

Joint Press Statement of the 10th Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM)

Jakarta, 14-15 November 2006

1. The 10th Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM) was held on 14-15 November 2006 in Jakarta. It was chaired by Mr. Basyir Ahmad Barmawi, Director General of Immigration Department of Law and Human Rights, the Republic of Indonesia, and was attended by the ASEAN Heads of Immigration and Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. The Meeting reviewed the progress on the realization of the Work Programme to implement the ASEAN Plan of Action on Immigration Matters adopted in 2002. In this regard, the Meeting noted the updates on the Training Workshop on Anti Fraud Travel Document hosted by Cambodia, the ASEAN-EC Border Management and Security Document Programme, the Asia Regional Trafficking in Persons Project and the Pilot Project on the Improved Collection of Data and Statistics on Trafficking in Persons.
3. The Meeting agreed to hold the ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum (AIIF) annually and back to back with the DGICM. The AIIF serves the important role of further strengthening the sharing of Immigration Intelligence Information among the ASEAN Member Countries. The Meeting is pleased to note that the 2nd AIIF held on 13th November 2006 in Jakarta, discussed and finalized the Terms of Reference and Sharing Framework on Immigration Intelligence. This was adopted and endorsed by the Meeting.
4. The various delegations shared their experiences in implementing electronic passport as a means to improve the security of travel documents.
5. The Meeting continued to recognize the need for strengthening collaboration and cooperation on immigration related issues with ASEAN Dialogue Partners, regional and international organisations. The Meeting agreed to hold the 2nd ASEAN DGICM + Australia Consultation, which will be held on 15 November 2006, in Jakarta, to review and discuss possible areas of cooperation.
6. The Meeting welcomed the offer by Lao PDR to Host the 11th DGICM in Vientiane in 2007. The date and venue will be consulted among ASEAN Member Countries.
7. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality and the warm hospitality offered by the people and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.
