



ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny.

**Chairman's Statement of
the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conferences (PMC) +1 Sessions
11 July 2012, Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

1. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) + 1 Sessions with 10 ASEAN Dialogue Partners, namely Australia, Canada, China, the European Union (EU), India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America were held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 11 July 2012.
2. Overall, the relations, cooperation and partnership between ASEAN and each of the ASEAN Dialogue Partners have been substantial, strong and productive, advancing the mutual interests between ASEAN and all of the Dialogue Partners. While some Dialogue Partners have strengthened and deepened their cooperation and partnership with ASEAN, others have elevated their relations with ASEAN to a higher plane, with the goal of making positive contributions to ASEAN integration, and community building. At the same time, all of ASEAN Dialogue Partners have underlined their commitment and strong support for ASEAN Centrality in all of the regional mechanisms and frameworks which ASEAN had initiated, such as the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the East Asia Summit (EAS), and the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Plus, among others.
3. For each ASEAN meeting that had been convened with its Dialogue Partners, the deliberations centered on the topics of "Exchange of Views on Regional and International Issues" and "Review of Cooperation and Future Direction" with all of the Dialogue Partners. For the exchange of views on regional and international issues, the discussions with all ASEAN Dialogue Partners focused on the issues of the situation in the Korean Peninsula, the South China Sea, the progress of development in Myanmar, maritime security, transnational crimes, among others. With regard to the review of cooperation and future direction of relations between ASEAN and each of the Dialogue Partners, the meetings discussed the need to strengthen and expand cooperation, to translate the action plans into actual implementation, as well as to identify and carry out priority areas of cooperation, among others.

Australia

4. *The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with Australia was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. K. Shangmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law of the Republic of Singapore, and H.E. Mr. Bob Carr, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia.*
5. *The ASEAN Ministers expressed its appreciation for Australia's contribution through the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program Phase II (AADCP II) for the period of 2008-2015, and the economic cooperation support program for the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA), in supporting ASEAN's economic integration.*
6. *The Meeting noted with appreciation Australia's ongoing work in the region to support the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), including the improved infrastructure connectivity. The Meeting called for further cooperation between ASEAN and Australia in utilizing the public-private partnership scheme to support the priority projects under MPAC.*
7. *The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of ASEAN-Australia cooperation in food security and determined to enhance collaboration in food security and determined to enhance collaboration in developing technology and skills aimed at strengthening food resilience in the region.*
8. *The Meeting further reaffirmed the urgency to enhance ASEAN-Australia cooperation in energy security through developing alternative energy sources and improving energy efficiency.*
9. *The Meeting agreed to broaden maritime cooperation between ASEAN and Australia and took note the importance of promoting connectivity between ASEAN, Australia and the Pacific.*
10. *The Meeting emphasized the importance of the establishment of ASEAN-Australia Joint Cooperation Committee (AA-JCC) in 2011 as a new consultative mechanism to further enhance and strengthen the Dialogue Partnership, including reviewing and guiding ASEAN-Australia development cooperation; providing direction to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of cooperation.*
11. *The Meeting expressed high appreciation to Singapore as the outgoing Country Coordinator for ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations and welcomed the Philippines as the incoming Country Coordinator.*

Canada

12. *The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with Canada was co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Surapong Tovichakchaikul, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, and H.E. Mr. John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada.*
13. *The Meeting took note the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN-Canada Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Canada*

Enhanced Partnership (2010-2015), including the new achievements in human rights, transnational crimes, trade and investment, climate change and research cooperation. In this connection, as next year would be the mid-term review of the ASEAN-Canada Plan of Action (2010-2015), the Meeting agreed on the need to speed up the implementation of the Plan of Action in an effective manner. The Meeting also took note with satisfaction other development over the past 3 years, including Canada's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) and the Third Protocol Amending the TAC, and the adoption of the Joint Declaration on Trade and Investment.

14. *The Meeting highlighted the occasion of the 35th Anniversary of ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Relations in 2012 and welcomed the successful implementation of the List of Activities to commemorate the 35th Anniversary endorsed by ASEAN and Canada Foreign Ministers at the PMC in July 2011 in Bali.*
15. *The Meeting appreciated the reaffirmation of Canada's commitment to enhance her constructive role in promoting peace and prosperity, and welcomed a number of recent high level visits to the region by the Canadian Prime Minister and Ministers, which reinvigorated Canada's engagement with ASEAN and Asia. The Meeting agreed that ASEAN-Canada partnership could be elevated by deepening existing cooperation in various areas including trade and investment, promotion of human rights and addressing common threats of terrorism, transnational crime, disaster, and pandemic while expanding the scope of cooperation to encompass other areas of high potentials, notably connectivity, education, and HRD, food and energy security, technology and innovation. The Meeting also welcomed Canada's interest in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity. In this connection, the Meeting welcome Canada's announcement to contribute 10 million Canadian dollar for ASEAN projects and activities, including connectivity for the period of 3 years.*
16. *The Meeting welcomed Canada's support to the ASEAN Economic Community through financial contribution and technical assistance by focusing on the areas of trade and investment promotion. In this regard, the Meeting encouraged Canada to explore more cooperation and infrastructure network linkages which would significantly contribute to the bridging of the development gap in ASEAN. The Meeting also welcomed the inaugural ASEAN Economic Ministers-Canada Consultation in August-September 2012.*
17. *The Meeting recognized the recently formalized mechanism of the ASEAN-Canada Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) to further strengthen and enhance development cooperation between ASEAN and Canada.*
18. *Canada reiterated its keen interest in the region's evolving architecture, notably ADMM Plus and EAS.*
19. *The Meeting thanked Thailand as the outgoing Country Coordinator for*

ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Relations and welcomed Singapore as the incoming Country Coordinator.

China

20. *The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with China was co-chaired by H.E. Pham Binh Minh, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, and H.E. Yang Jiechi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.*
21. *The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the significant progress made within the framework of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations over the past 20 years, in particular with the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity 2011-2015 in wide range of areas of cooperation and through various programmes of activities.*
22. *In this connection, the Meeting noted with satisfaction the various meaningful activities conducted last year to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations and recalled the outcome of the 14th ASEAN-China Summit. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the inaugural Meeting of the Joint Council of the ASEAN-China Centre in Beijing on 18 May 2012 and expressed hope that the Centre will help promote trade, investment, tourism, education and cultural exchange between ASEAN and China. The Meeting also welcomed the appointment of the first resident Ambassador of China to ASEAN, which would further enhance its cooperation and coordination with ASEAN.*
23. *The Meeting noted the good progress in the implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), including the adoption of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the DOC at the PMC+1 Session with China on 22 July 2011. In this regard, the Meeting further reaffirmed the importance of the DOC, which embodies the collective commitment of the ASEAN Member States and China in promoting peace, stability, and mutual trust and ensuring the peaceful resolution of disputes in the South China Sea, and committed to fully and effectively implementing DOC, especially on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of DOC this year. The Meeting appreciated China's strong commitment to support the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity. In this connection, the Meeting welcomed the initiative of a meeting between the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and the Chinese Task Force on Connectivity to implement the decision of the 14th ASEAN-China Summit related to connectivity.*
24. *The Meeting further appreciated China's proposal to establish an institutionalized communication with ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). The Meeting looked forward to the signing of ASEAN-China MOU on Disaster*

Management Cooperation and the setting up of ASEAN-China Relief Material Reserve Pool.

25. *The Meeting thanked Viet Nam as the outgoing Country Coordinator for ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations and welcomed Thailand as the incoming Country Coordinator.*

European Union

26. *The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with EU was co-chaired by Honourable Pehin Lim Jock Seng, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II of Brunei Darussalam, and Her Excellency Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and Vice President of the European Commission.*
27. *The Meeting reviewed ASEAN-EU cooperation and expressed satisfaction with the implementation of the Plan of Action to implement the Nuremberg Declaration on the ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership, and its two-year periodic list of activities. The Meeting also welcomed various activities as reflected in the EU's Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2011-2013.*
28. *The Meeting recalled the successful outcome of the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting in April 2012, in which the ASEAN-EU Ministers adopted the Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to Strengthen the ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership (2013-2017) as for the follow-up to the current Plan of Action and launched two important joint cooperation programmes, namely the ASEAN Regional Integration Support by the EU (ARISE) and the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI). The Meeting noted with satisfaction with the commitment by both sides expressed in the Plan of Action to enhance the political-security dimension of the relationship including through cooperation in crisis response and maritime security. In this regard, the Meeting looked forward to their timely, effective and comprehensive implementation, on the basis of equal partnership and mutual benefit.*
29. *The Meeting also welcomed the EU's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), which serves as a key instrument in governing inter-state relations and contributing to peace, security, stability, and prosperity in the region.*
30. *The Meeting expressed appreciation for the EU's commitment to assist in strengthening the capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat. The Meeting looked forward to helping each other to build and develop capacity in areas of mutual interest and benefit. In this regard, the ASEAN Ministers tasked the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN to work with the EU on the modalities for such cooperation.*
31. *While the ASEAN-EU partnership has evolved significantly, the Meeting agreed on the importance of enhancing mutual understanding on how the ASEAN and EU mechanisms work by sharing best practices and exchange of*

officials between ASEAN and EU. In addition, the ASEAN Ministers recalled the EU's continuing commitment invited EU to support the enhancement of the capacity of ASEAN Coordination Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre).

32. Noting the growing volume of trade and investment between both regions, the Meeting looked forward to enhancing this relationship further through deepening dialogue and consultations between ASEAN Economic Ministers and the EU Trade Commissioner, as well as with and between the business communities of both regions with the view of fostering public-private sector partnerships. The Meeting also recognised the greatest potential benefits that would follow from a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and in this regard, the Meeting emphasized that the EU's on-going FTA negotiations with individual ASEAN Member States are important "building blocks" to a region-to-region FTA.
33. The Meeting thanked Brunei Darussalam as the outgoing Country Coordinator for ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations and welcomed Viet Nam as the incoming Country Coordinator.

India

34. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with India was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and H.E. S. M. Krishna, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India.
35. The Meeting took note with satisfaction the good progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-India Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2010-2015), and agreed on the need to speed up the effective and full implementation of the Plan of Action. The Meeting called for the early conclusion of the negotiations on ASEAN-India Trade in Services and Investment Agreements with greater understanding and flexibility among parties concerned.
36. The Meeting highlighted the importance of transportation networks between Southeast Asia and South Asia, and welcomed India's commitment to support the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity through both hard and soft infrastructure linkages. In this regard, the Meeting called for the early convening of the ASEAN-India Transport Ministers' Meeting to discuss the development of the India-Myanmar-Lao PDR-Vietnam-Cambodia Highway and the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway with the extension to Lao PDR and Cambodia. The Meeting also encouraged both sides to look into the possibility of taking concrete steps towards the development of Mekong-India Economic Corridor linking the east coast of India to the Southeast Asian region. The Meeting welcomed Cambodia's proposal to set up the ASEAN-India Joint Committee on Connectivity to coordinate and oversee all cooperative activities related to connectivity. The Meeting also underlined the

need to interlink ASEAN-India regions through maritime connectivity under the umbrella of MPAC.

37. *The Meeting welcomed the good progress in the drafting of the final report of the ASEAN-India Eminent Persons Group (EPG), to be submitted to the Leaders of ASEAN and India at the 10th ASEAN-India Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in November 2012. The Meeting also expressed confidence that the report would provide key practical recommendations to further strengthening and advancing ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations to a higher plane.*
38. *The Meeting looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in New Delhi, India, on 20-21 December 2012 to mark 20 years of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations. In this connection, the Meeting agreed to conduct a series of meaningful activities to promote awareness on ASEAN-India dialogue relations, including the ASEAN-India Car Rally and the Cultural Festival. The Meeting also agreed to have a Vision Statement to be adopted by the Leaders at the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in New Delhi, to further enhance the good friendship and cooperation between the two sides.*
39. *The Meeting thanked Cambodia as the outgoing Country Coordinator for ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations and welcomed Brunei Darussalam as the incoming Country Coordinator.*

Japan

40. *The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with Japan was co-chaired by H.E. Marty M. Natalegawa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia and H.E. Koichiro Gemba, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.*
41. *The Meeting noted with satisfaction the good progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action (2011-2015) since its adoption by the Leaders at the 14th ASEAN-Japan Summit in Bali last year, and looked forward to the submission of the Progress Report on the Implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action to the 15th ASEAN-Japan Summit, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in November 2012.*
42. *The Meeting noted the status of the negotiations on the ASEAN-Japan Trade in Services and Investment Agreements and reaffirmed the need to continue these negotiations for the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement. The Meeting was also pleased to note the good progress in the development of a roadmap for ASEAN-Japan Economic Relations in the next 10 years, and expressed confidence that the roadmap would be completed in time for submission to the 18th AEM-METI Consultations in Cambodia.*
43. *The Meeting took note of the successful ASEAN Roadshow to Japan on 25-28 April 2012, which helped to promote investment and trade as well as*

economic cooperation between ASEAN and Japan.

- 44. The ASEAN Ministers highly appreciated Japan's strong support to the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), particularly through the IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015) and were convinced that Japan remained committed to helping narrow the development gaps in ASEAN through more active contribution to sub-regional cooperation frameworks.*
- 45. The ASEAN Ministers also noted with satisfaction the 33 flagships projects identified by Japan related to ASEAN Economic Corridors (East-West Economic Corridor, Southern Economic Corridor and Maritime Economic Corridors and soft infrastructure in whole ASEAN) for enhancing ASEAN Connectivity. The Meeting requested both sides to speed up the project approval process so that the projects could be implemented as soon as possible.*
- 46. The Meeting recognized the confirmation from the government of Japan on the extension of the use of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) until March 2013 with a deadline for project submission by September 2012. The Meeting also welcomed the implementation of the Kizuna (Bond) project and the ASEAN Ministers hoped for similar projects to take place in the future to strengthen the connectivity between youth of ASEAN, Japan and the wider region.*
- 47. The Meeting reiterated that disaster management and emergency response are issues of highest priority for ASEAN and Japan. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed Japan's strong support for the AHA Centre, through projects such as "Establishment of an Integrated Information and Communication Technology System to strengthen the operation of the AHA Centre" and Establishment of a Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN". The Meeting appreciated the progress in establishing the "Disaster Management Network for the ASEAN Region, which Japan had proposed on the occasion of the ASEAN-Japan Foreign Ministers Meeting in July 2011, through the cooperation provided by Japan such as capacity building of the AHA Center. The Meeting also welcomed that Japan will seek to expand its cooperation with ASEAN and ASEAN Member States in the area of utilization of outer space, including the possibility of expanding the scope of their cooperation in the ASEAN Disaster Management Network in the region.*
- 48. The ASEAN Ministers agreed on the importance of people-to-people contacts in building closer relations between ASEAN and Japan. In this regard, the ASEAN Ministers welcomed Japan's new youth exchange programme entitled "Kizuna Project" aimed at promoting global understanding of Japan's revival efforts in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake and to promote close ties and nurture friendship among the youth of ASEAN and Japan.*
- 49. The Meeting agreed to carry out commemorative activities throughout 2013 to mark the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations. The Meeting*

welcomed the establishment of a track II dialogue among intellectual of ASEAN Member States and Japan which would be submitting a mid-to-long term vision of ASEAN Japan relations to the ASEAN PMC + 1 Session with Japan in 2013.

50. The Meeting also looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in 2013 to mark the 40th year of ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations.
51. The Meeting thanked Indonesia as the outgoing Country Coordinator for ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations and welcomed Cambodia as the incoming Country Coordinator.

Republic of Korea

52. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with the Republic of Korea (ROK) was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR, and H.E. Kim Sung-han, Second Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea.
53. The Meeting expressed its satisfaction with the progress in cooperation made after the elevation of the ASEAN-ROK relations from comprehensive partnership to the strategic partnership in October 2010. The Meeting also noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Republic of Korea Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity and its Plan of Action (2011-2015).
54. The Meeting welcomed the progress in the establishment of the Mission of the ROK to ASEAN in Jakarta, which would certainly pave the way to further strengthen and increase dialogue cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK.
55. The Meeting noted with appreciation good work carried out by the ASEAN-Korea Centre in promoting awareness on ASEAN-ROK relations, in particular, in trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges through the organization of a series of activities. The Meeting expressed its appreciation to the Lao PDR and Thailand who have already seconded their officials to the Centre and encouraged the next secondment of officials by respective ASEAN Member States to Centre.
56. The Meeting welcomed the signing of the Agreement between the Governments of the ASEAN Member States and the ROK on Forest Cooperation at the sideline of the 14th ASEAN-ROK Summit on 18 November 2011 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting agreed to explore and develop concrete projects in the area of forestry. In this regard, the Meeting looked forward to the entry into force of the Agreement and tasked relevant sectors to effectively implement the Agreement, which would positively contribute to the socio-economic development, environmental protection and biodiversity conservation, as well as to further strengthen cooperation in the fields of forestry and building the capacity in dealing with climate change.

57. *The Meeting also welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) in November 2011, Bali, Indonesia, and looked forward to the support from the ROK to the Center.*
58. *The Meeting thanked Lao PDR as the outgoing Country Coordinator for ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations and welcome Indonesia as the incoming Country Coordinator.*

New Zealand

59. *The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with New Zealand was co-chaired by H.E. Dato' Sri Anifah Haji Aman, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, and Honourable Murray McCully, Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand. The ASEAN Ministers congratulated the Government of New Zealand on the successful General Elections held on 26 November 2011. The ASEAN Minister expressed its confidence that the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister John Key's policy towards ASEAN would continue to strengthen and enrich the ASEAN-New Zealand partnership to deliver concrete benefits to the peoples of ASEAN and New Zealand. The ASEAN Ministers appreciated the continuity of New Zealand's strong commitment and steadfast support for ASEAN centrality in its community-building efforts and development of regional architecture.*
60. *The Meeting was encouraged by the progress made to realize commitments contained in the Joint Declaration for an ASEAN-New Zealand Comprehensive Partnership and its Plan of Action (2010-2015). The Meeting was happy to note that the four flagship initiatives were currently being implemented and that plans were already underway for their implementation in the second year. The Meeting agreed that further reviews of progress will take place annually with a view to realizing the commitments contained in the Joint Declaration for an ASEAN-New Zealand Comprehensive Partnership and its associated Plan of Action.*
61. *New Zealand welcomed the Global Movement of Moderates and looked forward to working with ASEAN to promote this initiative. New Zealand also expressed readiness to work with ASEAN in the area of connectivity to facilitate the narrowing of development gaps in ASEAN and promote greater integration within the Asia-Pacific region.*
62. *The Meeting welcomed the full participation of all parties to the Agreement for an ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) and was confident that mutual benefits that have been enjoyed since the coming into force of the Agreement in January 2010 would continue to intensify. New Zealand also welcomed the ASEAN Framework for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership and looked forward to collaborating with ASEAN in this area.*
63. *The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of continuing cooperation on disaster preparedness and response. In this regard, the Meeting encouraged New*

Zealand to support the AHA Centre and the implementation of the Work Programme (2010-2015) of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER).

64. *The Meeting underlined the importance and need of securing energy and food security in the region, and encouraged more cooperation in the field of, among others, agricultural development and investment, fisheries, and development of alternative energy source such as Geothermal Energy, between ASEAN Member States and New Zealand.*
65. *The Meeting also took note of the change in the nomenclature of the ASEAN-New Zealand Joint Management Committee to Joint Cooperation Committee and its revised Terms of Reference.*
66. *The Meeting expressed appreciation to Malaysia as the outgoing Country Coordinator for ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue Relations and welcomed Lao PDR as the incoming Country Coordinator.*

Russian Federation

67. *The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with the Russian Federation was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Wunna Maung Lwin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and H.E. Mr. Igor Vladimirovich Morgulov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.*
68. *The Meeting noted the steady progress of the implementation of the Comprehensive Program of Action to Promote Cooperation between ASEAN and the Russian Federation (2005-2015), including trade and investment, countering terrorism and transnational crime, science and technology, and tourism.*
69. *The Meeting also noted with pleasure the various meaningful activities undertaken to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership, including organizing cultural events on the sideline of the 19th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits in November 2011 in Bali, Indonesia, which contributed significantly to the promotion of mutual understanding and friendship as well as the advancement of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Relations.*
70. *The ASEAN Ministers expressed its appreciation to the decision of Government of the Russian Federation to allocate USD 1.5 million annually to the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership Financial Fund (DPFF) in attestation of Russia's firm commitment to further enhance dialogue partnership with ASEAN.*
71. *The Meeting encouraged Russia to support the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). The Meeting also encouraged the finalization of the new Plan of Action of the ASEAN-Russian Federation Working Group on Science and Technology (2012-2015) with the view to enhance and promote the cooperation between*

ASEAN and the Russian Federation in the field of science and technology.

72. *The Meeting also witnessed the official launching of the website of the ASEAN Centre in the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO).*
73. *The Meeting thanked Myanmar as the outgoing Country Coordinator for ASEAN-Russian Federation Dialogue Relations and welcomed Malaysia as the incoming Country Coordinator.*

United States of America

74. *The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with the U.S. was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Albert F. Del Rosario, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, and H.E. Ms. Hillary R. Clinton, Secretary of State of the United States of America.*
75. *The Meeting welcomed the progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership for Enduring Peace and Prosperity (2011-2015) across all the three of ASEAN's Political and Security, Economic and Socio-Cultural Community. The Meeting reviewed progress on other initiatives announced by the United States during the 3rd ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Meeting. The U.S. announced the Asia Pacific Strategic Engagement Initiative, a new initiative designed to increase U.S. foreign assistance to the region, reaffirming the United States' commitment to advance its partnership with ASEAN.*
76. *The Meeting noted with satisfaction the enhancing and expanding of the ASEAN-U.S. cooperation, which has contributed to the maintenance of peace, stability, and prosperity in the region. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed the United States' proposal for the "Commitment to Connectivity: ASEAN-U.S. Business Forum" to be held on 13 July in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Business Forum will bring together ASEAN and the U.S. senior officials and business leaders to discuss how best to align public and private efforts to support ASEAN integration and connectivity. The Ministers also welcomed the second ASEAN Economic Ministers Road Show to the U.S. in the 2nd half of 2012.*
77. *The Meeting welcomed the outcome of the 1st Meeting of ASEAN-U.S. Eminent Persons Group (EPG) held on 20-21 May 2012 in Manila, Philippines and looked forward to the 2nd Meeting to be held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in September 2012. The Meeting encouraged the EPG to finalize its Report which contained concrete and practical recommendations for submission to the 4th ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Meeting, in Phnom Penh, in November 2012.*
78. *The Meeting noted the significant advancement under the ASEAN-US Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA). The TIFA Work Plan for 2012 has identified among other activities the ASEAN-U.S. Business Summit to be held on the sidelines of the ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM) in August 2012 and 2nd Trade and Environment Dialogue. The Meeting also welcomed the U.S.' support to the implementation of the Master Plan on*

ASEAN Connectivity, which constitutes an important component for bridging the development gap within ASEAN. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed efforts by the United States to increase its investment in the Lower Mekong Region through the Lower Mekong Initiative to advance ASEAN integration and connectivity.

79. *The Meeting recognized the growing significance of maritime issues and cooperation in the region and underscored the importance to regional peace and stability, of ensuring maritime safety, freedom of navigation, respect for international law, and unimpeded lawful commerce in the South China Sea. The Meeting expressed support for the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN-China Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea, as well as the early conclusion of a Code of Conduct, in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS. The Meeting agreed an effective Code of Conduct should create a rules-based framework for managing disputes and regulating the conduct of parties in the South China Sea.*
 80. *The Meeting emphasized the importance of enhancing people-to-people ties between ASEAN and the United States. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the results of the April visit to the United States by the ASEAN Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children. The U.S. looked forward to the planned September visit of the Committee of the Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) to the U.S. The Meeting looked forward to the participation of the 1st batch of students under the U.S.-Brunei Partnership for English Language Education in ASEAN later this year. The ASEAN Ministers also welcomed the U.S. announcement to launch an ASEAN Fullbright pilot programme. The Meeting commended efforts to invigorate science and technology cooperation, particularly in the area of health service, at the May consultation between the ASEAN Committee of Science and Technology and the United States in Nay Pyi Taw.*
 81. *The Meeting looked forward to the early accession of the Nuclear Weapons States (P5) to the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Protocol, which would significantly contribute towards general and complete nuclear disarmament and the promotion of international peace and security in the wider region.*
 82. *The Meeting thanked the Philippines as the outgoing Country Coordinator for ASEAN-U.S. Relations and welcomed Myanmar as the incoming Country Coordinator.*
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