THIRTEENTH MEETING OF ASEAN SENIOR OFFICIALS ON DRUG MATTERS Bandar Seri Begawan Brunei Darussalam 3 - 6 September 1990

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

- 1. The Thirteenth Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters was neld in Bandar Seri Begawan from 3 6 September 1990. The Meeting was attended by senior drug officials from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. The ASEAN Secretariat was represented by its Assistant Director V.
- 2. The Meeting was declared open by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia Bakti Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Isa bin Pehin Datu Perdana Manteri Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Ibrahim, Special Adviser to His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of Home Affairs. In his Opening Address, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia Bakti Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Isa bin Pehin Datu Perdana Manteri Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Ibrahim, stated that it is imperative that ASEAN must always be united in its efforts to control the drug epidemic and to intercept illicit trafficking. Thus, this gathering Senior Officials of ASEAN in this important Meeting underlined the need for concerted actions in fighting the drug menace. Only through continuous and closely coordinated efforts and regular exchanges of intelligence, expertise and experiences can it hope to achieve this goal.

- 3. The Meeting provided opportunities for senior drug officials in the ASEAN region to forge closer relationships, exchange experiences and consider new programmes to prevent and control the drug problem in the region in particular and the world in general.
- 4. Taking cognizance of the need to maximise its limited resources, the Meeting agreed to consolidate some of the pending projects into long-term project proposals. To facilitate this, the Meeting also agreed to adopt a standard format.
- 5. The Meeting having considered the Report of the UN Experts Group on "Drugs and The United Nations: Meeting The Challenge," on the restructuring of UN drug agencies, supported the recommendations as contained therein. It further agreed that the said recommendations be submitted to their respective Governments for endorsement.
- The Government of Indonesia offered to host the Fourteenth Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters in 1991.
- 7. The Meeting was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of cordiality and solidarity.