CHAIRMAN’S STATEMENT OF THE
3RD ASEAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON CYBERSECURITY
SINGAPORE, 19 SEPTEMBER 2018

1. The 3rd ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Cybersecurity (AMCC) was convened in Singapore on 19 September 2018. The AMCC was chaired by Mr S. Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information and Minister-in-Charge of Cybersecurity of the Republic of Singapore.

2. The Closed Door Session of the AMCC was attended by Ministers and Senior Officials responsible for ICT and Cybersecurity from all ASEAN Member States. The ASEAN Secretary-General was also in attendance.

3. AMCC participants welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on Cybersecurity Cooperation by ASEAN Leaders at the 32nd ASEAN Summit in April 2018, in recognition of the growing urgency and sophistication of transboundary cyber threats.

4. In response to ASEAN Leaders’ direction to closely consider and submit recommendations on feasible options of coordinating ASEAN cybersecurity efforts among various platforms of the three pillars of ASEAN, AMCC participants agreed that there is a need for a formal ASEAN cybersecurity mechanism to consider and to decide on inter-related cyber diplomacy, policy and operational issues.

5. Participants recommended that the proposed mechanism should be flexible and also take into account multiple dimensions, including economic considerations.

6. Participants welcomed Singapore’s work on developing the first draft of the proposal on the proposed mechanism for ASEAN sectorals’ consideration, with inputs from the ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN Member States. They also urged that the process be expedited, given the urgency of the cyber threat.

7. Participants agreed that, while the proposal for an ASEAN cybersecurity mechanism is being considered, the AMCC should continue to serve as the interim and non-formal ASEAN platform for cybersecurity.

8. In light of the region’s burgeoning digital economy and increasingly interconnected societies, participants reaffirmed the importance of a rules-based cyberspace as an enabler of economic progress and betterment of living standards, and agreed in-principle that international law, voluntary and non-binding norms
of State behaviour, and practical confidence building measures are essential for stability and predictability in cyberspace.

9. To that end, and in response to ASEAN Leaders’ direction to make progress on discussions to identify a concrete list of voluntary, non-binding and practical norms of State behaviour in cyberspace that ASEAN can work towards adopting and implementing, AMCC participants agreed to subscribe in-principle to the 11 voluntary, non-binding norms recommended in the 2015 Report of the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (UNGGE), as well as to focus on regional capacity-building in implementing these norms.

10. Participants expressed in-principle support on the need to establish the ASEAN Directory of Cyber Points-of-Contact.

11. Participants agreed to forward the outcomes of these discussions to the 33rd ASEAN Summit for notation and to other relevant ASEAN sectorals for further consideration.

12. Towards this, participants agreed to forward the 3rd AMCC Chairman’s Statement to the ASEAN Secretariat for further action, as appropriate.

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