

**THE SEVENTEENTH 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
(17th AMAF PLUS THREE)**

29 September 2017, Chiang Mai, Thailand

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT

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 Seventeenth Meeting on 29 September 2017 in Chiang Mai, Thailand under the Chairmanship of H.E. General Chatchai Sarikulya, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kingdom of Thailand.
2. We are pleased with the result of "Assessment of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) on Food, Agriculture and Forestry (2011-2015)" that showed significant number of projects/initiatives which have been implemented in the region, focusing on strengthening food security, biomass energy development; sustainable forest management; climate change mitigation and adaptation; enhancement of capacity-building and human resource development; animal and plant health and disease control; strengthening of information system and knowledge networking and exchange; research and development and enhancement of productivity, quality and marketability of agricultural products.
3. We endorsed the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy on Food, Agriculture and Forestry (APTCS) for period 2016 - 2025 to provide scope and joint actions for APT cooperation on food, agriculture and forestry with the aims of ensuring food security and livelihoods, promoting sustainable development of agriculture and forestry sectors, enhancing trade of agricultural and forestry based products, and addressing issues and challenges facing agriculture and forestry sectors of the APT countries. This new cooperation strategy is envisioned to contribute towards the realization of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and advancing the APT collaboration in priority areas of shared interest.
4. We appreciated the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement. We noted the implementation of the Tier 3 programme in particular for APTERR stockpiled rice implementation from Japan and ROK that are being stored in Cambodia, Lao PDR, the Philippines and Myanmar. We encouraged APTERR parties to continue participating in Tier 3 programmes and start participating in the Tier 1 programmes.
5. We noted the progress of the ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Information System (AFSIS) particularly in providing comprehensive platform of information on food security in the region and in improving the statistics on food processing and distribution of agricultural crops in ASEAN. We encouraged AFSIS to continue supporting the food security information system.
6. The ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry extended our appreciation to the People's Republic of China, Japan, and Republic of Korea for their continuous support and commitment to enhancing the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry.

7. We will meet again at the 18th Meeting of AMAF Plus Three in Viet Nam in 2018.
8. We expressed our sincere appreciation to the Government and the people of Thailand for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 17th AMAF Plus Three Meeting.

The Meeting was attended by:

- i. H.E. Dato Ali Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism, Brunei Darussalam
- ii. H.E. Veng Sakhon, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Kingdom of Cambodia
- iii. H.E. Dr. A. Amran Sulaiman, Minister of Agriculture, Republic of Indonesia
- iv. H.E. Dr. Liane Thykeo, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao People's Democratic Republic
- v. H.E. Dato' Nogeh Anak Gumbek, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Malaysia
- vi. H.E. Dr. Aung Thu, Union Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Republic of the Union of Myanmar
- vii. H.E. Ariel Cayanan, Under Secretary for Operation of the Department of Agriculture, Republic of the Philippines
- viii. H.E. Dr. Koh Poh Koon, Senior Minister of State for Trade & Industry and National Development, Singapore
- ix. H.E. General Chatchai Sarikulya, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kingdom of Thailand
- x. H.E. Dr. Le Quoc Doanh, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
- xi. H. E. Qu Dongyu, Vice Minister of Agriculture, People's Republic of China
- xii. H.E. Hiromichi Matsushima, Vice-Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan
- xiii. H.E. Anh Ho-Keun, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Republic of Korea
- xiv. H.E. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN