

ANNEX 24



JOINT PRESS STATEMENT

5TH MEETING OF ASEAN DIRECTORS-GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENTS AND HEADS OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS DIVISIONS OF THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DGICM)

SINGAPORE, 3-5 SEPTEMBER 2001

The 5th Meeting of ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM) was held in Singapore from 3 to 5 September 2001. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Fong Yong Kian, Director, Singapore Immigration and Registration (SIR).

2 The respective ASEAN delegations were led by Mr Sa Bali Abas, Director, Department of Immigration and National Registration, Brunei Darussalam; Pol. Brig. Gen. Yun Chhunhy, Director of Immigration Department, Cambodia; Mr M Iman Santoso, Director-General of Immigration, Indonesia; Pol. Col. Khammouane Savaivanh, Director-General, Department of Immigration, Lao PDR; Dato' Mohd Jamal Kamdi, Director-General of Immigration, Malaysia; Mr Zaw Tun, Deputy Director-General, Immigration and National Registration Department, Myanmar; Hon. Andrea D. Domingo, Commissioner of Immigration, Philippines; Mr Fong Yong Kian, Director, SIR; Pol. Lt. Gen. Hemaraj Thareethai, Commissioner of Immigration Bureau, Thailand; Mr Vu Thanh Binh, Deputy Director-General, Immigration Department, Viet Nam; and Dato' Ahmad Mokhtar Selat, Deputy Secretary-General, ASEAN Secretariat.

3 In his Opening Remarks, Mr Fong Yong Kian, Director, SIR expressed his confidence that the discussions during the 5th DGICM would bring all Member Countries closer to the realisation of the goals and priorities set out in the ASEAN

could implement it on a bilateral basis first. The lessons learnt, experience gathered and best practices could then be shared with other Member Countries for consideration for implementation.

ASEAN Immigration and Consular Directory

9 The ASEAN Immigration and Consular Directory (AICD) was updated by Singapore, the host country and made available to the immigration authorities of all Member Countries. The AICD is a directory of immigration and consular focal points for a network among the immigration and consular authorities in ASEAN. For the first time, the AICD would be available in CD ROM format.

Next Meeting

10 The 6th DGICM will be held in Bangkok, Thailand in the second half of next year.

Acknowledgements

11 The 5th DGICM expressed their deepest appreciation to the Government and people of Singapore, especially the officials of Singapore, for their warm hospitality and arrangements made for the Meeting.

12 The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality.

13 For clarification, the media may contact Mr Lee Boon Hwee at Tel: 7330880 ext 1192 or Pgr: 95618050 or fax their queries to Fax: 2987869.

END OF JOINT PRESS STATEMENT

5TH DGICM

5 September 2001