JOINT STATEMENT

THE SEVENTH ASEAN PLUS CHINA MINISTERIAL MEETING ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME (7TH AMMTC + CHINA) CONSULTATION

Bangkok, Thailand, 28 November 2019

1. We, the Ministers/High-Level Representatives of the ASEAN Member States and the People’s Republic of China responsible for handling transnational crime matters, convened the Seventh ASEAN Plus China Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (7th AMMTC + China) Consultation on 28 November 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Bernardo C. Florece, Jr., Undersecretary for Peace and Order, Department of the Interior and Local Government of the Republic of the Philippines and H.E. Mr. Wang Xiaohong, Executive Vice Minister, Ministry of Public Security of the People’s Republic of China.

2. We noted the outcomes of the Seventeenth ASEAN Plus China Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (17th SOMTC + China) Consultation held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 25 July 2019 and the Preparatory SOMTC + China for the 7th AMMTC + China Consultation in Bangkok, Thailand on 26 November 2019.

3. We recognised the need to further enhance the partnership and cooperation between ASEAN and the People’s Republic of China in the areas of terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, money laundering, sea piracy, arms smuggling, international economic crime, and cybercrime.

4. Being mindful of the current and emerging non-traditional security threats in the region, we exchanged views on issues of mutual interests relating to ASEAN-China cooperation on transnational crime such as trafficking in persons, cybercrime, terrorism and violent extremism, illicit drugs trafficking and in the apprehension and investigation of criminal fugitives.

5. We encouraged the Senior Officials of ASEAN and China handling transnational crime to continue implementing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Government of the People’s Republic of China on Cooperation in the Field of Non-Traditional Security Issues that was renewed and signed in 2017 especially in the areas of information exchange, personnel exchange and training, and law enforcement cooperation.

6. We reaffirmed our shared aspiration towards developing practical cooperation initiatives in accordance with the respective laws and regulations to enhance the
capacity at both national and regional levels in dealing with non-traditional security issues under the purview of the SOMTC as stated in Paragraph 1 of the MOU.

7. We took note of the adoption of the ASEAN-China Work Plan on Cooperation in the Field on Non-Traditional Security Issues 2019-2023 at the Senior Officials level and looked forward to its full and effective implementation, including the Programs/Projects/Activities identified.

8. We tasked the SOMTC + China Consultation to establish a common national focal point directory of law enforcement agencies from each ASEAN Member State and China handling non-traditional security issues identified in the MOU.

9. We welcomed the kind offer by Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to host the 8th AMMTC + China Consultation in 2020.

10. We expressed our sincerest gratitude to the Government and people of the Kingdom of Thailand for their warm welcome and the generous hospitality accorded to us and our respective delegations, as well as for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

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