CHAIRMAN’S STATEMENT OF THE 2ND ASEAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON CYBERSECURITY
SINGAPORE, 18 SEPTEMBER 2017

1. The 2nd ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Cybersecurity (AMCC) was convened in Singapore on 18 September 2017. The AMCC was chaired by Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Communications and Information and Minister-in-Charge of Cybersecurity of the Republic of Singapore.

2. The Closed Door Session of the AMCC was attended by ICT and Cybersecurity Ministers and Senior Officials from all ASEAN Member States. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance.

3. AMCC participants agreed that the AMCC continued to be a useful platform for facilitating discussions of cross-cutting cybersecurity issues among ICT Ministers and Cybersecurity Ministers and Senior Officials from all ASEAN Member States. They also reaffirmed the need for ASEAN to take a holistic and more coordinated approach to regional cybersecurity cooperation and capacity building.

4. Participants recognised that cybersecurity was an issue that required coordinated expertise from multiple stakeholders from across different domains to address effectively, and the promotion of international voluntary cyber norms of responsible State behaviour was important for cultivating trust and confidence and the eventual development of a rules-based cyberspace.

5. To that end, participants underscored the importance of enhancing coordination between various platforms of the three pillars of ASEAN in addressing the cross-cutting issue of cybersecurity and to counter increasingly sophisticated cyber threats, so that ASEAN’s efforts are focused, effective, and neither duplicated nor working at cross purposes with one another.

6. Participants also expressed their support for moving forward discussions on the adoption of basic, operational and voluntary norms of behaviour in ASEAN to guide the use of ICT in a responsible manner, thereby enhancing trust between ASEAN Member States and building confidence in the utilisation of cyberspace to its full potential to bring about greater economic prosperity and integration, as well as higher living standards across ASEAN. In this regard, participants noted the recommendations regarding norms set out in the 2015 Report of the United Nations Group of Government Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (UNGGE).
7. Participants further proposed the use of International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) as a possible benchmark for assessing and developing ASEAN’s cybersecurity readiness. In addition, participants noted that linkages to privacy should be considered when considering cybersecurity policy.

8. Participants agreed to forward the 2nd AMCC Chairman’s Statement to ASEAN Secretariat for future discussion and action.

***