

**THE NINETEENTH ASEAN AND CHINA TRANSPORT MINISTERS MEETING
(19th ATM+CHINA)**

24 November 2020, Video Conference

JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

1. The Nineteenth ASEAN and China Transport Ministers Meeting (19th ATM+China) was held on 24 November 2020 via video conference. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Dato Seri Setia Abdul Mutalib Yusof, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications of Brunei Darussalam and H.E. Mr. Li Xiaopeng, Minister for Transport of the People's Republic of China. The Meeting was preceded by the Nineteenth ASEAN and China Senior Transport Officials Meeting (19th STOM+China) held on 18 November 2020.
2. The Ministers recalled their commitments during the ASEAN and China Transport Ministers' Special Meeting on COVID-19 held on 16 July 2020 via video conference to strengthen collective response to COVID-19 based on sustained cooperation and solidarity. The Ministers further tasked senior officials to continue coordination in ensuring the smooth transport and logistic services to support the COVID-19 recovery.
3. The Ministers noted the progress in the implementation of the transport initiatives, projects and activities under 2018 – 2020 Action Programme of the Revised Strategic Plan for ASEAN-China Transport Cooperation, which include:
 - (a) Rail Cooperation, e.g. the construction of China-Laos Railway, China-Thailand Railway, and Indonesia's Jakarta-Bandung High Speed Railway;
 - (b) Highway Bridge Cooperation, e.g. the construction of Nanning (China)-Dongxing-Mong Cai (Viet Nam)-Ha Noi Expressway, Kunming (China)-Mohan-Boten (Lao PDR)-Vientiane Expressway, Myanmar's Kunlong Bridge, and the preliminary work of Myanmar's Mandalay-Tigyaing-Muse Expressway;
 - (c) Inland Waterway Cooperation, e.g. Construction of Lancang-Mekong River Automatic Identification System (AIS) Infrastructure Project; and
 - (d) Port-related Cooperation, e.g. the joint operation of Brunei Darussalam's Muara Port, and Malaysia's Kuantan Port.
4. The Ministers reaffirmed the significance of ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement (AC-ATA) and its Protocols which have paved the way for enhancing air connectivity between ASEAN and China. The Ministers encouraged the senior officials and relevant working group to look into the possibility of pursuing further liberalisation of air transport, taking into account the impact of COVID-19 and the recovery of the international air transport within this region, to better facilitate economic growth and provide social benefits to the peoples of ASEAN and China.
5. The Ministers noted the year 2020 marks the conclusion of the 2018-2020 Action Programme of the Revised Strategic Plan for ASEAN-China Transport Cooperation, and welcomed the proposal to jointly develop a five-year successor action programme (2021-2025) through consultation and mutual agreement. The new action programme will incorporate feasible projects and activities of common interest for the near future.

6. The Ministers looked forward to the completion of the maritime transport cooperation projects which are planned to be implemented in 2021, including Training on Safety Carriage Dangerous Cargo, Regional training on Ferry Safety management, 2nd Maritime Labor Convention Seminar, 5th VTS Operator Training, LNG Ship Safety Seminar and Workshop on the Smart Maritime Management and Service in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS).

7. The Twentieth ASEAN and China Transport Ministers Meeting will be held in Cambodia in 2021.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- (a) H.E. Dato Seri Setia Abdul Mutalib Yusof, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications of Brunei Darussalam;
- (b) H.E. Mr. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia;
- (c) H.E. Mr. Li Xiaopeng, Minister of Transport of China;
- (d) H.E. Mr. Budi Karya Sumadi, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia;
- (e) H.E. Mr. Viengsavath Siphandone, Vice Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR;
- (f) H.E. Haji Hasbi Haji Habibollah, Deputy Minister of Transport of Malaysia;
- (g) H.E. Mr. Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister of Transport and Communications of Myanmar;
- (h) H.E. Mr. Arthur P. Tugade, Secretary of Transportation of the Philippines;
- (i) H.E. Mr. Ong Ye Kung, Minister for Transport of Singapore;
- (j) H.E. Mr. Saksayam Chidchob, Minister of Transport of Thailand;
- (k) H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van The, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and
- (l) H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary General of ASEAN.