

**JOINT STATEMENT OF THE FIRST ASEAN PLUS JAPAN
MINISTERIAL MEETING ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME
(1ST AMMTC + JAPAN) CONSULTATION**

Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR, 18 September 2013

1. We, the Ministers of ASEAN Member States and Japan responsible for combating Transnational Crime, convened the 1st Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (the 1st AMMTC + Japan), in Vientiane, Lao People Democratic Republic on 18th September 2013. The Ministerial Meeting was preceded by ASEAN + Japan Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime for the 1st AMMTC + Japan on 16 September 2013.
2. The Ministers celebrated the 40th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation, and confirmed their recognition that ASEAN and Japan have forged close cooperation towards peace, stability, development and prosperity in Asia throughout the years.
3. The Ministers welcomed the launch of the AMMTC + Japan and shared mutual intention to enhance their cooperation to fight against terrorism and other forms of transnational crime, which threatens peace and stability of the region.
4. The Ministers exchanged views on issues of mutual interest relating to ASEAN-Japan cooperation in countering terrorism and combating transnational crime. The discussions focused on Counter-Terrorism, Cybercrime and other matters of interests.
5. The Ministers underscored the need for enhanced dialogue among the counter-terrorism officials in the region through various forums including ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism Dialogue and expected further sharing of experience and knowledge in the field of counter-terrorism.
6. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the initiatives of Japan such as the launch of SDWAN (the Shared Database of Websites related to terrorism),

Regional Counter-Terrorism Conference which focused on terrorism situation and counter-terrorism measures in Southeast Asia, and Training and Dialogue Programs for Counter International Terrorism.

7. The Ministers stressed the importance of enhancing joint cooperation to address Cybercrime as a new challenge in the whole region. The Ministers reached a common view that capacity building in the region is essential in combating Cybercrime.
8. The Ministers emphasised the importance of addressing humanitarian concerns of the international community, such as the abduction issue.
9. The Ministers decided to report the outcome of this meeting to the upcoming ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit Meeting and expressed their hope that the Summit will take further steps to address the challenge posed by terrorism and transnational crime in the region.
10. The Ministers welcomed the kind offer of Malaysia to host the 2nd AMMTC + Japan Consultation in 2015.
11. The Ministers expressed their sincere gratitude to the Government and people of the Lao People's Democratic Republic for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the meeting. They also expressed appreciation to ASEAN Secretariat for its coordination and assistance
