

**The 18th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology
Ministers Meeting and Related Meetings**
Bali, Indonesia, 6 December 2018

JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

1. The 18th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers Meeting (TELMIN) was held in Ubud, Bali Island, Indonesia, on 5 and 6 December 2018. H.E. Rudiantara, Minister of Communications and Information Technology of the Republic of Indonesia, chaired the Meeting, and H.E. Dr. Thansamay Kommasith, Minister of Post and Telecommunications of the Lao People's Democratic Republic was the Vice-Chair. The Ministers also held consultations with their counterparts from the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the International Telecommunication Union.

AIMING THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM FOR ASEAN PROSPERITY

2. The Ministers commended the senior officials and regulators in charge of telecommunications and information technology in the region for the good progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020 (AIM2020), and agreed to further intensify cooperation to complete the AIM2020, in order to propel ASEAN towards a digitally-enabled economy that is secure, sustainable, and transformative; and to enable an innovative, inclusive and integrated ASEAN Community.

3. The Ministers commended the progress made in the development of principles on regulating Over-the-Top (OTT) services, through a public-private consultative dialogue, that promotes the growth of innovative services while safeguarding the well-being of consumers and ensuring a healthy competitive business environment. The Ministers noted that the institutionalisation of the consultative dialogue will be formalised in early 2019.

4. The Ministers endorsed the ASEAN Framework on Digital Data Governance, which is aimed at strengthening the data ecosystem, achieving legal and regulatory alignment of data regulations and governance frameworks; and fostering data-driven innovation across ASEAN Member States to boost the growth of digital economy in the region. The Ministers tasked the Senior Officials to further develop and implement the initiatives under the Framework so as to enhance digital capability and cooperation among ASEAN Member States.

5. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of promoting regional cybersecurity collaborations and enhancing coordination among ASEAN Member States on cybersecurity policy development and capacity building. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the progress made in the feasibility study on establishing the ASEAN Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), which can help to facilitate real-time coordination and threat information sharing amongst national CERTs in ASEAN and with ASEAN Dialogue Partners.

6. The Ministers welcomed the recommendations of the Study on Open and Big Data Applications Development, which provide guidance in establishing regular stakeholder dialogues and forums, and developing an ASEAN Open Data Dictionary and Application Programming Interface to enable access to publicly available open and big data, with a view to promoting the use of open and big data for the development of innovative business models and solutions, including applications in smart cities.

7. The Ministers welcomed the enhancement of the ASEAN ICT Skill Definitions, which include the ICT skills for emerging technologies such as Big Data, Social Business and Internet of Things, so as to build an increasingly competitive ICT workforce in the region.

8. The Ministers noted the Ubud Declaration on Aiming the Future of Digital Ecosystem for ASEAN Prosperity to better position ASEAN in seizing new growth opportunities in the digital economy, by enhancing the digital ecosystem so as to improve ASEAN's competitiveness.

ICT COOPERATION WITH DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

9. The Ministers looked forward to further deepening the cooperation with Dialogue Partners in enhancing ICT policies, developing human resources, exploring emerging technologies for adoption, and improving the capacity to address cybersecurity risks in the implementation of AIM2020.

10. The Ministers acknowledged China's support in the successful conclusion of ASEAN-China ICT related cooperation activities held in China in 2018 in the areas of cyber economy, 5G technology and application, submarine and terrestrial cable interconnectivity, Big Data technology and application development, network security emergency response capacity building and on-site network security training held in Indonesia and Myanmar. The Ministers were of the view that the above activities have contributed greatly to the sharing of successful practices and experiences, and to the common development of ICT services and technologies between ASEAN and China.

11. The Ministers endorsed the 2019 ASEAN-China ICT Work Plan which covers activities for information exchange and cooperation in the areas of ICT development and regulatory policies, emergency communication technologies and applications for disaster prevention and mitigation, network security industry development, network security emergency response capacity building, and emerging ICT technologies and applications. The Ministers extended the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ASEAN and China on Cooperation in Information and Communications Technology and looked forward to continue the valued ASEAN-China working relationship and to further strengthen the cooperation within the framework of the MoU.

12. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for its assistance in various areas of cooperation in 2018, including the Symposium on Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things, and the successful launch of the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. The Ministers endorsed the 2019 ASEAN-Japan ICT Work Plan which supports the implementation of the AIM2020 Strategic Thrusts that are relevant to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by digitalisation.

13. The Ministers acknowledged the Republic of Korea for having successfully implemented a series of cooperative activities under ASEAN-Korea ICT Partnership 2017-2021, focusing on strategic areas such as innovation, connectivity enhancement, human resource development and information security. The ministers expressed their appreciation to the Republic of Korea for strengthening ICT cooperation with ASEAN through capacity building programme for women, consulting programme for promoting innovation, carrying out Information Access Center activities and cybersecurity cooperation activity.

14. The Ministers endorsed the 2019 ASEAN-Korea ICT Work plan to further extend cooperation on four strategic areas with the aim of fostering digital ecosystem for ASEAN prosperity. The ministers welcomed the commencement of cooperation activities, including those on Open Data Governance for ASEAN connectivity, establishing IT Cooperation Center and ASEAN-Korea Science Technology Cooperation Center, and joint research in ICT technology.

15. The Ministers welcomed the endorsement of the 2019 ASEAN-EU ICT Work Plan during the 11th TELSOM+EU meeting to advance the ASEAN-EU cooperation in areas of mutual interest, particularly, on the on-going development of an ASEAN digital benchmarking index under the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI) Facility, supported by the EU experience and methodology on measuring digital economy and society (DESI).

16. The Ministers welcomed the United States' assistance in the successful conclusion of the 2018 ASEAN-U.S. ICT Work Plan, including the U.S.-ASEAN Connect Digital Economy Series, USAID's efforts on Next-Generation Universal Service towards Ubiquitous Broadband Ecosystems (USO 2.0), Internet Access Centers, Spectrum Regulation & Policy for Promoting Expanded Broadband Access, the work of the US-ASEAN Business Council, including the ASEAN-US Digital Policy Consultative Forum and other activities under the ASEAN-US ICT 2018 Work Plan. The Ministers welcomed the endorsement of the 2019 ASEAN-US ICT Work Plan during the 4th TELSOM+US meeting with planned cooperation in the areas of digital economy and cybersecurity, technological innovation – including Smart Cities, open and transparent ICT regulation, and growth-focused economic policies.

17. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to ITU for its continued assistance in advancing the development of the ICT sector in ASEAN, and providing direct assistance in different areas to the individual ASEAN Member States. The Ministers looked forward to continuing the valued ASEAN-ITU working relationship under the extended MoU between ASEAN and ITU on Joint Cooperation in ICT Development.

18. The Ministers reiterated ASEAN's commitment to pursue policy and regulatory dialogue with its Dialogue Partners and ITU, and with the industry towards increasing commercial activities and investments. The Ministers also called for greater participation from the private sector to enhance connectivity and innovation in ASEAN through the development of knowledge and digital skill sets, as well as greater access to quality ICT infrastructure, services, applications and technologies, so as to support the goals of the ASEAN Community.

NEXT MEETING

19. The Ministers agreed to convene at the 19th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers Meeting and its Meetings with Dialogue Partners and ITU in Lao PDR in 2019.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

20. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government and the People of the Republic of Indonesia for the warm hospitality accorded to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the 18th TELMIN and Related Meetings.



LIST OF MINISTERS

1. **H.E. Dato Abdul Mutalib Yusof**, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam;
2. **H.E. Tram Iv Tek**, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Cambodia;
3. **H.E. Rudiantara**, Minister of Communications and Informatics of Indonesia;
4. **H.E. Dr. Thansamay Kommasith**, Minister of Post and Telecommunications of Lao PDR;
5. **H.E. Gobind Singh Deo**, Minister of Communications and Multimedia of Malaysia;
6. **H.E. U Tha Oo**, Deputy Minister of Transport and Communications of Myanmar;
7. **H.E. Denis F. Villorente**, Undersecretary for Development and Innovations of the Department of Information and Communications Technology of the Philippines;
8. **H.E. Dr. Janil Puthucheary**, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information and Ministry of Transport of Singapore;
9. **H.E. Dr. Pichet Durongkaveroj**, Minister of Digital Economy and Society of Thailand;
10. **H.E. Nguyen Manh Hung**, Minister of Information and Communications of Viet Nam;
11. **H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi**, Secretary General of ASEAN;
12. **H.E. Chen Zhaoxiong**, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology of People's Republic of China;
13. **H.E. Katsuya Watanabe**, Vice Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan;
14. **H.E. Jang Seok Young**, Deputy Minister for ICT Policy, Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning of the Republic of Korea;
15. **H.E. Zhao Houlin**, Secretary-General of the ITU.