

The 3rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters

3 December 2014, Jakarta, Indonesia

Chairman's Statement

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".

Jakarta, 3 December 2014