



JOINT STATEMENT

The 2nd BIMP-EAGA – China Ministerial Meeting

24 November 2019

Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

1. We, the Signing Ministers of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines and the Minister from China met for the 2nd BIMP-EAGA and China Ministerial Meeting in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia on 24 November 2019. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Radzi Jidin, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs, Malaysia and co-chaired by H.E Mr. Li Chenggang, Assistant Minister of Commerce of China. We exchanged views on the current state of development in BIMP-EAGA and China and on deepening the cooperation in mutually agreed areas.
2. We are pleased to note that following the inaugural BIMP-EAGA and China Ministers Meeting and the adoption of the document on Enhancing the BIMP-EAGA China Cooperation, we had concluded the Plan of Action for BIMP-EAGA China Cooperation 2020 – 2025. The BIMP-EAGA China Cooperation Plan of Action (BECC POA) 2020 - 2025 focuses on 9 priority areas of collaboration namely in connectivity; agriculture, fishery processing and food industry; tourism and socio-cultural exchanges; trade and investment; digital economy; poverty alleviation and inclusive development; human resource development; environment; and power and energy.
3. In this regard, we adopt the BECC POA 2020-2025 as a guiding document to implement the objective of BIMP-EAGA and China to further enhance the existing BIMP-EAGA China cooperation in areas of mutual interest and bringing tangible benefits to our people.
4. We welcome China's support to provide a grant for BIMP-EAGA, and China Development Bank to set up a US\$5-billion special loan for China and BIMP-EAGA cooperation. We noted that the funds will be used to finance cooperation projects in connectivity, people's well-being, industrial capacity and other fields to facilitate ASEAN's community-building efforts. We encourage our stakeholders including the local/state governments and private sector to take advantage of this and to develop concrete projects.
5. We are pleased to note of the quick win initiatives identified among others exhibition support at key trade and investment expos, human resources development program, and tourism familiarisation tour. We also welcome the initiative to link the China's Chamber of Commerce of Chinese enterprises in BIMP countries and business councils of BIMP countries to establish joint business associations.

6. We are pleased to note that the local governments from Fujian, Guangdong and Hainan provinces in China will be engaged in the BIMP-EAGA and China Cooperation. The participation and partnership between the BIMP-EAGA and China local governments and businesses on specific projects will further enhance the cooperation.
7. We express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Malaysia and the State Government of Sarawak for the warm hospitality and the excellent meeting arrangements.

List of Ministers

List of Ministers

1. H.E. Dr. Radzi Jidin, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs, Malaysia
2. H.E Li Chenggang, Assistant Minister of Commerce of China.
3. H.E Hajah Dr. May Fa'ezah Haji Ahmad Ariffin, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Brunei Darussalam
4. H.E Bobby Hamzar Rafinus, Senior Advisor to Coordinating Minister for Regional Development, Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs, Indonesia
5. H.E Emmanuel Fantin Pinol, Secretary, Mindanao Development Authority, Philippines

List of State Ministers / Provincial Governors

1. Hon. Datuk Seri Panglima Wilfred Madius Tangau, Deputy Chief Minister/Minister of Trade and Industry, Sabah, Malaysia
2. Hon. Datuk Hajah Sharifah Hasidah Sayeed Aman Ghazali, Assistant Minister of Law, State-Federal Relations and Project Monitoring, Sarawak, Malaysia
3. Hon. Rogelio Pacquiao, Jr, Congressman and Chairman of Special Committee on EAGA Affairs in the House of Representatives, Philippines