

Chairman's Statement of the 6th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (IAMMST)
Krabi, Thailand, 17 December 2010

1. The 6th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (IAMMST) was held on 17 December 2010 in Krabi, Thailand. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Virachai Virameteekul, Minister of Science and Technology, Thailand, and attended by Science and Technology Ministers and Senior Officials from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines Singapore and Viet Nam. The Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN and his staff were also in attendance.
2. The Meeting noted that five (5) events were conducted prior to the 6th Informal Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology, namely, the ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST) Retreat on "The Future of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) in ASEAN:2015 and Beyond"; the 17th Meeting of the Advisory Body on the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science and Technology (ABAPAST); the 60th Meeting of ASEAN COST; the 8th Meeting of the ASEAN-India Working Group on Science and Technology; and the 5th Meeting of ASEAN COST Plus Three.
3. The Meeting adopted the report of the STI Retreat and agreed that the outcome of the Retreat shall be called the Krabi Initiative¹. "Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for a Competitive, Sustainable and Inclusive ASEAN" was adopted as the theme for the Krabi Initiative.
4. The Meeting agreed that the Krabi Initiative should be implemented keeping in mind the objectives of COST flagship programmes and to the extent possible, synergise ASEAN R&D human resource through an exchange programme; and make the programme a part of all the COST flagship programmes and other joint R&D projects; and wherever possible, make the programme a part of R&D human resource development in all Member Countries,
5. The Meeting adopted the vision statement of the sixth flagship programme of the COST on Health and noted that a number of activities will be undertaken in 2011 to enhance the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science and Technology (APAST). The Meeting further agreed that the Krabi Initiative shall be referenced in the preparation of APAST 2016-2020.
6. The Meeting noted the progress of the augmentation of the ASEAN Science Fund (ASF). Recognising the need to utilise and to leverage on the ASF to support COST flagship programmes, the Krabi Initiative and other related S&T activities, the Meeting tasked the Advisory Body of the ASF (ABASF) and the ABAPAST to find innovative means such that the income and usable monies to be derived from the ASF can be increased. The Meeting noted that meeting for this purpose will be held in the first quarter of 2011 in Lao PDR.

7. The Meeting thanked Indonesia for hosting three events in 2011, namely, ASEAN Workshop on Bio-risk Management; Triple Helix Conference; and Workshop on Nuclear Power Plant. The Meeting also noted that the 9th ASEAN Science and Technology Week (ASTW) shall also be hosted by Indonesia in 2014.
8. The Meeting appreciated with enthusiasm three new initiatives proposed by Thailand, namely, Synchrotron Technology in ASEAN; Establishment of the Sub-Committee on Metrology; and Establishment of ASEAN Earth Observation Satellite. Acknowledging the importance of the proposed initiatives, the Meeting requested Thailand to develop and circulate the full details of the 3 proposals for review by the relevant COST subsidiary bodies.
9. The Meeting noted that three new initiatives proposed by India at the 8th Meeting of AIWGST shall be reviewed by COST. The new initiatives are the ASEAN Young Scientists Gateway to Indian Science and Technology Programme; Quality Systems in Manufacturing (Enabling Good Laboratory Practices); and Human Resource Capacity Building and Application for Developmental Needs – Geospatial Technologies.
10. The Meeting appreciated the sustained efforts of the Republic of Korea in implementing the programmes under the ASEAN+3 Centre for the Gifted in Science and thanked Brunei Darussalam for hosting the 1st Junior Science Odyssey in December 2011. The Meeting also welcomed the offer of China to host the ASEAN+3 Forum on Innovation in 2011.
11. The Meeting noted that the ASEAN Youth Forum on Innovation and Creativity (AYFIC) was endorsed by the 5th COST Plus Three Meeting and thanked Malaysia for hosting the event.
12. The Meeting noted that the 61st Meeting of COST and Meetings of COST subsidiary bodies shall be held in Siem Reap, Cambodia in May 2011. Further details shall be conveyed by Cambodia to COST in due course. The Meeting further noted that the 62nd Meeting of COST and the 14th AMMST will be held in Viet Nam in the last quarter of 2011.

¹ *The Krabi Initiative, with its salient features, is [attached](#)*