Joint Communique of the Second Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers of Science and Technology
Jakarta, 15-17 November 1983

1. The Meeting was attended by HE Prof. Dr. Ing B.J. Habibie, the Minister of State for Research and Technology, Indonesia; H.E. Datuk Amar Stephen Yong Kuet Tze, the Minister of Science, Technology and the Environment, Malaysia; H.E. Dr. Emil Javier, the Minister of Science and Technology, Philippines; H.E. Dr. Wong Kei Cheong, the Minister of State for Trade and industry, Singapore; HE, Mr. Damrong Lathapipat, the Minister of Science, Technology and Energy, Thailand; and delegates from the ASEAN countries.

2. The Secretary-General and the Director of the Bureau of Science and Technology of the ASEAN Secretariat and the Chairman of ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology were also in attendance.

3. Prior to the closed sessions, the ASEAN Delegates and Officials visited P.T. Nurtanio, the Indonesia. Aircraft Industry, in Bandung and the Science and Technology Research Centre (PUSPITEK) at Serpong.

4. The ASEAN Ministers for Science and Technology were received by H.E. President Soeharto of the Republic of Indonesia on November 17, 1983.

5. Prof. Dr. Ing. B.J. Habibie, the Minister of State for Research and Technology, Indonesia, delivered the opening address. in his address he welcomed all the delegates to the Second Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers for Science and Technology and hoped that the Meeting would take a fresh look at ways and means of intensifying ASEAN cooperation and pooling ASEAN resources order to gain strength in joint action. He expressed confidence that the knowledge and know-how gained in one member nation would be available to all the other member nations.

6. H.E. Prof. Dr. Ing B.J. Habibie, the Minister of State for Research and Technology, Indonesia, and H.E. Datuk Amar Stephen Yong Kuet Tze, the Minister of Science, Technology and the Environment, Malaysia, were unanimously elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively, of the Meeting.

7. The Second Meeting of ASEAN Ministers for Science and Technology emphasized the importance of science and technology for economic development and agreed that the objectives of ASEAN programmes in science and technology shall be directed towards intensifying regional cooperation, promoting technological and manpower development, accelerating technology transfer and the effective and efficient use of natural resources.

8. The Meeting also agreed that ASEAN cooperation and the formulation of ASEAN programmes shall be guided by the principle of overall ASEAN framework in her efforts to bring social, economic and cultural benefits for the cooperating parties. The principle of cooperation shall also be applied to the private sector in order that the research results be utilized for the benefit of the ASEAN region. In view of the international character of science and technology, ASEAN welcomes cooperation with ASEAN dialogue partners and regional and international bodies, in order to sustain continuing development of science and technology in ASEAN.

9. The ASEAN Ministers responsible for Science and Technology welcomed the steps taken by the Government of Japan to bring into effect a new scheme of ASEAN - Japan cooperation in science and technology in accordance with the proposals made by Prime Minister Nakasone.

10. The ASEAN Ministers, therefore, wished to respond positively to the proposal by the Government of Japan to host the ASEAN - Japan Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology on the first and second of December 1983 in Tokyo.

11. The Meeting discussed ASEAN cooperation in science and technology with other dialogue partners and was of the view that ASEAN would enhance transfer of technology in cooperative projects.

12. The Third Meeting of ASEAN Ministers for Science and Technology will be held in Malaysia.

13. The Meeting was conducted in the true spirit of ASEAN cordiality and solidarity.