This may include:
- (i) the return of a medical device to the product owner or its representative;
 - (ii) device modification which may include:
 - (a) retrofit in accordance with the product owner’s modification or design change;
 - (b) permanent or temporary changes to the labelling or instructions for use;
 - (c) software upgrades including those carried out by remote access;
 - (d) modification to the clinical management of patients to address a risk of serious injury or death related specifically to the characteristics of the device.
 - (iii) device exchange;
 - (iv) device destruction;
 - (v) advice given by product owner regarding the use of the device.
- (i) “intended purpose” means the use for which the medical device is intended according to the specifications of its product owner as stated on any or all of the following:
- (i) the label of the medical device;
 - (ii) the instructions for use of the medical device;
 - (iii) the promotional materials in relation to the medical device.
- (j) “*in vitro* diagnostic (IVD) medical device” means any reagent, reagent product, calibrator, control material, kit, instrument, apparatus, equipment or system, whether used alone or in combination with any other reagent, reagent product, calibrator, control material, kit, instrument, apparatus, equipment or system, that is intended by its product owner to be used *in vitro* for the examination of any *specimen*, including any blood or tissue donation, derived from the human body, solely or principally for the purpose of providing information:
- (i) concerning a physiological or pathological state or a congenital abnormality;
 - (ii) to determine the safety and compatibility of any blood or tissue donation with a potential recipient thereof; or
 - (iii) to monitor therapeutic measures and includes a specimen receptacle.
- (k) “manufacture”, in relation to a medical device, means to make, fabricate, produce or process the medical device and includes:
- (i) any process carried out in the course of so making, fabricating, producing or processing the medical device; and/or

- (ii) the packaging and labelling of the medical device before it is supplied.
- (l) “person” means a natural person or a legal entity including a corporation, a partnership or association duly established pursuant to the prevailing laws and regulations of Member States.
- (m) “physical manufacturer”, in relation to a medical device, means any person who performs the activity of manufacture.
- (n) “placing on the market” means the making available in return for payment or free of charge of a medical device other than a device intended for clinical investigation, with a view to distribution and/or use on the market of a Member State.
- (o) “product owner”, in relation to a medical device, means any person who;
 - (i) supplies the medical device under his own name, or under any trade mark, design, trade name or other name or mark owned or controlled by him; and
 - (ii) is responsible for designing, manufacturing, assembling, processing, labelling, packaging, refurbishing or modifying the medical device, or for assigning to it a purpose, whether those tasks are performed by him or on his behalf.
- (p) “putting into service” means the stage at which a medical device has been made available to the final user as being ready for use on the market of a Member State for its intended purpose.
- (q) “refurbished medical device” means a medical device of which the whole or any part thereof has been substantially rebuilt, whether or not using parts from one or more used medical devices of that same kind, so as to create a medical device that can be used for the purpose originally intended by the product owner of the original medical device, and which may have had the following work carried out on it:
 - (i) stripping into component parts or sub-assemblies;
 - (ii) checking their suitability for reuse;
- (iii) replacement of components/sub-assemblies not suitable for reuse;
- (iv) assembly of the reclaimed and/or replacement components/sub-assemblies;
- (v) testing of the assembled device against either original or revised release criteria; or
- (vi) identifying an assembled medical device as a refurbished medical device,
- (r) “register” means to obtain marketing approval for a medical device from the Regulatory Authority of a Member State in order to place the medical device on the market of that Member State,
- (s) “Regulatory Authority” means the regulatory authority or entity of that Member State which exercises a legal right to control the import, manufacture, export, distribution, transfer, use and sale of medical devices within that Member State’s jurisdiction and which may take regulatory action to ensure that the products marketed within its jurisdiction comply with regulatory requirements.
- (t) “Sponsor” means an individual or organisation taking responsibility and liability for the initiation or implementation of a clinical investigation.
- (2) This Agreement shall not apply to the following:
 - (a) human blood, plasma or blood cells of human origin or to medical devices which incorporate at the time of placing on the markets of Member States such human blood, plasma or blood cells of human origin, except if:
 - (i) it is incorporated in an IVD medical device, or
 - (ii) it is incorporated in a medical device as a human blood derivative with an action ancillary to that of the medical device.
 - (b) transplants or tissues or cells of human origin nor to products incorporating or derived from tissues or cells of human origin, except if it is incorporated in an IVD medical device; or
 - (c) transplants or tissues or cells of animal origin, unless;
 - (i) it is incorporated in an IVD medical device, or

- (ii) it is a medical device manufactured utilising animal tissue which is rendered non-viable or non-viable products derived from animal tissues or cells. "Non-viable" means in relation to a biological entity, an entity that is incapable of growth, development and reproduction.

ARTICLE 3

ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES OF SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE OF MEDICAL DEVICE

Medical devices shall meet the essential principles set out in Annex 1 (Essential Principles of Safety and Performance of Medical Devices), as may be applicable, taking account of the intended purpose of the medical device concerned.

ARTICLE 4

CLASSIFICATION OF MEDICAL DEVICES

- (1) Medical devices shall be classified into the following four classes, in accordance with risk classification rules set out in Annex 2 (Risk Classification Rules for Medical Devices other than IVD Devices) and Annex 3 (Risk Classification Rules for IVD Devices):

Class	Risk Level
A	Low risk
B	Low-moderate risk
C	Moderate-high risk
D	High risk

- (2) In the event that a medical device may be assigned into two or more classes of medical devices, the Regulatory Authority of the Member State shall assign the medical device into such of those classes as represents the highest health risk posed to an end-user of the medical device.
- (3) In the event that a medical device is designed to be used in combination with another medical device, each of the medical devices shall be classified separately.
- (4) In the event the medical device has two or more intended purposes, the medical device shall, subject to paragraph 3 of this Article, be assigned into a class of medical devices having regard to

the most critical intended purpose of the medical device.

- (5) In the event of a dispute between a Member State and any person in the classification of a medical device, the Regulatory Authority of that Member State shall decide on the proper classification of the medical device concerned, whose decision shall be final.
- (6) Member State that reclassifies or differs in its application of the classification rules set out in Annex 2 (Risk Classification Rules for Medical Devices other than IVD Devices) and Annex 3 (Risk Classification Rules for IVD Devices) shall notify, with the reasons thereof, to the ASEAN Medical Device Committee (hereinafter referred to as "AMDC") to be established pursuant to Article 14 of this Agreement, of such measures taken.

ARTICLE 5

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT OF MEDICAL DEVICES

- (1) A medical device, which is required to be assessed by a Member State and intended to be placed on the market of that Member State, shall be assessed by the Regulatory Authority of that Member State, or any appointed bodies recognised by that Member State, as the case may be, for conformity and compliance with at least the requirements laid down in this Agreement unless the medical device has been exempted from the requirement for registration under paragraph 2 of Article 6.
- (2) Member States shall put in place an appropriate system for the conformity assessment of medical devices as referred to paragraph 1 of this Article.

ARTICLE 6

REGISTRATION AND PLACEMENT ON THE MARKET

- (1) A medical device, which is required to be assessed by a Member State and has been assessed by the Regulatory Authority of that Member State or any appointed bodies recognised by that Member State to be in conformity and in compliance with the requirements laid down in this Agreement may be placed on the market of that Member State.

- (2) A medical device to be placed on the market of a Member State shall be registered with the Regulatory Authority of that Member State. The Regulatory Authority of the Member State may exempt certain medical devices from the requirement for registration where appropriate.
- (3) Member States shall put in place an appropriate system for the registration of medical devices with the Regulatory Authority of that Member State.
- (4) Custom-made medical devices shall not be subjected to product registration requirements.
- (5) Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, the Regulatory Authorities of a Member State may, pursuant to a duly justified request or on its own initiative, authorise the use within the territory of that Member State, of medical devices which have not undergone registration with the Regulatory Authority and where such use is in the interest or protection of public health.

ARTICLE 7
LICENSING OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE
FOR PLACING MEDICAL DEVICES ON THE
MARKETS OF MEMBER STATES

Each Member State shall require a person who is responsible for placing medical devices on the market to be licensed by the Regulatory Authority of that Member State before the medical devices are placed on the market of that Member State. Member States shall put in place an appropriate system for the licensing of persons responsible for placing medical devices on their markets.

ARTICLE 8
TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS FOR MEDICAL
DEVICES

Member States shall undertake appropriate measures to adopt and implement the following common technical documents:

- (a) Annex 4 - ASEAN Common Submission Dossier Template (CSDT);
- (b) Annex 5 - Post Marketing Alerts System (PMAS) Requirements; and

- (c) Annex 6 - Harmonised set of elements for a Product Owner's or Physical Manufacturer's Declaration of Conformity (DoC).

ARTICLE 9
REFERENCE TO TECHNICAL STANDARDS

- (1) Medical devices which conform to either the relevant technical standards recognised by the AMDC or other technical standards accepted by the Regulatory Authority of a Member State for the medical device to be placed in the market of that Member State shall be deemed to comply with the applicable essential principles referred to in Article 3.
- (2) The AMDC may revise by consensus, the list of recognised technical standards referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

ARTICLE 10
LABELLING

- (1) A medical device shall be labelled in accordance with the requirements of the Member State prior to placing on the market in that Member State.
- (2) Member States may set the labelling requirements for a medical device in accordance with Annex 7 (Labelling Requirements) or as deemed appropriate by the Member States.
- (3) Member States may set the requirement for having the label of a medical device in their national languages.

ARTICLE 11
MEDICAL DEVICE CLAIMS

- (1) Medical device claims shall be subject to regulatory control of Member States.
- (2) As a general rule, claimed benefits of a medical device shall be justified by substantial evidence and/or by the medical device composition/formulation/component or preparation itself in accordance with the requirements as set out in Annex 1 (Essential Principles for Safety and Performance of Medical Devices).

ARTICLE 12
POST-MARKETING ALERT SYSTEM

- (1) Member States shall take the necessary steps to ensure that any information brought to their knowledge, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, regarding the incidents involving a medical device as mentioned below is recorded and evaluated when appropriate:
- (a) any malfunction or deterioration in the characteristics or performance of a medical device, as well as any inadequacy in the labelling or the instructions for use which might lead to or might have led to the death of a patient or user or to a serious deterioration in his state of health;
- (b) any technical or medical reason in relation to the characteristics or performance of a medical device for the reasons referred to in subparagraph (a), leading to product recall of medical devices of the same type by the product owner, authorised representative, authorised distributor or person responsible for placing medical device into the market.
- (2) After carrying out an assessment, if possible together with the product owner, a Member State shall inform the other Member States of the incidents referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article for which relevant measures have been taken or are contemplated.
- (3) Each Member State shall require that any person, who is responsible for the manufacture or placing the medical devices on the market of that Member State, to;
- (a) keep all relevant records pertaining to the traceability of the medical device, for such period and format as the Regulatory Authority in the Member State may stipulate;
- (b) produce such records for inspection when required by the Regulatory Authority in the Member State;
- (c) inform the Regulatory Authority, within the stated prescribed time and format of the Regulatory Authority in the Member State, where he becomes aware of any adverse event that has arisen or can arise from the use of the medical device placed on the market in the Member State; and

- (d) inform the Regulatory Authority, within the stated prescribed time and format of the Regulatory Authority in the Member State, when he performs or intends to perform FSQA on a medical device placed on the market in the Member State.

ARTICLE 13
CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

Member States shall put in place an appropriate system for the conduct of clinical investigation of medical devices, taking into account the Helsinki Declaration adopted by the 18th World Medical Assembly in Helsinki, Finland, in 1964, and any subsequent amendments or revisions to this Declaration by the World Medical Association. It is acknowledged that all measures relating to the protection of human subjects are required to be carried out in accordance with the spirit of the Helsinki Declaration. This includes every step in the clinical investigation from first consideration of the need and justification of the study to publication of the results, which may include the following requirements:

- (1) In the case of medical devices intended for clinical investigation, the Regulatory Authority of the Member State may require the product owner, or his authorised representative, or the sponsor of the clinical investigation in a Member State, as the case may be, to follow the procedure referred to in Annex 8 (Clinical Investigation) and register with the Regulatory Authority of that Member State in which the investigations are to be conducted.
- (2) The Regulatory Authority of the Member State may require that the clinical investigations be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Annex 8 (Clinical Investigation).
- (3) The Regulatory Authority of that Member State may require the product owner or his authorised representative, or the sponsor of the clinical investigation in a Member State, as the case may be, to submit or make available on request, as deemed appropriate, the report referred to in Annex 8 (Clinical Investigation).
- (4) Where a clinical investigation is refused or halted by a Member State, that Member State may communicate its decision and the grounds thereof to all Member States and the AMDC.

Where a Member State has called for a significant modification or temporary Interruption of a clinical Investigation, that Member State may Inform all Member States and the AMDC concerned about its actions and the grounds for the actions taken.

- (5) The Regulatory Authority of a Member State may require the product owner or his authorised representative, or the sponsor of the clinical investigation in a Member State, as the case may be, to notify of the end of the clinical investigation, with justification(s) in case of temporary suspension or of early termination. In the case of early termination of the clinical Investigation on safety grounds, this notification may be communicated to the Regulatory Authority of all Member States where the clinical Investigation is carried out.

ARTICLE 14 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

- (1) The AMDC shall be established with the overall responsibility of coordinating, reviewing and monitoring the implementation of this Agreement and shall comprise representatives from the Regulatory Authority of each Member State.
- (2) The ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality (ACCSQ) and the ASEAN Secretariat shall provide support in coordinating and monitoring the implementation of this Agreement and assist the AMDC in all matters relating thereto.
- (3) The AMDC may establish an ASEAN Medical Device Technical Committee (AMDTC) to assist the AMDC in reviewing the technical and safety issues.

ARTICLE 15 SAFEGUARD CLAUSES

- (1) Member States acknowledge that a medical device placed on the market of Member States shall not compromise the health or safety of patients, users or, where applicable, other persons, when applied under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use, taking account, in particular, of the medical device's presentation, packaging, its labelling, instructions for its use and where appropriate, disposal, warning statements as well as any

other indication or information provided by the product owner or his authorised representative or by any other person responsible for placing the medical device on the market.

- (2) Where a Regulatory Authority ascertains that a medical device placed on the market of a Member State, when correctly installed, maintained and used for its intended purpose, may compromise the health or safety of patients, users or, where applicable, other persons, it shall take all appropriate interim measures to withdraw such medical device from the market or prohibit or restrict their being placed on the market or put into service. That Member State shall immediately inform the other Member States of any such measures, indicating the reasons for its decision and, in particular, whether this is due to:
- (a) the medical device failing to meet the essential principles set out in Annex 1 (Essential Principles for Safety and Performance of Medical Devices);
 - (b) incorrect application of the technical standards referred to in Article 9, in so far as it is claimed that the technical standards have been applied; or
 - (c) shortcomings in the technical standards themselves.

ARTICLE 16 CONFIDENTIALITY

Without prejudice to the existing national laws and regulations, Member States shall require that all the parties involved in the application of this Agreement are bound to observe confidentiality with regard to all confidential information obtained in carrying out their tasks. This confidentiality obligation does not however affect or prevent:

- (a) the disclosure of any information by any Member State to another Member State pursuant to any provision in this Agreement;
- (b) the disclosure of any confidential information with the permission of the person from whom the information was obtained;
- (c) the disclosure of information for the purposes of the administration or enforcement of the requirements of this Agreement including the disclosure of

any information to any adviser engaged by the Regulatory Authority of a Member State to advise on any aspect of the medical device to which the information relates and the dissemination of warnings or information for the public interest;

- (d) the disclosure of information for the purposes of assisting in any investigation or prosecution of any offence under the national law of a Member State; and
- (e) any requirement by any court or the provisions of any national law of a Member State to provide information.

ARTICLE 17 SPECIAL CASES

- (1) A Member State may refuse to register or prohibit the marketing of a medical device in its market or subject it to special conditions or different controls, as it deems appropriate, although the medical device complies with the requirements of the Agreement, for reasons specific to religious or cultural sensitivity.
- (2) A Member State may refuse or prohibit a refurbished medical device to be placed on its market or put into service, as it deems appropriate, even if such medical device complies with the requirements of the Agreement.
- (3) Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to limit the authority of a Member State to determine, through its legislative, regulatory and administrative measures, the level of protection it considers appropriate for safety; for protection of human, animal, or plant life or health; for the environment and for consumers.
- (4) Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to limit the authority of a Member State to take all appropriate and immediate measures whenever it ascertains that a medical device may:
 - (a) compromise the public health or safety in its territory;
 - (b) not meet the legislative, regulatory, or administrative provisions within the scope of this Agreement; or
 - (c) otherwise fail to comply with a requirement within the scope of this Agreement.

- (5) A Member State that places a restriction or ban on specific medical devices shall notify the other Member States with the reasons thereof, together with a copy to the AMDC of such measures taken.

ARTICLE 18 IMPLEMENTATION

- (1) Member States shall undertake appropriate measures to implement this Agreement.
- (2) Member States shall undertake appropriate measures to ensure that the technical infrastructures necessary are in place to implement this Agreement,
- (3) Member States shall ensure that the texts of such provisions of national laws, which they adopt in the field governed by this Agreement, are communicated to the other Member States with a copy to the ASEAN Secretariat, that shall promptly notify the AMDC.
- (4) Member States shall ensure that post marketing surveillance is in place and shall have full authority to enforce the law on medical devices found to be not complying with this Agreement.

ARTICLE 19 REVISIONS, MODIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

- (1) The provisions of all or any part of this Agreement may be revised, modified or amended, by written agreement of all Member States.
- (2) Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this Article, the Annexes of this Agreement may be revised, modified or amended subject to the endorsement of AMDC.
- (3) Any revision, modification or amendment shall not prejudice the rights and obligations arising from or based on this Agreement prior and up to the date of such revision, modification or amendment.

**ARTICLE 20
DISPUTE SETTLEMENT**

The ASEAN Protocol on Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism signed on 29 November 2004 in Vientiane, Lao PDR and amendments thereto, shall apply to the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 21
RESERVATIONS**

Member States shall make no reservation with respect to any of the provisions of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 22
ENTRY INTO FORCE**

- (1) This Agreement shall be subject to ratification and/or acceptance by Member States in accordance with their internal domestic requirements.
- (2) This Agreement shall enter into force on 1 January 2015 and shall be in force only among the Member States that have ratified and/or accepted it.
- (3) The Secretary-General of ASEAN shall promptly notify all Member States of the notifications or deposit of each instrument of ratification and/or acceptance referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

**ARTICLE 23
ANNEXES**

The Annexes to this Agreement constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 24
DEPOSITARY**

This Agreement shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN, who shall promptly furnish each Member State a certified copy thereof.

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

DONE at Bangkok, Thailand, this Twenty First Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteenth in a single original copy in the English Language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

LIM JOCK SENG

Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

SUN CHANTHOL

Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce

For the Republic of Indonesia:

MUHAMMAD LUTFI

Minister of Trade

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

KHEMMANI PHOLSENA

Minister of Industry and Commerce

For Malaysia:

MUSTAPA WIOHAMED

Minister of International Trade and Industry

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

KAN ZAW

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development

For the Republic of the Philippines:

GREGORY L. DOMINGO

Secretary of Trade and Industry

For the Republic of Singapore:

LIM HNG KIANG

Minister for Trade and Industry

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

GENERAL CHATCHAI SARIKULYA

Minister of Commerce

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

VU HUY HOANG

Minister of Industry and Trade

Annex 1

Essential Principles of Safety and Performance of Medical Devices

General Requirements

1. Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way that, when used under the conditions and for the purposes intended and, where applicable, by virtue of the technical knowledge, experience, education or training of intended users, they will not compromise the clinical condition or the safety of patients, or the safety and health of users or, where applicable, other persons, provided that any risks which may be associated with the use of the medical device for its intended purpose constitute acceptable risks when weighed against the intended benefits to the patient and are compatible with a high level of protection of health and safety.
2. The solutions adopted by the product owner for the design and manufacture of the medical devices shall conform to safety principles, taking account of the generally acknowledged state of the art. In selecting an appropriate solution for the design and manufacture of a medical device so as to minimise any risks associated with the use of the medical device, the product owner shall apply the following principles:
 - identify any hazard and associated risk arising from the use of the medical device for its intended purpose, and any foreseeable misuse of the medical device,
 - eliminate or reduce risks as far as reasonably practicable through inherently safe design and manufacture,
 - if appropriate, ensure that adequate protective measures are taken, including alarms if necessary, in relation to any risk that cannot be eliminated, and
 - inform users of any residual risks.
3. Medical devices shall achieve the performance intended by the product owner and be designed, manufactured and packaged in such a way that they are suitable for one or more of the functions within the scope of the definition of a medical device.
4. The characteristics and performances referred to in Clauses 1, 2 and 3 shall not be adversely affected to such a degree that the health or safety of the patient or the user and, where applicable, of other persons are compromised during the lifetime of the medical device, as indicated by the product owner, when the medical device is subjected to the stresses which can occur during normal conditions of use and has been properly maintained and calibrated, if appropriate, in accordance with the product owner's instructions.
5. The medical devices shall be designed, manufactured and packed in such a way that their characteristics and performances, when it is being used for its intended purpose, will not be adversely affected during its transport and storage, if the transport and storage is carried out in accordance with the instructions and information provided by the product owner.
6. The benefits must be determined to outweigh any undesirable side effects for the performances intended.
7. Medical devices shall require clinical evidence, appropriate for the use and classification of the medical device, demonstrating that the medical device complies with the applicable provisions of the essential principles. A clinical evaluation shall be conducted.

Design and Manufacturing Requirements

8. Chemical, physical and biological properties

- 8.1 The medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to ensure the characteristics and performance requirements referred to in Clauses 1 to 6 of the 'General Requirements' are met. Particular attention shall be paid to:
- the choice of materials used, particularly as regards toxicity
 - and, where appropriate, flammability,
 - the chemical and physical properties of the material used,
 - the compatibility between the materials used and biological
 - tissues, cells, body fluids, and specimens, taking account of the intended purpose of the medical device,
 - the choice of materials used shall reflect, where appropriate, matters such as hardness, wear and fatigue strength.
- 8.2 The medical devices shall be designed, manufactured and packed in such a way as to minimise the risk posed by contaminants and residues to the persons involved in the transport, storage and use of the medical devices and to patients, taking account of the intended purpose of the product. In minimising risks, particular consideration shall be given to the duration and frequency of any tissue exposure associated with the transport, storage or use of the medical device.
- 8.3 The medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way that they can be used safely with the materials, substances and gases with which they enter into contact during their normal use or during routine procedures; if the medical devices are intended to administer medicinal products they shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to be compatible with the medicinal products concerned according to the provisions and restrictions governing these medicinal products and that the performance of the medicinal product is maintained in accordance with the intended purpose of the medicinal product.
- 8.4 Where a medical device incorporates, as an integral part, a substance which, if used separately, may be considered to be a medicinal product as defined in the relevant legislation that applies and which is liable to act upon the body with action ancillary to that of the medical device, the safety, quality and performance of the medical device as a whole shall be verified, as well as the safety, quality and efficacy of the incorporated substance in relation to the intended purpose of the medical device. For the purposes of this paragraph, "medicinal product" includes any stable derivative of human blood or human plasma.
- 8.5 The medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to reduce as far as reasonably practicable and appropriate the risks posed by substances that may leach or leak from the medical device.
- 8.6 Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to reduce as far as reasonably practicable and appropriate risks posed by the unintentional ingress or egress of substances into or from the medical device taking into account the nature of the environment in which the medical device is intended to be used.

9. Infection and microbial contamination

- 9.1 The medical devices and manufacturing processes shall be designed in such a way as to eliminate or to reduce as far as reasonably practicable and appropriate the risk of infection to any persons. The design shall:
- allow easy handling, and, where necessary:
 - reduce as far as reasonably practicable and appropriate any microbial leakage from the medical device and/or microbial exposure during use,

- if appropriate, minimises contamination of the medical device, or specimen where applicable, by the patient, user or other person, or contamination of the patient by the medical device, during its use.
- 9.2 Where a medical device incorporates substances of biological origin, the risk of infection must be reduced as far as reasonably practicable and appropriate by selecting appropriate sources, donors and substances and by using, as appropriate, validated inactivation, conservation, test and control procedures. This may not apply to certain IVD medical device if the activity of the virus and other transmissible agent are integral to the intended purpose of the IVD medical device or when such elimination or inactivation process would compromise the performance of the IVD medical device.
- 9.3 Products incorporating non-viable tissues, cells and substances of animal origin falling within the definition of a medical device, shall originate from animals that have been subjected to veterinary controls and surveillance adapted to the intended purpose of the tissues. The product owner is required to retain information on the geographical origin of the animals. Processing, preservation, testing and handling of tissues, cells and substances of animal origin shall be carried out so as to provide optimal safety, in particular, safety with regard to viruses and other transmissible agents shall be addressed by implementation of validated methods of elimination or inactivation in the course of the manufacturing process. This may not apply to certain IVD medical device if the activity of the virus and other transmissible agent are integral to the intended purpose of the IVD medical device or when such elimination or inactivation process would compromise the performance of the IVD medical device.
- 9.4 For products incorporating cells, tissues and derivatives of microbial or recombinant origin falling within the definition of a medical device, the selection of sources/donors, the processing, preservation, testing and handling of cells, tissues and derivatives of such origin shall be carried out so as to provide optimal safety. In particular, safety with regard to viruses and other transmissible agents shall be addressed by implementation of validated methods of elimination or inactivation in the course of the manufacturing process. This may not apply to certain IVD medical device if the activity of the virus and other transmissible agent are integral to the intended purpose of the IVD medical device or when such elimination or inactivation process would compromise the performance of the IVD medical device.
- 9.5 For products incorporating non-viable human tissues, cells and substances falling within the definition of an IVD medical device, the selection of sources, donors and/or substances of human origin, the processing, preservation, testing and handling of tissues, cells and substances of such origin shall be carried out so as to provide optimal safety. In particular, safety with regard to viruses and other transmissible agents shall be addressed by implementation of validated methods of elimination or inactivation in the course of the manufacturing process. This may not apply to certain IVD medical device if the activity of the virus and other transmissible agent are integral to the intended purpose of the IVD medical device or when such elimination or inactivation process would compromise the performance of the IVD medical device.
- 9.6 Medical devices labelled as having a special microbiological state shall be designed, manufactured and packed to ensure they remain so when placed on the market and remain so under the transport and storage conditions specified by the product owner.
- 9.7 Medical devices delivered in a sterile state shall be designed, manufactured and packed to ensure that they remain sterile when placed on the market and remain sterile, under the transport and storage conditions indicated by the product owner.
- 9.8 Medical devices labelled either as sterile or as having a special microbiological state shall have been processed, manufactured and, if applicable, sterilised by appropriate, validated methods.
- 9.9 Medical devices intended to be sterilised shall be manufactured in appropriately controlled (e.g. environmental) conditions.

9.10 Packaging systems for non-sterile medical devices shall keep the product at the level of cleanliness stipulated and, if the medical devices are to be sterilised prior to use, minimise the risk of microbial contamination; the packaging system shall be suitable taking account of the method of sterilisation indicated by the product owner. The medical device shall be produced in appropriately controlled conditions.

9.11 The packaging and/or label of the medical device shall distinguish between identical or similar products placed on the market in both sterile and non-sterile condition.

10. Manufacturing and environmental properties

10.1 If the medical device is intended for use in combination with other medical devices or equipment, the whole combination, including the connection system shall be safe and shall not impair the specified performance of the medical devices, or equipment with which it is used. Any restrictions on use applying to such combinations shall be indicated on the label and/or in the instructions for use.

10.2 Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to remove or reduce as far as reasonably practicable and appropriate:

- the risk of injury, in connection with their physical features, including the volume/pressure ratio, dimensional and where appropriate ergonomic features;
- risks connected with reasonably foreseeable external influences or environmental conditions, such as magnetic fields, external electrical and electromagnetic effects, electrostatic discharge, pressure, humidity, temperature or variations in pressure and acceleration;
- the risks connected to their use in conjunction with materials, substances and gases with which they may come into contact during normal conditions of use;
- the risks of accidental penetration of substances into the medical device;
- the risk of incorrect identification of specimens;
- the risks of reciprocal interference with other medical devices normally used in the investigations or for the treatment given;
- risks arising where maintenance or calibration are not possible (as with implants), from ageing of materials used or loss of accuracy of any measuring or control mechanism.

10.3 Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to minimise the risks of fire or explosion during normal use and in single fault condition. Particular attention shall be paid to medical devices whose intended purpose includes exposure to or use in association with flammable substances or substances which could cause combustion.

10.4 Medical devices must be designed and manufactured in such a way as to facilitate the safe disposal of any waste substances.

11. Medical devices with a diagnostic or measuring function

11.1 Medical devices with a measuring function shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to provide sufficient accuracy, precision and stability for their intended purpose. The limits of accuracy, precision and stability shall be indicated by the product owner.

11.2 Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to provide sufficient accuracy, precision and stability for their intended purpose, based on appropriate scientific and technical methods. In particular the design shall address the sensitivity, specificity, trueness, repeatability, reproducibility, control of known relevant interference and limits of detection, as appropriate.

- 11.3 Where the performance of medical devices depends on the use of calibrators and/or control materials, the traceability of values assigned to such calibrators and/or control materials shall be assured through a quality management system.
- 11.4 Any measurement, monitoring or display scale shall be designed and manufactured in line with ergonomic principles, taking into account of the intended purpose of the medical device.
- 11.5 Wherever possible values expressed numerically shall be in commonly accepted, standardised units, and understood by the users of the medical device.

12. Protection against radiation

12.1 General

Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured and packaged in such a way that exposure of patients, users and other persons to any emitted radiation shall be reduced as far as practicable and appropriate, compatible with the intended purpose, whilst not restricting the application of appropriate specified levels for therapeutic and diagnostic purposes.

12.2 Intended radiation

12.2.1 Where medical devices are designed to emit hazardous, or potentially hazardous, levels of visible and/or invisible radiation necessary for a specific medical purpose the benefit of which is considered to outweigh the risks inherent in the emission, it shall be possible for the user to control the emissions. Such medical devices shall be designed and manufactured to ensure reproducibility of relevant variable parameters within an acceptable tolerance.

12.2.2 Where medical devices are intended to emit potentially hazardous, visible and/or invisible radiation, they shall be fitted, where practicable, with visual displays and/or audible warnings of such emissions.

12.3 Unintended radiation

Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way that exposure of patients, users and other persons to the emission of unintended, stray or scattered radiation is reduced as far as practicable and appropriate.

12.4 Instructions for use

The operating instructions for medical devices emitting radiation shall give detailed information as to the nature of the emitted radiation, means of protecting the patient and the user and on ways of avoiding misuse and of eliminating the risks inherent in installation

12.5 Ionising radiation

12.5.1 Medical devices intended to emit ionising radiation shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to ensure that, where practicable, the quantity, geometry and energy distribution (or quality) of radiation emitted can be varied and controlled taking into account the intended purpose.

12.5.2 Medical devices emitting ionising radiation intended for diagnostic radiology shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to achieve appropriate image and/or output quality for the intended medical purpose whilst minimising radiation exposure of the patient and user.

12.5.3 Medical devices emitting ionising radiation, intended for therapeutic radiology shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to enable reliable monitoring and control of the delivered dose, the beam type and energy and where appropriate the energy distribution of the radiation beam.

13. Requirements for medical devices connected to or equipped with an energy source

- 13.1 Medical devices incorporating electronic programmable systems, including software, shall be designed to ensure the repeatability, reliability and performance of these systems according to the intended purpose. In the event of a single fault condition in the system, appropriate means shall be adopted to eliminate or reduce as far as practicable and appropriate consequent risks.
- 13.2 For medical devices which incorporate software or which are medical software in themselves, the software shall be validated according to the state of the art taking into account the principles of development lifecycle, risk management, validation and verification.
- 13.3 Medical devices where the safety of the patients depends on an internal power supply shall be equipped with a means of determining the state of the power supply.
- 13.4 Medical devices where the safety of the patients depends on an external power supply shall include an alarm system to signal any power failure.
- 13.5 Medical devices intended to monitor one or more clinical parameters of a patient shall be equipped with appropriate alarm systems to alert the user of situations which could lead to death or severe deterioration of the patient's state of health.
- 13.6 Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to reduce as far as practicable and appropriate the risks of creating electromagnetic interference which could impair the operation of this or other medical devices or equipment in the vicinity where the medical device is located.
- 13.7 Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to provide an adequate level of intrinsic immunity to electromagnetic disturbance to enable them to operate as intended.
- 13.8 Protection against electrical risks
A medical device shall be designed and manufactured in a way that ensures that, as far as possible, a patient, or any other person is protected against the risk of accidental electric shock when it is installed and maintained as indicated by the product owner, is being used under normal conditions of use and in the event of a single fault condition.

14. Protection against mechanical risks

- 14.1 Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to protect the patient and user against mechanical risks associated with the use of the medical device.
- 14.2 Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to reduce to the lowest practicable level the risks arising from vibration generated by the medical devices, taking account of technical progress and of the means available for limiting vibrations, particularly at source, unless the vibrations are part of the specified performance.
- 14.3 Medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to reduce to the lowest practicable level the risks arising from the noise emitted, taking account of technical progress and of the means available to reduce noise, particularly at source, unless the noise emitted is part of the specified performance.
- 14.4 Terminals and connectors to the electricity, gas or hydraulic and pneumatic energy supplies which the user has to handle shall be designed and constructed in such a way as to minimise all possible risks.
- 14.5 Accessible parts of the medical devices (excluding the parts or areas intended to supply heat or reach given temperatures) and their surroundings shall not attain potentially dangerous temperatures under normal use.

15. Protection against the risks posed to the patient by supplied energy or substances

- 15.1 Medical devices for supplying the patient with energy or substances shall be designed and constructed in such a way that the delivered rate and/or amount can be set and maintained accurately enough to guarantee the safety of the patient and of the user.
- 15.2 Medical devices shall be fitted with the means of preventing and/or indicating any inadequacies in the delivered rate and/or amount which could pose a danger. Medical devices shall incorporate suitable means to prevent, as far as possible, the accidental release of dangerous levels of energy from an energy and/or substance source.
- 15.3 The function of the controls and indicators shall be clearly specified on the medical devices. Where a medical device bears instructions required for its operation or indicates operating or adjustment parameters by means of a visual system, such information shall be understandable to the user and, as appropriate, the patient.

16. Active implantable medical devices

- 16.1 An active implantable medical device shall incorporate, display, emit or exhibit a code or unique characteristic that can be used to identify:
- the type of medical device;
 - the product owner of the medical device; and
 - the year of manufacture of the medical device.
- 16.2 The identifier shall be readable without the need for surgery to the person in whom the medical device is implanted.

17. Protection against the risks posed to the patient for medical devices for self-testing or self-administration

- 17.1 Such medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way that they perform appropriately for their intended purpose taking into account the skills and the means available to users and the influence resulting from variation that can reasonably be anticipated in user's technique and environment. The information and instructions provided by the product owner shall be easy for the user to understand and apply.
- 17.2 Such medical devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to reduce as far as practicable the risk of error in the handling of the medical device and, if applicable, the specimen, and also in the interpretation of results.
- 17.3 Such medical devices shall, where reasonably possible, include a procedure by which the user can verify that, at the time of use, the medical device will perform as intended by the product owner.

18. Information supplied by the product owner

- 18.1 The following information shall be provided with a medical device, having regard to the training and knowledge of potential users of the medical device:
- information identifying the medical device;
 - information identifying the product owner of the medical device;
 - information explaining how to use the medical device safely

19. Clinical Investigation

19.1 Clinical investigations on human subjects shall be carried out in accordance with the spirit of the Helsinki Declaration. This includes every step in the clinical investigation from first consideration of the need and justification of the study to publication of the results. Clinical investigations on human subjects shall be carried out in accordance with the spirit of the Helsinki Declaration. This includes every step in the clinical investigation from first consideration of the need and justification of the study to publication of the results.

ANNEX 2

Risk Classification Rules for Medical Devices other than IVD Medical Devices

1. DEFINITIONS

ACTIVE MEDICAL DEVICE: Any medical device, operation of which depends on a source of electrical energy or any source of power other than that directly generated by the human body or gravity and which acts by converting this energy. Medical devices intended to transmit energy, substances or other elements between an active medical device and the patients, without any significant change, are not considered to be active medical devices.

NOTE: Standalone software (to the extent it falls within the definition of a medical device) is deemed to be an active device.

ACTIVE THERAPEUTIC DEVICE: Any active medical device, whether used alone or in combination with other medical devices, to support, modify, replace or restore biological functions or structures with a view to treatment or alleviation of an illness, injury or handicap.

ACTIVE DEVICE INTENDED FOR DIAGNOSIS: Any active medical device, whether used alone or in combination with other medical devices, to supply information for detecting, diagnosing, monitoring or support in treating physiological conditions, states of health, illnesses or congenital deformities.

BODY ORIFICE: Any natural opening in the body, as well as the external surface of the eyeball, or any permanent artificial opening, such as a stoma or permanent tracheotomy.

CENTRAL CIRCULATORY SYSTEM: For the purpose of this document, central circulatory system means the major internal blood vessels including the following:

- arteriae pulmonales (pulmonary artery);
- aorta ascendens (ascending aorta);
- arteriae coronariae (coronary artery);
- arteria carotis communis (common carotid artery);
- arteria carotis externa (external carotid artery);
- arteria carotis interna (internal carotid artery);
- arteriae cerebrales (cerebral arteries);
- truncus brachiocephalicus (brachiocephalic trunk);
- venae cordis (cardiac veins);
- venae pulmonales (pulmonary vein);

- venae cava superior (superior vena cava);
- venae cava inferior (inferior vena cava);
- arcus aorta (aortic arch);
- thoracica aorta (thoracic aorta);
- abdominalis aorta (abdominal aorta);
- arteriae ilica communis (common iliac arteries);
- aorta descendens to the bifurcatio aortae (descending aorta to the bifurcation of aorta)

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM: For the purpose of this document, central nervous system refers to the brain, meninges and spinal cord.

CONTINUOUS USE: in relation to a medical device, means

- the uninterrupted use of the medical device, not including any temporary interruption of its use during a procedure or any temporary removal of the medical device for purposes such as cleaning or disinfection; or
- the accumulated use of the medical device by replacing it immediately with another medical device of the same type, as intended by its product owner;

DURATION OF USE

- **TRANSIENT:** Normally intended for continuous use for less than 60 minutes,
- **SHORT TERM:** Normally intended for continuous use for between 60 minutes and 30 days
- **LONG TERM:** Normally intended for continuous use for more than 30 days.

HARM: Physical injury or damage to the health of people or damage to property or the environment.

HAZARD: Potential source of harm.

IMMEDIATE DANGER: A situation where the patient is at risk of either losing life or an important physiological function if no immediate preventative measure is taken.

IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICE: Any medical device, including those that are partially or wholly absorbed, which is intended:

- to be totally introduced into the human body or,
- to replace an epithelial surface or the surface of the eye,

by surgical intervention which is intended to remain in place after the procedure.

NOTE: Any medical device intended for partial introduction into the human body through surgical intervention and intended to remain in place after the procedure for at least 30 days is also considered an implantable medical device.

INVASIVE MEDICAL DEVICE: A medical device, which, in whole or in part, penetrates inside the body, either through a body orifice or through the surface of the body.

LIFE SUPPORTING OR LIFE SUSTAINING: A medical device that is essential to, or that yields information that is essential to, the restoration or continuation of a bodily function important to the continuation of human life.

REUSABLE SURGICAL INSTRUMENT: Instrument intended for surgical use by cutting, drilling, sawing, scratching, scraping, clamping, retracting, clipping or other surgical procedures, without connection to any active medical device

and which are intended by the product owner to be reused after appropriate procedures for cleaning and/or sterilisation have been carried out.

RISK: Combination of the probability of occurrence of harm and the severity of that harm.

SURGICALLY INVASIVE MEDICAL DEVICE; An invasive medical device that penetrates inside the body through the surface of the body, with the aid or in the context of a surgical operation.

NOTE: Medical devices other than those referred to in the previous subparagraph and which produce penetration other than through a natural body orifice, should be treated as surgically invasive medical devices.

2. RISK CLASSIFICATION FOR MEDICAL DEVICES OTHER THAN IVD MEDICAL DEVICES

RULES
NON-INVASIVE MEDICAL DEVICES
Rule 1. All non-invasive medical devices which come into contact with injured skin:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are in Class A if they are intended to be used as a mechanical barrier, for compression or for absorption of exudates only, i.e. they heal by primary intent;
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are in Class B if they are intended to be used principally with wounds which have breached the dermis, including medical devices principally intended to manage the microenvironment of a wound.
Unless they are intended to be used principally with wounds which have breached the dermis and can only heal by secondary intent, in which case they are in Class C.
<p>Rule 2. All non-invasive medical devices intended for channelling or storing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • body liquids or tissues, • liquids or • gases <p>for the purpose of eventual infusion, administration or introduction into the body are in Class A,</p>
Unless they may be connected to an active medical device in Class B or a higher class, in which case they are Class B;
<p>Unless they are intended for use of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • channeling blood, or • storing or channeling other body liquids, or • for storing organs, parts of organs or body tissues, <p>in which case they are Class B.</p>
Unless they are blood bags, in which case they are Class C.
<p>Rule 3. All non-invasive medical devices intended for modifying the biological or chemical composition of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blood, • other body liquids, or • other liquids <p>intended for infusion into the body are in Class C,</p>
Unless the treatment consists of filtration, centrifuging or exchanges of gas or of heat, in which case they are in Class B.

Rule 4. All other non-invasive medical devices are in Class A.
<i>INVASIVE MEDICAL DEVICES</i>
Rule 5. All invasive medical devices with respect to body orifices (other than those which are surgically invasive) and which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are not intended for connection to an active medical device, or • are intended for connection to a Class A medical device only.
- are in Class A if they are intended for transient use;
Unless they are intended by its product owner for use on the external surface of any eyeball; or it is liable to be absorbed by the mucous membrane, in which case they are in Class B.
- are in Class B if they are intended for short-term use;
Unless they are intended for short-term use in the oral cavity as far as the pharynx, in an ear canal up to the ear drum or in a nasal cavity, in which case they are in Class A,
- are in Class C if they are intended for long-term use;
Unless they are intended for long-term use in the oral cavity as far as the pharynx, in an ear canal up to the ear-drum or in a nasal cavity and are not liable to be absorbed by the mucous membrane, in which case they are in Class B.
All invasive medical devices with respect to body orifices (other than those which are surgically invasive) that are intended to be connected to an active medical device in Class B or a higher class, are in Class B.
Rule 6. All surgically invasive medical devices intended for transient use are in Class B,
Unless they are reusable surgical instruments, in which case they are in Class A; or
Unless intended to supply energy in the form of ionising radiation, in which case they are in Class C; or
Unless intended to have a biological effect or be wholly or mainly absorbed, in which case they are in Class C; or
Unless intended to administer medicinal products by means of a delivery system, if this is done in a manner that is potentially hazardous taking account of the mode of application, in which they are in Class C; or
Unless they are intended specifically for use in direct contact with the central nervous system, in which case they are in Class D; or
Unless intended specifically to diagnose, monitor or correct a defect of the heart or of the central circulatory system through direct contact with these parts of the body, in which case they are in Class D.
Rule 7. All surgically invasive medical devices intended for short-term use are in Class B, Unless they are intended to administer medicinal products, in which case they are in Class C; or Unless they are intended to undergo chemical change in the body (except if the medical devices are placed in the teeth), in which case they are in Class C; or Unless they are intended to supply energy in the form of ionising radiation, in which case they are in Class C; or Unless they are intended to have a biological effect or to be wholly or mainly absorbed, in which case they are in Class D; or

Unless they are intended specifically for use in direct contact with the central nervous system, in which case they are in Class D;

Unless they are intended specifically to diagnose, monitor or correct a defect of the heart or of the central circulatory system through direct contact with these parts of the body, in which case they are in Class D. **Rule 8.** All implantable medical devices, and long-term surgically invasive medical devices, are in Class C,

Unless they are intended to be placed into the teeth, in which case they are in Class B; or

Unless they are intended to be used in direct contact with the heart, the central circulatory system or the central nervous system, in which case they are in Class D; or

Unless they are intended to be life supporting or life sustaining, in which case they are in Class D; or

Unless they are intended to be active implantable medical devices, in which case they are Class D; or

Unless they are intended to have a biological effect or to be wholly or mainly absorbed, in which case they are in Class D; or

Unless they are intended to administer medicinal products, in which case they are in Class D; or

Unless they are intended to undergo chemical change in the body (except if the medical devices are placed in the teeth), in which case they are in Class D; or

Unless they are breast implants, in which case they are in Class D.

ACTIVE MEDICAL DEVICES

Rule 9 (i). All active therapeutic medical devices intended to administer or exchange energy are in Class B, Unless their characteristics are such that they may administer or exchange energy to or from the human body in a potentially hazardous way, including ionising radiation, taking account of the nature, the density and site of application of the energy, in which case they are in Class C.

Rule 9 (ii). All active medical devices intended to control or monitor the performance of active therapeutic medical devices in Class C, or intended directly to influence the performance of such medical devices, are in Class

Rule 10 (i). Active medical devices intended for diagnosis are in Class B:

- if they are intended to supply energy which will be absorbed by the human body (except for medical devices used solely to illuminate the patient's body, with light in the visible or near infra-red spectrum, in which case they are Class A), or

- if they are intended to image *in vivo* distribution of radiopharmaceuticals, or

- if they are intended to allow direct diagnosis or monitoring of vital physiological processes,

Unless they are specifically intended for:

- monitoring of vital physiological parameters, where the nature of variations is such that it could result in immediate danger to the patient, for instance variations in cardiac performance, respiration, activity of central nervous system, or
- diagnosing in clinical situations where the patient is in immediate danger, in which case they are in Class C.

Rule 10 (ii). Active medical devices intended to emit ionising radiation and intended for diagnostic and/or interventional radiology, including medical devices which control or monitor such medical devices, or those which directly influence their performance, are in Class C.

Rule 11. All active medical devices intended to administer and/or remove medicinal products, body liquids or other substances to or from the body are in Class B,

Unless this is done in a manner that is potentially hazardous, taking account of the nature of the substances involved, of the part of the body concerned and of the mode and route of administration or removal, in which case they are in Class C.

Rule 12. All other active medical devices are in Class A.
ADDITIONAL RULES
Rule 13. All-medical-devices-incorporating-as an-integral-part,-a-substance- which, if used separately, can be considered to be a medicinal product (as defined by the Member State), and which is liable to act on the human body with action ancillary to that of the medical devices, are in Class D.
Rule 14. All medical devices manufactured from or incorporating <ul style="list-style-type: none">• animal cells, tissues and/or derivatives thereof, rendered non-viable, or• cells, tissues and/or derivatives of microbial or recombinant origin are Class D,
Unless such medical devices are manufactured from or incorporate non-viable animal tissues or their derivatives that come in contact with intact skin only, where they are in Class A.
Rule 15. All medical devices intended specifically to be used for sterilising medical devices, or disinfecting as the end point of processing, are in Class C.
Unless they are intended for disinfecting medical devices prior to end point sterilisation or higher level disinfection, in which case they are in Class B; or
Unless they are intended specifically to be used for disinfecting, cleaning, rinsing or, when appropriate, hydrating contact lenses, in which case they are in Class C.
Rule 16. All medical devices used for contraception or the prevention of the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases are in Class C,
Unless they are implantable or long-term invasive medical devices, in which case they are in Class D.

ANNEX 3

Risk Classification Rules for IVD Medical Devices

1. DEFINITIONS

EXAMINATION: Set of operations having the object of determining the value of a property.

NOTE: Examination of an analyte in a biological sample is commonly referred to as a test, assay or analysis.

INSTRUMENT: Equipment or apparatus intended by the product owner to be used as IVD medical device.

IVD MEDICAL DEVICE FOR SELF-TESTING: Any IVD medical device intended by the product owner for use by lay persons.

LAY PERSON: Any individual who does not have formal training in a relevant field or discipline.

NEAR PATIENT TESTING: Any testing performed outside a laboratory environment by a healthcare professional not necessarily a laboratory professional, generally near to, or at the side of, the patient. Also known as Point-of-Care (POC).

REAGENT: Any chemical, biological or immunological components, solutions or preparations intended by the product owner to be used as IVD medical devices.

SELF-TESTING: Testing performed by lay persons.

SPECIMEN RECEPTACLE: An IVD medical device, whether vacuum- type or not, specifically intended by their product owner for the primary containment of specimens derived from the human body.

TRANSMISSIBLE AGENT: An agent capable of being transmitted to a person, as a communicable, infectious or contagious disease.

TRANSMISSION: The conveyance of disease to a person.

2. CLASSIFICATION RULES FOR IVD MEDICAL DEVICES

RULE 1: IVD medical devices intended for the following purposes are classified as Class D:

- medical devices intended to be used to detect the presence of, or exposure to, a transmissible agent in blood, blood components, blood derivatives, cells, tissues or organs in order to assess their suitability
- for transfusion or transplantation, or
- medical devices intended to be used to detect the presence of, or exposure to, a transmissible agent that causes a life-threatening, often incurable, disease with a high risk of propagation.

Rationale: The application of this rule as defined above should be in accordance with the rationale that follows: IVD medical devices in this Class are intended to be used to ensure the safety of blood and blood components for transfusion and/or cells, tissues and organs for transplantation. In most cases, the result of the test is the major determinant as to whether the donation/product will be used. Serious diseases are those that result in death or long-term disability, which are often incurable or require major therapeutic interventions and where an accurate diagnosis is vital to mitigate the public health impact of the condition.

Examples: Tests to detect infection by HIV, HCV, HBV, HTLV. This Rule applies to first-line assays, confirmatory assays and supplemental assays.

RULE 2: IVD medical devices intended to be used for blood grouping, or tissue typing to ensure the immunological compatibility of blood, blood components, cells, tissue or organs that are intended for transfusion or transplantation, are classified as Class C, except for ABO system [A (AB01), B (AB02), AB (AB03)], rhesus system [RH1 (D), RH2 (C), RH3 (E), RH4 (c), RH5 (e)], Kell system [Kell (K)], Kidd system [JK1 (Jka), JK2 (Jkb)] and Duffy system [FY1 (Fya), FY2 (Fyb)] determination which are classified as Class D.

Rationale: The application of this rule as defined above should be in accordance with the following rationale: A high individual risk, where an erroneous result would put the patient in an imminent life-threatening situation places the medical device into Class D. The rule divides blood-grouping IVD medical devices into two subsets, Class C or D, depending on the nature of the blood group antigen the IVD medical device is designed to detect, and its importance in a transfusion setting.

Examples: HLA, Duffy system (other Duffy systems except those listed in the rule as Class D) are in Class C.

RULE 3: IVD medical devices are classified as Class C if they are intended for use:

- in detecting the presence of, or exposure to, a sexually transmitted agent (e.g. Sexually transmitted diseases, such as *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*).
- in detecting the presence in cerebrospinal fluid or blood of an infectious agent with a risk of limited propagation (e.g. *Neisseria meningitidis* or *Cryptococcus neoformans*).
- in detecting the presence of an infectious agent where there is a significant risk that an erroneous result would cause death or severe disability to the individual or fetus being tested (e.g. diagnostic assay for CMV, *Chlamydia pneumoniae*, Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*).
- in pre-natal screening of women in order to determine their immune status towards transmissible agents (e.g. Immune status tests for Rubella or Toxoplasmosis).
- in determining infective disease status or immune status, and where there is a risk that an erroneous result will lead to a patient management decision resulting in an imminent life-threatening situation for the patient (e.g. Enteroviruses, CMV and HSV in transplant patients).
- in screening for selection of patients for selective therapy and management, or for disease staging, or in the diagnosis of cancer (e.g. personalised medicine).

NOTE: Those IVD medical devices where the therapy decision would usually be made only after further investigation and those used for monitoring would fall into class B under rule 6.

- in human genetic testing (e.g. Huntington's Disease, Cystic Fibrosis).
- to monitor levels of medicines, substances or biological components, when there is a risk that an erroneous result will lead to a patient management decision resulting in an immediate life-threatening situation for the patient (e.g. Cardiac markers, cyclosporin, prothrombin time testing).
- in the management of patients suffering from a life-threatening infectious disease (e.g. HCV viral load, HIV Viral Load and HIV and HCV geno- and subtyping).
- in screening for congenital disorders in the fetus (e.g. Spina Bifida or Down Syndrome).

Rationale: The application of this rule as defined above should be in accordance with the rationale for this rule which is as follows: IVD medical devices in this Class present a moderate public health risk, or a high individual risk, where an erroneous result would put the patient in an imminent life-threatening situation, or would have a major negative impact on outcome. The IVD medical devices provide the critical, or sole, determinant for the correct diagnosis. They

may also present a high individual risk because of the stress and anxiety resulting from the information and the nature of the possible follow-up measures.

RULE 4: IVD medical devices intended for self-testing are classified as Class C, except those medical devices from which the result is not determining a medically critical status, or is preliminary and requires follow-up with the appropriate laboratory test in which case they are Class B.

IVD medical devices intended for blood gases and blood glucose determinations for near-patient testing would be Class C. Other IVD medical devices that are intended for near patient should be classified in their own right using the classification rules.

Rationale: The application of this rule as defined above should be in accordance with the rationale for this rule which is as follows: In general, these IVD medical devices are used by individuals with no technical expertise and thus the labelling and instructions for use are critical to the proper outcome of the test.

Example for Self-testing Class C: Blood glucose monitoring,

Example for Self-testing Class B: Pregnancy self test, Fertility testing, Urine test strip.

RULE 5: The following IVD medical devices are classified as Class A;

- reagents or other articles that possess specific characteristics,
- intended by the product owner to make them suitable for *in-vitro* diagnostic procedures related to a specific examination.
- instruments intended by the product owner specifically to be used for *in-vitro* diagnostic procedures.
- specimen receptacles.

NOTE: Any product for general laboratory use not manufactured, sold or represented for use in specified in-vitro diagnostic applications are deemed to not be IVD medical devices.

Rationale: The application of this rule as defined above should be in accordance with the rationale for this rule which is as follows: These IVD medical devices present a low individual risk and no or minimal public health risk.

Examples: Selective/differential microbiological media (excluding the dehydrated powders which are considered not to be a finished IVD medical device), identification kits for cultured microorganisms, wash solutions, instruments and plain urine cup.

NOTE: The performance of software or an instrument that is specifically required to perform a particular test will be assessed at the same time as the test kit.

NOTE: The interdependence of the instrument and the test methodology prevents the instrument from being assessed separately, even though the instrument itself is still classified as Class A.

RULE 6: IVD medical devices not covered in Rules 1 through 5 are classified as Class B.

Rationale: The application of this rule as defined above should be in accordance with the rationale for this rule which is as follows: These IVD medical devices present a moderate individual risk as they are not likely to lead to an erroneous result that would cause death or severe disability, have a major negative impact on patient outcome or put the individual in immediate danger. The IVD medical devices give results that are usually one of several determinants. If the test result is the sole determinant however other information is available, such as presenting signs and symptoms or other clinical information that may guide a physician, such that classification into Class B may be justified. Other appropriate controls may also be in place to validate the results. This Class also includes those IVD medical devices that present a low public health risk because they detect infectious agents that are not easily propagated in a population.

Examples: Blood gases, *H. pylori* and physiological markers such as hormones, vitamins, enzymes, metabolic markers, specific IgE assays and celiac disease markers.

RULE 7: IVD medical devices that are controls without a quantitative or qualitative assigned value will be classified as Class B.

Rationale: For such controls, the user, not the product owner, assigns the qualitative or quantitative value.

ANNEX 4

ASEAN Common Submission Dossier Template

1. INTRODUCTION

The Common Submission Dossier Template (CSDT) should reduce the differences in documentation formats that presently exist in different ASEAN jurisdictions. The adoption of the CSDT in ASEAN should minimise the preparation of multiple dossiers, arranged in different formats but with essentially the same contents, for regulatory submission to different Regulatory Authorities.

2. SCOPE

This CSDT is intended to apply to all medical devices. For IVD medical devices, the Regulatory Authority of the Member State may choose to adopt this CSDT or prescribe another format for regulatory submissions to that Member States. The depth and detail of the information contained in the CSDT will depend on;

- the classification of the subject medical device;
- the complexity of the subject medical device.

The format of the CSDT recommended herein is based upon the goal of both regulators and product owners to strive for the least burdensome means to demonstrate conformity to the Essential Principles for all classes of medical devices.

Where there are sections not applicable to the medical device, the reason for the non-applicability should be provided under the section heading. Requirements for post-market vigilance or adverse event reporting are outside the scope of this document.

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An executive summary shall be provided with the common submission dossier template, which shall include the following information;

- an overview, e.g., introductory descriptive information on the medical device, the intended purposes and indications for use of the medical device, any novel features and a synopsis of the content of the CSDT;
- commercial marketing history;
- intended purposes and indications in labelling;
- list of regulatory approval or marketing clearance obtained;
- status of any pending request for market clearance; and
- important safety/performance related information.

4. ELEMENTS OF THE COMMON SUBMISSION DOSSIER TEMPLATE

4.1. Relevant Essential Principles and Method Used to Demonstrate Conformity

The CSDT should identify the Essential Principles of Safety and Performance of Medical Devices that are applicable to the medical device. The CSDT should identify the general method used to demonstrate conformity to each applicable Essential Principle. The methods that may be used include compliance with recognised or other standards, state of the art or internal industry methods, comparisons to other similar marketed medical devices, etc. The CSDT should identify the specific documents related to the method used to demonstrate conformity to the Essential Principles.

4.1.1. Essential Principles and Evidence of Conformity

The evidence of conformity can be provided in tabular form with supporting documentation available for review as required.

For example, a completed Essential Principles conformity checklist can be used to demonstrate that a recognised test standard was used as part of the method to demonstrate conformity to one Essential Principle. As such, CSDT would then include a declaration of conformity to the standard, or other certification permitted by the Regulatory Authority, and a summary of the test data, if the standard does not include performance requirements. When the product owner uses international or other standards to demonstrate conformity with the Essential Principles, the CSDT should identify the full title of the standard, identifying numbers, date of the standard, and the organisation that created the standard.

When the **product owner** uses other means, such as internal standards, the CSDT should describe the means. Not all the essential principles will apply to all medical devices and it is for the **product owner** of the medical device to assess which are appropriate for their particular medical device. In determining this, account must be taken of the intended purpose of the medical device.

4.2. Medical Device Description

4.2.1. Medical Device description & features

Besides a general description of the medical device, a more detailed description of the medical device attributes is necessary to explain how the medical device functions, the basic scientific concepts that form the fundamentals for the medical device, the component materials and accessories used in its principles of operation as well as packaging. A complete description of each functional component, material or ingredient of the medical device should be provided, with labelled pictorial representation of the medical device in the form of diagrams, photographs or drawings, as appropriate.

4.2.2. Intended purpose

This means the use for which the medical device is intended, for which it is suited according to the data supplied by the product owner in the instructions as well as the functional capability of the medical device.

4.2.3. Indications

This is a general description of the disease or condition that the medical device will diagnose, treat, prevent, cure or mitigate and includes a description of the target patient population for which the medical device is intended.

4.2.4. Instructions of use

These are all necessary information from the product owner including the procedures, methods, frequency, duration, quantity and preparation to be followed for safe use of the medical device. Instructions needed to use the medical device in a safe manner shall, to the extent possible, be included on the medical device itself and/or on its packaging by other formats/forms.

4.2.5. Contraindications

This is a general description of the disease or condition and the patient population for which the medical device should not be used for the purpose of diagnosing, treating, curing or mitigating. Contraindications are conditions under which the medical device should not be used because the risk of use clearly outweighs any possible benefit.

4.2.6. Warnings

This is the specific hazard alert information that a user needs to know before using the medical device.

4.2.7. Precautions

This alerts the user to exercise special care necessary for the safe and effective use of the medical device. They may include actions to be taken to avoid effects on patients/users that may not be potentially life-threatening or result in serious injury, but about which the user should be aware. Precautions may also alert the user to adverse effects on the medical device of use or misuse and the care necessary to avoid such effects.

4.2.8. Potential adverse effects

These are potential undesirable and serious outcomes (death, injury, or serious adverse events) to the patient/user, or side effects from the use of the medical device, under normal conditions.

4.2.9. Alternative therapy

This is a description of any alternative practices or procedures for diagnosing, treating, curing or mitigating the disease or condition for which the medical device is intended.

4.2.10. Materials

A description of the materials of the medical device and their physical properties to the extent necessary to demonstrate conformity with the relevant Essential Principles. The information shall include complete chemical, biological and physical characterisation of the materials of the medical device.

4.2.11. Other Relevant Specifications

The functional characteristics and technical performance specifications for the medical device including, as relevant, accuracy, sensitivity, specificity of measuring and diagnostic medical devices, reliability and other factors; and other specifications including chemical, physical, electrical, mechanical, biological, software, sterility, stability, storage and transport, and packaging to the extent necessary to demonstrate conformity with the relevant Essential Principles.

4.2.12. Other Descriptive Information

Other important descriptive characteristics not detailed above, to the extent necessary to demonstrate conformity with the relevant Essential Principles (for example, the biocompatibility category for the finished medical device).

NOTE: For simple, low risk medical devices, the above information will typically be contained in already existing sales brochures, instructions for use, etc.

4.3. Summary of Design Verification and Validation Documents

This section should summarise or reference or contain design verification and design validation data to the extent appropriate to the complexity and risk class of the medical device:

Such documentation should typically include:

- declarations/certificates of conformity to the “recognised” standards listed as applied by the product owner; and/or
- summaries or reports of tests and evaluations based on other standards, manufacturer methods and tests, or alternative ways of demonstrating compliance.

EXAMPLE: The completed Table of Conformity to the Essential Principles that a recognised test standard was used as part of the method to demonstrate conformity to one Essential Principle.

Section 3.0 of the CSDT would then include a declaration of conformity to the standard, or other certification permitted by the relevant Regulatory Authority, and a summary of the test data, if the standard does not include performance requirements.

The data summaries or tests reports and evaluations would typically cover, as appropriate to the complexity and risk class of the medical device:

- a listing of and conclusions drawn from published reports that concern the safety and performance of aspects of the medical device with reference to the Essential Principles;
- engineering tests;
- laboratory tests;
- biocompatibility tests;
- animal tests;
- simulated use;
- software validation.

4.3.1. Pre-clinical Studies

Details must be provided on all biocompatibility tests conducted on materials used in a medical device. All materials that are significantly different must be characterised. Information describing the tests, the results and the analyses of data must be presented.

Complete pre-clinical physical test data must be provided, as appropriate. The report must include the objectives, methodology, results and product owner's conclusions of all physical studies of the medical device and its components. Physical testing must be conducted to predict the adequacy of medical device response to physiological stresses, undesirable conditions and forces, long-term use and all known and possible failure modes.

Pre-clinical animal studies used to support the probability of effectiveness in humans must be reported. These studies must be undertaken using good laboratory practices. The objectives, methodology, results, analysis and product owner's conclusions must be presented. The study conclusion should address the medical device's interactions with animal fluids and tissues and the functional effectiveness of the medical device in the experimental animal model(s). The rationale (and limitations) of selecting the particular animal model should be discussed.

4.3.1.1. Software Verification and Validation Studies (if applicable)

The correctness of a software product is another critical product characteristic that cannot be fully verified in a finished product. The product owner must provide evidence that validates the software design and development process. This information should include the results of all verification, validation and testing performed in-house and in a user's environment prior to final release, for all of the different hardware configurations identified in the labelling, as well as representative data generated from both testing environments.

4.3.1.2. Medical Devices Containing Biological Material

Results of studies substantiating the adequacy of the measures taken with regards to the risks associated with transmissible agents must be provided. This will include viral clearance results for known hazards. Donor screening concerns must be fully addressed and methods of

harvesting must also be fully described. Process validation results are required to substantiate that manufacturing procedures are in place to minimise biological risks.

4.3.2. Clinical Evidence

This section should indicate how any applicable requirements of the Essential Principles for clinical evaluation of the medical device have been met. Where applicable, this evaluation may take the form of a systematic review of existing bibliography, clinical experience with the same or similar medical devices, or by clinical investigation. Clinical investigation is most likely to be needed for higher risk class medical devices, or for medical devices where there is little or no clinical experience.

4.3.2.1. Use of Existing Bibliography

Copies are required of all literature studies, or existing bibliography, that the **product owner** is using to support safety and effectiveness. These will be a subset of the bibliography of references. General bibliographic references should be medical device-specific as supplied in chronological order. Care should be taken to ensure that the references are timely and relevant to the current application.

Clinical evidence of effectiveness may comprise medical device-related investigations conducted domestically or other countries. It may be derived from relevant publications in a peer-reviewed scientific literature. The documented evidence submitted should include the objectives, methodology and results presented in context, clearly and meaningfully. The conclusions on the outcome of the clinical studies should be preceded by a discussion in context with the published literature.

4.4. Medical Device Labelling

This is the descriptive and informational product literature that accompanies the medical device any time while it is held for sale or shipped, such as any physician's manuals, pack labeling, promotional material and product brochures etc. This section should summarise or reference or contain the following labelling data to the extent appropriate to the complexity and risk class of the medical device, which is generally considered as "labelling":

- Labels on the medical device and its packaging
- Instructions for use
- Any information and instructions given to the patient, including instructions for any procedure the patient is expected to perform (if applicable).

4.4.1. Samples of Labels on the Medical Device and Its Packaging

This is the printed, written or graphic product information provided on or attached to one or more levels of packaging, including the outer packaging or the outside container wrapper. Any pack labelling, which is not provided on the outer packaging must be easily legible through this outer packaging. If it is physically impossible to include samples of labels (e.g. large warning labels affixed onto an X-ray machine), alternative submission methods (e.g. photographs or technical drawings), to the extent appropriate, will suffice to meet the requirements of this section.

4.4.2. Instructions for Use

The instructions for use is also commonly referred to as the physician's manual, user manual, operator's manual, prescriber's manual or reference manual. It contains directions under which the physician or end-user can use a medical device safely and for its intended purpose. This should include information on indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions, potential adverse effects, alternative therapy and the conditions that should be managed during normal use to maintain the safety and effectiveness of the medical device.

4.5. Risk Analysis

This section should summarise or reference or contain the results of the risk analysis. This risk analysis should be based upon international or other recognised standards, and be appropriate to the complexity and risk class of the medical device.

4.5.1. Results of Risk Analysis

A list of possible hazards for these medical devices must be prepared. Indirect risks from medical devices may result from medical device- associated hazards, such as moving parts, which lead to sustained injury, or from user-related hazards, such as ionizing radiation from an X-ray machine. The evaluation of these risks against the claimed benefits of the medical device and the method(s) used to reduce risk to acceptable levels must be described. The individual or organisation that carries out the risk analysis must be clearly identified. The technique used to analyse risk must be specified, to ensure that it is appropriate for the medical device and the risk involved.

4.6. Physical Manufacturer Information

This section should summarise or reference or contain documentation related to the manufacturing processes, including quality assurance measures, which is appropriate to the complexity and risk class of the medical device.

4.6.1. Manufacturing Process

Manufacturing process for the medical device should be provided in the form of a list of resources and activities that transform inputs into the desired output. The information may be presented in the form of a process flow chart showing an overview of production, controls, assembly, final product testing and packaging of the finished medical devices.

EXAMPLE: The manufacturing process should include the appropriate manufacturing methods and procedures, manufacturing environment or condition, and the facilities and controls used for the manufacturing, processing, packaging, labeling, storage of the medical device. Sufficient detail must be provided to enable a person generally familiar with quality systems to judge the appropriateness of the controls in place. A brief summary of the sterilisation method and processing should be included, if any. If multiple facilities are involved in the manufacture of medical device, the applicable information (e.g. quality assurance certificates issued by an accredited third party inspection body) for each facility must be submitted. Firms that manufacture or process the medical device under contract to the product owner may elect to submit all or a portion of the manufacturing information applicable to their facility directly to the Regulatory Authority in the form of a master file. The product owner should inform these contractors of the need to supply detailed information on the medical device. However, it is not the intent of this section to capture information relating to the supply of sub-components (i.e. unfinished medical device) that contributes towards the manufacture of the finished medical device itself.

ANNEX 5

Post Marketing Alert System (PMAS) Requirements

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Purpose

This document aims to provide guidance on the post-market obligations of persons who place medical devices on the markets of ASEAN Member States.

1.2. Background

This document is intended to provide guidelines on the following post-market alerting system requirements;

- Importation and/or distribution records
- Complaint records
- Adverse event (AE) reporting criteria and reporting format
- Field Safety Corrective Action (FSCA) reporting format

The Regulatory Authorities in the Member States may adopt the recommended post-market alerting system requirements in this Annex or prescribe their own post-market alerting system requirements.

Importation and/or Distribution records

Traceability is not only a requirement of an effective quality system but also the requirement of regulatory bodies around the world. Keeping proper and appropriate importation and/or distribution records is an important component of ensuring traceability of medical devices in the market.

Complaint records

An effective complaint handling system is an important part of any quality system. Any complaint received on a medical device should be evaluated and if necessary, thoroughly investigated and analysed, and corrective actions should be taken. The results of the evaluation should lead to a conclusion regarding whether the complaint was valid, the causes of the complaint, and what actions were necessary to prevent further occurrences.

Dealers of medical devices in the Member State shall be required to:

- maintain records of complaint reports and of actions taken in response to these reports, and produce such records for inspection by the Regulatory Authority in that Member State as and when requested; and
- establish and implement documented procedures to conduct effective and timely investigations of reported problems.

Adverse events

A number of post-marketing risk assessment measures to ensure the continued safe use of medical devices may be undertaken. These measures include reporting from healthcare professionals, mandatory reporting from medical device dealers, and exchange of regulatory information with other medical device regulatory agencies.

The mandatory reporting of AEs by medical device dealers is an important part of the post-market surveillance system. The objective of AE reporting and subsequent evaluations is to improve protection of the health and safety of patients, users and others by disseminating information that may reduce the likelihood of, or prevent repetition of AEs, or alleviate consequences of such repetition.

Field Safety Corrective Action (FSCA)

A FSCA is required when it becomes necessary for the product owner of the medical device to take action (including recall of the medical device) to eliminate, or reduce the risk of, the hazards identified.

A FSCA may still be necessary even when the medical device is no longer on the market or has been withdrawn but could still possibly be in use (e.g. implants).

A FSCA only applies to a medical device that has already been distributed by the product owner. It does not arise when a product owner is exchanging or upgrading medical devices in the absence of a safety risk or when removals from the market are for purely commercial reasons.

The product owner, physical manufacturer, authorised representative(s), importer and/or authorised distributor(s) in the Member State shall be responsible for performing and completing the FSCA in that Member State.

1.3. Scope

This document applies to all medical devices, including IVD medical devices.

1.4. Definitions

CUSTOMER COMPLAINT: any written, electronic or oral communication that alleges deficiencies related to the identity, quality, durability, reliability, safety or performance of a medical device that has been placed on the market.

DEALER: any person, which could include the product owner, physical manufacturer, authorised representative or authorised distributor in a Member State, who has either manufactured, imported, placed on the market or put into service a medical device in that Member State.

FIELD SAFETY NOTICE (FSN): A communication sent out by a product owner or its representative to the medical device users in relation to a FSCA.

SERIOUS DETERIORATION IN THE STATE OF HEALTH: any of the following state or condition of a patient:

- a life-threatening illness or injury suffered by that person;
- a permanent impairment of a bodily function of that person;
- any permanent damage to any part of that person's body; or
- a condition requiring medical or surgical intervention to prevent any such permanent impairment or damage.

2. IMPORTATION AND/OR DISTRIBUTION RECORDS

2.1. Responsibility for keeping importation and/or distribution records

In accordance with the requirements of the Regulatory Authority of each Member State, dealers shall:

- establish and implement documented procedures for the maintenance of importation and/or distribution records;
- maintain an importation and/or distribution record of each medical device.

Importation and/or distribution records should be maintained for all medical devices, including low risk medical devices that may be exempted from product registration.

2.2. Necessity of importation and/or distribution records

Keeping importation and/or distribution records will facilitate the accountability and traceability of a medical device.

This ensures that the medical device import and/or distribution channels in Member States are identifiable. Importation and/or distribution records of the medical devices are required to;

- expedite any recalls of batches of the medical devices;
- identify the product owner of each batch of the medical devices;
- identify where each batch of the medical devices is supplied.

2.3. Information to be retained as importation and/or distribution records

The importation and/or distribution record should contain sufficient information to permit complete and rapid withdrawal of the medical device from the market, where necessary.

Information may include:

- name and address of initial consignee;
- identification and quantity of medical devices imported/shipped;
- date imported/shipped;
- any control number(s) used, including lot / batch / serial number of the medical device.

2.4. Retention period for importation and/or distribution records

The importation and/or distribution record maintained with respect of a medical device should be retained for the longer of one of the following:

- the projected useful life of the medical device as determined by the
- product owner; or
- two years after the medical device is shipped.

NOTE: The projected useful life of a medical device may be based on technical, legal, commercial or other considerations. Product owners may refer to ISO/TR 14969 Medical devices - Quality management systems - Guidance on the application of ISO 13485:2003 for some of the considerations when defining the lifetime of their medical device.

For medical devices that are imported for export only, it is two years after the date the medical device is shipped out of the Member State.

2.5. Records maintenance

Importation and/or distribution records should be maintained in a manner that will allow their timely retrieval.

2.6. Records of implant

The distribution record maintained should also contain a record of the information of the implant when supplied by a healthcare facility.

3. COMPLAINT RECORDS

The records on complaints related to a medical device may include the following information:

- the medical device brand name, medical device registration number, model/catalogue number or bar code, control/serial/lot number and any other means of identification of the medical device;
- the name(s) and address(es) of the dealer;
- records pertaining to the problem investigation.

All actions taken by dealers in response to the problems and complaints must be kept on record. These actions include any communications with the reporter/complainant, the evaluation of the problem/complaint, and any steps taken to correct the problem or prevent the recurrence of the problem. Such steps might include increased post-market surveillance of the medical device, corrective and preventive action with respect to the design and manufacture of the medical device affected by the recall.

Attention should also be given to identifying the development of patterns or trends in problems with medical devices. The report of an isolated incident would assume much greater significance if other similar occurrences were reported.

3.1. Complaint handling procedure

Dealers should have in place a written procedure for complaint handling that outlines the steps to be taken once a complaint report is received for a medical device placed on the market or put into service in the Member State. The procedure should identify the personnel involved, and describe their functions and responsibilities.

In addition, the procedure should explain how to maintain records of the complaint reports, and where appropriate, how to assess these records and a reasonable time frame for completion of the investigation.

The procedure may contain the following:

- determination of whether there is a health hazard associated with the medical device;
- determination of whether the medical device fails to conform to any claim made by the dealer relating to its effectiveness, benefits, performance characteristics or safety;
- determination of whether the medical device fails to meet any legislative requirements;
- determination of the most appropriate preventive/corrective action; and
- justification when no action is taken, for example, in the case of receiving an unfounded or invalid complaint.

3.2. Retention of complaint records

Complaint records maintained with respect to a medical device should be retained for a period of five years on top of the projected useful life of the medical device as determined by the product owner. For example, if the projected useful life of the medical device is one year, the complaint records should be kept for six years.

4. ADVERSE EVENTS

4.1. Adverse event (AE) reportability criteria

As a general principle, there should be a pre-disposition to report rather than not to report in case of doubt on the reportability of an AE. Any AE, which meets the three basic reporting criteria listed below, is considered as a reportable AE. The criteria are that:

- an AE has occurred;
- the medical device is associated with the AE;
- the AE led to one of the following outcomes;
 - a serious threat to public health;
 - death of a patient, user or other person;
 - serious deterioration in state of health, user or other person;
- no death or serious injury occurred but the event might lead to death or serious injury of a patient, user or other person if the event recurs.

An event or other occurrence relating to a medical device represents a serious threat to public health if one or more of the following occur:

- the event or other occurrence is a hazard arising from a systematic failure of the medical device that becomes known to the dealer of the medical device;
- the event or other occurrence may lead to the death of, or a serious injury to, a patient, a user of the medical device or any other person;
- the probable rate of occurrence of or degree of severity of harm caused by the hazard was not previously known or anticipated by the product owner of the medical device;
- it becomes necessary for the product owner of the medical device to take prompt action (including the recall of the medical device) to eliminate or reduce the risk of the hazard.

A serious deterioration in state of health can include:

- life-threatening illness or injury;
- permanent impairment of a body function or permanent damage to a body structure;
- a condition necessitating medical or surgical intervention to prevent permanent impairment of a body function or permanent damage to a body structure.

Not all AEs that should be reported involve a death or serious deterioration in health that actually occurred. The non-occurrence of an adverse effect might have been due to other fortunate circumstances or to the timely intervention of health-care personnel. In such cases, it is sufficient that either:

- an AE associated with a medical device happened, and the AE was such that, if it occurred again, it might lead to death or serious deterioration in health; or
- testing, examination of the medical device, information supplied with the medical device, or any scientific literature indicated some factor (e.g. a deterioration in characteristics or performance, or a shortcoming in the information) which could lead to an AE involving death or serious deterioration in health.

For IVD medical devices, it would be sufficient that:

- an AE associated with an IVD medical device occurred, and
- the AE might lead to death or serious deterioration in health if it happens again;

for the adverse event to become reportable.

In assessing the type of AE, medical practitioner involved or other health-care professional should be consulted wherever practicable. All persons who place medical devices on the markets of Member States should be vigilant for any changes in trends or frequency of occurrences of AEs with regards to medical devices they deal in.

4.2. Adverse events involving IVD medical devices

Most IVD medical devices do not come into contact with patients and so it is not easy to establish direct harm to patients, unless the IVD medical device itself causes deterioration in the state of health in a patient. However, an adverse event involving an IVD medical device could result in indirect harm as a result of an action taken or not taken on the basis of an incorrect reading obtained with an IVD medical device.

There should always be a predisposition to report even though it may not be easy to establish that a serious deterioration in the state of a patient's health was the result of an erroneous test result obtained with an IVD medical device, or if the harm was the result of an error by the user or third party.

Information supplied by the product owner when inadequate, can lead users, patients or third parties to harm and should be reported. For self-testing IVD medical devices, where a medical decision may be made directly by the user who is the patient, insufficient information on the product presentation could lead to an incorrect use of the IVD medical device or a misdiagnosis. Hence, AEs involving IVD medical devices will most likely result from a consequence of a medical decision or action taken, or not taken, on the basis of result(s) provided by the IVD medical device.

Examples of these types of AEs include (non-exhaustive list);

- misdiagnosis;
- delayed diagnosis;
- delayed treatment;
- inappropriate treatment;
- transfusion of inappropriate materials.

AEs for IVD medical devices may arise due to (non-exhaustive list):

- shortcomings in the design or manufacture of the IVD medical device itself;
- inadequate instructions for use;
- inadequate servicing and maintenance;
- locally initiated modifications or adjustments;
- inappropriate user practice;
- inappropriate management procedures;
- inappropriate environment in which an IVD medical device is used or stored;
- selection of the incorrect IVD medical device for the purpose.

4.3. Adverse Event Reporting Timeline

All AEs should be reported immediately and

- not later than 48 hours for events that represent a serious threat to public health;
- not later than 10 days for events that has led to the death, or a serious deterioration in the state of health, of a patient, a user of the medical device or any other person;
- not later than 30 days for events where a recurrence of which might lead to the death, or a serious deterioration in the state of health, of a patient, a user of the medical device or any other person

The clock for reporting starts as soon as any personnel of the medical device dealers, including sales representatives, is made aware of the AE. If there is uncertainty about whether the AE is reportable, dealers should still submit a report within the timeframe stipulated.

Dealers should not unduly delay the reporting of AE(s) if information is incomplete. The initial report of an AE should contain as much relevant detail as is immediately available, but should not be delayed for the sake of gathering additional information.

Dealers of medical devices are to follow up with a final report within 30 days of the initial reports, detailing the investigation into the AE. If the final report is not available within 30 days, a follow-up report is to be submitted. Follow-up reports may be requested as and when necessary.

4.4. Reporting obligations

All dealers shall be required to report AEs involving medical devices, which they have placed on the market in the Member State.

Reports should be submitted using the prescribed format of the Regulatory Authority of the Member State, which may follow the ASEAN AE Report Form (Reference No. ASEAN-MDAR).

5. FIELD SAFETY CORRECTIVE ACTION (FSCA)

5.1. Determining the need for a field safety corrective action

The product owner of the medical device in question is responsible for determining the need for a FSCA in accessing the need for an FSCA, the product owner should perform a risk assessment in accordance to the current ISO 14971. If the risk assessment performed by the product owner is deemed deficient by the Regulatory Authority of the Member State, the Regulatory Authority of the Member State may instruct the relevant companies and persons who placed the medical device in the market of the Member State to take additional measures to safeguard public health.

FSCA may be triggered when information from the product owner's post market surveillance (including product complaints, adverse incidents, etc) indicates an unacceptable increase in risk.

On occasions, the Regulatory Authority may advise product owners or their representative to implement a FSCA in relation to a medical device due to risk of serious injury or death to patients, users or others. Such risks are usually identified through adverse events reports or other means.

In certain cases it may be necessary to use precautionary measures in the interest of public health and restrict or prohibit medical devices subject to particular requirements. In other cases, for safety reasons, it may be necessary to remove a medical device from the market.

5.2. Notification of field safety corrective action

When the dealer decides to initiate a FSCA, they shall notify the Regulatory Authority.

The time frame for notification of an FSCA shall be prescribed by the Regulatory Authority of the Member State.

All notification and reports are to be submitted in the manner that the Regulatory Authority prescribes.

5.3. Information to be provided

When the need for an FSCA has been established, the dealer should gather all relevant information on incident reports, the medical device and its distribution, and the action proposed. Some information may not be available immediately (e.g. distribution chains, batch size etc). Notification to the Regulatory Authority in the Member State should not be delayed pending collation of these data.

Reports should be submitted using the prescribed format of the Regulatory Authority of the Member State, which may follow the ASEAN FSCA Report Form (Reference No. ASEAN-MDFR).

5.4. Closure of FSCA

On completion of a FSCA, the dealer should provide details to the Regulatory Authority of the Member State of the proposed corrective action to prevent recurrence of the problem that give rise to the FSCA.

The FSCA will only be closed when all appropriate corrective actions have been undertaken, subject to the concurrence of the Regulatory Authority of the Member State.

ANNEX 6

Components Elements of a Product Owner's or Physical Manufacturer's Declaration of Conformity (DOC)

1. COMPONENTS OF A DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

The DOC shall contain the following information:

- an attestation that each medical device that is subject to the declaration
 - complies with the applicable Essential Principles for Safety and Performance, and
 - has been classified according to the classification rules;
- information sufficient to identify the medical device/s to which the DOC applies;
- the risk class allocated to the medical device/s after following the guidance found in Principles of Medical Device Classification;
- the date from which the DOC is valid;
- the name and address of the product owner and physical manufacturer;
- quality management standards;
- medical device standards (product standards¹);
- the name, position and signature of the responsible person who has been authorised to complete the DOC upon the product owner's behalf.

2. RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREPARING THE DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

The product owner or physical manufacturer of the medical device is responsible for preparing and signing the DOC. A copy of the signed and dated DOC should be submitted as part of product registration. The original signed copy of the DOC should be made available to the Regulatory Authority of a Member State upon request. A Member State may impose additional measures (e.g. legalisation or notarisation) to be undertaken to ensure the authenticity of a DOC submitted to the Regulatory Authority of that Member State.

3. TEMPLATE FOR DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

[To be printed on Company Letterhead of Product Owner or Physical Manufacturer]

We hereby declare that the below mentioned medical devices have been classified according to the classification rules and conform to the Essential Principles for Safety and Performance as laid out in the *[state the applicable statute of the Member State]*.

Name and Address of Product Owner:

< Person responsible for manufacturing the medical device >

Name and Address of Physical Manufacturer:

< Person responsible for manufacturing the medical device >

Authorised Representative (if required by a particular Member State):

< Local authorised representative responsible for placing the medical device on the market of the ASEAN Member State >

Medical Device(s):

< e.g. medical device name and model number >

¹ Standards may include international (e.g. ISO, IEC), regional (e.g. CEN) and national (e.g. 88, A8TM, B8) standards.

Risk Classification: e.g. Class B, rule

< Class of Medical device according to the classification rule, and the rule used to determine the classification >

Quality Management System Certificate:

< Certification Body and Certificate Number, issue date, expiry date >

Standards Applied:

< International standards; OR Regional Standard; OR See Attached Schedule for multiple standards >

This declaration of conformity is valid from < Day Month Year >

Authorised Signatory:

Name, Position

Date

ANNEX 7

Labelling Requirements

1. DEFINITIONS

CLINICAL INVESTIGATION: Any systematic investigation or study in or on one or more human subjects, undertaken to assess the safety and/or performance of a medical device.

Explanation: This term is synonymous with 'clinical trial' and 'clinical study'. Clinical investigations include feasibility studies and those conducted for the purpose of gaining market approval, as well as investigations conducted following marketing approval.

Routine post market surveillance may not constitute a clinical investigation {e.g. investigation of complaints, individual vigilance reports, literature reviews}.

LABEL: Written, printed or graphic information provided upon the medical device itself. Where physical constraints prevent this happening, this term includes information provided on the packaging of each unit or on the packaging of multiple medical devices.

LABELLING: The label, instructions for use, and/or any other information that is related to identification, technical description, intended purpose and proper use of the medical device, but excluding shipping documents.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE: Information provided by the product owner to inform the medical device user of the product's proper use and of any precautions to be taken.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Review of the performance of a medical device based upon data already available, scientific literature and, where appropriate, laboratory, animal or clinical investigations,

RESEARCH USE ONLY: Research use only is where the medical device is made available to institutions/laboratories to be subject to studies intended for collation of data only. The product is not intended for any medical purpose or objective.

2. LABELLING REQUIREMENTS

2.1 General Requirements

- As far as it is practical and appropriate, the information needed to identify and use the medical device safely should be provided on the medical device itself, and /or on the packaging for each unit (primary level of packaging), and / or on the packaging of multiple medical devices (secondary level of packaging). If individual packaging of each unit is not practicable, the information should be set out in the leaflet, packaging insert or other media supplied with, or applicable to, one or multiple medical devices.
- Where the product owner supplies multiple medical devices to a single user and/or location, it may be sufficient and appropriate to provide with them only a single copy of the instructions for use. In these circumstances the medical device user should have access to further copies upon request.
- The medium, format, content, readability and location of labelling should be appropriate to the particular medical device, its intended purpose and the technical knowledge, experience, education or training of the intended user(s) in particular, instructions for use should be written in terms readily understood by the intended user and, where appropriate, supplemented with drawings and diagrams. Some medical devices may require separate information for the healthcare professional and the lay user.
- Instructions for Use (IFU) may not be needed or may be abbreviated for medical devices of low or moderate risk if they can be used safely and as intended by the product owner without any such instructions.
- Paper versions of all labelling must accompany the medical device, as the case may be in the Member State.
- Any residual risk identified in the risk analysis should be reflected as contraindications, precautions or warnings within the labelling.
- The use of internationally recognised symbols is encouraged provided that medical device safety is not compromised by a lack of understanding on the part of the patient or user. Where the meaning of the symbol is not obvious to the medical device user, e.g. for a lay- user or for a newly introduced symbol, an explanation should be provided.
- All characters on labelling must be of adequate size and legibly printed.

2.2 Content of Labelling

2.2.1 Primary and Secondary Levels of Packaging

Contact Information

It is mandatory to include the name and contact details (address and/or phone number and/or fax number and/or website address to obtain technical assistance) of the product owner on the labelling.

General

The labelling for all medical devices should bear the following:

- Sufficient details for the user to identify the medical device and, where these are not obvious, its intended purpose, user and patient population of the medical device; also, where relevant, the contents of any packaging.
- An indication of either the batch code/lot number (e.g. on single-use disposable medical devices or reagents) or the serial number (e.g. on electrically-powered medical devices), where relevant, to allow appropriate actions to trace and recall the medical devices.
- An unambiguous indication of the date until when the medical device may be used safely, expressed at least as the year and month (e.g. on medical devices supplied sterile, single-use disposable medical devices or reagents), where this is relevant. Where relevant, the storage conditions and shelf life following the first opening of the primary container, together with the storage conditions and stability of working solutions. For medical devices other than those covered by the above, and as appropriate to the type of medical device, an indication of the date of manufacture. This indication may be included in the batch code/lot number or serial number.

- The information needed to verify whether the medical device is properly installed and can operate correctly and safely, including details of the nature, and frequency of preventative and regular maintenance, where relevant any quality control, replacement of consumable components, and calibration needed to ensure that the medical device operates properly and safely during its intended life.
- Any warnings, precautions, limitations or contra-indications.
- The performance intended by the product owner and, where relevant, any undesirable side effects.
- An indication on the external packaging of any special storage and /or handling conditions that applies.
- Details of any further treatment or handling needed before the medical device can be used (e.g. sterilisation, final assembly, calibration, preparation of reagents and/or control materials, etc.) where relevant.

The inclusion of the manufacturing site of the medical device and contact information of the importer, authorised representative or physical manufacturer is optional.

*NOTE: Please note that "manufactured/made in Country X" or other similar wording can only be printed on the labels if there is significant processing of the medical devices in Country X. The following are **excluded**: simple operations consisting of removal of dust, sifting or screening, sorting, classifying, matching (including the making up of sets of articles), washing, painting, cutting up; changes of packing and breaking up and assembly of consignments; simple placing in bottles, flasks, bags, cases, boxes, fixing on cards or boards, and all other simple packing operations; the affixing of marks, labels or other like distinguishing signs on medical devices or their packaging; etc.*

Additional Requirements

The labelling for some medical devices should contain the following additional information:

- If the medical device is **sterile**, an indication of that condition and necessary instructions in the event of damage to sterile packaging and, where appropriate, description of methods of re-sterilisation.
- If the medical device has been specified by the product owner as intended for **single-use only**, an indication of that state.
- If the medical device is **reusable**, information on the appropriate processes to allow reuse, including cleaning, disinfection, packaging and, where appropriate, the method of re-sterilisation and any restriction on the number of reuses. Where a medical device is supplied with the intention that it is sterilised before use, the instructions for cleaning and sterilisation should be such that, if correctly followed, the medical device will still perform as intended by the product owner and comply with the *Essential Principles of Safety and Performance of Medical Devices* in the Agreement.
- If the medical device is a **refurbished** medical device, identification of the medical device as a refurbished medical device,
- If the medical device is for use by a single individual and has been manufactured according to a written prescription or pattern (i.e. it is **custom-made**), an indication of that state.
- If the medical device is intended for **clinical investigation** or, for IVD medical devices, **performance evaluation** only, an indication of that situation,
- If the medical device is intended for **research use** only, it must be labelled as "research use only".
- If the medical device is intended for **presentation or demonstration purposes** only, it must be labelled as "for presentation or demonstration purposes only: not for use on humans".
- If the medical device is **implantable**, information regarding any particular risks in connection with its implantation.
- If the medical device **emits radiation** for medical purposes, details of the nature, type and where appropriate, the intensity and distribution of this radiation.
- Information regarding the risks of reciprocal interference posed by the reasonably foreseeable presence of the medical device during specific investigations, evaluations, treatment or use (e.g. electromagnetic interference from other equipment).

- If the medical device is to be installed with or connected to other medical devices or equipment, or with dedicated software, in order to operate as required for its intended purpose, sufficient details of its characteristics to identify the correct medical devices or equipment to use in order to obtain a safe combination.
- If the medical device is an IVD medical device, it must be labelled as “in vitro diagnostic” or “IVD”.

2.2.2 Instructions For Use (IFU)/ Patient Information Leaflet

For medical devices where an IFU or a patient information leaflet is applicable, the following additional information should be contained therein:

- Date of issue or latest revision of the instructions for use and, where appropriate, an identification number.

The instructions for use should also include, where appropriate, details informing the users and/or patient and allowing the medical staff to brief the patient on any contra-indications, warnings and any precautions to be taken. These details should cover in particular:

- Precautions and/or measures to be taken in the event of changes in the performance, or malfunction, of the medical device including a contact telephone number, if appropriate.
- Precautions and/or measures to be taken as regards exposure, in reasonably foreseeable environmental conditions, to magnetic fields, external electrical influences, electrostatic discharge, pressure or variations in pressure, temperature, humidity, acceleration, thermal ignition sources, proximity to other medical devices, etc.
- If the medical device administers medicinal products, adequate information regarding any medicinal product(s) which the medical device in question is designed to administer, including any limitations in the choice of substances to be delivered.
- Any medicinal substances or biological material incorporated into the medical device as an integral part of the medical device.
- If the medical device has a measuring function, the degree of accuracy claimed for it.
- Any requirement for special facilities, or special training, or particular qualifications of the medical device user and/or third parties.
- Any precautions to be taken related to the disposal of the medical device and/or its accessories (e.g. lancets), to any consumables used with it (e.g. batteries or reagents) or to any potentially infectious substances of human or animal origin.
- Where relevant, for medical devices intended for lay persons a statement clearly directing the user not to make any decision of medical relevance without first consulting his or her health care provider.

IVD Medical Devices

For IVD medical devices, in addition to the information required above, directions/instructions for the proper use of IVD medical devices that should be contained in the labelling include:

(a) Intended purpose, including the following information:

- Type of analyte or measurand of the assay.
- Whether the test is quantitative or qualitative.
- Role of the test in the clinical use e.g. screening, diagnostic or detection, aid to diagnostic, monitoring.
- Disease or condition that the test is intended for.
- Type of specimen to be used e.g. serum, plasma etc.
- The intended users (e.g. self-testing by lay person, near-patient by trained personnel or professionals).
- Assay type e.g. immunoassay, chemistry, cytochemistry, image analysis, immunohistochemistry.
- The specific name of the instrument required for the assay, if any.

- For instruments, the intended purpose should also include the modes of operation for instruments e.g., random access, batch, Stat, open tube, closed tube, automatic, manual.
- (b) Test principle.
- (c) Specimen type.
- (d) Conditions for collection, handling, storage and preparation of the specimen.
- (e) Reagent description and any limitation (e.g. use with a dedicated instrument only).
- (f) The metrological traceability of values assigned to calibrators and trueness-control materials, including identification of applicable reference materials and/or reference measurement procedures of higher order.
- (g) Assay procedure including calculations and interpretation of results.
- (h) Information on interfering substances that may affect the performance of the assay.
- (i) Performance characteristics (summarised analytical and diagnostic sensitivity, specificity, reproducibility, etc.),
- (j) Reference intervals.
- (k) Study design (population studies, N, type of sample, matrix, dilution, target concentrations, etc).

ANNEX 8

Clinical Investigation

1. INTRODUCTION

A clinical investigation is a systematic investigation or study in or on one or more human subjects, undertaken to assess the safety and/or performance of a medical device.”

The undertaking of a clinical investigation is a scientific process that represents one method of generating clinical data.

The objective of a clinical investigation is to evaluate whether the medical device is suitable for the purpose(s) and the population(s) for which it is intended.

In general, clinical investigations must take into account scientific principles underlying the collection of clinical data along with accepted ethical standards surrounding the use of human subjects. The clinical investigation objectives and design should be documented in a clinical investigation plan.

While clinical evidence is an essential element of the pre-market conformity assessment process to demonstrate conformity to Essential Principles, it is important to recognise that there may be limitations in the clinical data available in the pre-market phase. Such limitations may be due to, for example, the duration of pre-market clinical investigations, the number of subjects involved in an investigation, the relative homogeneity of subjects and investigators and the control of variables in the setting of a clinical investigation versus use in the full range of conditions encountered in general medical practice.

It is appropriate to place a medical device on the market once conformity to the relevant Essential Principles, including a favourable risk/benefit ratio, has been demonstrated. Complete characterisation of all risks may not always be possible

or practicable in the pre-market phase. Therefore, there may be questions regarding residual risks that should be answered in the post-market phase through the use of one or more systematic post-market clinical follow-up studies. Such studies are not intended to substitute or duplicate but rather supplement the pre-market clinical evaluation.

Post-market clinical follow-up studies are one of several options available in a post-market surveillance programme and contribute to the risk management process.

2. SCOPE

The primary purpose of this Annex is to provide guidelines in relation to:

- when a clinical investigation should be undertaken for a medical device to demonstrate compliance with the relevant Essential Principles (see Annex 1 “*Essential Principles of Safety and Performance of Medical Devices*”), and
- the general principles of clinical investigations involving medical devices.
- post-market clinical follow-up studies developed specifically for issues of residual risk (including those mandated by regulation).
- the circumstances where a post-market clinical follow-up study is indicated;
- the general principles of post-market clinical follow-up studies involving medical devices; and
- the use of study information.

This Annex is intended to apply to medical devices generally and the device component of combination products, to address the use of Clinical Investigations to support a marketing authorisation application. It is not intended to cover IVD medical devices.

3. DEFINITIONS

CLINICAL DATA: Safety and/or performance information that are generated from the clinical use of a medical device.

CLINICAL EVALUATION: The assessment and analysis of clinical data pertaining to a medical device to verify the clinical safety and performance of the medical device when used as intended by the product owner.

CLINICAL EVIDENCE: The clinical data and the clinical evaluation report pertaining to a medical device.

CLINICAL INVESTIGATION: Any systematic investigation or study in or on one or more human subjects, undertaken to assess the safety and/or performance of a medical device.

CLINICAL INVESTIGATION PLAN: Document that states the rationale, objectives, design and proposed analysis, methodology, monitoring, conduct and record-keeping of the clinical investigation.

CLINICAL PERFORMANCE: The ability of a medical device to achieve its intended purpose as claimed by the product owner.

CLINICAL SAFETY: The absence of unacceptable clinical risks, when using the device according to the product owner’s Instructions for Use.

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT: The systematic examination of evidence generated and procedures undertaken by the product owner, under requirements established by the Regulatory Authority, to determine that a medical device is safe and performs as intended by the product owner and, therefore, conforms to the *Essential Principles of Safety and Performance for Medical Devices (Annex 1)*.

DEVICE REGISTRY; An organised system that uses observational study methods to collect defined clinical data under normal conditions of use relating to one or more medical devices to evaluate specified outcomes for a population defined by a particular disease, condition, or exposure and that serves (a) predetermined scientific, clinical or policy purpose(s).

NOTE: The term "device registry" as used here should not be confused with the concept of medical device registration and listing.

ENDPOINT: Indicators measured or determined to assess the objectives of a clinical investigation, prospectively specified in the clinical investigation plan.

POST-MARKET CLINICAL FOLLOW-UP STUDY: A study carried out following marketing approval intended to answer specific questions relating to clinical safety or performance (i.e. residual risks) of a medical device when used in accordance with its approved labelling. These may examine issues such as long-term performance, the appearance of clinical events (such as delayed hypersensitivity reactions or thrombosis), or events specific to defined patient populations.

RESIDUAL RISK: Risk remaining after risk control measures have been taken (e.g. known or emerging risks, or potential risks due to statistical limitations).

RISK MANAGEMENT: The systematic application of management policies, procedures and practices to the tasks of analysing, evaluating, controlling and monitoring risk.

4. GENERAL PRINCIPLES WHEN CONSIDERING THE NEED FOR A CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

4.1. Circumstances Where a Pre-market Clinical Investigation is Needed

Clinical investigations are necessary to provide the data not available through other sources (such as literature or preclinical testing) required to demonstrate compliance with the relevant Essential Principles (including safety, clinical performance and acceptability of risk/benefit ratio associated with its use). When a clinical investigation is conducted, the data obtained is used in the clinical evaluation process and is part of the clinical evidence for the medical device.

Crucial steps in clarifying the need for clinical investigations

- (i) Identifying relevant clinical **Essential Principles** (for example, specifics of safety, clinical performance, acceptability of risk/benefit-ratio) for the medical device and its intended purpose(s) and use(s) (see Annex 1 - *Essential Principles of Safety and Performance of Medical Devices*),
- (ii) Perform **risk management** activities to help in identifying the clinical data necessary to control residual risks and aspects of clinical performance not completely resolved by available information e.g. design solutions, preclinical and material/technical evaluation, conformity with relevant standards, labelling, etc.;
- (iii) Conduct a proper **clinical evaluation** to demonstrate which clinical data are necessary and can be adequately contributed to by other methods, such as literature searching, prior clinical investigations or clinical experience, and which clinical data remain to be delivered by clinical investigation(s). Available clinical data for comparator medical devices should be carefully examined for comparability and adequacy.

The steps are applicable for the introduction of a new medical device as well as for planned changes of a medical device, its intended purpose and/or claims.

4.2. Role of risk analysis

A properly conducted risk analysis is essential in determining what clinical evidence may be needed for a particular medical device. A clinical investigation may be required when the currently available data from preclinical testing, and any prior clinical investigations or other forms of clinical data are insufficient to demonstrate conformity with

the Essential Principles. This would be the case when the product owner's risk analysis and the clinical evaluation of a medical device for a particular intended purpose, including new claims, shows that there are residual risks, including aspects of clinical performance, that have not been adequately addressed by the available data and cannot be addressed through other methods.

"Residual risk" refers to the risk remaining after risk control measures have been taken. Risk control measures include inherent safety by design, protective measures in the medical device itself or in the manufacturing process, and information for safety. The decision to use a medical device in the context of a clinical procedure requires the residual risk to be balanced against the anticipated benefits of the procedure. A clinical investigation may be used to further elucidate the risk/benefit ratio in a defined patient population. For instance, risk can be measured through safety endpoints, and benefits may be measured through assessments of clinical performance. Residual risks that could require the use of a clinical investigation might be an unknown rate of medical device failure.

For long established technologies, clinical investigation data that might be required for novel technologies may not be necessary. The available clinical data in the form of, for example, published literature, reports of clinical experience, post-market reports and adverse event data should, in principle, be adequate to establish the safety and performance of the medical device, provided that new risks have not been identified, and that the indications for use have not changed.

Where uncertainty exists as to whether current data are sufficient to demonstrate conformity with the Essential Principles, discussion with Regulatory Authorities may be appropriate.

4.3. Justification for the Need for a Clinical Investigation

In order to be justified and to avoid unnecessary experimentation on human subjects, the clinical investigation(s) must:

- be necessary (as assessed above);
- be designed properly (see Section on "General Principles of Clinical Investigation Design");
- be ethical (see Section on "Ethical Considerations for Clinical Investigations");
- follow a proper risk management procedure to avoid undue risks; and
- be compliant with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

4.4. General Principles of Clinical investigation Design

The design of the clinical investigation, including the study objectives and statistical considerations, should provide the clinical data necessary to address the residual risks, including aspects of clinical performance. Some factors that may influence the extent of data requirements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- type of medical device and/or regulatory classification;
- novel technology/relevant previous experience;
- clinical application/indications;
- nature of exposure to the medical device, e.g.: surface contact, implantation, ingestion;
- risks inherent in the use of the medical device, e.g.; risk associated with the procedure;
- performance claims made in the medical device labeling (including instructions for use) and/or promotional materials;
- component materials;
- disease process (including severity) and patient population being treated;
- demographic, geographic and cultural considerations (e.g.: age, race, gender, etc.);

- potential impact of medical device failure;
- period of exposure to the medical device;
- expected lifetime of the medical device;
- availability of alternative treatments and current standard of care; and
- ethical considerations.

As a general rule, medical devices based on new or “unproven” technology and those that extend the intended purpose of an existing technology through a new clinical use are more likely to require supporting clinical investigation data.

4.5. Specific Considerations for Medical Device Study Designs

Medical device technologies have introduced a variety of complex challenges influencing the design of clinical investigations. Some of the factors that need to be considered include, for example:

- clear statement of objectives
- appropriate subject population(s)
- minimisation of bias (e.g., randomisation, blinding)
- identification of confounding factors (e.g., concurrent medications, co-morbidities)
- choice of appropriate controls (e.g., cohort, sham, historical), where necessary
- design configuration (e.g., parallel, crossover, factorial)
- type of comparison (e.g., superiority, non-inferiority, equivalence)
- Investigations should be planned in such a way as to maximise the clinical relevance of the data while minimising confounding factors.

Possible study designs include:

- **randomised controlled trials** - clinical investigations where subjects are randomised to receive either a test or reference medical device or intervention and outcomes and event rates are compared for the treatment groups
- **cohort studies** - data are obtained from groups who have and have not been exposed to the medical device (e.g. concurrent control) and outcomes compared
- **case-control studies** - patients with a defined outcome and controls without the outcome are selected and information is obtained about whether the subjects were exposed to the medical device
- case series - the medical device has been used in a series of patients and the results reported, with no control group for comparison
- In designing the study, statistical considerations should be prospectively specified and be based on sound scientific principles and methodology. Care must be taken in developing a statistical plan that includes consideration of, for example, the following:
 - clinically relevant endpoints
 - statistical significance levels, power
 - sample size justification
 - analysis methodology (including sensitivity and poolability analysis)
- The design should ensure that the statistical evaluation derived from the investigation reflects a meaningful, clinically significant outcome.

Discussion with Regulatory Authorities may be appropriate when there is uncertainty as to whether the proposed clinical investigational plan is sufficient.

4.6. Conduct of Clinical Investigations

A properly conducted clinical investigation, including compliance to the clinical investigation plan and applicable local laws and regulations, ensures the protection of subjects, the integrity of the data and that the data obtained is acceptable for the purpose of demonstrating conformity to the Essential Principles.

4.7. Final Study Report

The outcome of a clinical investigation should be documented in a final study report. The final study report then forms part of the clinical data that is included in the clinical evaluation process and ultimately becomes integrated into the clinical evaluation report for the purposes of conformity assessment.

4.8. Ethical Considerations for Clinical Investigations

As a general principle, the rights, safety and well-being of clinical investigation subjects shall be protected consistent with the ethical principles laid down in the Declaration of Helsinki.

Specific considerations may include:

- clinical investigations should be used only when appropriate data cannot be obtained through any other method, as it is desirable to minimise experimentation on human subjects;
- the design of the investigation and its endpoints should be adequate to address the residual risks including aspects of clinical performance;
- care must be taken to ensure that the necessary data are obtained through a scientific and ethical investigational process that does not expose subjects to undue risks or discomfort; and
- ethics review and regulatory body oversight occurs in conformity to local laws or regulations.

5. CLINICAL INVESTIGATION - POST-MARKET CLINICAL FOLLOW-UP STUDIES

5.1. Circumstances Where A Post-Market Clinical Follow-Up Study Is Indicated

The need for post-market clinical follow-up studies should be determined from the identification of residual risks that may impact the risk/benefit ratio.

Circumstances that may result in the need for post-market clinical follow-up studies include, for example:

- innovation, e.g. where the design of the medical device, the materials, the principles of operation, the technology or the medical indications are novel;
- a new indication or claim has been approved;
- changes to medical device design or labelling;
- changes to medical practice;
- higher risk classification;
- high risk anatomical locations;
- severity of disease/treatment challenges;
- sensitivity of target population;
- identification of previously unstudied populations;
- risks identified from the literature or similar marketed medical devices;
- discrepancy between the pre-market follow-up time scales and the expected life of the medical device;

- unanswered questions of long-term safety and performance;
- results of any previous clinical investigation including adverse events identified or from post-market surveillance activities;
- questions of ability to generalise clinical investigation results; or
- emergence of new information relating to safety or performance.

Post-market clinical follow-up studies may not be required in cases where the medium/long-term safety and clinical performance are already known from previous use of the medical device or where other appropriate post-market surveillance activities would provide sufficient data to address the risks.

5.2. Elements of A Post-Market Clinical Follow-Up Study

Post-market clinical follow-up studies are performed on a medical device within its intended purpose(s) according to the instructions for use. It is important to note that post-market clinical follow-up studies must be conducted according to applicable laws and regulations, and should follow appropriate guidance and standards.

The elements of a post-market clinical follow-up study include:

- clearly stated objective(s);
- a scientifically sound design with an appropriate rationale and statistical analysis plan;
- a study plan; and
- implementation of the study according to the plan, an analysis of the data and appropriate conclusion(s).

5.2.1. The objective(s) of post-market clinical follow-up studies

The objective(s) of the study should be stated clearly and should address the residual risk(s) identified and be formulated to address one or more specific questions relating to the clinical safety or performance of the medical device.

5.2.2. The design of post-market clinical follow-up studies

Post-market clinical follow-up studies should be designed to address the objective(s) of the study. The design may vary based on the objective(s) and should be scientifically sound to allow for valid conclusions to be drawn.

The study design can take several forms, for example:

- the extended follow-up of patients enrolled in pre-market investigations;
- a new clinical investigation;
- a review of data derived from a device registry; or
- a review of relevant retrospective data from patients previously exposed to the medical device.

5.2.3. The post-market clinical follow-up study plan

All post-market clinical follow-up studies should have a plan appropriate for addressing the stated objectives. The study plan should justify, for example:

- the patient population;
- the selection of sites and investigators;
- the endpoints and statistical considerations;
- the number of subjects involved;
- the duration of the study;

- the data to be collected;
- the analysis plan including any interim reporting; and
- procedures for early study termination.

5.2.4. Implementation of the post-market clinical follow-up study, analysis of data and conclusion(s)

The study should:

- be executed with adequate control measures to assure compliance with the plan;
- include data analysis with conclusions drawn according to the analysis plan by someone with appropriate expertise; and
- have a final report with conclusions relating back to original objective(s).

5.3. The Use of Study Information

The data and conclusions derived from the post-market clinical follow-up study are used to provide clinical evidence to support the post-market surveillance program. This process may result in the need to reassess whether the medical device continues to comply with the *Essential Principles for Safety and Performance of Medical Devices (Annex 1)*. Such assessment may result in corrective or preventive actions, for example, changes to the labelling/instructions for use, changes to manufacturing processes, or changes to the medical device design.

ASEAN Investment Area
(AIA) Council

**Protocol to Amend the ASEAN
Comprehensive Investment
Agreement**

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 26 August 2014

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, Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations ("ASEAN"), hereinafter collectively referred to as "Member States" or singularly as "Member State";

RECALLING the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "ACIA") signed on 26 February 2009 which aims to create a free and open investment regime in ASEAN in order to achieve the end goal of economic integration under the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in accordance with the AEC Blueprint;

RECOGNISING the need to provide clarity to Article 9 (Reservations) and Article 10 (Modification of Commitments) of the ACIA and to adopt an efficient mechanism to effect any changes in each Member State's reservation list following subsequent amendments or modifications; and

NOTING that Article 46 (Amendments) of the ACIA provides that the provisions of the ACIA may be modified through amendments mutually agreed upon in writing by the Member States,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Amendment to Article 9 (Reservations) of the ACIA

Article 9(4) shall be amended to read as follows:

"4. Each Member State shall reduce or eliminate the reservations specified in the Schedule in accordance with the three phases of the Strategic Schedule of the AEC Blueprint."

Article 2

**Amendments to Article 10
(Modification of Commitments) of the ACIA**

1. Article 10(1) shall be amended to read as follows:

"1. For a period of 12 months *from the date of entry into force of this Agreement*, a Member State may adopt any measures or modify any of its reservations made in the Schedule under Article 9 (Reservations) for prospective applications to investors of any other Member States and their investments, provided that such measures or modification shall not adversely affect any existing investors and investments."

2. The following new paragraph shall be inserted after Article 10(4):

"5. *Any amendment or modification of the commitments and reservations in accordance with this Article shall be subject to the procedures prescribed in Annex 3 (Procedures for Amendment or Modification of Reservations).*"

Article 3

**Amendments to Article 42
(Institutional Arrangements) of the ACIA**

Article 42(3) shall be amended as follows:

1. The following new sub-paragraph shall be inserted after sub-paragraph (d):

"(e) *update and endorse the Reservation Lists of this Agreement;*"

2. The existing sub-paragraphs (e), (f), (g) and (h) shall be renumbered accordingly.

Article 4
Insertion of Annex 3 to the ACIA

The following shall be inserted as Annex 3:

“ANNEX 3
Procedures for Amendment or Modification
of Reservations

1. Any amendment or modification of a Member State's reservations in the Schedule to this Agreement may be made:
 - (a) For the reduction or elimination of reservations under Article 9(4);
 - (b) For the modification of reservations within 12 months from the date of entry into force of this Agreement under Article 10(1); and
 - (c) For the modification or withdrawal of commitments and reservations after the expiration of the period referred to in sub-paragraph (b) above, subject to negotiation and agreement under Article 10(2).
2. The procedures for amendment or modification of reservations under sub-paragraphs 1 (a) and 1 (b) above shall be as follows:
 - (a) A Member State intending to amend or modify its reservation (hereinafter referred to as “Modifying Member State”) shall submit a Notification to the Coordinating Committee on Investment (CCI) with a copy furnished to the ASEAN Secretariat. The Notification shall include details of the proposal, such as the reservation being amended or modified, in whole or in part, and the exact nature of the proposed changes. The Template for the Notification is attached as Appendix 1:
 - (b) The Modifying Member State shall append to the Notification a draft Supplementary Note and the draft reservation containing the proposed amendment or modification. The Template for the Supplementary Note is attached as Appendix 2;
 - (c) Any other Member State may seek clarification on the proposed amendment or modification within 10 days from the date of receipt of the Notification;
 - (d) The Modifying Member State shall provide additional information or clarification as sought by the other Member States within 5 days from the date of receipt of the request;
 - (e) The CCI shall inter-sessionally within 30 days from the date of receipt of the Notification or at its next meeting, whichever is earlier, discuss the proposed amendment or modification, and may exchange views on improving the language of the amended or modified reservation, where appropriate, for clarity and specificity;
 - (f) After the CCI completes its discussion and exchange of views, it shall inter-sessionally within 5 days after the completion of the discussions or at its next meeting, whichever is earlier, submit a report on the proposed amendment or modification and include the Supplementary Note and the draft reservation for the endorsement of the AIA Council through the Secretary-General of ASEAN;
 - (g) The amendment or modification and any clarification made thereto shall be noted by the CCI and the AIA Council in their next respective meetings;
 - (h) The amended or modified reservations shall take effect on the date of the receipt by the Secretary-General of ASEAN of the last of the letters of endorsement of the amendment or modification from the other Member States; and
 - (i) The endorsement by the AIA Council, the Supplementary Note and the amended or modified reservation of the Modifying Member State shall be deposited with the ASEAN Secretariat, who shall promptly furnish certified copies thereof to each Member State.
3. The provisions set forth in paragraph 2 above shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the modification or withdrawal of commitments and reservations under sub-paragraph 1(c) with the additional procedures as follows:
 - (a) Within 30 days from the date of receipt of the Notification for modification or withdrawal, any Member State who considers its interest affected shall communicate in writing to the Modifying Member State its intent to engage

in consultations or negotiations with a copy furnished to the ASEAN Secretariat. The ASEAN Secretariat shall also notify the other Member States of such intent;

- (b) The Member States concerned shall negotiate with a view to reaching an agreement within 45 days from the date that the communication under sub-paragraph 3(a) was made;
- (c) Upon completion of the negotiations, the Member States concerned shall make a joint report on the outcome, which may include provisions for compensatory adjustment. The Modifying Member State shall then submit such report to the CCI;
- (d) After the receipt of the joint report under sub-paragraph 3(c), the CCI shall inter-sessionally within 5 days or at its next meeting, whichever is earlier, commence discussion or exchange views on improving the language of the amended or modified reservations, where appropriate, for the purpose of clarity and specificity; and
- (e) Thereafter, the procedure shall continue as set out under sub-paragraphs 2(f), 2(g), 2(h) and 2(i) above.
4. The AIA Council may, at the request of a Member State, review the procedures set out in this Annex. The CCI, as directed by the AIA Council, shall undertake the review and submit its recommendations to the AIA Council. Upon the approval by the AIA Council, the procedures shall be amended.”

Article 5 **Transitory Provisions**

All modifications of reservations made pursuant to Article 10(1) of the ACIA and endorsed by the AIA Council at the AEM-15th AIA Council on 27 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia, shall be deemed effective from that date.

Article 6 **Final Provisions**

1. This Protocol shall form an integral part of the ACIA and shall enter into force after all Member

States have notified the completion of their internal procedures for the entry into force of this Protocol to, or, where necessary, deposited instruments of ratification or acceptance with, the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

2. The Secretary-General of ASEAN shall promptly notify all Member States of the notifications or deposit of each instrument of ratification or acceptance referred to in paragraph 1.
3. This Protocol shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN, who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof to each Member State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed this Protocol to Amend the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement.

Done at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, this Twenty-Sixth Day of August in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen, in a single original copy in the English language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

LIM JOCK SENG

Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

SUN CHANTHOL

Senior Minister, Minister of Commerce
Vice Chairman of the Council for the Development of Cambodia

For the Republic of Indonesia:

MUHAMMAD LUTFI

Minister of Trade

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

KHEMMANI PHOLSENA

Minister of Industry and Commerce

For Malaysia:

MUSTAFA MOHAMED

Minister of International Trade and Industry

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

KAN ZAW

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development

For the Republic of the Philippines:

GREGORY L. DOMINGO

Secretary of Trade and Industry

For the Republic of Singapore:

LIM HNG KIANG

Minister for Trade and Industry

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

CHUTIMA BUNYAPRAPHASARA

Permanent Secretary

Acting for the Minister of Commerce

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

VU HUY HOANG

Minister of Industry and Trade

Appendix 1

Template for Notification

NOTIFICATION TO AMEND OR MODIFY THE ACIA RESERVATION LIST
Modifying Member State:
Date of Notification:
Reservation Number to be Modified:
Sector and/or Subsector to be Modified:
Type or Nature of Modification:
Rationale for Modification:
Source of Measure (copy may be provided):

Appendix 2
Supplementary Note



Country xxxx/RL no. xx/Rev. xx
Date/Month/Year: [xx/xx/xxxx]

COUNTRY: xxxx
Schedule of ACIA
Supplement 1

(This is authentic in English only)

This text replaces ACIA Resaervation List No. X, XX and XXX of
Country XXXX

(Description of the Amendment of Modification)

ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting (AFMM)

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 18th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (AFMM)

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 5 April 2014

Theme: Moving Forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community

Introduction

1. We, the ASEAN Finance Ministers, convened our 18th Annual Meeting under the chairmanship of H.E. U Win Shein, Minister of Finance, Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
2. We, the ASEAN Finance Ministers, together with the ASEAN Deputy Secretary General, expressed our gratitude to His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for graciously granting us an audience at the President's Office in Nay Pyi Taw.
3. Together with the troika of ASEAN Central Bank Governors of Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar, and Malaysia we maintain our commitment to pursue growth and economic stability in the ASEAN region amid the global economic uncertainties. At the same time, we also maintain our commitment to ensure stability of our financial markets. Our exchange of views with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) on the risks and policy challenges confirmed our pledge to maintain financial and economic stability.
4. We reaffirmed our commitment to realizing the goals of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). We continued our activities in various areas under the Roadmap for Monetary and Financial Integration of ASEAN.
5. We also welcomed the continued efforts to operationalize the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM), strengthen the AMRO and carry out the workplan under the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI). We strongly believe that these initiatives are crucial in maintaining economic stability in the region given remaining uncertainties surrounding the global economy.

Regional Economic Update and Policy Challenges

6. We are pleased that the ASEAN economies grew by 5.1 percent last year, with our exports recovering during the second half of the year. Economic outlook remains robust, anchored by rising domestic demand stemming from private consumption and infrastructure investment. We remain vigilant in managing the downside risks, including capital outflows, volatile currency movements, emerging inflationary pressures and tightening financial conditions, which could dampen economic growth.
7. We would like to reaffirm our commitment to implement appropriate monetary, fiscal, and macro/micro-prudential policies that will sustain economic growth and maintain financial market stability. Our macroeconomic policies will continue to address country-specific issues, mindful of their spillover effects across the region. We remain focused on price and financial sector stability supportive of sustainable economic growth. We agreed to further strengthen domestic demand, pursue structural reforms, encourage private sector investment, and aim for equitable economic development throughout the region. We are also committed to strengthening our cooperation and integration efforts to improve ASEAN's resilience against external shocks.

Roadmap for Monetary and Financial Integration of ASEAN (RIA-Fin)

8. We welcomed all efforts to deepen ASEAN financial sector integration. As ASEAN is at the cusp of the 2015 deadline under the ASEAN Economic Community, we encouraged the Working Committees under the Roadmap for Monetary and Financial Integration of ASEAN to intensify their efforts and ensure that financial integration plays a meaningful role in supporting regional economic integration.

9. In particular, we welcomed the updates by the Troika of ASEAN Central Bank Governors of Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar, and Malaysia on the implementation of the ASEAN Financial Integration Framework (AFIF) under the guidance of the Senior Level Committee (SLC) on Financial Integration. We also commended the work of the Task Force on ASEAN Banking Integration Framework (ABIF) and we look forward to the finalization of ABIF by May 2014 and its inclusion as part of the Sixth AFAS Package. We are also pleased with the ongoing work of the ASEAN Working Committee on Payments and Settlements Systems.
10. We acknowledged the importance of capacity building as an important element to achieve integration in the financial sector. In this regard, we are pleased with the work of the ASEAN Central Banks in collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat, the ADB, the SEACEN Research and Training Centre and the Steering Committee on Capacity Building (SCCB).

Capital Market Development

11. We are pleased with the work of the Working Committee on Capital Market Development (WC-CMD) in building the capacity and laying the long-term infrastructure for the development of ASEAN capital markets. We also commend the progress of initiatives of the ASEAN Capital Market Forum (ACMF) on harmonization and mutual recognition of rules and regulations. We have therefore agreed to continue the efforts to deepen and integrate our capital markets to ensure that the flow of capital is geared towards productive sectors. We took note of the ASEAN Capital Markets Infrastructure (ACMI) blueprint for the establishment of clearing, settlement and depository linkages among the ASEAN capital markets.
12. We welcomed the efforts of the Cross-Committee comprising ACMF, the Working Committee on Capital Account Liberalisation (WC-CAL), WC-CMD and the Working Committee on Payment and Settlement Systems (WC-PSS) in developing the ASEAN Capital Market Infrastructure Blueprint for integrated access, clearing, custody and settlement, in support of the ASEAN Trading Link. We noted that the Cross-Committee and the ASEAN Exchanges will proceed with the formation of a task force to develop an implementation plan for the Blueprint.

13. We took note of the WC-CMD's ongoing initiative to update the Bond Market Development Scorecard which has continued to be a useful tool to monitor the progress of ASEAN's bond market development, openness and liquidity.
14. We welcomed the significant progress made by the ACMF, particularly with the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding to establish the ASEAN Framework for cross-border offering of Collective Investment Schemes (CIS) by the Securities Commission of Malaysia, the Monetary Authority of Singapore and the Securities and Exchange Commission of Thailand. We are pleased that the Framework is targeted to be operationalised by the first half of 2014.
15. We took note of the continued work on corporate governance ranking of ASEAN publicly listed companies as well as the development of a common prospectus framework for cross-border offers of securities. We welcomed the Joint Study on the Assessment of ASEAN Capital Market Development and Integration, and took note of the recommendations arising from the study.

Financial Services Liberalization

16. We are pleased that the Sixth Round of negotiations of Financial Services Liberalization under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) has been concluded successfully. We will be working toward the signing of the Protocol to Implement the Sixth Package on Financial Services Liberalisation in May 2014. We are going to start the Seventh Round of Negotiations thereafter. We urged our officials to closely work together to ensure progressive liberalisation and integration of our financial markets. We also welcomed a continued work on a review of AFAS financial services rules to improve financial services obligations among countries as part of a broader initiative under ASEAN to enhance the AFAS.
17. We are supportive of the work done by the Working Committee on Financial Services Liberalization (WC-FSL) in deepening insurance sector integration. We took note of the increasing collaboration between the WC-FSL and the ASEAN Insurance Regulators' Meeting and the ASEAN

Insurance Training and Research Institute in deliberating initiatives to further support insurance sector development integration. We also welcome the WC-FSL's active participation in integrating ASEAN with the global economy through ASEAN's free trade agreements with dialogue partners.

Capital Account Liberalization

18. We recognized the work of the Working Committee on Capital Account Liberalization (WC-CAL) in its efforts to achieve greater capital mobility that is essential in supporting greater investment, trade and business activities in the region, and in promoting greater integration of our markets with the global economies.
19. We are pleased that capital account liberalization initiatives and the developments in the ASEAN member states' (AMS) capital account regimes are being monitored through an agreed monitoring tool and regular updating of the CAL heat maps of the individual member states. We also welcomed the policy dialogue process on safeguard mechanisms for CAL established within the WC-CAL process to keep track of the trends in capital flows among the ASEAN economies while in the process of capital account liberalization, with an aim to identify possible risks and exchange ideas/experiences in applying safeguard mechanisms to help ensure macroeconomic, financial and monetary stability.

Strengthening ASEAN Finance Cooperation and Economic Integration

Enhancing Regional Surveillance

20. We are encouraged by the improved progress of the ASEAN Integration Monitoring Office (AIMO), particularly with the development of surveillance reports, monitoring tools, and capacity building programs. We are fully committed to expand the capacity and resources of AIMO, and encourage Member States and external partners to further support AIMO in fulfilling its mandate.
21. We also reaffirmed our support for the AMRO in monitoring macroeconomic and financial developments in the region, particularly in its original mandate to support the CMIM. We welcomed AMRO's participation in providing us updates on the macroeconomic and financial situation in the region. We also look forward to the

institutionalization of AMRO as an international organization.

Infrastructure Financing

22. We welcomed Myanmar's accession to become a full-fledged member of the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF). We recognized that the AIF is an integral component of ASEAN's efforts to strengthen regional physical connectivity, and narrow the infrastructure development gap in ASEAN. We welcomed AIF's first project in Indonesia last year and look forward to new projects in Indonesia, Lao PDR and Vietnam in 2014. We are pleased that the AIF has reduced the cost of funds, thereby benefiting members. We appreciated the continued support from the ASEAN-World Bank Infrastructure Finance Network (IFN) and endorsed the programs for 2014.

Cooperation on Customs Matters

23. We are pleased with the progress of activities under customs cooperation, particularly the successful test of the ASEAN Single Window (ASW) Gateway connectivity by seven Member States, and completion of the "scaled-down" version of Component 2 ASW pilot project, to be followed this year by the "full-fledged" pilot project. We encourage our customs officials to fully implement the outstanding initiatives, including the finalization of agreements and protocols, to support the establishment of a single market and production base under the AEC.

ASEAN Cooperation on Taxation

24. We took note of the progress in ASEAN cooperation on taxation, particularly in addressing double taxation concerns and withholding tax issues. We also welcomed steps taken by the ASEAN Forum on Taxation (AFT) to explore opportunities for increasing regional cooperation in dealing with international tax evasion and to collaborate with external parties to further enhance regional dialogue among regulators to complete a network of bilateral tax treaties.

ASEAN Cooperation in Insurance

25. We welcomed the progress made in the ASEAN cooperation in insurance to improve insurance penetration in the region, developing regulatory frameworks to promote insurance products,

and promoting consumer education to increase awareness. In that regard, we also welcome the continuous dialogue that the insurance regulators have had with the WC-FSL in further developing and integrating our insurance sector. We took note that the on-going compliance with the core principles of the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) is an important measure to enhance the performance of our insurance sector in supporting the realization of the AEC. We agreed on capacity building initiatives to assist member regulators in aligning their regulations with international best practices.

26. We noted the progress made in the ASEAN Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance (DRFI) initiative. We recognized the importance and welcomed the continuous dialogue among all the ASEAN sectoral bodies involved. We also agreed that capacity building activities are an integral part of this initiative.

Financial Inclusion and Literacy

27. We thanked Brunei Darussalam for the initiative on financial literacy to provide a platform for dialogue and exchange of experiences and best practices among ASEAN member countries. We also welcomed Myanmar's initiative to follow up with planned activities to achieve greater financial inclusion for unbanked people of ASEAN this year.

Engaging and Building a Stronger ASEAN

28. We welcome the Philippines' hosting of the 10th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Investor Seminar (AFMIS), which will be held back-to-back with the 23rd World Economic Forum on East Asia, to promote ASEAN as an attractive investment destination. We acknowledge that the staging of the 10th AFMIS, during these exhilarating times, is an avenue to intensify effective policy cooperation and coordination in ASEAN especially as the ASEAN Economic Community 2015 draws near.

Acknowledgement

29. We thanked Myanmar for hosting the 18th AFMM this year and welcome Malaysia as Chair and Host in 2015.

ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF)

Joint Press Statement of the 36th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (36th AMAF)

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
23 September 2014**

1. The ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) held our 36th Meeting on 23 September 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, under the Chairmanship of H.E U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Myanmar.
2. H.E. U Thein Sein, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar preceded the Opening Ceremony and officiated the meeting. In his Opening Remarks, the President emphasised the need to take concerted efforts in addressing food security and nutrition to meet the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals (UN-MDGs). Acknowledging the adverse impacts of climate change that has affected the region, he urged ASEAN to work together in ensuring sustainable agriculture. Double efforts need to be undertaken to conserve natural resources, including water and forest resources, and to protect ecological system as well as to develop smallholder farmers and family farming system. In realizing the ASEAN Community, ASEAN should enhance cooperation and strengthened partnerships with dialogue partners, and international development partners.
3. We noted with satisfaction the on-going progress and achievements made in ASEAN cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry to move towards the realization of the ASEAN Community 2015. In order to ensure the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) deliverables in the Food, Agriculture and Forestry sectors by 2015,

we requested all related ASEAN Sectoral Working Groups (ASWG) to timely implement the key deliverables and develop the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for their respective sectors to facilitate the monitoring and implementation of the initiatives.

4. We acknowledged the importance to review and streamline the existing structure and mechanism under AMAF to support the next stage of ASEAN's integration efforts beyond 2015. We agreed that the reviewing and streamlining of the AMAF structure and mechanism should enhance the efficiency and effectiveness in achieving ASEAN integration in Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors.
5. We noted that the ASEAN Ad Hoc Task Force on Development of Vision, Objectives and Goals for ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry (FAF) towards 2025 has undertaken a thorough study to review and assess the achievements and progress of ASEAN agriculture integration, identify opportunities and new strategies for ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry beyond 2015. We tasked the Senior Officials to develop a Strategic Plan of Action for ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry 2016-2025 to realise the vision of *"A competitive, inclusive, resilient and sustainable food, agriculture and forestry sector integrated with the global economy, based on a single market and production base contributing to food and nutrition security and prosperity in the ASEAN Community"*, and submit it for our adoption at our next meeting in 2015.
7. We acknowledged the progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Multi-Sectoral Framework on Climate Change: Agriculture and Forestry towards Food Security (AFCC) and appreciated the contribution and support extended to ASEAN Member States by the International and Dialogue Partners. We also noted the continue support from the ASEAN-German Programme on Climate Change: Agriculture, Forestry and related Sectors (GAP-CC) through newly proposal "Forestry and Climate Change (FOR-CC)", and the ASEAN-Swiss Partnership Programme on Social Forestry and Climate Change (ASFCC)

Cooperation on Sectoral and Priority Issues

8. We reviewed the cooperation in the individual areas of food, agriculture and forestry, and commended our subsidiary bodies for their efforts and achievements made in their respective areas. As a result, we endorsed, amongst other, the list of 73 Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for pesticides; ASEAN Guidelines on the Regulation, Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents (BCA); ASEAN Standard on Organic Agriculture and the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) for Cooperation in Organic Agriculture (2014-2017); ASEAN Guidelines on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) for Animal Vaccines; ASEAN Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP) Strategic Plan; ASEAN Guidelines for Good Aquaculture Practices (ASEAN GAqP) on Food Fish; and ASEAN Standards for some commodities such as Cocoa beans, Oyster mushroom, Peanut, Sugar apple, Sweet potato, Sweet tamarind, and Tea.
9. We noted that significant achievements have been made in enhancing the competitiveness of agricultural commodities through the development and implementation of ASEAN best practices, namely Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Good Aquaculture Practices (GAqP), and Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP). We noted the initiative to establish an ASEAN certification and accreditation mechanism to support the implementation of these best practices and encouraged development and dialogue partners to involve in the process.
10. We acknowledged the progress of activities in the areas of agricultural research and development (R&D), including the ASEAN Agricultural Research and Development Information System (ASEAN-

Food Security Arrangements

6. We endorsed the revised ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and the new Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security (SPA-FS) 2015-2020, which incorporates a new component on nutrition, to enable ASEAN to address new developments and challenges in the realisation of the common goal of long-term food security and nutrition. In this connection, we appreciated the contribution and support provided by the Development Partners, especially the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in the development of the AIFS Framework and SPA – FS 2015-2020.

ARDIS). We encouraged Member States to enhance investment in R&D with focus on technologies that are greener, more adaptable, more affordable and more suitable for smallholders, and innovations that help producers to adapt on the challenges of climate change and dwindling natural resources.

11. We commended the continuous works under the ASEAN Cooperation on Forestry, which include the successful conclusion of the cooperation activities on Sustainable Forest Management, Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG), legality timber and timber certification, forest and climate change, Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) and Wildlife Enforcement, forest product development, herbal and medicinal plants, international forest policy processes, cooperation on CITES, and Social Forestry. In this regard, we appreciated the Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting (MAR) online system for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) that would be re-launched to facilitate reporting progress on SFM. We also acknowledged the significant progress and achievement that have been reached and further enhanced in several areas, including ASEAN cooperation and common position in international forest policy processes and negotiations.
12. We recognised that mangrove forests are unique intertidal ecosystems that occur primarily in tropical regions of the world and they support genetically diverse communities of terrestrial and aquatic fauna and flora that are of direct and indirect environmental, economic and social value to human societies throughout the world. Sustainable development of mangrove ecosystems implies the maintenance and rational use of the natural resources to ensure ecological resilience and economic opportunities for present and future generations. We agreed to foster cooperation in managing mangrove ecosystems for sustainable purposes through the establishment of procedures and methodologies for assessing the status of mangrove ecosystems and for managing them, and implementing national legal provisions and strengthening institutional setup for the protection and conservation of mangrove ecosystems.
13. We noted the progress of the various cooperative programmes and significant activities in fisheries, including the projects to support the implementation of ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework (AIFS) and AFCC, the implementation of the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) on ASEAN Cooperation in Fisheries (2011-2015) and its Prioritized Activities for ASEAN Cooperation in Fisheries for the period of 2013-2015.
14. We noted and supported various activities related to Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) carried out by the various existing ASEAN mechanisms, including the working groups under AMAF, the ASEAN Committee on SPS (AC-SPS) under AEM, and the Sub-Committees on SPS (SC-SPS) under various ASEAN Dialogue Partners Free Trade Agreements (ASEAN-DP FTAs).
15. We reiterated our commitment to enhancing the competitiveness of ASEAN agricultural and forestry products through the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation and Joint Approaches in Agriculture and Forest Products Promotion Scheme (2015-2019) to lay down the foundation for greater cooperation in upgrading the quality and safety of the products.
16. We noted the achievements in the significant reduction of the reported number of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) incidences since its peak in 2004. We also noted the continuation of threat not only from the HPAI H5N1 but also emergences of other animal and zoonotic influenza viruses, such as influenza A H1N1, H7N9, and more recently H5N6. In this regard, we supported the initiative to mobilise the existing network, whereby broadening the scope of the HPAI Taskforce to address all concerns on important animal influenza viruses.
17. We commended the substantial progress made in the establishment of the ASEAN Coordination Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses (ACCAHZ) to coordinate, harmonize and unify approaches in animal health and zoonoses measures. We noted and acknowledged that ACCHAZ will not only positively influence the control of HPAI, but will also lay a foundation for a more effective approach to address concerns for other animal diseases and zoonoses in the region. We appreciated the contributions and support given by Development Partners especially the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) through the European Union-

Highly Pathogenic Emerging Diseases (EU-HPED) Program FAO Component in the development of ACCAHZ. We tasked our Senior Officials to expedite the process of the ACCAHZ establishment by 2015.

Country initiatives for programmes/ projects on food, agriculture and forestry

18. We supported with appreciation the programmes and projects initiated by ASEAN Member States to further enhance cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry, among others, including: (i) ASEAN Genetically Modified Food Testing Network (ASEAN GMF Net), (ii) ASEAN Food Safety Network (AFSN) (iii) ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (ARASFF) and ASEAN Mangrove Network.
19. We supported the initiative on Public Private Partnership Cooperation for Establishing Food Value Chain between ASEAN and Japan and noted that some activities have been conducted such as the establishment of Joint Working Group consisted of representatives from food-related private companies and organisations, academia, local and central organisations and “the Strategy for Global Food Value Chain”.

Moving Together with Partners towards 2015

20. We highly appreciated the assistance and support rendered by various Dialogue Partners and International Organisations, including Australia, China, the European Commission, Germany, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United States of America, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) in advancing cooperation on food, agriculture and forestry in ASEAN region.
21. We supported the UN’s “Zero Hunger Challenge” initiative adopted in December 2013, and agreed to closely collaborate with FAO on its implementation at the regional level to support the attainment of the MDG Goal 1 (one) as well as to achieve ‘zero hunger’ for the remaining 12% of population in the Asia-Pacific.
22. We noted the outcomes of the Consultation Meeting between ASEAN and the Russia

Federation Senior Officials on Agriculture (ARSOMA) and welcomed the support from Russia Federation on Agriculture Cooperation in the region. We welcomed the establishment of the ARSOMA as a body to promote and intensify cooperation in the agriculture and food security sector between ASEAN and Russia. We considered and endorsed the *TOR of the ASEAN and Russian Federation Senior Officials’ Meetings on Agriculture (ARSOMA)*.

23. We welcomed and supported the partnerships with the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) towards economic integration and ensuring the food is secure and prosperous ASEAN Community. The WEF’s initiative on Grow Asia will serve as a multi-stakeholder partnership platform to catalyse actions that contribute to food security and sustainable, inclusive agricultural development in support of national and regional priorities in ASEAN. The IRRI’s initiative on Global Rice Science Partnership: Securing a Stable Rice Supply by Building a New Generation of ASEAN Rice Scientists will provide the opportunities for the creation of a new generation of ASEAN rice scientists and extension professionals.

The 37th AMAF Meeting

24. We agreed to convene the 37th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Meeting in the Philippines in 2015.
25. We expressed our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government and People of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for hosting the 36th AMAF Meeting and for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 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. Dr. AKP Mochtan, Deputy Secretary General, Community and Corporate Affairs, ASEAN Secretariat.

ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM)

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 32nd ASEAN Ministers of Energy Meeting (32nd AMEM)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 23 September 2014

“Power Integration for ASEAN Prosperity”

1. The 32nd ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) was held on 23 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR, chaired the Meeting, and Hon. Dato’ Seri DiRaja Mahdzir Bin Khalid, Deputy Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia was the Vice-Chairperson. The 11th ASEAN Plus Three Ministers on Energy Meeting, the 8th East Asian Summit Energy Ministers Meeting, and a dialogue with the International Energy Agency (IEA) were also held back-to-back with 32nd AMEM.
2. H.E. Thongsing Thammavong, the Prime Minister of Lao PDR officiated the 32nd AMEM and related meetings. In his keynote address, H.E. Thammavong highlighted the importance of energy cooperation and power integration in ASEAN, particularly potential of hydropower as a clean, non-polluting and renewable energy source.

He underscored the need for a concerted effort to reduce the impacts of climate change caused by greenhouse gasses while ensuring sustainability of economic growth in the ASEAN region. In this context, he encouraged ASEAN Member States work together to: (i) clearly define a legal and policy framework to promote renewable energy into sustainable development strategy; (ii) strengthening research and development on renewable energy technology appropriate to the ASEAN region; (iii) continue studies on renewable energy market and provide funding for promotion of environmentally friendly green energy; and (iv) encourage high-voltage power integration. In closing, he expressed profound thanks to ASEAN Member States, Dialogue Partners and International Organisations for the kind supports extended to Lao PDR.

TOWARDS POWER INTEGRATION FOR ASEAN PROSPERITY

3. The Ministers reiterated the need for a concerted effort to promote energy efficiency and conservation, develop and deploy renewable energy sources, and achieve interconnected regional power systems to ensure sustainability of energy resources.
4. The Ministers also recognised the important roles of the energy sector in advancing regional integration process and agreed that the development of the next ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) for the period of 2016-2020 should build on the achievements of the APAEC 2010-2015, and contribute to the development of post-2015 Vision for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). The Ministers endorsed the following theme for the APAEC 2016-2020: **“Enhancing energy connectivity and market integration in ASEAN to achieve energy security, accessibility, affordability and sustainability for all”**.
5. The Ministers commended the Heads of ASEAN Power Utilities/Authorities (HAPUA) for its on-going efforts to establish the ASEAN Power Grid (APG), including the successful conclusion of several studies on fuel security, taxation, private sector participation, and ASEAN Transmission System Operator; the establishment of ASEAN Generation and Transmission Planning Group; and the development of the guideline for enhancing power quality. The Ministers also welcomed APG’s initiatives to conduct sub-region multilateral

- electricity trading by 2018 and complete Sarawak–West Kalimantan interconnection, one of the priority interconnection projects, by 2015 as planned.
6. The Ministers applauded the initiative to undertake a pilot project to explore cross border power trade from Lao PDR to Singapore which could serve as pathfinder to further enhance multilateral electricity trading beyond neighboring borders to support the realisation of APG. The pilot project will involve four ASEAN Member States including Lao PDR, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.
 7. The Ministers commended the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) for its on-going efforts to advance the implementation of the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP), amongst others, including the successful completion of the Zawtika (Block M-9, located in Myanmar) which serves as the 12th interconnection project in the TAGP Map that brings the total pipeline connection to 3,377km. The Ministers noted that the new TAGP Map contains information on LNG terminals in ASEAN Member States and the commencement of several Regasification Terminal (RGT), including (a) Map Ta Phut LNG Receiving Terminal, Thailand; (b) Floating Storage Regasification Unit, West Java, Indonesia; (c) Singapore LNG Terminal; and (d) RGT Sungai Udang, Melaka, Malaysia.
 8. The Ministers welcomed ASCOPE's initiative to further study legal issues relating to multilateral LNG contracts focusing on destination restrictions and diversions, quantity flexibility, LNG specifications, and shipping and receiving facilities which would serve as inputs to ASEAN Member States in the development of general terms and conditions of multilateral LNG contracts. The Ministers also recognised the importance of establishing standard operating procedures and rules of engagement on energy cooperation during emergency or any possible oil disruption by invoking the ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA).
 9. The Ministers noted the progress made on the implementation of ASEAN Forum on Coal's (AFOC) Work Plan for both 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 including the completion of two important publications - ASEAN Carbon Capture and Storage Strategic Considerations and ASEAN Clean Coal Technologies (CCT) Handbook for Power Plant, prepared by AFOC and ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), in collaboration with Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute (GCCSI) and Japan Coal Energy Center (JCOAL) respectively. The Ministers looked forward to further collaborations with both dialogue partners and international organisations on the reduction of CO₂ through the implementation of CCT projects, be it through capacity building, procedure of coal utilisation and coal distribution, and long-term financing.
 10. The Ministers supported the on-going efforts to address the increase in electricity demand, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and the development of high efficient coal-fired power plants in the region. Such efforts include the promotion of the adoption of CCT, enhancement of technology transfer and public financing. The Ministers also look forward the ASEAN Coal Business Roundtable and Conference which will be held back-to-back with AFOC Annual Meeting in Viet Nam in 2015.
 11. The Ministers welcomed the significant progress in implementing the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programme including the (a) completion of Work Packages 1 and 2 of the ASEAN Standards Harmonisation Initiative for Energy Efficiency (ASEAN-SHINE) project; (b) completion of ASEAN Energy Management Accreditation Scheme (AEMAS) project in January 2014; and (c) launching of the 1st ASEAN Green Building Awards. The Ministers also noted the successful implementation of the AJEEP Schemes 2 and 3 Programme, organisation of three ECAP Workshops in Japan, and ASEAN-Japan Pilot Project on Energy-Efficiency Market Transformation with Information Provision Scheme (EMTIPS) under the SOME-METI Work Programme 2013-2014. The Ministers further welcomed the proposal on ASEAN Cooperative on Financing Mechanism Design for EE Projects Implementation. The Ministers encouraged ASEAN Member States to cooperate on data sharing regarding the ASEAN Long Term Energy Intensity Reduction Target.
 12. The Ministers commended the efforts of the ASEAN Renewable Energy Sub-sector Network (RE-SSN) in promoting further development of Renewable Energy, including having a broader definition of RE to include all capacities of hydro sources, on grid and off grid RE sources but excluding traditional

sources of biomass; the successful convening of the 2nd ASEAN Renewable Energy Week (AREW) in April 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; and the ASEAN regional workshop and focus group discussions on “Integration of Variable Renewable Energies (vRE) into Power Systems: Challenges and Opportunities for Green Power” held in Jakarta, Indonesia on 1-2 April 2014. The Ministers tasked both ACE and ASEAN Renewable Energy Support Programme (RESP) to develop concrete recommendations on enhancing the development and integration of RE into power systems.

13. The Ministers lauded the efforts of the Regional Energy Policy and Planning Sub-sector Network (REPP-SSN) in following up with the recommendations arising from the Mid Term Review of APAEC 2010-2015 and requested them to enhance its collaborations with dialogues partners and international organisations such as the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The Ministers commended the efforts of REPP-SSN in drafting the APAEC 2016-2020. The Ministers welcomed the improvements made in the drafting of the 4th ASEAN Energy Outlook.
14. The Ministers noted the efforts made by the Nuclear Energy Cooperation Sub-sector Network (NEC-SSN) in cooperation with Dialogue Partners to enhance capacity building activities on civilian nuclear energy and in pursuing regional nuclear safety cooperation.
15. The Ministers noted the ASEAN Energy Regulators’ Network’s (AERN) initiative to establish a Working Group, together with HAPUA Working Groups and ASEAN Power Grid Consultative Committee (APGCC), to work on Cross-border Interconnection and Regulatory Harmonisation. The Ministers tasked ACE together with AERN to expedite the necessary study by April 2015 in order to accelerate the realisation of the APG.
16. The Ministers noted the progress made by the ACE Enhancement Task Force (AETF) in recruiting a new professional ACE Executive Director and tasked AETF to develop the rules and procedures on the use of the ASEAN Energy Endowment Fund.

ASEAN ENERGY AWARDS 2014

17. The Ministers congratulated the 57 awardees of the ASEAN Energy Awards 2014 under the following categories (i) ASEAN Best Practices for Energy Efficient Building Awards; (ii) ASEAN Best Practices Energy Management for Building and Industries Award; (iii) ASEAN Green Building Awards; (iv) ASEAN Best Practices Renewable Energy Project Award; and (v) ASEAN Excellence in Energy Management by Individual Awards.
18. The Ministers commended the RE-SSN, EE&C-SSN and ACE for the successful conclusion of ASEAN Energy Awards 2014 which have helped to enhance private sector participation in the promotion and development of renewable energy and energy efficiency and conservation in the region.

NEXT MEETING

19. The Ministers agreed to convene the 33rd AMEM and its associated meetings in Malaysia in 2015.
20. The delegates from ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Secretariat expressed their appreciation to the Government and people of Lao PDR for the warm hospitality accorded and the excellent arrangements made for the meetings.

ASEAN MINISTERS FOR ENERGY

1. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister’s Office of Brunei Darussalam; 2. HE. Suy Sem, Minister of Mines and Energy of Cambodia; 3. H.E. Susilo Siswoutomo, Vice Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia; 4. H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR; 5. H.E. Dato’ Seri DiRaja Mahdzir bin Khalid, Deputy Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia; 6. H.E. U Aung Htoo, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Energy of Myanmar; 7. H.E. Loreta G. Ayson, Undersecretary, Department of Energy of the Philippines; 8. 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; 9. H.E. Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee, Minister of Energy of Thailand; 10. H.E. Dr. Cao Quoc Hung, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam; 11. H.E. Dr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (AMMST)

Chairman's Statement of the 8th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (IAMMST-8)

**Bogor, West Java, Indonesia
25 August 2014**

1. The 8th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (IAMMST-7) was held on 25 August 2014, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Prof. Dr. Ir. H. Gusti Muhammad Hatta, Minister for Research and Technology, the Ministry of Research and Technology (RISTEK) and attended by Science and Technology Ministers and Senior Officials from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. Dr. Alexander Lim, Head of Science and Technology Division of ASEAN Secretariat and his staff were also in attendance.
2. The Ministers congratulated Indonesia for the successful hosting of various events in conjunction with the celebration of 9th ASEAN Science Technology Week (ASTW-9) prior to the convening of 8th Meeting of IAMMST. These events include the 4th Science Congress and Conference; ASEAN Flagships Workshop (Open Source Software and Early Warning System for Disaster Risk Reduction); the 25th Meeting of the Advisory Body on the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science and Technology (ABAPAST); the 24th Meeting of the Advisory Body of ASEAN Science Fund (ABASF); the 68th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST-68); the 5th Meeting of the ASEAN-Japan Cooperation Committee on Science and Technology; the 9th Meeting of the ASEAN-China Joint Science and Technology Committee (ACJSTC-9); the 5th ASEAN-EU Dialogue on Science and Technology; and the 4th ASEAN-US Consultation on Science and Technology.

Recommendations of High-Level Task Forces:

3. The Ministers supported the recommendations of the High-Level Task Force (HLTF) on strengthening ASEAN Secretariat and review of work processes of ASEAN Organs. In this regard, the Ministers agreed that the appropriate mechanism in restructuring COST and its subsidiary bodies should be clearly defined in the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2015-2020 that is currently being developed.
4. The Ministers noted the proposed ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Post-2015 vision "AEC 2025: Consolidation and Going Beyond". The Ministers further noted that the AEC vision will be anchored on 5 pillars, namely, i) Integrated and Highly Cohesive Economy; ii) Competitive, Innovative and Dynamic ASEAN; iii) Inclusive, People-Centred and Resilient ASEAN; iv) Enhanced Sectoral Integration and Cooperation; and v) Global ASEAN.

APASTI 2015-2020 Vision and Goals:

5. The Ministers approved the following proposed vision and its goals on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) that will serve as guide in the formulation of the APASTI 2015-2020:

Vision

"A Science, Technology and Innovation-enabled ASEAN which is innovative, competitive, vibrant, sustainable and economically integrated"

Goals

- i. Economically integrated ASEAN involving active collaboration between the public and private sectors and talent mobility;
- ii. Deep awareness of STI and the beneficial impacts of STI on the Bottom of the Pyramid;
- iii. Innovation-driven economy leveraging on ICT and with a strong engagement of our youth in STI;
- iv. ASEAN innovation reaching Global Markets;
- v. ASEAN innovation addressing the Grand Challenges of the new millennium; and
- vi. Active R&D collaboration, technology commercialisation, entrepreneurship and network of Centres of Excellence.

6. The Ministers tasked COST to ensure that that the key thrusts and actions in the APASTI 2015-2020 should be consistent and supportive of the above vision and goals. The Ministers welcomed the offer of the Philippines to host the review of the revised draft APASTI in October 2014.

Expanding the scope of utilisation of the ASEAN Science Fund (ASF)

7. The Ministers approved the proposed amendments to the ASF Guidelines so that innovation-focused initiatives could be funded. The Ministers further agreed that the ASF shall, henceforth, be rebranded as the ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Fund (ASTIF).
8. The Ministers agreed to form a task force consisting of the ABAPAST and ABASF members with the representation from the private sector to jointly study and define the appropriate criteria for the selection innovation-related projects. Said task force shall also establish the mechanism to ensure that the level of utilisation of ASTIF as well as the allocation of appropriate sum from ASTIF to specifically fund innovation-related projects could be rationalised.
9. The Ministers recalled its expression for support of the proposed ASEAN STI grand challenges initiative. The Ministers tasked COST to facilitate the speedy implementation of pilot projects falling under the areas identified under said initiative.
10. The Ministers further noted that the study on the ASEAN Talent Mobility (ATM) and two ATM workshops in November 2014 and March 2015 will be implemented in Thailand with the support from ASTIF. The Ministers also welcomed the offer of Thailand to host a Crowd-Funding Workshop and an STI for Water Management Workshop to be held back-to-back with the 69th Meeting of COST in May 2015.

Cooperation with Dialogue Partners:

11. The Ministers agreed that the decisions on the proposed individual Memoranda of Understanding with China and with India on STI cooperation shall be deferred until the new APASTI is approved or accepted by the Ministers.

12. The Ministers noted that the ASEAN-ROK STI Forum will be held on 1-3 December 2014 in Daejeon, ROK as a side event of the commemorative Summit to celebrate the 25th year of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations. The Ministers welcomed the proposal of ROK to convene the Ministerial Meeting with science ministers of OECD countries and requested the ASEAN Secretariat to get more detailed information of the said meeting.

Japan

13. The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the various initiatives which include e-ASIA Joint Research Program; Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS); Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange of Students and Youths (JENESYS 2.0): "Science and Technology"; and Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program in Science. The Ministers also thanked the Government of Japan in supporting through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), the participation of ASEAN and Japan scientists at the 4th ASEAN Science Congress and Sub-Committee Conferences and ASEAN S&T Exhibition as part of ASTW-9 event.

China

14. The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the various initiatives under the China-ASEAN Science and Technology Partnership (STEP) Program such as the Joint Laboratory Program; China-ASEAN Technology Transfer Center; China-ASEAN Remote Sensing Satellite Data Sharing and Service Platform; and the Talented Young Scientist Visiting Program.
15. The Ministers welcomed the proposal of China to conduct of the 2nd Forum on China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation which will be held on 15-19 September 2014 in Nanning, China. The Ministers further noted that the proposed development of China-ASEAN New & Renewable Energy Action Plan and the establishment of the China-ASEAN Science Technology & Innovation Policy Research Center shall be reviewed by relevant COST's Sub-Committee.

European Union

16. The Ministers noted the updates on Horizon 2020 as the successor of the 7th Framework Programme of the EU as well as the progress of implementation of various initiatives such as SEA-EU-NET 2 (INCO-NET Southeast Asia); CONNECT2SEA; Network of Excellence under the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI) facility; and EURAXESS links ASEAN.
17. The Ministers welcomed the offer of EU through READI and Horizon 2020 to assist in the development of the APASTI or its implementation plan relating to the enhancing the role of Dialogue Partners in achieving the APASTI vision and goals. The Ministers look forward to increased ASEAN-EU cooperation in areas such as talent mobility, access to physical research infrastructure, developing joint funding mechanisms and frameworks for IPR protection.

The United States (U.S)

18. The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the initiatives such as ASEAN-US S&T Fellows Pilot Program and the ASEAN-US Prize for Women in Science, including the planned Natural Hazards Workshop.
19. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) for granting a special prize to recognise the outstanding works of women in science in the field of water quality research and congratulated Dr. Nuttaporn Pimpha, scientist at Nanotec, Thailand as the recipient of the award. The Ministers expressed their hope that the initiative can be sustained in the future.
20. The Ministers also noted that the ASEAN Secretariat and the US Mission in ASEAN in Jakarta are now discussing the planned 2nd phase of the ASEAN-US S&T Policy Fellows Program. Once, approved, the implementation of the program is expected to commence in the first quarter of 2015.

Recipients of the ASEAN Science and Technology Awards:

21. The Ministers congratulated to the following recipients of various ASEAN S&T Awards:

ASEAN Young Scientist and Technologist Award (AYSTA):

Assoc Prof Ir Dr. Sharifah Rafidah Wan Alwi
Director of Process Systems Engineering Centre (PROSPECT)
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

ASEAN Outstanding Scientist and Technologist Award (AOSTA):

Prof. Dr. Harith Ahmad Director Photonics
Research Centre University of Malaya, Malaysia

ASEAN Meritorious Service Award (AMSA):

Brunei Darussalam - Dato Paduka Awang Haji Suhaimi Haji Gafar
Cambodia - Mrs. Tep Rany
Indonesia - Dr. Elizabeth Anita Widjaja
Lao PDR - H.E. Houmphanh INTHARATH
Malaysia - Professor Emeritus Dato' Sri Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid
Philippines - Professor Fortunato T. dela Pena
Singapore - Dr. Rajendran Thampuran
Thailand - Dr. Theerayut Toojinda
Viet Nam - Dr. Le Thanh Binh

ASEAN-US Prize for Women in Science:

Dr. Nuttaporn Pimpha
National Nanotechnology Center (NANOTEC)
National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA), Thailand

Schedule of forthcoming events:

22. The Meeting noted the conduct of the following forthcoming events:
- The 2nd Forum on China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation on 15-19 September 2014 in Nanning, China;
 - ASEAN-ROK Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Forum on 1-3 December 2014 in Daejeon, ROK;
 - APASTI review Meeting in October 2014;
 - The study on the ASEAN Talent Mobility (ATM) and two workshops in November 2014 and March 2015 in Thailand with the support from ASF;
 - EURAXESS Workshop in November 2014;
 - The Crowd-Funding Workshop to be held back-to-back with 69th Meeting of COST in May 2015;

- g. The 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Science & Technology Committee and the ASEAN-ROK Ministerial Meeting with OECD Ministers in October 2015;
 - h. Meeting on ASEAN Biofuel Flagship Programme to be held back-to-back with 69th Meeting of COST in Thailand in May 2015; and
 - i. Trainings and Workshops on Synchrotron Technology in Bangkok in 2014 and 2015.
23. The Ministers noted that the 16th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (AMMST-16) will be held in Vientiane, Lao PDR in 2015.

ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM)

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 20th ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting

Mandalay, Myanmar, 27 November 2014

1. The Twentieth ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) Meeting was held on 27 November 2014 in Mandalay, Myanmar. H.E. Mr. Nyan Htun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar, chaired the Meeting and H.E. Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, Minister of Transport of Malaysia was the Vice-Chairman. The Twentieth ATM Meeting was preceded by the Thirty-Eighth ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) and their consultations with Dialogue Partners held on 24-26 November 2014.
2. The Twentieth ATM was officially opened by H.E. Dr. Sai Mauk Kham, Vice President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. In his Opening Remarks, H.E. Dr. Sai Mauk Kham urged the ASEAN Transport Ministers to redouble their efforts for

timely and effective implementation of transport related measures and initiatives to support the realisation of the AEC by 2015. He welcomed the development of the Vision for Post-2015 ASEAN Transport Action Plan, and looked forward to the finalisation of the next ASEAN Transport Strategic Plan by 2015. He encouraged the Ministers to exert their best effort to support the establishment of an efficient, secure, sustainable and integrated transport network including the completion of the ASEAN Highway Network (AHN), Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL), ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM) and the ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM) initiatives. He believed that the 20th ATM and associated meetings, would be held successfully in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity.

Towards greater transport connectivity for highly competitive ASEAN

3. The Ministers reiterated their commitment to strengthen ASEAN transport integration through concerted and coordinated efforts to improve transport infrastructure, enhance transport safety and realise seamless connectivity in the region.
4. The Ministers recognised the significant role of transport sector in facilitating the establishment of a single market and production base which is competitive, equitable and fully integrated into the global economy. In this regard, the Ministers adopted the vision of *"Towards greater connectivity, efficiency, integration, safety and sustainability of ASEAN transport to strengthen ASEAN's competitiveness and foster regional inclusive growth and development"* to guide the region's transport cooperation and integration for the next decade (2016-2025).

Strides towards ASEAN Single Aviation Market

5. The Ministers were pleased with the good progress made on the implementation of ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM) including the ASEAN air services agreements which are set to be fully implemented by 2015 and the completion of several measures under Air Transport Technical Cooperation, including Identification of Key Regional Initiatives and Required Enabling Technologies, Capacity Building Framework on Air Traffic Management, and ASEAN Regional Contingency Plan.

6. The Ministers welcomed the commencement of the negotiation for the Ninth Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) and looked forward to its timely conclusion by end of 2015.

Seamless cross-border and transit movement of passengers and goods

7. The Ministers noted the progress made on the finalisation of ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Cross Border Transport Passenger by Road Vehicles (ASEAN CBTP) to support greater intra-ASEAN social and cultural interaction through people-to-people connectivity. In this regard, the Ministers looked forward to the conclusion of the Framework by 2015.
8. The Ministers also noted the progress made in ratifying and enacting domestic laws and regulations to implement ASEAN Framework Agreement on Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT), ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multimodal Transport (AFAMT) and ASEAN Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Inter-State Transport (AFAFIST) and urged relevant ASEAN Member States to intensify their efforts for the timely implementation of these transport facilitation agreements.
9. The Ministers welcomed the development of pilot project on ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) and acknowledged its role in facilitating the implementation of AFAFGIT and AFAFIST.

Further strengthen ASEAN maritime cooperation

10. The Ministers endorsed the Implementation Framework of the ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM) which will provide strategic guidance to coordinate policy and harmonise rules and regulation to further liberalize shipping services in the region.
11. The Ministers also signed the MOU on ASEAN Cooperation Mechanism for Joint Oil Spill Preparedness and Response which will put in place a regional collaborative mechanism to build capacities and capabilities and promote mutual assistance in preparing for, controlling and combating oil spill incidents in ASEAN region.

Build closer cooperation with Dialogue Partners

12. The Ministers commended the progress made in transport cooperation with China, Japan, and ROK which will further strengthen ASEAN transport connectivity. The Ministers also thanked EU and Germany for their support on the development of ASEAN transport sector.
13. The Ministers were pleased to note the operationalisation of the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement (AC-ATA) and its Protocol 1. The Ministers encouraged ASEAN Member States and China to expedite the ratification process of Protocol 2. The Ministers looked forward to continued engagement between ASEAN and China particularly on further expansion of 5th freedom traffic rights.
14. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the Guideline for Introduction of Port EDI System on Port-related Procedures, ASEAN-Japan Cruise Promotion Strategy and the reports of the Survey on Eco-Airports in ASEAN Countries and Preliminary Study on ASEAN Land Bridge Transport. The Ministers also welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP) Work Plan for the period of 2014-2015 which will include 25 project/activities on transport facilitation, transport infrastructure, quality and sustainable transport, and human resource development. The Ministers also welcomed the convening of the 1st ASEAN-Japan Working Group on Regional Air Services Arrangements and looked forward to the early conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial ASEAN-Japan Air Services Agreement.
15. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the revised ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation which aims to attain the following goals: i) meeting the objectives of the regional development and economic growth policies of the ASEAN region; and creating a win-win outcome for both ASEAN and the Republic of Korea based on co-prosperity. The Roadmap includes the implementation plan of 15 projects/activities related to professional capacity building, master plan studies, infrastructure feasibility studies and research studies for the period of 2014-2017. The Ministers looked forward to continued discussion between ASEAN and ROK on aviation cooperation, and early conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial ASEAN-ROK Air Services Agreement.

16. The Ministers welcomed the successful conduct of the EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit (EAAS) on 11-12 February 2014 in Singapore and its Joint Declaration. Following from the EAAS, the Ministers noted that the inaugural meeting of the ASEAN-EU Aviation Working Group (AEAWG) will be held on 2-3 December 2014 in Brussels, Belgium to discuss how aviation cooperation could be further broadened and deepened between the two regions including the possibility of a comprehensive air transport agreement. The Ministers also welcomed EU's support for the completion of two key studies which has provided recommendations on the implementation of ASEAN transport facilitation agreements under the ASEAN Regional Integration Support from EU (ARISE) programme.
17. The Ministers welcomed India's proposal to convene a Task Force meeting with ASEAN aviation officials in the first quarter of 2015 to move forward the negotiations on ASEAN-India Air Services Agreement, and looked forward to the conclusion of an Air Services Agreement based on 'open skies' principles covering both air freight and passenger services.
18. The Ministers welcomed the signing of the Implementation Agreement for Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region - Phase II with Germany, which will facilitate the monitoring, assessing and advocating sustainable development and effective implementation of the Port Safety, Health and Environmental Management Systems (PSHE-MS) in ASEAN ports in accordance with international standards and conventions.

Next Meeting

19. The Ministers agreed to convene the Twenty-First ATM in Malaysia in 2015.
20. The delegates from ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Secretariat expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Myanmar for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS (TO BE CONFIRMED)

(a) H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam; (b) H.E. Mr.

Tram Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia; (c) H.E. Mr. Ignasius Jonan, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia; (d) H.E. Dr. Bounchanh Sinthavong, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR; (e) H.E. Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, Minister of Transport of Malaysia; (f) H.E. Mr. Nyan Htun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar; (g) H.E. Mr. Joseph Emilio Aguinaldo Abaya, Secretary of Transportation and Communications of the Philippines; (h) H.E. Mr. Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport of Singapore; (i) H.E. ACM Prajin Juntong, Minister of Transport of Thailand; (j) H.E. Mr. Dinh La Thang, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and (k) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

Protocol to Implement the Eighth Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services

Bangkok, Thailand, 19 November 2014

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), 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, Member States of the Association of South East Asian Nations (hereinafter collectively referred to as "ASEAN" or "Member States" or singularly "Member State");

NOTING the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services signed on 15 December 1995 in Bangkok, Thailand, which seeks to enhance cooperation in services amongst Member States, eliminate substantially restrictions to trade in services amongst Member States and liberalise trade in services by expanding the depth and scope of liberalisation beyond those undertaken by Member States under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (hereinafter referred to as "GATS") of the World Trade Organisation (hereinafter referred to as "WTO");

HAVING carried out six rounds of negotiations and concluded seven sets of schedule of specific commitments embodied in the Protocol to implement the Initial Package of Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services signed on 15 December 1997 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; the Protocol to Implement the Second Package of Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services signed on 16 December 1998 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam; the Protocol to Implement the Third Package of Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services signed on 31 December 2001; the Protocol to Implement the Fourth Package of Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services signed on 23 November 2004 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; the Protocol to Implement the Fifth Package of Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services signed on 8 February 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand; the Protocol to Implement the Sixth Package of Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services signed on 10 December 2009 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam; and the Protocol to Implement the Seventh Package of Commitments under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services signed on 16 December 2011 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

NOTING the ASEAN Framework Agreement for the Integration of Priority Sectors together with the Roadmap for the Integration of Priority Sectors signed by the ASEAN Leaders on 29 November 2004 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, and the ASEAN Framework (Amendment) Agreement for the Integration of Priority Sectors signed by the ASEAN Economic Ministers on 8 December 2006 in Cebu, Philippines, which includes Air Transport, provide measures to deepen and broaden internal economic integration and linkages, with the participation of the private sector, to realise an ASEAN Economic Community.

NOTING the ASEAN Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons signed by the ASEAN Economic Ministers during the 21st ASEAN Summit on 19 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia that will facilitate the movement of ASEAN people in engaging in trade in goods, trade in services and investment in the region and that upon its entry into force, its Annex 1 shall supersede commitments made under the AFAS in relation to mode 4 (Movement of Natural Persons).

MINDFUL of the targets and timelines of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint adopted at the

13th ASEAN Summit held on 21 November 2007 in Singapore that, amongst others, provided for the liberalisation of trade in services through consecutive rounds of liberalisation ending in 2015;

HAVING carried out subsequent negotiations pursuant to Article IV of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services and finalised the eighth package of commitments;

DESIRING to set out in a schedule, the specific commitments that each Member State shall undertake, for which Member States shall accord preferential treatment to one another on a Most-Favoured Nations basis.

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Each Member State shall extend to all other Member States preferential treatment in air transport services as set forth in the Schedules of Specific Commitments annexed to this Protocol.
2. The Annex to this Protocol is the consolidated schedules of each Member State's specific commitments which shall form an integral part of this Protocol.
3. This Protocol and its Annex shall form an integral part of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services.
4. This Protocol shall enter into force on the sixtieth day after the deposit of the seventh Instrument of Ratification or Acceptance from ASEAN Member States with the Secretary-General of ASEAN, and shall become effective only among the Member States that have ratified or accepted it. For each Member State ratifying or accepting the Protocol after the deposit of the seventh Instrument of Ratification or Acceptance, the Protocol shall enter into force on the sixtieth day after the deposit by such Member State of its Instrument of Ratification or Acceptance.
5. This Protocol shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof to each Member State. The Secretary-General of ASEAN shall also promptly furnish notifications of ratifications or acceptances made pursuant to paragraph 5 to each Member State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the Protocol to Implement the Eighth Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services.

DONE at **Pakse, Lao PDR**, this **Twentieth** Day of **December** in the Year **Two Thousand and Thirteen**, in a single original copy in the English Language.

For the Government of Brunei Darussalam:

PEHIN DATO ABDULLAH BAKAR

Minister of Communications

For the the Government of Kingdom of Cambodia:

MAO HAVANNALL

Secretary of State Secretariat of Civil Aviation

For the Government of the Republic of Indonesia:

E.E. MANGINDAAN

Minister of Transport

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

SOMMAD PHOLSENA

Minister of Public Works and Transport

For the Government of Malaysia:

DATUK AB AZIZ BIN KAPRAWI

Deputy Minister of Transport

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

NYAN HTUN AUNG

Union Minister for Transport

For the Government of the Republic of the Philippines:

ATTY. CATHERINE JENNIFER P. GONZALES

Secretary of Transportation and Communications

For the Government of the Republic of Singapore:

LUI TUCK YEW

Minister for Transport

For the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand:

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL PRAJIN JUNTONG

Minister of Transport

For the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

DINH LA THANG

Minister of Transport

Memorandum of Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation Mechanism for Joint Oil Spill Preparedness and Response

Mandalay, Myanmar, 28 November 2014

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, Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Parties" or individually as "the Party");

BEARING IN MIND the provisions of the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation, 1990 (OPRC 1990), in particular of its Articles 5, 6, 7 and 10;

RECALLING the decision stipulated in the ASEAN Strategic Transport Plan/Brunei Action Plan 2011-2015 to formulate and implement a regional cooperative mechanism for oil spill preparedness and response;

RECOGNISING the serious threat posed to the marine and coastal environment of the ASEAN region by oil pollution incidents involving ships, offshore units, sea ports and oil handling facilities;

RECOGNISING FURTHER the importance of effective preparation for and prompt and effective response to oil pollution incidents at the national, sub-regional and regional levels in order to minimise the damage which may result from oil spill;

CONSIDERING that the international cooperation between ASEAN Member States is essential to prevent and respond to marine pollution incidents;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that existing sub-regional arrangements in the ASEAN region, established for oil spill preparedness and response within each sub-regional area, facilitate the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "the MoU"); and

DESIRING to further develop and strengthen mutual assistance and international cooperation in preparing for and combating against marine pollution.

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1 OBJECTIVE

The Parties aim to promote a regional collaborative mechanism for building capacities and capabilities in preparedness for and response to oil spill incidents, as well as for promoting mutual assistance in preparing for, controlling and combating oil spill incidents in the ASEAN region.

ARTICLE 2 AREAS OF COOPERATION

1. Each Party shall, subject to the laws, rules, regulations and national policies from time to time in force, governing the subject matter in each country, cooperate to:
 - (a) facilitate the implementation of applicable International Maritime Organization (IMG) conventions and regulations, as appropriate, to prepare for, reduce and control oil spills;
 - (b) individually and/or jointly undertake appropriate measures to prepare for and respond to oil spill incidents in the ASEAN region;
 - (c) develop a Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan, to coordinate and integrate response to oil spill incidents;
 - 1) affecting or likely to affect the marine and coastal environment of one or more Parties; or
 - 2) exceeding the response capacity of any one Party.
 - (d) develop strategies and action programmes to strengthen capacity and capability of ASEAN Member States including the conduct of regular joint training courses or joint exercises in order to improve the level of preparedness, cooperation and coordination among operational personnel and in particular response teams of the Parties;

- (e) share information to enhance level of preparedness to oil spill incidents and strengthen actual response operations;
 - (f) jointly conduct and/or share the results of research and studies on the scientific and technical aspect of oil spill preparedness and response; and
 - (g) promote partnerships with relevant stakeholders including ASEAN Dialogue Partners, governmental and non-governmental organisations and shipping and petroleum industries.
2. The details of the cooperation and activities undertaken pursuant to this MoU shall be discussed and agreed by the Parties on a case-by-case basis.

ARTICLE 3 IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Parties shall designate national focal points to facilitate the implementation of this MoU.
2. The ASEAN Maritime Transport Working Group in coordination with each focal point is responsible for the implementation of this MoU. It will then have to submit the implementation progress of this MoU to the ASEAN Transport Ministers through the ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting.

ARTICLE 4 PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Any Intellectual Property Rights issue arising from research, studies, or other activities in this MOU are to be mutually agreed upon between the Parties concerned.

ARTICLE 5 CONFIDENTIALITY

1. Each Party shall undertake to observe the confidentiality and secrecy of documents, information and other data received or supplied to the other Party during the period of the implementation of this MoU or any other agreements made pursuant to this MoU.

2. The provision of this Article shall continue to be binding between the Parties notwithstanding the termination of this MoU.

ARTICLE 6
RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER AGREEMENTS

This MoU or any actions taken thereto shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties under any existing agreements or international conventions to which they are also parties.

ARTICLE 7
AMENDMENT

1. Each Party may request in writing, any amendment to any part of this MoU.
2. Any amendment agreed to by the Parties shall be reduced into writing and shall form as an integral and inseparable part of this MoU.
3. Such amendment shall come into force on such date as may be determined by the Parties.
4. Such amendment shall not prejudice the rights and obligations arising from or based on this MoU before or up to date of such amendment.

ARTICLE 8
SUSPENSION

Each Party reserves the right for reasons of national security, national interest, public order or public health to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding which suspension shall take effect immediately after notification has been given to the other Parties through diplomatic channels and shall last no longer than is necessary by the reasons for its imposition.

ARTICLE 9
SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any difference or dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation, implementation, and/or application of any of the provisions of this MoU shall be settled amicably, through mutual consultation or negotiations between the Parties, without reference to any third party or international tribunal.

ARTICLE 10
LEGAL EFFECT

With the exception of Articles 4 and 5, this MoU constitutes an expression of mutual good faith and is not intended to create legally binding obligations on either Party. The Parties shall endeavour to promote and achieve the objective of this MoU.

ARTICLE 11
FINAL PROVISIONS

1. This MoU shall come into force upon signature by all Parties.
2. This MoU shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof to each Party.

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

DONE at Mandalay, Myanmar this Twenty Eighth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen, in a single original copy in the English Language.

For Brunei Darussalam:
PEHIN DATO ABDULLAH BAKAR
Minister of Communications

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:
TRAM IV TEK
Minister of Public Works and Transport

For the Republic of Indonesia:
IGNASIUS JONAN
Minister for Transportation

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:
BOUNCHANH SINTHAVONG
Minister of Public Works and Transport

For Malaysia:
DATO' SRI LIOW TIONG LAI
Minister of Transport

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:
NYAN HTUN AUNG
Union Minister, Ministry of Transport

For the Republic of the Philippines:

JOSEPH EMILIO AGUINALDO ABAYA

Secretary Department of Transportation
and Communications

For the Republic of Singapore:

LUI TUCK YEW

Minister for Transport

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL PRAJIN JUNTONG

Minister of Transport

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

DINH LA THANG

Minister of Transport

pleased to note that the ASEAN remain attractive destination for both regional and international tourists with growth of 14.51% and 9.9% over 2012. The Ministers also noted that the total number of tourists visiting ASEAN in 2013 is 90.2 million, an increase of 12% from 2012.

3. The Ministers welcomed the good progress in implementing the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2011-2015, where 75% measures for 2013 have been duly completed. The Ministers agreed to revise some of the measures in ASTP to ensure its relevance to the on-going efforts to promote sustainable tourism to support the timely realization of ASEAN Economic Community by 2015.

Facilitation of Tourism Professionals Mobility

4. The Ministers commended the progress made in facilitating free flow of services and skilled labor within ASEAN through the implementation of the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Tourism Professionals. The Ministers noted the completion of 144 toolboxes for hotel divisions (e.g., front office, food and beverage services, food production and housekeeping), and the ASEAN Tourism Qualifications Equivalent Matrix, which will serve as key references for tourism industry and training institutions in delivering the programme under the MRA on Tourism Professionals.
5. The Ministers welcomed the new projects and activities that will be undertaken in 2014, amongst others, Toolbox Development for Travel Agencies and Tour Operations, Training of ASEAN Master Trainers and Master Assessor for Front Office, Food and Beverage Services and Food Production Divisions, and Development of ASEAN Tourism Professional Registration System.
6. The Ministers agreed to begin the pilot projects for housekeeping division under the MRA this year given the readiness of the supporting infrastructure for such an undertaking. The Ministers also called for initiatives to promote greater awareness to attract more participation from various tourism stakeholders in respective ASEAN Member States.
7. The Ministers adopted the terms of reference (TOR) for the establishment of a Regional Secretariat to facilitate the implementation of the MRA for Tourism Professionals in Indonesia in 2015. In this regard,

Meeting of the ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM)

Joint Media Statement of the 17th Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers

**Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
19 January 2014**

1. The Seventeenth Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (17th M-ATM) was held on 19 January 2014 in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, in conjunction with the ASEAN Tourism Forum 2014 (ATF 2014). The Meeting was preceded by the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of ASEAN National Tourism Organisations (NTOs) and their consultations with dialogue partners. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri bin Abdul Aziz, Minister of Tourism and Culture of Malaysia, and H.E. Mr. Htay Aung, Union Minister of Hotels and Tourism of Myanmar served as Vice Chair.
2. Based on preliminary tourism statistics provided by ASEAN Member States, the Ministers were

the Ministers acknowledged the contribution of the Government of Australia for its continued support to ASEAN in establishing necessary MRA infrastructures through the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme (AADCP).

Developing Quality Tourism

8. The Ministers commended the progress made in developing comprehensive tourism standards for green hotel, homestay, spa services, public toilet, clean tourist city and community based tourism, and their certification process which will help to enhance the quality of human resources, services and facilities in the region. The Ministers tasked their officials to initiate capacity building for auditors and pilot testing for the above standards to facilitate their full implementation by 2015.
9. The Ministers welcomed the successful outcomes of the “ASEAN Climate Change and Tourism Measures and Parameters Development Workshop” held on 7-10 April 2013 in Davao City, the Philippines resulting in the completion of the Framework, Approaches, Parameters and Measures for Climate Change and Tourism in ASEAN.
10. The Ministers expressed their sympathy to the Philippines in the aftermath of the earthquake and Typhoon Haiyan that hit the country in the last quarter of 2013 and acknowledged the work undertaken by the Philippines Government to bring back normalcy and commence with the rehabilitation process. Towards this end, the Ministers endorsed the implementation of the ASEAN Tourism Framework on responding to climate change to ensure the sustainable development of tourism in the region in the near future.
11. The Ministers adopted the ASEAN Joint Declaration on the Implementation of Code of Ethics for Tourism in recognition of the important roles and contributions tourism sector made to economic and social development in the region, especially in improving the quality of the lives of the people.

Promoting ASEAN Tourism

12. The Ministers welcomed the progress made with ASEAN partners in jointly promoting and marketing

ASEAN tourism activities, amongst others, the social media marketing of ASEAN tourism on Sinaweibo website (www.dongnanya.travel), themed promotion of experiential and creative travel to tap the Chinese market. The Ministers also expressed their appreciation to Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) and Travel Channel for PATA Love Campaign, which will promote ASEAN tourism destinations and tourism products through ASEAN Member States’ best destination footages to be aired on the Travel Channel. The Ministers also noted that the ASEAN Tourism website (www.aseantourism.travel) has been continuously enhanced through the uploading of articles, images, news, event calendar and materials to promote existing multi-country packages.

13. The Ministers were pleased with the outcomes of the activities undertaken by the ASEAN Promotional Chapters for Tourism (APCT) in both Sydney and Mumbai in 2013 to promote ASEAN tourism through major tourism consumer shows, networking functions and print campaigns. The Ministers also welcomed the result of the studies on “*ASEAN Business Travel-Marketing Strategy*”, “*Framework of the Development of Strategies for Adventure Market*” and “*Small Regular Passenger Exit Survey (PES) on ASEAN Brand Awareness*” on how to further capitalize on the region’s tourism potentials.
14. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the ASEAN Workshop on Crisis Management and Communications held on 25-26 February 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia including the recommendation to initiate discussion with international tourism organisations on the standardisation of the tourism crisis manual and Standard Operating Procedures.
15. The Ministers agreed to focus on promotional activities on experiential and creative tourism in ASEAN in 2014 with the themes of “*Tastes of Southeast Asia*” and “*Experience Diverse Traditions and Ways of Life*” respectively.

Developing ASEAN Tourism Product

16. The Ministers expressed its appreciation to Malaysia for its support in completing the ASEAN Parks and Gardens publication. The Ministers noted the progress made in developing the ASEAN Ecotourism Strategic Plan, which would serve as

an effective tool to promote sustainable economic development through the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage in the region.

17. The Ministers welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Cruise Work Plan 2013, among others, showcasing ASEAN ports and attractions through the distribution of tourism promotion collaterals and screening the ASEAN Tourism TV video at Cruise Shipping Miami 2013 and Cruise Shipping Asia-Pacific 2013 and working with the ASEAN Maritime Transport Working Group to enhance cruise development. The Ministers also noted the issues and challenges faced in developing the cruise industry in the region raised by Asia Cruise Association and tasked the officials to work with relevant ASEAN bodies to address these challenges.
18. The Ministers welcomed UNWTO's technical assistance to further develop river-based tourism in ASEAN by formulating a plan to promote cross-border river-based tourism including the identification of river-based tourism corridors, circuits and clusters.

Enhancing Connectivity

19. The Ministers commended the enhancement of ASEAN air connectivity through the implementation of the ASEAN Open Skies agreement as well as the progress in engaging ASEAN Dialogue Partners in air services negotiation, including China, European Union, Japan and the Republic of Korea. The recent conclusion of the Protocol 2 on the Exchange of 5th Freedom Air Traffic Rights between ASEAN Member States and China under the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement will help to further enhance business and leisure travel connectivity within and into the region.
20. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the Regional Workshop on ASEAN Common Visa held on 30 September – 1 October 2013 in Jakarta, Indonesia on addressing the issues and challenges faced in developing ASEAN Common Visa for non-ASEAN nationals and its possible implications on tourism sector. The Ministers tasked their officials to work closely with relevant agencies to facilitate the development of the ASEAN Common Visa.

Promoting ASEAN Tourism in Major Markets

21. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre for their relentless support to further develop and promote ASEAN tourism to the Chinese, Japanese and Korean markets through the Tourism Documentaries in China's National TV Network, ASEAN Local Culinary in ASEAN Festival 2013 in Yokohama on 5-6 October 2013, and ASEAN Culture and Tourism Fair on 3-6 October 2013 in Andong and Jeonju, Korea respectively.
22. The Ministers welcomed the progress made collaboration including the implementation of the Russian Language Course for ASEAN Tour Operator, tourism safety and security activities.

ASEAN Tourism Forum

23. The ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2014 held on 16-23 January 2014 in Kuching, Malaysia, with the theme of "ASEAN: Advancing Tourism Together", was attended by 462 international buyers and 879 sellers with 353 booths as well as 75 media. The Ministers acknowledged the partnership with CNN International and CNBC as the Official Sponsor for ATF 2013.
24. The ATF 2015 will be convened in Nay Pyi Daw, Myanmar, in January 2015 with the theme of "ASEAN Tourism Towards Peace, Prosperity and Partnership". The Philippines confirmed that they will host ATF in 2016.
25. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Malaysia for the warm hospitality accorded to all delegates 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. Dr. Mari Elka Pangestu, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia; (iv) H.E. Mr. Chaleune Warintrasak, Vice Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR; (v) H.E. Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri bin Abdul Aziz, Minister of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia; (vi) H.E. Mr. Htay Aung, Union Minister for

Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar; (vii) H.E. Mr. Ramon R. Jimenez, Jr. Secretary of Tourism, Philippines; (viii) Mr. Lionel Yeo, Chief Executive, Singapore Tourism Board, representing H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Second Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; (ix) H.E. Mr. Sombat Kuruphan, Vice Minister for Tourism and Sports, Thailand; (x) H.E. Mr. Ho Anh Tuan, Deputy Minister of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Viet Nam; and (xi) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

Joint Statement by the ASEAN Tourism Ministers on the Aftermath of Earthquake and Super Typhoon in the Philippines

**Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
19 January 2014**

During the 17th Meeting of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Tourism Ministers in Kuching, Malaysia on 19 January 2014, the Tourism Ministers expressed the following in response to the aftermath of the 7.2 magnitude earthquake and super typhoon Haiyan which hit the Philippines on 15 October and 08 November 2013, respectively:

1. Deepest sorrow and sympathy for the loss of lives and properties brought by the calamities;
2. Profound support to the Philippine Government for the rebuilding and recovery efforts, most especially in bringing back the enthusiasm of international travelers and the global travel trade to visit the Philippines;
3. Acknowledge the assistance extended by the international tourism organizations led by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), and supported by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), and the ASEAN Dialogue Partners in helping the affected victims;

4. Call on the tourism industry stakeholders to strengthen their resolve to make tourism a vital vehicle in providing a long-term and sustainable contribution to the recovery and rebuilding efforts; and
5. Inform the ASEAN Leaders that the Philippines has moved swiftly towards the rehabilitation and is bringing back normalcy in the affected areas.

On the longer term, the Tourism Ministers agreed to pursue the following:

1. Encourage the immediate implementation of the Framework, Approaches, Parameters, and Measures on Climate Change and Tourism in the ASEAN, which was adopted at the 17th Meeting of the ASEAN Tourism Ministers on 19 January 2014;
2. Support the enhancement of crisis communications, management, and networking among member countries in order to effect timely and appropriate responses; and
3. Reiterate their commitment in strengthening mutual cooperation to maintain travel and tourism confidence through all possible ways.

Joint Declaration on A Code of Ethics for Tourism by ASEAN Tourism Ministers

Kuching, Malaysia, 20 January 2014

We, the Tourism Ministers of Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as "ASEAN"), namely 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, gathered in Kuching, Malaysia on 20 January 2014 for the Seventeenth Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers;

NOTING the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism adopted at the thirteenth World Tourism Organization General Assembly held on 27 September - 1 October 1999 in Santiago, Chile;

RECALLING the ASEAN Tourism Agreement signed by the ASEAN Leaders at the Eighth ASEAN Summit on 4 November 2002 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia;

NOTING the Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariat of the Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN Secretariat) and the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) signed in Bangkok, Thailand on 22 January 2008;

MINDFUL of the Spirit of Bali Statement which resulted during the Seminar on Tourism Ethics for Asia and the Pacific: Responsible Tourism and its Socio-Economic Impact on Local Communities, held in Bali, Indonesia on 11 June 2011;

RECOGNISING the need for effective implementation of the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2011-2015 adopted during the Fourteenth Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers held on 17 January 2011 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; and

RECOGNISING the importance of sustainable tourism development to the ASEAN Member States.

DO HEREBY:

1. Endeavour to develop awareness of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism among ASEAN tourism stakeholders.
2. Consider UNWTO's Global Code of Ethics for Tourism as a possible means to sustainable and responsible tourism development.
3. Strengthen information sharing network among ASEAN Member States on the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.
4. Encourage the private sector such as travel agencies, airlines, hotels, resorts and tourism-related establishments to work in partnership with ASEAN Member States. Such partnership may include sharing of information on the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism

Adopted in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia on the Nineteenth of January in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen in a single original copy in the English Language.

IV. ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (AMRI)

Joint Media Statement of the 12th Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information and 3rd 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-neighbourly 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.

ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA)

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. Phoeurng 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 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting

Hue City, Viet Nam, 20 April 2014

1. The Sixth ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) Meeting and the 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 preceded by the meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Culture and Arts, and their consultations with dialogue partners.
2. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Hoang Tuan Anh, Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam, and H.E. Pehin Dato Hazair Abdullah, Minister for Culture, Youth and Sports of Brunei Darussalam served as Vice Chair.
3. The Meeting was officially opened by H.E. Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister of Viet Nam. In his opening address, he welcomed all Ministers and their delegations to the Meeting and to Viet Nam. He stressed that ASEAN – our common home – has made long strides since its inception 47 years ago in building a Community that rests on the three pillars of political-security, economy and socio-culture. He further highlighted that the ASEAN Community is not an end but rather a beginning of the ASEAN comprehensive integration. In light of that, the theme of the Sixth AMCA on role of culture for the sustainable development of the ASEAN Community is ever more meaningful. He wished the Meeting to come up with concrete plans and actions for tangible benefits of our peoples. He also wished the Meeting to discuss a possible ministerial declaration to further promote culture and the arts cooperation and harness it for the sustainable development in the region.
4. The Ministers welcomed the good progress in implementing culture and art measures in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint, people-to-people exchanges in the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, and outcomes of joint activities in cultural expressions to reflect ASEAN unity in cultural diversity with the view that all of which are important enablers towards building a people-oriented ASEAN Community.
5. The Ministers further noted the ASEAN City of Culture, and Best of ASEAN Performing Arts series had been a resounding success and were an excellent example of promoting and inculcating appreciation of the rich cultural heritage of the ASEAN Community. The Ministers welcomed the participation of Dialogue Partners in these initiatives to celebrate our traditions and connect cultures among ASEAN Member States, and strengthen mutual understanding with Dialogue Partners.
6. The Ministers welcomed the new stream of projects and activities that will be undertaken in 2014 and beyond, amongst others, ASEAN Performing Arts Festivals, ASEAN Ancient Cities Network, ASEAN Youth Heritage Leaders, and Conference on the Future of Preservation.
7. The Ministers noted the recommendations of the Mid-Term Review of the Implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint, and the guidance of ASEAN Leaders on the development of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision.
8. The Ministers agreed to further strengthen culture and art cooperation to ensure its relevance to the on-going efforts to promote sustainable development and to support the timely realisation of ASEAN Community by 2015.
9. The Ministers agreed to promote culture as a pillar of sustainable development and agreed in principle on the draft of the *Hue Declaration on Culture for ASEAN Community's Sustainable Development*.
10. The Ministers adopted the revised Terms of Reference (TOR) for ASEAN Senior Officials in Culture and Arts Meeting to harness the evolving cooperation mechanism in the region to realise ASEAN's commitment on sustainable development, support ASEAN culture and arts cooperation, promote ASEAN awareness and ASEAN identity, and to enhance cross-sectoral cooperation.
11. Viet Nam, as the Chair of AMCA, launched Hue City, the host venue for the 6th AMCA meeting,

as the 3rd ASEAN City of Culture for the period of 2014 - 2015. Following similar culture and art activities conducted in Pampanga, Philippines, and Singapore (the 1st and 2nd ASEAN City of Culture), a series of activities, performances, exhibitions and people-to-people exchanges will be implemented in Hue city to strengthen awareness on ASEAN and bonding towards ASEAN identity, raise the profile of ASEAN in the region and internationally, and cultivate long-lasting friendship among the people of ASEAN.

12. The Ministers welcomed the initiative of ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information in providing support of the restoration efforts for sites hit by Typhoon Haiyan and Earthquake in the Visayas Islands of the Philippines.
13. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Viet Nam for the warm hospitality accorded to all delegates and the excellent arrangements made for the Meetings.
14. The next AMCA and its related Meetings with Dialogue Partners are scheduled to be held in 2016 in Brunei Darussalam.

LIST OF MINISTERS

The Meeting was 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. Wiendu Nuryanti, Vice Minister for Culture, Ministry of Education and Culture, Indonesia; (iv) H.E. Bouangeun Xaphouvong, Vice Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR; (v) H.E. Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri bin Tan Sri Abdul Aziz, Minister of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia; (vi) H.E. Aye Myint Kyu, Union Minister for Culture, Myanmar; (vii) H.E. Prof. Felipe M. De Leon, Jr., Chairman of National Commission for Culture and the Arts, the Philippines; (viii) H.E. Wong Shyun Tsai Lawrence, Acting Minister of Culture, Community and Youth, Singapore; (ix) Ms. Chansuda Rukspollmuang, Deputy Permanent Secretary for Culture, representing Minister of Culture, Thailand; (x) H.E. Hoang Tuan Anh, Minister of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Viet Nam; and (xi) H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASED)

Joint Statement of the 8th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (8th ASED)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 11 September 2014

1. The Eighth ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (8th ASED) was held on 11 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, in conjunction with the Second ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (2nd APT EMM) and the Second East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (2nd EAS EMM). The Chairmanship was handed over from Indonesia as the Chair of 7th ASED to Lao PDR as the Chair of 8th ASED. The Meeting was preceded by the Ninth ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Education (9th SOM-ED) held on 9 September 2014 in Vientiane. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Phankham Viphavanh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education and Sports of Lao PDR. The Meeting was attended by Ministers and delegations from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat, Executive Director of the AUN Secretariat and Director of the SEAMEO Secretariat were also in attendance.
2. The Ministers took note of the progress made under the ASEAN Cooperation in Education in support of its strategic planning document, namely the ASEAN 5-Year Work Plan on Education (2011-2015). A significant milestone is the publication and official launch of the inaugural ASEAN State of Education Report (ASOER) 2013 which was supported by EU under the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI). The Ministers agreed that ASOER provides measures of the contribution of education sector to the social, environmental and economic well-being of ASEAN as a region. The Ministers noted the ASOER's role in highlighting

- the importance of education in achieving economic and developmental goals.
3. The Ministers agreed that connectivity, mobility, human resource development, IT and English Language training are important areas that will help narrow development gaps, noting that this will help lead to equitable economic development and shared prosperity. Pursuant to the decision of the 7th ASED and in support of the implementation of the ASEAN 5-Year Work Plan on Education (2011-2015), the Ministers agreed on the need to strengthen collaborative effort of all ASEAN Member States to further help the ASEAN developing Member States.
 4. The Ministers acknowledged that 2015 is a landmark year, noting the ASEAN 5-Year Work Plan on Education (2011-2015) is due for completion, and in a broader global context that countries have committed to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and Education For All Goals by 2015. The Ministers noted the importance of having a Adopted 11 September 2014 clear vision for the future and expressed appreciation to the ASEAN Secretariat for facilitating the ASED/SOM-ED Post-2015 envisioning exercise. This initiative contributed towards the development of the post-2015 community vision, as requested by the ASEAN Leaders through the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the ASEAN Community Post- 2015 Vision during the 23rd Summit. The Ministers noted the proposed new education elements and requested the ASEAN Secretariat to convene a Task Force to discuss on the key elements before submission to the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC) through the Working Group on the Post-2015 vision.
 5. The Ministers noted with appreciation the completion of the cycle for hosting the ASEAN Student Exchange Programme (ASEP) which originally started in July 2000 in Malaysia on a cost-sharing basis. The Programme aimed at cultivating cooperation, networking and greater understanding and respect of the different cultures within ASEAN. In order to enhance the Programme to become more outcome-based, the Ministers looked forward to the formulation of a Terms of Reference (TOR) on the organization of ASEP, to be convened in 2016 onwards in the same host country as the ASED Chair.
 6. The Ministers expressed its appreciation to the Task Force of the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF) for its efforts in producing the Framework. Recognizing its importance towards the vision of ASEAN Community 2015, the Ministers agreed to endorse the Framework as a guideline for the ASEAN Member States to voluntarily adopt.
 7. In view of the growing number of cooperation frameworks with ASEAN Dialogue Partners, including ASEAN Plus Three (APT), and East Asia Summit (EAS), the Ministers acknowledged SOM-ED efforts to convene a Task Force on the ASEAN Education Work Plan for 2016-2020.
 8. The Ministers took note of the progress report by the ASEAN University Network (AUN), in particular, the progress made with respect to AUN Quality Assurance (AUN-QA) and the implementation of AUN ACTS (ASEAN Credit Transfer System). At the strategic level, the Ministers noted the on-going revision of the AUN Charter and instructed the Task Force to continue their efforts in finalizing the Charter with a view of adopting it by 2015, in line with AUN 20th anniversary. The Ministers also noted the request for support by the AUN Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net).
 9. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Lao PDR for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made in hosting the 8th ASED.
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ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)

Chairman's Statement of the 3rd Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and 2nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)

**Bandar Seri Begawan,
Brunei Darussalam, 16 October 2014**

1. The 3rd Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the 2nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) were convened as a joint session in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 16 October 2014. The Meeting was chaired by Yang Berhormat Pehin Dato Haji Badaruddin Othman, Minister of Home Affairs, Brunei Darussalam. The Meeting was attended by Ministers in charge of disaster management or their representatives from all ASEAN Member States and the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC).
2. The Ministers noted the milestones achieved in the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2010-2015) and the operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre). The Ministers noted the good progress in the implementation of the priorities under the AADMER Work Programme, whereby ASEAN Dialogue Partners, various partners and stakeholders, the United Nations, civil society organisations, and relevant international organisations have been engaged in the implementation. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Brunei Darussalam for successfully organising the regional commemoration of the ASEAN Day for Disaster Management (ADDM) on 12 October 2014. The Ministers approved the revised Financial Rules for the ASEAN Disaster Management and Emergency Relief (ADMER) Fund to allow the AHA Centre to mobilise more resources under the Fund in the event of a natural disaster.
3. The Ministers commended the pioneering work of the AHA Centre in establishing the Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN (DELSA), developing the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme and strengthening the ASEAN-Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT), among others. The Ministers likewise hailed the publication of "Weathering the Perfect Storm", which captures the lessons learned by ASEAN from responding to Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in 2013. The Ministers noted that the Philippines will launch a book documenting the good practices and lessons learned on country's response to Typhoon Haiyan in the first week of November 2014.
4. The Ministers adopted the initial strategy on "One ASEAN, One Response 2020 and Beyond: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One". The strategy builds on the collective strength of ASEAN Member States as they come together when a natural disaster hits the region. The strategy reaches out to other stakeholders within and outside the region who shares the vision of effectively and efficiently responding to disasters. The Ministers tasked the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) to further develop the initial strategy in preparation for its launching at the ASEAN Summit in Malaysia in 2015.
5. The Ministers agreed to the necessity of enhancing the role of AHA Centre to position itself as a world-class disaster coordination centre and capacity building hub. Having established trust and confidence among the ASEAN Member States, and accolades from the humanitarian community, it is imperative that the AHA Centre's role is enriched in order to better serve and complement the work of ASEAN Member States in disaster management

- and adapt to emerging challenges brought about by the changing humanitarian landscape.
6. The Ministers noted the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC) by the ASEAN Coordinating Council in May 2014, and the progress in developing the operational procedure to implement the Terms of Reference. The operational procedure forms essential linkages and coordination lines between the Secretary-General of ASEAN, AHA Centre, and the ASEAN ministerial bodies and sectoral bodies with the purpose of mobilising much needed resources in a collective manner during a large-scale disaster. As such, the Ministers agreed to support the role of SG-AHAC in resource mobilisation and ensuring ASEAN's collective response to the disaster.
 7. The Ministers affirmed the centrality of AADMER as the common platform and regional policy backbone on disaster management with ACDM as the main driver. The changing humanitarian landscape both within and outside the region necessitates cohesion within ASEAN and consistency with AADMER. The Ministers commended the work of the ACDM in forming and convening the Joint Task Force to Promote Synergy with Other Relevant ASEAN Bodies on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), involving the defence, political, health and social welfare sectors.
 8. To ensure centrality of AADMER and as directed by the ASEAN Leaders through the ASEAN Declaration on Enhancing Cooperation in Disaster Management, the Ministers would engage in a dialogue with other ASEAN ministerial bodies and various ASEAN-related mechanisms. The Ministers also agreed to leverage the position of the Secretary-General of ASEAN to advocate the centrality of AADMER and the need to synergise efforts and coordination in relevant ASEAN ministerial meetings. Similarly, the Ministers agreed to convene joint sessions with the other ministerial bodies. To ensure ASEAN Centrality, the Ministers agreed to convey to the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers Meeting that all issues related to disaster management must be consulted with and involve the AMMDM and ACDM as its sectoral body at the earliest stage. The Ministers also noted that the ACDM has reviewed and consolidated inputs on the draft Statement on EAS Guidelines for Rapid Disaster Response, to ensure that the Statement will be consistent with the AADMER principles and mechanisms. The Statement would be submitted for adoption by the EAS Leaders in November 2014.
 9. The Ministers approved the enhancement of ASEAN's visibility in humanitarian response to underscore ASEAN responding together as one. The Ministers tasked the ACDM to formulate guidelines on carrying both national and ASEAN flag or logo among the first responders in humanitarian missions, and develop strategies to better communicate ASEAN's collective response to the disasters.
 10. The Ministers noted the good efforts of the ACDM in developing the elements of the post-2015 AADMER implementation strategy. The identified initial elements contribute to the establishment of the ASEAN Community, affirm ASEAN Centrality, and would lead to streamlining the successor AADMER work programme. The Ministers tasked the ACDM to further develop the strategy and assess the implementation of the current AADMER Work Programme (2010-2015).
 11. The Ministers adopted the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM), and agreed that AMMDM will be convened every year, back to back with the meetings of COP to AADMER.
 12. The Ministers expressed appreciation for the capable leadership of Viet Nam as Chair of the COP and ACDM in 2013. The Chair expressed thanks for the confidence to the leadership of Brunei Darussalam as the Chair of ACDM, the Governing Board for AHA Centre, the COP to AADMER and the AMMDM in 2014. The Ministers looked forward to the 3rd AMMDM and the 4th Meeting of the COP to AADMER, scheduled in Siem Reap, Cambodia in the second half of 2015.
 13. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government of Brunei Darussalam for hosting the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the AADMER and the Second ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM),

and for the excellent arrangements made and hospitality provided.

Bandar Seri Begawan, 16 October 2014

**Statement by the ASEAN
Environment Ministers for the
12th Meeting of the Conference
of the Parties to the Convention
on Biological Diversity
(CBD COP 12)**

**Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea
6-17 October 2014**

We, the Ministers responsible for the environment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) comprised 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, on the occasion of the Twelfth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

RECOGNISING the important role of ASEAN's rich biological diversity in enhancing the region's economic, political and socio-cultural well-being;

RECALLING that Parties have committed to the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets and notes the essential role of biodiversity for sustainable development in the development of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

REAFFIRMING the significant role of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity in facilitating cooperation and coordination among the members of ASEAN, and with relevant national governments, regional and international organizations, to implement the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the ASEAN region;

FURTHER REAFFIRMING the importance of adequate and timely sustainable financial resources including the ASEAN Biodiversity Fund to implement biodiversity conservation programmes of ASEAN Member States;

NOTING the entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity will provide greater legal certainty and transparency for both providers and users of genetic resources; and the importance of capacity building and participation of indigenous and local communities (ILCs) in the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol;

RECOGNISING that one of the key challenges in halting biodiversity loss is the greater involvement of a broader stakeholder base beyond environment and conservation practitioners; and that Communication, Education, and Public Awareness (CEPA) campaigns must target key groups such as business, media, women, local governments and youth;

REITERATING that climate change is one of the most pressing challenges of the present generation that affects biodiversity and economy at the global, regional and national levels; and that the ASEAN region is vulnerable to changes in climate and the aggravation of natural disasters;

COGNIZANT that inclusive green growth strategies would promote sustainable management practices of industries and reduce the threats to biodiversity;

NOTING the significant progress of ASEAN Member States in establishing protected areas including ASEAN Heritage Parks as a contribution to the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas and Aichi Target 11;

HIGHLIGHTING the negative impacts of invasive alien species (IAS) introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food, on biodiversity, and the risk of escape and release;

RECOGNISING that biodiversity thrives in cities and urban areas, and enhances the quality of life of urban dwellers and that city and urban dwellers have a significant role in biodiversity conservation, and acknowledge the Singapore Index on Cities' Biodiversity as an important tool to evaluate such efforts;

WELCOMING the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) which provides a mechanism to synthesize, review, assess and critically evaluate relevant information and knowledge on biodiversity, ecosystems and essential services for use by all member countries of the United Nations; and its complementary role to the CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) in undertaking scientific assessments and in promoting the effective use of science in decision making processes;

EMPHASISING the need to sustain the momentum gained through major regional programmes including the ASEAN Heritage Parks, the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network, the Coral Triangle Initiative, the Greater Mekong Sub-region, the Heart of Borneo, and Sulu Sulawesi Seascape and other key initiatives;

NOTING the development of the Pyeongchang Roadmap which covers relevant COP decisions to ensure that Parties will achieve the Aichi Targets by 2020;

DO HEREBY ENDEAVOUR TO:

INTENSIFY efforts aimed at conserving and sustainably managing the rich biodiversity of the ASEAN region towards ensuring the economic, political and socio-cultural well-being of the region's populace;

URGE all Parties to continue effective implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets; and document lessons learned from such efforts;

ENCOURAGE donors and partners to support the implementation of ASEAN Member States', including region-wide programmes and initiatives that contribute to the achievement of the Aichi Targets;

URGE Parties, donors and partners to continue supporting capacity building activities and the participation of ILCs in the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol;

ENHANCE national CEPA strategies in support of the Aichi Targets, in particular Target 1, which calls for people to be aware of biodiversity and the steps that they can take to conserve it sustainably; and focus the efforts on key groups such as business, media, women, local governments and youth;

ENCOURAGE all Parties to adopt a low carbon development framework so as to assist in reducing pressures on the environment;

STRENGTHEN international cooperation towards adoption of ecosystem-approach that has been advocated under the Convention on Biological Diversity;

PROMOTE the integration of policies on biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation to improve ecosystem resilience;

SUPPORT the valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services to underscore potential economic gains from conserving biodiversity through sustainable and environment-friendly investments and the implementation of incentive schemes such as payments for ecosystem services;

PROMOTE programmes on protected areas in the ASEAN region and ASEAN Heritage Parks as exemplary networks for effective protected area management;

ENCOURAGE Parties to incorporate IAS management and control measures into the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans; and develop and support the implementation of National Invasive Species Strategies and Action Plans;

ENCOURAGE subnational governments, cities and other local authorities to scale up their contribution to biodiversity conservation, review local policies and laws to support biodiversity conservation, and apply the Singapore Index on Cities' Biodiversity;

SUPPORT the work of the IPBES as it contributes to the work of the CBD's SBSTTA and the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets;

STRENGTHEN regional and transboundary biodiversity conservation initiatives with support of other national governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations; and encourage South-South Cooperation on biodiversity.

Media Release of the 15th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment and 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 30-31 October 2014

1. Ministers responsible for the environment from ASEAN Member States (AMS) held their 15th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment and 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution on 30-31 October 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The Ministers reviewed regional cooperation on a number of environmental issues, in particular actions taken on environmental sustainability under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint, and discussed new initiatives to further promote regional environmental cooperation.
2. The Ministers noted the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre's (ASMC) weather outlook where, among others, rainfall is expected to be slightly below average to average for most parts of the ASEAN region for the rest of the year. With the onset of Northeast Monsoon towards the end of the year, the northern ASEAN region will experience its traditional dry season and an escalation of hotspot activities can be expected, while for the southern ASEAN region, wetter weather conditions during the traditional rainy season would help to subdue the hotspot activities. ASMC also updated that neutral conditions (neither El Niño nor La Niña) continues to prevail in the equatorial Pacific Ocean, and there is a likelihood of a weak El Niño developing towards the end of 2014/early 2015. The Ministers agreed that AMS will continue to be vigilant and take additional preventive measures and immediate fire suppression in the event of any occurrence of transboundary haze in the coming months.
3. The Ministers congratulated Indonesia for ratifying the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, culminating in full ratification of the Agreement which entered into force in 2003. The Ministers look forward to Indonesia's depositing the Instrument of Ratification with the Secretary-General of ASEAN.
4. The Ministers reviewed national, sub-regional and regional activities to address land and forest fires in the region and its associated transboundary haze pollution. The Ministers welcomed the significant progress in the implementation of the Work Programme of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, including concrete on-the-ground activities; and implementation of the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (2006-2020). The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Task Force on Peatlands by the Committee under the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution.
5. The Ministers adopted the Alert Levels, Trigger Points and Actions on Fire Suppression, to complement and enhance the existing Standard Operating Procedure for Monitoring, Assessment and Joint Emergency Response under the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, and urged AMS to operationalize the Alert Levels and Trigger Points and Actions to prevent recurrence of transboundary haze pollution.
6. The Ministers welcomed and appreciated the initiative by Thailand to develop the Air4ASEAN application for smart phone and tablet. Air4ASEAN is an application to make air quality information available to the public, including pollution indices in the ASEAN region. The application will be launched in November 2014.
7. The Ministers noted that several ASEAN Member States have contributed to the ASEAN Transboundary Haze Pollution Control Fund towards realising the pledge of providing an initial seed contribution of US\$500,000 for the Fund. The Ministers welcomed contributions from other partners to the Fund.
8. The Ministers commended the significant achievements made upon the completion of activities under the 5-year ASEAN Peatland Forests Project (APFP) funded by Global Environment Facility (2009-2014), and the good

progress made under the EU-supported SEApeat Project, which aim to promote the sustainable management of peatlands in ASEAN to sustain local livelihoods, reduce the risk of fires and associated haze and contribute to global environmental management. The Ministers appreciated the positive development of the ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems (2014-2020) which was endorsed by the 9th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-9) to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution in 2013.

9. The Ministers noted the initiatives by Sub-regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution (MSC) countries to take the necessary actions in order to operationalise the ASEAN Sub-regional Haze Monitoring System (HMS). In the meantime, the Ministers encouraged MSC countries to share hotspot areas that cause transboundary haze on Government-to-Government basis.
10. The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change and looked forward to a successful outcome of the UNFCCC negotiation.
11. The Ministers noted that the Joint Statement by the ASEAN Environment Ministers to the Twelfth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 12) was conveyed at the High-level Segment of CBD COP 12 on 15 October 2014 in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, to express their commitment to the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets.
12. The Ministers approved the nomination of Mt. Hamiguitan Range Wildlife Sanctuary (MHRWS) and Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park (TRNP) from the Philippines as the 34th and 35th ASEAN Heritage Park (AHP). The AHP Programme serves as a regional network of national protected areas of high conservation importance preserving a complete spectrum of representative ecosystem to generate greater awareness, pride, appreciation, enjoyment, and conservation of ASEAN's rich natural heritage. The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) in Los Baños, Philippines serves as the Secretariat of the AHP Programme.

13. The Ministers presented, for the third time, the ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) Award and, for the second time, the ASEAN Certificates of Recognition for Clean Air, Clean Water, and Clean Land, to selected cities in ASEAN Member States as a way of recognizing exemplary initiatives to keep ASEAN cities clean, green, and livable even as they continue to grow as centers of economic activities.

Table 1. Recipients of the 3rd ASEAN ESC Awards (2014)

Country	City
Brunei Darussalam	Bandar Seri Begawan
Cambodia	Battambang Municipality
Indonesia	Balikpapan
Lao PDR	Luang Prabang
Malaysia	Melaka
Myanmar	Yangon
Philippines	San Carlos
Singapore	North West District
Thailand	Chiang Rai City
Viet Nam	Hue City

Table 2. Recipients of 2nd ASEAN Certificates of Recognition (2014)

City	Country	Category
Tangerang	Indonesia	Clean Air for Big Cities
Da Lat City	Viet Nam	Clean Air for Small Cities
Phnom Penh	Cambodia	Clean Water for Big Cities
Nakhon Sawan	Thailand	Clean Water for Small Cities
Davao City	Philippines	Clean Land for Big Cities
Roi-et	Thailand	Clean Land for Small Cities

14. The Ministers met their counterparts from the People's Republic of China, Japan and Republic of Korea at the 13th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers Meeting on 31 October 2014 to review current activities and discuss future cooperation on areas such as biodiversity, climate change, environmental education, environmental science and technology, and environmentally sustainable cities.
15. The Ministers also met their counterparts at the 4th East Asia Summit Environment Ministers Meeting (EAS-EMM) on 31 October 2014 to review current activities focusing on environmentally sustainable cities and discuss future cooperation under the EAS EMM framework.

16. The Ministers responsible for the environment will meet again in Viet Nam in 2015 on the occasion of the 13th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment and the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution.

**Conference of the Parties
(COP) to the ASEAN
Agreement on Transboundary
Haze Pollution (COP)**

**Media Release of the
16th Meeting of the Sub-Regional
Ministerial Steering Committee
on Transboundary Haze
Pollution (MSC)**

Brunei Darussalam, 2 April 2014

Ministers responsible for the environment from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand or their representatives met on the occasion of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution on 2 April 2014 in Brunei Darussalam.

The Ministers noted the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre's (ASMC) weather outlook where, among others, rainfall is expected to be below average for most parts of the southern region until the end of the Southwest Monsoon season in early October 2014. ASMC also informed that the prevailing neutral conditions of ENSO (neither El Niño nor La Niña) are expected to persist for the first half of 2014, with a likelihood of El Niño developing in the second half of 2014 which may exacerbate the dry weather conditions. An increase in hotspot activities may lead to the occurrence of transboundary smoke haze during periods of dry weather conditions. The MSC countries

will continue to be vigilant and take additional preventive measures and immediate fire suppression in the event of any occurrence of transboundary haze in the coming months.

The Ministers noted that the unusual dry weather conditions in the first quarter of 2014 has brought about a serious escalation of fires in several countries in the region. The Ministers noted the concerted efforts taken by these countries to control the fires and noted the importance of the lessons learnt in further improving the national and regional mechanisms to mitigate fires during such adverse weather conditions.

The Ministers expressed appreciation for the substantive efforts by Indonesia in implementing its Plan of Action (PoA) in Dealing with Transboundary Haze Pollution. Close and continuous monitoring of hotspots and coordination among local government, national government, private sector and communities continue to be enhanced as measures to prevent and suppress land and forest fires. National emergency response has been carried out since 15 March 2014 which included mobilisation of a national task force team, ground suppression and aerial operation (cloud seeding and water bombing), and intensive health care for affected communities. The National Team to Control Forest Areas and Forest Fires in Riau was established by the Ministry of Forestry decree to enhance law enforcement. The MSC member states reaffirmed their offer of assistance for emergency response should the situation warrants it.

The Ministers commended Indonesia's commitment to expedite the process of ratification of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution. The Ministers noted the information by Indonesia that the deliberations in Parliament for ratification is proceeding smoothly. The Ministers urged that Indonesia place its highest priority on its ratification and complete it at the earliest possible time.

The Ministers provided guidance on the implementation of the Strategic Review of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) Programmes and Activities, which covers enhancing haze control management through early warning/monitoring, fire prevention and fire suppression, including refinement of the Fire Danger Rating System; establishment of a Task Force to review alert levels and formulate trigger points to ensure expeditious fire suppression and effective emergency response; and identifying training needs

of member states under the Regional Haze Training Network. The Ministers noted that Malaysia will host the first meeting of the Task Force in June 2014. The Ministers recognized that it is important for ASEAN to review the trigger points and alert levels for expeditious response.

The Ministers noted the continued efforts undertaken to further enhance bilateral collaboration between Indonesia and Malaysia, and Indonesia and Singapore, to address transboundary haze issues, including through the proposed new Memoranda of Understanding that will build upon the previous successful experiences in bilateral cooperation in Riau and Jambi provinces. In this regard, Malaysia and Singapore look forward to finalising their respective MOUs with Indonesia soon.

The Ministers noted that the 23rd ASEAN Summit had welcomed the adoption of the recommendation of the 14th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment (IAMME) for an ASEAN Sub-regional Haze Monitoring System (HMS), as a joint haze monitoring system among Sub-regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution countries. The Ministers also acknowledged that the HMS is a useful tool to assist in monitoring and internal enforcement actions against irresponsible parties contributing to fires. The Ministers noted that the HMS has not been operationalized as the land use and concession maps have not been provided, due to the difficulties in sharing the land-use and concession maps by the MSC countries. The Ministers urged the MSC countries to take the necessary action in order to operationalise the HMS. In the meantime, the Ministers encouraged MSC countries to share hotspot areas that cause transboundary haze on Government-to-Government basis.

The Ministers further noted the progress of implementation of the Project on Rehabilitation and Sustainable Use of Peatland Forests in Southeast Asia (funded by Global Environment Facility) and the SEApeat Project (funded by European Union), including the various activities conducted at the pilot sites in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Viet Nam. The Ministers emphasised that sustainable management of fire prone areas especially peatlands remains a high priority for prevention of fires and smoke haze, as well as the mitigation of the impact of climate change. The Ministers noted the substantive progress in the development of the ASEAN Programme on

Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems 2014-2020 and the encouraging response and support from ASEAN Dialogue Partners and other partners, and key stakeholders such as the plantation companies towards the Programme. The Ministers renewed their commitment to coordinate the implementation of this regional Programme through national level support and commitment.

The Ministers noted that the next MSC Meeting may be held during the 15th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment (IAMME) in September 2014 in Lao PDR, or earlier if necessary.

The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government of Brunei Darussalam for organising the 16th MSC Meeting and the excellent arrangements made and hospitality provided.

Media Release of the 4th Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution in the Mekong Sub-Region

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 30 October 2014

1. The Fourth Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution in the Mekong Sub-Region (MSC Mekong) was held on 30 October 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR and attended by Ministers/representatives responsible for land and forest fires and haze from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam, and the Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community.
2. The Ministers noted the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre's (ASMC) weather outlook where, among others, rainfall is expected to be slightly below average to average for most parts of the northern ASEAN region for the next few

months. The current rainy season is expected to ease in the coming weeks, and hotspot activities are likely to remain subdued. However, with the onset of the Northeast Monsoon or traditional dry season towards the end of the year, hotspot activities may escalate. ASMC also updated that neutral conditions (neither El Niño nor La Niña) continues to prevail with a likelihood of a weak El Nino developing towards the end of 2014/early 2015. The MSC countries will continue to be vigilant and take additional preventive measures and immediate fire suppression in the event of any occurrence of transboundary haze in the coming months.

3. The Meeting discussed and shared various initiatives undertaken by the MSC Mekong countries to mitigate land and forest fires and to control smoke haze pollution during the current dry season. Cambodia continues to undertake fire prevention and control measures which include conducting annual Fire Fighters Training of Trainers and promoting forest fire education and awareness to communities. Lao PDR has set up an onsite ambient Air Quality Monitoring station in Vientiane on 8 March 2014 with support from Thailand. Thailand implemented a number of prevention and mitigation measures, including strictly controlled burning during January to April 2014, forest fire prevention, suppression and control, public dissemination of haze information through mass and social medias, fire and haze early warning and cooperation with neighboring countries including establishment of one air quality monitoring station in Vientiane, Lao PDR. Myanmar is developing National Fire Hazard Prevention and Control Plan and undertaking efforts in reducing vulnerability of forest communities and ecosystems to climate change and human-induced forest fires. Viet Nam continues to strengthen forest fire control activities including monitoring, prevention and mitigation; and work with local administrations and communities on forest protection, fire prevention and suppression.
4. The Meeting agreed to work towards achieving a renewed subregional target of hotspot reduction, i.e. reducing cumulative hotspot count not exceeding 75,000 hotspots (based on 2008 data) to be achieved by 2017, with a goal of returning to a cumulative hotspot count of 50,000 (based on 2006 data) by 2020.
5. The Meeting commended the significant achievements made upon the completion of activities under the 5-year ASEAN Peatland Forests Project (APFP) funded by Global Environment Facility (2009-2014), and the good progress made under the EU-supported SEApeat Project, which aim to promote the sustainable management of peatlands in ASEAN to sustain local livelihoods, reduce the risk of fires and associated haze and contribute to global environmental management. The Meeting noted the good progress of the development of the successor ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems (2014-2020) which was endorsed by the 9th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-9) to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution in 2013.
6. The Meeting expressed their appreciation to the Government of Lao PDR for hosting the 4th MSC Mekong Meeting and the excellent arrangements made and generous hospitality provided.

ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting (AHMM)

Joint Statement of the 12th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting

Ha Noi, Viet Nam, 18 September 2014

WE, the Ministers of Health of ASEAN Member States (AMS), 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, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, convened the 12th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting (AHMM) on 18 September 2014 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam.

We welcome the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012, Rio de Janeiro document entitled, "The Future We Want", which commits to strengthen health systems towards the provision of equitable, universal health coverage and promote affordable access to prevention, treatment, care and support related to noncommunicable diseases (NCD), and to establish or strengthen multi-sectoral national policies for the prevention and control of NCD.

We commit to the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Noncommunicable Diseases in ASEAN which was adopted by the Leaders of ASEAN at the 23rd ASEAN Summit held in Brunei Darussalam in October 2013.

We acknowledged the efforts made by the Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (SOMHD), the 10 subsidiary bodies on health, and relevant networks in implementing the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development for 2010 to 2015 as endorsed by the 10th AHMM, and fulfilling the 55 health action lines stipulated in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Blueprint.

We and all health officials will continue implementing the commitments made by the 11th AHMM to overcome the challenges to health and to make use of opportunities to achieve goals for better health for ASEAN people.

With our ultimate goal of achieving better health for the ASEAN community beyond 2015 through the efforts of AMS to better serve their people, we have discussed and exchanged views on health priorities to be jointly addressed by AMS and agree to the following resolutions:

1. We pledge our firm commitment to the vision "A Healthy, Caring, and Sustainable ASEAN Community" and mission statement agreed upon by AMS with the four clusters of a) promoting healthy lifestyle; b) responding to all hazards and emerging threats; c) strengthening health system and access to care; and d) ensuring food safety. We commit to attain the goals of the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda and to task SOMHD to develop a new mechanism to strengthen ASEAN health cooperation.
2. We pledge to strengthen primary health care in order to achieve universal health coverage in AMS and increase access to primary health care for ASEAN people. We ensure the availability and timely provision of essential medicines and cost effective health technologies at all levels of health facilities to achieve Goal 3 of Sustainable Development Goals: ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. We commit to build up sufficient capacity of well-trained, motivated health workers, especially at community level to provide services to meet health needs of people in AMS.
3. We welcome advocacy efforts to achieve universal health coverage and will strive to further elevate and strengthen the commitment by working through to highest regional fora.
4. We reaffirm our commitment to accelerate actions to address the risk factors for NCD taking into consideration cost-effective interventions including to promote community-based management of NCD and promote collaboration in research and development on health promotion, and healthy lifestyle in AMS.
5. We commit to develop efficient and sustainable national health financing systems in order to enable nationals to access health services without suffering financial hardship. We shall focus on strengthening health financing schemes and accelerate the expansion of national health care coverage in providing adequate basic health packages, such as reproductive health, maternal, newborn and child health services relevant to each AMS. We shall mobilise social resources, such as community health workers and conduct community-based programmes to provide basic healthcare, to inform and encourage people to stay healthy and prevent diseases and injuries.
6. We promote equitable access to healthcare for all groups within each Member State by reducing gender, geographical, social and financial barriers at all levels. We commit to provide adequate and effective health services for the poor, ethnic minorities and other vulnerable groups including children, youth, and women especially in disadvantaged and remote areas. We reaffirm quality as a crucial element in the provision of healthcare.
7. We commit to promote access to good, safe, quality, efficacious and affordable essential medicines within the national health care systems as well as rational use of medicines in AMS. We

also agree to facilitate research and cross country information sharing on strategies to increase access to medicines including pricing policy and the use of Trade-Related Aspects of the Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) flexibilities particularly for high-cost essential drugs. We encourage exchange of experience in integrating safe, effective and quality Traditional Medicine, Complementary and Alternative Medicine (TM/CAM) into the national healthcare system, where applicable, and across other sectors.

8. We reaffirm our commitment to continue reducing maternal and child mortality including strengthening local capacity management for emergency obstetric and neonatal services.
9. We recognise that global and regional financial resources for HIV and AIDS prevention and control have been reduced significantly in recent years. We, therefore commit to mobilise and diversify all resources at national, regional and international levels to sustain and improve the achievement in curbing HIV and AIDS new infections, prevalence, and deaths, and to accelerate progress in achieving the ASEAN Declaration of Commitment: Getting to Zero New HIV Infections, Zero Discrimination, Zero AIDS-Related Deaths and the Millennium Development Goal 6 relevant to HIV and AIDS. Further, to achieve the commitment to the Declaration there is a need to review, where appropriate, the HIV and AIDS programmes, policies and progress towards ending HIV and AIDS as a public health threat.
10. We commit to strengthen cooperation on Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) prevention and control and pandemic preparedness through improving health capacity in surveillance and outbreak investigation. We further commit to promote collaboration in the control of trans-boundary EIDs through sharing and exchanging information including efficient referral mechanism among AMS.
11. We commit to strengthen national food control systems and work together to contribute towards safe and quality food in the ASEAN Community. We recognise risk assessment as an important tool to provide scientific input in developing evidence-based food safety measures, and shall build capacity for integrated ASEAN risk assessment

through the ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre for Food Safety (ARAC).

12. We commit to advocate Health in All Policies (HiAP) to ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) and ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), so that they may collectively tackle social injustice and health inequity that cause ill health. We are fully aware that health development is a shared responsibility, therefore close collaboration with non-health sector and participation of the people, communities and institutions are prerequisite to achieve healthy ASEAN.

We look forward to further joint collaboration in health development at our next Meeting in Brunei Darussalam in 2016.

ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM)

Joint Communique of the 23rd ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (23rd ALMM)

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 22 May 2014

1. The Twenty Third ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (23rd ALMM) was convened on 22 May 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. It was preceded by the Seventh ASEAN Committee on the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers (7th ACMW) and Tenth ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting (10th SLOM) on 17-20 May 2014. The 23rd ALMM adopted the theme, "Enhancing Competitive Labour Force for Harmonious, Progressive and Prosperous Workplace".
2. The Opening Ceremony of the 23rd ALMM was officiated by H.E. Dr. Sai Mauk Kham, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

In his Opening Speech, the Vice President welcomed all the Ministers and delegates of ASEAN Member States and the Plus Three Countries to the 23rd ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting and related meetings. He underscored the importance of cooperation amongst ASEAN Member States and the Plus Three Countries for the successful implementation of the ASEAN Labour Ministers Work Programme. He stressed the importance of competitive and productive labour force for the fulfillment of social and economic objectives of ASEAN Member States. He underscored that promotion of systematic skills development programmes and skills recognition are crucial as ASEAN move towards its vision for a free flow of skilled labour within the region. He noted the significant cooperation among ASEAN Member States in protecting and promoting the rights of migrant workers. He encouraged for further cooperation with other stakeholders including international organisations, employers' and workers' organisations and NGOs to protect and promote the rights of migrant workers. He also stressed the need to protect the rights of migrant workers in accordance with the relevant international treaties.

3. The 23rd ALMM was attended by the ASEAN Labour Ministers / Head of Delegation from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam 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 Ministers / Head of Delegation is enclosed.
4. The Ministers in attendance paid a courtesy call to H.E. Thein Sein, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Exchange of Views on Enhancing Competitive Labour Force for Harmonious, Progressive and Prosperous Workplace

5. The Ministers exchanged views and underlined that in building a competitive ASEAN labour force towards the ASEAN Community by 2015, the issues of labour market information, skills mismatch, skills development, life-long learning, skills recognition and national qualifications as well as promotion of sound industrial relations

are common concerns and would need to be addressed by ASEAN through concerted efforts and close cooperation. The Ministers called ASEAN Member States to undertake strategies and efforts towards a productive, innovative and dynamic workforce, while supporting business and industries to creating good jobs and harmonious workplace. The Ministers also acknowledged the need for ASEAN to remain united against global and regional challenges. The Ministers called for closer cooperation amongst ASEAN Member States with Dialogue Partners, international organisations, tripartite partners and other relevant parties in promoting human resources development.

Relevant Decisions of Other ASEAN Meetings

6. The Ministers took note of relevant decisions made by the Leaders at the 23rd and 24th ASEAN Summits held on 9 October 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, and 11 May 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, respectively, and other related ASEAN Meetings convened since last year. The Ministers exchanged views on strategies to effectively implement those directives / relevant decisions concerning ASEAN cooperation in the labour sector.

Status and Monitoring of the ASCC Blueprint Implementation

7. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the implementation progress of the ASCC Blueprint, particularly on the Action Lines concerning labour issues, by SLOM and its subsidiary bodies. The Ministers agreed with the initiatives of the ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting (SLOM) to accelerate the implementation of labour-related strategic objectives of the ASCC Blueprint through prioritisation of projects and activities to be carried out under the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme 2010-2015 in a timely and efficient manner.
8. The Ministers noted the adoption of the ASCC Blueprint Mid-Term Review Report by the Leaders at the 23rd ASEAN Summit. The Ministers were encouraged to note that about 90 percent of all Action Lines in the ASCC Blueprint have been addressed since 2009. The Ministers supported the MTR recommendations towards further enhancing the activities and mechanisms in the ASCC pillar.

The Ministers also expressed its support to the development of the ASEAN Community's post-2015 vision. In this regard, the Ministers requested SLOM to develop its post-2015 strategic objectives towards the vision of a better quality of life and decent work for all, productive employment, skill development, competitive workforce, affordable and accessible social protection for all, and harmonious and progressive workplace.

9. The Ministers applauded SLOM for the completion of data collection for the set of indicators developed for the ASCC Scorecard to track the implementation of the ASCC Blueprint Strategic Objectives concerning the labour sector. The Ministers supported the initiative of SLOM to update the data to serve as feedback to the planned final evaluation of the ASCC Blueprint.

Implementation of the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme (2010-2015)

10. The Ministers noted the achievements made by SLOM and subsidiary bodies under the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme 2010-2015 since the 22nd ALMM held on 10 May 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The Ministers lauded the initiatives and commitment of ASEAN Member States to lead the implementation of various projects and activities.
11. The Ministers took note of the results of the Workshop on Mid-term review of the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme 2010-2015 held in Da Lat, Viet Nam on 29-30 April 2014 and supported the recommendations of SLOM to accelerate implementation. The Ministers supported the initiative of SLOM to embark on initiatives to promote labour-related corporate social responsibility (CSR) in the region, strengthen the labour market information systems in ASEAN Member States, and enhance inter-sectoral dialogue to promote closer coordination and effective response to the impact of ASEAN economic integration to the labour sector.
12. The Ministers expressed satisfaction with the progress made thus far in drafting the ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers by ASEAN Member States in accordance with the scope and timelines of the phased approach of the instrument drafting, and tasked the ACMW Drafting Team to sustain its momentum in these efforts to finalise the instrument drafting process by the end of 2014 and take necessary actions to facilitate timely finalisation.
13. The Ministers were satisfied to note the progress of the operationalisation of the Plan of Action to Revitalize ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health Network (ASEAN-OSHNET) 2011-2016, including the development and regular updating of the ASEAN-OSHNET Scorecard, the First ASEAN-OSHNET Conference held on 8 May 2014 in Singapore, widening the ASEAN-OSHNET's regional and international cooperation with new partners, and on-going effort to produce a publication to capture the work done to celebrate 15 years of the ASEAN-OSHNET in 2015. The Ministers also welcomed the development of the ASEAN-OSHNET Awards aimed at raising OSH profile in the region, and tasked SLOM to finalise the Terms of Reference.
14. The Ministers were also satisfied with the progress of work of the SLOM's Working Group on Progressive Labour Practices to Enhance the Competitiveness of ASEAN (SLOM-WG) under its current Work Plan 2010-2015. Various projects and activities have been completed, including the convening of the publication of the Second Comparative Study on Labour Laws and Practices, Third ASEAN Labour Inspection Conference held on 3-4 July 2013 in Bali, Indonesia, Workshop on Sharing Best Practices on Maternity Protection in the Workplace held on 6-7 May 2013 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, Second Workshop on Decent Work for All held on 28 April 2014 in Da Lat, Viet Nam, Fifth Regional Seminar on Industrial Relations: "Social Dialogue and Labour Law Reform on the Legal and Regulatory Framework on the Employment Relationship" held on 28-29 February 2013 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, as well as the First Organizing Committee Meeting was held 9-10 December 2013 in Ho Chi Minh and the First Technical Committee Meeting was held on 16-22 March 2014 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, as preparations of the 10th ASEAN Skills Competition scheduled for October 2014 in Ha Noi.
15. The Ministers were pleased with the concrete initiatives of the Working Group on HIV Prevention and Control in the Workplace (SLOM-WG-HIV) undertaken thus far, including the development of

the ASEAN Business Coalition on AIDS (ASEAN BCA) and ASEAN Red Ribbon for Outstanding Workplace Awards (ARROW), on-going initiative to compile good practices on the implementation of policies and programmes in the workplace on the prevention and management of HIV and AIDS in ASEAN Member States, and convening of the ASEAN Workshop on HIV/AIDS in the Workplace on 27-28 February 2014 in Singapore.

16. The Ministers endorsed the initiative of SLOM to streamline SLOM-WG-HIV under the ASEAN-OSHNET to allow more comprehensive response to the issue of HIV prevention and control in the workplace under the broader ambit of occupational safety and health.

Strengthening Labour Cooperation with Dialogue Partners and Other Entities

17. The Ministers agreed to strengthen the cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners in the labour sector and in support of the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015. The Ministers were pleased to note the significant achievements made under the framework of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and were keen to foster the collaboration and explore new initiatives with the Plus Three countries under ALM's Work Programme 2010-2015.
18. The Ministers reiterated ASEAN Member States' continued interest to dialogue with and engage ASEAN Dialogue Partners, International Labour Organisation (ILO) and other relevant organisations, employers' and workers' organisations, civil society and other relevant external parties to support the implementation of the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme 2010-2015.

24th ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting

19. The Ministers agreed that the 24th ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting would be held in Lao PDR in 2016.
20. 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.

ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)

9th Press Release of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)

Jakarta, Indonesia, 17-18 February 2014

The Eighth Meeting of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) was convened on 17-18 February 2014 at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia. The progress of twenty four projects and activities under the ACWC Work Plan 2012-2016 was reviewed at the Meeting. To name a few, the ACWC considered the draft Guidelines for Handling of Women Victims of Trafficking in Persons, an outcome document of the Workshop on the Promotion of Access to Justice for Women Victims of Violence in Trafficking Cases held on 3-5 February 2014 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. Led by Thailand, "stop violence against women" public campaign posters, pamphlets, stickers and VDOs were produced for dissemination to ASEAN Member States to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on 25 November. Complementing this, a website was under construction for the same purpose and expected to be fully functioning in March 2014. Earlier on, the compilation of ASEAN best practices in eliminating violence against women and violence against children was published and launched by the Minister of Women, Family and Community Development of Malaysia on 12 December 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Consultation sessions with the Australia's Global Ambassador for Women and Girls, and representatives of the Government of New Zealand, European Union, and United States of America took place on 18 February 2014. Scope and mechanisms of their respective support to the work of ACWC were discussed.

Aiming at implementing the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children in ASEAN adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit last year, ACWC dialogued with civil society organisations from ASEAN Member States on 19 February 2014. Joint collaboration through the ACWC's planned projects corresponding to the commitments in the Declaration or new initiatives was explored. The participating civil society organisations also shared information on their respective areas of expertise and relevant initiatives.

Separately, the Inter-sectoral Meeting was held on 20 February 2014 with the participation of Chairs and/or Representatives of the ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and ASEAN sectoral bodies in charge of women's affairs, social welfare, rural development and poverty eradication, education, labour and migrant workers, as well as trafficking in persons. The ACWC Representatives exchanged views with them on possible areas and mechanisms of cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination to jointly implement the Declaration by leveraging their respective relevant initiatives.

The Ninth ACWC Meeting was scheduled for 29 September - 1 October 2014 in Myanmar.

V. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

ASEAN – Australia

26th ASEAN-Australia Forum Co-Chairs' Press Statement

Canberra, Australia, 26 March 2014

1. The 26th ASEAN-Australia Forum was held in Canberra on 26 March 2014, with participation by representatives from Australia, ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. The Forum was co-chaired by Ms Gillian Bird, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia and Mr Luis T. Cruz, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines.
3. The participants welcomed the 40th anniversary of the ASEAN-Australia dialogue partnership in 2014, including the official launch by Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary, the Hon Albert del Rosario, and ASEAN Secretary-General, HE Le Luong Minh, in Manila on 20 February.
4. The participants agreed this year was an opportunity for Australia and ASEAN to take stock of the achievements in ASEAN-Australia relations and set strategic directions for the future of the partnership. They welcomed the range of 40th anniversary commemorative activities underway aimed at raising awareness of ASEAN-Australia relations among the various stakeholders. Participants looked forward to the Commemorative Summit in Nay Pyi Taw with a view to considering more regular ASEAN-Australia leaders' meetings in the future. The participants also discussed their preparations for the ASEAN-Australia ministerial meeting in August and the East Asia Summit in November.
5. Ms. Bird welcomed the visit to Australia by the ASEAN Secretary-General (16-20 March) and the forthcoming visit by the ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives in May. Mr Cruz recognised Foreign Minister Bishop's close engagement with South-East Asia and recent visits to the region; as well as the early and positive contribution to ASEAN-Australia relations by Australia's first resident Ambassador to ASEAN.
6. The participants reaffirmed their shared commitment to the 2007 Joint Declaration on the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership. They reviewed and welcomed the work to prepare a new implementing Plan of Action (POA) for 2015 to 2019 focused on deepening political and security, economic, and people-to-people cooperation.
7. The participants welcomed the launch of the New Colombo Plan pilot program to support young Australians to study and undertake internships in the Indian Ocean Asia-Pacific region and which will support intensified people-to-people links between Australia and the nations of ASEAN. Participants noted that Australia has committed \$100 million over five years to implement the New Colombo Plan which will be rolled out more broadly across the region from 2015.
8. The participants highlighted the shared task of promoting continued peace and prosperity in the region, noting that Australia-ASEAN two-trade had more than doubled in the past decade from A\$45 billion to A\$92 billion. They welcomed Australia's continued support for ASEAN's regional integration agenda and creation of the ASEAN Community on 31 December 2015. Participants agreed that work to implement the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) and to conclude a comprehensive and high-quality Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) was critical to strengthening regional economic integration.
9. The participants welcomed Australia's support for the ASEAN Community and strengthening the

ASEAN Secretariat through the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program Phase Two (AADCP II). They welcomed the inaugural *ASEAN Integration Monitoring Report* which highlighted the significant economic gains from ASEAN's progress on economic integration. The participants looked forward to Australia and Singapore holding a connectivity workshop this year, with a focus on practical business engagement and implementation of infrastructure projects. Australia outlined the expectations for its G20 presidency and related engagement with ASEAN member states. The participants explored ways to enhance synergies between the G20 and ASEAN agendas, including on trade, development and boosting infrastructure financing.

10. The participants highlighted the importance of regional efforts on disaster management. ASEAN and Australia undertook to continue their support for the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Relief (AADMER), the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre) and the Indonesian-Australian EAS initiative on disaster management endorsed by leaders in November 2011. They agreed to strengthen coordination and collaboration, and to implement lessons learned from the tragic Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda).
11. The participants reviewed regional developments, in particular the important contribution by ASEAN-centred regional fora to addressing both traditional and non-traditional security concerns. Deeper cooperation in the East Asia Summit, ASEAN Regional Forum, ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus and the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum would help to foster a stable strategic environment and rules-based, open and inclusive regional order.
12. The participants underscored the shared regional interests of Australia and ASEAN member states in the maintenance of peace and stability, respect for international law, unimpeded trade and freedom of navigation, including overflight. They called on all parties concerned to resolve territorial disputes in the South China Sea in accordance with international law, including the Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS); and to exercise restraint and refrain from actions that could increase tensions. They also emphasised the need

for substantive progress on a code of conduct for the South China Sea.

13. The participants agreed to strengthen the ASEAN-Australia Forum to be held annually at SOM leader level. The Philippines will host the 27th ASEAN-Australia Forum in Manila in 2015.

Joint ASEAN-Australia Leaders' Statement on the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations – Toward a Strategic Partnership for Mutual Benefit

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
12 November 2014**

We, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Australia, gathered in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 12 November 2014 to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations.

We reaffirmed the significant role played by ASEAN and Australia in defining the political-security, economic, socio-cultural and people-to-people agenda of our region and agreed to elevate our comprehensive partnership to a strategic level, founded on common interests in regional peace and prosperity.

As we usher in this new era of strategic partnership, we welcomed the adoption of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership (2015-2019) and undertook to do the following for mutual benefit:

1. Support the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision;

2. Support ASEAN's centrality in the evolving regional architecture and strengthen all ASEAN-led mechanisms.
 3. Hold regular Leaders' Summits in the future and increase high-level visits and exchanges;
 4. Strengthen cooperation in the maintenance of regional peace, security and stability, including through deepening ASEAN-Australia consultations;
 5. Work closely to strengthen the East Asia Summit (EAS), with ASEAN as the driving force, as a leaders-led forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic, political and economic issues of common interest and concern;
 6. Work together to address the underlying factors of terrorism and strengthen cooperation to support the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014), which call on the international community to counter the threat posed by terrorism, in particular action to prevent and disrupt the recruitment, facilitation, financing and travel of foreign terrorist fighters;
 7. Promote the rule of law, democracy, good governance, human rights, including gender equality, as well as encourage cooperation in interfaith and inter-civilisation dialogue and the promotion of moderation;
 8. Further promote maritime cooperation, including maritime security and safety, search and rescue, freedom of navigation and overflight, marine environmental protection, unimpeded commerce, non-use of force or threat of use of force, and the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with universally-recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and through the appropriate ASEAN mechanisms;
 9. Strengthen cooperation to combat transnational crime, including trafficking in persons, people smuggling, sea piracy, illicit drug trafficking, and cybercrime;
 10. Further promote cooperation in various regional and international fora, including in the United Nations (UN), Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), and G20;
 11. Promote regional economic integration, including through [the implementation of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) and conclusion of a modern, comprehensive, high quality, and mutually beneficial Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement;
 12. Continue cooperation on ASEAN's connectivity agenda, including through support for the agenda's physical, institutional and people-to-people dimensions, and explore links with Northern Australia;
 13. Continue to support ASEAN's efforts in narrowing the development gap within and between ASEAN Member States through the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II and its successor documents, as well as alleviating poverty and promoting sustainable development in order to realise ASEAN Community and regional integration;
 14. Enhance cooperation in combatting emerging infectious diseases, pandemic preparedness, public health, environment, science and technology as well as on disaster management and emergency response issues identified as priorities by ASEAN and Australia to promote the well-being of our peoples;
 15. Increase people-to-people exchanges and institutional linkages as well as public awareness of the ASEAN-Australia partnership, through arts, culture, sports and education, including through the New Colombo Plan; and
 16. Support ASEAN's efforts to strengthen the capacities of the ASEAN Secretariat.
- We task our relevant officials to implement these initiatives to complement the programs and goals identified in the 2015-2019 ASEAN-Australia Plan of Action and other existing ASEAN-Australia mechanisms for cooperation.
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ASEAN – Canada

Joint Media Statement of the 3rd AEM-Canada Consultations

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 27 August 2014

1. The Third ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM)-Canada Consultations were held on 27 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, Myanmar, and the Honourable Ed Fast, Canada's Minister of International Trade.
2. The Ministers noted the excellent progress made toward achieving all objectives of the 2012-2015 Work Plan to Implement the ASEAN-Canada Joint Declaration on Trade and Investment. The Ministers tasked the senior economic officials with starting work on the ASEAN-Canada Work Plan for 2016-2020.
3. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation to Canada for organising the June 1-5, 2014, AEM Roadshow to Canada, covering the cities of Vancouver and Toronto. The AEM Roadshow included private sector participation from ASEAN Member States, and it provided excellent opportunities for the Ministers and senior officials to engage both with their counterparts and the business community. The Ministers were pleased with the outcomes of the Roadshow and agreed to undertake follow-up activities aimed at enhancing business opportunities in, and economic cooperation between, Canada and ASEAN.
4. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed the recent announcements that Canada will establish a mission to ASEAN and name a dedicated ambassador, as well as appoint resident representation in Cambodia and Lao PDR. The Ministers suggested that these new resources will be an important addition to the ASEAN-Canada economic relationship.
5. Two-way trade and direct investment have witnessed robust development. According to Canadian statistics, Canada-ASEAN merchandise

trade reached a record level of US\$16.5 billion in 2013, which represented a US\$ 5.8 billion trade surplus for ASEAN and a trade increase of 4.2% year-on-year. The stock of known Canadian direct investment abroad in the ASEAN region reached US\$5.7 billion (C\$6.1 billion) at the end of 2013, or an increase of 34.0% year-on-year. Canadian direct investment in ASEAN now exceeds that in neighboring economies such as mainland China, Hong Kong, Japan, and India.

6. The Ministers held a dialogue with the Canada ASEAN Business Council (CABC) during the Consultations and commended the Council for its active role in promoting ASEAN-Canada trade and investment. In particular, they noted accomplishments organising the first Canada ASEAN Business Forum, expanding their membership base, and active involvement in the AEM Roadshow to Canada. The ASEAN Ministers took note of the CABC proposal for an ASEAN supply chain platform to support the development of small and medium-sized enterprises in ASEAN and tasked the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials (SEOM) to explore the proposal and its possible implementation.
7. The ASEAN Ministers lauded Canada for its continued support of ASEAN's regional integration efforts, in particular the ASEAN Economic Community, and for its commitment to sectoral cooperation under the ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership Program. The Ministers agreed to meet again next year in Malaysia, with the main objective to adopt the new Joint Declaration on Trade and Investment Work Plan.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. The Honourable Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. The Honourable Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade, Canada; 3. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 4. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia; 5. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for

Trade and Industry, Singapore; 10. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

ASEAN – China

Joint Media Statement of the 13th AEM-MOFCOM Consultation

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 26 August 2014

1. The Economic Ministers from the ten ASEAN Member States and the Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China met on 26 August 2014 for the Thirteenth AEM-MOFCOM Consultations. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar and H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce, China.
2. The Ministers noted the strong economic relationship between ASEAN and China, and were pleased that China maintained its position as ASEAN's largest trading partner. By the end of 2013, ASEAN total trade with China reached US\$ 350.5 billion, accounting for 14% of ASEAN's total trade, and representing an increase of 9.7% year on year. In 2013, ASEAN received US\$8.6 billion foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows from China, a significant 60.8% increase year-on-year and accounting for 7.1% of total inflows to ASEAN. The Ministers reaffirmed ASEAN's and China's commitment to achieving the joint target of US\$500 billion trade by end of 2015, as endorsed by Leaders.

ASEAN-China Free Trade Area

3. The Ministers noted the progress made in implementing the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area

(ACFTA), and were pleased that ASEAN and China agreed to upgrade the ACFTA to ensure that the ACFTA remained dynamic and commercially relevant. The Ministers noted that the agreement to the ACFTA upgrade was a testament to the strong positive relationship between ASEAN and China, and that it would also serve to deepen the economic interests of both sides in a mutually beneficial manner. The Ministers endorsed the Elements Paper for the ACFTA upgrade, which laid out the key areas on which the upgrade would be focused, and tasked senior officials to commence the upgrade negotiations. Noting the importance of maintaining momentum of ongoing work under the ACFTA, Ministers urged officials to expedite the conclusion of the Custom Procedures and Trade Facilitation CPTF negotiations and the review of the Sensitive Track and Rules of Origin, and to report progress made to the next AEM-MOFCOM consultations.

4. The Ministers also welcomed the establishment of the Sub-Committees on Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures (STRACAP), and Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures which convened their inaugural meetings in March 2014. The key tasks of these Sub-Committees are to develop the work programme to implement the related Protocol on Technical Barriers to Trade and SPS signed in November 2012, review the progress made by parties in implementing their commitments and address implementation problems.

Other Areas of Cooperation

5. The Ministers noted China's initiatives on the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road and the plan to establish the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). Ministers exchanged views on how to further promote China-ASEAN Connectivity cooperation in the future.
6. The Ministers noted the latest development on the Roadmap for the Pan-Beibu Gulf Economic Cooperation with ADB's support, which aims to promote economic cooperation between southern coastal provinces of China with individual ASEAN Member States.
7. The Ministers welcomed China's initiative to set up an Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to provide

financial support to regional infrastructure projects, with priority on ASEAN connectivity.

8. The Ministers welcomed the commencement of the ASEAN-Hong Kong Free Trade Area (AHKFTA) negotiations and noted the outcomes of the first AHKFTA Trade Negotiation Committee meeting held in Hong Kong, China on 10-11 July 2014.
9. The ASEAN Ministers congratulated China for the successful conclusion of the 10th China-ASEAN Expo held in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 3-6 September 2013 which has drawn great interest from business communities on various economic initiatives being pursued by both ASEAN and China including the ACFTA, and the opportunities arising from these initiatives. The Ministers look forward to the 11th CAEXPO to be held in Nanning, Zhuang Autonomous Region on 16-19 September 2014.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce, China; 4. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia; 5. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 10. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Media Statement of the 16th Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC)

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 28 August 2014

1. The 16th Ministerial Meeting on the ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC) was held on 28 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar and chaired by H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister of National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar.
2. The Ministers noted the progress made in implementing the identified projects for sustainable development of the Mekong Basin. Twenty-two projects have been initiated, covering eight areas including infrastructure, trade and investment, agriculture, forestry and minerals, industry, tourism, human resource development as well as science and technology, with estimated aggregated cost of US\$338.8 million. Projects that have been completed included studies on ASEAN highway network and inland freight development, ASEAN Interconnection Master Plan (ASEAN power grid) and Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL) feasibility; as well as human resource development on ground water resources management and geographic information system for forestry personnel.
3. The Ministers discussed the progress of AMBDC's flagship project, SKRL Project, which includes the rehabilitation of existing railways, construction of border bridges, feasibility studies for the construction of missing links in ASEAN Member States. The Ministers were pleased with the timely implementation of SKRL sections from Singapore to Phnom Penh, and underscored the urgency for technical and financial assistance for the remaining segments.
4. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Chinese government for her active participation and continued support in the development of the ASEAN-Mekong Basin. The Chinese government, through the provincial governments bordering ASEAN Member States,

have also undertaken numerous cooperation projects in the fields of transportation, power, telecommunications, environment, agriculture, human resource development, health, tourism, trade facilitation and investment.

5. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of resources mobilisation for the timely conclusion of the identified projects under AMBDC. The Ministers agreed to explore collaboration between AMBDC and other development partners in implementing the identified projects.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam (representing The Hon. PehinDato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam); 2. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. H.E. He Lifeng, Vice Chairman, National Development and Reform Commission, People's Republic of China; 4. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Indonesian Ambassador to the WTO (representing H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia); 5. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. Datuk Dr. Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria, Secretary General of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia (representing H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia); 7. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. Mr. Angelo Salvador M. Benedictos, Assistant Director, Bureau of International Trade Relations, Department of Trade and Industry, the Philippines (representing H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines); 9. Ms. Sulaimah Mahmood, Director, ASEAN Division, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore (representing H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore); 10. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Statement of the 5th ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting

Ha Noi, Viet Nam, 19 September 2014

1. WE, the Ministers of Health of ASEAN Member States (AMS), 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 and the People's Republic of China, convened the 5th ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting on 19 September 2014 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. We share our concerns and express our commitment to strengthen our cooperation in the spirit of governments and people of ASEAN and China.
2. We express concern on the rising trend of Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) in recent years that negatively impact the health and socio-economic development of all countries within the region, especially the occurrence of avian influenza H7N9, H5N1. We are also concerned of the potential threats from other emerging infectious diseases in particular MERS-CoV and Ebola. In response to the current outbreak of Ebola in Western Africa, we strongly urge alertness and rigorous preparedness amongst AMS Plus China through the International Health Regulation 2005 mechanism.
3. We understand that surveillance, health quarantine and timely sharing of information and experience are vital to effectively control EIDs. We recognise that multi-sectoral collaboration will enhance ability to carry out prevention and control measures since most of the EIDs originate from zoonotic diseases, therefore the collaboration between the animal health, cross-border protection agencies and the public health sectors is crucial. We commit to advocate and work closely with other sectors within and between countries to control the EIDs.
4. We recognise that the international trade of food leads to many benefits to consumers and contributes significantly to economic development. The increased volume of food traded globally poses

an increased risk of food contamination across national borders. In order to ensure food safety and protect consumers' health, we need to establish cooperation in risk assessment and enhance the effectiveness of responsive measures to manage food safety issues or crisis through rapid exchange of information and sharing experiences.

5. We realise that drug resistant malaria is rising in many countries in the region which challenges malaria elimination and it may create a resurgence of malaria in some areas. We understand the movement of people between countries may contribute towards the spread of drug-resistant malaria. We acknowledge the value of adopting rapid diagnostic testing and Artemisinin-based Combination Therapy (ACT) in malaria control in endemic areas both for local people and mobile population to prevent the occurrence of drug resistant malaria and ensuring drug compliance.
6. We note the progress made in ASEAN and China cooperation in tobacco control and commit to reduce the use of tobacco. We also note the need to strengthen the capacity of countries to design, implement, monitor and evaluate tobacco control programmes.
7. We acknowledge the effort of ASEAN and China collaboration to implement the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (A/RES/66/2) as well as Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Noncommunicable Diseases adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in 2013. We commit to promote collaboration in capacity building, experience sharing and research on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases.
8. We welcome ASEAN-China cooperation in communicable disease prevention and control, especially the collaboration on malaria, dengue fever, HIV and AIDS, and plague prevention and control in the border areas.
9. We commit to strengthen the ASEAN-China cooperation on capacity building for public health personnel in the region. China will work closely with AMS to implement both management and technical training programmes which contribute to strengthening regional capacity in public health.

10. We commit to strengthen the ASEAN-China cooperation in traditional medicine and its contribution to universal health care, where applicable. We realise the importance of cooperation and the sharing of information to support the quality, safety and efficacy of traditional medicine; and protection and conservation of indigenous health resources, including traditional knowledge and bio-resources. We welcome the sharing of experiences on using traditional medicine in strengthening primary health care.
11. We commit to implement the ASEAN-China MOU on health cooperation and task the ASEAN-China SOMHD to expedite the finalisation and operationalisation of the Plan of Action.

We look forward to further exchange of views and joint collaboration in health development at our next meeting in Brunei Darussalam in 2016.

Joint Press Statement of the 4th ASEAN-China Ministerial Meeting on Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (SPS Cooperation)

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
25 September 2014**

1. The ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry and the Minister of the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of the People's Republic of China held their Fourth Meeting on Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (SPS Cooperation) in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 25 September 2014, under the co-chairmanship of H.E. U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar and H.E. Dr. Zhi Shuping, Minister of AQSIQ, PR China.
2. The Ministers welcomed the significant progress and expressed their support and commitment on the

implementation of the Plan of Action for the period of 2011-2015 to implement the Joint Declaration on the ASEAN China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity in which agriculture is becoming one of the priority areas.

3. The Ministers noted the progress of the ASEAN China Cooperation on SPS, implemented under the Plan of Action for 2013-2014. Taking into consideration the fast growth of ASEAN China's trade on food, the need to ensure food safety becomes the challenges. The Ministers reiterated the commitment to strengthen SPS cooperation between ASEAN and China as it will significantly contribute to the enhancement of trade opportunity of food and agricultural products.
4. The Ministers endorsed the new Plan of Action for 2015 – 2016, covering cooperation in the areas of i) establishment of information notification and communication system; ii) exchange of visits of relevant personnel of the Parties; iii) organize training, seminar, conference and similar activities for narrowing the development gap within ASEAN and China; iv) collaborative research in the areas of mutual interest; and v) establishment of mechanism for consultation.
5. The Ministers noted the operationalisation of China - ASEAN SPS Cooperation Information Website (<http://www.chinaaseansps.com>) and the China ASEAN Inspection and Quarantine Information Website (<http://caexpo.gxciq.gov.cn>) to facilitate exchange of information, enhance SPS communication, and support implementation of the SPS MOU Cooperation as well as support the implementation of ASEAN China Free Trade Area (ACFTA).
6. The Ministers reaffirmed their continue support in advancing cooperation under the Memorandum of Understanding between ASEAN and the People's Republic of China on Strengthening SPS Cooperation (MoU on SPS) through the signing of new MOU on 25 September 2014. The MoU on SPS is envisaged to contribute to successful implementation of the ACFTA.
7. The Ministers agreed to have the Fifth Meeting in China on 2016. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the warm

hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 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. Zhi Shuping, Minister of General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ), People's Republic of China; xii. H.E. Dr. AKP Mochtan, Deputy Secretary General, Community and Corporate Affairs, ASEAN Secretariat.

Chairman's Statement of the 17th ASEAN-China Summit

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**

1. The 17th ASEAN-China Summit chaired by 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 all Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and H.E. Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

2. We acknowledged that China is one of ASEAN's most active Dialogue Partners contributing to the development and promotion of peace, stability and prosperity in the region. In this context, the ASEAN Leaders appreciated China's support for ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture, including through ASEAN-led processes, such as the ASEAN Plus Three (APT), the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), in the ASEAN Community building process.
3. The ASEAN Leaders also welcomed China's support for the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) and the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III). With ASEAN striving towards the ASEAN Community. We welcomed China's support for the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision.
4. ASEAN Leaders noted with appreciation China's initiative to build up ASEAN-China Community of Common Destiny and to work together towards building the Maritime Silk Road of the 21st Century. We reaffirmed our strong commitment to further strengthen the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership particularly in the eleven priority areas, namely agriculture, information and communication technology, human resource development, investment, Mekong Basin development, transportation, energy, culture, tourism, public health and environment. In this regard, we welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action (2011-2015) to implement the Joint Declaration on the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity and looked forward to the successful conclusion of its Two-Year Implementation Programme (2013-2014).
5. We noted with satisfaction the substantive work undertaken by China's Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR), as well as the ASEAN Secretariat, to further strengthen the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership.
6. We welcomed China's proposals and initiatives under the 2+7 Cooperation Framework for ASEAN-China relations, and looked forward to working closely with China to implement it. In this regard, we recalled the successful outcomes of the ASEAN-China Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 9 August, the 20th ASEAN-China Senior Officials' Consultations (ACSOC) in Pattaya City, Thailand, from 21 to 22 April 2014, and the Special ASEAN-China Senior Officials Meeting in Guilin, China, from 14 to 15 September, where ASEAN and China agreed to deepen existing cooperation and to further explore areas of cooperation under the proposed 2+7 Cooperation Framework.
7. We were committed to promoting strategic relations and maintaining high-level exchanges and close contacts, and continuing to deepen mutual trust and confidence in the political sphere. In this connection, we looked forward to further explore China's proposal for a Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation.
8. We agreed to designate the Year 2015 as the "ASEAN-China Year of Maritime Cooperation". We welcomed China's comprehensive plan for utilising the ASEAN-China Maritime Cooperation Fund to provide financial support for ASEAN-China cooperation in the areas of maritime connectivity, marine science and technology as well as maritime scientific research, search and rescue, disaster management, and navigation safety. We noted with satisfaction the commitment to fully operationalise the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund.
9. We reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace, stability and maritime security in the region. We further stressed the importance of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), the Joint Statement of the 15th ASEAN-China Summit on the 10th Anniversary of the DOC in 2012 and the adoption of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the DOC in 2011. In this regard, we reaffirmed our commitment to continue to fully and effectively implement the DOC, to build trust and confidence in order to enhance maritime security, and encourage the sovereign states directly concerned to resolve their disputes by peaceful means through friendly consultations and negotiations, in accordance with the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), without resorting to the threat

- or use of force, while exercising self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability.
10. We reaffirmed our commitment to the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in its entirety as well as to work towards the early conclusion of a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) based on consensus. We supported the implementation of early harvest measures, including the adoption of the first list of commonalities on COC consultation, the establishment of a hotline platform among search and rescue agencies, a hotline among foreign ministries on maritime emergencies, and a table-top exercise on search and rescue to promote and enhance trust and confidence in the region.
 11. We welcomed the positive outcomes from the 8th ASEAN-China SOM on DOC and the 12th Joint Working Group (JWG) on the Implementation of the DOC in Bangkok, Thailand, from 26 to 29 October 2014. We will continue to maintain the momentum of regular official consultations and work towards the early conclusion of the COC.
 12. We welcomed the positive outcomes of the 8th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 20 May 2014. We noted with appreciation the establishment of a Direct Communications Link (DCL) in the ADMM Process to promote quick-response cooperation in emergency situations. We were also pleased with the successful holding of the 4th ASEAN-China Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting at the sideline of ADMM.
 13. We noted that since 2009, China has remained ASEAN's largest trading partner. And, since 2011, ASEAN has remained China's third largest trading partner. We also noted that, based on ASEAN statistics, the two-way trade volume reached USD 350.5 billion in 2013, accounting for 14% of ASEAN's total trade and representing an increase of 9.7% year on year. We underscored the value of regional economic integration and noted the encouraging progress towards further trade liberalization, including the upgrading of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA). In this regard, we anticipated achieving the two-way trade goal of USD 500 billion by 2015 and USD 1 trillion by 2020, as well as achieving two-way investment of USD 150 billion by 2020. We further welcomed the progress of negotiations for the ASEAN-Hong Kong FTA, and looked forward to its early conclusion.
 14. We noted the progress of negotiations on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) which would build upon the ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements, including the ACFTA. Recognising ASEAN Centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture, the RCEP will further contribute to economic integration, equitable economic development, and strengthening economic cooperation among participating countries. In this regard, we agreed to actively accelerate negotiations for the RCEP for greater economic integration in East Asia.
 15. We welcomed the 11th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) held in Nanning, China, from 16 to 19 September 2014 under the theme "Building the Maritime Silk Road of the 21st Century". We commended the success of the CAEXPO to boost the trade and investment relationship between ASEAN and China.
 16. We congratulated China for its successful Chairmanship of APEC in 2014 and believed that the synergies between ASEAN and APEC would be further strengthened. We underlined the importance of the continuation of the connectivity, infrastructure development and investment agenda in APEC. In this regard, we expressed our support for the APEC Blueprint on Connectivity, which takes into consideration the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC).
 17. We appreciated China's continued support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). We were pleased with the signing of the MOU between ASEAN and China on the establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) as founding members, and agreed to work closely towards the operationalisation of the AIIB. We expected the AIIB to provide financial support to regional infrastructure projects, with an emphasis on supporting the implementation of the MPAC.
 18. We expressed our support for closer sub-regional cooperation among the countries of the Mekong

region and China. In particular, we welcomed Thailand's initiative on sustainable development of the Lancang-Mekong Sub-region, which would contribute to narrowing the development gap in ASEAN. We also welcomed the countries of the Mekong region and China to explore possibilities for setting up relevant dialogue and cooperation mechanisms.

19. We welcomed the work of the ASEAN-China Centre in Beijing to facilitate trade, investment, tourism, and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and China. We noted the work of the Joint Council of the ASEAN-China Centre in ensuring the effective operation of the Centre to promote economic and cultural cooperation.
20. We welcomed the year 2014 as the ASEAN-China Cultural Exchange Year. We commended the successful opening ceremony of the ASEAN-China Cultural Exchange Year held in Beijing, China, in April 2014 and looked forward to the closing ceremony in Myanmar in December this year. We noted the great progress that ASEAN and China have achieved in tourism, with China becoming the second largest source of tourists for ASEAN countries. In 2012, ASEAN received almost 8.76 million tourists from China and China received nearly 5.99 million tourists from ASEAN. In this regard, we looked forward to China's initiative to host a ASEAN-China Tourism Forum and the ongoing efforts to increase further two-way tourism between ASEAN and China.
21. We welcomed the positive outcomes from the 5th ASEAN-China Health Ministers' Meeting held in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 19 September 2014. We looked forward to further strengthening joint collaboration in health development as agreed in the ASEAN-China MOU on Health Cooperation.
22. We welcomed the notable progress achieved in implementing the ASEAN-China Science and Technology Partnership Programme (STEP) including building ASEAN-China joint laboratories, ASEAN-China Remote Sensing Satellite Data Sharing and Service Platform, ASEAN-China Technology Transfer Center, and Talented Young Scientists Visiting China have yielded concrete progress. We looked forward to the early signing of the MOU on ASEAN-China Cooperation in Science and Technology.

23. We welcomed the 1st Country Coordinators' Meeting of the Network of ASEAN-China Think-Tanks (NACT CCM) which was held in Beijing, China, on 3 July 2014, and looked forward to increased academic exchanges between ASEAN and China.

Protocol 2 on Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights Between Contracting Parties

Bangkok, Thailand, 19 November 2014

The Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) comprising 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 (hereinafter referred to collectively as "**ASEAN Member States**", or individually as "**ASEAN Member State**")

and

the Government of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "China");

referred to collectively as "**the Contracting Parties**" or individually as an ASEAN Member State or China as "a Contracting Party";

RECALLING the Air Transport Agreement Between the Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Government of the People's Republic of China entered into force on 9 August 2011 (hereinafter referred to as "the Agreement");

RECOGNISING that Annex III of the Agreement thereof provides for the conclusion of Implementing Protocols of the Agreement;

DESIRING to remove restrictions on air services with a view to achieving full liberalisation between and beyond ASEAN and China;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 - Routing, Frequencies and Traffic Rights

1. Each ASEAN Member State shall be entitled to :
 - (a) full fifth freedom traffic rights on any number of frequencies of passenger and/or cargo services with any aircraft type, from one of the 10 named points in ASEAN, which is a point in the ASEAN Member State designating the airline(s), via any of the 10 named points in ASEAN to any of the 28 named points in China and beyond to any of the 10 named points in ASEAN and vice versa; and
 - (b) fifth freedom traffic rights for up to 14 weekly passenger and/or cargo services with any aircraft type from one of the 10 named points in ASEAN, which is a point in the ASEAN Member State designating the airline(s), via any points outside China and ASEAN to any of the 10 named points in China and beyond to any points outside China and ASEAN and vice versa.
2. China shall be entitled to:
 - (a) full fifth freedom traffic rights on any number of frequencies of passenger and/or cargo services with any aircraft type from any of the 28 named points in China, via any of the 10 named points in ASEAN to any of the 10 named points in ASEAN and beyond to any of the 10 named points in ASEAN and vice versa; and
 - (b) in relation to each ASEAN Member State fifth freedom traffic rights for up to 14 weekly passenger and/or cargo services with any aircraft type from any of the 10 named points in China, via any points outside China and ASEAN to any 10 named points in ASEAN, which is a point in that ASEAN Member State, and beyond to any points outside China and ASEAN and vice versa,
3. For the purposes of this Article:
 - (a) "10 named points in ASEAN" means Bandar Seri Begawan, Preah Sihanouk, Mataram, Luang Prabang, Kota Kinabalu, any one point in Myanmar except Yangon, any one point in the

Philippines except Manila, Singapore, Chiang Mai, any one point in Viet Nam except Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City;

- (b) "28 named points in China" means Changchun, Changsha, Chengdu, Chongqing, Dalian, Fuzhou, Guilin, Guiyang, Haikou, Harbin, Hohhot, Kashgar, Kunming, Lanzhou, Lhasa, Sanya, Shenyang, Nanning, Ningbo, Urumqi, Wuhan, Xi'an, Xiamen, Xining, Xishuangbanna, Yanji, Yinchuan, Zhengzhou;
 - (c) "10 named points in China" means Changsha, Chengdu, Chongqing, Guilin, Kunming, Nanning, Urumqi, Xi'an, Xiamen or Fuzhou, Zhengzhou.
4. (a) Each Contracting Party shall at least one month prior to the exercise of the traffic rights by the designated airline(s) of the Contracting Party to the point(s) which are the subject of the written notification, give written notice to the Secretary-General of ASEAN (hereinafter referred to as "the Depository") of its nomination of:
 - (i) the one point in each of Myanmar, Philippines and Vietnam as referred to in paragraph 3(a) of this Article; and/or
 - (ii) either Xiamen or Fuzhou as referred to in paragraph 3(c) of this Article.

The Depository shall promptly inform each Contracting Party of such written notification.
 - (b) Each Contracting Party may revise its nomination of any of the one points in Myanmar, the Philippines or Viet Nam, or of Xiamen or Fuzhou. Any such revision shall be made in accordance with the procedure under paragraph 4(a) of this Article.

Article 2 - Final Provisions

1. This Protocol shall be deposited with the Depository, who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof to each Contracting Party.
2. Each Contracting Party shall ratify/approve Protocol 1 of the Agreement before ratifying/approving this Protocol.
3. Each Contracting Party shall complete its relevant internal legal procedures necessary for the entry into force of this Protocol. After the completion of its

internal legal procedures, each Contracting Party shall give written notification to the Depository, who shall promptly inform each Contracting Party of such deposit.

4. This Protocol shall enter into force on the date of deposit with the Depository of:

- (a) the written notification from China; and
- (b) written notifications from at least two ASEAN Member States

whichever date is later, and shall enter into force only among the Contracting Parties that have deposited their written notifications. For each of the Contracting Parties depositing their written notifications after the Protocol has entered into force, the Protocol shall enter into force for that Contracting Party on the date of deposit of its written notification.

For the Government of Brunei Darussalam:
Date: 20 December 2013

For the the Government of Kingdom of Cambodia:
Date: 20 December 2013

For the Government of the Republic of Indonesia:
Date: 24 January 2014

For the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic:
Date: 20 December 2013

For the Government of Malaysia:
Date: 20 December 2013

For the Government of the Republic of Union of Myanmar:
Date: 20 December 2013

For the Government of the Republic of the Philippines:
Date: 20 December 2013

For the Government of the Republic of Singapore:
Date: 20 December 2013

For the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand:
Date: 19 November 2014

For the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:
Date: 20 December 2013

5. Any amendment to the provisions of this Protocol shall be effected by consent of all Contracting Parties, as provided for under Article 22 (Amendment and Modification) of the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised to sign by their respective Governments, have signed Protocol 2 on Fifth (5th) Freedom Traffic Rights between Contracting Parties, on the dates herein below indicated, in duplicate in the English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic. In the event of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of the People's Republic of China:
Date: 25 December 2013

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 13th ASEAN and China Transport Ministers Meeting (13th ATM+China)

Mandalay, Myanmar, 28 November 2014

1. The Thirteenth ASEAN and China Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM+China) was held on 28 November 2014 in Mandalay, Myanmar. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Nyan Htun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar and H.E. Mr. Yang Chuantang, Minister of Transport of the People's Republic of China. The Meeting was preceded by the Thirteenth ASEAN and China Senior Transport Officials Meeting (13th STOM+China) held on 26 November 2014.
2. The Ministers welcomed the progress under ASEAN-China Maritime Consultation Mechanism (ACMCM), particularly on the implementation of 2006 Maritime Labour Convention and ballast water management, through constructive exchange of information, technical cooperation and capacity building. The Ministers encouraged the senior officials to continue conducting maritime training to further strengthen maritime sector in both ASEAN and China.
3. The Ministers commended the progress made in the implementation of ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement (ACATA) and its Protocol 1 and tasked the senior officials to expedite the ratification and implementation of ACATA Protocol 2 on the Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights which would further liberalise air services regime between ASEAN and China, and looked forward to continued engagement between ASEAN and China in the area of aviation cooperation, and eventually putting in place a liberal and substantial air services framework in support of the upgrading of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement.
4. The Ministers noted the progress made in the construction and rehabilitation works of the Singapore–Kunming Rail Link (SKRL) and urged senior officials to expedite the completion of SKRL to promote trans-border rail connectivity between ASEAN and China.
5. The Ministers welcomed China's recent announcement of financial resources in support of ASEAN connectivity, including maritime connectivity. The Ministers also noted China's proposal and initiatives under the 2+7 Cooperation Framework, including the Maritime Silk Road.
6. The Ministers also noted that several projects/activities are being earmarked for implementation in 2015, including the following.
 - (a) ASEAN-China Joint Maritime Search and Rescue Table and Operational Exercises;
 - (b) ASEAN-China Maritime Emergency and Rescue Assistance Hotline;
 - (c) Feasibility Study for Further Improvement of the Navigation Channel of Lancang-Mekong River;
 - (d) ASEAN-China Maritime Training and Education Development Strategy;
 - (e) Capacity Building of Aids to Navigation;
 - (f) Capacity Building of Oil Spill Monitoring in The Straits of Malacca and Singapore;
 - (g) ASEAN-China Port Cities Cooperation Network;
 - (h) ASEAN-China Workshop on Civil Aviation Safety Capacity Building;
 - (i) The Conduct of a package of ASEAN-China Maritime Transport Studies;
 - (j) Eighth ASEAN-China Working Group Meeting on Regional Air Services Arrangements;
 - (k) Eleventh Meeting of ASEAN-China Maritime Consultation Mechanism; and
 - (l) Scholarship for Master Programme in Dalian Maritime University.
7. The Fourteenth ASEAN and China Transport Ministers Meeting will be held in Malaysia in 2015.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- (a) H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam; (b) H.E. Mr. Tram Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia; (c) H.E. Mr. Yang Chuantang, Minister of Transport of the People's Republic of China; (d) H.E. Mr. Ignasius Jonan, Minister for Transportation of

Indonesia; (e) H.E. Mr. BounchanhSinthavong, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR; (f) H.E. Dato' Sri LiowTiong Lai, Minister of Transport of Malaysia; (g) H.E. Mr. NyanHtun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar; (h) H.E. Mr. Joseph Emilio Aguinaldo Abaya, Secretary of Transportation and Communications of the Philippines; (i) H.E. Mr. Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport of Singapore; (j) H.E. ACM Prajin Juntong, Minister of Transport of Thailand; (k) H.E. Mr. Dinh La Thang, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and (l) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

ASEAN – European Union

Joint Declaration on EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit

Singapore, 11-12 February 2014

1. The first EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit was held on 11-12 February 2014 in Singapore, jointly organised by the European Commission and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN). The EU Delegation was led by Mr Siim Kallas, Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Transport while the ASEAN side was led by the Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR, Mr Sommad Pholsena (currently the Chair of ASEAN Transport Ministers). At the Summit, the co-organisers adopted this Joint Declaration.
2. The EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit was highly successful in bringing together some 300 leading representatives of the ASEAN and EU aviation sectors from public authorities, airlines, airports and aerospace industries as well as service providers.
3. Air traffic between the EU and ASEAN has been growing steadily in recent years and nearly doubled over the last 15 years to reach more than 10 million passengers in 2012. With a combined population of 1.1 billion, the EU-ASEAN air transport market is of increasing strategic importance to both sides.
4. The Aviation Summit addressed a wide range of areas of mutual interest and challenges for both regions, which included in particular:
 - Intra and inter-regional integration and market liberalisation, and the prospects for further co-operation between the two regions;
 - Market outlook and business opportunities within and between the two regions;
 - Aviation safety policies and the potential for regulatory co-operation within and between the two regions;
 - Air traffic management and airports and the potential for co-operation between the EU and ASEAN in these areas;
 - Capacity building in the areas of human resource development and training.
5. The EU side explained the development and benefits of the EU Single Aviation Market (SAM) and the external aviation policy on the basis of which the EU interacts with partner countries. The ASEAN side presented a detailed progress report on market opening and integration within the ASEAN SAM as well as an update on the process of regulatory convergence within ASEAN, notably in the areas of aviation safety, security and air traffic management. ASEAN is in the process of creating an integrated SAM which has many similarities with the SAM that the EU has developed over the past two decades. In this respect, the two sides recognised and stressed the significant potential for further cooperation and the important role that the EU-funded ASEAN Air Transport Integration Project (AATIP) is playing in supporting the creation of the ASEAN SAM, especially in the areas of aviation safety and air traffic management.
6. The Aviation Summit has served as a useful platform for deepening the strategic aviation dialogue between ASEAN and the EU and for identifying priority areas and ways forward to strengthen future EU-ASEAN relations in all parts of the aviation value chain. The presentations made and the discussions held during the Aviation Summit demonstrated the benefits of regional integration of air transport markets and the significant economic benefits from a

comprehensive air transport cooperation, agreement and related arrangements between both sides, which would offer new opportunities for both the ASEAN and EU aviation industries.

7. Both sides noted the Communication issued by the European Commission on 27 September 2012 entitled "*The EU's External Aviation Policy – Addressing Future Challenges*", which highlighted that the many similarities between the creation of the EU and ASEAN SAMs will offer new interesting opportunities for cooperation between the EU and ASEAN and should at some stage, lead to a comprehensive EU-ASEAN aviation agreement.
8. The interest expressed by the ASEAN Transport Ministers in December 2012 to deepen cooperation with the EU in the aviation sector with the aim of concluding a comprehensive air transport agreement between ASEAN and the EU was reiterated during the Aviation Summit. The ASEAN side invited the European Commission to launch the internal process necessary to obtain a mandate to open negotiations on such an agreement.
9. Both sides also took note of the European Parliament's Resolution of 2 July 2013 on the EU's External Aviation Policy – Addressing Future Challenges. The ASEAN side welcomed Vice-President Kallas' statement that he would propose to the European Commission to seek authorisation from the Council of the European Union at the earliest possible to start negotiations on an EU-ASEAN comprehensive air transport agreement.
10. Reiterating their strong wish to strengthen their aviation cooperation, the two sides intend to set up an ASEAN-EU Aviation Working Group to discuss and monitor progress in the entire range of areas of co-operation and regularly report progress.

Adopted in Singapore on 12 February 2014.

Press Statement ASEAN-EU Policy Dialogue on Connectivity

24-28 February 2014

1. To support ASEAN and EU's respective goals of achieving a connected region and forge greater ASEAN-EU connectivity, ASEAN and EU representatives held a policy dialogue in Brussels on 24-28 February 2014. The policy dialogue was a follow-up to the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting, which explored ways to promote cooperation on connectivity, and the briefing of EU officials in ASEAN related meetings. ASEAN was represented by the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and senior capital-based officials from ministries or agencies coordinating the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity. On the EU side, discussions were led by the European External Action Service (EEAS) in close cooperation with Directorate General Development & Cooperation of the European Commission with active engagement from a large number of Directorates General of the European Commission and the European Investment Bank. The ASEAN Ambassadors in Brussels and the EU Head of Delegation to ASEAN also participated in the discussions. ASEAN participated in a public event organised by the Friends of Europe on ASEAN Connectivity and the Role of Europe to share ASEAN's efforts in implementing the MPAC.
2. Enhanced connectivity would benefit ASEAN and EU Member States through acceleration in economic growth and competitiveness as well as increased trade and investment. ASEAN and the EU, two major regional organisations in the world, are natural partners in promoting connectivity. Trade between ASEAN and the EU grew by 3.3% from US\$234.6 billion in 2011 to US\$242.6 billion in 2012. The EU is ASEAN's third largest trading partner and ASEAN is the EU's third largest trading partner in 2012. Foreign direct investment (FDI) flows from the EU into ASEAN was recorded at US\$23.3 billion and the EU continued to be ASEAN's biggest source of FDI.
3. ASEAN and EU representatives noted the significant progress in implementing the Master

Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and the Europe 2020 Strategy. The implementation of MPAC will bring greater prosperity to the countries of ASEAN and deepen regional integration by strengthening physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity while Europe 2020 Strategy sets five ambitious objectives covering employment, innovation, education, social inclusion and climate change/energy to make the EU a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy.

4. The ASEAN-EU policy dialogue on connectivity exemplified what makes the ASEAN-EU partnership unique. ASEAN and EU representatives exchanged experience on enhancing connectivity and explored further public and private financing. EU reaffirmed its support for the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity through its current and future programmes.

Physical connectivity

5. Enhanced physical connectivity demanded more integrated intermodal transport, ICT and energy infrastructure networks. ASEAN updated EU representatives on the progress made in enhancing integrated and sustainable transport network, enhancing regional air transport cooperation through the Implementation Framework of the ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM), strengthening maritime cooperation, implementing the ASEAN ICT Master Plan 2015, particularly the development of the ASEAN Broadband Corridor, and universal access, and realising the ASEAN Power Grid. The EU representatives updated ASEAN on its space activities and investments in satellite navigation (Galileo and EGNOS), in Earth observation (Copernicus) and space research through the Horizon 2020 programme. The EU representatives invited ASEAN scientists and engineers to participate in the EU programmes under Horizon 2020. ASEAN and the EU would like to develop a strong partnership in the Space domain.
6. EU supported the enhancement of physical connectivity within ASEAN in different ways. The EU supported the development of ICT infrastructure through the ongoing programme Trans-Eurasia Information Network (TEIN). EU-financed multi-country projects of the SWITCH Asia programme helped to resolve institutional issues in ASEAN energy infrastructure projects, in line with ecological principles. ASEAN looked forward to possible EU financing for ASEAN Connectivity strategies on energy and transport under the future Asia Investment Facility (2014-2020) and working with the European Investment Bank for financing and technical assistance.

Institutional Connectivity

7. Enhanced institutional connectivity raised the effectiveness of physical connectivity by facilitating the flow of goods and services, reducing the cost of moving goods and services, and ensuring greater returns from improved physical connectivity. EU representatives noted the updates from ASEAN on developments in facilitating greater cross border movement of goods and passengers through transport facilitation agreements and trade facilitative measures, as well as implementing the ASEAN Single Window (ASW) with the successful conduct of a pilot project by 7 participating ASEAN Member States.
8. EU provided support for enhancing ASEAN's institutional connectivity through the 15M€ ASEAN Regional Integration Support by the EU (ARISE) programme which covers activities on the harmonisation of standards, trade facilitation and transit arrangements. The upcoming EU-ASEAN Migration and Border Management Programme (3.4 M€) intends to include visa simplification to facilitate connectivity. Under the ASEAN regional envelope of the Multi-annual Financial Framework (2014-2020), the EU intends to enhance its support to institutional connectivity and develop a programme for institutional connectivity, regional integration and trade. Physical connectivity is also supported via the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI).
9. ASEAN and EU representatives welcomed the outcomes of the EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit held in Singapore on 11-12 February 2014 which proposed to take aviation cooperation to a new level. The EU, through the 5M€ ASEAN Air Transport Integration Project, is providing assistance to ASEAN in developing the institutional frameworks and strengthening institutional capacities within ASEAN with a view to achieving a safe, secure and sustainable ASEAN Single Aviation Market.

People-to-people connectivity

10. Enhanced people-to-people connectivity served as the socio-cultural glue that supports and anchors the various initiatives toward greater physical connectivity as well as the regulatory reforms that are needed to ensure institutional connectivity in the ASEAN region. The EU representatives noted that the ASEAN Curriculum Sourcebook and the ASEAN University Network (AUN) ASEAN studies course were available as teaching materials and ASEAN was working on progressively liberalising visa restrictions, the establishment of ASEAN Virtual Resource Learning Centre and the development of ASEAN Communications Master Plan to deliver the ASEAN Community Building Programme. The EU and ASEAN intend to work together to create greater awareness of the role of sustainable tourism development in economic development strategies.
11. EU's support to people-to-people connectivity was focused on education through the 10M€ EU Support to Higher Education in ASEAN Region (EU SHARE) programme, which was expected to contribute towards the harmonisation of recognition systems between higher education institutions in ASEAN. Erasmus Mundus is a cooperation and mobility programme in the field of higher education, offering scholarships to students and academia worldwide. Each year some 250 students and 100 academic staff from the ASEAN region go on Erasmus Mundus scholarships to Europe for a stay of at least one year.

Engaging the EU Stakeholders

12. ASEAN recognised that engaging and involving the private sector and other stakeholders in the implementation of MPAC can result in advantageous partnerships. ASEAN met with private businesses in Luxembourg, the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and Antwerp port community. The EU supported European businesses in different ways: through "Missions for Growth", the support to Business Centres in several ASEAN countries and SME support programmes, such as the "EU business avenues in South East Asia" programme. In addition, EU-ASEAN Business Summits provided opportunities for ASEAN and EU enterprises to link up directly.

Way forward

13. ASEAN welcomed the establishment of an EU mechanism to engage with the ACCC in supporting the MPAC and forging ASEAN-EU connectivity. ASEAN and EU representatives looked forward to the first ACCC-EU meeting on connectivity in 2014. ASEAN and EU representatives were committed to further strengthen cooperation on connectivity and therefore, had agreed to explore possible activities on strengthening capacity in attracting infrastructure financing and public-private partnership as well as enhancing border management capabilities.

Co-Chairs' Statement of the 20th EU-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting

Brussels, Belgium, 23 July 2014

1. The 20th EU-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, under the theme of "*Towards Strategic Partnership for Peace, Stability and Prosperity*", was held on 23 July 2014. The Meeting was co-chaired by Her Excellency Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission and His Excellency Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam, as Country Coordinator of ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations. The Meeting was attended by Foreign Ministers from ASEAN and the EU Member States, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN.
2. The Ministers underlined the importance of ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations, which have matured through 37 years of partnership. Ministers welcomed the progress of EU-ASEAN relations since the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, in 2012. Looking forward, Ministers *inter alia*:
 - agreed to step up cooperation to enhance connectivity between the two regions and support the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), building

- on the visit by the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity (ACCC) to Belgium and Luxembourg in February 2014;
- welcomed the EU commitment to more than double dedicated support for ASEAN's institution building and 2015 Community-building goals to 170M€ in the period 2014-2020. Overall EU aid to South East Asia, including through bilateral assistance, will increase from €2.2 billion (2007-2013) to close to €3 billion (2014-2020).
 - agreed to enhance maritime security and safety cooperation, such as information sharing and capacity building, building on the High-level Dialogue on Maritime Co-operation which was held in November 2013 in Jakarta;
 - agreed to work towards the upgrading of the partnership to a strategic one and tasked their senior officials to develop a roadmap for this goal.
3. The Ministers took stock of developments in both regions since their last meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, in April 2012. ASEAN congratulated the EU on its enlargement to include Croatia in July 2013 and on the progress achieved to consolidate economic growth. The EU welcomed the outcome of the 24th ASEAN Summit in May 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
 4. The Ministers reviewed the progress of ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations since the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 26-27 April 2012. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress of ASEAN-EU cooperation, especially the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to Strengthen the ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership (2013-2017), which aimed to give a more strategic focus to cooperation and dialogue. The Ministers welcomed the holding of the first meeting between the EU Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Committee of Permanent Representatives of ASEAN in February 2014. The Ministers noted the progress made on advancing negotiations, signature and entry into force of a number of Partnership and Cooperation Agreements (PCAs) within the EU and some ASEAN countries, which contributed to the growing EU-ASEAN ties.
 5. The Ministers welcomed the ongoing process of democratic transition which is taking place in Myanmar since the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting. Ministers will continue to encourage Myanmar to address remaining challenges, including those related to national peace, human rights and reconciliation.
 6. The meeting took note of the briefing on the political situation in Thailand following the event of May 22, in particular of the intention of the National Council for Peace and Reconciliation to return Thailand to full-fledged democracy under the 3-stage roadmap including the promotion of reconciliation and reform, free and fair elections within the set timeframe. The EU Ministers expressed the views that the EU, as a longstanding partner of Thailand and ASEAN, is concerned with the recent political developments in Thailand and, in noting the 3-stage roadmap, underlined the importance of an early return to constitutional democracy including holding credible elections in accordance with the will of the Thai people.
 7. The EU reiterated its support for ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture in East Asia. The EU appreciated ASEAN's role as the driving force for, and its important contribution to, promoting dialogue and cooperation for peace, security, stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. Ministers commended the EU for its contribution to the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and applauded the EU and Myanmar for the successful co-chairing of the ASEAN Regional Forum Inter-Sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and the related Defence Officials Dialogue (2013-2014). ASEAN welcomed the interest of the EU in furthering engagement with the region through all ASEAN-led processes.
 8. The Ministers agreed on the need to strengthen the international non-proliferation and disarmament regime by, among others, working towards a successful outcome of the 2015 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and by promoting the entry into force and universalisation of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.
- The EU shared ASEAN's commitment in preserving the Southeast Asia region as free of nuclear

weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction as enshrined in the Treaty of Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) and the ASEAN Charter. The Ministers encourage States parties to the Treaty to continue to engage nuclear weapons states to resolve comprehensively, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty, outstanding issues, with a view to signing the protocol thereto and its related documents expeditiously.

Furthermore, countries should combat and eradicate the illicit trade of conventional arms and prevent their diversion to the illicit market to non-state actors. The Ministers further underlined the importance of conventional arms control and looked forward to the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty.

They welcomed the work of the EU-sponsored Southeast Asian Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Centre of Excellence, officially opened in Manila in March 2013, in assisting the development of national response plans and foster regional coordination.

9. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the peaceful resolution of conflicts and to fostering preventive diplomacy. They supported the efforts by the UN Secretary General and the UN Group of Friends of Mediation and called for enhanced cooperation on mediation and preventive diplomacy in the ARF and elsewhere, including through a strengthened partnership in mediation between the UN and regional and sub-regional organizations.
10. The ASEAN Ministers appreciated EU's initiatives and active participation in the efforts to fostering the dialogue with ASEAN Member States on maritime issues. In this connection, the Ministers welcomed cooperation between ASEAN and the EU on maritime issues and noted the outcomes of the ASEAN-EU High-level Dialogue on Maritime Co-operation which was held on 18-19 November 2013 in Jakarta. It is expected that several possible areas of cooperation on maritime issues, including maritime surveillance, port security, counter-piracy, illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing and the joint and sustainable management of maritime resources, information sharing and capacity building, could be enhanced

through the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the Plus One framework. Ministers agreed that the effectiveness of the global fight against piracy and of the protection of sea lanes require full respect by all States of the relevant universally agreed principles of international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and relevant UN Security Council Resolutions.

11. The EU Ministers shared the serious concerns expressed by the ASEAN Ministers over the ongoing developments in the South China Sea, which have increased tensions in the area, as reflected in the Statements of the 24th ASEAN Summit and the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The Ministers underscored the importance of maintaining peace, stability and prosperity in the region and promoting maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation and over-flight, unimpeded commerce, the exercise of self-restraint, including the use or threat to use of force, and the resolution of disputes by peaceful means, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the relevant standards and recommended practices by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
12. The EU Ministers noted that the ASEAN Ministers have called on all parties to the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) to undertake full and effective implementation of the DOC and emphasized the need for expeditiously working towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).
13. The Ministers agreed on the importance of continued cooperation to promote respect for human rights and the rule of law. They noted the progress made by the ASEAN Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and the ASEAN Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) in the promotion and protection of human rights, and agreed to continue to cooperate in this area including through the exchange of good practices, information, dialogues, seminars and other capacity building initiatives. The EU invited AICHR for another visit to Europe. The Ministers welcomed the outcome of the Global Summit on ending sexual violence in conflict which took place in London in June 2014 and reiterated the

importance of the UN Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict.

14. The Ministers noted the progress of the bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations and discussions between individual ASEAN Member States and the EU. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cooperation between the two regions, including the possibility of resuming negotiations of an ASEAN-EU Free Trade Agreement, upon realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community by the end of 2015. In this connection, the Ministers looked forward to the convening of the 13th Consultations between ASEAN Economic Ministers and EU Trade Commissioner expected to be held in August 2014 in Myanmar. The Ministers underscored the value of regional economic integration through greater two-way investment flows and emphasised the effective implementation of the Trade and Investment Work Programme for 2013-2014. Furthermore, the Ministers underlined the importance of market access, access to credit for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), infrastructure and youth employment.
15. The Ministers agreed to step up cooperation on Connectivity. They reaffirmed their support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and to enhance connectivity between the two regions, particularly including in the area of physical infrastructure, communication systems and sophisticated technologies. In this connection, the Ministers noted with satisfaction the visit by the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity (ACCC) to Belgium and Luxembourg in February 2014 which aimed to explore ways to cooperate in this area. The EU looked forward to further the engagement with ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity (ACCC). The EU, including the European Investment Bank, and ASEAN agreed to explore financial support to the infrastructure connectivity inspired by the MPAC.
16. ASEAN Ministers expressed appreciation for the EU's funding of the ongoing EU-ASEAN Air Transport Integration Project (AATIP), which supports the development of institutional capacity and frameworks within ASEAN to achieve a safe, secure and sustainable single aviation market. The Ministers welcomed the outcome of the EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit (EAAS) held in Singapore in February 2014 to strengthen ASEAN-EU co-operation on civil aviation and to promote air travel between the two regions. The Ministers also welcomed the Joint Declaration on EU-ASEAN Aviation Co-operation adopted at the EAAS. The ASEAN Ministers further supported the statement by the European Commission Vice-President and Transport Commissioner at the EAAS that the European Commission would seek authorisation from the Council of the EU to start negotiations on an EU-ASEAN comprehensive air transport agreement. The Ministers welcomed the establishment of an ASEAN-EU Aviation Working Group which will discuss and monitor progress in the entire range of areas of co-operation in aviation and looked forward to the convening of the Working Group soon.
17. The Ministers noted progress in ASEAN-EU cooperation in the field of science and technology. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the success of ASEAN-EU Year of Science, Technology and Innovation in 2012 and the ASEAN-EU Science, Technology and Innovation Days 2014 on 21-23 January 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand and looked forward to intensifying cooperation in this area of mutual interest, including the transfer of technology programmes.
18. The Ministers underlined the important role that Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), including microenterprises, contributed to regional economic growth, employment generation and poverty elimination. In this regard, the Ministers stressed the support for further cooperation between ASEAN and the EU in SMEs development to enable SMEs to play a more active role in the global economy, including through sharing of best practices and experience in SMEs development, transfer of technology, access to finance and markets, and capacity building activities.
19. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to a stable, balanced, transparent and rules-based multilateral trading system and to the World Trade Organization (WTO). The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2013, Bali, Indonesia on trade facilitation, agriculture and development issues, and the agreement to work towards the successful conclusion of the Doha Development Round. In particular, the Ministers acknowledged the value

- of the swift and ambitious implementation of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation, which would advance initiatives being undertaken in the region to simplify customs procedures, ease the flow of goods across borders and provide certainty for businesses. The Ministers committed to the expeditious implementation of the Agreement, including to the timely adoption of the protocol and for relevant Members to submit their Category A notifications to the WTO as soon as possible, so that it can be annexed to the Agreement by 31 July 2014.
20. The EU welcomed the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) by the ASEAN Leaders at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, in 2013.
 21. On climate change, the Ministers reaffirmed the commitment to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) applicable to all Parties and expressed their determination to adopt the said document at the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21), which will be held in December 2015 in Paris, France. Both parties agreed to put forward contributions well in advance of the Paris Conference. The IPCC 5th Assessment Report highlighted the need for action and how it could be delivered. The Ministers noted that the Climate Summit convened by the UN Secretary General on 23 September 2014 offers an opportunity to build the political momentum towards the new agreement in 2015. They also encouraged effective implementation of the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change, with particular attention to vulnerable groups in adaptation efforts.
 22. For the longer term, the Ministers also agreed to adopt a cautious approach in dealing with engineering technologies with potential impact on natural processes and geological stability, to mitigate greenhouse gas emission. Such technologies include ocean fertilisation and carbon capture and sequestration in seabed geological formation.
 23. The Ministers supported the inclusive and transparent approach of the post-2015 Development agenda formulation process. They welcomed the proposal of the Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals and the recommendations of the High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development agenda. The Ministers emphasised that the objectives of the new universal framework should reinforce the international community's commitment to poverty eradication and sustainable development. The Ministers also supported a post-2015 agenda that is universal, people-oriented and people-centred, with balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development namely, economic, social and environment. The Ministers emphasised the need for concrete implementation of the post-2015 agenda, with roles and responsibilities for all, including sound and coherent policies at all levels: trade-related issues; finance; science, technology and innovation (STI); migration; multi-stakeholder partnerships; and monitoring and accountability. The Ministers acknowledged the critical importance of peaceful and inclusive societies, good governance, rule of law, effective and capable institutions both as important development goals in themselves and as important enablers for development. The post-2015 agenda should be global in aspiration and coverage and universally applicable, while being based on national ownership and taking into account different national contexts, capacities and levels of development and respecting national priorities and capabilities. The Ministers emphasised the need for all partners to reinforce their efforts through global partnership and through adequate means of implementation to achieve the existing Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
 24. The Ministers welcomed the resumption of the EU-ASEAN Senior Officials' consultations on Transnational Crime, which took place in June 2014 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to intensify EU-ASEAN cooperation in the fight against terrorism and organised crime, notably illicit drug production, trafficking and use; trafficking in human beings; cybercrime; as well as in the mitigation of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks. To support this work, they also noted the possible development of an Action Plan on Transnational Crime. The Ministers agreed to enhance the exchange of experiences and information, capacity building and enhanced cooperation in this area.

25. The Ministers reiterated their commitment to enhance ASEAN-EU cooperation in the area of emergency response in disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM), including through exchange of knowledge and best practices, and capacity building. They welcomed the Post Haiyan Tacloban Declaration adopted in the ASEM Manila Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management held on 4-6 June 2014 as a template on best practices in DRRM.
26. The Ministers also supported inter-regional cooperation in DRMM and stressed the importance of coordination and coherence among regional and sub-regional mechanisms for disaster risk reduction, mitigation and management. The Ministers welcomed EU's and its Member States' continued assistance to ASEAN through the development of a monitoring and evaluation system for the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the ASEAN Coordinating Center for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). The Ministers recognised the importance of ASEAN Regional Forum Disaster Relief Exercises (Philippines 2009, Indonesia 2011 and Thailand 2013) and welcomed DIREX 2015.
27. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate closely on key environmental issues of common concern, including on the conservation of biological diversity, trafficking in wildlife, timber and other wood products. They recalled the importance of fully implementing the relevant Resolutions and Decisions under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).
28. The Ministers welcomed the progress in the negotiations on the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Voluntary Partnership Agreements between the EU and several ASEAN countries to prevent illegal logging, which should be dealt in a comprehensive manner and cover all of the territories at national level to ensure the FLEGT-VPA's credibility and integrity.
29. The Ministers stressed the importance of sustainable development, namely the crucial link between sustainable use and management of water resources and environmental protection that implies the integration of the three dimensions of development: economic, social and environmental sustainability.
- They also recognised the importance of effective development, management and sustainability of water resources. In this context, the Ministers noted the contributions of current Mekong sub-regional cooperation frameworks to the developments of countries in the region. The Ministers welcomed the sharing of experiences regarding the development and sustainable utilization of water resources and other trans-boundary water issues between the countries in the Danube and Mekong river regions.
- ASEAN Ministers welcomed the significant increase of EU financial support to Mekong countries from 607M€ (2007-2013) to 1705M€ (2014-2020) to help close the ASEAN development gap including by maximising synergies with the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI).
30. ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation for the EU's commitment to more than double dedicated support for ASEAN's institution building and 2015 Community-building goals to 170M€ in the period 2014-2020. This support will be focused on (i) connectivity, through sustainable and inclusive economic integration and trade; (ii) climate change, environment and disaster management; (iii) comprehensive dialogue facility. ASEAN also appreciated the ongoing EU support to ASEAN, for supporting ASEAN Connectivity, for strengthening the capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat and for narrowing the intra ASEAN development gap.
31. The Ministers had in-depth discussions and exchange of views on international and regional issues of common concern, including the Korean Peninsula, the Middle East Peace Process, Syria, Iran, the situation in North Africa and the problem of piracy off Somalia and the Gulf of Guinea.
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Joint Statement of EU-ASEAN on the Tragic Downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17

Brussels, Belgium, 23 July 2014

1. At the 20th EU-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Brussels on 23 July 2014, the Ministers condemned in the strongest terms the downing of Flight MH17 in Donetsk Oblast, Ukraine on 17 July 2014. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2166 on 21 July 2014 on Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 and urged its full implementation.
2. The Ministers expressed their shock and indignation over the tragic deaths of the 298 people of multiple nationalities on board the airplane. The Ministers conveyed their deepest sympathies and condolences to families and friends of those on board Flight MH17 and to the governments and people of the affected countries.
3. They called for a swift, full and thorough, transparent and independent international investigation into the downing in accordance with international civil aviation guidelines. They demanded all parties in the area of the crash site to provide fullest cooperation, which include assistance to the safe, secure, full, immediate and unrestricted access to the site and surrounding area as well as support to the appropriate investigating authorities, the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission and representatives of other relevant international organizations according to ICAO and other established procedures.
4. The Ministers demanded that the armed groups in control of this site and the surrounding area refrain from any actions that may compromise the integrity of the crash site. They further insisted on the dignified, respectful and professional treatment and recovery of the bodies of the victims, and called upon all parties to ensure that this happens with immediate effect.
5. The Ministers demanded all military activities, including by armed groups, be immediately ceased in the immediate area surrounding the crash site to allow for security and safety of the international investigation.
6. The Ministers agreed that those directly and indirectly responsible should be held accountable and be brought to justice swiftly. The Ministers called upon all states and parties to fully cooperate toward this end.
7. The Ministers agreed that the MH17 tragedy is another stark illustration of how escalation of disputes and threat to international peace and security could claim innocent lives in a tragic and senseless manner. They called on all parties to stop the senseless loss of life and to refrain from any escalatory acts. The Ministers underlined the urgent need to agree on an immediate, genuine and sustainable ceasefire by all parties, and called for an end to the conflict.

ASEAN – India

Chairman's Statement of the 12th ASEAN-India Summit

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
12 November 2014**

1. The 12th ASEAN-India 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 12 November 2014. The Summit was attended by all Heads of State/ Government of ASEAN Member States and H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India.
2. The ASEAN Leaders reiterated their commitment to the implementation of the ASEAN-India Vision Statement 2012 which elevated the ASEAN-India Partnership to a strategic level. The ASEAN Leaders welcomed the "Act East" emphasis in India's "Look East Policy" and expressed their fervent belief that this would contribute to the ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership, particularly in support of the ASEAN Community building process and ASEAN Centrality.

3. The ASEAN Leaders encouraged India's continued support for the implementation of the Roadmap for ASEAN Community (2009-2015), the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) and developing the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision.
4. We expressed satisfaction with the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-India Plan of Action (PoA) to implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2010-2015). We looked forward to the third ASEAN-India PoA (2016-2021) to serve as an action-oriented document to further deepen the ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership, as well as ASEAN Community building and integration. We agreed that it should build on and strengthen the strong sense of community between the peoples of ASEAN Member States and India.
5. We were satisfied with the steady progress made in ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations over the past twenty-two years. We appreciated India's unwavering support in ASEAN-led mechanisms like the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), East Asia Summit (EAS) and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus) in order to tackle regional and international issues faced by the region.
6. We underscored the importance of maintaining regional peace, security and stability. In view of escalating terrorism across the globe, we reiterated our commitment to strengthen cooperation in implementing the ASEAN-India 2003 Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism. In view of the urgency to combat drug trafficking, we agreed to raise awareness of the dangers and threats posed by drug consumption and abuse, particularly among the youths in ASEAN and India.
7. We agreed to strengthen maritime cooperation through existing mechanisms in order to maintain peace and stability in the region. We agreed to further enhance the close cooperation between ASEAN and India on maritime issues, with a particular focus on maritime security and addressing the emerging challenges at sea. In this light, the ASEAN Leaders welcomed India's participation in the 3rd Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) in Danang, Viet Nam, from 27 to 28 August 2014.
8. We noted the progress of ASEAN-India cooperation to share IT knowledge and experiences. We looked forward to the establishment of IT training centres, the setting up of software development centres in CLMV countries, providing assistance in information technology curriculum development and teacher training on IT in CLMV countries and other interested ASEAN Member States. ASEAN Leaders also encouraged India to continue its support to enhance the IT skills of the workforce in ASEAN by providing scholarships, joint training programmes and courses, e-learning, seminars, workshops for public and private personnel and students of CLMV countries and the exchange of IT experts.
9. We recognised the important role of the ASEAN-India Centre which serves as a resource centre for regular networking activities and studies on sub-regional developments. We noted the Centre's support to facilitate the implementation of ASEAN-India activities and projects, including research, connectivity and promoting people-to-people linkages.
10. We noted that the total trade between ASEAN and India reached US\$ 67.9 billion in 2013 and renewed our commitment to reach the target of US\$ 100 billion by 2015. We welcomed the signing of two milestone agreements; the Agreement on Trade in Services and the Agreement on Investment of the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between ASEAN and India during the 46th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting and related meetings held in Nay Pyi Taw from 25 to 28 August, 2014. We looked forward to the early operationalisation of these Agreements. We were confident that these Agreements would serve as catalysts for a strategic economic partnership between ASEAN and India.
11. We recognised the importance of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) as a key instrument in realising the ASEAN Economic Community. We also recognised that RCEP will facilitate mutual benefits for all participating countries. In this regard, we underscored the need to expedite the ongoing RCEP negotiations and timely implementation of the ASEAN-India FTA.

- We agreed that establishing closer synergies of development and related ease of travel between ASEAN and India would also give strength to the ongoing RCEP negotiations.
12. The ASEAN Leaders expressed appreciation for India's support for the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and highlighted the importance of building physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity between ASEAN and India. In this regard, we welcomed the 5th ASEAN Connectivity Symposium on Catalysing Public-Private Partnerships to Finance ASEAN Connectivity, held in Nay Pyi Taw. We concurred that the symposium provided opportunities for ASEAN and all participating countries to share and discuss views on various public private partnership (PPP) options available and how these could be used to facilitate the implementation of the MPAC. We also agreed that the MPAC requires close cooperation and coordination among ASEAN Member States, Dialogue Partners, development agencies and international organisations at the regional, sub-regional and international levels. In this regard, we welcomed the commencement of direct shipping services from India to Myanmar since October 2014. ASEAN Leaders welcomed India's proposed special facility for easing project financing on connectivity that would further contribute towards narrowing the development gap in ASEAN.
 13. To enhance ASEAN-India connectivity, we highlighted that bridges of knowledge and skills, entrepreneurship and vocational training, travel, trade and investment should be further strengthened. We emphasised the relevance of connecting minds by using the foundations of shared civilisational heritage, present priorities and future ambitions of the people in the ASEAN-India region.
 14. We further highlighted the need to enhance people-to-people connectivity through exchange of culture, education, media, and promoting tourism. In this regard, we encouraged effective implementation of ASEAN-India Tourism Cooperation under the framework of the 2012 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and suggested immediate attention to be given to the consideration of establishing a circuit of Buddhist heritage sites in the region. We also underscored the importance of visa facilitation between ASEAN and India.
 15. We agreed to intensify dialogue on Consular issues, evolving Knowledge and Skills Initiatives, using sporting events to link our universities and enhancing linkages between institutions for healthcare, medicine and pharmaceuticals.
 16. We agreed to promote Track II participation to fulfil ASEAN's aspiration of a people-oriented and a people-centred ASEAN. We welcomed the steady progress of ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT) and agreed to further promote its activities. In this regard, we welcomed the 3rd Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks, with the theme Building a Stronger ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership in the 21st Century, held in Hanoi from 25 to 26 August. We looked forward to the 4th Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks in Malaysia in 2015.
 17. We recognised the Delhi Dialogue as a versatile dialogue mechanism to link Track 1 and 2 interactions between ASEAN and India. We welcomed the Delhi Dialogue VI held in New Delhi from 6 to 7 March 2014. ASEAN Leaders reaffirmed their continued support for the Delhi Dialogue VII scheduled from 11 to 12 March 2015.
 18. We appreciated the value of the ongoing special interface between ASEAN and Indian Parliamentarians at the annual ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly General Assembly.
 19. The ASEAN Leaders appreciated India's commitment to the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) through its assistance in promoting human resource development, infrastructure development and ICT development to the CLMV countries. ASEAN Leaders encouraged India to continue support in this regard.
 20. We underscored the importance of promoting energy cooperation and energy security. We agreed on the urgent need for effective initiatives on sustainable use in energy resources through exchanging best policies and practices, transferring technology and promoting Corporate Social Responsibility. We also highlighted the need to further promote the ASEAN-India New

and Renewable Energy Initiative. ASEAN Leaders commended India for sharing wind turbine technology and its applications.

21. We agreed that early completion of the ASEAN-India Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation would facilitate greater collaboration in the utilisation of advancements in science and technology for developmental purposes.
22. We recognised the importance of food security in the region. We looked forward to enhanced cooperation between ASEAN and India to widen food production bases and exchange expertise to promote resilience in food security and to address the price volatility of food supplies. In this regard, ASEAN Leaders appreciated India's cooperation in knowledge sharing on agricultural technologies. In view of the growing populations in ASEAN and India, we agreed to explore the possibility of augmenting emergency food reserve capacities.
23. Recognising that both ASEAN and India are vulnerable to natural disasters, we agreed to forge closer cooperation in disaster management. The ASEAN Leaders underscored the importance of India's cooperation in implementing the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre). We highlighted the need to focus on climate change initiatives to counter the far and wide-reaching impacts of climate change.
24. We reiterated our commitment to continue working closely together on regional and international issues of mutual interest and common concern. We expressed our shared vision for a stronger partnership, which would contribute positively to the lasting peace, prosperity and well-being of our peoples.

Agreement on Investment under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of India

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
12 November 2014**

PREAMBLE

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia (Cambodia), the Republic of Indonesia (Indonesia), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Myanmar), the Republic of the Philippines (Philippines), the Republic of Singapore (Singapore), the Kingdom of Thailand (Thailand) and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Viet Nam), collectively, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the Government of the Republic of India;

RECALLING the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of India (Framework Agreement) signed in Bali on 8 October 2003;

RECALLING further Article 2 of the Framework Agreement reflecting their commitment to establish an ASEAN-India Regional Trade and Investment Area (RTIA) including a Free Trade Area in goods, services and investment;

RECOGNISING the objectives of promoting investment, creating a liberal, facilitative, transparent and competitive investment regime, progressively liberalising investment; strengthening cooperation in investment, facilitating investment, improving transparency of investment rules and regulations; and providing for protection of investment;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to establish a liberal and competitive investment regime that facilitates and promotes investment within the ASEAN-India RTIA;

CONSIDERING the different levels of development and the need to provide flexibility and special and differential treatment to the newer ASEAN Member States;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1 **Scope**

1. This Agreement shall apply to measures adopted or maintained by a Party relating to:
 - (a) investors of any other Party; and
 - (b) investments of investors of another Party in its territory, in existence as of the date of entry into force of this Agreement or established, acquired or expanded thereafter, and which, where applicable, has been admitted¹ by that Party, subject to its relevant laws, regulations and policies.
2. This Agreement shall not apply to:
 - (a) government procurement;
 - (b) subsidies or grants provided by a Party;
 - (c) services supplied in the exercise of governmental authority by the relevant body or authority of a Party. For the purposes of this Agreement, a service supplied in the exercise of governmental authority means any service which is supplied neither on a commercial basis nor in competition with one or more service suppliers; and
 - (d) any taxation measure, except under Article 11 (Transfers).
3. This Agreement shall not apply to claims arising out of events which occurred, or claims which have been raised prior to the entry into force of this Agreement.
4. (a) This Agreement does not apply to measures adopted or maintained by a Party to the extent that they are covered by the ASEAN-India Trade in Services Agreement.

¹ For greater certainty: (a) in the case of Thailand, protection under this Agreement shall be accorded to investments, as referred to in paragraph 1(b) of this Article, which have been specifically approved in writing for protection by the competent authorities; (b) in the case of Cambodia and Viet Nam, "has been admitted" means "has been specifically registered or approved in writing, as the case may be".

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph 4 (a), for the purpose of protection, Article 7 (Treatment of Investment), Article 8 (Expropriation and Compensation), Article 9 (Compensation for Losses), Article 10 (Subrogation), Article 11 (Transfers), and Article 20 (Investment Disputes between a Party and an Investor), shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to any measure affecting the supply of service by a service supplier of a Party through commercial presence in the territory of any one of the other Parties pursuant to the ASEAN-India Trade in Services Agreement but only to the extent that any such measures relate to an investment as referred to paragraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope) and an obligation under this Agreement, regardless of whether such a service sector is scheduled in a Party's schedule of specific services commitments made under the ASEAN-India Trade in Services Agreement.²

5. For the purpose of liberalisation and subject to Article 4 (Reservations), this Agreement shall apply to the following sectors:
 - (a) manufacturing;
 - (b) agriculture;
 - (c) fishery;
 - (d) forestry; and
 - (e) mining and quarrying.

ARTICLE 2 **Definitions**

For the purposes of this Agreement:

- (a) **Agreement** means the Agreement on Investment under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of India;
- (b) **ASEAN** means the Association of Southeast Asian Nations which comprises 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

² For greater certainty, paragraph 4 (b) does not preclude a Party from applying Article 13 (Denial of Benefits) to such service supplier in its territory.

Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and whose members are referred to in this Agreement collectively as the ASEAN Member States and individually as an ASEAN Member State;

- (c) **freely usable currency** means a freely usable currency as determined by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in accordance with the IMF Articles of Agreement and any amendments thereto;
- (d) **IMF Articles of Agreement** means the *Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund*;
- (e) **investment**³ means every kind of asset that an investor owns or controls in the territory of another Party, and that has the characteristics of an investment, including such characteristics as the commitment of capital, the expectation of gain or profit, or the assumption of risk.

Forms that an investment may take include, but are not limited to:

- (i) shares, stocks and other forms of equity participation in a juridical person and rights derived therefrom;
- (ii) bonds, debentures, loans, and other debt instruments of a juridical person and rights derived therefrom;
- (iii) movable and immovable property and other property rights such as mortgages, liens or pledges;
- (iv) intellectual property rights recognised under the laws and regulations of each Party and connected with the substantial business operation of a juridical person of that Party;
- (v) claims to money or to any contractual performance related to a business of a juridical person and having financial value. For greater certainty, investment does not mean claims to money that arise solely from (a) commercial contracts for sale of goods or services; or (b) the extension of credit in connection with such commercial contracts; Investment will not include any other claims to money that do not involve subparagraph (e) (i) to (vii) of this Article;

(vi) rights under contracts, including turnkey, construction, management, production or revenue-sharing contracts;

(vii) business concessions required to conduct economic activity and having financial value conferred by law or under a contract, including concessions related to natural resources.

For the purpose of the definition of investment in this Article, returns that are invested shall be treated as investments and any alteration of the form in which assets are invested or reinvested shall not affect their character as investments;

- (f) **investor of a Party** means a natural person of a Party or a juridical person of a Party that is making, or has made an investment in the territory of another Party;
- (g) **juridical person** means any legal entity duly constituted or otherwise organised under applicable laws of a Party, whether for profit or otherwise, and whether privately-owned or governmentally-owned, including any corporation, trust, partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, association or cooperatives;
- (h) **juridical person of a Party** means a juridical person constituted or organised under the applicable laws of that Party;
- (i) **measure** means any measure by a Party, whether in the form of a law, regulation, rule, procedure, decision, administrative action and includes measures taken by:
- (i) central, regional, or local governments and authorities; and
- (ii) non-governmental bodies in the exercise of powers delegated by central, regional, or local governments or authorities;
- (j) **natural person of a Party** means a person possessing the nationality or citizenship of that Party in accordance with its laws and regulations.

In the case of Brunei Darussalam, in accordance with its laws, regulations and national policies, the term "natural person of a Party" means a person possessing the nationality of Brunei Darussalam or a Permanent Resident of Brunei Darussalam who does not possess the nationality of another Party or non-Party. Brunei Darussalam shall request bilateral consultations with another Party, on a case-by-case basis, on the issue of whether

³ For greater certainty, the definition of investment shall be read in accordance with subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope). The term "investment" does not include an order or judgment entered in a judicial or administrative action.

to recognise such Permanent Resident as an investor of Brunei Darussalam;

- (k) **newer ASEAN Member States** means the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;
- (l) **Parties** mean the ASEAN Member States and India, collectively;
- (m) **Party** means an ASEAN Member State or India;
- (n) **returns** mean amounts yielded by or derived from an investment, including profits, dividends, interest, capital gains, royalties, fees, or payments in connection with intellectual property rights;
- (o) **WTO** means the World Trade Organization; and
- (p) **WTO Agreement** means the *Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization*, done on 15 April 1994.

ARTICLE 3 National Treatment

1. Each Party shall accord to investors of another Party, and to investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope), in relation to the establishment, acquisition, expansion, management, conduct, operation, liquidation, sale, transfer or other disposition of investments, treatment no less favourable than that it accords, in like circumstances, to its own investors and their investments.⁴
2. The treatment to be accorded by a Party under paragraph 1 of this Article means, with respect to a regional or local level, treatment no less favourable than the most favoured treatment accorded at that regional or local level, in like circumstances, to investors, and investments of the investors, of the Party to which it forms a part.
3. A Party shall not be obliged to extend to the investors of another Party the benefits or privileges arising from customs union, free trade agreements or similar bilateral, regional or international agreements or arrangements of which that Party is or may become a member, including any

⁴ The Party shall not exercise any discrimination against investors of another Party or their investments. Another Party means an ASEAN Member State or India.

arrangements between or among ASEAN Member States.

4. A determination of whether investments or investors are in "like circumstances" should be made, based upon an objective assessment of all circumstances on a case-by-case basis, including, *inter alia*:
 - (a) the sector the investor is in;
 - (b) the location of the investment;
 - (c) the aim of the measure concerned; and
 - (d) the regulatory process generally applied in relation to the measure concerned.

The examination shall not be limited to or biased towards any one factor.
5. Extension of financial assistance or measures taken by a Party in favour of its investors and their investments in pursuit of legitimate public purpose including the protection of health, safety, the environment shall not be considered as a violation of this Article.

ARTICLE 4 Reservations⁵

1. Article 3 (National Treatment) shall not apply to:
 - (a) any existing non-conforming measure that is maintained by a Party at:
 - (i) the central level of government as set out by that Party in its Schedule of Reservations in List 1;
 - (ii) the regional level of government as set out by that Party in its Schedule of Reservations in List 1; or
 - (iii) the local level of government.
 - (b) the continuation or prompt renewal of any non-conforming measure referred to in subparagraph (a); or
 - (c) an amendment to any non-conforming measure referred to in subparagraph (a) to the extent that the amendment does not decrease the conformity of the measure, as it existed at the date of entry into force of the Party's

⁵ For greater certainty, India shall provide a common single Schedule of Reservations which will be applied without discrimination among ASEAN Member States, and ASEAN Member States shall provide their respective Schedule of Reservations.

Schedule of Reservations in List 1, with Article 3 (National Treatment).

2. Article 3 (National Treatment) shall not apply to any reservation for measures that a Party adopts or maintains with respect to existing or new and emerging sectors, sub-sectors or activities, as set out in List 2.
3. Other than pursuant to any procedures for the modification of Schedules of Reservations, a Party may not, under any measure adopted after the date of entry into force of this Agreement and covered by List 2, require an investor of another Party, by reason of its nationality, to sell or otherwise dispose of an investment existing at the time the measure becomes effective.
4. Procedures for the modification of the Schedules of Reservations referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article are to be pursuant to Article 6 (Work Programme).
5. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed so as to derogate from rights and obligations under international agreements in respect of protection of intellectual property rights to which the Parties are party, including the *WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights* (TRIPS Agreement) and other treaties concluded under the auspices of the World Intellectual Property Organization.
6. A Party may take reservations to exclude admission, establishment, acquisition, expansion, management, conduct, operation, liquidation, sale, transfer or other disposition of portfolio investments from the benefits of this Agreement. Such reservations shall be notified upon entry into force of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 5

Review of Reservations⁶

1. If, after this Agreement enters into force, a Party enters into any agreement on investment with a non-Party, it could give consideration to a

request by another Party for the incorporation herein of treatment no less favourable than that provided under the aforesaid agreement. Any such incorporation will be subject to mutual agreement and should maintain the overall balance of commitments undertaken by each Party under this Agreement.

2. As part of the review of this Agreement pursuant to Article 28 (Review), the Parties agree to review their respective Schedules of Reservations with a view to improving reservations on national treatment with regard to the establishment, acquisition or expansion of investments.

ARTICLE 6

Work Programme

1. The Parties shall enter into discussions on:
 - (a) Schedules of Reservations to this Agreement; and
 - (b) Procedures for the modification of Schedules of Reservations.
2. The Parties shall conclude the discussions referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, within three (3) years from the date of entry into force of this Agreement unless the Parties otherwise agree. These discussions shall be overseen by the Joint Committee on Investment established under Article 23 (Joint Committee on Investment).
3. Schedules of Reservations referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall enter into force on a date agreed to by the Parties.
4. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, Article 3 (National Treatment), Article 28 (Review), and paragraphs 1 to 5 of Article 4 (Reservations), shall not apply until the Parties' Schedules of Reservations have entered into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article.
5. For the purpose of subparagraph (j) of Article 2 (Definitions), the Parties recognise that the criteria for recognition of Brunei Darussalam's Permanent Residents may be established during such bilateral consultations.

⁶ For greater certainty, India shall provide a common single Schedule of Reservations, which will be applied without discrimination among ASEAN Member States, and ASEAN Member States shall provide their respective Schedule of Reservations.

ARTICLE 7
Treatment of Investment

1. Each Party shall accord to investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope), fair and equitable treatment and full protection and security.
2. For greater certainty:⁷
 - (a) fair and equitable treatment requires each Party not to deny justice in any legal or administrative proceedings;
 - (b) full protection and security requires each Party to take such measures as may be reasonably necessary to ensure the protection and security of the investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope); and
 - (c) the concepts of “fair and equitable treatment” and “full protection and security” do not require treatment in addition to or beyond that which is required under customary international law, and do not create additional substantive rights.
3. A determination that there has been a breach of another provision of this Agreement, or of a separate international agreement, does not establish that there has been a breach of this Article.

ARTICLE 8
Expropriation and Compensation

1. A Party shall not expropriate or nationalise investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope) either directly or through measures equivalent to expropriation or nationalisation (“expropriation”), except:
 - (a) for a public purpose;
 - (b) in a non-discriminatory manner;
 - (c) on payment of prompt, adequate, and effective compensation; and
 - (d) in accordance with due process of law.
2. A measure or a series of related measures by a Party cannot constitute an expropriation unless it interferes with a tangible or intangible property right

in an investment as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope). Such measure addresses two situations:

- (a) the first situation is direct expropriation, where an investment as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope) is nationalised or otherwise directly expropriated through formal transfer of title or outright seizure; and
 - (b) the second situation is where a measure or series of related measures by a Party has an effect equivalent to direct expropriation without formal transfer of title or outright seizure.
3. The determination of whether a measure or series of related measures by a Party, in a specific fact situation, constitutes an expropriation of the type referred to in subparagraph 2(b) of this Article requires a case-by-case, fact-based inquiry that considers, among other factors:
 - (a) the economic impact of the government measure, although the fact that a measure or series of related measures by a Party has an adverse effect on the economic value of an investment, standing alone, does not establish that such an expropriation has occurred;
 - (b) whether the government measure breaches the government’s prior binding written commitment to the investor whether by contract, licence or other legal document; and
 - (c) the character of the government measure, including its objectives and whether the measure is disproportionate to the public purpose.
 4. The compensation referred to in subparagraph 1(c) of this Article shall:
 - (a) be paid without delay;⁸
 - (b) be equivalent to the fair market value of the expropriated investment at the time when or immediately before the expropriation was publicly announced,⁹ or when the expropriation occurred, whichever is applicable;

⁸ The Parties understand that there may be legal and administrative processes that need to be observed before payment can be made.

⁹ In the case of the Philippines, the time when or immediately before the expropriation was publicly announced refers to the date of filing of the Petition for Expropriation.

⁷ In the case of Indonesia, only subparagraphs 2(a) and (b) shall apply where Indonesia is the Party according treatment under this Article.

- (c) not reflect any change in value because the intended expropriation had become known earlier; and
 - (d) be effectively realisable and freely transferable.
5. In the event of delay, the compensation shall include an appropriate interest at the prevailing commercial rate.¹⁰ The compensation, including any accrued interest, shall be payable either in the currency in which the investment was originally made or, if requested by the investor, in a freely usable currency.
 6. If an investor requests payment in a freely usable currency, the compensation referred to in subparagraph 1(c) of this Article, including any accrued interest, shall be converted into the currency of payment at the market rate of exchange prevailing on the date of payment.
 7. This Article does not apply to the issuance of compulsory licences granted in relation to intellectual property rights, in accordance with the TRIPS Agreement.
 8. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 6 of this Article, any measure of expropriation relating to land shall be as defined in the expropriating Party's existing domestic laws and regulations and any amendments thereto, and shall be for the purposes of and upon payment of compensation in accordance with the aforesaid laws and regulations.
 9. Non-discriminatory regulatory measures by a Party or measures and awards by judicial bodies of a Party that are designed and applied in pursuit of public policy to achieve legitimate public interest or public welfare objectives, such as the protection of public health, safety, and the environment, do not constitute expropriation of the type referred to in subparagraph 2(b) of this Article.

¹⁰For Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam, in the event of delay, the rate and payment of interest of compensation for expropriation of investments of investors of another Party shall be determined in accordance with their laws, regulations and policies provided that such laws, regulations and policies are applied on a non-discriminatory basis.

ARTICLE 9

Compensation for Losses

Investors of a Party whose investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope) in the territory of another Party suffer losses owing to war or other armed conflict, a state of national emergency or civil disturbances in the territory of the latter Party, shall be accorded by the latter Party treatment, as regards restitution, indemnification, compensation or other settlement, if any, no less favourable than that which the latter Party accords to its own investors and their investments or to investors of any other Party or non-Party and their investments.

ARTICLE 10

Subrogation

1. If a Party or an agency of a Party makes a payment to an investor of that Party under a guarantee, a contract of insurance or other form of indemnity it has granted on non-commercial risk in respect of an investment, the other Party shall recognise the subrogation or transfer of any right or claim in respect of such investment. The subrogated or transferred right or claim shall not be greater than the original right or claim of the investor.
2. Where a Party or an agency of a Party has made a payment to an investor of that Party and has taken over rights and claims of the investor, that investor shall not, unless authorised to act on behalf of the Party or the agency making the payment, pursue those rights and claims against the other Party.
3. In any proceeding involving an investment dispute, a Party shall not assert, as a defence, counterclaim, right of set-off or otherwise, that the investor or the investment as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope) has received or will receive, pursuant to an insurance or guarantee contract, indemnification or other compensation for all or part of any alleged loss.
4. In the exercise of subrogated rights or claims, a Party or the agency of the Party exercising such rights or claims shall disclose the coverage of the claims arrangement with its investors to the relevant Party.

ARTICLE 11
Transfers

1. Each Party shall allow all transfers relating to investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope) to be made freely and without delay. Such transfers include:
 - (a) initial capital and additional amount to maintain or increase the investment;
 - (b) profits, capital gains, dividends, royalties, licence fees, technical assistance and technical and management fees, interest and other current income accruing from any investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope);
 - (c) proceeds from the total or partial sale or liquidation of any investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope);
 - (d) payments made under a contract, including a loan agreement;
 - (e) payments made pursuant to Article 8 (Expropriation and Compensation) and Article 9 (Compensation for Losses);
 - (f) payments arising out of the settlement of a dispute by any means including adjudication, arbitration or the agreement of the parties to the dispute; and
 - (g) earnings and other remuneration of personnel employed or engaged on contractual basis from abroad in connection with that investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope).
2. Each Party shall allow such transfers relating to an investment as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope) to be made in a freely usable currency at the market rate of exchange prevailing at the time of transfer.
3. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, a Party may prevent or delay a transfer through the equitable, non-discriminatory, and good faith application of its laws and regulations relating to:
 - (a) bankruptcy, insolvency, or the protection of the rights of creditors;
 - (b) issuing, trading, or dealing in securities, futures, options, or derivatives;
 - (c) criminal or penal offences and the recovery of the proceeds of crime;
 - (d) financial reporting or record keeping of transfers when necessary to assist law enforcement or financial regulatory authorities;
 - (e) ensuring compliance with orders or judgments in judicial or administrative proceedings;
 - (f) taxation;
 - (g) social security, public retirement, or compulsory savings schemes, including provident funds, retirement gratuity programmes and employees insurance programmes;
 - (h) severance entitlements of employees;
 - (i) requirement to register and satisfy other formalities imposed by the Central Bank and other relevant authorities of a Party; and
 - (j) in the case of India, requirements to lock-in initial capital investments, as provided in India's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy, where applicable, provided that, any new measure which would require a lock-in period for investments should not apply to existing investments.
4. Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the rights and obligations of the Parties as members of the IMF under the IMF Articles of Agreement, as may be amended, including the use of exchange actions which are in conformity with the IMF Articles of Agreement, provided that a Party shall not impose restrictions on any capital transactions inconsistently with its specific commitments regarding such transactions, except under Article 12 (Temporary Safeguard Measures) or at the request of the IMF.

ARTICLE 12
Temporary Safeguard Measures

1. A Party may adopt or maintain measures not conforming with its obligations under Article 3 (National Treatment) relating to cross-border capital transactions or Article 11 (Transfers) in the

event of serious balance of payments and external financial difficulties or under threat thereof.

2. A Party may adopt or maintain measures not conforming with its obligations under Article 11 (Transfers) in cases where, in exceptional circumstances, movements of capital cause or threaten to cause serious economic or financial disturbance or serious difficulties for the operation of monetary or exchange rate policies in the Party concerned.¹¹
3. The measures referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall:
 - (a) be consistent with the IMF Articles of Agreement, as may be amended;
 - (b) avoid unnecessary damage to the commercial, economic and financial interests of another Party;
 - (c) not exceed those necessary to deal with the circumstances described in paragraph 1 or 2;
 - (d) be temporary and phased out progressively as the situation specified in paragraph 1 improves; and
 - (e) be applied such that any one of the other Parties is treated no less favourably than any other Party or non-Party.
4. Measures adopted or maintained pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Article shall, in addition to subparagraphs 3(a) to (e) of this Article:
 - (a) be phased out when conditions would no longer justify their institution or maintenance;
 - (b) be applied on a national treatment basis; and
 - (c) avoid unnecessary damage to investors and investments as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope) of another Party.
5. Any restrictions adopted or maintained under paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article or any changes therein, shall be promptly notified to the other Parties.

6. To the extent that it does not duplicate the process under the WTO, IMF, or any other similar processes, the Party adopting any restrictions under paragraph 1 of this Article shall, on the request of another Party, commence consultations in order to review the restrictions adopted by it.

ARTICLE 13 **Denial of Benefits**

1. A Party may deny the benefits of this Agreement to an investor of another Party that is a juridical person of the other Party and to an investment of such investor if an investor of a non-Party owns or controls the juridical person, and the denying Party:
 - (a) does not maintain diplomatic relations with the non-Party; or
 - (b) adopts or maintains measures with respect to the non-Party that prohibits transactions with the juridical person or that would be violated or circumvented if the benefits of this Agreement were accorded to the juridical person or to its investments.
2. Subject to prior notification and consultation with the other Party, a Party may also deny the benefits of this Agreement to an investor of the other Party that is a juridical person of the other Party and to investments of that juridical person and where the denying Party establishes that:
 - (a) the juridical person has no substantive business operations in the territory of the other Party; or
 - (b) the juridical person is owned or controlled by investor(s) of a non-Party or of the denying Party.
3. A juridical person is:
 - (a) "owned" by an investor in accordance with the laws, regulations and national policies of each Party;
 - (b) "controlled" by an investor if the investor has the power to name a majority of its directors or otherwise to legally direct its actions.

¹¹ For greater certainty, any measures taken to ensure the stability of the exchange rate including to prevent speculative capital flows shall not be adopted or maintained for the purpose of protecting a particular sector.

4. Following notification, and without prejudice to paragraph 1 of this Article, in the case of the Republic of the Philippines, the Philippines may deny the benefits of this Agreement to an investor of any other Party and to investments of that investor, where it establishes that such investor has made an investment in breach of the provisions of Commonwealth Act No. 108 (An Act to Punish Acts of Evasion of Laws on the Nationalization of Certain Rights, Franchises or Privileges) as amended by Presidential Decree No. 715, otherwise known as "the Anti-Dummy Law", as may be amended.

ARTICLE 14
Transparency

1. In order to achieve the objectives of this Agreement, each Party shall:
 - (a) to the extent possible make available all relevant laws, regulations, policies and administrative guidelines of general application that pertain to, or affect investments in its territory;
 - (b) establish or designate an enquiry point where, upon request of any natural person, juridical person or any one of the other Parties, all information relating to the measures required to be published or made available under subparagraph (a) may be promptly obtained; and
 - (c) notify the other Parties through the ASEAN Secretariat at least once annually of any investment-related agreements or arrangements which grants any preferential treatment and to which it is a party.
2. Each Party shall endeavour, upon request by another Party, to respond promptly to specific questions and provide information to that other Party with respect to matters referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.
3. Nothing in this Agreement shall require a Party to furnish or allow access to confidential information, the disclosure of which would impede law enforcement, or otherwise be contrary to the public interest, or which would prejudice legitimate commercial interests of particular juridical persons, public or private.

4. All notifications and communications made pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article shall be in the English language.

ARTICLE 15

Special Formalities and Disclosure of Information

1. Nothing in Article 3 (National Treatment) shall be construed to prevent a Party from adopting or maintaining a measure that prescribes special formalities in connection with an investment, including a requirement that such an investment be legally constituted under the laws or regulations of the Party, provided that such formalities do not materially impair the rights afforded by a Party to investors of another Party and their investments pursuant to this Agreement.
2. Notwithstanding Article 3 (National Treatment), a Party may require an investor of another Party, or investment, to provide information concerning that investment solely for informational or statistical purposes. The Party shall protect to the extent possible any confidential information which has been provided from any disclosure that would prejudice legitimate commercial interests of the investor or the investments. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prevent a Party from otherwise obtaining or disclosing information in connection with the equitable and good faith application of its laws.

ARTICLE 16

Special and Differential Treatment for the Newer ASEAN Member States

In order to increase the benefits of this Agreement for the newer ASEAN Member States, and in accordance with the objectives of and the Preamble to this Agreement and objectives of Article 2 (Measures for Economic Cooperation) of the Framework Agreement, the Parties shall accord, to the extent possible, special and differential treatment to the newer ASEAN Member States under this Agreement, through:

- (a) technical assistance to strengthen their capacity in relation to investment policies and promotion, including in areas such as human resource development;

- (b) access to information on the investment policies of other Parties, business information, relevant databases and contact points for investment promotion agencies;
- (c) commitments in areas of interest to the newer ASEAN Member States; and
- (d) recognising that commitments by each newer ASEAN Member State may be made in accordance with its individual stage of development.

ARTICLE 17
Promotion of Investment

The Parties shall cooperate in promoting investment activities by building upon existing agreements or arrangements already in place for economic cooperation, with the aim of advancing investment relations between the Parties through, amongst others:

- (a) encouraging ASEAN-India investments;
- (b) organising investment promotion activities;
- (c) promoting business matching events;
- (d) organising and supporting the organisation of various briefings and seminars on investment opportunities and on investment laws, regulations and policies; and
- (e) conducting information exchanges on other issues of mutual concern relating to investment promotion and facilitation.

ARTICLE 18
Facilitation of Investment

Subject to their laws and regulations, the Parties shall cooperate to facilitate investments amongst ASEAN and India through, amongst others:

- (a) endeavour to create the necessary environment for all forms of investment;
- (b) simplifying procedures for investment applications and approvals;
- (c) promoting dissemination of investment information, including investment rules, regulations, policies and procedures; and
- (d) establishing one-stop investment centres in the respective host Parties to provide assistance and

advisory services to the business sectors including facilitation of operating licences and permits.

ARTICLE 19
Dispute between Parties

The provisions of the *Agreement on Dispute Settlement Mechanism under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of India* signed in Bangkok, Thailand on 13 August 2009 shall apply to the settlement of disputes between or amongst the Parties under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 20
**Investment Disputes between
a Party and an Investor**

Scope

1. This Article shall apply to investment disputes between a Party and an investor of another Party concerning an alleged breach of an obligation of the former Party under Article 3 (National Treatment), Article 7 (Treatment of Investment), Article 8 (Expropriation and Compensation), Article 9 (Compensation for Losses) and Article 11 (Transfers), which causes loss or damage to the investor in relation to its investment as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope) with respect to the management, conduct, operation, or sale or other disposition of such investment.
2. This Article shall not apply:
 - (a) to investment disputes arising out of events which occurred or to investment disputes which had been settled or which were already under judicial or arbitral process, prior to the entry into force of this Agreement; or
 - (b) in cases where the disputing investor holds the nationality or citizenship of the disputing Party.
3. Nothing in this Article shall be construed so as to prevent a disputing investor from seeking administrative or judicial settlement available within the disputing Party.
4. For the purpose of this Article:

- (a) **disputing Party** means a Party against which a claim is made under this Article;
- (b) **disputing party** means a disputing investor or a disputing Party;
- (c) **disputing parties** means a disputing investor and a disputing Party;
- (d) **disputing investor** means an investor of a Party that makes a claim against another Party on its own behalf under this Article, and where relevant includes an investor of a Party that makes a claim on behalf of a juridical person of the disputing Party that the investor owns or controls;
- (e) **ICSID** means the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes;
- (f) **ICSID Convention** means the *Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States*, done at Washington on 18 March 1965;
- (g) **ICSID Additional Facility Rules** means the *Rules Governing the Additional Facility for the Administration of Proceedings by the Secretariat of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes*;
- (h) **New York Convention** means the *United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards*, done at New York on 10 June 1958;
- (i) **non-disputing Party** means the Party of the disputing investor; and
- (j) **UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules** means the arbitration rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law approved by the United Nations General Assembly on 15 December 1976.

Consultation and Negotiation

5. In the event of an investment dispute referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the disputing parties shall as far as possible resolve the dispute through consultations and negotiations, with a view towards reaching an amicable settlement. Such consultations and negotiations, which may include the use of non-binding, third party procedures, shall be initiated by a written request for consultations and negotiations by the disputing investor to the disputing Party.

6. With the objective of resolving an investment dispute through consultations and negotiations, a disputing investor shall provide the disputing Party, prior to the commencement of consultations and negotiations, with information regarding the legal and factual basis for the dispute.

Choice of Forum

7. Where the dispute cannot be resolved as provided for under paragraph 5 of this Article within one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of written request for consultations and negotiations, unless the disputing parties agree otherwise, it may be submitted at the choice of the disputing investor to:
 - (a) the courts or administrative tribunals of the disputing Party;¹²
 - (b) conciliation or arbitration in accordance with the ICSID Convention and the *ICSID Rules of Procedure for Arbitration Proceedings*,¹³ provided that both the disputing Party and the non-disputing Party are parties to the ICSID Convention;
 - (c) conciliation or arbitration under the ICSID Additional Facility Rules, provided that either of the disputing Party or the non-disputing Party is a party, but not both, to the ICSID Convention;
 - (d) an international *ad hoc* arbitral tribunal established under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules; or
 - (e) any other arbitral institution or in accordance with any other arbitral rules, if the disputing parties agree.

Provided that submission of the dispute by the disputing investor to any courts or administrative tribunals or to any fora or any arbitration rules under subparagraphs 7(a) to (e) shall exclude resort to the other.

¹² This shall apply provided such courts or administrative tribunals have jurisdiction.

¹³ In the case of Philippines, submission of a claim under the ICSID Convention and the ICSID Rules of Procedure for Arbitration Proceedings shall be subject to a written agreement between the disputing parties in the event that an investment dispute arises.

Conditions and Limitations on Submission of Claim

8. The submission of a dispute to conciliation or arbitration under subparagraph 7(b), (c), (d) or (e) of this Article in accordance with the provisions of this Article, shall be conditional upon:
- (a) the submission of the dispute to such conciliation or arbitration taking place within three (3) years of the time at which the disputing investor became aware, or should reasonably have become aware of an alleged breach of an obligation under this Agreement causing loss or damage to the investor in relation to its investment as referred to in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 1 (Scope); and
 - (b) the disputing investor providing to the disputing Party a written notice of intent at least ninety (90) days before the claim is submitted. The notice of intent shall specify:
 - (i) either subparagraph 7(b), (c), (d) or (e) as the forum for dispute settlement and, in the case of subparagraph 7(b), whether conciliation or arbitration is being sought;
 - (ii) the name and address of the disputing investor and its legal representative;
 - (iii) the waiver of the right to initiate or continue any proceedings, excluding proceedings for interim measures of protection referred to in paragraph 30 of this Article, before any other dispute settlement fora referred to in paragraph 7 of this Article in relation to the matter under dispute;
 - (iv) a brief summary of the factual and legal basis of the dispute sufficient to present the problem clearly, including the provisions of this Agreement alleged to have been breached and the relevant measure at issue, as may be applicable; and
 - (v) the relief sought, and where appropriate, the approximate amount of damages claimed.
9. The applicable arbitration rules shall govern the arbitration referred to in this Article except to the extent modified by the Parties in this Article.

Selection of Arbitrators

10. Unless the disputing parties agree otherwise, an arbitral tribunal established under subparagraphs 7(b), (c), (d) and (e) of this Article shall comprise three (3) arbitrators, one (1) arbitrator appointed by each of the disputing parties within seventy-five (75) days from the date the investment dispute was submitted for arbitration. The third arbitrator, who shall be the presiding arbitrator, shall be appointed by agreement of the disputing parties. If the disputing investor or the disputing Party fails to appoint their respective arbitrators within seventy-five (75) days from the date on which the investment dispute was submitted to arbitration, the Secretary-General of ICSID in the case of arbitration referred to in subparagraph 7(b) or (c) of this Article, or the Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in the case of arbitration referred to in subparagraph 7(d) or (e) of this Article, on the request of either of the disputing parties, shall appoint, in his or her discretion, the arbitrator or arbitrators not yet appointed from the ICSID or PCA Panel of Arbitrators respectively, subject to the requirements of paragraph 11 of this Article.
11. Unless the disputing parties agree otherwise, the third arbitrator shall:
- (a) not be of the same nationality as the disputing investor, nor be a national of the disputing Party;
 - (b) not have his or her usual place of residence in the territory of either disputing Party or non-disputing Party;
 - (c) not be employed by nor affiliated with the disputing Party, the non-disputing Party, or the disputing investor;
 - (d) not have dealt with the said investment dispute in any capacity; and
 - (e) have expertise or experience in public international law, international trade or international investment rules.

Conduct of Arbitration

12. Where issues relating to jurisdiction or admissibility are raised as preliminary objections, the tribunal shall decide the matter before proceeding to the merits.

13. A disputing Party may, no later than three (3) months after the constitution of the tribunal, file an objection that a claim is manifestly without merit or not admissible. A disputing Party may also file an objection that a claim is otherwise outside the jurisdiction or competence of the tribunal. The disputing Party shall specify as precisely as possible the basis for the objection.
14. The tribunal shall address any such objection as a preliminary question apart from the merits of the claim. The disputing parties shall be given a reasonable opportunity to present their views and observations to the tribunal. If the tribunal decides that the claim is manifestly without merit, or is otherwise not within the jurisdiction or competence of the tribunal, it shall render an award to that effect.
15. The tribunal may, if warranted, award the prevailing disputing party reasonable costs and fees incurred in submitting or opposing the objection. In determining whether such an award is warranted, the tribunal shall consider whether either the claim or the objection was frivolous or manifestly without merit, and shall provide the disputing parties a reasonable opportunity to submit their comments.
16. Unless the disputing parties otherwise agree, the place of arbitration shall be determined in accordance with the applicable arbitration rules, provided that the place shall be in the territory of a State that is a party to the New York Convention.

Transparency

17. Subject to paragraph 18 of this Article, the disputing Party may make publicly available final awards and decisions made by the tribunal.
18. Any information specifically designated as confidential that is submitted to the tribunal or the disputing parties shall be protected from disclosure to the public.

Joint Interpretation

19. The tribunal shall, on its own account or at the request of a disputing Party, request a joint interpretation of any provision of this Agreement that is in issue in a dispute. The Parties shall submit in writing any joint decision declaring their interpretation to the tribunal within sixty (60) days

of the request. Without prejudice to paragraph 20 of this Article, if the Parties fail to submit such a decision within sixty (60) days, any interpretation submitted by a Party individually shall be forwarded to the disputing parties and the tribunal, which shall decide the issue on its own account.

20. A joint decision of the Parties, declaring their interpretation of a provision of this Agreement shall be binding on the tribunal, and any decision or award issued by the tribunal must be consistent with that joint decision.

Awards

21. The award shall include:
 - (a) a judgment as to whether or not there has been a breach by the disputing Party of any rights conferred by this Agreement in respect of the disputing investor and its investments; and
 - (b) a remedy if there has been such breach. The remedy shall be limited to one or both of the following:
 - (i) payment of monetary damages and applicable interest; and
 - (ii) restitution of property, in which case the award shall provide that the disputing Party may pay monetary damages and any applicable interest in lieu of restitution.
22. A tribunal may not award punitive damages.
23. An award made by a tribunal shall be final and binding upon the disputing parties. An award shall have no binding force except between the disputing parties and in respect of the particular case.
24. The award rendered in accordance with paragraph 21 of this Article shall be final and binding upon the disputing parties. The disputing Party shall provide for the enforcement of such award and execute it without delay.¹⁴
25. Subject to paragraph 26 of this Article and the applicable review procedure for an interim award,

¹⁴ The Parties understand that there may be domestic legal and administrative processes that need to be observed before an award can be complied with.

a disputing party shall abide by and comply with an award without delay.¹⁵

26. A disputing party may not seek enforcement of a final award until:

(a) in the case of a final award under the ICSID Convention:

(i) one hundred twenty (120) days have elapsed from the date the award was rendered and no disputing party has requested revision or annulment of the award; or

(ii) revision or annulment proceedings have been completed;

(b) in the case of a final award under the ICSID Additional Facility Rules, the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, or the rules selected pursuant to subparagraph 7(e) of this Article :

(i) ninety (90) days have elapsed from the date the award was rendered and no disputing party has commenced a proceeding to revise, set aside, or annul the award; or

(ii) a court has dismissed or allowed an application to revise, set aside, or annul the award and there is no further appeal.

27. Each Party shall provide for the enforcement of an award in its territory.

Costs

28. Costs may also be awarded in accordance with the applicable arbitration rules.

29. The non-disputing Party shall not, in respect of a dispute which one of its investors has submitted to conciliation or arbitration in accordance with paragraph 7 of this Article, give diplomatic protection, or bring an international claim before another forum, unless the disputing Party has failed to abide by and comply with the award rendered in such dispute. Diplomatic protection, for the purposes of this paragraph, shall not include informal diplomatic exchanges for the sole purpose of facilitating a settlement of the dispute.

30. No Party shall prevent the disputing investor from seeking interim measures of protection, not involving the payment of damages or resolution of the substance of the matter in dispute before the courts or administrative tribunals of the disputing Party, prior to the institution of proceedings before any of the dispute settlement fora referred to in paragraph 7 of this Article, for the preservation of its rights and interests.

Governing Law

31. The tribunal shall decide the issues in dispute in accordance with this Agreement and the applicable rules of international law and where applicable, any relevant domestic law of the disputing Party.

ARTICLE 21 General Exceptions

1. Subject to the requirement that such measures are not applied in a manner which would constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination against or amongst the Parties, their investors, or their investments where like conditions prevail, or a disguised restriction on investors of any Party or their investments, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to prevent the adoption or enforcement by any Party of measures:

(a) necessary to protect public morals or to maintain public order;

(b) necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health;

(c) necessary to secure compliance with laws or regulations which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement including those relating to:

(i) the prevention of deceptive and fraudulent practices to deal with the effects of a default on a contract;

(ii) the protection of the privacy of individuals in relation to the processing and dissemination of personal data and the protection of confidentiality of individual records and accounts; and

(iii) safety;

(d) imposed for the protection of national treasures of artistic, historic or archaeological value; or

¹⁵The Parties understand that there may be domestic legal and administrative processes that need to be observed before an award can be complied with.

- (e) relating to the conservation of exhaustible natural resources if such measures are made effective in conjunction with restrictions on domestic production or consumption.
2. Insofar as measures affecting the supply of financial services are concerned, paragraph 2 (Domestic Regulation) of the *Annex on Financial Services of the General Agreement on Trade in Services in Annex 1B to the WTO Agreement* shall be incorporated into and form an integral part of this Agreement, *mutatis mutandis*.

ARTICLE 22

Security Exceptions

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed:
 - (a) to require any Party to furnish any information, the disclosure of which it considers contrary to its essential security interests; or
 - (b) to prevent any Party from taking any action which it considers necessary for the protection of its essential security interests, including but not limited to:
 - (i) action relating to fissionable and fusionable materials or the materials from which they are derived;
 - (ii) action taken in time of war or other emergency in domestic or international relations;
 - (iii) action relating to the traffic in arms, ammunition and implements of war and to such traffic in other goods and materials as is carried on directly or indirectly for the purpose of supplying a military establishment;
 - (iv) action taken so as to protect critical public infrastructure including communication, power and water infrastructures from deliberate attempts intended to disable or degrade such infrastructure; or
 - (c) to prevent a Party from taking any action in pursuance of its obligations under the *United Nations Charter* for the maintenance of international peace and security.
2. Each Party shall inform the other Party to the fullest extent possible of measures taken under subparagraphs 1(b) and (c) of this Article and of their termination.
3. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to require a Party to accord the benefits of this Agreement to an investor that is a juridical person of the other Party where a Party adopts or maintains measures in any legislation or regulations which it considers necessary for the protection of its essential security interests with respect to a non-Party or an investor of a non-Party that would be violated or circumvented if the benefits of this Agreement were accorded to such juridical person or to its investments.
4. Paragraph 3 of this Article shall be interpreted in accordance with the understanding of the Parties on Security Exceptions as set out in Annex 1, which shall form an integral part of this Agreement.
5. This Article shall be interpreted in accordance with the understanding of the Parties on non-justiciability of Security Exceptions as set out in Annex 2, which shall form an integral part of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 23

Joint Committee on Investment

1. A Joint Committee on Investment shall be established within one (1) year from the entry into force of this Agreement.
2. The functions of the Joint Committee shall be to:
 - (a) review the implementation and operation of this Agreement;
 - (b) submit a report to the Parties on the implementation and operation of this Agreement;
 - (c) consider and recommend to the Parties any amendments to this Agreement;
 - (d) supervise and coordinate the work of all Sub-Committees established under this Agreement; and
 - (e) carry out other functions as may be agreed by the Parties.

3. The Joint Committee on Investment:
 - (a) shall be composed of representatives of the Parties; and
 - (b) may establish Sub-Committees and delegate its responsibilities thereto.

ARTICLE 24 **Communications**

Each Party shall designate a contact point to facilitate communications among the Parties on any matter relating to this Agreement. All official communications in this regard shall be in the English language.

ARTICLE 25 **Annexes, Footnotes and Schedules**

The Annexes, footnotes and Schedules, to this Agreement shall constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 26 **Amendments**

This Agreement may be amended by agreement in writing by the Parties and such amendments shall come into force on such date or dates as may be agreed among them.

ARTICLE 27 **Withdrawal and Termination**

1. Any Party may withdraw from this Agreement by giving twelve (12) months advance notice in writing to the other Parties.
2. This Agreement shall terminate if, pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article:
 - (a) India withdraws; or
 - (b) this Agreement is in force for less than four (4) ASEAN Member States.
3. Any other Party may request in writing, consultations concerning any matter that would arise from the withdrawal within sixty (60) days

after the date of receipt of the notice in paragraph 1 of this Article. The requested Party shall enter into consultations in good faith upon receipt of the request.

ARTICLE 28 **Review**

Unless otherwise agreed, the Parties shall undertake a general review of this Agreement with a view to furthering its objectives within three (3) years from the date of the entry into force of the Agreement, and every three (3) years thereafter.

ARTICLE 29 **Depositary**

For the ASEAN Member States, this Agreement shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof to each ASEAN Member State.

ARTICLE 30 **Entry into Force**

1. Each Party shall notify the other Parties in writing upon completion of its internal requirements¹⁶ necessary for entry into force of this Agreement. This Agreement shall enter into force on 1 July 2015 for any Party that has made such notifications provided that India and at least four (4) ASEAN Member States have made such notifications by that date.
2. If this Agreement does not enter into force on 1 July 2015 it shall enter into force, for any Party that has made the notification referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, sixty (60) days after the date by which India and at least four (4) ASEAN Member States have made the notifications referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.
3. After the entry into force of this Agreement pursuant to paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article, this Agreement shall enter into force for any Party sixty (60) days after the date of its notifications referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

¹⁶For greater certainty, the term "internal requirements" may include obtaining governmental approval or parliamentary approval in accordance with domestic law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed the Agreement on Investment under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of India.

DONE at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, this Twelfth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen, in two original copies in the English Language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

LIM JOCK SENG

Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

For the Republic of India:

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN

Minister of State for Commerce and Industry

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

SUN CHANTHOL

Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce

For the Republic of Indonesia:

MUHAMMAD LUTFI

Minister of Trade

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

KHEMMANI PHOLSENA

Minister of Industry and Commerce

For Malaysia:

MUSTAPA MOHAMED

Minister of International Trade and Industry

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

KAN ZAW

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development

For the Republic of the Philippines:

GREGORY L. DOMINGO

Secretary of Trade and Industry

For the Republic of Singapore:

LIM HNG KIANG

Minister for Trade and Industry

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

CHUTIMA BUNYAPRAPHASARA

Permanent Secretary

Acting for the Minister of Commerce

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

VU HUY HOANG

Minister of Industry and Trade

Annex 1 Security Exceptions

The Parties confirm the following understanding with respect to interpretation and/or implementation of this Agreement:

- (a) the measures referred to in paragraph 3 of Article 22 (Security Exceptions) are measures where the intention and objective of the Party imposing the measures is for the protection of its essential security interests. These measures shall be imposed on a non-discriminatory basis and may be found in any of its legislation or regulations:
 - (i) In the case of India, the applicable measures referred to in paragraph 3 of Article 22 (Security Exceptions) are currently set out in the regulations framed under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999) (FEMA). India shall, upon request by another Party, provide information on the measures concerned;
 - (ii) In the case of ASEAN Member States, they do not presently adopt or maintain any unilateral measures against a non-Party or investor of a non-Party in its laws or regulations. This shall not preclude any ASEAN Member State from adopting similar measures against any non-Party or investor of a non-Party;
- (b) the measures which a Party adopts or maintains with respect to a non-Party or investors of a non-Party shall not impinge upon another Party's sovereign rights to conduct its foreign policy nor shall it prohibit juridical persons of foreign investors that are subject to such measures from establishing themselves in another Party.

Annex 2 Non-Justiciability of Security Exceptions

With respect to the interpretation and/or implementation of this Agreement, the Parties confirm their understanding that disputes submitted to arbitration pursuant to paragraphs 7 and 8 of Article 20 (Investment Disputes between a Party and an Investor), where the disputing Party asserts as a defence that the measure alleged to be a breach is within the scope of a security exception as set out in Article 22 (Security Exceptions), any decision of the disputing Party taken on such security considerations shall be non-justiciable in that it shall not be open to any arbitral tribunal to review the merits of any such decision, even where the arbitral proceedings concern an assessment of any claim for damages and/or compensation, or an adjudication of any other issues referred to the tribunal.

**Agreement on Trade in
Services under the Framework
Agreement on Comprehensive
Economic Cooperation between
the Association of Southeast
Asian Nations and the
Republic of India**

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**

PREAMBLE

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

RECALLING the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of India ("the Framework Agreement") signed by the Heads of Government/State of ASEAN Member States and India in Bali, Indonesia on the 8th day of October 2003 and the Protocol to Amend the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of India, signed in Bangkok, Thailand on the 13th day of August 2009;

RECALLING that Article 4 of the Framework Agreement calls on ASEAN and India to progressively liberalise and eliminate substantially all discrimination and/or prohibition of new or more discriminatory measures with respect to trade in services between the Parties, and to expand the depth and scope of such trade with substantial coverage beyond those undertaken by the Parties under the General Agreement on Trade in Services of the World Trade Organization (WTO);

STRIVING to enhance cooperation in services between the Parties in order to improve efficiency and competitiveness, as well as to diversify the supply and distribution of services of the respective service suppliers of the Parties, for implementation in accordance with the timeframes to be mutually agreed by the Parties to the Framework Agreement;

RECALLING the instruction from the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) – India Consultations held on the 28th day of August 2008 in Singapore for officials to commence, as soon as possible, negotiations on trade in services and investment as a single undertaking, and to work towards the conclusion of substantive discussions on these two agreements by 2009 to bring about a complete ASEAN-India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement;

REAFFIRMING that Article 2 of the Framework Agreement has provisions for special and differential treatment to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam; and for flexibility to the Parties to address their sensitive areas with such flexibilities to be negotiated and mutually agreed based on the principle of reciprocity and mutual benefits;

RECOGNISING the right of the Parties to regulate, and to introduce new regulations, on the supply of services in their respective territories in order to meet national policy objectives and, given asymmetries existing with respect to the degree of development of services regulation within the Parties, the particular need of the Parties to exercise this right;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

**PART I:
SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS**

**ARTICLE 1
Scope**

1. This Agreement applies to measures by the Parties affecting trade in services.
2. This Agreement shall not apply to:
 - (a) services supplied in the exercise of governmental authority within the territory of each Party;

- (b) laws, regulations, or requirements governing the procurement by governmental agencies of services purchased for governmental purposes and not with a view to commercial resale or with a view to use in the supply of services for commercial sale; and
- (c) cabotage in maritime transport services.

ARTICLE 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Agreement:

- (a) **a service supplied in the exercise of governmental authority** means any service which is supplied neither on a commercial basis, nor in competition with one or more service suppliers;
- (b) **commercial presence** means any type of business or professional establishment, including through:
 - (i) the constitution, acquisition or maintenance of a juridical person, or
 - (ii) the creation or maintenance of a branch or a representative office,
 within the territory of a Party for the purpose of supplying a service;
- (c) **direct taxes** comprise all taxes on total income, on total capital or on elements of income or of capital, including taxes on gains from the alienation of property, taxes on estates, inheritances and gifts, and taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises, as well as taxes on capital appreciation;
- (d) **GATS** means the General Agreement on Trade in Services;
- (e) **juridical person** means any legal entity duly constituted or otherwise organised under applicable law, whether for profit or otherwise, and whether privately-owned or governmentally-owned, including any corporation, trust, partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, or association;
- (f) **juridical person of another Party** means a juridical person which is either:
 - (i) constituted or otherwise organised under the law of that other Party, and is engaged

in substantive business operations in the territory of that Party or any other Party; or

- (ii) in the case of the supply of a service through commercial presence, owned or controlled by:
 - (AA) natural persons of that Party; or
 - (BB) juridical persons of that other Party identified under subparagraph (i);

(g) a **juridical person** is:

- (i) "owned" by persons of a Party if more than 50 per cent of the equity interest in it is beneficially owned by persons of that Party;
 - (ii) "controlled" by persons of a Party if such persons have the power to name a majority of its directors or otherwise to legally direct its actions;
 - (iii) "affiliated" with another person when it controls, or is controlled by, that other person; or when it and the other person are both controlled by the same person;
- (h) **licensing procedures** means administrative or procedural rules that a natural or a juridical person, seeking authorisation to supply a service, including the amendment or renewal of a license, must adhere to in order to demonstrate compliance with licensing requirements;
- (i) **licensing requirements** means substantive requirements, other than qualification requirements, with which a natural or a juridical person is required to comply in order to obtain, amend, or renew authorisation to supply a service;
- (j) **measure** means any measure by a Party, whether in the form of a law, regulation, rule, procedure, decision, administrative action, or any other form;
- (k) **measures by Parties** means measures taken by:
- (i) central, regional, or local governments and authorities; and
 - (ii) non-governmental bodies in the exercise of powers delegated by central, regional or local governments or authorities;

In fulfilling its obligations and commitments under the Agreement, each Party shall take such

reasonable measures as may be available to it to ensure their observance by regional and local governments and authorities and non-governmental bodies within its territory;

(l) **measures by Parties affecting trade in services** include measures in respect of:

- (i) the purchase, payment, or use of a service;
- (ii) the access to and use of, in connection with the supply of a service, services which are required by the Parties to be offered to the public generally;
- (iii) the presence, including commercial presence, of persons of a Party for the supply of a service in the territory of another Party;

(m) **monopoly supplier of a service** means any person, public or private, which in the relevant market of the territory of a Party is authorised or established formally or in effect by that Party as the sole supplier of that service;

(n) **natural person of another Party** means a natural person who resides in the territory of that other Party or elsewhere, and who under the law of that other Party:

- (i) is a national of that other Party; or
- (ii) has the right of permanent residence¹ in that other Party, in the case of a Party which accords substantially the same treatment to its permanent residents as it does to its nationals in respect of measures affecting trade in services, as notified after the entry into force of this Agreement provided that no Party is obliged to accord to such permanent residents treatment more favourable than would be accorded by that other Party to such permanent residents. Such notification shall include the assurance to assume, with respect to the permanent residents, in

¹ In the case of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam, and India, natural person of another Party shall be limited to a natural person who resides in the territory of that other Party or elsewhere and who under the law of that other Party is a national of that other Party. Therefore, in line with the principle of reciprocity, this Agreement shall not apply to the permanent residents of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam, and India. Once any of these Parties enacts its domestic law on the treatment of permanent residents of another Party or non-party, there shall be negotiations on the issue of whether to include permanent residents in the coverage of natural person under this Agreement in respect of that Party.

accordance with its laws and regulations, the same responsibilities that other Party bears with respect to its nationals;

(o) **Parties** means the ASEAN Member States and India, collectively;

(p) **Party** means an ASEAN Member State or India;

(q) **person** means either a natural person or a juridical person;

(r) **qualification procedures** means administrative or procedural rules that a natural person must adhere to in order to demonstrate compliance with qualification requirements, for the purpose of obtaining authorisation to supply a service;

(s) **qualification requirements** means substantive requirements relating to the competence of a natural person to supply a service, and which are required to be demonstrated for the purpose of obtaining authorisation to supply a service;

(t) **sector** of a service means,

- (i) with reference to a specific commitment, one or more, or all, subsectors of that service, as specified in a Party's Schedule,
- (ii) otherwise, the whole of that service sector, including all of its subsectors;

(u) **services** includes any service in any sector except services supplied in the exercise of governmental authority;

(v) **service consumer** means any person that receives or uses a service;

(w) **service of another Party** means a service which is supplied,

- (i) from or in the territory of that other Party, or in the case of maritime transport, by a vessel registered under the laws of that other Party, or by a person of that other Party which supplies the service through the operation of a vessel and/or its use in whole or in part; or
- (ii) in the case of the supply of a service through commercial presence or through the presence of natural persons, by a service supplier of that other Party;

- (x) **service supplier** means any person that supplies a service;²
 - (y) **supply of a service** includes the production, distribution, marketing, sale and delivery of a service;
 - (z) **technical standards** means measures that lay down the characteristics of a service or the manner in which it is supplied. Technical standards also include the procedures relating to the enforcement of such standards;
- (aa) **trade in services** is defined as the supply of a service:
- (i) from the territory of a Party into the territory of any other Party (“cross-border”);
 - (ii) in the territory of a Party to the service consumer of any other Party (“consumption abroad”);
 - (iii) by a service supplier of a Party, through commercial presence in the territory of any other Party (“commercial presence”);
 - (iv) by a service supplier of a Party, through presence of natural persons of a Party in the territory of any other Party (“presence of natural persons”).

PART II: OBLIGATIONS AND DISCIPLINES

ARTICLE 3 Transparency

1. Each Party shall publish promptly and, except in emergency situations, at the latest by the time of their entry into force, all relevant measures of general application which pertain to or affect the operation of this Agreement. International agreements pertaining to or affecting trade in services to which a Party is a signatory shall also be published.

² Where the service is not supplied directly by a juridical person but through other forms of commercial presence such as a branch or a representative office, the service supplier (i.e. the juridical person) shall, nonetheless, through such presence be accorded the treatment provided for service suppliers under this Agreement. Such treatment shall be extended to the presence through which the service is supplied and need not be extended to any other parts of the supplier located outside the territory where the service is supplied.

2. Where publication as referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article is not practicable, such information shall be made otherwise publicly available.
3. Each Party shall respond promptly to all requests by any other Party for specific information on any of its measures of general application or international agreements within the meaning of paragraph 1 of this Article. Each Party shall also establish one or more enquiry points to provide specific information to any other Party, upon request, on all such matters.

ARTICLE 4

Disclosure of Confidential Information

Article III *bis* of the GATS is, *mutatis mutandis*, incorporated into and shall form an integral part of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 5

Domestic Regulation

1. In sectors where specific commitments are undertaken under Part III of this Agreement, each Party shall ensure that all measures of general application affecting trade in services are administered in a reasonable, objective, and impartial manner.
2. (a) Each Party shall maintain or institute as soon as practicable judicial, arbitral or administrative tribunals or procedures which provide, at the request of an affected service supplier, for the prompt review of, and where justified, appropriate remedies for, administrative decisions affecting trade in services. Where such procedures are not independent of the agency entrusted with the administrative decision concerned, the Party shall ensure that the procedures in fact provide for an objective and impartial review.
- (b) The provisions of paragraph 2(a) of this Article shall not be construed to require a Party to institute such tribunals or procedures where this would be inconsistent with its constitutional structure or the nature of its legal system provided, however, that in the event separate tribunals or procedures cannot be constituted,

- the relevant Party shall ensure that adequate remedies are available for the affected services supplier referred to in paragraph 2(a) of this Article through the ordinary judicial or quasi-judicial procedure of that Party³.
3. Where authorisation is required for the supply of a service on which a specific commitment under this Agreement has been made, the competent authorities of each Party shall:
 - (a) within a reasonable period of time after the submission of an application considered complete under domestic laws and regulations, inform the applicant of the decision concerning the application;
 - (b) at the request of the applicant, without undue delay, provide information concerning the status of the application, including incomplete application. In the case of an incomplete application, identify all the additional information that is required to complete the application and provide an opportunity to the applicant to remedy deficiencies within a reasonable timeframe;
 - (c) if an application is terminated or denied, to the maximum extent possible, inform the applicant in writing, without undue delay, the reasons for such action. The applicant will have the possibility of resubmitting, at its discretion, a new application.
 4. With the objective of ensuring that measures relating to qualification requirements and procedures, technical standards and licensing requirements do not constitute unnecessary barriers to trade in services, the Parties shall jointly review the results of the negotiations on disciplines on these measures, pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article VI of the GATS, with a view to their incorporation into this Agreement. The Parties note that such disciplines aim to ensure that such requirements are, *inter alia*:
 - (a) based on objective and transparent criteria, such as competence and the ability to supply the service;
 - (b) not more burdensome than necessary to ensure the quality of the service;
 - (c) in the case of licensing procedures, not in themselves a restriction on the supply of the service.
 5. (a) In sectors in which a Party has undertaken specific commitments under Part III of this Agreement, pending the incorporation of the disciplines referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article, that Party shall not apply licensing and qualification requirements and technical standards that nullify or impair its obligation under this Agreement in a manner which:
 - (i) does not comply with the criteria outlined in paragraphs 4(a), (b) or (c) of this Article; and
 - (ii) could not reasonably have been expected of that Party at the time the specific commitments in those sectors were made.
 - (b) In determining whether a Party is in conformity with the obligation under paragraph 5(a) of this Article, account shall be taken of international standards of relevant international organisations⁴ applied by that Party.
 6. In sectors where specific commitments regarding professional services are undertaken, each Party shall provide for adequate procedures to verify the competence of professionals of any other Party in accordance with provisions in paragraph 5 of this Article.

ARTICLE 6

Recognition

1. For the purposes of fulfilment of their respective standards or criteria for the authorisation, licensing or certification of service suppliers, each Party may recognise the education or experience obtained, requirements met, or licenses or certifications granted in another Party. Such recognition, which may be achieved through harmonisation or otherwise, may be based upon an agreement or arrangement between the Parties or the relevant competent bodies or may be accorded autonomously.

³ For greater certainty, the application of this paragraph shall be governed by the respective laws and regulations of the Parties.

⁴ The term "relevant international organisations" refers to international bodies whose membership is open to the relevant bodies of all Parties to this Agreement.

2. A Party that is a party to an agreement or arrangement of the type referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, whether existing or future, shall afford adequate opportunity for other interested Parties to negotiate their accession to such an agreement or arrangement or to negotiate comparable ones with it. Where a Party accords recognition autonomously, it shall afford adequate opportunity for any other Party to demonstrate that education, experience, licenses, or certifications obtained or requirements met in that other Party's territory should be recognised.
3. Upon request being made in writing by a Party to the other Party, the Parties shall encourage their respective professional bodies or professional regulatory authorities, in any regulated services sector of mutual interest to negotiate and conclude within 12 months or a reasonable timeframe to be mutually agreed between the professional bodies of both Parties, any arrangement for mutual recognition of education, or experience obtained, requirements met, or licenses or certifications granted in that service sector, with a view to the achievement of early outcomes. Any delay or failure by these professional bodies to reach and conclude agreement on the details of such agreements or arrangements shall not be regarded as a breach of a Party's obligations under this paragraph and shall not be subject to the Agreement on Dispute Settlement Mechanism under the Framework Agreement (ASEAN-India DSM Agreement). Progress in this regard will be reviewed by the Parties in the course of the review of this Agreement pursuant to Article 27 (Review).
4. Where harmonisation, agreement or arrangement as provided in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article does not exist, each Party shall leave any consideration on mutual recognition or licensing to relevant professional bodies or professional regulatory authorities in its territory in accordance with domestic laws and regulations of the host country.
5. A Party shall not accord recognition in a manner which would constitute a means of discrimination between countries in the application of its standards or criteria for the authorisation, licensing or certification of services suppliers, or a disguised restriction on trade in services.
6. The Parties agree that they shall not be responsible in any way for the settlement of disputes arising out of or under the agreements or arrangements for mutual recognition concluded by their respective professional bodies or professional regulatory authorities under the provisions of this Article and that the provisions of the ASEAN-India DSM Agreement shall not apply to disputes arising out of, or under, the provisions of such agreements or arrangements.

ARTICLE 7

Monopolies and Exclusive Service Suppliers

1. Each Party shall ensure that any monopoly supplier of a service in its territory does not, in the supply of the monopoly service in the relevant market, act in a manner inconsistent with that Party's obligations under specific commitments.
2. Where a Party's monopoly supplier competes, either directly or through an affiliated company, in the supply of a service outside the scope of its monopoly rights and which is subject to that Party's specific commitments, the Party shall ensure that such a supplier does not abuse its monopoly position to act in its territory in a manner inconsistent with such commitments.
3. If any Party has reason to believe that a monopoly supplier of a service of any other Party is acting in a manner inconsistent with paragraphs 1 or 2 of this Article, that Party may request the Party establishing, maintaining or authorising such supplier to provide specific information concerning the relevant operations.
4. The provisions of this Article shall also apply to cases of exclusive service suppliers, where a Party, formally or in effect,
 - (a) authorises or establishes a small number of service suppliers; and
 - (b) substantially prevents competition among those suppliers in its territory.

ARTICLE 8
Business Practices

1. The Parties recognise that certain business practices of services suppliers, other than those falling under Article 7 (Monopolies and Exclusive Service Suppliers), may restrain competition and thereby restrict trade in services.
2. Each Party shall, at the request of any other Party, enter into consultations with a view to eliminating practices referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article. The Party addressed shall accord full and sympathetic consideration to such a request and shall cooperate through the supply of publicly available non-confidential information of relevance to the matter in question. The Party addressed shall also provide other information available to the requesting Party, subject to its domestic law and to the conclusion of satisfactory agreement concerning the safeguarding of its confidentiality by the requesting Party.

ARTICLE 9
Safeguards

1. The Parties note the multilateral negotiations pursuant to Article X of the GATS on the question of emergency safeguard measures based on the principle of non-discrimination. Upon the conclusion of such multilateral negotiations, the Parties shall conduct a review for the purpose of discussing appropriate amendments to this Agreement so as to incorporate the results of such multilateral negotiations. Until such a time, no Party shall take safeguard actions against services and service suppliers of the other Party or Parties, except in accordance with the procedure as detailed in paragraph 2 of this Article.
2. In the event that the implementation of this Agreement causes substantial adverse impact to a service sector of a Party before the conclusion of the multilateral negotiations referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the affected Party may request for consultations with the other Party or Parties for the purposes of discussing any safeguard measures with respect to the affected service sector. Any measure taken pursuant to this paragraph, including the duration for which the measure shall apply, shall be mutually agreed

by the Parties concerned, shall be applicable based on the principle of non-discrimination, and shall be limited to the specific service sector. The Parties concerned shall take into account the circumstances of the particular case and give sympathetic consideration to the Party seeking to take a measure.

ARTICLE 10
Payments and Transfers

1. Except under the circumstances envisaged in Article 11 (Restrictions to Safeguard the Balance of Payments), a Party shall not apply restrictions on international transfers and payments for current transactions relating to its specific commitments.
2. Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the rights and obligations of any Party who is a member of the International Monetary Fund under the Articles of Agreement of the Fund, including the use of exchange actions which are in conformity with the Articles of Agreement of the Fund, provided that a Party shall not impose restrictions on any capital transactions inconsistently with its specific commitments regarding such transactions, except under Article 11 (Restrictions to Safeguard the Balance of Payments) or at the request of the Fund.

ARTICLE 11
Restrictions to Safeguard the Balance of Payments

Where a Party is in serious balance of payments and external financial difficulties or threat thereof, it may adopt or maintain restrictions on trade in services in accordance with paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of Article XII of the GATS.

ARTICLE 12
General Exceptions

Subject to the requirement that such measures are not applied in a manner which would constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination between Parties where like conditions prevail, or a disguised restriction on trade in services, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to prevent the adoption or enforcement by any Party of measures:

- (a) necessary to protect public morals or to maintain public order;⁵
- (b) necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health;
- (c) necessary to secure compliance with laws or regulations which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement including those relating to:
 - (i) the prevention of deceptive and fraudulent practices or to deal with the effects of a default on services contracts;
 - (ii) the protection of the privacy of individuals in relation to the processing and dissemination of personal data and the protection of confidentiality of individual records and accounts;
 - (iii) safety;
- (d) inconsistent with Article 18 (National Treatment), provided that the difference in treatment is aimed at ensuring the equitable or effective⁶ imposition or collection of direct taxes in respect of services or service suppliers of other Parties;
- (e) resulting in difference in treatment provided that the difference in treatment is the result of an

⁵ The public order exception may be invoked only where a genuine and sufficiently serious threat is posed to one of the fundamental interests of society.

⁶ Measures that are aimed at ensuring the equitable or effective imposition or collection of direct taxes include measures taken by a Party under its taxation system which:

- (i) apply to non-resident service suppliers in recognition of the fact that the tax obligation of non-residents is determined with respect to taxable items sourced or located in the Party's territory; or
- (ii) apply to non-residents in order to ensure the imposition or collection of taxes in the Party's territory; or
- (iii) apply to non-residents or residents in order to prevent the avoidance or evasion of taxes, including compliance measures; or
- (iv) apply to consumers of services supplied in or from the territory of another Party in order to ensure the imposition or collection of taxes on such consumers derived from sources in the Party's territory; or
- (v) distinguish service suppliers subject to tax on worldwide taxable items from other service suppliers, in recognition of the difference in the nature of the tax base between them; or
- (vi) determine, allocate or apportion income, profit, gain, loss, deduction or credit of resident persons or branches, or between related persons or branches of the same person, in order to safeguard the Party's tax base.

Tax terms or concepts in subparagraph (d) of this Article and in this footnote are determined according to tax definitions and concepts, or equivalent or similar definitions and concepts, under the domestic law of the Party taking the measure.

agreement on the avoidance of double taxation or provisions on the avoidance of double taxation in any other international agreement or arrangement by which the Party is bound.

ARTICLE 13 **Security Exceptions**

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed:
 - (a) to require any Party to furnish any information, the disclosure of which it considers contrary to its essential security interests; or
 - (b) to prevent any Party from taking any action which it considers necessary for the protection of its essential security interests, including but not limited to:
 - (i) action relating to fissionable and fusionable materials or the materials from which they are derived;
 - (ii) action relating to the traffic in arms, ammunition and implements of war and to such traffic in other goods and materials as is carried on directly or indirectly for the purpose of supplying a military establishment;
 - (iii) action taken so as to protect critical public infrastructures including communication, power and water infrastructures from deliberate attempts intended to disable or degrade such infrastructure;
 - (iv) action taken in time of war or other emergency in domestic or international relations; or
 - (c) to prevent any Party from taking any action in pursuance of its obligations under the United Nations Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security.
2. Each Party shall inform the other Parties to the fullest extent possible of measures taken under paragraphs 1(b) and 1(c) of this Article and of their termination.
3. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to require a Party to accord the benefits of this Agreement to a service supplier of another Party where a Party adopts or maintains measures in any legislation or regulation which it considers

necessary for the protection of its essential security interest with respect to a non-Party or a service supplier of a non-Party that would be violated or circumvented if the benefits of this Agreement were accorded to such service supplier.

ARTICLE 14 **Subsidies**

1. Except where provided in this Article, this Agreement shall not apply to subsidies or grants provided by a Party, or to any conditions attached to the receipt or continued receipt of such subsidies or grants, whether or not such subsidies or grants are offered exclusively to domestic services, service consumers, or service suppliers. If such subsidies or grants significantly affect trade in services committed under this Agreement, any Party may request for consultations with a view to an amicable resolution of this matter.
2. Pursuant to this Agreement, the Parties shall:
 - (a) on request, provide information on subsidies related to trade in services committed under this Agreement to any requesting Party; and
 - (b) review the treatment of subsidies when relevant disciplines are developed by the WTO.
3. The provisions of the ASEAN-India DSM Agreement shall not apply to any request made or consultation held under the provisions of this Article or to any dispute that may arise between the Parties under the provisions of this Article.

ARTICLE 15 **Cooperation**

The Parties shall strengthen cooperation efforts in services sectors, including sectors which are not covered by existing cooperation arrangements. The Parties shall discuss and mutually agree on the sectors for cooperation and develop cooperation programmes in these sectors in order to improve their domestic capacities, efficiencies and competitiveness.

ARTICLE 16

Increasing Participation of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam.

1. The increasing participation of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam in this Agreement shall be facilitated through negotiated specific commitments, relating to:
 - (a) the strengthening of their domestic services capacity and its efficiency and competitiveness, *inter alia*, through access to technology on a commercial basis;
 - (b) the improvement of their access to distribution channels and information networks on a commercial basis; and
 - (c) the liberalisation of market access in sectors and modes of supply of export interest to them.
2. Appropriate flexibility shall be accorded to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam for progressive liberalisation in terms of specific commitments undertaken in line with their respective stage of development.

PART III: SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS

ARTICLE 17 **Market Access**

1. With respect to market access through the modes of supply identified in paragraph (aa) of Article 2 (Definitions) of this Agreement, a Party shall accord services and service suppliers of any other Party treatment no less favourable than that provided for under the terms, limitations and conditions agreed and specified in its Schedule.⁷
2. In sectors where market access commitments are undertaken, the measures which a Party shall not

⁷ If a Party undertakes a market-access commitment in relation to the supply of a service through the mode of supply referred to in paragraph (aa)(i) of Article 2 (Definitions) of this Agreement and if the cross-border movement of capital is an essential part of the service itself, that Party is thereby committed to allow such movement of capital. If a Party undertakes a market-access commitment in relation to the supply of a service through the mode of supply referred to in paragraph (aa)(iii) of Article 2 (Definitions) of this Agreement, it is thereby committed to allow related transfers of capital into its territory.

maintain or adopt either on the basis of a regional subdivision or on the basis of its entire territory, unless otherwise specified in its Schedule, are defined as:

- (a) limitations on the number of service suppliers whether in the form of numerical quotas, monopolies, exclusive service suppliers or the requirements of an economic needs test;
- (b) limitations on the total value of service transactions or assets in the form of numerical quotas or the requirement of an economic needs test;
- (c) limitations on the total number of service operations or on the total quantity of service output expressed in terms of designated numerical units in the form of quotas or the requirement of an economic needs test;⁸
- (d) limitations on the total number of natural persons that may be employed in a particular service sector or that a service supplier may employ and who are necessary for, and directly related to, the supply of a specific service in the form of numerical quotas or the requirement of an economic needs test;
- (e) measures which restrict or require specific types of legal entity or joint venture through which a service supplier may supply a service; and
- (f) limitations on the participation of foreign capital in terms of maximum percentage limit on foreign shareholding or the total value of individual or aggregate foreign investment.

ARTICLE 18 **National Treatment**

1. In the sectors inscribed in its Schedule, and subject to any conditions and qualifications set out therein, each Party shall accord to services and service suppliers of any other Party, in respect of all measures affecting the supply of services, treatment no less favourable than that it accords to its own like services and service suppliers⁹.

⁸ Paragraph 2(c) of this Article does not cover measures of a Party which limit inputs for the supply of services.

⁹ Specific commitments assumed under this Article shall not be construed to require any Party to compensate for any inherent competitive disadvantages which result from the foreign character of the relevant services or service suppliers.

2. A Party may meet the requirement of paragraph 1 of this Article by according to services and service suppliers of any other Party, either formally identical treatment or formally different treatment to that it accords to its own like services and service suppliers.
3. Formally identical or formally different treatment shall be considered to be less favourable if it modifies the conditions of competition in favour of services or service suppliers of the Party compared to like services or service suppliers of any other Party.

ARTICLE 19 **Additional Commitments**

The Parties may negotiate commitments with respect to measures affecting trade in services not subject to scheduling under Article 17 (Market Access) and Article 18 (National Treatment), including those regarding qualifications, standards or licensing matters. Such commitments shall be inscribed in a Party's Schedule.

ARTICLE 20 **Schedules of Specific Commitments**

1. Each Party shall set out in a schedule the specific commitments it undertakes under Article 17 (Market Access), Article 18 (National Treatment), and Article 19 (Additional Commitments). With respect to sectors where such commitments are undertaken, each Schedule shall specify:
 - (a) the sectors in which such commitments are undertaken;
 - (b) terms, limitations and conditions on market access;
 - (c) conditions and qualifications on national treatment;
 - (d) undertakings relating to additional commitments; and
 - (e) where appropriate the timeframe for implementation of such commitments.
2. Measures inconsistent with both Articles 17 (Market Access) and 18 (National Treatment) shall be inscribed in the column relating to Article 17 (Market Access). In this case the inscription will be

considered to provide a condition or qualification to Article 18 (National Treatment) as well.

3. Where commitments are undertaken on the movement of natural persons, they shall include any one or more of the categories of natural persons as defined in Annex on Movement of Natural Persons subject to paragraph 1 of this Article.
4. The Parties' schedules of specific commitments shall be annexed to this Agreement upon completion of the negotiations and shall form an integral part thereof.

ARTICLE 21

Application and Extension of Commitments

1. India shall make a single schedule of specific commitments under Article 20 (Schedules of Specific Commitments) and shall apply this Schedule to Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam, and separate individual schedules of specific commitments to Indonesia and the Philippines, respectively.
2. Each ASEAN Member State shall make its individual schedule of specific commitments under Article 20 (Schedules of Specific Commitments) and shall apply this Schedule to India and the rest of the ASEAN Member States.

ARTICLE 22

Modification of Schedules

1. A Party may modify or withdraw any commitment in its Schedule, at any time after three years from the date on which that commitment has entered into force provided that:
 - (a) it notifies the Joint Committee on Services of its intention to modify or withdraw a commitment no later than three months before the intended date of implementation of the modification or withdrawal; and
 - (b) it enters into negotiations with any affected Party to agree to the necessary compensatory adjustment.
2. In achieving a compensatory adjustment, Parties shall ensure that the general level of mutually

advantageous commitment is not less favourable to trade than provided for in the Schedules prior to such negotiations.

3. Any compensatory adjustment pursuant to this Article shall be accorded on a non-discriminatory basis to all Parties.
4. If the Parties concerned are unable to reach an agreement on the compensatory adjustment, the matter shall be resolved under the ASEAN-India DSM Agreement. The modifying Party may not modify or withdraw its commitment until it has made compensatory adjustments in conformity with the findings of the arbitration.
5. If the modifying Party implements its proposed modification or withdrawal and does not comply with the findings of the arbitration, any Party that participated in the arbitration may modify or withdraw substantially equivalent benefits in conformity with those findings. Notwithstanding Article 21 (Application and Extension of Commitments), such a modification or withdrawal may be implemented solely with respect to the modifying Party.

PART IV: OTHER PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 23

Relation to Other Agreements

1. Each Party reaffirms its rights and obligations vis-à-vis another Party under the WTO Agreement and other agreements to which these Parties are party.
2. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to derogate from any right or obligation of a Party under the WTO Agreement and other agreements to which these Parties are party.
3. In the event of any inconsistency between this Agreement and any other agreement to which two or more Parties are party, such Parties shall immediately consult with a view to finding a mutually satisfactory solution.
4. Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent any individual ASEAN Member State from entering into any agreement with any one or more ASEAN Member State and/or India.

5. This Agreement shall not apply to any agreement among ASEAN Member States or to any agreement between any ASEAN Member State and India unless otherwise agreed by the parties to that agreement.

ARTICLE 24

Annexes and Future Legal Instruments

1. The Annexes shall form an integral part of this Agreement.
2. The Parties may adopt legal instruments in the future pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement, including those proposed to them by the Joint Committee on Services. Upon their respective entry into force, such instruments shall form an integral part of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 25

Contact Point

1. Each Party shall designate a contact point to facilitate communications between the Parties on any matter covered by this Agreement, including the exchange of information relevant to the implementation and operation of this Agreement.
2. At the request of any Party, the contact point of the requested Party shall identify the office or official responsible for the matter and assist in facilitating communication with the requesting Party.

ARTICLE 26

Joint Committee on Services

1. A Joint Committee on Services shall be established under this Agreement within one year upon entry into force of this Agreement.
2. The functions of the Joint Committee on Services shall be to:
 - (a) review the implementation and operation of this Agreement;
 - (b) submit a report to the Parties on the implementation and operation of this Agreement;
 - (c) consider and recommend to the Parties any amendments to this Agreement;

- (d) supervise and coordinate the work of all Sub-Committees established under this Agreement; and
- (e) carry out other functions as may be agreed by the Parties.

3. The Joint Committee on Services:

- (a) shall be composed of representatives of the Parties; and
- (b) may establish Sub-Committees and delegate its responsibilities thereto.

ARTICLE 27

Review

The Joint Committee on Services shall meet within one year from the date of entry into force of this Agreement to review the implementation and operation of this Agreement or as mutually agreed by the Parties. Thereafter, biennially or otherwise as appropriate the Joint Committee on Services shall review this Agreement, including for the purpose of progressively liberalising trade in services as well as developing disciplines and negotiating subsequent packages of commitments as may be agreed, with a view to facilitate the elimination of substantially all remaining discriminations between the Parties with regard to trade in services covered under this Agreement, including the Annex on Movement of Natural Persons.

ARTICLE 28

Miscellaneous Provisions

1. The GATS Annexes, namely: Annex on Movement of Natural Persons Supplying Services, Annex on Air Transport Services, Annex on Financial Services, and Annex on Telecommunications shall apply to this Agreement, *mutatis mutandis*.
2. This Agreement shall include (a) the Annexes including the Annex on Movement of Natural Persons agreed under this Agreement and the contents therein which shall form an integral part of this Agreement, and (b) all future legal instruments agreed pursuant to this Agreement.
3. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, this Agreement or any action taken under it shall not affect or nullify the rights and obligations of a Party under existing agreements to which it is a party.

ARTICLE 29
Amendments

This Agreement may be amended by agreement in writing by the Parties and such amendments shall enter into force on such date or dates as may be agreed by the Parties.

ARTICLE 30
Dispute Settlement

Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, any dispute concerning the interpretation, implementation, or application of this Agreement shall be resolved through the procedures and mechanisms as set out in the ASEAN-India DSM Agreement.

ARTICLE 31
Denial of Benefits

A Party may deny the benefits of this Agreement:

- (a) to the supply of a service, if it establishes that the service is supplied from or in the territory of a non-Party;
- (b) in the case of the supply of a maritime transport service, if it establishes that the service is supplied:
 - (i) by a vessel registered under the laws of a non-Party; and
 - (ii) by a person of a non-Party which operates and/or uses the vessel in whole or in part;
- (c) to a service supplier of another Party where a Party establishes that:
 - (i) where such service supplier is a natural person, such natural person is not a "natural person of another Party" as defined under this Agreement; and
 - (ii) where such service supplier is a juridical person, such person is not a "juridical person of another Party" as defined under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 32
Entry into Force

1. Each Party shall notify the other Party in writing upon completion of its internal requirements¹⁰ necessary for entry into force of this Agreement. This Agreement shall enter into force on 1 July

2015 for any Party that has made such notifications provided that India and at least four (4) ASEAN Member States have made such notifications by that date.

2. If this Agreement does not enter into force on 1 July 2015 it shall enter into force, for any Party that has made the notification referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article, sixty (60) days after the date by which India and at least four (4) ASEAN Member States have made the notifications referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article.
3. After the entry into force of this Agreement pursuant to Paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article, this Agreement shall enter into force for any Party sixty (60) days after the date of its notification referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article.

ARTICLE 33
Depositary

For the ASEAN Member States, this Agreement shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN, who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof, to each ASEAN Member State.

ARTICLE 34
Withdrawal and Termination

1. Any Party may withdraw from this Agreement by giving 12 months advance notice in writing to the other Parties.
2. This Agreement shall terminate if, pursuant to paragraph 1:
 - (a) India withdraws; or
 - (b) this Agreement is in force for less than four ASEAN Member States.
3. The other Parties may request in writing consultations concerning any matter that would arise from the withdrawal within 60 days after the date of receipt of the notice in paragraph 1 of this Article. The requested Party shall enter into consultations in good faith upon receipt of the request.

¹⁰ For greater certainty, the term "internal requirements" may include obtaining governmental approval or parliamentary approval in accordance with domestic law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed the Agreement on Trade in Services under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of India.

DONE at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar this Thirteenth day of November in the year Two Thousand and Fourteenth in two original copies in the English Language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

LIM JOCK SENG

Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

SUN CHANTHOL

Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce

For the Republic of Indonesia:

MUHAMMAD LUTFI

Minister of Trade

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

KHEMMANI PHOLSENA

Minister of Industry and Commerce

For Malaysia:

MUSTAPA MOHAMED

Minister of International Trade and Industry

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

KAN ZAW

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development

For the Republic of the Philippines:

GREGORY L. DOMINGO

Secretary of Trade and Industry

For the Republic of Singapore:

LIM HNG KIANG

Minister for Trade and Industry

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

CHUTIMA BUNYAPRAPHASARA

Permanent Secretary

Acting for the Minister of Commerce

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

VU HUY HOANG

Minister of Industry and Trade

For the Republic of India:

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN

Minister of State for Commerce and Industry

Annex on Movement of Natural Persons

For the purposes of this Agreement:

- (a) **Business Visitor** means a natural person seeking to enter the territory of another Party temporarily, whose remuneration is derived outside that other Party:
- (i) for negotiating sale of goods or supply of services on behalf of a service supplier of a Party where such negotiations do not involve making direct sales to the general public and the representative of the service supplier is not involved in supplying services directly; or
 - (ii) as an employee of a juridical person who is a manager, an executive or a specialist (as defined in paragraphs (c)(i), (c)(ii) and (c)(iii) of this Annex) for the purpose of establishing an investment or setting up a commercial presence for the juridical person in the territory of another Party; or
 - (iii) for the purpose of establishing an investment or setting up a commercial presence; or
 - (iv) for the purpose of participating in business negotiations or business meetings.
- (b) **Contractual Service Supplier**¹¹ means an employee of a juridical person of a Party which does not have commercial presence in another Party where the services will be provided, who:
- (i) enters the territory of that other Party temporarily in order to perform a service pursuant to a contract(s) between the employer and a service consumer(s)¹² in the territory of that other Party;
 - (ii) receives remuneration from his or her employer; and
 - (iii) must possess the appropriate educational and other qualifications relevant to the service to be provided and has obtained, wherever

¹¹ For greater certainty, in the case of the Philippines, Contractual Service Supplier **covers this definition, and also (a)** is either an executive, manager, or specialist as may be specified in the schedule of commitments, and (b) has been an employee of the juridical person for a period as specified in the schedule of commitments of each Party preceding the date of the application for entry or temporary stay.

¹² In the case of Indonesia, Thailand and Viet Nam, the service consumer(s) have to be juridical person(s).

necessary, registration with the relevant professional body.

- (c) **Intra-Corporate Transferee (ICT)** refers to an employee of a juridical person of a Party as defined in this Agreement who is transferred temporarily for the supply of a service through commercial presence in the territory of another Party, and has been an employee of that juridical person for a period as may be specified in the schedule of commitments, and who is:
- (i) an **Executive**: a natural person within the organisation who primarily directs the management of the organisation and exercises wide latitude in decision making and receives only general supervision or direction from higher level executives, the board of directors, or stockholders of the business. Executives would not directly perform tasks necessary for the provision of the service to the extent that this does not prevent the Executive, in the course of executing his duties as described above, from performing such tasks as may be necessary for the provision of the service;
 - (ii) a **Manager**: a natural person within the organisation who primarily directs the organisation/department/ subdivision and exercises supervisory and control function over other supervisory, managerial or professional staff; does not include first line supervisors unless employees supervised are professionals, nor does it include employees who directly perform tasks necessary for the provision of the service provided that this does not prevent the Manager, in the course of executing his duties as described above, from performing tasks as may be necessary for the provision of the service; or
 - (iii) a **Specialist**: a natural person within the organisation who possesses knowledge at an advanced level of expertise essential to the establishment/provision of the service and/or possesses relevant knowledge of the organisation's service, research equipment, techniques or management. A specialist may include, but is not limited to, members of a licensed profession.

ASEAN – Japan

Joint Media Statement of the 20th AEM-METI Consultations

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 26 August 2014

1. The ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan met on 26 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar for the Twentieth AEM-METI Consultations. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw Union Minister for Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar and H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry Japan.
2. The Ministers noted the performance of ASEAN-Japan bilateral trade and investment. Two-way trade between ASEAN and Japan reached US\$240.9 billion in 2013, accounting for 9.6% of total ASEAN trade. Japan was ASEAN's third largest trading partner after China and EU Foreign direct investment (FD flows from Japan to ASEAN mounted to US\$ 22.9 billion in 2013. Japan remained the second largest source of FDI for ASEAN, accounting for 18.7% of total FDI inflows into ASEAN in 2013.

ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap

3. The Ministers welcomed the Leaders' commitment expressed at the ASEAN-Japan 40th Year Commemorative Summit in December last year to accelerate the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap. The Ministers noted the recommendations from the ASEAN-Japan Economic Forum, held on the sidelines of the Commemorative Summit, which include among others, prioritising areas for implementation under the Roadmap.
4. The Ministers were pleased with the improvements made on the Roadmap which incorporated the recommendations from the ASEAN-Japan Economic Forum and included, among others,

support for the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015, timely completion of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations, increased business partnership between ASEAN and Japan, closer cooperation in intellectual property, as well as increased technology transfer from Japan to ASEAN.

5. The Ministers welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the Roadmap for 2013-2014 including the development of the ASEAN-Japan Chemical Safety Database, "local-to-local" cooperation between ASEAN and Japan, and Japan's support for the Strategic Action Plan for SME development post-2015.

Dialogue between Secretary-General of ASEAN with the Federation of Japanese Chambers of Commerce and Industry in ASEAN (FJCCIA)

6. The Ministers were pleased with the outcomes of the 7th Dialogue between the Secretary-General of ASEAN and the FJCCIA held on 24 June 2014 in Manila, the Philippines. The Minister noted the appreciation of Japanese business community on the abolition of FOB pricing disclosure in certificates of origin, and the implementation of services liberalisation across sectors.
7. The Ministers underscored the importance of the Dialogue and welcomed the rising interest of Japanese business communities in ASEAN in the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015 and deepened economic integration in the region. The Ministers noted the FJCCIA's request for higher level of ambition of the RCEP, establishment of the ASEAN highway and trans-boundary special economic zone, secured supply of energy, development of human resources, and enhancement of public-private partnership (PPP) scheme.

1st ASEAN-Japan Public-Private Dialogue on New Industries

8. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the 1st ASEAN-Japan Public Private Dialogue on New Industries held on 26 August 2014, particularly on the recommendations to nurture new industries in areas such as energy, healthcare, and content

industries for incorporation into the ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap and tasked officials to look at the recommendations and promote dialogues and collaboration opportunities between ASEAN and Japan businesses in these sectors.

9. The Dialogue highlighted, amongst others, the importance of promotion of high efficiency coal fired power plant as one of the pragmatic measures to address climate change, also pointed out the importance of preventive medicine including medical check-up and continuous discussion and knowledge sharing on content business to enhance cross-border content distribution.

ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement

10. The Ministers reaffirmed the Leaders' commitments to enhance ASEAN and Japan Comprehensive Partnership Agreement through broadening and deepening areas of mutual interest including Trade in Goods, Trade in Services, and Investment. The Ministers tasked the officials to expedite the finalisation of guidelines for transposing tariff reduction schedules (TRS) into newer version of the Harmonised System; which will help to ensure the transposition of TRS to be carried out in a timely and efficient manner; and the mechanism for monitoring the utilisation of tariff preferential rate under AJCEP.
11. The Ministers noted the significant progress made towards concluding the Trade in Services and Investment negotiations and tasked the officials to finalise the Trade in Services and Investment Chapters into the AJCEP Agreement by the end of 2014.
12. The Ministers thanked the Government of Japan for the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) 2.0 and tasked the officials to identify activities that will support the ASEAN Economic Community building and broader economic integration efforts, as well as priority areas to promote greater economic cooperation between ASEAN and Japan.

AEM-METI Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee (AMEICC) activities

13. The ASEAN Ministers especially appreciated AMEICC programs under supplementary budget provided by METI. Ministers encouraged officials to make good use of the supplementary budget for activities that support the implementation of the Roadmap.
14. The Ministers appreciated the AMEICC Working Group's activities to implement the ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap, which include the development of a user-friendly self-certification system for the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) and Japan's cooperation proposal on reducing traffic accidents in ASEAN under the Working Group on Automotive Industry, the development of ASEAN-Japan Chemical Safety Database and a special workshop toward its database operation under the Working Group on Chemical Industries, the discussion on ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for SME Development (2016-2025) SME accounting, fostering Competitive SMEs in ASEAN, and developing industrial human resources in ASEAN through the combined efforts of the Asia Professional Education Network (APEN) and participating AMS under the Working Group on SMEs, as well as the organisation of the First Legal System Sub-working Group under the Working Group on West-East Corridor Development. The Ministers welcomed increased submissions of proposed cooperation projects in areas of trade and investment facilitation, SME cooperation, and new industry and innovation. The Ministers were confident that these projects will contribute to the successful implementation of the Roadmap.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia; 4. H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; 5. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International

Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 10. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Media Statement of the 6th Mekong-Japan Economic Ministers Meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 27 August 2014

1. The 6th Mekong-Japan Economic Ministers Meeting was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 27th August 2014. The meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar, and H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan and attended by Economic Ministers and representatives from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam, as well as the Secretary-General of ASEAN. Business representatives of 7th Mekong-Japan Industry and Government Dialogue and Executive Director of ERIA also attended.
2. The Ministers well-noted the steady growth of both trade and investment relationship between Mekong sub-region and Japan; total trade between Mekong sub-region and Japan in 2013 was JPY 8.4 trillion increased by 9% (USD 84.7 billion decreased by 11%) from 2012. Foreign direct investment flow between Mekong sub-region and Japan also increased by 406% to JPY 1.3 trillion (USD 13.5 billion increased by 314%) in 2013.
3. The Ministers also noted the outcomes at the 5th Mekong-Japan Summit held on 14th December 2013 in Tokyo, which includes the adoption of the mid-term review of the “Tokyo Strategy 2012”, and its emphasis on Mekong connectivity and narrowing development gaps and commencement of easing visa requirements for all Mekong countries in 2013, as well as the leaders’ instruction to the Economic Ministers to formulate a medium and long term industry development vision of the Mekong region countries for enhancing region wide value chain network.
4. The Ministers welcomed the steady progress under Mekong Development Roadmap, which includes Thailand’s support to develop the Myawaddy route and maintain 1st Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge, the 1st Legal System Sub-WG held under AMEICC WEC-WG on 29 May 2014, as well as the establishment of JETRO Vientiane Office in April 2014.
5. The Ministers adopted the revised Mekong Development Roadmap under the Mekong-Japan Economic and Industrial Cooperation Initiative (MJ-CI) Action Plan. Noting the timeframe of the Roadmap which will be completed next year, the Ministers also tasked AEM-METI Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee’s West-East Corridor Development Working Group (AMEICC WEC-WG) to compile the progress of the projects in the whole terms of the Roadmap (2012-2015) to be submitted to the 7th Mekong-Japan Economic Ministers Meeting.
6. Welcoming business representatives’ report of the Dialogue held on 16th July in Viet Nam with 127 attendees, Ministers appreciated inputs from the Dialogue especially towards the development of the “Mekong Industry Development Vision” as follows:
 - A) Importance of reflecting unique advantages and competitiveness of each country,
 - B) Ensuring that SMEs benefit from regional integration,
 - C) Strengthening Mekong sub-region both as a production and export site,
 - D) Necessity for more skilled labor force to invite more FDI,
 - E) Enhancing industries that improve “quality of life” such as food value chain,
 - F) Involving relevant ministries for effectively implementing the Vision,

- G) The indispensability of carefully referring to the national and sub-regional priorities/strategies,
 - H) The necessity to develop appropriate criteria for evaluating and prioritizing policy recommendations.
7. The Ministers welcomed the presentation from WEC-WG's Co-chairs on WEC-WG's deliberation of "Mekong Industry Development Vision", and together emphasized the importance of this Vision. The Ministers also welcomed ERIA's draft concept on the industrial cluster research which will be one of a core elements and theoretical backbone of the Vision, and endorsed its basic concept and framework.
 8. Taking note of the importance to utilize the Vision as a common reference for discussing the policy priorities in each member country, the Ministers agreed to jointly develop the Vision with inputs from related ministries, industry and academia in Mekong region and Japan. The Ministers also underscored the indispensability of reflecting latest/future business strategies to the Vision, and agreed to request that JETRO conducts its 3rd study on business needs and strategies in Mekong sub-region.
 9. The Ministers confirmed that the 7th Mekong-Japan Economic Ministers Meeting will be held back-to-back with the 47th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (47th AEM) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

List of Ministers

1. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia;
2. H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan;
3. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR;
4. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar;
5. Dr. Porametee Vimolsiri, Deputy Secretary General of National Economic and Social Development Board, Thailand (representing Minister Attached to Prime Minister's Office, Thailand);
6. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Vice Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam;
7. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN

Chairman's Statement of the 17th ASEAN-Japan Summit

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
12 November 2014**

1. The 17th ASEAN-Japan 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 12 November 2014. The Summit was attended by all Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States and H.E. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan.
2. We were satisfied with the substantive progress and achievements gained in implementing the Joint Declaration for Enhancing the ASEAN-Japan Partnership for Prospering Together, its Plan of Action (PoA) 2011-2015 and the Vision Statement. We recognised that these achievements would contribute significantly to our efforts for ASEAN Community building and towards further regional integration.
3. The ASEAN Leaders reiterated their commitment to further strengthen relations with Dialogue Partners and external parties. To this light, the ASEAN Leaders encouraged Japan to continue to support the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) and the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) and developing the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision.
4. We were pleased to note the steady progress achieved in the dialogue relations between ASEAN and Japan over the past forty-one years. We noted the significant outcomes of the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit held from 13 to 15 December 2013. We were pleased with the Joint Statement of "Hand in Hand, Facing Regional and Global Challenges" and the Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation that we adopted at the Summit. The medium and long-term vision envisioned in these documents will further strengthen our dialogue relations.
5. We welcomed the executive report on the progress of implementation of the Vision Statement as well

as the progress of implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action (PoA) 2011-2015.

6. ASEAN Leaders acknowledged Japan's active role in the various regional cooperation frameworks which are aimed at ensuring for peace, stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. We expressed appreciation for Japan's important contribution in ASEAN-led mechanisms such as APT, EAS, ARF and ADMM Plus. In this regard, we welcomed the ASEAN-Japan Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting to be held in Bagan, Myanmar, on 19 November 2014.
7. Recognising the implications of the evolving regional and global security environment, we agreed to enhance our cooperation to generate a more peaceful and stable international security environment. ASEAN Leaders welcomed Japan's initiative "Proactive Contribution to Peace", which is aimed at ensuring peace, stability and prosperity in the international community. In this regard, ASEAN Leaders noted Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's keynote address at the Shangri-La Dialogue 2014, which outlined his ideas on the rule of law at sea and other values such as freedom and democracy.
8. We underscored the importance of maintaining peace, stability and prosperity in the region and promoting maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation and overflight, unimpeded commerce, exercise of self-restraint and resolution of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
9. We renewed our commitment to fight terrorism and all forms of organised crime. In this regard, we welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN-Japan Joint Declaration for Cooperation in the Fight against Terrorism and Transnational Crime.
10. In order to contribute to peace, stability and development in the region, we appreciated Japan's support for the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) Symposium on Peace and Reconciliation Initiative held in Manila in April 2014.
11. We were pleased to note the steady momentum of ASEAN-Japan bilateral trade and investment. Total trade between ASEAN and Japan reached USD 240.9 billion in 2013 which accounted for 9.6% of total ASEAN trade. Japan is currently ASEAN's third largest trading partner following China and the EU. Foreign direct investment (FDI) from Japan into ASEAN reached USD 22.9 billion in 2013, making Japan the second largest source of FDI for ASEAN with 18.7% of total FDI inflows in 2013.
12. We reiterated our commitment to double trade and investment flows by 2022. We attached importance to the ASEAN-Japan Economic Forum held on 15 December 2013 and recognised the important contribution of industry and academia to the ASEAN-Japan 10-year Economic Cooperation Roadmap.
13. We welcomed the 20th ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Japan Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry Consultations on 26 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw. We welcomed the significant progress made towards concluding the trade in services and investment negotiations of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement. We looked forward to the realisation of the AJCEP Agreement, and expressed confidence that it would contribute to our efforts to enhance regional economic integration.
14. We acknowledged the progress of negotiations on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) which contributes to regional economic integration as well as enhancing economic cooperation among the participating countries. We looked forward to its timely conclusion by the end of 2015.
15. We welcomed the 7th Dialogue between the Secretary-General of ASEAN and the Federation of the Japanese Chambers of Commerce and Industry in ASEAN (FJCCIA) held in Manila, on 24 June 2014. We took note of FJCCIA's keen interest in resolving issues resulting from the differences in the implementation of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement and the ASEAN+1 FTAs.
16. We acknowledged the improvements in the ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap such as support for the

- realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015, timely completion of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations, increase of business partnership between ASEAN and Japan, closer cooperation in intellectual property and increased technology transfer from Japan to ASEAN.
17. We expressed the need to further promote industrial development particularly through human resource development. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) cooperation, and upgrading supply chain networks across the region. To this light, ASEAN Leaders encouraged Japan to foster cooperation in the Strategic Action Plan for SME Development Post-2015.
 18. The ASEAN Leaders looked forward to Japan's continued cooperation and support for narrowing the development gap in the region particularly through the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan, economic corridors, special economic zones, as well as sub-regional cooperation areas through the implementation of Tokyo Strategy 2012 for Mekong-Japan Cooperation and its Action Plan.
 19. We noted the progress in the implementation of activities under the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP). We welcomed the initiatives proposed by Japan at the 11th ASEAN-Japan Transport Ministers' Meeting in Pakse City, Lao PDR in December 2013. We looked forward to the implementation of these initiatives including cooperation for promotion of Public-Private Partnership. We also looked forward to the conclusion of a regional air services agreement between ASEAN and Japan.
 20. The ASEAN Leaders appreciated Japan's continued support for the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and connectivity in the East Asia Region. We anticipated the establishment of greater maritime connectivity and sharing experiences in promoting Public-Private Partnership (PPP).
 21. We attached great importance to enhancing our cooperation in the field of ICT through the "ASEAN Smart Network Initiative". We urged further collaboration in institutional development including increasing regulatory coherence, improving rules and regulations and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in business circles and fighting against corruption.
 22. Recognising both ASEAN and Japan continued to face natural disasters, we committed to cooperate closely in the area of disaster management. To this light, the ASEAN Leaders urged Japan to continue to support and cooperate in the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the full operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). We noted the successful outcomes of the 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Bangkok from 22 to 26 June 2014, including the adoption of the Bangkok Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2014. We welcomed the holding of the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan in March 2015.
 23. The ASEAN Leaders encouraged Japan to support the full operationalisation of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) and to facilitate cooperation with other relevant institutions like the United Nations Mine Action Service and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.
 24. We attached importance of people-to-people contacts and cultural exchanges in order to enhance mutual understanding and friendship between ASEAN and Japan. To this light, ASEAN Leaders appreciated Japan's cooperation to develop closer relations and friendship among the youth of ASEAN and Japan. We appreciated the convening of the ASEAN-Japan Youth Leaders Forum: Roles of Youth in the ASEAN-Japan relations in the 21st Century in Cambodia from 30 November to 2 December 2013. We also appreciated the ASEAN-Japan Young Entrepreneurs Forum: Partnership for Growth held in Cambodia, from 26 to 28 February 2014.
 25. The ASEAN Leaders appreciated Japan's "ASEAN-Japan Health Initiative". The ASEAN Leaders encouraged Japan to support ASEAN's efforts to strengthen health systems in order to contribute to promoting health services and livelihoods, including healthy lifestyle promotion and

prevention of illness such as non-communicable diseases in ASEAN and to implement the Universal Health Coverage (LTHC) in accordance with the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015).

26. We looked forward to sharing scientific and technological know-how and expertise on environmentally friendly technology in order to achieve low carbon growth in the region, one of the key elements to achieving sustainable economic growth. We also highlighted the importance of high efficiency coal-fired power generation as an effective measure to reduce green house gas emissions.
27. We were committed to enhancing cooperation in energy security through the sharing of best practices, technology transfer, and cooperating in research and development of new and renewable energy sources, including the peaceful use of nuclear energy to tackle the growing issue of energy security.
28. We reaffirmed our commitment to closer cooperation to strengthen the ASEAN-Japan Centre. We attached importance to the Centre taking an active role in the promotion of cooperation in trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges.
29. We recognised the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability of the Korean Peninsula and called for the denuclearisation of the Peninsula through peaceful dialogue including creating the conditions for the resumption of Six-Party Talks. We shared our concern over the launching of missiles by the DPRK. We reiterated our support for full compliance with all relevant UNSC resolutions and the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. We also emphasized the importance of addressing humanitarian concerns of the international community as well as the abduction issue.
30. We reiterated our commitment to continue working closely on regional and international issues of mutual interest and common concern. We expressed our shared vision for a stronger partnership which would contribute towards the lasting peace, prosperity and well-being of our peoples.

The ASEAN-Japan Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Japan,

RECOGNIZING that terrorism and transnational crime pose serious threats to peace, stability and economic prosperity of ASEAN, Japan and the Asia-Pacific region as a whole and that they are impediments which could affect ASEAN's efforts of community-building;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the evolving and spreading threats of terrorism and transnational crime and the growing nexus between them as recognized by the United Nations;

STRESSING that a large number of victims of terrorism and transnational crime are women and children, who are especially vulnerable to such threats and thereby need special protection;

AFFIRMING ASEAN's support for Japan's policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" and its effort in combating terrorism and transnational crime to ensure security during major events including the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo;

DETERMINED to reinforce the existing active channels of cooperation that have been established between ASEAN Member States and Japan in combatting terrorism and transnational crime, including the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) plus Japan, the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) plus Japan, ASEAN Chiefs of Police Conference (ASEANAPOL) and the ASEAN-Japan Cybercrime Dialogue as well as the ASEAN-Japan Counter Terrorism Dialogue;

REAFFIRMING the importance of promoting information sharing between ASEAN Member States and Japan with a view to effectively combating terrorism and transnational crime;

DECIDING to upgrade and transform the ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism Dialogues into the ASEAN-Japan Dialogues on Countering Terrorism and Transnational Crime to meet and address the evolving changes in the security landscape of the region and beyond;

DESIRING to enhance our cooperation in the fight against terrorism and transnational crime in the region, *inter alia*, in the following priority areas including by utilizing official development assistance (ODA), the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) 2.0 as well as projects through international organizations such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC);

ENDEAVORING to develop a Work Plan which sets out a detailed ASEAN-Japan's cooperation in the fight against terrorism and transnational crime to effectively implement this declaration;

HAVE DECLARED the following:

1. Terrorism

- 1.1 Whilst welcoming and commending the advances made in the fight against terrorism by ASEAN Member States, we acknowledge the level of threat of terrorism remains high in the ASEAN region as the threat of international terrorism is spreading and diversifying.
- 1.2 We underline the importance of continuously addressing the root causes and conditions conducive to terrorism including poverty, socio-economic disparity, and conflicts. We reaffirm that these causes should not be acknowledged as justifications for violence.
- 1.3 Recalling the *2004 ASEAN-Japan Joint Declaration for Cooperation in the Fight against International Terrorism* and recognizing the need of a coordinated and coherent approach to tackle the spread of terrorism, we renew our commitment to enhance cooperation at bilateral, regional and international levels in preventing, disrupting and combating terrorism especially through:
 - (i) Countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism;
 - (ii) Strengthening border control and immigration, transport security, law enforcement and capacity building in

countering terrorism including countering terrorist financing;

- (iii) Promoting capacity building for law enforcement agencies in the region through measures such as joint training, courses, equipping advanced instruments for countering terrorism, as well as exchange of information
- (iv) Reducing vulnerability of the private sector including multinational companies and protecting all citizens in the region from terrorism;

2. Illicit Drug Trafficking

2.1 We recognize that there are still many challenges facing ASEAN Member States as well as Japan, including the spread of heroin, methamphetamine and new psychoactive substances, despite long-standing efforts in the fight against illicit drug trafficking.

2.2 Recognizing that illicit drug trade is inextricably linked to other transnational crimes, we further enhance cooperation in the prevention of trafficking in, and reducing demand for, illicit drugs, and support ASEAN's initiatives through the existing mechanism of ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) and efforts in pursuit of a Drug Free ASEAN including through:

- (i) Capacity building of law enforcement authorities in areas such as border control;
- (ii) Raising awareness on drug abuse prevention, especially at home, schools, and local communities;
- (iii) Enhancing cooperation through joint training, information sharing, UNODC programs and relevant regional meetings;

3. Trafficking in Persons

3.1 Many people have been identified as victims of trafficking in persons in ASEAN Member States and Japan. We reiterate that trafficking in persons is a grave violation of human rights and in particular, of women and children, and underscore the great urgency of enhancing cooperation to eliminate this scourge from our region.

3.2 We welcome the progress made in developing an ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) and a Regional Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (RPA) which reflect the need to urgently combat trafficking in persons in the region.

3.3 Recognizing that trafficking in persons has wide harmful effects on economic, social and political aspects which impede development of the region and is considered to be a violation of human rights and an affront to human dignity, we intend to intensify cooperation to eradicate trafficking in persons in all aspects such as prevention, law enforcement, protection of victims and partnership through:

- (i) Raising public awareness to prevent trafficking in persons;
- (ii) Strengthening the law enforcement capabilities including through training, exchange of information and capacity building programs for police, immigration officers, coast guards as well as prosecutors in order to increase early identification of victims and prosecution of traffickers;
- (iii) Enhancing the protection and assistance of victims including through reinforcing sheltering function, psychological or medical care, repatriation of victims;
- (iv) Developing partnerships to address the underlying socio-economic factors in the region that help contribute to the problem of trafficking in persons;

4. Money Laundering

Realizing that organized crime generates huge profits which are used in illicit activities and terrorism and recognizing that those illicit profits are infiltrated into legitimate businesses and financial enterprises, we prevent and control money laundering including through:

- (i) Enhancing regional capabilities in investigation, intelligence gathering, detection of money laundering;
- (ii) Encouraging networking of the national agencies or organizations to further enhance information exchange and dissemination;

5. Sea Piracy

The number of incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea against ships is increasing in the ASEAN region in recent years, which poses a growing threat to regional and the international maritime security. Recognizing that the free and safe navigation of commercial vessels in the region is critical for the economic interests of the region, Japan and the rest of the world, we enhance further cooperation to combat piracy and armed robbery against ships including through:

- (i) Strengthening capacity building of relevant agencies, including coast guards;
- (ii) Promoting exchanges and communications to combat piracy and armed robbery against ships more effectively;
- (iii) Supporting each other in emergency circumstance on sea, where and to the extent possible, with a view to fighting pirate and rescuing victims from sea piracy ;
- (iv) Enhancing regional cooperation including the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP);

6. Arms Smuggling

6.1 Many ASEAN Member States are vulnerable to arms smuggling because of their geographical location in the midst of trade and transportation routes as well as their long borderlines and large coastal and island areas.

6.2 Recognizing that arms smuggling significantly exacerbates transnational crime which requires comprehensive action, and underlining the connection between arms smuggling and terrorism, we enhance cooperation to counter arms smuggling including through:

- (i) Strengthening border law enforcement capabilities through training and institutional capacity building;
- (ii) Promoting universalization of relevant treaties on Arms Smuggling in the region;
- (iii) Promoting implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons;

- (iv) Enhancing information exchange concerning arms smuggling in the region;

7. International Economic Crime

- 7.1 International economic crime such as credit card fraud, counterfeit currency, illicit trading of shares is more visible than ever before across the world, posing a serious threat to the economic and social stability of the ASEAN region and Japan.
- 7.2 Recognizing that the speed of technological advance, and new ways of doing business, makes the task of fighting international economic crime ever more difficult, we tackle international economic crime including through:
 - (i) Exchanging best practices of relevant institutions in combatting international economic crime;
 - (ii) Promoting law enforcement cooperation;

8. Cybercrime

- 8.1 Recognizing that information and communication technology (ICT) is a key driver for sustainable development in the region, we share the common interests in increasing confidence and security in the use of ICT in the region as a whole. With increased dependency on ICT, our vulnerability to ICT threats has also increased. A number of crimes are now committed online, taking advantage of the anonymity, instantaneity and cost-effectiveness of using cyberspace. Recognizing cybercrime as a fast-spreading threat, we are committed to tackling it jointly through:
 - (i) Promoting information-sharing on cybercrime trends and lessons learned to combat cybercrime between ASEAN and Japan;
 - (ii) Enhancing international cooperation on cybercrime investigation and prosecution involving ASEAN Member States and Japan, including through the use of the existing channels of international cooperation such as the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO_- INTERPOL, G8 24/7 Network, and the electronic ASEANAPOL Database System(e-ADS);

- (iii) Promoting capacity building in order to effectively prevent and combat cybercrime;

- 8.2 We welcome the first ASEAN-Japan Cybercrime Dialogue which was held on May 28, 2014 and reaffirm the need of the framework for continued dialogue. In further pursuing joint cooperation against cybercrime, we also seek to extensively involve international organizations such as the INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI), the Council of Europe and UNODC for implementing concrete capacity building projects in the region.

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 12th ASEAN and Japan Transport Ministers Meeting (12th ATM+Japan)

Mandalay, Myanmar, 28 November 2014

1. The Twelfth ASEAN and Japan Transport Ministers Meeting (12th ATM+Japan) was held in Mandalay, Myanmar on 28 November 2014. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Nyan Htun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar and H.E. Mr. Kazuhiko Aoki, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan. The Meeting was preceded by the Thirteenth ASEAN and Japan Senior Transport Officials Meeting (13th STOM+Japan) held on 26 November 2014.
2. The Ministers noted the progress made in the implementation of the 23 projects under the Pakse Action Plan of the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP). The Ministers also welcomed the Public Private Partnership (PPP) initiative to support infrastructure financing for the transport sector.
3. The Ministers endorsed the "Guideline for Introduction of Port EDI System on Port-related

Procedures”, “ASEAN-Japan Cruise Promotion Strategy (AJCPS)”, “Report on Survey on Eco-Airports in ASEAN Countries”, and “Report of the Preliminary Study on ASEAN Land Bridge Transport”.

4. The Ministers endorsed the ASEAN Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP) Work Plan for 2014-2015 to further enhance transport connectivity, transport safety and environment protection in the region. The Meeting also noted the list of activities under the Work Plan, amongst others, which include “Review of ASEAN-Japan Action Plan on Environment Improvement in the Transport Sector (AJ-APEIT) and Outline of New Action Plan”, “Implementation of AJ-CPS”, “Study on Seamless and Integrated Land Bridge” and “Cooperation Program for Improvement of Safety in the Maritime Transport”. The list of projects appears as **ANNEX 1**.
5. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the ASEAN-Japan Working Group on Regional Air Services Arrangements (AJWG-RASA) in October 2014 in Nagoya, Japan to discuss the development of ASEAN-Japan Air Services Agreement. ASEAN Ministers expressed their heightened expectations for early conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial air services agreement.
6. The 13th ATM+Japan Meeting will be convened in Malaysia in 2015.

LIST OF MINISTERS

a) H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam; b) H.E. Mr. Tram Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia; c) H.E. Mr. Ignasius Jonan, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia; d) H.E. Mr. Kazuhiko Aoki, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan; e) H.E. Mr. Bounchanh Sinthavong, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR; f) H.E. Dato’ Sri Liow Tiong Lai, Minister of Transport of Malaysia; g) H.E. Mr. Nyan Htun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar; h) H.E. Mr. Joseph Emilio Aguinaldo Abaya, Secretary of Transportation and Communications of the Philippines; i) H.E. Mr. Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport of Singapore; j) H.E. ACM Prajin Juntong, Minister of Transport of Thailand; k) H.E. Mr. Dinh La Thang, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and l) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

ANNEX 1

List of ASEAN and Japan Transport Partnership Projects/Activities

(Transport Facilitation)

- ASEAN-Japan Logistics Project
- ASEAN-Japan Logistics Partnership
- ASEAN-Japan New Air navigation System
- Automobile Technical Cooperation Project on Safety and Environment
- Urban Public Transport Policy Framework
- Promotion of ASEAN-Japan Road Technology Exchange
- Study on Seamless and Integrated Land Bridge

(Transport Infrastructure)

- ASEAN-Japan Port Development Research Project
- Cooperation for Promotion of Public-Private Partnership (PPP)
- ASEAN-Japan Cruise Promotion Program

(Quality and Sustainable Transport)

- Comprehensive Cooperation on Technology for Safe and Efficient Transport
- Cooperation on Natural Disaster Prevention in the Transport Sector
- ASEAN-Japan Port Technology Joint Research Project
- ASEAN-Japan Seafarers Policy Cooperation
- New Regional Action Plan on Port Security (New RAPPS) under ASEAN-Japan
- Maritime Security Transport Programme
- Project for Improvement and Harmonisation of Safety Standards and Ship Inspection for Non-Convention Ships
- ASEAN-Japan Aviation Security Project
- ASEAN Railways Revival Plan
- ASEAN Mega-Float Promotion Project
- ASEAN-Japan Airport Study Project (Eco-Airport)
- ASEAN-Japan Action Plan on Environment Improvement in the Transport Sector
- ASEAN-Japan Intelligent Transport System Development
- Cooperation program for improvement of safety in the maritime transport

(Human Resource Development)

- Transport Policy Officials Training Program in Japan
- ASEAN-Japan Transport Information Platform Project

ASEAN – Republic of Korea

Joint Media Statement of the 11th AEM-ROK Consultations

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 26 August 2014

1. The Eleventh Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Minister for Trade of 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, Myanmar and H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea.
2. The Ministers noted that bilateral trade between ASEAN and Korea grew from US\$ 131 billion in 2012 to US\$ 135 billion in 2013. ASEAN's imports from Korea increased by 8.1% registering at US\$82.2 billion in 2013 while ASEAN's exports to Korea fell by 4.0% placed at US\$ 52.8 billion.
3. The Ministers noted the significant increase in foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows from Korea to ASEAN which more than doubled from US\$1.7 billion in 2012 to US\$3.5 billion in 2013, placing Korea as ASEAN's fifth largest source of FDI.

ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area (AKFTA)

4. The Ministers welcomed the progress made in further liberalising the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Goods Agreement, which includes incorporation of the line-by-line tariff reduction schedules into the Agreement, the agreement to either waive

or incorporate the reciprocal tariff rates into the tariff reduction schedules, adoption of transposed product specific rules (PSR) list, and improvements to customs procedures and trade facilitation.

5. The Ministers noted the progress made on further liberalisation of the sensitive track under the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Goods Agreement and tasked the AKFTA Implementing Committee to continue their discussion.
6. The Ministers welcomed the progress made on economic cooperation activities between ASEAN and Korea, including the adoption of the Guidelines for the ASEAN-Korea Economic Cooperation (AKEC) Fund. The Ministers encouraged ASEAN Member States to come up with more project proposals as well as conduct outreach programmes to increase stakeholders' awareness ASEAN-Korea economic cooperation activities and their financial vehicle (AKEC Fund).

ASEAN-Korea Commemorative Summit

7. The Ministers noted that the 2nd ASEAN-Korea Commemorative Summit will be held on 11-12 December 2014 in Busan, Korea under the theme of "Building Trust, Bringing Happiness". The Ministers also noted that the inaugural meeting of the ASEAN-Korea Business Council and ASEAN-Korea CEO Summit will be held back-to-back with the Commemorative Summit. The establishment of the ASEAN-Korea Business Council (AKBC) is to lay a foundation for private sector cooperation between ASEAN and Korea, and to promote trade and investment as a result. The Ministers looked forward to the successful convening of these events.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia; 4. H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea; 5. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development,

Myanmar; 8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 10. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 5th ASEAN and Republic of Korea Transport Ministers Meeting (5th ATM+ROK)

Mandalay, Myanmar, 28 November 2014

1. The Fifth ASEAN and ROK Transport Ministers (ATM+ROK) Meeting was held on 28 November 2014 in Mandalay, Myanmar. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Nyan Htun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar and, H.E. Mr. Hyungkoo Yeo, Vice Minister of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport of the Republic of Korea. The Meeting was preceded by the Sixth ASEAN and ROK Senior Transport Officials Meeting (6th STOM+ROK) held on 26 November 2014.
2. The Ministers adopted the Revised ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation Roadmap to further strengthen regional connectivity to narrow development gap in the regions through capacity building and infrastructure development.
3. The Ministers welcomed the implementation of the following key projects / activities in 2014:
 - (a) The Master Plan on Urban Mobility in Hue Vietnam;
 - (b) The Master Plan on Ayeyarwady River Water Resources in Myanmar;
 - (c) Feasibility Study for the Port Development of the Philippines (General Santos Port);
 - (d) Myanmar Port Development Basic Plan and Feasibility Study;
 - (e) Capacity Building Training Programs for Railway Operation and Safety; Intelligent Transport System; Inland Logistics; and Land Expropriation & Compensation;
 - (f) Basic Study on Efficiency of ASEAN Highway Investment Models; and
 - (g) Other Cooperation Projects.
4. The Ministers commended the successful outcomes of the 5th ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation Forum which was held on 18-19 June 2014 in Seoul, ROK. The Meeting also noted the following new projects/activities identified for implementation in 2015:
 - (a) HRD Program for Railway Policy and Safety; Logistics Policy and Technology; Sustainable Urban Transportation Systems; Transport and Logistics Development and Land Compensation; ICAO STP Aerodrome Inspection Procedures; and
 - (b) Development Study for the Inland Waterway Improvement Project in Thailand and CLMV Countries.
5. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the Second Meeting of the ASEAN-ROK Working Group on Regional Air Services Arrangements in 2015, to discuss the development of the ASEAN-ROK Air Services Agreement. While noting ROK's view that such development would require sufficient time to discuss, ASEAN Ministers expressed their heightened expectations for early conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial air services agreement.
6. The Sixth ATM+ROK Meeting will be held in Malaysia in 2015.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- (a) H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam;
- (b) H.E. Mr. Tram Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia;
- (c) H.E. Mr. Ignasius Jonan, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia;
- (d) H.E. Mr. Bounchanh Sinthavong, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR;
- (e) H.E. Dato' Sri Liow

Tiong Lai, Minister of Transport of Malaysia; (f) H.E. Mr. Nyan Htun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar; (g) H.E. Mr. Joseph Emilio Aguinaldo Abaya, Secretary of Transportation and Communications of the Philippines; (h) H.E. Mr. Hyungkoo Yeo, Vice Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea; (i) H.E. Mr. Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport of Singapore; (j) H.E. ACM Prajin Juntong, Minister of Transport of Thailand; (k) H.E. Mr. Dinh La Thang, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and (l) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

Ministerial Statement on ASEAN-ROK Special Ministerial Meeting on Forestry 2014

**Busan, Republic of Korea
11 December 2014**

WE, the Ministers responsible for Forestry and Forest-related activities from the ASEAN Member States and the Republic of Korea (ROK) on the occasion of the ASEAN-ROK Special Ministerial Meeting on Forestry 2014;

WELCOMING the Commemorative Summit held on 11-12 December 2014 in Busan, ROK to celebrate 25 years of dialogue relations between ASEAN and ROK;

NOTING the Sustainable Development Goals, as guided by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), to be integrated into United Nations post-2015 development agenda;

DEEPLY CONCERNED with the growing adverse impacts of Climate Change on the livelihood of people, forest resources and environment regionally and globally;

SUPPORTING the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community which requires specific actions to be undertaken for sustainable forest management as well as for responding to climate change and addressing its impacts;

RECALLING the proposal by the Republic of Korea to establish the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (hereinafter referred to as "AFoCO") at the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit held on 1-2 June 2009 in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea;

CONSIDERING the achievements made and ongoing activities in the implementation of the "Agreement between the Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea on Forest Cooperation" (hereinafter referred to as "AFoCo Agreement"), which entered into force since 5 August 2012 and extended until 4 August 2016;

RECALLING the two objectives of the AFoCo Agreement, namely; (1) to facilitate forest cooperation, undertake projects and translate sound forest policies and proven technologies into action with a mission to rehabilitate degraded forest land and to prevent deforestation and forest degradation in the context of sustainable forest management as well as under the broader scope of addressing the impact of climate change; and (2) to provide a platform for dialogue between the ASEAN Member States and the ROK towards the establishment of AFoCO; and

NOTING the on-going dialogue for the establishment of AFoCO among the ASEAN Member States, ROK and other prospective countries;

DO HEREBY ENDEAVOUR to:

- (1) Enhance collaboration and undertake concrete actions between ASEAN and ROK through action-oriented field activities to effectively address the present and emerging forestry and forest-related issues in the region;
- (2) Promote knowledge and expertise sharing of ROK with the ASEAN Member States on low carbon, green growth technology and promoting activities related to addressing the impact of Climate Change;
- (3) Take a collaborative approach for timely and effective implementation of the AFoCo Agreement, including the establishment of AFoCO;
- (4) Support management capacity and training among the ASEAN Member States and ROK, specifically in the area of forest fire management through implementation of a project; and

- (5) Encourage the Senior Officials and relevant bodies responsible in forestry and forest-related activities to pursue actions in accordance with the above policy directions.

Adopted in Busan, the Republic of Korea on this Eleventh day of December in the year Two Thousand and Fourteen, in the English language.

LIST OF MINISTERS AND DESIGNATES

1. H.E. Mr. Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Yahya Bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar, Minister Of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Mr. Chheng Kimsun, Head of the Forestry Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Kingdom of Cambodia; 3. H.E. Mdm. Siti Nurbaya, Minister of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Indonesia; 4. H.E. Dr. Phommasack Ty, Vice Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao People's Democratic Republic; 5. H.E. Mr. James Dawos Mamit, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia; 6. H.E. Mr. Aye Myint Maung, Deputy Minister of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Republic of the Union of Myanmar; 7. H.E. Mr. Demetrio L. Ignacio, Jr., Undersecretary, Field Operations, Department of Environment & Natural Resources, Republic of the Philippines; 8. H.E. Mr. Chee Chiew Leong, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, National Parks Board, Republic of Singapore; 9. H.E. Mr. Sunun Arunnopparat, Vice Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Kingdom of Thailand; 10. H.E. Mr. Ha Cong Tuan, Vice Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; 11. H.E. Dr. Shin Wonsop, Minister of Korea Forest Service, Republic of Korea.

Joint Statement of the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit on the 25th Anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations: Our Future Vision of ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership – Building Trust, Bringing Happiness

Busan, ROK, 12 December 2014

WE, the Heads of States/Government of Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) and the Republic of Korea, gathered on 12 December 2014 in Busan, ROK, to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations, under the theme "Building Trust, Bringing Happiness".

RECALLING with satisfaction that ASEAN-ROK relations have deepened and broadened over the past 25 years since the establishment of dialogue relations in 1989;

ACKNOWLEDGING the achievements made in implementing the 2004 Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea and the 2010 Joint Declaration on ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity and its Plan of Action 2011- 2015;

ACKNOWLEDGING the commitment of ROK to support ASEAN's Community building efforts and to contribute to ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision, as well as the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III);

RECOGNISING ASEAN's centrality and its leadership role as the primary driving force in the evolving regional architecture, which allow for a stable and peaceful regional environment that is essential to the pursuit of sustainable development;

ADHERING to the fundamental norms, principles and common values as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC);

NOTING with satisfaction that ASEAN and the ROK have developed mutually beneficial cooperative relations on the basis of mutual trust and respect for the past twenty five years. The ASEAN-ROK cooperation has expanded and deepened in a wide range of fields, including political, security, economic, functional and sociocultural cooperation, in the pursuit of shared peace and prosperity and progress.

NOTING that since joining the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in 1994 and acceding to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) in 2004, the ROK has strengthened its political and security relations with ASEAN, which have contributed to regional peace and stability. We welcome the progress in further strengthening political and security dialogue and cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK, in accordance with the Plan of Action 2011-2015, including discussion on security related issues held at the 18th ASEAN-ROK Dialogue in Busan in June 2014. We further note that ASEAN and the ROK have strengthened cooperation to address major global and trans-boundary challenges, such as international terrorism, climate change and environment, including by concluding the ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation Agreement in 2011 and its recent extension, and disaster management, within the framework of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations as well as in the ASEAN Plus Three, ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting Plus, ASEAN Regional Forum, including co-organising the 2013 ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx) with Thailand, and East Asia Summit.

NOTING with satisfaction the increase in trade volume between ASEAN and the ROK to approximately USD 135 billion and in mutual investment amounting to approximately USD 4 billion in 2013, as well as the steady increase in the number of visitors traveling between ASEAN Member States and the ROK over the years, averaging more than five million people per year.

RECALLING the positive impact of the implementation of the ASEAN-ROK Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA) since the entry into force of the Trade in Goods Agreement in 2007, the Trade in Services and Investment Agreement in 2009, which boosted the total volume of trade and investment between ASEAN and the ROK and well on its way to reach the trade target of USD 150 billion in 2015. We note the ongoing discussion on the further liberalisation with

the aim to conclude by 2015 and improvement of the ASEAN-ROK FTA for greater mutual benefits.

RECALLING that since the establishment of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations in 1989, a total amount of around USD 67 million has been contributed to the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund, which has been effectively used in a wide range of projects in the fields such as trade, investment, technology transfer, people-to-people exchanges, and human resource development.

NOTING with appreciation the support and contribution of the ROK to narrowing development gaps within ASEAN and enhancing regional connectivity, including through the Mekong-ROK cooperation framework.

RECOGNISING the growing cultural exchanges between the ASEAN and ROK, and its contribution to promoting economic growth, better understanding between our peoples, and greater awareness of cultural heritage of the region, which form the basis of close friendship and mutual understanding.

WELCOMING the progress made through meetings between ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and the ROK's Task Force on ASEAN Connectivity in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC).

ACKNOWLEDGING with appreciation ROK's leading role in presenting the vision for an East Asian community through the East Asia Vision Group I (EAVG I), the East Asia Study Group (EASG), and the recommendations of the EAVG II for an East Asian Economic Community.

NOTING with satisfaction the substantive works undertaken by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) and the Mission of the Republic of Korea (ROK) to ASEAN in Jakarta, as well as the ASEAN Secretariat, in further strengthening ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership.

RECOGNISING the role and contribution of the ASEAN-Korea Centre in promoting trade, investment, tourism, and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the ROK, and appreciating the continuous commitment and support of the ROK for the Centre.

In order to further strengthen cooperation, ASEAN and the ROK hereby reaffirm to:

The Way Forward

- 1.1. Promote the enhancement of dialogue partnership between ASEAN and ROK with the aim of having a friendly, mutually beneficial, meaningful and strategic partnership.
- 1.2. Continue to support the establishment of the ASEAN Community and beyond, enhanced connectivity, narrowing development gaps, and the strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat, in realising a politically cohesive, economically integrated, socially responsible and a truly people-oriented, people-centred and rules-based ASEAN.
- 1.3. Continue to support ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture towards securing the region's peace, prosperity and security.
- 1.4. Strengthen cooperation to contribute positively to global issues by supporting the implementation of the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations "Bali Concord III" (2011-2022) and its Plan of Action (2012-2017).
- 1.5. Enhance cooperation in promoting common prosperity and caring and sharing society, taking note of the common values of the ASEAN Community Building goals for a people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN and the ROK's pursuit for the happiness of its people.
- 1.6. Based on the understanding that the security of Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia are closely interconnected, we agree to reinforce political-security cooperation to promote sustainable peace and stability in the region. We are confident that ASEAN's centrality in spearheading regional cooperation, based on dialogue, cooperation, mutual respect and tolerance, would contribute to reinforcing trust and shared peace in the region. We also support ASEAN's efforts in promoting norms and principles enshrined in, among others, the ASEAN Charter, and other relevant ASEAN instruments such as the TAC and the EAS Declaration on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles), towards the development of a more rules-based and norms-based regional architecture.
- 1.7. Given the prospect that ASEAN and its dynamism will be the main driving force behind economic growth both in East Asia and globally, we agree to harness the momentum by expanding and intensifying our economic ties through various initiatives, including the on-going discussion on the improvement of the AKFTA. We also agree to usher in shared prosperity by further deepening trade and investment ties. Moreover, we resolve to work in close concert so that ASEAN, with its abundant natural resources and 600 million people, will be able to reach its full potential in realising the ASEAN Community 2015 and beyond.
- 1.8. Resolve to cooperate towards shared progress by alleviating poverty and narrowing the development gap through increased cooperation in the field of development.
- 1.9. Share the view that solidarity and identity as East Asians will provide a cognitive basis for friendship and cooperation and to this end agree to further promote two-way cultural and people-to-people exchange that will allow our two peoples a deeper understanding of each other.

Political-Security Cooperation towards Shared Peace

- 2.1 Strengthen cooperation in ASEAN-led regional processes and arrangements, such as ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three, ARF, ADMM-Plus and the EAS, and enhance engagement at other relevant regional and multilateral fora, to promote peace, stability, security, development and prosperity in the region.
- 2.2 Work closely to strengthen the EAS, with ASEAN as the driving force, as a leaders-led forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic, political and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity and integration in East Asia.
- 2.3 Agree to strengthen cooperation in the area of Political-Security matters by further developing the dialogue on security related issues as part of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue.
- 2.4 Look forward to increased exchanges between our legislative bodies including through the

- ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) and the ASEAN-ROK Forum that was launched in February 2014.
- 2.5 Foster greater cooperation to address traditional and non-traditional security challenges, including combating terrorism and transnational crimes such as trafficking in persons, illicit drugs, money laundering, arms smuggling, sea piracy, international economic crimes and cybercrimes, as well as proliferation of Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD).
 - 2.6 Promote maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation and overflight, unimpeded commerce, the exercise of self-restraint, the non-use of force or threat to use force, and the resolution of disputes by peaceful means, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the relevant standards and recommended practices by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).
 - 2.7 Promote cooperation to address common challenges on maritime issues such as environment, connectivity, fisheries, and search and rescue at sea.
 - 2.8 Promote further dialogue and strengthen cooperation in the areas of good governance, democracy and rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as encourage cooperation in inter-faith and inter-civilization dialogue and the promotion of moderation.
 - 2.9 Foster cooperation to promote conflict prevention and resolution, and conflict management to enhance peace, security and stability in the region.
 - 2.10 Support ASEAN Member States' active participation in UN Peacekeeping and Post-Conflict Peace Building efforts.
 - 2.11 Support the efforts to address humanitarian aspects of landmines and explosive remnants of war issue in the region such as through ROK's support in financial and technical assistance, and capacity building. Moreover, we support the work of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) in addressing this issue.
- Economic Cooperation for Shared Prosperity**
- 3.1 Strengthen efforts to boost economic cooperation between ASEAN and ROK, to improve the trade balance between both sides including where possible by providing greater market access for goods and services.
 - 3.2 Promote economic growth and development by strengthening cooperation in areas of mutual interests related to trade in goods, trade in services and investment through trade facilitation and other regulatory improvements and encourage greater involvement from the private sectors. Maximizing the utilisation of the ASEAN-ROK Free Trade Agreement and, based on the complementarity of our economies, we resolve to make efforts to further expand our trade volume to USD 200 billion by 2020.
 - 3.3 Continue to enhance regional economic partnership and integration through the timely conclusion of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations by the end of 2015.
 - 3.4 Enhance economic cooperation, especially capacity building, in various fields such as finance, customs, transport, agriculture, labour, tourism, energy, food security, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), forestry, mining, fisheries, logistics, intellectual property rights, connectivity and infrastructure development for the well-being of our peoples.
 - 3.5 Promote SMEs partnership and cooperation through human resources development, and sharing of best practices that will strengthen SMEs and industries linkages in the supply chain networks.
 - 3.6 Promote cooperation on innovation between ASEAN and ROK and appreciate the proposal to establish an ASEAN-ROK innovation centre to enhance innovation capacity, optimize human capital development and improve the capacity and capability of ASEAN Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to be globally competitive and contribute towards strengthening of the ASEAN Economic Community.
 - 3.7 Welcome the launch of the ASEAN-ROK Business Council. We agree to cooperate to

make the ASEAN-ROK Business Council a business driven consultative body that will both assist ASEAN and ROK SMEs in entering each other's markets and in promoting bilateral trade and investment. In addition, we welcome the success of the ASEAN-ROK CEO Summit held on 11 December 2014 in Busan, ROK, and recognise that entrepreneurship and innovation are important elements in enhancing competitiveness of our economies.

- 3.8 Look forward to the continued discussion between ASEAN and ROK on aviation cooperation and to building upon the work of the ASEAN-ROK Transport Ministers Meeting on 28 November 2014 in Mandalay, Myanmar.
- 3.9 Contribute to narrowing development gaps in the region through the implementation of Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II 2009-2015 and its successor document and other sub-regional economic cooperation frameworks, including the Mekong-ROK Action Plan (2014-2017) adopted at the 4th Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting in July 2014 in Seoul.
- 3.10 Work more closely together in energy and infrastructure projects as well as in identifying new areas for cooperation.
- 3.11 Recognise the importance of administrative and human resource capacity building within the government for sustained development, we agreed to enhance and expand training programs for mid-level public officials of ASEAN Member States. In addition, the ROK plans to also contribute to building a network of policy experts within ASEAN.
- 3.12 Recognise the importance of agriculture in the areas of food security, poverty eradication and sustainable development, and agree to explore joint cooperation on increasing rural income and sharing development experiences, through various projects including training programmes in related areas to develop expertise in the field of agricultural policy. In this regard, we noted ROK's implementation of the *Saemaul Undong* policy that contributed to the rural development in the ROK.

Socio-cultural Cooperation for Shared Progress

- 4.1. Further promote people-to-people contacts, in the public and private sectors to deepen mutual understanding and friendship. In this regard, ASEAN welcomes ROK's efforts to simplify the visa process for Southeast Asian nationals.
- 4.2. Recognise the importance of establishing and expanding a network for our future generations. To this end, ASEAN welcomes the ROK's initiative under the "ASEAN-ROK Next-generation Opinion Leaders Programme".
- 4.3. Strengthen consular cooperation, especially in the protection of the nationals of both sides, including tourists, business people, officials who are travelling to ASEAN and the ROK as well as students, permanent residents and workers residing in the ASEAN Member states and the ROK.
- 4.4. Enhance cooperation in education and human resource development to achieve socio-economic development, including through increasing the number of scholarships, promoting students and faculty exchanges and joint research in higher education, as well as increasing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) opportunities for ASEAN students. We also welcome the promotion of Korean studies in ASEAN and ASEAN studies in the ROK.
- 4.5. Look forward to further collaboration with multilateral organisations such as UNESCO through the World Education Forum 2015 to be held on May 19-22, 2015 in Incheon, ROK.
- 4.6. Support ASEAN Community building in social protection by promoting the implementation of ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection, and providing support and cooperation in the implementation of ASEAN Social Work Consortium (ASWC) Work Plan.
- 4.7. Promote cooperation in the area of culture, art and sports, including the development of creative industries, including cooperation in the field of coproduction, co-financing and co-distribution of diverse content projects between the two regions and undertake other industry engagements to foster talent in multi-media in ASEAN Member

- states and fostering of greater awareness of cultural heritage of the region.
- 4.8. Welcome the designation of 2017 as the year of ASEAN-ROK Cultural Exchange, and appreciate ROK's contribution in establishing an "ASEAN culture house" in ROK to enhance understanding of ASEAN and Southeast Asian culture in the ROK.
 - 4.9. Promote cooperation in science, technology and innovations, information and communication technology (ICT) and facilitate continued sustainable development of ASEAN Community and beyond. To promote technical cooperation among private entities of both sides, the ROK will make efforts to increase its support for developing human resources, sharing of knowledge and enhancing cooperation in the field of science and technology.
 - 4.10. Share experiences and knowledge on health issues, including strengthening of healthcare systems, to overcome challenges to health and to make use of opportunities to achieve better health for our peoples.
 - 4.11. Recognise the on-going threat of the Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs), including Ebola Virus Disease, and we commit to strengthen cooperation and share information on EIDs prevention and control and pandemic preparedness, including through improving health capacity building, effective monitoring and promote collaboration in control of trans-boundary EIDs in coordination with relevant regional and international health agencies. As part of this effort, we welcome Thailand's initiative to convene the ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers' Special Meeting on Ebola Preparedness and Response on 14-15 December 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand, which would strengthen regional cooperation in response to EIDs.
 - 4.12. Enhance ASEAN-ROK cooperation in responding to climate change, including seeking ways to cooperate with the Global Green Growth Institute and Green Climate Fund (GCF), and sharing ideas and promoting capacity development on climate change.
 - 4.13. Enhance ASEAN-ROK cooperation in environmental management including integrated water resource management; environmentally sustainable cities; environmentally sound technologies and cleaner production; biodiversity conservation; public awareness and education; sustainable use of coastal and marine environment and trans-boundary environmental pollution. In addition, we encourage ASEAN's participation at the World Water Forum to take place in Daegu and Gyeongbuk, ROK in 2015.
 - 4.14. Welcome the on-going activities implemented under the ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation Agreement and note the ongoing dialogues towards the establishment of the Asian Forest Cooperation Organisation.
 - 4.15. Strengthen cooperation in disaster management to mitigate the impacts of disaster, reducing disaster losses and enhancing joint emergency response to disasters including collaboration with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) and supporting the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2010- 2015 and beyond, as well as its priority projects.
- ASEAN Connectivity**
- 5.1 Enhance support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), especially in the areas of physical infrastructure, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), and people-to-people connectivity, including through financial and technical assistance, investment and public-private partnership to enhance connectivity within ASEAN and with ROK.
- Regional and International Issues**
- 6.1 Share the view that it is important to maintain sustainable peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia. To this end, we are committed to continue our efforts to achieve the early denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. In this regard, we express our concern over the recent developments on the Korean Peninsula, including the testing of ballistic missiles. We

urge the DPRK to fully comply with international obligations under all relevant UNSC Resolutions and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. We also highlight the importance of enhancing dialogue and creating necessary conditions for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks which would pave the way for the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization.

- 6.2 Welcome ROK's Trust-Building Process on the Korean Peninsula and the Initiative for Peaceful Unification on the Korean Peninsula as well as the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI) in promoting lasting peace on the Korean peninsula and cooperation and trust in Northeast Asia.
- 6.3 Continue to cooperate for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and beyond, as well as support the formulation of the UN post-2015 development agenda to eradicate poverty and transform economies through sustainable development.
- 6.4 Strengthen cooperation across different sectors to address global challenges such as climate change, environmental degradation, food security, energy security and communicable diseases.
- 6.5 Continue to contribute to the strong, sustainable, inclusive and balanced growth of the world economy through strengthening collaboration and policy consultation between ASEAN and ROK in the multilateral fora.
- 6.6 Reaffirm the need for the United Nations reform, including that of the Security Council.

Implementation Arrangement

- 7.1 Encourage the ROK's continuous commitment to expand and deepen the development cooperation as well as sharing its experience and technical expertise with ASEAN, including through the South-South cooperation and trilateral cooperation.
- 7.2 Support ASEAN's efforts to strengthen the capacities of the ASEAN Secretariat through various programmes including human resources development, knowledge management and ICT

system upgrade in ASEAN's efforts to the ASEAN Community building process.

- 7.3 Fully utilise the ASEAN-Korea Centre to facilitate promotional activities for trade, investment, tourism, cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts.
- 7.4 Welcome ROK's continued support for the ASEAN Community building process and ASEAN-ROK Cooperation through effective utilisation of the ASEAN-ROK Special Cooperation Fund and the ASEAN-ROK Future Oriented Cooperation Fund in implementing a new Plan of Action 2016-2020.
- 7.5 Task our relevant officials to develop a new plan of action for the period 2016-2020 to continue implementing the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Republic of Korea Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity and to realise the goals identified in this Joint Statement and other existing ASEAN-ROK mechanisms for cooperation.

ASEAN – New Zealand

Press Release of the 2nd ASEAN-New Zealand Joint Cooperation Committee (ANZJCC) Meeting

Jakarta, Indonesia, 1 December 2014

ASEAN and New Zealand successfully convened the Second ASEAN-New Zealand Joint Cooperation Committee (ANZJCC) Meeting on 1 December 2014 at the ASEAN Secretariat. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Latsamy Keomany, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Lao PDR, and H.E. Stephanie Pamela Lee, Ambassador of New Zealand to ASEAN. Members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) to ASEAN, the New Zealand

delegation, and representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat were also in attendance.

The Meeting reviewed the progress of the implementation of the Plan of Action (POA) to Implement the ASEAN-New Zealand Comprehensive Partnership (2010-2015) and New Zealand's Four Flagship Initiatives. It was agreed that both sides need to further accelerate the implementation of the remaining action lines under the current POA. In this regard, the Meeting identified several potential areas where both sides should further explore for the next Plan of Action (2016-2020), which include counter terrorism and extremism, small-and-medium enterprises (SMEs) development, connectivity, education and vocational training, geothermal and renewable energy, food security, agricultural development, and environment and climate change, among others.

New Zealand reaffirmed its commitment to continue its support for the ASEAN Community building efforts beyond 2015, as well as its support for ASEAN's central role in regional mechanisms. ASEAN expressed appreciation for New Zealand's strong commitment and the great importance it attached to the relationship with ASEAN, and looked forward to working with New Zealand to further substantiate ASEAN-New Zealand cooperation in the years to come.

The Meeting further viewed that the year 2015 will be an important milestone for both ASEAN and New Zealand, with the ASEAN Community in place and the ASEAN-New Zealand relations reaching its 40th year. The Meeting, therefore, agreed that it would present a good opportunity for both sides to review past achievements and chart the future direction of the ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue Partnership. In this regard, the Meeting discussed preparations for the forthcoming ASEAN-New Zealand Commemorative Summit to mark the 40th Anniversary of the ASEAN-New Zealand relations in Malaysia in 2015, including the key deliverables of the Summit. The Meeting concurred that the Joint Statement by the Leaders and the new Plan of Action should be well aligned with each other and support ASEAN's continued integration in the post-2015 period. Both sides also agreed to work on details of other commemorative activities to celebrate this anniversary.

ASEAN – Russian Federation

ASEAN-Russian Federation 12th Joint Cooperation Committee Meeting

Jakarta, Indonesia, 25 April 2014

The 12th Meeting of the ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee (ARJCC) held in the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, on 25 April 2014 was attended by the Permanent Representatives from ASEAN Member States, the delegation of the Russian Federation and representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat. The ARJCC was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Dato' Hasnudin Hamzah, Permanent Representative of Malaysia to ASEAN, and H.E. Mr. Mikhail Galuzin, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Indonesia and to ASEAN.

The Meeting reviewed the current status of the ASEAN-Russia cooperation including the progress achieved in the priority sectors of the Dialogue Partnership relations namely, the political and security, economic, science and technology, social and cultural ties as well as connectivity. The ARJCC Members also had an in-depth discussion on the future direction of ASEAN-Russia cooperation. In this context, both sides stressed that there is a necessity to draft a new Comprehensive Programme of Action (CPA) to promote cooperation between ASEAN and the Russian Federation for the period beyond 2015 which will serve as a key document of ASEAN-Russia relations. Both sides further agreed to review the time frame of the new CPA. The need to fully implement the provisions of the existing sectoral agreements such as the ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Roadmap, plans of action in the sphere of energy, agriculture and food security, science and technology etc, was also emphasised.

The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress achieved within the past year in the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership. Among the joint activities carried out recently were the First ASEAN-Russia Youth Summit, the ASEAN-Russia Business Forum, visits of the Russian Business Mission to several ASEAN Member States, as well as concerts performed by the ASEAN-Russia Symphony Orchestra of Young

Musicians, among others. The Meeting acknowledged, while reviewing the ASEAN-Russian Federation Dialogue Partnership Financial Fund (ARDPFF), the extensive cooperation that exists between ASEAN and Russia and agreed to work together to streamline the consolidated draft Flowchart for Appraisal, Approval, Financing and reporting of the Joint Projects funded by the ARDPFF. The Meeting agreed that this would facilitate and expedite the remaining work of the current CPA that will expire in 2015.

The Meeting adopted several joint ASEAN-Russia projects related to the application of nano-biotechnology, GLONASS/GPS and remote earth sensing technologies. The ARJCC also discussed the activities of the ASEAN Centre which is located in MGIMO University and noted the Annual Report of the Centre for the year 2013 as well as its Indicative Work Plan for 2014.

Finally, the Meeting exchanged views on a number of upcoming joint activities later this year, including the ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials' Meeting, ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference with Russia and the Second ASEAN-Russia Youth Summit.

28 April 2014

Joint Media Statement of the 3rd AEM-Russia Consultations

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 28 August 2014

1. The Third ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM)-Russia Consultations were held on 28 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 and H.E. Alexey V. Ulyukaev, Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation.
2. The Ministers were pleased with the growth of trade and investment between ASEAN and Russia from 2012 to 2013. Bilateral trade between ASEAN and Russia recorded an increase of 9.9%, from US\$18.2 billion in 2012 to US\$19.9 billion in 2013.
3. The Ministers noted the progress of the ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Work Programme and were pleased that various activities have taken place under the Work Programme, including the annual AEM-Russia Consultations, the 6th ASEAN-Russia Senior Economic Officials (SEOM-Russia) Consultations, the 1st ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials' Meeting on Agriculture, exchange of business missions, and various projects on technology, agriculture products, energy, and transportation. In March this year, Deputy Minister of Economic Development, H.E. Alexey Likhachev led a delegation of about 40 Russian businessmen from private companies and associations to the region to explore business and investment opportunities. The Ministers welcomed the growing interest of the Russian private sector in doing business with their ASEAN counterparts.
4. The Ministers agreed that SEOM Russia Consultations would be the appropriate mechanism to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Roadmap. The Ministers requested the senior economic officials to ensure the timely implementation of the Roadmap and Work Programme in further boost trade and investment relations between the two regions.
5. The Ministers noted Russia's proposal to annex 44 new projects to the ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Roadmap for joint implementation by ASEAN and Russia. The Ministers also noted that ASEAN Member States will undertake domestic consultations and will continue to discuss on the possibility of taking up some of these proposals and the possibility of including their proposals in the Annex to further facilitate trade, investment and tourism between the two regions. The Ministers tasked the senior economic officials to work together closely so that the document could be finalized by the end of the

year 2014. The Ministers also tasked the senior officials to start developing the Post 2015 Work Programme.

6. The Ministers noted Russia's interest to explore collaboration on e-commerce with ASEAN Member States. The Ministers requested Russia to organise a workshop where experts from ASEAN and Russia will be invited to exchange views on e-commerce.
7. The Ministers noted the respective development in economic integration efforts of both regions, namely the ASEAN Economic Community and the Eurasian Economic Union comprising of Russian Federation, Belarus and Kazakhstan, which will be established on 1 January 2015. These regional initiatives may be able to provide lessons to further strengthen ASEAN-Russia economic relations.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia; 4. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 5. Datuk Dr. Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria, Secretary General of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia (representing H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia); 6. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 7. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 8. H.E. Alexey V. Ulyukaev, Minister of Economic Development, the Russian Federation; 9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 10. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyaphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

ASEAN – United States

Joint Media Statement of the AEM-USTR Consultations

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 28 August 2014

1. Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the United States Trade Representative ("the Ministers") were held on 28 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 and H.E. Michael Froman, the United States Trade Representative.
2. The Ministers were pleased to note the strong growth in trade relations between ASEAN and the United States of America (U.S.). Total merchandise trade between ASEAN and the U.S. in 2013 stood at US\$207billion, 4% increase year-on-year. The U.S. was ASEAN's fourth biggest trading partner, while ASEAN as a group was the fourth largest U.S. export market and trading partner.
3. In terms of investment, the U.S. was the fourth largest foreign direct investor in ASEAN. The region received US\$2.7 billion of direct investment from the U.S. in 2012 or 2.3% of total inflows for that year. U.S investment in ASEAN is led by manufacturing, finance, and insurance, and nonbank holding companies.

ASEAN-US Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA)

4. The Ministers noted the activities implemented under the ASEAN-U.S. Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA) and the Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) Initiative in 2014. ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation to the U.S. for the continued support in the areas of trade facilitation, including ASEAN Single Window, small-and medium-sized enterprise (SME) development, as well as cooperation on standards and conformance through the USAID's project "ASEAN Connectivity through Trade and Investment". More specifically, the activities

undertaken in 2013 under the auspices of the ASEAN-U.S. TIFA/E3 work program included:

- a) US-ASEAN Business Alliance for Competitive SMEs supply-chain readiness events in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, and Viet Nam;
 - b) Standards in Trade Conference for the ASEAN Economies on Conformity Assessment for the Electrical and Electronics Sectors held in March 2014 at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the United States;
 - c) Support to the ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs' Network (AWEN) launched in April 2014 in Viet Nam;
 - d) Dietary/Health Supplement Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) Workshop held in April 2014 in Singapore;
 - e) Training on Medical Devices Regulatory Harmonization Region-Wide held in May 2014 in Singapore;
 - f) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)-ASEAN workshop on "Improved Food Inspection Capacity Building Based on Risk Analysis" held in May 2014 in Korea; and
 - g) APEC-ASEAN Workshop on "Utilizing Building Information Modeling to Increase Building Performance" held in August 2014 in China.
5. The Ministers noted the increasing interest of U.S. businesses in doing trade and investment in ASEAN. A trade mission to the Philippines, focusing on franchising, was held in July 2014.
 6. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to further deepen trade and investment ties through initiatives of mutual interest.

The 2nd ASEAN-US Business Summit

7. The Ministers welcomed the 2nd ASEAN-U.S. Business Summit held on the margins of the 46th AEM and related meetings in August 2014. The event was attended by representatives from the U.S. and ASEAN business communities, as well as government officials including the ASEAN Economic Ministers, the U.S. Trade Representative, and representatives of the ASEAN SME Working Group. With this year's theme of "SMEs and the

Global Supply Chain", the Ministers hoped that the Summit would further enhance the capability of SMEs to participate in the global supply chain and reap the benefits of deeper economic cooperation between ASEAN and the U.S.

WTO Developments

8. The Ministers expressed deep concern that WTO Members were not able to reach consensus on adoption of a protocol of amendment on the Agreement on Trade Facilitation in line with the deadline set by Ministers at the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali. The Ministers reaffirmed the commitment to maintaining support for the multilateral system and called for a comprehensive implementation of the Bali package, and the completion of a balanced and doable work program on the remaining DDA issues. The Ministers also underscored the importance of the WTO Information Technology Agreement Expansion negotiations, and call for a commercially significant and balanced conclusion in the shortest timeframe possible.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia; 4. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 5. H.E. Datuk Dr. Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria, Secretary General of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia (representing H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia); 6. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 7. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 8. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 9. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 10. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 11. H.E. Michael Froman, United States Trade Representative; 12. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Chairman's Statement of the 2nd ASEAN-United States Summit

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**

1. The ASEAN-United States Summit was held on 13 November 2014 at the Myanmar Convention Centre-1, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Meeting was chaired by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Excellency President U Thein Sein. The Meeting was attended by all Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States and the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States of America. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance at the 2nd ASEAN-United States Summit.
2. We, the Leaders of ASEAN and the United States, had productive discussions during the 2nd ASEAN-United States Summit, focusing on further strengthening the ASEAN-United States Dialogue Partnership. ASEAN welcomed the continued support of the United States for ASEAN Community building efforts as well as ASEAN Centrality and unity in the regional architecture. We acknowledged the progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-United States Enhanced Partnership for Enduring Peace and Prosperity 2011-2015 and reaffirmed our commitment to fully and effectively implement this Plan of Action and to work towards a new plan of action for the next five years.
3. We acknowledged that the ASEAN-United States Summit has been instrumental in elevating the ASEAN-United States relations to a strategic level. We noted, with satisfaction, the status of the ASEAN-United States dialogue relations and looked forward to the continued deepening and broadening of our cooperation at both the strategic and functional levels, encompassing the areas of political-security, economic, socio-cultural and development cooperation. We were also aware of the need to follow up the recommendations of the ASEAN-United States Eminent Persons Group (EPG) and work out a road map for upgrading the dialogue relations to a strategic level.
4. We reaffirmed our commitment to working closely with the United States to further strengthen our partnership in promoting regional peace and stability through various ASEAN-led mechanisms, such as ASEAN Plus one, the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus) and the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum. We encouraged efforts to strengthen coordination and create better synergies among ASEAN Member States and the United States through these mechanisms.
5. We underscored the importance of exchanging views on regional and international issues. We encouraged the United States to continue to support ASEAN's efforts to effectively address the challenges to peace, prosperity and stability of the region.
6. We are pleased to note the convening of exercises and workshops under the frameworks of the ARF and ADMM Plus, namely, the ARF Workshop on Bio-Preparedness and Disaster Response, the ARF Workshop on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Management and we expressed appreciation to the United States for their support to these events.
7. We reaffirmed our commitments to prevent and combat transnational crimes. In this respect, we welcomed the United States proposal for an ARF Workshop on Combating Wildlife Trafficking in Asia and an ARF Workshop on Security, Stability and International Migration in the ASEAN Region in ARF Senior Officials (ARF SOM) which was held on 9 June 2014. We decided to strengthen cooperation to combat international terrorism under the framework of the ASEAN-United States Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism and the United Nations Global Counterterrorism Strategy. We underscored the importance of cyber security, and committed to cooperate in fighting cyber-crime through an ASEAN-United States Workshop on Cybercrime. We welcomed the workshop as a venue to share experiences and best practices in combating cyber crimes with ASEAN Member States.
8. We welcomed the deepening of ASEAN-United States cooperation on maritime issues, through promotion of capacity building, information sharing

and technology cooperation across a variety of maritime fora.

9. We reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace and stability, ensuring maritime security and safety, and freedom of navigation including in and over-flight above the South China Sea. We reaffirmed the principles contained in the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea. While welcoming the agreement to work towards the early conclusion of the Code of Conduct (COC), we underscored the importance of all parties to achieve tangible progress on early harvest measures, as agreed to by ASEAN and China. In this regard, we urged all parties to fully and effectively implement the DOC in its entirety. However, we remained concerned over the situation in the South China Sea. We reaffirmed the collective commitments under the DOC to ensuring the resolution of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, without resorting to the threat or use of force and, while exercising self-restraint in the conduct of activities.
10. ASEAN Leaders appreciate the efforts of the United States to promote positive maritime cooperation in the region including through capacity building efforts under the Expanded ASEAN Seafarer Training (EAST) programme jointly organised with the Philippines. We congratulated Indonesia and the United States for completing a successful three-year co-chairmanship of the ARF Maritime Security Inter-Sessional Meetings, and welcomed the Philippines and the United States' co-chairmanship of the Inter-Sessional Meetings on Maritime Security for the period of 2014-2017.
11. The ASEAN Leaders welcomed the United States' support for programmes such as the ASEAN Connectivity through Trade and Investment (ACTI), the ASEAN-United States Partnership for Good Governance, Equitable and Sustainable Development and Security (ASEAN-U.S. PROGRESS). We welcomed the United States to play a greater role in supporting ASEAN's efforts to enhance regional integration and narrow the development gap in the region through the promotion of trade and investment as well as people-to-people contacts. We recognised that regional economic integration is a gradual process and steps taken must take into account the overall welfare of the people of the region. As such, ASEAN endeavoured to continue its regional economic integration beyond 2015 and urged the United States to continue to support ASEAN in this effort.
12. We also expressed our appreciation for the United States' continued support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and United States' initiatives on connectivity, including in the areas of transport and English language training under the Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI). We suggested that the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and the United States work closely to strengthen connectivity cooperation. ASEAN Leaders encouraged the United States' private sector to engage in the implementation of MPAC. We further suggested that ASEAN and the United States explore ways to mobilize private sector resources for connectivity-related projects by promoting public-private partnerships, as well as innovating financing platforms.
13. We recognised the cross-border challenges that come with greater connectivity including drug trafficking, illegal immigration/ human trafficking, international terrorism, cyber-crime, environmental degradation and emerging infectious diseases as well as epidemic diseases such as the spread of the Ebola. In order to reconcile freedom and security, compensatory measures are needed to be explored and developed as necessary. These involve improving cooperation and coordination among countries, as well as the development of a region-wide integrated border management system. In this respect we called for further collaboration and encouraged the United States to share its best practices on border security management.
14. Recognising that education plays an important role in the development of ASEAN region, we welcomed initiatives to promote people-to-people links through the on-going youth exchange and education programmes, particularly the Young Southeast Asia Leaders Initiatives (YSEALI), the Fulbright Scholarship Programme, and the Brunei-U.S. English Language Enrichment Programme. We welcomed the new Connecting the Mekong

- through Education and Training (COMET) project that will address skilled labour challenges in the Lower Mekong sub-region in order to narrow the development gap. In direct consultation with business, the project will support job forecasting and customizing curriculum for education providers in science, technology, engineering, accounting and tourism. Moreover, the ASEAN Leaders expressed their appreciation to President Obama's interest to promote regional education sector by providing additional short and long-term Scholarship Programmes such as the 2015 Fulbright U.S.-ASEAN Visiting Scholar Program. We welcomed new initiatives from both sides to enhance the people-to-people contacts between the United States and ASEAN including renewed commitment of United States support to the ASEAN Youth Volunteers Program (AYVP).
15. We acknowledged the progress of the cooperation activities in the field of science and technology, such as the ASEAN-United States S&T Fellows Pilot Program, ASEAN-United States Science Prize for Women. We encouraged further collaboration under the framework of the ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology-United States Consultation.
 16. We noted the efforts to further enhance economic engagements by expanding trade and investment relations, increase awareness of commercial opportunities, and support capacity building programmes. We appreciated the support from the United States in providing technical assistance programmes under the Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) Initiative including the establishment of the ASEAN Single Window, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and in regulatory standards. We noted the United States proposal on Best Practices in Transparency and Good Regulatory Practice. We believed that the steps taken by the United States to cooperate with ASEAN will provide opportunities to further enhance trade and investment and lay the groundwork to prepare ASEAN Member States towards a more comprehensive trade-related agreement. We looked forward to potentially expanding our engagements in areas such as finance, trade logistics development, productivity enhancement, and trade related capacity development programmes, including enhancement of capacity for ASEAN services.
 17. We were satisfied with the progress in strengthening business-to-business linkages. We noted the progress of economic cooperation negotiations in the region, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP), as well as the ASEAN-led Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), which aims to promote stronger economic ties throughout the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. We acknowledged that the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is an ASEAN's initiative to strengthen trade and investment supply chain as well as to harmonise rules and regulations between ASEAN and its FTA Partners.
 18. We welcomed the successful convening of the 2nd ASEAN-United States Business Summit at the margins of the ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting in August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw. We acknowledged that small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are instrumental to economic development and that SME development should be promoted as a key engine to increase growth, reduce poverty and improve equitable outcomes. Towards the end, we endeavoured to continue to promote business-to-business linkages at all levels of enterprises between ASEAN and the United States.
 19. We noted the successful convening of the 30th Air Transport Working Group Meeting held in Yangon on 22-26 September 2014, during which ASEAN held a consultation with the United States on best practices of economic regulations of air transport. We welcomed ASEAN Leaders' interest in collaborating further with the United States in aviation matters.
 20. We acknowledged the on-going implementation of the ASEAN-United States Energy Cooperation Work Plan (2012-2014) and welcomed the progress of the implementation of the United States-Asia Pacific Comprehensive Energy Partnership (USACEP) Initiative, including the launch of the Asia-Pacific Clean Energy Programme at the United States Embassy in Bangkok. The Programme will leverage USACEP resources to catalyze the United States private investment in the Asia-Pacific region by offering a range of tools, such as financing, insurance, project preparation, and technical assistance support, while enhancing the United States-Asia business partnerships.

21. We acknowledged the United States' continuous support to ASEAN in enhancing food security and promoting sustainable development of fisheries in the ASEAN region through the implementation of the Maximizing Agricultural Revenue through Knowledge, Enterprise Development and Trade (MARKET) programme.
22. We adopted the ASEAN-United States Joint Statement on Climate Change, which reiterated our commitment to jointly tackle climate change issues. We expressed our commitment to work closely together towards the adoption of a protocol, another legal instrument, or an agreed outcome with legal force applicable to all Parties at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP 21) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris in 2015. To this end, ASEAN Member States and the United States intend to communicate Intended Nationally Determined Contributions well in advance of the Paris Conference (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so) as reflected in the decision 1/CP.19. These Intended Nationally Determined Contributions will reflect our efforts to address climate change based on our respective national circumstances.
23. Recognizing the threat to wildlife and reduction of biodiversity causing negative impacts to current and future generations, we decided to work together to preserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystems and protect wildlife and natural habitats in the region. In this regard, we are committed to take measures to strengthen cooperation through the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) and engage with partners in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) to strengthen laws and enforcement capacity to fight wildlife trafficking. We welcomed the adoption of the EAS Declaration on Combating Wildlife Trafficking to further address wildlife trafficking challenges around the world. Furthermore, we encouraged information sharing among countries to facilitate and implement innovative and effective methods to combat wildlife trafficking on the ground.
24. We welcomed ASEAN-United States consultation with the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) in 2014 and looked forward to expanding cooperation in the implementation of AICHR's Work Plan. We also welcomed United States engagement with the ASEAN Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children, and the ASEAN Committee on Women in 2014 and cooperation on activities, such as developing and ASEAN Network of Social Service Agencies and support to the ASEAN Women's Entrepreneurs Network.
25. We recognised the importance of disaster preparedness, disaster management and response efforts in promoting a sense of ASEAN Community and relevance among its populations. We noted with satisfaction the continued cooperation between ASEAN and the United States on the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2010-2015). We decided to strengthen cooperation on disaster management, which will also contribute to building a disaster-resilient ASEAN Community. We expressed our appreciation to the United States' continued support for the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) through ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM).
26. We support the United States in promotion of sub-regional cooperation through the Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI), particularly in the areas of environmental protection and sustainable water management, health, education, agriculture and food security, energy security and connectivity. We supported the convening of ministerial meetings between the United States and Lower Mekong Basin countries on an annual basis. We welcomed the implementation of activities under the LMI Plan of Action (2011-2015) and its priorities and a subsequent subset of actions in each pillar.
27. We acknowledged the importance of the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty as an ASEAN instrument to promote regional peace, security and stability and welcomed the implementation of the revised Plan of Action (2013-2017) to strengthen the SEANWFZ Treaty. We encouraged the enhanced cooperation between ASEAN and IAEA. We looked forward to strengthening more cooperation between regional countries on nuclear safety and security in the South East Asia region. We welcomed the commitment of the United States to non-proliferation and disarmament. Moreover, we recognized the grave

risks posed by proliferation of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons materials and their means of delivery, and we stressed the necessity for all Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Parties to continue to fulfill their respective obligations under the NPT while implementing the action plan adopted by the May 2010 Review Conference (RevCon) of the NPT. We reaffirmed our commitment to the NPT, and look forward to working toward a successful RevCon in 2015.

28. We reaffirmed our shared interests on the importance of regional peace and stability. We strongly condemn the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 in Eastern Ukraine in July. We reiterated our support for comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East.
 29. We expressed our appreciation to the United States Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, the ASEAN Secretariat and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) for their efforts in and contribution to strengthening ASEAN-United States cooperation across a wide range of areas, including enhancing ASEAN's capacity to address regional challenges.
 30. We emphasized the importance of sustaining dialogues between ASEAN and the United States at the highest level and looked forward to the 3rd ASEAN-United States Summit to be held in Malaysia in 2015.
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- ASEAN-U.S. Joint Statement
on Climate Change**
- Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**
1. We, the Heads of State/ Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the United States of America gathered at the 2nd ASEAN-U.S. Summit on 13 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
 2. We are alarmed by the threat global climate change poses to the livelihoods, prosperity and economic development for all nations. As countries that represent some of the world's most vulnerable, and most vibrant economies, ASEAN Member States and the United States of America have a strong and abiding interest in responding to this challenge in an urgent and effective manner.
 3. We are concerned about anthropogenic climate change and its worsening impacts globally as emphasised in the Fifth Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC AR-5). Scientific evidence warns us of the negative impacts of climate change, including the danger presented to our coastlines from rising sea levels, the alarming acidification of our oceans, the striking incidence of extreme weather events, and potentially scarce future water resources from shifting rain patterns. We also recognise that the tropics are especially at risk, where even small changes in temperatures can have dramatic effects on tropical ecosystems and the livelihoods that rely on them.
 4. Recalling, *inter alia*, the objective, principles, and provisions of the UNFCCC, we are determined to combat climate change. ASEAN welcomes the substantial efforts made by the United States in reducing emissions. The United States applauds ASEAN's efforts to develop and implement low emission development strategies, promote renewable energy sources, combat illegal logging and trading, reduce deforestation, make their economies more resilient through adaptation, and pledges its continued support for these efforts through initiatives that includes climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building.
 5. We are determined to continue working together through a wide range of activities toward a low carbon economic growth trajectory, enhancing the adaptive capacity of ASEAN to current impacts of climate change and building more climate resilient societies, and we intend to deepen our cooperation in these areas.
 6. We are committed to tackle the issue under the UNFCCC, and look forward to finalising a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties at the 21st Session of Conference of the

Parties in 2015 in Paris. To this end, ASEAN Member States and the United States intend to communicate Intended Nationally Determined Contributions well in advance of the Paris Conference (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so) as reflected in the decision 1/CP.19. These Intended Nationally Determined Contributions will reflect our efforts to address climate change based on our respective national circumstances. ASEAN Member States and the United States are committed to reaching an ambitious 2015 agreement that reflects the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of national circumstances.

7. We underscored that our action to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change, in the context of national circumstances and through international cooperation, can reduce the current and future impacts of anthropogenic climate change and, can yield substantial and immediate benefits in promoting cleaner air and environment, human health, resilience against natural disasters, and more diverse and cleaner sources of energy. We recognise the importance of working to integrate climate change considerations into our national planning processes, and to ensure that our cooperation is undertaken with respect to national circumstances including economic growth needs in the region, climate change impacts and co-benefits.
 8. We call on all countries around the world to come together in a cooperative spirit to address this challenge in an urgent and timely manner.
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ASEAN – Plus Three

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.

Joint Statement of the 17th ASEAN Plus Three 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 recognized 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 recognized 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 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.
7. The Ministers noted with appreciation the completion of numerous joint programmes supported by the Republic of Korea, including the 13th Human Resources 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.

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 ADMMP 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 (ERPD) 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, noncommunicable 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.

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 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

1. The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei

Darussalam; 2. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce, China; 4. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia; 5. H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; 6. H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea; 7. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 8. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 9. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 10. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 11. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 12. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 13. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 14. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

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 6th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting

Ha Noi, Viet Nam, 19 September 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 reaffirm 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 Ministerial Statement of the 11th ASEAN +3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 23 September 2014

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 organize 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 organize 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 recognized 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 organize 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.
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

a. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of

Brunei Darussalam; b. H.E. Suy Sem, Minister of Mines and Energy of Cambodia; c. H.E. Guan Huabing, China's Ambassador to Lao PDR; d. H.E. Susilo Siswoutomo, Vice Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia; e. H.E. Daishiro Yamagiwa, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; f. H.E. Chung Yang Ho, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea; g. H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR; h. H.E. Dato' Seri DiRaja Mahdzir Bin Khalid, Deputy Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia; i. H.E. U Aung Htoo, Deputy Minister of the Ministry for Energy of Myanmar; j. H.E. Loreta G. Ayson, Undersecretary, Department of Energy of the Philippines; k. 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; l. H.E. Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee, Minister for Energy of Thailand; m. H.E. Dr. Cao Quoc Hung, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam; and n. H.E. Dr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Economic Community.

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**

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.

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 a main vehicle in moving forward to realise its long-term goal of an East Asia 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 (ARE), ASEAN Defence Ministers' 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 of the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for the ASEAN Community (2009-2015) and their support for the ASEAN Community's Post-2013 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 emphasised 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 negotiations 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 Initiative (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 stakeholders' 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 main mechanisms for enhancing regional food security. We appreciated the prompt initiative 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 (AFSTS). To this light, we welcomed the outcomes of the Meeting of the API 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 Ministers' Statement to the 12th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on 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 17 April 2015 which will serve as a platform for strengthening international cooperation on tackling water challenges. We welcomed the 13th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers' 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 Coordinators' 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 Ministers' 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 University Network and welcomed the successful 2nd ASEAN+3 Rectors' 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 resource 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 the 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 Ministers' 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 Statistics Week. We also noted the outcomes of the 13th APT Tourism Ministers' Meeting held and the 24th APT National Tourism Organisations (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 Service 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 towards fulfilling people's aspiration and welfare. We agreed to respond to the 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 service sector.
21. We realised the important role of the information sector to raise ASEAN 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 Ministers' 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 Ministers' Meeting held in Myanmar, on 23 May 2014 and the 6th APT Ministers 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 Leaders' 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-taking 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 region. In this regard, we welcomed the Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Programme in Science and China's initiative to host the APT Exchange Programme for Young Scientists, 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 (UKSC) Resolutions 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 the Republic of Korea. We also noted the recent talks between Japan and DPRK of addressing human rights and humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the abduction issue.

Joint Statement of ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Special Meeting on Ebola Preparedness and Response

Bangkok, Thailand, 15 December 2015

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 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 ongoing 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.

ASEAN – CER **(Australia and New Zealand)**

Joint Media Statement of the 19th AEM-CER Consultations

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 26 August 2014

1. ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Ministers of Australia and New Zealand (Closer Economic Relations - CER) met in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 26 August 2014 for the Nineteenth AEM-CER Consultations, which were co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; the Honourable Mr. Andrew Robb, Minister for Trade and Investment, Australia; and the Honourable Mr. Tim Groser, Minister of Trade, New Zealand.
2. ASEAN welcomed the commemoration of its 40th anniversary of Dialogue Relations with Australia this year, and with New Zealand in 2015, and welcomed the strengthening of its partnership with the CER countries.
3. ASEAN and Australia's combined two-way merchandise trade more than doubled over the past decade to US\$68 billion in 2013, making ASEAN Australia's second largest trading partner. In 2013, ASEAN received over US\$2 billion of foreign direct investment from Australia, a 9.4% increase on a year-on-year basis.
4. The economic relationship between ASEAN and New Zealand has also grown with total two-way merchandise trade at US\$9.8 billion in 2013, a 6.1% increase year-on-year. ASEAN also received a US\$250 million inflows of FDI from New Zealand in 2013. The implementation of "NZ Inc Strategy for ASEAN" launched in 2013 is expected to further strengthen trade and investment relations between ASEAN and New Zealand.

ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA Implementation

5. The Ministers welcomed the signing of the *First Protocol to Amend the Agreement establishing the*

ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA). The First Protocol is intended to make AANZFTA more business-friendly, transparent and improve administrative efficiency, including by simplifying information requirements on certificates of origin and consolidating rules of origin. Ministers affirmed the importance of the Protocol's early implementation and endorsed the target date of entry into force by 31 March 2015 upon ratification of at least four ASEAN Member States, Australia, and New Zealand.

6. In order to ensure that the implementation of the Protocol was trade-facilitating, the Ministers tasked the relevant AANZFTA committees to put in place appropriate transitional arrangements, particularly on revised Rules of Origin, well before the entry into force of the Protocol. Ministers noted the need to ensure that business was adequately informed about the changes to AANZFTA's operation resulting from the First Protocol, to assist companies to continue to fully utilise the Agreement. The Ministers welcomed the progress in completing the transposition of the AANZFTA tariff reduction schedules from HS 2007 to HS 2012, and looked forward to early completion of the remaining schedules. Ministers underscored the need to prioritise the development of guidelines and methodologies for future transposition of tariff schedules.
7. The Ministers noted the status of the implementation of the regional mechanism to monitor AANZFTA tariff utilisation as well as the progress of the review of non-tariff measures, including the conduct of a business survey.
8. The Ministers noted the importance of progressing the FTA's built-in agenda and welcomed the work done to date, such as the timeframe for the conclusion of the investment schedule of reservations, the preparatory work for the review of services commitments, and the interface between investment and services committees. The Ministers looked forward to the reviews of product specific rules and cumulation rules as deliverables at the AEM-CER Consultations in 2015.
9. The Ministers noted the achievements in intellectual property cooperation such as long-term regional capacity building for patent examination, development of an ASEAN strategy

for public education and awareness, exchanges on genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, and development of implementation roadmaps to support ASEAN Member States' accession to and the implementation of the Madrid Protocol.

10. The Ministers welcomed the development of the Competition Law Implementation Programme which aims to provide strategic direction to economic cooperation in the area of competition through phased and practically-focused technical assistance.

Broader Economic Cooperation

11. The Ministers were pleased with the momentum of the implementation of the AANZFTA Economic Cooperation Support Programme (AECSP) which will run until the end of December 2015. The Programme, which to date has a committed expenditure of ADD 18.9 million, continues to support AANZFTA implementation and the promotion of deeper and broader economic integration.
12. The Ministers also welcomed the development and dissemination of new communications material including the *Programme Highlights and Fact Sheets*, which provide a snapshot of each project's contribution to AEC priorities. The Ministers looked forward to the FTA Joint Committee's close monitoring of the projects to deliver focused outcomes and greater coordination of economic cooperation post-2015.
13. Ministers welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQR) at the 46th ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting. The AQR, which will enable comparisons of qualifications across ASEAN Member States, is a step further towards the ASEAN Economic Community goal of free flow of skilled labour. The Ministers acknowledged the work undertaken by the Task Force on AQR, which comprised representatives from ministries of labour, education, trade, and qualification agencies. ASEAN thanked Australia and New Zealand for their continued support to the Task Force through the AECSP.

ASEAN-CER INTEGRATION PARTNERSHIP FORUM

14. The Ministers were pleased to note the outcomes of the 4th ASEAN-CER Integration Partnership Forum in Auckland in May 2014 with the theme “*Agro-Food Trade: Tackling Non-Tariff Measures - Helping Trade to Flow Freely in Global Value Chains*”. The Forum explored the experiences of and challenges faced by New Zealand and Australia in adopting a mutual recognition and joint standards regime for agro-food as a way to enhance participation in global value chains.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. The Hon. Andrew Robb AO MP, Minister for Trade and Investment, Australia; 2. The Hon. Pehin Dato Urn Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 3. H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 4. H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia; 5. H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. H.E. Dato’ Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. The Hon. Tim Groser, Minister of Trade, New Zealand; 9. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 10. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 11. H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 12. H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 13. H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

1st Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 26 August 2014

Preamble

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia (Cambodia), the Republic of Indonesia (Indonesia), the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Myanmar), the Republic of the Philippines (Philippines), the Republic of Singapore (Singapore), the Kingdom of Thailand (Thailand) and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Viet Nam), collectively, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and Australia and New Zealand;

RECALLING the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (hereinafter referred to as the “Agreement”), signed at Cha-am, Petchaburi, Thailand on 27 February 2009;

SEEKING to facilitate trade by incorporating the consolidated Product Specific Rules using the most recent version of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System established by the *International Convention on the Harmonized Description and Coding System* signed at Brussels on 14 June 1983, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the “HS Code”);

RECOGNISING the importance of a timely updating of the Product Specific Rules and the Schedules of Tariff Commitments to take account of periodic amendments of the HS Code;

RECOGNISING also the need to update the Operational Certification Procedures for the Rules of Origin of the Agreement to make it more trade facilitative, including but not limited to the removal of the requirement to reflect the FOB value in the Certificate of Origin in cases where the regional value content criteria is not used;

DESIRING to ensure the implementation of the Rules of Origin in an effective and trade facilitating manner;

NOTING that Article 6 (Amendments) of Chapter 18 (Final Provisions) of the Agreement provides for amendments thereto to be agreed in writing by the Parties;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article 1
Amendments to Chapter 2
(Trade in Goods)**

1. Chapter 2 (Trade in Goods) of the Agreement shall be amended by inserting a new Article 13 (Transposition of Schedules of Tariff Commitments) as follows:

**“Article 13
Transposition of Schedules of Tariff
Commitments**

1. Each Party shall ensure that the transposition of its schedule of tariff commitments, undertaken in order to implement Annex 1 (Schedules of Tariff Commitments) in the nomenclature of the revised HS Code following periodic amendments to the HS Code, is carried out without impairing existing tariff concessions.
2. The transposition of the schedules of tariff commitments shall be carried out in accordance with the methodologies and procedures adopted by the Committee on Trade in Goods. The procedures should, at the minimum, provide for:
 - (a) the timely circulation by a Party of a draft schedule of tariff commitments in the nomenclature of the revised HS Code accompanied by a two-way transposition setting out at national tariff line level:
 - (i) a concordance between the draft schedule of tariff commitments in the nomenclature of the revised HS Code and the schedule of tariff commitments in the nomenclature of the then current HS Code; and
 - (ii) a concordance between the schedule of tariff commitments in the nomenclature of the then current HS Code and the draft schedule of tariff

commitments in the nomenclature of the revised HS Code;

- (b) the provision of comments by other Parties on the draft schedules circulated in accordance with Subparagraph (a), and consultations between the Parties, as necessary, with a view to resolving any concerns raised;
 - (c) the schedules of tariff commitments in the nomenclature of the revised HS Code shall be made publicly available in a timely manner, following completion of the process in Subparagraphs (a) and (b); and
 - (d) for the purpose of Subparagraph (a), proposals for technical assistance shall receive positive consideration.”
3. The new Chapter 2 (Trade in Goods) is set out in Appendix 1 of this Protocol.

**Article 2
Amendments to Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin)**

1. Article 4 (Goods Not Wholly Produced or Obtained) of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the Agreement shall be replaced by a new Article 4 providing for Annex 2 to contain a list of consolidated Product Specific Rules that includes goods which were previously not covered in Annex 2 but are treated as an originating good if:
 - (a) the good has a regional value content of not less than 40 per cent of FOB calculated using the formulae as described in Article 5 (Calculation of Regional Value Content) of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin), and the final process of production is performed within a Party; or
 - (b) all non-originating materials used in the production of the good have undergone a change in tariff classification at the four-digit level (i.e. a change in tariff heading) of the HS Code in a Party.
2. The new Article 4 referred to in paragraph 1 is set out below:

Article 4

Goods Not Wholly Produced or Obtained

1. For the purposes of Article 2.1(b) (Originating Goods), a good shall qualify as an originating good of a Party if it satisfies all applicable requirements of the Product Specific Rules.
2. Where Annex 2 (Product Specific Rules) provides a choice of rule between a regional value content based rule of origin, a change in tariff classification based rule of origin, a specific process of production, or a combination of any of these, a Party shall permit the producer or exporter of the good to decide which rule to use in determining if the good is an originating good."
3. Article 19 (Consultations, Review and Modification) of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the Agreement shall be replaced by a new Article 19 as set out below:

"Article 19

Consultations, Review and Modification

1. The Parties shall consult regularly to ensure that this Chapter is administered effectively, uniformly and consistently in order to achieve the spirit and objectives of this Agreement.
2. The FTA Joint Committee, upon recommendation of the Committee on Trade in Goods and the ROO Sub-Committee, may adopt a List of Data Requirements for inclusion in the Application for a Certificate of Origin and the Certificate of Origin.
3. The List of Data Requirements, and any subsequent revisions to it, adopted in accordance with paragraph 2 shall be promptly published and shall come into effect on the date determined by the Parties through the FTA Joint Committee and on the basis of a report from the ROO Sub-Committee, through the Committee on Trade in Goods.
4. The FTA Joint Committee, upon recommendation of the Committee on Trade in Goods and the ROO Sub-Committee, shall adopt the transposition of Annex 2 (Product Specific Rules) that is in the nomenclature of the revised HS Code following periodic

amendments to the HS Code. Such transposition shall be carried out without impairing the existing commitments and shall be completed in a timely manner. The Parties shall promptly publish the transposition of Annex 2 (Product Specific Rules) in the nomenclature of the revised HS Code.

5. This Chapter may be reviewed and modified in accordance with Article 6 (Amendments) of Chapter 18 (Final Provisions) as and when necessary, upon request of a Party, and subject to the agreement of the Parties, and may be open to such reviews and modifications as may be agreed upon by the FTA Joint Committee."
4. The new Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) is set out in Appendix 2 Section A of this Protocol.

Article 3

Amendments to the Annex on Operational Certification Procedures of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin)

1. Rules 6, 7 and 10 of the Annex on Operational Certification Procedures to Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) of the Agreement shall be replaced by the new Rules 6, 7 and 10 as set out below:

"PRE-EXPORTATION EXAMINATION

Rule 6

The Issuing Authority/Body shall, to the best of its competence and ability, carry out proper examination, in accordance with the domestic laws and regulations of the exporting Party or the procedures of the Issuing Authority/Body, upon each application for a Certificate of Origin to ensure that:

- (i) the application and the Certificate of Origin are duly completed and signed by the authorised signatory;
- (ii) the good is an originating good in accordance with Article 2 (Originating Goods) of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin);
- (iii) other statements in the Certificate of Origin correspond to appropriate supporting documents and other relevant information; and

- (iv) information in the List of Data Requirements is provided for the goods being exported.

ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Rule 7

1. The format of the Certificate of Origin is to be determined by the Parties and it must contain the data requirements listed in the List of Data Requirements.
2. The Certificate of Origin shall comprise one (1) original and two (2) copies.
3. The Certificate of Origin shall:
 - (i) be in hardcopy;
 - (ii) bear a unique reference number separately given by each place or office of issuance;
 - (iii) be in the English language; and
 - (iv) bear an authorised signature and official seal of the Issuing Authority/Body. The signature and official seal may be applied electronically.
4. The original Certificate of Origin shall be forwarded by the exporter to the importer for submission to the Customs Authority of the importing Party. Copies shall be retained by the Issuing Authority/Body and the exporter.
5. Multiple goods declared on the same Certificate of Origin shall be allowed, provided that each good is originating in its own right.

Rule 10

1. The Certificate of Origin shall be issued as near as possible to, but no later than three (3) working days after, the date of exportation.
2. Where a Certificate of Origin has not been issued as provided for in Paragraph 1 due to involuntary errors or omissions or other valid causes, the Certificate of Origin may be issued retroactively, but no longer than 12 months from the date of exportation, bearing the words "ISSUED RETROACTIVELY".

3. An Issuing Authority/Body of an intermediate Party shall issue a back-to-back Certificate of Origin, if an application is made by the exporter while the good is passing through that intermediate Party, provided that:

- (i) a valid original Certificate of Origin or its certified true copy is presented;
 - (ii) the period of validity of the back-to-back Certificate of Origin does not exceed the period of validity of the original Certificate of Origin;
 - (iii) the consignment which is to be re-exported using the back-to-back Certificate of Origin does not undergo any further processing in the intermediate Party, except for repacking or logistics activities such as unloading, reloading, storing, or any other operations necessary to preserve them in good condition or to transport them to the importing Party;
 - (iv) the back-to-back Certificate of Origin contains relevant information from the original Certificate of Origin in accordance with the List of Data Requirements; and
 - (v) the verification procedures in Rules 17 and 18 shall also apply to the back-to-back Certificate of Origin."
2. Appendix 1 (Minimum Data Requirements – Application for a Certificate of Origin) and Appendix 2 (Minimum Data Requirements – Certificate of Origin) of the Annex on Operational Certification Procedures (OCP) to Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) shall be deleted. Upon entry into force of this Protocol, the List of Data Requirements as set out in Appendix 3 of this Protocol shall apply as a transitional measure until such time as a List of Data Requirements is adopted by the FTA Joint Committee in accordance with the new Article 19.2 (Consultations, Review and Modification) of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin).
 3. The new Annex on Operational Certification Procedures to Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) is set out in Appendix 2 Section B.

Article 4

Amendment to Annex 2 (Product Specific Rules) of the Agreement to Incorporate the Consolidated Product Specific Rules

1. Annex 2 (Product Specific Rules) of the Agreement shall be replaced by a new Annex 2 (Product Specific Rules) as set out in Appendix 4 of this Protocol.
2. The new Annex 2 (Product Specific Rules) shall be implemented by the Parties in accordance with procedures adopted by the FTA Joint Committee, upon a recommendation of the Committee on Trade in Goods and the ROO Sub-Committee. These procedures shall address, *inter alia*, the date(s) on which the new Annex 2 (Product Specific Rules) shall be applicable to applications for, and the issuance of, Certificates of Origin in accordance with the Annex on Operational Certification Procedures.

Article 5

Entry into Force

1. This Protocol shall form an integral part of the Agreement.
2. Each Party shall notify each other Party in writing upon the completion of its internal requirements necessary for the entry into force of this Protocol. This Protocol shall enter into force 30 days after the date on which Australia, New Zealand and at least four (4) ASEAN Member States have made such notifications.
3. Where a Party does not complete its internal procedures necessary for the entry into force of this Protocol by the entry into force date set out in paragraph 2, this Protocol shall enter into force in relation to that Party on the date of its notification to other Parties of completion of such internal procedures.

Article 6

Despositary

For the ASEAN Member States, this Protocol shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN, who shall then promptly furnish a certified true copy thereof, to each ASEAN Member State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed this First Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area.

DONE at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, this twenty-sixth day of August in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen, in three original copies in the English language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

LIM JOCK SENG

Seond Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

For the Kingdom of Cambodia

SUN CHANTHOL

Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce

For the Republic of Indonesia

MUHAMMAD LUTFI

Ministry of Trade

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic

KHEMMANI PHOLSENA

Minister of Industry and Commerce

For Malaysia

MUSTAPA MOHAMED

Minister of International Trade and Industry

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

KAN ZAW

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic
Development

For the Republic of the Philippines

GREGORY L. DOMINGO

Secretary of Trade and Industry

For the Republic of Singapore

LIM HNG KIANG

Minister for Trade and Industry

For the Kingdom of Thailand

CHUTIMA BUNYAPRAPHASARA

Permanent Secretaty

Acting for the Minister of Commerce

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

VU HUY HOANG

Minister of Industry and Trade

For Australia

ANDREW ROBB

Minister for Trade and Investment

For New Zealand

TIM GROSER

Minister of Trade

Appendices:

<http://www.asean.org/images/Statement/2014/aug/2014.08.26 AANZFTA First Protocol body - signed.pdf>

East Asia Summit

Chairman's Statement of 4th East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 10 August 2014

1. The 4th East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting was convened in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 10 August 2014. The Meeting was chaired by His Excellency U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
2. The meeting strongly condemned the downing of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH17 in eastern Ukraine on 17 July 2014, which resulted in the tragic loss of 298 innocent civilians. The Ministers expressed their deepest condolences to the families, victims and governments affected and called for the urgent and full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2166. Noting that parties controlling the crash site and surrounding areas had facilitated some access to the site, Ministers agreed that more needed to be done to ensure that all remains could be gathered and repatriated in a dignified manner as soon as possible. The Ministers called for a full, swift, thorough and independent investigation into the downing of Flight MH17 and called on all States and parties to cooperate towards this end.
3. The EAS Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the EAS as a Leaders-led forum to discuss broad strategic, political and economic issues of common concern. Recognising that increasingly multifaceted issues present both opportunities and challenges for the region, the Ministers valued the role of the EAS in addressing issues of common concern and maintaining peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia.
4. The Ministers noted that the mandate of the EAS encompassed strategic, political, security and economic matters, allowing it to address broad areas of common concern and strategic importance, while promoting a range of priority areas including finance, environment and energy, education, global health issues and pandemic diseases, disaster management and ASEAN Connectivity, as well as maritime security and cooperation, non-proliferation and other non-traditional security issues.
5. The Ministers underscored the need to further strengthen and consolidate the EAS and facilitate processes and procedures to ensure the effective follow-up and implementation of the Leaders' decisions. In this regard, the Ministers emphasised the need to strengthen the ASEAN Secretariat, including the Unit in charge of the EAS, in order to provide greater efficiency in the coordination of EAS priorities and for more effective implementation of EAS projects and initiatives.
6. The Ministers reaffirmed their support for ASEAN centrality and the ASEAN community building process. They reiterated the importance of adhering to the principles, objectives and modalities of the EAS as well as the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the East Asia Summit, the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration on Commemoration of the 5th Anniversary of the EAS and the 2011 Declaration of the EAS on the Principles of Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles) in moving forward the EAS process.
7. With the EAS approaching its 10th anniversary in 2015, the Ministers tasked senior officials to take stock of current achievements and chart the future direction of the EAS with a view to strengthening the EAS process in line with the Kuala Lumpur and the Ha Noi Declarations. This would ensure the EAS continued to serve as the premier Leaders-led forum for discussing pressing political and security issues, and enhance its ability to promote peace, stability and prosperity in East Asia. The Ministers welcomed the ROK's proposal for a Track II Roundtable on the Future Direction of the EAS, which would be held in December 2014.
8. The Ministers noted Indonesia's proposal for 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 (Bali Principles). In this regard, they welcomed Indonesia's intention to host the

3rd EAS Workshop to further discuss the Indo-Pacific Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

9. The Ministers adopted the Plan of Action (PoA) to implement the Phnom Penh Declaration on the East Asia Summit Development Initiative, which would be submitted to the 9th EAS. They shared the view that the Plan of Action would promote mutual support and cooperation to achieve concrete and sustainable results, including narrowing the development gap, in order to benefit regional economic integration, the local economy and the people of the EAS participating countries.
10. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the first Workshop and Dialogue on Regional Security Framework in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam from 14 to 15 November 2013 and the second EAS Workshop on Security Architecture in the Asia-Pacific Region in Moscow, Russian Federation on 25 April 2014 and looked forward to the third Workshop which would be held in Indonesia. The Ministers noted the proposed Action Plan for elaborating security architecture in the Asia-Pacific region and tasked the senior officials to deliberate further on the proposed Action Plan based on existing various frameworks and strategic policies to further strengthen political-security cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

Energy

11. The Ministers commended the progress on EAS energy cooperation work streams, namely energy efficiency and conservation, biofuels for transport and other purposes, and energy market integration. The Ministers welcomed the call to establish efficient, transparent, reliable, competitive and flexible energy markets as a means to provide affordable, secure and clean energy supplies for the region. In this regard, the Ministers called on countries to improve their energy mix. The Ministers also welcomed the successful convening of the 19th Meeting of the EAS Energy Cooperation Task Force (19th EAS ECTF), which was held on 12 June 2014, in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR.

Environment and climate change

12. The Ministers noted progress in EAS cooperation on urban sustainability, climate change adaptation and the follow up to the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

The Ministers welcomed the progress made by China in establishing the East Asia Center for Climate Change Research and International Cooperation. The Ministers further welcomed EAS participating countries initiatives on urban and rural sustainable development. The Ministers welcomed the 4th EAS Environment Ministers' Meeting to be held on 31 October 2014 in Lao PDR.

Disaster management

13. Recognising the urgent need to strengthen strategies to respond to disasters following Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda, the Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to further enhance disaster management cooperation through regional mechanisms, including through the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM), ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2010-2015) and ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). In this regard, the Ministers looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN High-Level Conference for the Recovery of Yolanda Affected Areas (ARYA) in Manila on 14 August 2014, as a concrete initiative to further consolidate regional disaster recovery initiatives. The Ministers also welcomed the progress of work to implement the EAS Rapid Disaster Response Action Plan. The Ministers supported a statement on rapid disaster response, to be adopted by the Leaders at 9th EAS, to highlight the need to increase practical cooperation in the region. They agreed that an EAS statement on rapid disaster response should emphasize the need to increase practical cooperation in the region, while also acknowledging the diversity of systems, legislation and practices among the EAS member countries. The Ministers welcomed the Roundtable of 24x7 point of contacts of the National Disaster Response Agencies of EAS participating countries and the inauguration of the Virtual Knowledge Portal (VKP) to be hosted by India from 4 to 5 December 2014. The Ministers noted the EAS Earthquake Response and Relief Joint Exercise by several EAS participating countries.

Education

14. The Ministers welcomed the progress on Nalanda University, particularly the proposed commencement of classes in the Schools of

Historical Studies and Ecology and Environment Studies in September 2014. The Ministers commended the progress under the EAS Education Action Plan (2011-2015) which has contributed to improving the quality and mobility of qualifications across the Asia-Pacific region. The Ministers looked forward to the 2nd East Asia Summit Education Ministers' Meeting (2nd EAS EMM) which would take place on 12 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

15. The Ministers appreciated programmes aimed at further enhancing people linkages with a focus on youth in the East Asia region, including the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan and the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) Programme, which are contributing to promote mutual understanding among the future generation of Leaders in ASEAN and other EAS participating countries. The Ministers welcomed the launching of the JENESYS 2.0 Project which would facilitate the exchange programme for 30,000 young people between Japan and the Asian/Oceania region.

Global health and pandemic diseases

16. The Ministers reiterated the Leaders' commitment to implement the Declaration of the 7th EAS on Regional Responses to Malaria Control and Addressing Resistance to Antimalarial Medicines. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the work to date of the Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance (APLMA) Task Forces on access to quality medicines and other technologies, and regional financing for malaria and looked forward to receiving the final recommendations of the Task Forces for Leaders' consideration. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the Roundtable on Trauma Care and Nursing on 11 to 12 December 2014 in New Delhi. The Ministers also expressed concerns over the pandemic Ebola disease and emphasized the need to prevent an outbreak of the Ebola disease and other pandemic diseases.

Finance

17. Recalling the Leaders' recognition of the important role of the EAS in strengthening economic and financial development in the region, the Ministers welcomed enhanced dialogue and further cooperation between EAS Finance Ministers on issues of mutual interest and global financial

issues. They welcomed Myanmar's convening of an EAS Finance Ministers' Meeting this year to further develop and consolidate finance as an EAS priority area of cooperation.

ASEAN Connectivity

18. Recalling the Declaration of the 6th East Asia Summit on ASEAN Connectivity adopted in Bali, Indonesia, in November 2011, the Ministers reaffirmed their support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) across all areas, including physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity, in order to further enhance connectivity within the region and beyond. They also acknowledged that better infrastructure was essential to facilitate free flow of goods, services and investments to markets and improving peoples' access to social and health services across the region. They recognised that connectivity in the region was not in line with the development potential of the region. In this regard, they agreed to explore further cooperation to mobilize resources; develop innovative financing mechanisms, including Public Private Partnerships (PPP); and enhance knowledge sharing and expertise.
19. The Ministers welcomed the launching of the ASEAN Connectivity video clips on the sidelines of the 47th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nay Pyi Taw. They also looked forward to the convening of the 5th ASEAN Connectivity Symposium and meetings with dialogue partners in September 2014 in Myanmar, which would realise the objectives of the proposed EAS Connectivity Forum to implement the 2011 EAS Declaration on Connectivity.

Trade and economic integration

20. The Ministers appreciated efforts to enhance regional economic integration, including through the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations. The Ministers urged all RCEP participating countries to bring the positions needed to the negotiations in order to accelerate progress. They looked forward to the conclusion of the RCEP, in line with the vision endorsed by the Leaders in the 'Guiding Principles' for a modern, comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial agreement that would support

the achievement of the ASEAN Community. The Ministers recognised that RCEP supports and complements the interests of the EAS in contributing to economic integration and strengthening economic cooperation among participating countries.

21. The Ministers reiterated the importance of regulatory coherence in achieving regional economic integration. They noted the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia's (ERIA) contribution to this aim through its project on regulatory coherence and the regulatory cooperation workshop with APEC and EAS participants to be held alongside APEC's Economic Committee in August 2014 (both co-sponsored by Malaysia and New Zealand). The Ministers encouraged further work in this important area.
22. The Ministers recognised the role of ERIA in providing intellectual and analytical support to the Chair of the ASEAN Summit and the East Asia Summit and urged ERIA to continue with this role in coming years. We commended ERIA's resolve to continue to work for the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), including through the support of RCEP negotiations, institutional and physical connectivity, energy and food security, SME empowerment, and strengthening regulatory management systems and business environments in the region. They also welcomed the statement of ERIA's 7th Governing Board Meeting issued on 30 May 2014.

Food security

23. The Ministers appreciated the progress of work to further increase the level of food security cooperation within the EAS, including the work to expand regional fisheries management cooperation. In this regard, the Ministers commended the work of the EAS Track II Study Group on Enhancing Food Security through Sustainable Fisheries Management and Marine Environmental Conservation and noted the Report of the EAS Track II Study Group and its five Principal Recommendations. The Ministers tasked relevant officials to further assess recommendations of the EAS Track II Study Group to ensure its submission to the 9th East Asia Summit.

Maritime Security and Cooperation

24. The Ministers recalled the Leaders' call for increased regional efforts to enhance maritime cooperation. In this regard, Ministers emphasized the need to continuously manage traditional and non-traditional maritime security issues. They reaffirmed the need to address the issue of the illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, as well as preserving the marine environment as significant elements in maritime cooperation. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the 3rd Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) back-to-back with the 5th ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) in Da Nang, Viet Nam, in August 2014. The Ministers expected that the 3rd EAMF would promote maritime cooperation and confidence building through candid discussions on maritime issues in the region.

Non-traditional Security and Non-proliferation

25. Considering new and emerging threats to regional security, the Ministers agreed to further enhance cooperation on non-traditional security issues.
26. Recalling the EAS participating countries' commitments under CITES, and the Leaders' pledge at the 8th EAS to further enhance cooperation in non-traditional security issues, the Ministers commended the work of Senior Officials on an EAS Declaration on Combating Wildlife Trafficking to be adopted by the Leaders at the 9th EAS.
27. The Ministers condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and stressed that there could be no justification for any acts of terrorism. Recognising that no country can combat terrorism on its own, they agreed that strong international cooperation was necessary. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their commitment to strengthening the United Nations' central role in coordinating international action against terrorism and encouraged the effective implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and all UN Security Council Resolutions related to combating international terrorism.
28. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to continue to tackle transnational organised crimes, with full respect for human rights, in order to reduce the negative impact it has on individuals

and societies. They encouraged joint efforts aimed at preventing and combating transnational criminal activities in accordance with national legislations and international legal instruments, especially the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime. In this regard, they welcomed EAS Member States cooperation, highlighting their engagement in the ECOSOC Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

29. The Ministers expressed concern about the world's drug problem, which continued to threaten public health, safety and well-being as well as undermine social, economic and political stability. They expressed their shared commitment to countering the world's drug problem, through an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced strategy, in line with relevant UN Conventions.
30. The Ministers noted that piracy and armed robbery at sea were complex phenomena that must be tackled in a comprehensive and integrated manner. They welcomed the efforts made by the international community to counter maritime piracy and called upon all stakeholders – civilian and military, public and private – to remain engaged in the fight against piracy.
31. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment toward a world free of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and supported the inclusion of disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons as part of the EAS agenda. They noted the need for enhanced international cooperation to promote disarmament and non-proliferation objectives and the importance of cooperation at the multilateral level.

Regional and International Issues

South China Sea

32. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace and stability and ensuring maritime security and safety, unimpeded trade and freedom of navigation, including overflight in the South China Sea. The Ministers called for peaceful settlements of disputes, without resorting to threats or the use of force, and in accordance with international law, including that reflected in the 1982 United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

33. The Ministers welcomed the commitments of ASEAN Member States and China to fully and effectively implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in accordance with its Guidelines. The Ministers noted the progress in the official consultations on the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) and the work towards the early conclusion of the COC, which would further contribute to enhancing peace, stability and security in the region.

Korean Peninsula

34. The Ministers followed with concern the recent developments on the Korean Peninsula and underlined the importance of peace, stability and security in the region. The Ministers registered deep concern over North Korea's recent ballistic missile launches. They highlighted the importance of trust building activities on the Korean Peninsula and the need to fully comply with all relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. The Ministers called for the creating of necessary conditions for the early resumption of Six-Party Talks, which would pave the way for the complete and verifiable denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner.

Reform of the United Nations

35. The Ministers reaffirmed the need for a comprehensive and urgent reform of the United Nations, including its Security Council, with a view to expanding the Security Council to reflect contemporary geo-political realities and make it more effective, efficient and representative so that it can deal with today's global challenges more successfully. They noted the importance and timeliness of reforms in the context of the upcoming 70th Anniversary Summit of the United Nations in 2015.
36. The Ministers also discussed the preparations for the 9th EAS to be held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 13 November 2014.
37. The Ministers looked forward to the 5th EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Malaysia in 2015.

Joint Media Statement of the 2nd EAS Economic Ministers Meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 27 August 2014

1. Economic Ministers from the ten ASEAN Member States, Australia, China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Russian Federation and the United States – countries participating in the Second East Asia Summit (EAS) met in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 27 August 2014. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development of Myanmar chaired the Meeting, which was also attended by the following Ministers:
 - (a) The Hon. Andrew Robb AO MP, Minister for Trade and Investment, Australia;
 - (b) The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam;
 - (c) H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia;
 - (d) H.E. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce, People's Republic of China;
 - (e) Mr. Ravi Capoor, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, India representing H.E. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, India;
 - (f) H.E. Muhammad Lutfi, Minister of Trade, Indonesia;
 - (g) H.E. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan;
 - (h) H.E. Yoon Sang-jick, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea;
 - (i) H.E. Mrs Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR;
 - (j) H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia;
 - (k) The Hon. Tim Groser, Minister of Trade, New Zealand;
 - (l) H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines;
 - (m) H.E. Alexey V. Ulyukaev, Minister of Economic Development, the Russian Federation;
 - (n) H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
 - (o) H.E. Ms Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Permanent Secretary, Acting for the Minister of Commerce, Thailand;
 - (p) H.E. Dr. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam;
 - (q) H.E. Michael Froman, United States Trade Representative; and
 - (r) H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
 2. The Ministers exchanged views on the regional and global economic developments and noted that according to the data of ASEAN statistics, the combined GDP of the EAS participating countries grew by 0.9% in 2012-2013 compared to the 5.3% growth recorded in 2011-2012. The combined GDP of EAS participating countries stood at US\$ 39,813.3 billion in 2013.
 3. The Ministers also noted that ASEAN's total trade with the non-ASEAN EAS countries expanded by 1.6% from US\$ 1,082.1 billion in 2012 to US\$ 1,099 billion in 2013. The eight non-ASEAN EAS countries accounted for 43.8% of ASEAN's total trade. Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows from the non-ASEAN EAS countries in 2013 reached US\$ 42.9 billion, or 35.1% of ASEAN's total FDI inflows.
 4. The Meeting noted that private sector entities in EAS member countries are increasing their investment into ASEAN, and the economies are becoming increasingly interdependent. The Ministers recognized the necessity of strengthening economic relations among EAS countries.
- Updates on Regional and Global Economic Developments***
5. The Ministers exchanged views on regional and global economic developments, including progress on connectivity, priority cooperation areas for ASEAN Economic community building and beyond, and collaboration with APEC.

6. The Ministers underscored the need to sustain the gains from their respective economic integration efforts especially in light of a global economy still recovering from the global economy slowdown. The Ministers reiterated their commitment to promote broader economic integration in the East Asia/Asia Pacific region and to continue working closely within the EAS framework not only to achieve their respective economic integration objectives and contribute to regional economic resilience, but also for EAS to contribute to global stability and prosperity.
 7. The Ministers noted that open markets for trade and investment, strong IPR policies, particularly for innovative industries, that foster economy-wide growth, facilitation of cross-border businesses, better understanding of industrial policies, and access to regional and global value chains together with improvement of physical infrastructure and 'soft infrastructure' such as regulatory coherence play an important role in the formation and success of business connectivity. ERIA's industrial cluster research can be useful as an academic base for identifying best practices and informing regional economic development in cooperation with other initiatives.
 8. The Ministers commended the successful holding of the 'International Seminar on Trade and Tourism Statistics' on 7-10 October 2013 in Jakarta, Indonesia, which was jointly organised by the United Nations Statistics Division, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the ASEAN Secretariat, with assistance from the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement-Economic Cooperation Work Programme (AANZFTA-ECWP), and APEC-Technical Assistance and Training Facility. The Seminar was funded by the U.S Agency for International Development.
 9. The Ministers emphasized the importance of prioritizing cooperative efforts between ASEAN and EAS partners, to facilitate the ASEAN Economic Community goal and further integration of ASEAN with the wider region. To this end, the Ministers shared the need to identify areas for prioritized cooperation with focus towards 2015 and beyond, and wider regional economic integration, by both ASEAN and EAS partners. The Ministers emphasized the need to tailor cooperation activities, answering the changing development needs of ASEAN, and reflecting the interest of EAS partners.
 10. The Ministers expressed concern about the inability of WTO Members to implement the Bali Package in accordance with the Ministerial decision in Bali. The Ministers reaffirmed the commitment to maintaining support for the multilateral system and called for a comprehensive and balanced implementation of the Bali Package and completion of a work programme on the remaining DDA issues in accordance with the Ministerial decision in Bali. The Ministers also underscored the importance of the ITA Expansion negotiations, and call for a commercially significant and balanced conclusion in the shortest timeframe possible.
- Updates on ERIA's Activities**
11. The Ministers welcomed the updates provided by ERIA including its studies on industrial cluster policy, regulatory coherence jointly with the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research, energy such as on clean coal technologies, SME development, disaster management, revision of "Comprehensive Asia Development Plan", establishment of PPP Guidelines, and its proposals for ASEAN post-2015 and support for regional economic integration initiatives. The Ministers thanked ERIA for its support and looked forward to its continued contribution to the region's integration efforts. The Ministers encouraged EAS Member States to engage ERIA for its research needs.
 12. The Ministers welcomed the statement of ERIA's 7th Governing Board Meeting issued on 30 May 2014, which puts emphasis on achieving unity, peace and prosperity in the East Asia region through connectivity, inclusiveness and cooperation.
 13. The Ministers appreciated contributions from ASEAN Member States, India, Japan and New Zealand to ERIA.
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Joint Statement of the 2nd East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (2nd EAS EMM)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 12 September 2014

1. The Second East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (2nd EAS 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 ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers' Meeting (2nd APT EMM). The Meeting was preceded by the Third EAS Senior Officials' Meeting on Education (3rd EAS SOM-ED) held on 10 September 2014 in Vientiane.
2. The Ministers underscored the need for a formal coordinating mechanism to support education cooperation under ASEAN, ASEAN Plus Three, EAS and other regional frameworks to achieve synergy and avoid duplication.
3. The Ministers noted the Chairman's Statement of the 8th East Asia Summit held on 10 October 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam which reiterated the importance of education cooperation and the need to further strengthen human resource development in the region.
4. The Ministers reaffirmed the overarching objective of education cooperation within the EAS until 2015 to improve the quality of education, harmonizing the goals of respective education systems, as appropriate, and promoting students and teachers mobility in the EAS participating countries and across the region.
5. The Ministers noted the 15 collaborative projects under the EAS Education Plan of Action 2011–2015 that are grouped under the strategic priorities of systems, community and connectivity. In this connection, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to the EAS participating countries for the efforts undertaken.
6. The Ministers welcomed the regional collaborative initiative and partnership in Capacity Building for Quality Assurance in Higher Education project, which offered the opportunity for regional quality assurance officials to enhance their capacities in an environment that encouraged participants to share knowledge, experience and expertise. The Meeting expressed its appreciation to Australia for supporting the initiative.
7. Having taken stock of progress made under the EAS Education Plan of Action 2011-2015 and examined the remaining challenges, the Ministers encouraged all participating countries to complete their projects where possible, noting that some projects may need to continue after 2015. The Ministers welcomed the proposed evaluation of the current Action Plan. This will ensure that lessons learnt from the current Action Plan and related regional activities are considered in developing the next Action Plan and future education cooperation activities achieve maximum impact and effectiveness.
8. The Ministers had productive discussions on the future direction of education cooperation among EAS participating countries and envisioned a strategic direction post-2015. The Ministers agreed to hold a special EAS SOM-ED in 2015 to maintain education cooperation momentum and Senior Officials on Education were instructed to articulate a vision for the EAS EMM post-2015 which would provide the foundation for developing a successor action plan at the SOM-ED in 2016, with a view to seeking Ministerial endorsement at the 4th EAS EMM in 2016.
9. Recognizing the importance and need of education in order to deal with increasing global issues of today, the Ministers took note of ROK's proposal to include Global Citizenship Education in the post-2015 EAS agenda, in line with that of the UNESCO World Education Forum, to be held in the ROK in May 2015.
10. 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.
11. The Ministers welcomed the hosting of the 3rd EAS EMM by Malaysia which will be held back-to-back with the 9th ASED and the 3rd APT EMM in 2016.

12. The Ministers shared the view to report the outcomes of the 2nd EAS EMM to the 9th East Asia Summit which will be held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in November 2014.
13. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Lao PDR for the warm hospitality extended to the delegates and the excellent arrangements made in hosting the 2nd EAS EMM. The Ministers also acknowledged and thanked the ASEAN Secretariat for its valuable contribution to the meeting.

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 8th East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 24 September 2014

1. The Eighth East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (EAS EMM) was held on 24th September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR and co-chaired by H.E. Daishiro Yamagiwa, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan. The Meeting was attended by the Ministers and Senior Officials responsible for energy from the EAS Participating Countries, namely ASEAN Member States, Australia, People's Republic of China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation and the United States. The Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community was also in attendance.
 2. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of strengthening energy security and improving energy access in the EAS region in light of the development in global energy markets. The Ministers urged EAS participating countries to take appropriate actions towards improving energy efficiency, utilising biofuels for transport and other purposes, promoting alternative/renewable energy and developing open and transparent energy markets and infrastructures.
 3. The Ministers noted that the total energy demand of the EAS participating countries would account for approximately 65% of the global energy demand by 2035. The Ministers reaffirmed the need to step up cooperation on energy efficiency in EAS region and welcomed the progress made on the implementation of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C) Work Stream including:
 - (a) Development of Energy Efficiency Goals and Action Plans;
 - (b) EAS Energy Efficiency Cooperation Programme;
 - (c) EAS Energy Saving Potential and EAS Energy Outlook;
 - (d) Energy Efficiency Conference and Roadmap; and
 - (e) Study on promoting Smart Energy Management.
- The Ministers endorsed the EAS Work Plan of the EE&C Work Stream for 2014-2015.
4. The Ministers welcomed the successful convening of the Energy Efficient Buildings Workshop, held in Singapore from 2-4 September 2014, co-organised by Singapore and the United States under the auspices of the U.S.-Asia Pacific Comprehensive Energy Partnership (USACEP).
 5. The Ministers noted the progress made in implementing the Biofuels for Transport and Other Purposes Work Stream and endorsed its Work Plan for 2014-2015 which includes Biofuels Database Project in East Asia Countries; Asia Biomass and Renewable Energy Researchers Invitation Program; and Benchmarking of Renewable Mobility Energy in EAS Countries.
 6. The Ministers noted the progress made in implementing the Renewable and Alternative Power Generation Work Stream including the successful convening of Renewable and Alternative Energy Financing Workshop in April 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, and the Wind and Grid Integration Roundtable in June 2014 in Colorado, the United States. The Ministers also noted the Sustainable Hydropower Development in EAS Nations Project which will include a joint research project between the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the

- Brunei National Energy Research Institute in 2015 and, the Best Mix of Renewable and Conventional Energy Sources and the Sustainable Assessment of Utilising Conventional and New Type of Geothermal Resources conducted in collaboration with National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)-Japan.
7. The Ministers affirmed the importance of sharing medium-to-long-term outlooks for energy supply and demand across the EAS region taking into consideration the region's growing energy demand, the probable implications of natural disasters and extreme weather on energy infrastructure, and the importance of maintaining and developing such infrastructure. The Ministers welcomed the Special Report on "World Energy Investment Outlook," published in conjunction with the IEA's 2014 edition of the World Energy Outlook, and ERIA's studies on East Asia Energy Outlook and Energy Market Integration in East Asia Region.
 8. The Ministers recognised the economic benefits stemming from optimising electric power infrastructure through regional grid interconnection and called for cooperation to promote such interconnection among EAS participating countries. The Ministers noted the progress on the study on sustainable natural gas market and affirmed the importance of having competitive natural gas prices and the further promotion of a flexible, transparent and sustainable natural gas market. The Ministers also noted the commencement of a new study for promoting oil stockpiling in the region and the reinforcement of emergency response measures of EAS participating countries.
 9. The Ministers noted the good progress made on the EAS study on nuclear safety management, and moved to support the safe and efficient development of nuclear power among interested countries. The Ministers recognised the importance of nuclear power as a clean, high-quality and advanced modern energy which will function as a base load power source in guaranteeing global energy security and sustainability and, in developing diversified energy strategies, meeting energy demand and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Ministers looked forward to further progress in pursuing regional nuclear safety and forging greater collaboration in capacity building in civilian nuclear energy.
 10. Recognising that coal will remain a major fuel source in the region for the foreseeable future, the Ministers reiterated their collective call to step up efforts to develop cooperation programs, and promote clean coal technologies (CCT), such as high efficiency coal-fired power generation, carbon capture utilisation and storage, and the upgrading of low rank coal technologies. The Ministers acknowledged the need to continue adoption and deployment of clean coal technologies which can significantly address both the increase of electricity demand and reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the region.
 11. The Ministers welcomed various research studies conducted with the technical assistance from ERIA, including the workshop held in June 2014 in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR. The Ministers requested ERIA to report the outcomes of the research activities to relevant ASEAN and EAS energy cooperation fora. The Ministers also welcomed the establishment of the Energy Research Institute Network (ERIN) and acknowledged the collaboration between ERIN and ERIA which was formalised through an MOU signing on 6 September 2014 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.
 12. The Ministers welcomed China's initiatives including Sustainable Development of New Energy and First EAS Clean Energy Forum. The Ministers noted the proposed Energy Smart City Project and Joint Research Project on East Asia Clean Energy Roadmap.
 13. The Ministers agreed to meet again in Malaysia in September 2015.
 14. The delegation from EAS participating countries, the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN Centre for Energy expressed appreciation to the Government and people of Lao PDR for the warm hospitality accorded and the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

MINISTERS FOR ENERGY OF EAS PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

1. H.E. John Williams, Australian Ambassador to Lao PDR; 2. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam; 3. H.E. Suy Sem, Minister of

Mines and Energy of Cambodia; 4. H.E. Guan Huabing, China's Ambassador to Lao PDR; 5. Mr. Abhay Bakre, Executive Director of Petroleum Conservation Research Association, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas of India, representing H.E. Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Petroleum and Natural Gas of India; 6. H.E. Susilo Siswoutomo, Vice Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia; 7. H.E. Daishiro Yamagiwa, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; 8. H.E. Chung Yang Ho, Deputy Minister, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea; 9. H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR; 10. H.E. Dato' Seri DiRaja Mahdzir bin Khalid, Deputy Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia; 11. H.E. U Aung Htoo, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Energy of Myanmar; 12. H.E. Reuben Levermore, Ambassador-designate, New Zealand Embassy, Bangkok; 13. H.E. Loreta G. Ayson, Undersecretary, Department of Energy of the Philippines; 14. H.E. Yury Sentyurin, Deputy Minister of Energy of Russia; 15. 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; 16. H.E. Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee, Minister of Energy of Thailand; 17. Dr. Phyllis Yoshida, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Asia, Europe and the Americas, U.S. Department of Energy, representing H.E. Dr. Ernest J. Moniz, Secretary of U.S. Department of Energy; 18. H.E. Dr. Cao Quoc Hung, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam; 19. H.E. Dr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

EAS Declaration on Combating Wild Life Trafficking

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia, the People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New

Zealand, the Russian Federation and the United States of America on the occasion of the 9th East Asia Summit (EAS) held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar;

REAFFIRMING our commitment to build an ASEAN Community by 2015, comprising three pillars, namely the ASEAN Political-Security Community, the ASEAN Economic Community, and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community that are closely intertwined and mutually reinforcing;

REALIZING that ASEAN integration and the emergence of an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015 will increase peace, stability, and prosperity for ASEAN and its people;

AWARE that the EAS Member States are rich in biodiversity and home to many endangered species of wild fauna and flora;

RECOGNIZING that the illicit trafficking and illegal trade in specimens of species of wildlife are prejudicial to the planet's natural heritage and to the political, economic and social interests of the EAS;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the inadvertent or purposeful introduction of illicitly trafficked and illegally traded wildlife and wildlife products poses serious risks to the health and safety of human, plant, and animal populations due to the spread of pathogens and non-native invasive species, threatening economic development and prosperity;

NOTING that the increase in illicit trafficking and illegal trade of specimens of species wildlife and wildlife products including fauna and flora, and particularly of endangered species included in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) necessitates increased cooperation and coordination, surveillance, investigative and enforcement measures amongst relevant authorities, including Wildlife, Forestry, Customs, Police, Judicial and Prosecutorial authorities, as well as their increased surveillance, investigative and enforcement measures;

RECOGNIZING that international and regional cooperation are essential to protect natural resources, wildlife habitats, and particularly, endangered species of wild fauna and flora;

RECOGNIZING the conservation actions and commitments that have already been made with respect

to the species regulated by CITES through its Decisions and Resolutions;

ACKNOWLEDGING our commitment to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of arising out of the access to and the utilization of genetic resources;

RECALLING the ASEAN Statement on CITES on the Occasion of the Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in October 2004 and the adoption of the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on CITES Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora (2011-2015), where ASEAN recognized the need to promote its objectives for CITES implementation through collaborative initiatives;

FURTHER RECALLING the ASEAN Statement on Launching of the ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) at the Special Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for the Implementation of CITES in December 2005;

RECOGNIZING the unprecedented success of ASEAN Member States in combatting the illegal trade in CITES wildlife and wildlife products through support of the ASEAN WEN as well as stronger coordination and linkages between national and regional agencies, such as CITES Management Authorities, customs, police, and other relevant law enforcement agencies, resulting in an exponential increase in arrests, seizures, and prosecutions of cases of illicit wildlife trafficking and illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife products;

APPRECIATING the enormous value accrued from ASEAN-WEN workshops and training sessions on wildlife trade regulation, species identification, detection and investigation, protected areas enforcement, and wildlife forensics at both regional and national levels, and public awareness campaigns and activities aimed not only for the public at ports of entry and key border checkpoints, but also for members of the judiciary and prosecutors;

RECOGNISING the progress the EAS participating countries have achieved in combating illicit wildlife trafficking in East Asia, including the achievement of the "Operation Cobra" organized by China, US, ASEAN-WEN, SA-WEN, UNODC and other countries and organizations;

RECALLING our commitments made in the ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability at the 13th ASEAN Summit in November 2007 which identified the need to strengthen efforts to implement the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora, through mechanisms such as the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network;

ACKNOWLEDGING the commitments to further strengthen ASEAN regional cooperation on biodiversity, as embodied in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint of the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for the ASEAN Community (2009-2015);

RECALLING the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Statement on "ASEAN and International Year of Forests 2011" in October 2011 recognizing the achievements and continuing efforts in addressing threats and challenges faced by the forestry sector in the region, such as through enhancing efforts in addressing international trade of endangered species and wildlife enforcement;

REFERENCING the Joint Statement of the ASEAN Environment Ministers for the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in promoting the aim to ensure conservation and sustainable management of ASEAN biodiversity towards enhancing social, economic, and environmental well-being;

NOTING the September 2012 Resolution of the 33rd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) on Strengthening Law Enforcement and Regional Cooperation to Combat Wildlife Crime, and the 2012 Joint Statement of the APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for the Environment;

FURTHER NOTING the 2013 APEC Economic Leaders' Declaration delivered in Bali, Indonesia on wildlife trafficking that recognizes the serious negative economic implications of environmental crime and acknowledges the important role that Wildlife Enforcement Networks play in effectively addressing this issue;

FURTHER NOTING the role of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity in its function as an effective regional centre of excellence in promoting biodiversity conservation and management, and regional initiatives such as the Heart of Borneo, Coral Triangle Initiative

on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security, ASEAN Heritage Parks, and Greater Mekong Sub-Region in protecting and enhancing conservation of the region's biodiversity;

FURTHER NOTING progress being made to include environmental crime, which includes wildlife trafficking and wildlife-related crimes, as an additional priority under the ASEAN Plan of Action on Transnational Crime;

ACKNOWLEDGING the commitments of individual EAS countries to CITES and the CBD, and other relevant multi-lateral biodiversity-related environmental agreements;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the progress made against wildlife trafficking in the region through the financial and technical support and assistance from the international community in helping countries in EAS Countries to build resources, expertise and capacity to address the illegal exploitation and trade in wild fauna and flora;

DO HEREBY AGREE TO:

1. **REAFFIRM** our conservation actions and commitments that have already been made with respect to CITES and CBD and to other relevant multi-lateral biodiversity-related environmental agreements;
2. **SUPPORT** the ASEAN Regional Action Plan in CITES Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora which aims at effective regional cooperation on improved implementation of CITES, including law enforcement collaboration through ASEAN-WEN;
3. **URGE** all Parties to fully implement their obligations under CITES and also to urge ASEAN Members States to implement the ASEAN Regional Actions Plan in CITES Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora;
4. **PROMOTE** action to further strengthen regional and international cooperation between source, transit and destination countries, including through additional support to wildlife law-enforcement networks;
5. **INSTITUTIONALIZE** the role of the ASEAN Secretariat as the coordinating and implementing body under which the ASEAN-WEN operates;
6. **SUPPORT** the financial sustainability and the strengthening of the ASEAN-WEN and its full integration within the ASEAN Secretariat in facilitating the concerted and coordinated joint actions and enforcement efforts, and increased cooperation between ASEAN Member States, to address the illegal exploitation and trade in CITES wild flora and fauna within the ASEAN region;
7. **WELCOME** the establishment of a budget line item under the ASEAN Secretariat to support ASEAN-WEN and associated collaborative funding activities to enable it to receive contributions from interested parties, to include direct budget support from ASEAN Member States and international and regional institutions and partners;
8. **REQUEST** the ASEAN Ministers' Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) to consider recognizing environmental crime as a serious transnational crime and include it as an area of cooperation in the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime;
9. **FURTHER SPUR AND REINFORCE** ASEAN's commitment to operationalize and ensure the sustainability of ASEAN-WEN, and expand and nurture ASEAN Member States' cooperation and coordination in promoting regional wildlife law enforcement efforts;
10. **URGE** relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies to carry out steps to ensure effective networking and cooperation that strengthen efforts against illicit trafficking and illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife products at the national level and in collaboration with other related regional bodies and initiatives;
11. **ENCOURAGE** ASEAN Dialogue Partners, development partners, and relevant regional and international organisations to help develop a supportive environment that optimizes cooperation on crime prevention and criminal justice response to combat illicit trafficking and illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife products as well as implementation of CITES and biodiversity-related environment agreements such as through capacity building, information sharing and technical assistance;

12. **IDENTIFY** priority areas of engagement for collaboration with Dialogue Partners and development partners, such as capacity building, information sharing, technology transfer, technical assistance, and direct support for law enforcement operations;
13. **PROMOTE** regular dialogue among relevant ASEAN ministerial bodies to accelerate concerted efforts against CITES wildlife trafficking and related crimes and to realize the effective communication and development of ASEAN-WEN where appropriate;
14. **SUPPORT** ASEAN integration through the harmonization of environmental crime laws to combat transnational crime; including through the implementation of relevant international agreements to which ASEAN members are parties, such as the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the UN Convention Against Corruption;
15. **ENCOURAGE** harmonization of legal and administrative regulations to support the exchange of evidence and criminal prosecution of wildlife crime;
16. **ENHANCE** capacity building among EAS participating countries in the area of combating illicit trafficking and illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife products;
17. **URGE** donors and partners to continue to support capacity building through regional, sub-regional and national workshops, trainings and meetings, and to support our efforts in combating illegal wildlife trade;
18. **ENCOURGE** national-level wildlife crime task forces, consistent with national circumstances;
19. **ENCOURAGE** effective public relations and educational campaigns to raise awareness of the important environmental heritage of ASEAN's indigenous flora and fauna and the threat posed by illicit trafficking and illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products;
20. **DEVELOP** measures to build upon public awareness and education initiatives to reduce the demand for and supply of illegal wildlife and wildlife products;

21. **ENHANCE** international cooperation by strengthening linkages between regional Wildlife Enforcement Networks (WENs), and supporting the development of other WENs around the world.

Adopted in **Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on the thirteenth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen.**

East Asia Summit Statement on the Rise of Violence and Brutality Committed by Terrorist/ Extremist Organisations in Iraq and Syria

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**

The Leaders of the participating countries of the East Asia Summit welcomed the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Statement on the Rise of Violence and Brutality Committed by Terrorist/Extremist Organisations in Iraq and Syria on 26 September 2014.

The East Asia Summit expressed deep concern over the rise of violence and brutality committed by the self-declared ISIL and other terrorist/extremist organisations and radical groups in Iraq and Syria, noting that these individuals - who have gained skills and expertise and become part of terrorist networks - not only pose a threat to the people of Iraq and Syria, but to their home countries as well as third countries around the world.

The Leaders affirmed support for the new Iraqi government and encouraged it to develop and implement an inclusive policy which unifies the country by representing and defending the interests of all Iraqi people. The Leaders stressed the importance of providing assistance to the victims of ISIL terror and of continued humanitarian aid.

The Leaders strongly denounced all terrorist acts of destruction and violence, and denounced terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and reiterated their

commitment to combating terrorism, in particular foreign terrorist fighters through global action, including, as appropriate, the implementation of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism and the ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter Terrorism, both of which aim to prevent and suppress terrorism by addressing its root causes and disrupting terror networks and financing channels,

The Leaders reaffirmed support for the full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2170 (2014) which calls on the international community to suppress the flow of foreign terrorist fighters, and Resolution 2178 (2014) which decides to prevent and suppress the recruiting, organising, transporting or equipping of individuals who travel to a State other than their States of residence or nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning, or preparation of, or participation in terrorist acts or the providing or receiving of terrorist training, and the financing of their travel and of their activities.

The Leaders also affirmed that terrorism must be addressed in a comprehensive manner requiring a multifaceted approach, including addressing underlying factors that support terrorism, preventing radicalisation to terrorism, disrupting support mechanisms such as financing and supply of weapons, taking all feasible precautions to avoid losses of civilian lives and damage to civilian objects and promoting political and religious tolerance, economic development, social cohesion and inclusiveness.

The Leaders recognized that moderation is a factor in the pursuit of long lasting peace and a tool to counter extremism and terrorism, diffuse tensions and negate radicalization, and reiterated their support for the provisions in the UN Security Council Resolution 2178 to engage relevant local communities and non-governmental actors in developing strategies to counter violent extremism.

The Leaders affirmed their support for the Global Movement of Moderates in moving the moderation agenda forward to counter intolerant, violent and militant extremism; deliver economic, political and social justice; call for greater cooperation and understanding among cultures, religions and civilisations aiming to drown out the voices of extremism.

The East Asia Summit renewed its commitment to work with the international community to fight against

extremism, radicalism and terrorism and to prevent further violence and brutality in accordance with international law and the UN Charter.

Adopted at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, this Thirteenth of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen at the 9th East Asia Summit.

East Asia Summit (EAS) Statement on Rapid Disaster Response

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation and the United States of America on the occasion of the 9th East Asia Summit (EAS) in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 13 November 2014;

Expressing condolences and sympathy to the victims, their families, the Government and the people of the countries that have suffered significant human, social and economic losses and damages from disasters experienced by members of the EAS; and also expressing concern at the long-term negative consequences for nations from these disasters which hamper the achievement of their sustainable development;

Reaffirming our collective commitment to pursue effective disaster risk reduction and disaster management in the spirit of partnership and cooperation in order to reduce the vulnerabilities and enhance the capacities of peoples to be more resilient and self-reliant in mitigating the impact of disasters;

Recalling the Cha-am Hua Hin Statement on EAS Disaster Management of 2009, the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015, the ASEAN Agreement on

Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) 2005, the Beijing Action for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia of 2005, the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the East Asia Summit of 2005, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Statement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response of 2006, the Delhi Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia of 2007, the 2013 Australia-Indonesia EAS Rapid Disaster Response Workshop Communiqué and Action Plan and General Assembly resolutions 46/182 on Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations, 57/150 on Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance, 62/192 on the International strategy for disaster reduction, and other relevant UNGA Resolutions;

Expressing our commitment to cooperate for the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Sendai, Japan in March 2015 to adopt an effective framework succeeding the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015;

Reaffirming support for sustaining and developing effective regional approaches, mechanisms and capacities to enhance preparedness and support efforts of affected countries to mitigate and respond to natural disasters; and recognizing the efforts of ASEAN, particularly the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) as the main driver of AADMER, the Conference of Parties (COP) to AADMER, the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM), the ARF, the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus and other regional initiatives to enhance cooperation on disaster risk reduction and disaster management;

Recognising the active cooperation and various regional initiatives of ASEAN, and noting ASEAN's contribution through the ASEAN-led coordinating mechanism for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) in the Philippines;

Reaffirming that States have the primary responsibility for sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and disaster management, and the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support States in pursuing efforts to this end;

Respecting the importance of amity and cooperation, and the principles of sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national unity of States, the principle

of non-interference and non-intervention in internal affairs, as well as international law governing states in the process of rapid disaster response;

Emphasising the importance of ensuring that humanitarian assistance is provided in accordance with the national laws of the respective EAS participating countries and internationally accepted principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence;

Recognising the important contribution to disaster management by regional and international organisations, national governments, civil society and other organisations, the need to continue strengthening existing arrangements, and the importance of avoiding duplication and ensuring greater coherence of efforts;

Recognising the diversity of approaches to disaster management in EAS participating countries and acknowledging that many EAS participating countries have already adopted disaster management systems, including national, legislative and other mandates and the consequent need to give space for the specificity of each country's approach, need and requirement within the regional framework;

Acknowledging the 2007 ARF General Guidelines for Disaster Relief Cooperation, the 2010 ARF Strategic Guidance for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response, the 2008 ASEAN Standard Operating Procedure for Regional Standby Arrangements and Coordination of Joint Disaster Relief and Emergency Response Operations (SASOP), and other regional instruments on disaster management and emergency response; and recognizing the importance of close coordination between national, regional and international bodies;

Affirming that any bilateral or collective response to disaster relief could be activated only upon receiving a request from the Affected Country;

Recognising the need for a coordinated and planned regional approach to responding rapidly to a request from, or offer assistance to, a disaster affected country; and that the quality and efficiency of rapid disaster response requires constant preparedness, planning, capacity building and testing of response plans, systems and mechanisms at national and regional levels;

Expressing determination to learn from the experience of past disasters in strengthening disaster risk reduction,

preparedness, response, and recovery through the implementation of practical measures to guide their rapid disaster response;

Emphasising the need for maintaining disaster risk reduction in development as a cost-effective investment to prepare for disasters;

In readiness to provide assistance rapidly, EAS participating countries should endeavour to implement the following guidelines in a manner consistent with the laws, rules and regulations in force in each country as well as any regional agreements in which EAS participating countries signed and are obliged to adhere;

1. **Establish** a whole-of-nation (governments, communities, individuals and the private sector including civil society and non-government organisations) resilience-based approach to enhance the capacity of States to reduce risk, prepared for, respond to, and recover from, natural disasters;
2. **Prioritise** preparedness in developing emergency plans, and standard operating procedures (SOPS), training of personnel, exercises, purchasing and maintenance of equipment and undertaking community awareness and activities;
3. **Conduct** risk assessments and identify and undertake actions to build resilience and reduce the risks and impact of an event through mitigation measures such as land-use planning, building standards, education, training, the application of science and technology and early warning;
4. **Monitor** impending and emerging disasters both nationally and in the region, and commence early planning for possible response and assistance; including the provision of early warning to the public and the pre-positioning of supplies, goods and personnel where relevant;
5. **Identify** and earmark assets and capabilities which may be made available and rapidly mobilized for rapid disaster response;
6. **Establish** pre-arranged standard operation procedures (SOPs) for customs, immigration and quarantine (CIQ) purposes to facilitate the rapid entry and departure of pre-notified personnel, equipment facilities and materials, and make these exempt from taxation, duties and other charges;
7. **Designate** and advise other EAS participating countries and relevant international organizations of a National Focal Point (NFP), an entity authorized as the single point of contact, who has the role of processing requests and offers of assistance;
8. **Share** information on formal arrangements and requirements for receiving rapid response assistance, particularly information on any restrictions or limitations;
9. **Cooperate**, communicate and coordinate with each other, and the humanitarian disaster reHef activities of the UN and other international, regional, and civil society organizations;
10. **Ensure** that approaches and measures are responsive to the needs of vulnerable groups within the affected population, particularly women, children, the elderly, disabled people. Specifically ensure the provision of women and child-friendly spaces in evacuation camps and communities where they can confidentially discuss issues related to their safety and well-being;
11. **Recognise** the need to address the humanitarian and development needs arising from internal displacement from natural disasters, and encourage all relevant actors to consider utilising the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;
12. **Provide** internally displaced persons arising from natural disasters, without discrimination, with safe access to essential food and potable water, basic shelter and housing, appropriate clothing and essential medical services and sanitation, as well as giving due regard to their protection needs;
13. **Support** efforts to strengthen cooperation and enhance capacity of EAS participating countries, reflecting the principles outlined above, through relevant policies, plans, procedures and systems, training of people and interoperability of mechanisms in disaster preparedness, response and planning, management, reconstruction and recovery building, where possible, based on regional and international best practice and lessons learned;

14. **Make** decisions to accept or offer assistance by mutual agreement;
15. **Standardise** the registration form and certificate of pre-notified personnel among member states;

EAS participating countries affected by a disaster (Affected (Receiving) Country) should endeavor, consistent with the laws, rules and regulations in effect in each country as well as any regional agreements in which EAS participating countries signed and are obliged to adhere, to:

16. **Identify** the nature and extent of the disaster as known, the emergency situation that has or is likely to arise, the human and material resources available in-country, the priority needs for regional and international assistance, tasks to be addressed, and the scope, type and level of assistance and resources required or, alternatively, request assistance with rapid damage impact assessment, emergency management capability and post disaster needs assessment;
17. **Provide** written acknowledgement to the Assisting Country of the assistance to be provided and the terms of the deployment, which were negotiated between the Assisting and Affected Country;
18. **Implement** pre-arranged SOPs and determine the entry point to facilitate the rapid entry of pre-notified personnel, equipment, facilities and materials for CIQ purposes;
19. **Facilitate** on-site coordination and interoperability of EAS participating countries offering assistance;
20. **Brief** arriving EAS personnel on local safety and hazards, operational issues, the incident command system, in-country requirements, disaster overview, deployment coordinating instructions and provide any other supporting information;
21. **Facilitate** the work of foreign disaster personnel and teams within their territory;
22. **Provide** security to safeguard the personnel and equipment from EAS participating countries providing assistance;
23. **Provide** timely situation reports to countries offering assistance;

EAS participating countries offering assistance (Assisting Country) should endeavor, consistent with the laws, rules and regulations in effect in each country, as well as any regional agreements in which EAS participating countries signed and are obliged to adhere to:

24. **Respond** to requests promptly, preferably within six to 12 hours of receipt;
25. **Recognise** the Affected Country has overall responsibility in its territory for direction, control and coordination of organizational units provided, with personnel from the Assisting Country continuing under its internal coordination and command arrangements;
26. **Follow** pre-arranged SOPs for CIQ purposes to facilitate the rapid departure of pre-notified personnel, equipment, facilities and materials;
27. **Familiarise** relevant organizations and personnel with and abide by the Affected Country's requirements for CIQ;
28. **Provide** a register of all personnel to be deployed and proof of professional qualification to satisfy the requirements of the Affected Country;
29. **Take** steps to ensure that all equipment, facilities and materials, including food and medicines, meet the Affected Country's standards for quality, consumption, utilization and expiry dates;
30. **Recognise** and respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Affected Country including the laws, regulations and customs of the country and ensure that assistance is provided in a manner consistent with internationally accepted humanitarian standards;
31. **Deploy**, as far as possible, teams, personnel and equipment to the Affected Country that will not be a burden on the limited resources available after a disaster;
32. **Make** arrangements for the health and safety of their personnel in coordination with the affected country's authorities;
33. **Provide** response at no cost to the Affected country, unless otherwise decided between the Affected and Assisting Country;

34. **Provide** de-brief reports (including records of the operational tasks performed) and an exit strategy to the Affected Country;
35. **Withdraw** assistance (with timeframes to be mutually determined) when requested by the Affected Country, including removal of all equipment, facilities and material brought in, except where these are donated with the consent of the Affected Country;
36. **Deploy** foreign military assets and enablers only upon request of the Affected Country, and the deployment of such assets and enablers are coordinated with the Affected Country's authorities in accordance with the national disaster plan.

EAS participating countries across which personnel, equipment or supplies transit will endeavour, consistent with the laws, rules and regulations in effect in each country, as well as any regional agreements in which EAS participating countries signed and are obliged to adhere, to:

37. **Follow** pre-arranged SOPs for CIQ purposes to facilitate the rapid transit of pre-notified personnel, equipment, facilities and materials.

EAS participating countries shall follow-up on the above measures through existing regional frameworks and mechanisms related to AADMER, including the ACDM Session on EAS Cooperation in Disaster Management, and through close consultation among the EAS participating countries and other relevant partners.

The EAS Leaders affirm AADMER as the common platform and regional policy backbone for disaster management in ASEAN. This Statement will be consistent with AADMER principles and mechanisms.

Adopted in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on the thirteenth Day of November in the year Two Thousand and Fourteen.

Joint Statement/Declaration of the 9th East Asia Summit (EAS) on Regional Response to Outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation and the United States of America, on the occasion of the 9th East Asia Summit (EAS) held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 13 November 2014.

RECALLING that in 2013 at 8th East Asia Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan, leaders recognised health as a fundamental right of our people and the importance of achieving universal health coverage to address diverse health needs and improving the health outcomes of our peoples by exploring possible areas of cooperation in health including addressing broader global health issues and pandemic diseases;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak is a major burden causing significant death, illness and strain on the health care systems in West Africa, in particular Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone and beyond;

EQUALLY CONCERNED that the "unprecedented extent" of the EVD outbreak in West Africa constitutes a threat to international peace and security, which requires urgent action and greater national, regional and international collaboration;

COMMENDING the continued contribution and commitment of international health and humanitarian relief workers which indeed reflects strong international solidarity to respond urgently to the EVD outbreak;

RECALLING UN Resolution 2177 (2014) adopted on 18 September 2014 urging immediate action, and an end to isolation of affected States and the UNSC Resolution 2176 (2014) adopted on 15 September 2014 concerning the situation in Liberia;

RECALLING Resolution WHA58.3 on the revision of the International Health Regulations, which underscored the continued importance of the International Health Regulations as the key global instrument for the protection against the international spread of diseases, and which urged Member States, *inter alia*, to build, strengthen and maintain the capacities required under the International Health Regulations (2005) and to mobilize the resources necessary for that purpose;

CONFIRMING our commitment to the Plan of Action to Implement the Phnom Penh Declaration on EAS Development Initiative (2014-2015) adopted in August 2014, to enhance regional preparedness and capacity through comprehensive and integrated approaches to (i) prevention;(ii) control;(iii) care;(iv) management;(v) surveillance; and (vi) timely response to communicable diseases; emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases; and impacts of pandemics.

RECALLING the commitment stated in the ASEAN Charter, in which ASEAN is resolved to ensure sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations and to place the well being, livelihood welfare of the peoples at the centre of ASEAN Community building;

RECALLING the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint adopted in 2009, part of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009-2015 which calls for the regional preparedness and capacity through integrated approaches to prevention, surveillance and timely response to communicable and emerging infectious diseases;

RECALLING the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) as a manifestation of ASEAN's global outreach to contribute in addressing the myriad of complex and dynamic global challenges of the 21st century in a more coordinated, cohesive and coherent manner and also recalls on Bali Concord III Plan of Action 2013-2017 in which calls for the enhancement of the ASEAN Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) Mechanism for surveillance, prevention, preparedness, and responses to EIDs;

WELCOMING that the outcome of the 12th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting agreed to pledge the commitment to the vision "A Healthy, Caring and Sustainable ASEAN Community" and agreed the four clusters mission statement of a) promoting health lifestyle; b) responding

to all hazards and emerging threats; c) strengthening health system and access to care; and d) ensuring food safety;

DO HEREBY DECLARE that we will strengthen national and regional responses to the outbreak through existing bilateral, regional and multilateral channels by;

1. Reaffirming our political commitment to increase efforts to response to the EVD crisis;
2. Fully supporting the establishment of United Nations Mission for EVD Emergency Response, or UNMEER to stem the crisis, treat the infected, ensure essential services, preserve stability and prevent further outbreaks;
3. Calling serious attention to the WHO Ebola Response Roadmap of 28 August 2014 that aims to stop transmission of the Ebola virus disease worldwide, while managing the consequences of any further international spread and also taking note of the 12 Mission Critical Actions, including infection control, community mobilization and economic recovery, to resolve the Ebola outbreak;
4. Encouraging the governments of affected countries to accelerate the establishment of national mechanisms to provide for the rapid diagnosis and isolation of suspected cases of infection, treatment measures, effective medical services for responders, credible and transparent public education campaigns, and strengthened preventive and preparedness measures to detect, mitigate and respond to Ebola exposure;
5. Supporting the affected countries in intensifying preventive and response activities and strengthening national capacities in response to the Ebola outbreak and allotting adequate capacity to prevent future outbreaks;
6. Commending the governments that are answering the call for assistance and are sending resources to the affected countries including financial resources, equipment, and personnel;
7. Urging all parties, including those who have already made contributions, to provide urgent resources and assistance, such as field hospitals with qualified and sufficient expertise, healthcare workers to staff

them, and supplies, laboratory services, logistical, transport and construction support capabilities, airlift and other aviation support and aeromedical services and dedicated clinical services in Ebola Treatment Units and isolation units;

8. Calling on all relevant actors to cooperate closely and maximize synergies to respond effectively and immediately to the EVD outbreak including to mobilize and provide technical expertise as well as additional medical capacity, such as for rapid diagnosis and training of health workers at the national and international level, to the affected countries as soon as possible to relieve the acute shortage of those workers, and those providing assistance to the affected countries;
9. Recognising the importance of exchange of expertise, lessons learned and best practices, as well as to provide essential resources, supplies and coordinated assistance to the affected countries;
10. Agreeing that a regional commitment to prevent further outbreaks in the region requires a comprehensive approach by :
 - a. Enhancing the coordinated efforts with all relevant United Nations System entities to address the EVD outbreak in line with their respective mandates and to assist, wherever possible, national, regional and international efforts in this regard, recognizing that an essential part of these efforts is to ensure appropriate assessments of national capacity to respond to emerging infectious disease outbreaks are undertaken, drawing on WHO technical guidance where required, and that strengthening of regional preparedness and risk mitigation strategies as part of a broader focus on health systems, including Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) is critical;
 - b. Strengthening cooperation on Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) prevention and control and pandemic preparedness through improving health capacity in surveillance and outbreak investigation;
 - c. Promoting cooperation in the prevention and control of trans-boundary EIDs through improving health capacity in surveillance and outbreak investigation, and exchanging information including efficient referral

mechanism among EAS participating countries;

11. Increasing public awareness by providing adequate information to the public and set up an emergency public information and warning whenever it is needed;
12. Implementing effective health surveillance at airports and other immigration and border control areas for people whose travel originated in or who transited through Ebola-affected countries;
13. Broadening the scope of existing emerging infectious disease preparedness plans to cover the Ebola virus disease (EVD);
14. Anticipating the emergence of Ebola virus disease (EVD) with well-known protective and preventive measures;
15. Strengthening cooperation among EAS participating countries in contact tracing and health quarantine;
16. Tasking our relevant Ministries or Authorities to keep progress on this matter under regular review and work in close consultation with EAS Health Ministers with the support of WHO with a view to follow-up on the implementation of this statement and report to the EAS Foreign Ministers.

Adopted at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, this Thirteenth of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen at the 9th East Asia Summit.

Chairman's Statement of the 9th East Asia Summit (9th EAS)

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
13 November 2014**

1. The 9th East Asia Summit (EAS) was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 13 November 2014. The Summit was chaired by His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, Australia, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Russian Federation and the United States of America.
2. We reaffirmed the importance of the EAS as a Leaders-led Forum for strategic dialogue and cooperation on political, security, economic and social issues of common regional concern and a range of complex challenges facing the region. We reiterated our commitment to the mandate of the EAS and to enhance cooperation in its priority areas, namely, finance, environment and energy, education, global health issues and pandemic diseases, disaster management, and ASEAN Connectivity. Furthermore, we highly valued the role that the EAS has continued to play in addressing issues of common concern and maintaining peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia.
3. We further reaffirmed our support for the ASEAN Community building process and looked forward to the establishment of the ASEAN Community by the end of 2015. We reiterated our support for ASEAN's central role in the EAS and its commitment to working closely with regional partners. Noting that the EAS had grown its stature since its genesis in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the establishment of the East Asia Summit, we agreed that it continues to play a key role in building an open, transparent, inclusive and participatory regional architecture.
4. In line with the objectives set out in the 2010 Hanoi Declaration on the Commemoration of the Anniversary of the East Asia Summit, we looked forward to further strengthening and consolidating the EAS process. With the EAS approaching its 10th anniversary, we agreed on the need to take stock of past achievements and chart the future direction of the EAS. We further emphasised the need for the ASEAN Secretariat to be strengthened in order to ensure the follow-up and implementation of decisions and recommendations of the EAS. In this regard, we welcomed the Declaration on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs and commended the High Level Task Force (HLTF) for its efforts in developing its recommendations.
5. We welcomed the adoption of the Plan of Action (PoA) to implement the Phnom Penh Declaration on the East Asia Summit Development Initiative at the 4th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting. We shared the view that the PoA would promote mutual support and cooperation among EAS participating countries and achieve concrete and sustainable results, which would benefit our local economies and peoples.
6. We reaffirmed our commitment to enhance regional security cooperation in East Asia. To this end, we noted the convening of three Workshops on Regional Security Architecture held in Brunei, Russian Federation and Indonesia. We looked forward to continued discussions on elaboration of a common vision for security architecture in the Asia-Pacific region.

Finance

7. Acknowledging the rapid growth of Asia's inter-regional trade and financial integration, we underscored the importance of enhancing cooperation in finance. In particular, we expressed an interest in exploring modalities to attract private sector financing to support infrastructure connectivity across the region. We were pleased with the outcomes from previous EAS Finance Ministers' Meetings and looked forward to considering the outcomes of 2015 EAS Finance Ministers' Meeting at the next Summit.

Environment and Energy

8. We emphasised the importance of enhancing cooperation to address the issue of climate change. In this regard, we expressed our commitment to work closely together towards securing a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force at the 21st Conference of the

Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris in 2015.

9. We noted the outcomes of the 12th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP12), the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP7), and the 1st Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (COP-MOP 1) held in October 2014 in Republic of Korea. We highlighted the importance of the comprehensive integration of biodiversity into the negotiations on the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda, taking into account the spirit of Pyeongchang Roadmap, adopted at COP12 and the Gangwon Declaration, produced at the High-Level Segment, which was held in parallel with COP 12.
10. We noted the outcomes of the 3rd East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue held in October 2014 in Japan. We were pleased with the increased participation from the private sector at this event. We appreciated Japan's update on the progress of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM), which would promote the distribution of leading low carbon technologies.
11. We noted the outcomes of the 5th High-level Seminar on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (HLS-ESC) held in Indonesia from 28 February to 1 March 2014, co-organised by Republic of Indonesia, Japan, Cambodia and the United States of America. We also commended the progress made by China in establishing the East Asia Centre for Climate Change Research and International Cooperation.
12. We welcomed the outcomes of the 8th EAS Energy Ministers' Meeting (EAS EMM) held in September 2014 in Lao PDR. We were pleased with the progress in the implementation of the EAS Energy Cooperation Task Force (EAS ECTF) Work Plan 2013-2014 for the work streams of Energy Efficiency and Conservation, Biofuels for Transport and Other Purposes, and Renewable and Alternative Power Generation. We welcomed the commencement of Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia's (ERIA) new study for promoting oil stockpiling and reinforcement of emergency response measures in EAS participating countries.

13. We welcomed the special report, 'World Energy Investment Outlook' published in conjunction with IAEA's 2014 edition of the World Energy Outlook, and ERIA's studies on East Asia Energy Outlook and Energy Market Integration in the East Asia Region. We also welcomed the establishment of the Energy Research Institute Network (ERIN) and acknowledged the collaboration between ERIN and ERIA which was formalised through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on 6 September 2014 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

Education

14. We welcomed the outcomes of the 2nd EAS Education Ministers' Meeting held in September 2014 in Laos PDR, particularly on the progress made on the EAS Education Plan of Action 2011-2015. We appreciated the programmes aimed at increasing people-to-people linkages in the East Asia region, especially in the area of education.
15. We welcomed the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan (NCP) and its expansion to all ASEAN Member States from 2015. The NCP will support increasing two-way student mobility between Australia and the region and contribute to strengthening education collaboration. We also welcomed the Japanese Government's Scholarship for Study Abroad and the 'TOBITATE! Young Ambassador Program', which will promote student mobility. We were pleased to note the Republic of Korea's plans to expand the Global Korean Scholarship (GKS) from 2015, which will increase study opportunities in Korea for ASEAN students. In this regard, we welcomed the launch of training courses for ASEAN engineering students, which will help talented ASEAN students gain first-hand experience in local Korean universities, businesses and research institutes.
16. We were pleased with Japan's continued commitment to its Japan East Asia Network of Exchange Students and Youths 2.0 (JENESYS 2.0) which promotes mutual understanding and friendly relations among EAS participating countries.
17. We welcomed the inauguration of Nalanda University on 19 September 2014 at Rajgir, India. We appreciated India's commitment to this project and noted India's proposal to set up the University

as a non-state, non-profit and self-governing international institute of excellence.

Global Health Issues and Pandemic Disease

18. We expressed deep concern about the unprecedented outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in parts of West Africa. We underscored the importance of providing financial and practical assistance to support those countries most affected by the virus to control and contain the spread of the disease. We emphasised our understanding that, in addition to the significant impact on human life and local economies, the spread of EVD also poses a potential threat to international peace and security. We expressed our firm determination to support all necessary efforts to stem the crisis and stop the EVD from spreading further. In this regard, we adopted the Joint Statement on the Regional Response to Outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease.
19. We reiterated our commitment to the Declaration of the 7th East Asia Summit on Regional Responses to Malaria Control and Addressing Resistance to Anti-malaria Medicines. We welcomed the Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance (APLMA) Task Force Progress Report 2014 and agreed to the goal of an Asia Pacific free of Malaria by 2030. We tasked the APLMA co-chairs to submit to the 10th EAS in Malaysia a plan for achieving this goal and to implement the recommendations of the APLMA Task Forces.

Disaster Management

20. Recalling our commitment to disaster response in the Cha-Am Hua Hin Statement on EAS Disaster Management 2009, and reminded of the risks our region faces from natural disasters following Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda, we reaffirmed our pledge to further enhance disaster management cooperation through regional mechanisms, including the EAS, ADMM-Plus and ARF, Underscoring the need to increase practical cooperation in this area, we adopted the EAS Statement on Rapid Disaster Response.
21. We welcomed the enhanced cooperation between the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and disaster management authorities in non-ASEAN countries, through the implementation of the 2011 Disaster Management Initiative. We acknowledged that this Initiative is making a

valued and practical contribution to strengthen disaster management capabilities in our region. We welcomed progress on the EAS Rapid Disaster Response Toolkit and the ongoing implementation of the World Health Organisation registration and classification system for foreign medical teams in the region.

22. Underscoring the importance of further strengthening international cooperation in disaster risk reduction, we called for active participation and close cooperation for the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015. We noted India's hosting of the first meeting of 24x7 POCs and launch of Virtual Knowledge Portal for EAS countries to be held on December 4-5, 2014 in New Delhi.

Connectivity

23. We agreed that connectivity is essential to the continued development and prosperity of the region. Acknowledging the objectives of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), which included improving physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity, we welcomed the support for the continued implementation of the MPAC. We recognised the necessity of improving physical and institutional infrastructure towards the formation and success of business connectivity. We also recognised the need to promote quality growth through "people-centred investment" with an emphasis on inclusiveness, resilience and capacity-building in a sustainable manner for infrastructure development in the region. In this regard, we stressed the need to work closely together to realise the objectives of the Declaration of the 6th EAS on ASEAN Connectivity, adopted in Bali in 2011.
24. We welcomed the success of the 5th ASEAN Connectivity Symposium entitled 'Catalysing Public-Private Partnerships to Finance ASEAN Connectivity' co-organised by ERIA and held in Myanmar in September 2014.

We commended ERIA for its continued contribution towards the implementation of the MPAC and enhancing connectivity in the region.

25. We noted the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) by founding members in

Beijing on 24 October 2014. The founding members looked forward to the early operation of the AIIB and its cooperation with existing multilateral development banks.

OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION

Regional Economic Integration

26. We encouraged efforts to further enhance regional economic integration in the East Asia Region. Noting that EAS participating countries accounted for more than half of the world's population and more than 50 per cent of global GDP, we underscored the importance of ensuring the economic well-being of our peoples in the region. We noted that regional economic integration would contribute to peace, stability and prosperity in the region and beyond.
27. We welcomed the outcomes of the EAS Economic Ministers' Meeting held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 27 August 2014. We reaffirmed the importance of trade liberalisation in East Asia. We were pleased with the progress of RCEP negotiations and urged all participating countries to continue to work hard to ensure a comprehensive and commercially meaningful agreement that would support the achievement of the ASEAN Community and deepen regional economic integration. We reiterated the aim to complete the RCEP negotiations by the end of 2015. We also welcomed continued negotiations for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).
28. We were pleased the recent developments regarding ASEAN's existing Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with EAS participating countries. These developments would contribute to further increasing regional economic integration.

Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

29. We welcomed the ERIA's 7th Governing Board Meeting Statement issued on 30 May 2014, which puts emphasis on achieving unity, peace and prosperity in the East Asia region through connectivity, inclusiveness and cooperation. We commended ERIA's resolve to continue to work for the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). In particular, we noted ERIA's support for RCEP negotiations, institutional and physical connectivity, including the establishment

of PPP Guidelines, energy and food security, SME empowerment, disaster management, revision of the "Comprehensive Asia Development Plan", and strengthening regulatory management systems and business environments in the region. We encouraged ERIA to continue to provide support to the Chair of the ASEAN Summit and the East Asia Summit. We also commended ERJA's support for the Myanmar-ERJA-Harvard Symposium "Maximising AEC Benefits towards a Peaceful and Prosperous Community; Achievements and Prospects" held in Myanmar on 29 October 2014.

Non-traditional Security

30. Recalling EAS participating countries' commitments under CITES, and our pledge at the 8th East Asia Summit to further enhance cooperation in non-traditional security issues including illicit trafficking and illegal trade of wildlife, we adopted the Declaration on Combating Wildlife Trafficking.

Disarmament and Non-proliferation

31. We reaffirmed our commitment for achieving peace and security and a world free of nuclear weapons and all weapons of mass destruction and welcomed the inclusion of disarmament and non-proliferation as part of the EAS agenda.
32. We welcomed ASEAN's commitment to preserving Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (NWFZ) and the contribution of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty to regional security and the global non-proliferation regime. We reiterated our commitment to continue to work with Nuclear Weapons States (NWS) in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty to ensure their early signing and ratification of the Protocol of the SEANWFZ Treaty.

Maritime Security and Cooperation

33. We acknowledged that enhancing maritime security is an important element in maintaining peace and stability in the region. We underscored the importance of freedom of navigation, unimpeded lawful commerce, as well as resolving disputes by peaceful means, without resorting to the threat or use of force, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). In this regard, we noted the importance of enhanced maritime

cooperation, and were pleased with the outcomes of the 3rd Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum in Danang, Vietnam.

34. We welcomed the progress on full and effective implementation of the declaration on the conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), and consultation on a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).
35. We expressed concern over the ongoing threat posed by piracy and armed robbery at sea in the region and underscored the need to address this issue in a comprehensive and integrated manner through relevant regional cooperation frameworks. We recognised the efforts of EAS Participating Countries to formulate a conducive Regional Security Framework.

Food Security and Food Safety

36. We underscored the importance of ensuring food security and food safety. We recognised the importance of increasing income among those who rely on agriculture for their livelihood, as well as the need to reduce the rates of food loss and waste through increasing private investment in transportation, storage and processing technologies.
37. We welcomed the progress of work to further increase the level of food security cooperation within the EAS, including the work to expand regional fisheries management cooperation. We noted the report of EAS Track II Study Group on Enhancing Food Security and Fisheries Management including the five principal recommendations.

Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime

38. We shared the view on the need to further enhance cooperation to counter terrorism and its financing, illicit drug trafficking, the use of information and communication technologies for criminal purposes, corruption and illicit trade, including wildlife trafficking and trafficking in persons.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Korean Peninsula

39. We welcomed the recent meeting between North and South Korean officials on 4 October. We

stressed the need to maintain peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula and called for continued inter-Korean dialogue. We reiterated the importance of fully implementing and complying with obligations under the relevant UNSC resolutions and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. Recognising the importance of dialogue, we called for the creation of necessary conditions for the resumption of Six-Party Talks, based on commitments previously made in these Talks, which would pave the way for the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. In this light, we welcomed the initiative for Peace and Cooperation in Northeast Asia as well as the Trust-building Process on the Korean Peninsula by the President of the Republic of Korea to contribute significantly to the sustainable peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula and beyond. We took note of the recent initiative for peaceful unification. We noted the recent talks between Japan and DPRK of addressing human rights and humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the abduction issues.

ISIL

40. We condemned the brutal violence, hatred and intolerance of the terrorist organisation operating under the name of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Iraq and Syria and denounced all acts of terrorism. ISIL negates basic Islamic and human values and poses a deadly threat to the people of Iraq and Syria, the broader Middle East and beyond, including our own societies.
41. We welcomed the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2170 (2014), and 2178 (2014), and affirmed our commitment to the full implementation of these resolutions and committed to undertaking all necessary measures to preventing and suppressing the financing and facilitation of foreign terrorist fighters, consistent with international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law.
42. We welcomed the new government in Iraq and supported all efforts for national unity and an inclusive political process. We supported the Iraq Government, together with international partners to restore law and order and security inside Iraq.

43. We demanded the immediate, safe and unconditional release of all those who are kept hostage by ISIL or associated individuals and entities. We expressed our commitment to providing assistance to the victims of ISIL terror and to continue our humanitarian aid in close coordination with the United Nations and other International Organisations. To enhance these efforts, we are seeking to establish platforms to enable a more structured exchange with countries willing to make constructive contributions against terrorism.
44. We underlined the need to address the threat of terrorism in a comprehensive manner by identifying the underlying factors that support terrorism and lead to radicalisation. We reaffirmed our support for the Global Movement of Moderates and agreed on the importance of inter-faith dialogues to promote greater trust and understanding among cultures, religions and civilisations, in this regard, we adopted the EAS Statement on the Rise of Violence and Brutality committed by Terrorist/ Extremist Organizations in Iraq and Syria.
45. We noted with appreciation Singapore's offer to host an EAS Symposium on De-radicalisation to share best practices among experts in early 2015.

APEC

46. We welcomed the outcomes of the 2014 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting and noted APEC's on-going contribution to advancing regional economic integration, promoting innovative development, economic reform and growth, and strengthening comprehensive connectivity and infrastructure development. We welcomed the agreement to launch a collective strategic study on issues related to the realisation of the Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP) and were pleased with the progress made towards achieving the Bogor Goals of free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific by 2020.

ASEM

47. We welcomed the outcomes of the 10th Asia-Europe Summit, where ASEM Leaders exchanged views on strengthening cooperation on economic, financial, regional and global issues as well as traditional and non-traditional security challenges.

WTO

48. We reaffirmed our support for the multilateral trading system. We underscored the importance of the Bali Package agreed to at the WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali, Republic of Indonesia in 2013 and expressed concern over the inability of WTO Members to implement decisions in accordance with previously made commitments. In this regard, we tasked our Economic Ministers to work closely with WTO Members to expedite the resolution of the current impasse. We also urged meaningful outcomes on the negotiations of the Environmental Goods Agreement in Geneva.

G20

49. We appreciated the G20's commitment to developing new measures with the aim of raising the level of G20 output by more than two per cent over the next five years. In the context of maintaining fiscal sustainability and financial sector stability, we supported the G20 to develop new measures to significantly raise global economic growth. We were pleased with ASEAN's continued engagement with the G20, through the regular participation of the ASEAN Chair at G20 meetings. Recognising that the region comprises some of the best performing economies, and that ASEAN Member States contributed more than USD 2 trillion to global GDP in 2013, we believed ASEAN's input into the G20 agenda was integral to ensuring the development of effective global cooperation strategies.
 50. We looked forward to the convening of the 10th East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2015.
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ASEAN – United Nations

Chairman's Statement of the 6th ASEAN-United Nations (UN) Summit

**Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
12 November 2014**

1. The 6th ASEAN-United Nations (UN) Summit was held on 12 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Meeting was chaired by His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the UN. H.E. Mr. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN, was also in attendance.
2. The Leaders of ASEAN and the Secretary-General of the United Nations expressed their commitment to further deepen and broaden cooperation between the two Organisations, which has been reflected in the outcome documents of previous Summits of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations, held in Bangkok on 12 February 2000, the United Nations Headquarters on 3 September 2005, Hanoi on 29 October 2010, Bali on 19 November 2011 and Bandar Seri Begawan on 10 October 2013, respectively.
3. Recalling that one of the outcomes of the 5th ASEAN-UN Summit was for the Secretariats of ASEAN and the UN to draft a "Roadmap on the Implementation of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership for 2014- 2015", the Summit welcomed the adoption of the 'ASEAN-UN Work Plan for 2015', which charts out priorities for ASEAN-UN cooperation in all the pillars of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the UN and in maintaining and promoting regional and international peace, security and prosperity. The Summit acknowledged that, in formulating the Work Plan, the two Organisations took careful note of the challenges and recommendations contained in the 2013-2014 Joint Report of the two Secretariats on the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the United Nations.
4. The Summit encouraged the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Work Plan for 2015. They also looked forward to the formal review of the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership in 2015 under the Chairmanship of Malaysia.
5. The Leaders of ASEAN encouraged the UN to work closely with ASEAN to achieve the common goals as set out in the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership in particular for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with support from the UN system and support for ASEAN Community building, including the successful implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009-2015 and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) with support from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP).
6. The Leaders of ASEAN appreciated the UN's support to ASEAN's efforts towards the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and formulation of ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision as well as to the implementation of the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III).

ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership and ASEAN Community Building

7. The Summit reiterated that the partnership between ASEAN and the UN, which is based on the distinctive capacity of each organization, brings benefits to the region and contributes to peace, security and sustainable development of the international community through timely and effective response to global issues of common concern.
8. Welcoming the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership in all key areas of cooperation, the Leaders also agreed to strengthen joint activities more strategically through ensuring better coordination.
9. The Summit encouraged for further advancement of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership and the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Work Plan for 2015 by undertaking more concrete measures

encompassing political-security, economic, and socio-cultural cooperation.

10. The Summit welcomed the adoption of the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the Realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015, which was issued at the 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in May 2014 as well as the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision and Declaration on the strengthening of ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs adopted on 12 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
11. The Summit welcomed the progress in the implementation of the Roadmap for the establishment of ASEAN Community (2009-2015) that will ensure lasting peace and stability, sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and social progress in the region.
12. The Summit recognised ASEAN's efforts to strengthen its institutions as well as to set its Post-2015 Vision that will ensure the credibility and centrality of ASEAN in changing circumstances and support the post-2015 Development Agenda.
13. The Summit also welcomed the progress of the implementation of the Bali Declaration on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) Plan of Action (2013-2017), which will enhance ASEAN's role in addressing global challenges and seizing the opportunities of the twenty-first century.
14. The Summit noted with satisfaction the progress ASEAN has made in the implementation of United Nations Political Declaration on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) and the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) in ASEAN, which was adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit on 9th October 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.
15. The Summit welcomed the signing of an agreement on cooperation between the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the United Nations Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) in June 2014, and encouraged the UN system to continue their cooperation on counter terrorism efforts through the United Nations

Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF). The Summit noted that such cooperation could strengthen global counter-terrorism efforts, particularly in preventing violent extremism and fostering reconciliation, as well as instil values of moderation in the context of identity-based tensions and conflicts.

Political and Security Cooperation

16. The Summit reaffirmed the importance of enhancing regional security and cooperation to promote peace, stability and prosperity in the region and the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and the ASEAN Charter, including the peaceful settlement of disputes, and international law. In this respect, the Summit welcomed the cooperative activities being undertaken in conflict prevention, peaceful settlement of disputes, peacekeeping operations, peace building, promotion of good governance, rule of law, and democracy, as well as in countering terrorism and transnational organized crime. In this regard, the Summit encouraged the implementation of the Outcome Document of the ASEAN-UN Workshop: Regional Dialogue (AURED) in Kuala Lumpur in June 2014 on 'Conflict Prevention and Maintenance of Peace and Stability in Multi-Cultural and Pluralistic Societies'.
17. The Summit further encouraged the United Nations to provide strengthened support and cooperation including through exchanges of best practices and capacity building of the Association of Southeast Asia Nations Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) and the Association Southeast Asia Nations Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC). The Summit also looked forward to the ASEAN-UN Workshop: Regional Dialogue II (AURED II) on Political-Security Cooperation: 'ASEAN-UN Collaboration in Support of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation,' which is scheduled to be held in Myanmar in the near future.
18. The Summit recalled that the ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter-Terrorism was drafted in cooperation with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) and was endorsed in 2009 to implement the 2007 ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism. The UN Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) reflected the growing threat

- posed by foreign terrorist fighters (FTP) who are joining entities such as the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). In this regard, the Summit recognised the need for ASEAN and the UN to combat this new phenomenon together, joining efforts via the UN CTITF that coordinates UN entities in their response and assistance to the Member States.
19. The Summit acknowledged the importance of maritime cooperation, such as exchange of information and experiences, in implementation of universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and maritime security and safety, and underscored the need to further strengthen such collaboration and cooperation in order to address related issues and challenges.
 20. The Summit called for the full implementation of the 2010 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Action Plan by actively contributing to the outcomes of the 2015 NPT Review Conference. In this regard, the Summit reiterated the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability in the Southeast Asian region and the world at large.
 21. The Summit encouraged cooperation between the United Nations and ASEAN in the field of human rights, particularly through support for the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights, including the rights of women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities, as well as the rights of migrant workers in accordance with national laws, regulations and policies of ASEAN Member States, as well as the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD) and the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration. The Summit also welcomed efforts in drafting the ASEAN instrument on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers and supports the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children in ASEAN adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in October 2013.
 22. The Summit welcomed ASEAN's efforts to finalise and endorse the draft ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) and the Regional Plan of Action (RPA) and its submission to the 26th ASEAN Summit in 2015.
 23. The Summit agreed to enhance cooperation to support the realisation of a Drug-free ASEAN in 2015.
- ### **Economic Cooperation**
24. The Summit recognised the efforts of ASEAN Member States towards implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015 and welcomed the United Nations support in enhancing the contribution of regional integration to inclusive and sustainable development. In this context, the Summit reiterated the importance of regional integration in Southeast Asia and its potential contribution to regional and global prosperity, stability and development. It encouraged cooperation between the two Organisations in order to narrow development gaps and reduce poverty, calling on ESCAP to continue and strengthen its support for regional connectivity in areas such as transportation, trade, energy and ICT. In this regard, it emphasised the promotion of sustainable development by enhancing levels of science, technology and innovation; strengthening national statistical capacities; improving access to development financing; and promoting integrated approaches to addressing the impacts of climate change in the region, including through climate financing initiatives and appropriate technology solutions.
 25. The Summit acknowledged the continued cooperation between ASEAN and UN on Intellectual Property Rights and encouraged the United Nations, through its special body-World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), to support ASEAN's efforts to implement ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Action Plan (2011-2015), particularly in encouraging the use of IP services such as ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC), supporting the efforts of ASEAN IP office infrastructure modernization and extending supports in development of an ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI 2015-2020), and to the development of the Post-2015 ASEAN IPR Strategic Plan (2016-2025).

26. The Summit encouraged the United Nations to continue providing analytical and policy support to ASEAN in areas including intellectual property rights standards within trade agreements; South-South cooperation in connecting trade policy and trade facilitation measures to other public policies; advice on economic policies that avoid the 'middle-income trap'; and enhancing integration of CLMV into regional and global value chains to support economic diversification and inclusive growth.
27. The Summit also took note of the continued consultation between ASEAN and UNWTO through the annual meeting of ASEAN tourism ministers to progress joint activities such as the conduct of joint project on River-Based Tourism and the convening of UNWTO- ASEAN International Conference on Tourism and Climate Change held on 19-20 May 2014 in Legzapi City, Philippines.

Socio-Cultural Cooperation

28. The Summit reiterated the urgency to step up cooperation between the UN and ASEAN in addressing climate change through, promoting, among others, the Poverty and Environment Initiative (PEI), implementing the 10 Year Framework of Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production, and implementing multilateral environmental agreements, including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Montreal Protocol, and the regional seas conventions and action plans.
29. The Summit encouraged the promotion of cooperation between ASEAN and the UN on Conservation of Biodiversity through the implementation of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and coordination with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, through the sharing of knowledge on the best practices in sustainable use of biological diversity. The Summit called on the UN system to continue strengthening its support for PEI, climate change, biological diversity and the Montreal Protocol.
30. The Summit committed to further strengthen cooperation between the UN and ASEAN to ensure effective response and management of natural disasters, through the implementation of the 2nd Phase of the ASEAN-UN Strategic Plan on Disaster Management, which will align with Phase 2 of the AADMER Work Programme (2013-2015), and strengthening the capacity and technical support to the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) and other relevant ASEAN bodies. In this respect, the Summit welcomed the formation and commencement of the Joint Task Force comprising officials from the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and other relevant ASEAN bodies to promote synergy among ASEAN bodies working on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR). The Summit further welcomed the coordinated approach in this field which is provided by the multi-agency UN Thematic Working Group on Environment and Disaster Risk Management under the auspices of the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for Asia and the Pacific, convened and chaired by ESCAP.

International and Regional Issues of Common Concern

31. The Summit exchanged views on international and regional issues of common concern including among others, achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), setting the development agenda beyond 2015, encouraging information sharing and capacity strengthening maritime cooperation promoting tolerance and harmony, conflict prevention, peace-keeping, and peace building, promoting and protecting human rights, climate change, urban development, promoting green technology and sustainable development.
32. The Summit also exchanged views on emerging challenges. ASEAN Leaders and the UN Secretary-General are determined to strengthen their collaboration in order to address these challenges.
33. The Summit recognised the emerging threat posed by the recent outbreak of Ebola, and the spread of violent extremism and radical ideologies of the so-called the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and agreed to strengthen cooperation to tackle these issues.

Joint Action and Follow-up Coordination Mechanisms

34. The Summit welcomed the establishment of a UN liaison presence in Jakarta as agreed between the Leaders of ASEAN and the UN Secretary-General

at the 5th ASEAN-UN Summit and encouraged both Secretariats of the two Organisations to provide support in order to maximize its contribution to further operationalise the partnership.

35. The Leaders of ASEAN and the UN Secretary-General confirmed the usefulness of the existing mechanisms for the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership, namely the Secretariat-to-Secretariat dialogues. Informal ASEAN-UN Senior Officials' Meeting, the ASEAN-UN Ministerial Meeting (AUMM) and the ASEAN-UN Summit.
36. The Summit also agreed that the AUMM should continue to take place during the UN General Assembly in September, and welcomed the joint press statements of successive AUMMs. In welcoming further engagement between relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies and UN agencies to promote substantive cooperation between ASEAN and the UN, the Summit proposed that future secretariat-to-secretariat dialogues be convened also in the ASEAN region to facilitate more in-depth engagement between relevant ASEAN bodies and the United Nations entities.

ASEAN – WHO

Memorandum of Understanding on the Collaborative Framework between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the World Health Organization 2014-2017

18 September 2014

Preamble

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the World Health Organization (WHO), represented by its Regional Offices for South-East Asia and the

Western Pacific, hereinafter referred to individually as the "Party" and collectively as the "Parties";

Sharing the principle that health is an integral part of sustainable development, an essential component of poverty alleviation efforts and a prerequisite for social cohesion;

Taking into consideration their mutual interest in promoting health and the reciprocal benefits to be derived from their cooperation to this end;

Convinced of the importance of the need to coordinate their joint collaborative activities in order to contribute to the attainment of health development objectives;

Have decided to conclude the present Memorandum of Understanding, hereinafter referred to as "the MOU".

Article I:

Aims, Underlying Principles and Approaches

1. The present MOU:
 - 1.1. Provides a mutually-agreed collaborative framework that will build on the relative strengths of the Parties, namely: the country presence and technical expertise of WHO in the planning, implementation and evaluation of programmes, projects and activities in the field of public health, as well as high-level advocacy and political commitment along with the multisectoral support that the ASEAN Secretariat can rally behind such programmes, projects and activities;
 - 1.2. Identifies areas of strategic cooperation by the Parties in line with their established health priorities;
 - 1.3. Establishes a joint mechanism to coordinate their collaborative activities in these areas.
2. The Parties undertake to implement, by mutual agreement and in the spirit of the present MOU, joint activities consistent with the respective internal policies and procedures as well as rules and regulations.
 - 2.1. WHO'S Constitution and decisions of its governing bodies (World Health Assembly, Executive Board and Regional Committees

for South-East Asia and for the Western Pacific), and in particular WHO's Twelfth General Programme of Work 2014-2019, biennial programme budgets, country cooperation strategies, as well as generally accepted norms and principles of WHO's cooperation with regional intergovernmental organisations;

2.2. The ASEAN Charter, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint, ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development 2010-2015, and the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision.

3. Collaboration between WHO and ASEAN shall be based on the guiding principle of strengthening the core capacities of the national public health sector of common WHO / ASEAN Member States in order to reduce the burden of disease which threatens economic development, social progress and health security, to prepare these countries for health emergencies and to assist them in improving the well-being of their citizens.

3.1. In close cooperation with national public health authorities, WHO and ASEAN will:

- Assist national health authorities in the preparation and implementation of national health strategies, policies and plans;
- Mobilize support of health priorities through strategic advocacy and awareness-raising;
- Share information and knowledge, including the transfer of technology;
- Support training programmes for government officers;
- Facilitate inter-country collaboration, including cross-border collaboration;
- Strengthen networks and partnerships;
- Facilitate multisectoral outreach and collaboration; and
- Whenever possible, support resource mobilization for priority health projects.

4. The present MOD does not create any financial or human resource obligations for either Party. Likewise, no provision of this MOD shall be construed as interfering in any way with the

independent decision-making and autonomy of the Parties.

Article II:

Areas of Strategic Cooperation

1. The Parties have identified the following areas for strategic cooperation:

1.1 Emerging Infectious Diseases;

- a) Emergency preparedness and response to outbreaks
- b) International Health Regulations/Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases
- c) Antimicrobial Resistance including focus on drug resistance in Malaria and Tuberculosis

1.2 Healthy borders;

- a) Greater Mekong Sub-Region and other similar settings
 - i. Health systems at the borders
 - ii. Migrant health issues
 - iii. Spurious / falsely labelled / falsified / counterfeit medicines at the borders

1.3 Access to quality medicines and technologies;

- a) Access to high-priced medicines
- b) Traditional medicines
- c) National Regulatory Agency strengthening
- d) Appropriate health technology

1.4 Healthy lifestyles;

- a) Social Determinants of Health
- b) Tobacco control

2. The Parties may, subject to their agreement and if they consider it necessary, modify the above-mentioned areas of strategic cooperation.

**Article III:
Modalities of Collaboration**

1. For the purpose of this MOD, the Parties will establish a joint coordination mechanism that includes 1) focal points in ASEAN and WHO and 2) a biennial Joint High-level Coordination Meeting.
2. The following officials have been designated as official focal points for all purposes ensuing from the present MOU;

In WHO:

- 2.1 Deputy Regional Director of the WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia and Director of Programme Management of the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific;
- 2.2 Partnerships, Interagency Coordination and Resource Mobilization Officer of the WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia and Director, Office of the Regional Director of the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific.

In ASEAN:

- 2.3 Deputy Secretary-General, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community;
- 2.4 Director, ASEAN Cross-Sectoral Cooperation Directorate.
3. The Joint High-level Coordination Meeting will be convened every two years to review the progress of collaboration in areas of strategic cooperation between WHO and ASEAN, mentioned in Article II. Interim meetings can be agreed upon by the Parties, as appropriate.
4. The Parties agree to maintain regular contacts and to possibly exchange visits, and to explore the possibility of participating in each other's meetings and events in accordance with their respective internal rules and procedures.
5. The Secretariats of WHO and ASEAN will share their strategic priorities and operational work plans in the area of public health.
6. The use of the name or logo of WHO and/or ASEAN in joint publications and other displays shall require

prior written agreement of the Parties. ASEAN and WHO shall not make statements related to collaborative activities under this MOU to the media on behalf of each other unless otherwise agreed to in writing on a case-by-case basis. All joint publicity materials (including press releases and statements) related to collaborative activities under this MOU shall be agreed and approved by the Parties prior to their release to the mass media or the public.

**Article IV:
Confidentiality and intellectual property**

1. Any exchange of information between the Parties under this MOU will be subject to any reasonable conditions of confidentiality which the party disclosing the information wishes to impose, notwithstanding other areas of cooperation stated in this MOU.
2. In the absence of any specific agreement to the contrary, the Parties hereby acknowledge that this MOU will not act as a license for either organization to exercise the other's intellectual property rights in relation to know-how, materials or technology.
3. Intellectual property rights in respect of know-how, materials or technology resulting from activities carried out under this MOU shall be agreed on in good faith on a case-by-case basis in separate exchanges of letters.

**Article V
Privileges and Immunities**

Nothing in or related to this MOU will be deemed to constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the immunities, privileges, exceptions and facilities enjoyed by ASEAN or WHO under international law, international conventions or agreements, or domestic legislation and laws.

**Article VI
Settlement of Disputes**

Any dispute over the interpretation or application of the present MOU shall be resolved amicably by consultation and negotiation among the Parties.

**Article VII
Amendments**

1. The present MOU may be amended with the written consent of the Parties, at the request of either Party.
2. Any amendment shall enter into force on the date agreed upon by the Parties.

**Article VIII
Termination**

Each Party may terminate this MOU by sending written notification of its decision to the other Party. The termination shall take effect after a period of six months from the date of receipt by the other Party of notification of the termination. In case of termination of this MOU, the Parties will take all necessary steps to ensure that such a decision does not affect the implementation of any activities agreed upon by the Parties prior to the termination.

FOR ASEAN

H.E. Le Luong Minh
Secretary General

Date: 18 September 2014

Article IX: Entry into Force

The present MOU shall enter into force on the date of signature by the authorized representatives of the Parties, and will remain in force for a period of four years, unless earlier terminated in accordance with Article VIII.

**FOR THE
WHO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR
SOUTH-EAST ASIA**

Dr. Poonam Khetrpal Singh
Regional Director

Date: 18 September 2014

**FOR THE
WHO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR
THE WESTERN PACIFIC**

Dr. Shin Young-soo
Regional Director

Date: 18 September 2014

ASEAN - ECO

Press Release of the 14th ASEAN-ECO Ministerial Meeting

**New York, United States
25 September 2014**

The Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) held their Fourteenth Joint Ministerial Meeting in New York on September 25, 2014 on the sidelines of the sixty-ninth Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Meeting was attended by the representatives from ASEAN and ECO member states and was co-chaired by Malaysia and the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of ASEAN and ECO, respectively. The Secretariats of the two Organizations were also represented during the meeting.

The Meeting reviewed the status of cooperation between ASEAN and ECO in the light of the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the two sides in 2006, taking into account new and recent developments in both regions as well as the possibility of ASEAN-ECO cooperation in the areas of mutual interest, including but not limited to, trade and investment, small and medium enterprises development, private sector engagement, drugs and narcotics control and tourism as well as people-to-people contacts.

Noting that the last ASEAN-ECO Joint Ministerial Meeting had decided to develop and promote cooperation between the two sides in the tourism sector, the meeting welcomed the holding of the ASEAN-ECO Joint Tourism Forum to be held on the sidelines of the Third ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism in Antalya, Turkey in November 2014.

The meeting stressed upon the need to promote interaction among the private sectors and businessmen of the two regions for the enhancement of inter-regional trade and investment. Reiterating its earlier decision,

the meeting agreed to organize the First ASEAN-ECO Joint Business Forum in the coming year.

The participants also exchanged views on the future direction of cooperation between ASEAN and ECO. During the meeting, the two organizations reaffirmed their commitment to deepen their cooperative relationship.

Both sides encouraged the two Secretariats to maintain contacts between ASEAN and ECO and asked the Secretariats to continue their coordination and consultations for enhancing the collaboration in the agreed areas of cooperation.

New York
25 September 2014

ASEAN - Norway

Joint Statement on ASEAN-Norway Partnership

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 8 August 2014

WE, the Foreign Ministers 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, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Norway;

RECOGNISING the long standing relations between ASEAN Member States and Norway, and Norway's keen interest to engage ASEAN to promote peace and prosperity in the region;

RECALLING the accession of Norway to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) on 1 July 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan and reaffirming the

joint commitment to promoting the principles, common values and norms stipulated in the ASEAN Charter and the TAC;

REAFFIRMING ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture with the view to promoting peace, stability and prosperity in the region;

REAFFIRMING our respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, renunciation of threat or use of force, peaceful settlement of disputes, mutual respect and mutual benefit;

ACKNOWLEDGING Norway's significant efforts in providing humanitarian assistance to ASEAN following Cyclone Nargis in 2008 and Typhoon Haiyan in 2013;

EXPRESSING desire to continue working closely together on the basis of the friendship, goodwill and understanding for the realisation of an ASEAN Community, including the narrowing of development gap through the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI); and the implementation of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision;

HEREBY state the following:

1. We launch the ASEAN-Norway Partnership that is action-oriented, mutually beneficial and forward-looking, and comprising political and security cooperation, economic cooperation and socio-cultural cooperation including, but not limited to, the following areas:

Political and Security Cooperation

2. We engage in dialogue and support efforts to realise the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), as set out in the APSC Blueprint.
3. We promote the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as a code of conduct governing inter-state relations in the region for the promotion of peace and stability as well as uphold the principles of moderation and tolerance as a common value.
4. We enhance ASEAN's capacity building efforts in preventive diplomacy, peaceful settlement of disputes, and conflict management and conflict resolutions; support the work of the ASEAN Institute

for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR); and enhance cooperation through capacity building efforts with ASEAN Member States in UN Peacekeeping Operations and civilian capacity in post-conflict peace building.

5. Norway welcomes the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) by the ASEAN Leaders at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan in 2013, and expresses its support for the operationalisation of the Centre.
6. We promote maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation and overflight, unimpeded commerce, the exercise of self-restraint, the non-use of force or threat to use of force and the resolution of disputes by peaceful means, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the relevant standards and recommended practices by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
7. We foster greater collaboration in multilateral and regional frameworks, in particular the United Nations to contribute to the peace, stability, development and prosperity of the region and the world.
8. Norway continues to support the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) in the promotion of human rights in ASEAN.
9. We enhance cooperation in countering terrorism, economic crimes, and other transnational crimes; and, in supporting criminal justice and law enforcement as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Leaders' Joint Statement in Enhancing Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons in Southeast Asia and the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015.

Economic Cooperation

10. Norway pledges to support the realisation of an ASEAN Economic Community, including through technical cooperation in capacity-building and training in the areas of trade and investment opportunities and other areas of mutual interest in strengthening regional efforts to achieve inclusive economic growth.

11. We enhance economic cooperation in areas to be mutually agreed upon between ASEAN and Norway, focusing on trade and investment facilitation.
 12. We promote greater interactions between the private as well as public sectors in ASEAN and Norway with a view to enhance mutual trade and investment and recognise the pivotal role of the business community, including strengthening business networks and raising awareness on business opportunities in ASEAN and Norway.
 13. Norway continues to support ASEAN's work on strengthening regional capacity to develop and implement economic and social policies to mitigate the effects of economic integration.
 14. We encourage collaboration through sharing experience in the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) sector, in particular those relevant for the implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for Small and Medium Enterprise Development including transfer of technology to generate SMEs role in the regional and global supply chain.
 15. Norway pledges to support ASEAN Connectivity including the implementation of Master Plan of ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) by, among others, encouraging greater involvement of the private sector.
 16. Norway will continue to support the realization of the CLMV Priority Action List through the promotion of human resources development and the enhancement of capacity building, particularly to develop and implement policies and measures to mitigate social and economic disparities within the region.
 17. We explore the opportunities to transfer relevant know-how and provide technical assistance in trade related matters, including infrastructure development, to CLMV countries.
 18. We seek ways and means to develop and enhance industrial cooperation in the areas of, among others, seafood processing, maritime industry, as well as information and communication technology.
 19. We encourage collaboration through sharing of experiences and investment in the energy sector to promote energy security in ASEAN including in the areas of power generation, oil and gas, as well as renewable energy.
 20. We seek ways and means to support private – public collaboration that promotes sustainable agricultural commodity production.
- Social and Cultural Cooperation**
21. We strengthen socio-cultural cooperation in support of the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for the Attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
 22. Norway pledges to support ASEAN's efforts to build civil service capability, with a particular focus on promoting effective and efficient civil service, public accountability and good governance.
 23. Norway continues its support for ASEAN's work on promoting women and youth entrepreneurship.
 24. We foster greater collaboration in disaster risk management and emergency response.
 25. Norway continues to support the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) to facilitate cooperation and coordination among ASEAN Member States and with relevant UN agencies and international organisations.
 26. Norway continues to support the work of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), particularly in its work of preventing, protecting and helping victims of violence against women and violence against children in ASEAN, including to support the implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection and the Declaration on Elimination of Violence against Women and Children in ASEAN, adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit.
 27. We support the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, including to support the ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2011-2020).

28. We promote technical cooperation and assistance on human security in line with UN General Assembly Resolution 66/290.
29. We agreed to further strengthen collaboration to address climate change and its emerging impacts, by reducing air pollution, adapting to and mitigating global warming, and improving the global environment, *inter alia*, through sustainable natural resources management and biodiversity conservation; the promotion of energy efficiency, renewable energy and other clean energy programmes and technologies which will contribute to enhanced food production, sustainable development, agricultural productivity and environment as well as natural resources sustainability. Assistance will also be provided to developing countries to prepare and implement Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD)-Plus strategies and mechanisms.
30. Norway pledges to share expertise on sustainable development and conservation of biodiversity.
31. We enhance collaboration in promoting sustainable forest management, and support ASEAN's work plan for strengthening forest law enforcement and governance in the ASEAN region.
32. We foster cooperation to enhance the ASEAN Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) Mechanism for surveillance, prevention, preparedness, and responses to EIDs, particularly at cross border areas.
33. We reinforce mutual cooperation and assistance in human resource development through promoting further education sector linkages student and youth exchanges and scholarships.
34. We foster greater cooperation in research, science and technology development, technology transfers and establishment of networks of scientific and technological institutions with the active participation of private sector and other relevant agencies.
35. We promote people-to-people exchanges, as well as interfaith dialogues and exchanges of cultural activities in order to further strengthen public

diplomacy and understanding between ASEAN and Norway.

Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI)

36. Norway continues to support ASEAN's efforts in narrowing the development gaps within ASEAN, and pledges to *inter alia*, through support for the effective implementation of the IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015) in accordance with Guidelines for IAI Projects for ASEAN Dialogue Partners and External Parties and its successor documents as well as through other sub-regional frameworks.

Other Areas of Cooperation

37. We agree that, in the future, ASEAN and Norway may, upon mutual agreement, enter into other areas of cooperation than those specified in this Joint Statement.

Implementation Arrangements

38. We agree that the implementation of measures in the Joint Statement will be funded by the Norwegian ASEAN Regional Initiative Fund.
39. We task our officials to implement and to review regularly the Progress of implementation of the Joint Statement on the ASEAN-Norway Partnership.

ADOPTED in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on the Eighth Day of August in the year Two thousand and Fourteen

ASEAN-International Energy Agency

Joint Statement of the Dialogue between the ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) and the International Energy Agency (IEA)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 23 September 2014

1. The Fourth Dialogue between the ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) and the International Energy Agency (IEA) was held on 23 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR and H.E. Ms Maria van der Hoeven, Executive Director of the IEA.
2. The Ministers noted the findings of the joint ASEAN/HAPUA-IEA study on the development prospects of ASEAN power sector including the need for ASEAN to further enhance its power sector so that it will continue to support its vibrant economy which is the third fastest growing in the world on a real GDP growth basis. The Ministers also noted that such efforts will help to ensure energy security, accessibility and sustainability in the region. The Ministers underscored the importance to develop and use advanced and proven technology, including commercially sound, and clean coal technologies to increase the efficiency and environmental sustainability of the region's power generation given the region's abundant renewable energy and coal resources. The Ministers tasked the ASEAN Centre for Energy to further collaborate with the IEA on identifying key policy and investment targets for the long-term development of the ASEAN power sector.
3. The Ministers noted that the demand for gas in ASEAN is predicted to increase by 80% by 2035 as stipulated in IEA report. The Minister also noted that ASEAN is expected to be one of the most important trans-shipment points for LNG

cargoes. The Minister underlined the importance of promoting exchange of best practices on supply and demand dynamics and distribution trends towards the development of a robust gas trading hub in ASEAN. The Ministers welcomed the continued discussion with the industry at the ASEAN-IEA Gas Dialogue which will be held during the Singapore International Energy Week on 28 October 2014.

4. The Ministers agreed to convene the 5th AMEM-IEA Dialogue in Malaysia in 2015.

ASEAN MINISTERS FOR ENERGY AND IEA

1. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam; 2. HE. Suy Sem, Minister of Mines and Energy of Cambodia; 3. H.E. Susilo Siswoutomo, Vice Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia; 4. H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR; 5. H.E. Dato' Seri DiRaja Mahdzir bin Khalid, Deputy Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia; 6. H.E. U Aung Htoo, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Energy of Myanmar; 7. H.E. Loreta G. Ayson, Undersecretary, Department of Energy of the Philippines; 8. 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; 9. H.E. Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee, Minister of Energy of Thailand; 10. H.E. Dr. Cao Quoc Hung, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam; 11. H.E. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community; and 12. H.E. Maria Van Der Hoeven, Executive Director of International Energy Agency.



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