

Special Session of ASEAN-China Ministerial Meeting on
Science, Technology and Innovation

14 December 2021

JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

A Special Session of the ASEAN-China Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation was held virtually on 14 December 2021. The Meeting coincided with the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-China relations and was co-chaired by H.E. Prof. Dr. Anek Laothamatas, Minister of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation of the Kingdom of Thailand and H.E. Mr. Wang Zhigang, Minister of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China.

H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN, gave an opening remark through a recorded message, where he highlighted the expanding and deepening of ASEAN-China relations including in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI).

During the meeting, both sides highlighted the importance of scientific and technological innovation. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress and concrete outcome of earlier collaboration such as scientific exchanges and capacity building, and technological collaboration.

An ASEAN-China Plan of Action for a Closer Partnership of Science, Technology and Innovation for Future (2021-2025) (ACPASTI) was endorsed. ACPASTI (2021-2025) is designed to focus on four main cooperation areas: 1) STI Policy Cooperation, 2) Joint Research and Development for Shared Prosperity and Solution of Common Challenges, 3) Technology Transfer, and 4) Talent Exchange.

The Meeting also exchanged views on possible future areas of technological and scientific partnership and agreed to enhance ASEAN-China cooperation in STI of mutual benefits. ASEAN and China agreed to hold forums on STI cooperation, to carry out joint research projects and training workshops, and to deepen collaboration on technology transfer and science park. Under the Talented Young Scientist Exchange Program, China would increase the number of researchers from ASEAN Member States and annually support ASEAN Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Tour to China.

Representatives from other ASEAN Member States, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to ASEAN, the ASEAN Secretariat and the National COSTI Secretariats also participated in the meeting.

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