



## **JOINT STATEMENT**

### **THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN DIRECTORS-GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENTS AND HEADS OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS DIVISIONS OF THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DGICM) + AUSTRALIA CONSULTATION**

The 7<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM) + Australia Consultation was held on 5 October 2011 in Singapore.

2. Mr Clarence Yeo, Commissioner of the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA), Singapore, and Mr. Peter Vardos, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship of Australia, co-chaired the Meeting in Singapore.

3. The Meeting commenced with updates on the progress of the Implementation of ASEAN-Australia Cooperative Activities. The Meeting noted the contribution of all ASEAN Member States to the success of the ongoing ASEAN-Australian workshops on Integrating Immigration Capabilities, Threat and Risk Analysis and Border Capabilities. The Meeting particularly commended Cambodia's role in the Threat and Risk Analysis Workshop which Cambodia co-hosted with Australia in August 2011.

4. The Meeting was updated on the existing training exchanges that involved facial image analysis and immigration investigations. These training exchanges created a platform for sharing of training expertise and developing best practices. In this connection, the Meeting acknowledged Australia's support in hosting the Facial Image Analysis Training Package Development Exchange Programme.

5. The Meeting was apprised of the objectives and range of capabilities that would be addressed during the Border Capabilities Workshop which will be held in Canberra, Australia in December 2011.

6. Finally, the Meeting endorsed the Immigration and Checkpoints Competencies Training Programme for participants from the ASEAN Member States and Australia.

7. ASEAN and Australia recognised the commitment and efforts put in by all ASEAN Member States and agreed to continue to work together on cooperative arrangements in relation to immigration matters across the region. The Meeting also reached a consensus to further publicise, where appropriate, the agreements of the ASEAN DGICM + Australia Consultation through the ASEAN Secretariat's website.

8. The Meeting concurred that the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN DGICM + Australia Consultation would be held in conjunction with the 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN DGICM in Thailand in 2012.

9. All delegates expressed their appreciation to the Government and the people of the Republic of Singapore for their meticulous arrangements, warm hospitality and generosity during the 7<sup>th</sup> ASEAN DGICM + Australia Consultation.

**SINGAPORE, 5 OCTOBER 2011**