1. The Sixth ASEAN - China Ministerial Meeting on SPS Cooperation was held on 12 October 2018 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. The Meeting was attended by Ministers in-charge of SPS-related affairs of the ASEAN Member States and China as well as the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Zhang Jiwen, Vice Minister of the General Administration of Customs of China, and H.E Dr. Nguyen Xuan Cuong, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam.

2. The Ministers recalled the agreement reached in the 20th ASEAN China Summit to further increase high-level exchanges and dialogues across the three pillars of cooperation to further solidify ASEAN-China strategic partnership and promote mutual understanding.

3. The Ministers noted the entry-into-force of the Protocol to Amend the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Co-operation and Certain Agreements thereunder between ASEAN and the People’s Republic of China (ACFTA Upgrade Protocol).

4. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to enhance cooperation under the current ASEAN-China MOU on Strengthening Sanitary and Phytosanitary Cooperation and tasked the ASEAN China SPS Contact Points to commence the development of a new MOU for signing in 2021.

5. The Ministers commended the Contact Points and the Technical Working Groups for the notable progress on the implementation of Plan of Action for 2017-2018, including the conduct of various capacity building activities and exchange of officials to promote inspection and quarantine procedures.

6. The Ministers supported the efforts to strengthen China-ASEAN SPS Cooperation Website (http://www.chinaaseansps.com) to facilitate information exchange and communication, including the appointment of contact points for the Website.

7. The Ministers adopted the Plan of Action for 2019 - 2020, covering the area of food safety, plant and animal inspection and quarantine and maintained the scope of cooperation on: i) establishment of the information notification and communication system; ii) exchanges of visits of relevant personnel of the Parties; iii) conduct of trainings, seminars and other similar activities (in consideration of narrowing the
development gap within ASEAN); iv) collaborative research; v) establishment of mechanism for consultation.

8. The Ministers issued the Joint Statement of the 6th ASEAN China Ministerial Meeting on SPS Cooperation.

9. The Ministers agreed that the 7th ASEAN China Ministerial Meeting on SPS Cooperation will be held in 2020 in China.

10. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government and People of Viet Nam for their warm hospitality and kind arrangements for the 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, Cambodia

iii. H.E. Dr. A. Amran Sulaiman, Minister of Agriculture, Indonesia

iv. H.E. Dr. Liane Thykeo, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR

v. H.E. Dato’ Salahuddin bin Ayub, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia

vi. H.E. Dr. Aung Thu, Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Myanmar

vii. H.E. Ariel T. Cayanan, Undersecretary for Operations and Agriculture Mechanisation, Department of Agriculture, Philippines

viii. H.E. Sun Xueling, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry for Home Affairs and Ministry for National Development, Singapore

ix. H.E. Luck Wajananawat, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand

x. H.E. Dr. Nguyen Xuan Cuong, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam
xi. H.E. Zhang Jiwen, Vice Minister of General Administration of Customs of PR China

xii. H.E. Dr. Aladdin D. Rillo, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.