

ASEAN DOCUMENTS SERIES 2012



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**The ASEAN Secretariat
Jakarta**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States of the Association are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

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I. ASEAN SUMMIT DOCUMENTS

Chairman's Statement of the 20th ASEAN Summit

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 3-4 April 2012

1. The 20th ASEAN Summit, with the theme of "ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny" held in Phnom Penh, on 3-4 April 2012, was chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, as Chair of ASEAN, in 2012. The Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States had substantive, frank and productive discussions in plenary and retreat sessions.
2. We, the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, gathered in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, for the 20th ASEAN Summit, supported the priorities outlined by Cambodia during its Chairmanship in 2012. We also agreed to work together based on the priorities to accelerate the building of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and to ensure the achievements of the ASEAN Community beyond 2015.
3. We expressed our deep sympathy and condolences to the Government of the Philippines and her people for the loss of lives and damage to the social, economic and environmental assets caused by the earthquake on 6 February 2012. We also expressed our deep sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims of the recent terrorist bombing in southern Thailand.
4. Inspired by, and united under this year's theme of "ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny," we affirmed our strong commitment to intensify our work towards an integrated, connected, people-centred and rules-based region as well as a prosperous ASEAN. We will continue to encourage the participation of our people and all stakeholders of ASEAN in the community-building process, based on the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community, 2009-2015.
5. We agreed and adopted the following documents:
 - Phnom Penh Declaration on ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny;
 - Phnom Penh Agenda on ASEAN Community Building;
 - ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015; and
 - ASEAN Concept Paper on Global Movement of Moderates (GMM).

ASEAN: ONE COMMUNITY, ONE DESTINY

6. We recognized that more efforts are needed to promote further growth and improve distribution of the fruits of development at both the national and regional levels among the ASEAN Member States. We further noted that narrowing the development gap is not only a precondition for ensuring ASEAN's competitiveness and reducing poverty among our people but also for assisting ASEAN to achieve real regional integration and promote its centrality in the broader regional and world affairs.
7. We underlined that regional and global challenges go beyond national boundaries and would require a more cooperative and comprehensive approach, particularly through regional cooperation. We reaffirmed that ASEAN will be able to forge regional consensus on the resolution of outstanding issues and that this belief is based on the experience of more than four decades which has proved that ASEAN has the ability to strengthen peace, stability and security in the region, achieve inclusive economic growth and become an increasingly "people-centered" community. This is consistent with our chosen theme "ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny," for 2012, which highlights the collective determination and close cooperation of the ASEAN people to work in concert to build an ASEAN community as a cohesive family.

CELEBRATION OF THE 45th ANNIVERSARY OF ASEAN

8. We, on the sidelines of the 20th ASEAN Summit, celebrated the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN, in Phnom Penh, on 3rd April 2012. We noted that ASEAN has come a long way in overcoming many challenges and has achieved much based on ASEAN's fundamental principles, such as mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity, and national identity of all nations.

9. We committed to build upon those achievements in working towards an ASEAN Community by 2015 and to ensure that the regional architecture and environment remain conducive to development.
10. We, therefore, agreed to issue the Statement by the ASEAN Chairman on the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN, on 3 April 2012, to mark milestone achievements in ASEAN community-building and integration efforts towards the ASEAN Community by 2015.

PROGRESS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASEAN CHARTER AND ROADMAP FOR AN ASEAN COMMUNITY

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASEAN CHARTER

11. We took note with satisfaction the progress of implementation of the ASEAN Charter, particularly on the development and adoption of various rules and procedures for its operationalization. To this end, we welcomed the signing of the Instrument of Incorporation of the Rules for Reference of Non-Compliance to the ASEAN Summit to the Protocol to the ASEAN Charter on Dispute Settlement Mechanisms by our Foreign Ministers on 2 April 2012. We are pleased to note that this signing marks the completion of the process of developing the legal instruments identified under the Protocol to the ASEAN Charter on Dispute Settlement Mechanisms, and look forward to the early ratification of the Protocol by all ASEAN Member States.
12. We commended the work of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) to ASEAN that has continued to play an essential role in ensuring the effective coordination in the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015), ASEAN's cooperation and integration agenda in enhancing the partnership with Dialogue Partners and other External Parties as well as also mandates provided by the ASEAN Charter. In this regard, we called on the CPR to continue its work, including working closely with other ASEAN Bodies to ensure the success of realizing an ASEAN community by 2015. We were also encouraged, through the work of the CPR, in enhancing the partnership with ASEAN by the growing number of States accrediting their Ambassador to ASEAN. We further called upon CPR to enhance their engagement with these Ambassadors to support the ASEAN Community building process.
13. We noted that the Secretary-General of ASEAN had briefed the 10th ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC) Meeting on 2 April 2012 on his Report, "ASEAN's Challenge: Some Reflections and Recommendations on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat." We also noted that he had informed Samdech Techo Prime Minister HUN SEN, the Chair of ASEAN of his report, on 3 January 2012.
14. In this regard, we further tasked the Senior Officials and the CPR, with the guidance of the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC), to work closely with the Secretary-General of ASEAN in efforts to realize the strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat.
15. We reaffirmed the significant role of the ASEAN Foundation in promoting greater ASEAN awareness and identity among the people of ASEAN as part of the ASEAN community-building process. We tasked our relevant Ministers to consider a long-term solution to the issue of financial sustainability of the Foundation to ensure that the Foundation can undertake further activities based on its mandated by the ASEAN Charter.
16. We welcomed the signing of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on Hosting and Granting Privileges and Immunities to the ASEAN Secretariat, which is a key legal instrument to support the functioning and operation of ASEAN in Indonesia as the host of the ASEAN Secretariat. The Agreement will also set out privileges and immunities, facilities and exemptions to be granted by Indonesia to ASEAN, as well as the staff of the ASEAN Secretariat, for the effective and independent exercise of their tasks and duties.

ASEAN COMMUNITY BUILDING

17. We noted the Annual Report of the Secretary-General of ASEAN on the Work of ASEAN which highlighted ASEAN's progress, opportunities and challenges in its community-building and integration process since the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia, on 17 November 2011.
18. We welcomed the development of a list of yearly targeted achievements of the implementation of the Community Blueprints, namely the ASEAN Community-Building – Annual Targets 2012, as well as new initiatives and cooperation towards an ASEAN Community in 2015 which have been, and will be, integrated into national policy and programmes. In this regard, as ASEAN is moving

closer to 2015, the target year of an ASEAN Community, we encouraged all concerned ASEAN Ministerial Sectoral Bodies under the three community pillars to undertake necessary and immediate actions to ensure that all the Annual Targets 2012 are fully implemented and completed timely.

19. We recalled the adoption of the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) and looked forward to the development of its Plan of Actions, so as to enable the ASEAN Community to plan its active role in addressing global issues of our common concerns and interest.
20. We reaffirmed our collective determination to maintain the centrality and proactive role of ASEAN as the primary driving force in its relations and cooperation with its Dialogue Partners and external parties in an evolving regional architecture, such as the ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the East Asia Summit (EAS), and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Plus in ensuring the maintenance of peace, security, stability and enhancing prosperity in the region.

ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY (APSC)

21. We noted the progress and successful implementation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint. We highlighted the importance of the activities that will be implemented and completed under the APSC Blueprint, as outlined in the Annual Targets 2012.
22. We emphasized the significant role of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) in Southeast Asia, with its 28 High Contracting Parties, as the key instrument governing inter-state relations to contribute to peace and security in the region. We recalled the signing of the Third Protocol Amending the TAC in 2010, and encouraged those countries that have not ratified the Third Protocol, to do so as soon as possible. We also noted that Brazil has signed the Declaration on Accession to the TAC in Bali, in November 2011, and look forward to its accession to the Treaty. We also welcomed the UK's interest to accede to the TAC. In this regard, we instructed the ASEAN Foreign Ministers to deliberate on further necessary procedures to be taken to ensure that the UK and the EU can accede to the TAC in 2012.

23. We welcomed the conclusion of negotiations between the State Parties to the Treaty on Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ) and the five Nuclear Weapon States. We also looked forward to the signing of the ASEAN Statement on the Protocol to the Treaty on SEANWFZ, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the State Parties to the Treaty on SEANWFZ, and the signing of the Protocol to the Treaty on SEANWFZ by the five Nuclear Weapon States in July 2012. We welcomed Cambodia's accession to the Convention on Early Notification of Nuclear Accident and Convention on Nuclear Safety on 26 March 2012.
24. We also recalled our decision to promote information sharing and transparency on nuclear related issues in the region. In this regard, we welcomed the idea to develop a network amongst nuclear regulatory bodies in Southeast Asia which would enable regulators to exchange nuclear related information and experiences on best practices, enhance cooperation and develop capacities on nuclear safety, security and safeguards.
25. We recalled our decision at the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia, on 17 November 2011, on the establishment of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR). To this end, we noted with satisfaction the progress in the work in coming up with modalities for the operationalization of the AIPR, and encouraged our officials to work towards the official launching of the AIPR in 2012.
26. We encouraged the strengthening of a network of existing peacekeeping centers within ASEAN to conduct joint planning, training, and sharing of experiences with a view to strengthen the regional capacity in the maintenance of peace and stability. We believe that this endeavour would contribute further to the strengthening of the regional capacity in supporting the United Nations (UN) peacekeeping missions.
27. We reaffirmed our commitment to work at the regional level in addressing maritime issues and looked forward to the convening of the Third Meeting of the ASEAN Maritime Forum and the expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum later this year.
28. We emphasized the important role of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and the ADMM Plus in defence and security cooperation in the region. We welcomed the results of the 6th Meeting of the ARF

Experts/Eminent Persons (ARF EEP) in Bangkok, Thailand, on 1-3 February 2012, which provided a useful foundation for assisting the ARF process, especially in the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy, which was endorsed by the 18th ARF in Bali, Indonesia, in 2011.

29. We look forward to the convening of the 6th ADMM, in Phnom Penh, in May 2012, which would further enhance defence cooperation to address common concerns in the areas of trans-boundary security related issues, disaster management and peacekeeping operations, among others.
30. We called upon all relevant ASEAN Ministerial Sectoral Bodies to undertake concerted efforts to address trafficking in persons and the protection and rehabilitation of victims.
31. We underlined the importance of promoting mutual understanding and transparency through information sharing between and among the ASEAN Member States, thus promoting peace, security and stability in the region. In this regard, we looked forward to the first publication of the ASEAN Security Outlook (ASO) in 2012 to promote greater transparency, confidence and understanding of regional defence policies and security perceptions in Southeast Asia.
32. We welcomed Indonesia's recent ratification of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism (ACCT) which reaffirms commitments to develop various forms of cooperation in countering the threat of terrorism in the region. We looked forward to further ratification of the ACCT by the remaining ASEAN Member States.
33. We reaffirmed our strong commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights in the region. We welcomed the interface between the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and representatives of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and noted the Progress Report on the drafting process on the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD), which would be adopted at the 21st ASEAN Summit, in Phnom Penh, in November 2012. We also noted the AICHR's requirement for the support of a dedicated unit within the ASEAN Secretariat.
34. In acknowledging that facilitating movement of people within the ASEAN region is a key element for an integrated and connected ASEAN Community, we called for the ratification and full implementation of the ASEAN Framework Agreement for Visa

Exemption for ASEAN Nationals as well as to undertake a study on progressive visa relaxation and an ASEAN common visa for non-ASEAN nationals.

35. We continued to support the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) as well as other sub-regional growth areas, such as the Greater Mekong sub-Region Economic Cooperation (GMS), Indonesia - Malaysia - Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), Ayeyawady - Chao Phraya - Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), Brunei Darussalam - Indonesia - Malaysia - Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), Cambodia-Lao-Viet Nam (CLV) Development Triangle, which would bridge the development gap within ASEAN.

ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (AEC)

36. We welcomed the report of the ASEAN Economic Community Council on the implementation of the AEC Blueprint, which underlines the key achievements to-date and challenges facing ASEAN leading up to 2015. The overall implementation rate of the AEC Blueprint for the period 2008 to 2011 now stands at 67.9%. We also took note of the progress report of the Mid-Term Review of the AEC Blueprint that highlights the progress, challenges, and steps to move forward in terms of implementation.
37. We reiterated our commitment to exert maximum effort and ensure timely implementation of the AEC Blueprint measures towards establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by 2015. This would include commitment to undertake the much needed reforms to remove impediments to ensure the implementation of intra- and extra-ASEAN agreements, as well as strengthening our respective national coordination to effectively implement our AEC Blueprint commitments across various ministries and agencies.
38. We commended the latest achievements as reflected in the signing of a number of important agreements by our Ministers. These include the signing of the Protocol to Implement the 7th Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) by the ASEAN Transport Ministers, and the new ASEAN Agreement on Customs by the ASEAN Finance Ministers.
39. We affirmed that the facilitation of the movement of goods across ASEAN borders continue to be a priority on the AEC agenda. We welcomed the

continuing efforts on the establishment of the ASEAN Single Window, implementation of Self-Certification Pilot Project, and adoption of the 2012 ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN). We strived to put in place a robust mechanism for ensuring that any non-tariff measures imposed at the border and behind the border will not impede the free flow of goods brought about by merchandise trade liberalisation in the region. We also looked forward to the endorsement and finalization of Protocol 2 on Designation of Frontier Posts and Protocol 7 on Customs Transit System for the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit.

40. We also welcomed the signing of Protocol 6 on Railways Border and Interchange Stations under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT) and the adoption of the Implementation Framework of ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM) by the ASEAN Transport Ministers as another milestone in facilitating freer flow of goods and people in ASEAN.
41. We welcomed the entry into force of the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA), which contains enhanced investment provisions on liberalization, protection, facilitation and promotion that are at par with international best practices and in line with our objective to inspire more confidence among investors and business people in ASEAN. We looked forward to intensified programmes and projects to promote and facilitate investment and the elimination of the remaining investment barriers to achieve a free and open regime by 2015.
42. We affirmed our commitment to work towards free flow of services by 2015 which is an essential element of the ASEAN Economic Community. We tasked all concerned Ministries and Agencies to support the work towards greater flow of services by 2015 as mandated in the AEC Blueprint.
43. We welcomed Indonesia's initiative to convene a Forum to discuss best practices in financial inclusion and international remittances in Jakarta this year to support the implementation of the ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development (AFEED). Noting the cross-sectoral nature of the AFEED, we tasked the AEC Council to oversee the implementation of AFEED and to develop a work plan to concretise AFEED activities.
44. We noted that the global economy continues to recover but at different rates and in different regions, resulting in rising inflationary pressure on our economy and rapid inflow of capital into our region. In view of this development, we emphasised the importance of complementing domestic macro-economic policy prescriptions with regional macro-economic coordination and financial cooperation, and accordingly tasked relevant Ministers to continue the coordination and cooperation efforts.
45. In light of the current global developments on food security, we welcomed the signing of ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR), which now becomes a permanent mechanism to help meet relief requirements resulting from natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies; endorsement of the ASEAN Plus Three Comprehensive Strategy on Food Security and Bio-energy Development (APTCS-FSBD); and the endorsement of the Proposal for Post-2012 ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) which aims to establish the AFSIS Network Centres and ensure sustainable regional self-sustained food security information system.
46. We welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan (AMCAP) 2011-2015 with "Dynamic Mineral Sector Initiatives for a Prosperous ASEAN" as its theme. The AMCAP 2011-2015 would focus on promoting information sharing, facilitating trade and investment, promoting environmentally and socially sustainable mineral development, and strengthening institutional and human capacities in the ASEAN minerals sector.
47. ASEAN continued to maintain its strong trade relations with its Dialogue Partners, in particular with its trading partners in the East Asia Summit region (EAS) amidst the financial/economic crisis.
48. We expressed confidence that the full realization of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA) and the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA) for ASEAN 6 (Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand) and their respective FTA partners on 1 January 2012, as well as the entry into force of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) for Indonesia on 10 January 2012, would augur well for further bolstering intra-regional trade and investment in the East Asian region. We urged our officials to look into how ASEAN FTAs could be further enhanced to encourage businesses in the region to take full advantage of the opportunities and improve the utilization of these FTAs.

49. We were pleased to note the progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Framework on Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership that we adopted last year. We also welcomed the decision to establish as soon as possible the Working Groups on Trade in Goods, Trade in Services and Investment to facilitate the scoping exercise in time for the launch of negotiations for a comprehensive RCEP agreement by the end of this year. We underscored the importance of maintaining ASEAN centrality and inclusiveness of the RCEP, and looked forward to the launch of the RCEP negotiation at our next Summit.
 50. We hailed the outcomes of the ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting and their commitment to maintain growth momentum and financial stability in the region in the face of increased global uncertainties. We endorsed the Ministers' decision to continue intensifying efforts to build stronger and integrated financial markets under the Roadmap for Monetary and Financial Integration of ASEAN (RIA-Fin), including initiatives on financial services liberalization, capital market development and capital account liberalization.
 51. We also welcomed the signing of the ASEAN Agreement on Customs which will enhance the delivery of customs services in the region, and also welcomed the operationalization of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF), and the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF) this year. At the same time, we encouraged the Ministers to further enhance the effectiveness of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM) for greater financial stability in the region.
 52. We were pleased to note the progress achieved in the implementation of the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2011-2015. We also welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN Tourism Marketing Strategy 2012-2015 developed based on the implementation of the Visit ASEAN Campaign and previous ASEAN tourism marketing activities.
- which is in line with the ASEAN Charter. To this end, we welcomed Thailand's initiative to host a Special Ministerial Meeting on Cooperation in Drug Matters in 2012.
54. We recognized the continued efforts being made by the ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication in improving the well being and livelihood of the poor, especially in rural areas. We noted with satisfaction the plan to convene a regional multi-stakeholder workshop this year to provide a platform for the relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies to share information and experiences regarding the attainment of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with special focus on the achievable goals, and the possible scenarios and priorities beyond 2015.
 55. We noted that ASEAN has been confronted by the growing challenges of trafficking in persons and people smuggling. We tasked relevant ASEAN Ministerial Sectoral Bodies to undertake concerted efforts to address this issue and looked forward to an ASEAN instrument to prevent trafficking in persons.
 56. We reiterated our commitment towards gender equality and women's advancement in ASEAN and looked forward to the convening of the First ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW) in October 2012, in Vientiane, Lao PDR, to serve as a platform for the development of strategies to mainstream gender perspectives across all sectors of ASEAN cooperation.
 57. We welcomed the progress made by the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) in finalizing its first five-year Work Plan (2012-2016) as well as in enhancing civil society participation in the ASEAN community-building process.
 58. We noted with satisfaction the Mobilization Framework, which sets fifteen priority areas aimed at promoting disability inclusive development in ASEAN, and currently being finalized as a follow-up to the proclamation of the ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2011-2020, made at the 19th ASEAN Summit.
 59. We welcomed the convening of the 22nd ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM) in May 2012, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. We tasked the ASEAN Labour Ministers to continue their work to implement the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, including to take a phased approach in

ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY (ASCC)

53. We recalled the Joint Declaration for a Drug-Free ASEAN signed by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers in 1998 and the agreement of the 33rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting for a Drug-Free ASEAN by 2015. As a reflection of ASEAN's continued commitment, we adopted the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 in Phnom Penh, and tasked our relevant Ministers to ensure the realization of this aim, as a high priority agenda,

the development of an ASEAN Instrument on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in the region, starting by focusing on issues which are comfortable with ASEAN Member States, in line with existing national law and/or policies, and in accordance with Cebu Declaration.

60. We recalled the establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) and the need to ensure effective operations in dealing with disaster management. In this regard, we welcomed the outcome of the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) held in Jakarta, on 15-16 March 2012, to put in place the necessary mechanisms to operationalize the AHA Centre.
61. We encouraged the ASEAN Member States to contribute to the AHA Centre Fund on an annual and equal basis, as well as to the ASEAN Disaster Management and Emergency Relief Fund under AADMER on a voluntary basis. We also welcomed the contribution and support from ASEAN Dialogue Partners and other partners to ensure the effective operationalization and the long-term sustainability of the AHA Centre.
62. We recognized the importance of using AADMER and its existing mechanisms, notably the COP, ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and the AHA Centre, as the coordinating platform and cooperation arrangement for disaster management in the region.
63. We recalled the signing of the Declaration on ASEAN Unity in Cultural Diversity: Towards Strengthening ASEAN Community at the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali, November 2011 and reaffirmed our commitment to create an ASEAN sense of belonging, consolidate unity and diversity and enhance deeper mutual understanding among ASEAN Member States about their culture, religion, and civilization in order to establish the ASEAN Community by 2015 and looked forward to the full implementation of this Declaration.
64. We noted that transboundary haze is not just an environmental problem but it directly affects our people's lives. In this connection, we agreed to double our efforts to tackle this common challenge through mutual technical assistance and cooperation.
65. We welcomed the endorsement by the ASCC Council for the inclusion of sport matters as an

additional element under the 8th element of Human Development of the ASCC Blueprint, such as, the adoption of the title and strategic objectives of the element on sport, and adoption of actions under the element on sports.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IAI WORK PLAN II (2009-2015)

66. We recognized that regional integration and narrowing the development gap are priorities in the ASEAN community-building process and, in this regard, we welcomed the progress of the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015).
67. We welcomed the support and assistance by the ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Dialogue Partners and other external parties in the efforts to contribute to regional integration in ASEAN and looked forward to their further support and contribution. To ensure the continuation and efficient implementation of the IAI Work Plan II, we instructed our Ministers to undertake a Mid-Term Review of this Work Plan.
68. We also welcomed the efforts by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) in the promotion of regional integration with its recommendations on the role of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the region.

ASEAN CONNECTIVITY

69. We were encouraged by the significant progress made in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) towards ASEAN community-building and regional integration. We welcomed the deliberations to expand ASEAN Connectivity cooperation in the context of the ASEAN Connectivity Plus. We looked forwards to the implementation of the EAS Declaration on ASEAN Connectivity. In this regard, we appreciated the efforts of the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and the ASEAN Connectivity National Coordinators (ACNC) in their work to realize enhanced ASEAN connectivity and beyond. We tasked relevant ASEAN Ministerial Sectoral Bodies to enhance coordination and synergy in the implementation of the MPAC.
70. We welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF) which would assume a catalytic role in mobilising resources for the effective implementation of the Master Plan on

ASEAN Connectivity, with the participation of external partners, including the private sector. We looked forward to the early operationalization of the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund to be based in Labuan, Malaysia.

71. We noted the work done in ensuring that the ASEAN Connectivity is reaching out to all relevant stakeholders via symposia and workshops. In this regard, we welcomed the convening of the third ASEAN Connectivity Symposium with the theme of "Realizing ASEAN Connectivity for ASEAN Community Building" in Phnom Penh, in September 2012. We also welcomed plans to organise an ASEAN Workshop on Cross-Border Management and a Workshop on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity in Thailand, on 13-14 June and 15 June 2012, respectively.
72. We reaffirmed our commitment to implement initiatives on connectivity in the framework of ASEAN sub-regional cooperation, such as Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Areas (BIMP-EAGA), and Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) that will contribute to the development of ASEAN Connectivity as a whole. Furthermore, we also recognised national connectivity as an integral part of the development of regional connectivity.
73. We also looked forwards the realisation of the commitments extended by the Dialogue Partners to support the implementation of the MPAC as extended by them at the ASEAN Summit with Dialogue Partners in November 2011 in Bali.

ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION OF THE PEOPLE AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

74. We recognized the important roles of all ASEAN stakeholders in the ASEAN community-building process. In this regard, we welcomed the initiatives to promote ASEAN awareness among the ASEAN people. We were pleased with our meetings with representatives of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), ASEAN's Youth representatives as well as representatives from Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) at the sidelines of the 20th ASEAN Summit.

ASEAN EXTERNAL RELATIONS

75. We noted with satisfaction the conduct of ASEAN's external relations, particularly after the entry into

force of the ASEAN Charter on 15 December 2008, which is marked by the accreditation of 63 non-ASEAN Ambassadors to ASEAN and the establishment of 30 ASEAN Committees in Third Countries/International Organizations around the globe.

76. We noted the expansion of the East Asia Summit (EAS) to include the participation of the Russian Federation and the United States of America, and noted that the two countries' role and engagement are expected to contribute constructively to ASEAN community building, the on-going dynamism of the region, as well as in enhancing ASEAN's role in global affairs.
77. We also noted with appreciation the progress made in the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) cooperation process, taking into account the relevant documents agreed between ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries (China, Japan and Republic of Korea). We reaffirmed the role of the ASEAN Plus Three as the main vehicle towards the long term goal of building an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force. In this regard, we commended the work of the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVG II) and looked forward to the submission of their final report with recommendations to the 15th APT Summit in November 2012.
78. We looked forward to the implementation of a series of activities throughout 2012 to mark the 15th Anniversary of APT cooperation. We emphasized the importance of the need to further advance cooperation within the APT framework and tasked our Ministers to continue promoting our cooperation in order to realize our vision of an East Asian community.
79. We welcomed the launching of the ASEAN-China Centre in Beijing and encouraged the Centre to add vigour to the comprehensive cooperation between ASEAN and China by serving as a one-stop information hub that provides information on products, trade and investment potential, tourism, and services related to education and culture of the ASEAN Member States and China.
80. We welcomed the convening of the 2nd ASEAN-EU Business Summit in Phnom Penh, on 1 April 2012, in conjunction with the 20th ASEAN Summit, to address critical issues related to ASEAN-EU trade relations and to identify business and investment opportunities in the two regions.

81. We looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit to celebrate the 20th

Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations in New Delhi, in December 2012. We also looked forward to the recommendations on future directions of the ASEAN-India partnership to be submitted by the ASEAN-India Eminent Persons Group to the 10th ASEAN-India Summit in November 2012.

82. As a follow up to the Leaders' decision at the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia in November 2011 on Timor-Lester's official application for ASEAN membership, we welcomed the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group, and looked forward to the first meeting of the ACCWG to be hosted by Indonesia.
83. We welcomed the announcement of Japan to launch the Kizuna youth exchange programme between Japan and the Asian/Oceania region. We noted that the project is part of Japan's reconstruction plan, which aims at promoting global understanding of Japan's revival in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Myanmar

84. We welcomed the significant positive developments in Myanmar throughout 2011 and underscored the importance of maintaining a strong momentum in this regard, particularly on the bold steps undertaken by the Government of Myanmar to enhance socio-economic development, improve the livelihoods of the people, promote good governance and democratic practices, strengthen promotion and protection of human rights, and achieve peace, national reconsolidation and reconciliation.
85. We welcomed the successful holding of the by-elections in Myanmar on 1st April 2012, which was conducted in a free, fair and transparent manner.
86. We expressed appreciation to the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for inviting a large number of election observers from ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners as well as from regional and international organizations.
87. We recognized that the holding of the by-elections was a significant step towards further democratization in Myanmar. We reaffirmed our full support for the Myanmar Government's on-going efforts in democratization, national reconsolidation and reconciliation, and reiterated our call for the international community to support and encourage the democratic developments in Myanmar.

88. We welcomed the invitation extended by the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to host a Special Meeting of ASEAN Foreign Ministers in Nay Pyi Taw at a date convenient to all ASEAN Member States.
89. We called for the lifting of all sanctions on Myanmar immediately in order to contribute positively to the democratic process and economic development in that country.
90. We also reaffirmed our commitment to extend necessary assistance and cooperation in view of Myanmar's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014.

South China Sea

91. We reaffirmed the importance of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) as a milestone document signed between ASEAN and China embodying the collective commitment to promoting peace, stability, and mutual trust in the South China Sea and to ensuring the peaceful resolution of disputes in this area in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and the universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and to move for the eventual realization of a regional code of conduct (COC).
92. We stressed the need to intensify efforts to ensure the effective and full implementation of the DOC based on the Guidelines for the implementation of the DOC. In this regard, we supported the convening of the ASEAN-China Joint Workshop to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the DOC, in Cambodia, in the fourth quarter of 2012. We also looked forward to the holding of the 5th ASEAN-China Senior Officials on DOC and the 8th Meeting of the ASEAN-China Joint Working Group.

Korean Peninsula

93. We reaffirmed our support to the efforts for achieving a denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. We urged all parties concerned to exercise self-restraint and not to undertake any steps which could lead to the escalation of tensions in the Korean Peninsula.
94. We called on all parties concerned to fully respect the UN Security Council Resolutions 1718 (2006) and 1874 (2009). We called for the early resumption of the Six-Party Talks for the interest of peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula. We further reiterated the call for all parties

concerned to explore all possibilities to engage in peaceful dialogue which would lead to creating an atmosphere of trust and confidence among the concerned parties.

G-20

95. We noted that the G-20 Summit will be held in Mexico in June 2012. We were pleased with the invitation extended by Mexico to Samdech Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, as Chairman of ASEAN representing ASEAN to participate in the G-20 Summit this year. In this regard, we noted the development of the ASEAN Position Paper for the G-20 Summit to reflect ASEAN's views on regional and global issues, particularly the world economy and finance.

Global Movement of Moderates (GMM)

96. Recognizing that moderation is an important ASEAN value and it has been successfully practiced in ASEAN since its formation in 1967, we adopted the ASEAN Concept Paper on the Global Movement of Moderates. In this regard, we looked forward to concrete activities and programmes to assist in promoting this idea and ensuring its success at the national, regional and global levels, in cooperation with other similar initiatives.

Other Matters

ASEAN Global Dialogue (AGD)

97. We took note of the briefing made by Samdech Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, on Cambodia's intention to organize the ASEAN Global Dialogue back-to-back with the 21st ASEAN Summit and Related Summits in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in November 2012. We noted with interest the objective of the ASEAN Global Dialogue, a forum to bring together leaders from countries in the region and the heads of key international institutions/organizations, such as the UN Secretary-General, World Bank (WB), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Trade Organization (WTO), and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to discuss the global challenges facing the world today. We looked forward to the constructive participation and engagement in the ASEAN Global Dialogue in Phnom Penh, in November 2012.

World Economic Forum

98. We welcomed the convening of the World Economic Forum on East Asia on 31 May - 1 June 2012 in

Bangkok, Thailand, with the theme "Shaping the Region's Future through Connectivity".

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

99. We expressed our support for Indonesia's hosting and chairing of APEC in 2013. We believed that APEC in 2013 will strive for realising the Bogor Goals of establishing open and free trade and investment in the Asia Pacific region with differentiated time for developed and developing economies.

Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 3 April 2012

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), namely, Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Union of the Republic of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, on the occasion of the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh;

EMPHASISING the importance of the ASEAN Charter in establishing ASEAN as a rules-based organization;

NOTING with satisfaction the progress of the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) towards the realization of the ASEAN Community by 2015;

WELCOMING the 45th Anniversary of the establishment of ASEAN in 2012 and significant achievements of ASEAN in promoting peace and security, economic growth and integration, and social development;

EMPHASISING that building the ASEAN Community and narrowing the development gaps shall remain high on the agenda of ASEAN to ensure the benefits of ASEAN integration are fully realized by its peoples;

REAFFIRMING the need for effective and timely realisation of integration and community building targets as well as the fulfilment of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and other sub-regional frameworks;

COGNIZANT that the rapidly changing globalised world continues to present both opportunities and challenges to which ASEAN must proactively utilise and respond, bearing in mind its integration agenda's priorities and available resources;

REAFFIRMING also our resolution that ASEAN shall continue to maintain its centrality and role as the driving force in enhancing and ensuring significant progress in achieving the ASEAN Community, and that the regional architecture and regional environment remain conducive to development as well as in strengthening ASEAN's role in the global community;

ENCOURAGED by the progress made so far towards the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and mindful of the need to redouble efforts to achieve this goal.

HEREBY decide:

1. We shall continue to further intensify all efforts in implementing the priority areas under the APSC Blueprint. ASEAN shall give emphasis to the implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), including the eventual conclusion of Code of Conduct (COC) in the South China Sea, the conclusion of the Protocol to the Treaty on SEANWFZ, the official launching of ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR), and the conclusion of ASEAN Human Rights Declaration.
2. We shall double our efforts to realize the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015 by transforming ASEAN into a single market and production base, highly competitive region with equitable economic development and fully integrated into global economy. Hence, we need to set priority activities and concrete key measures to address the challenges and obstacles in realizing the ASEAN Economic Community. We encourage the effective implementation of the ASEAN Framework on Equitable Economic Development which will reinforce the realization of the other three pillars of AEC Blueprint. While conscious of the benefits of integrating into global economy, ASEAN will play a leading role in the process of shaping the regional economic architecture through the implementation of the ASEAN Framework for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). In this regard, ASEAN shall work closely with its Dialogue Partners and external parties as well as various regional and international institutions such as the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank and the United Nations (UN) to carry out comprehensive studies to identify practical measures to strengthen institutional capacity, enhance coordination and address any implementation gaps which could impede the realization of an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015.
3. We shall continue to focus on maintaining regional financial stability, especially in the context of the on-going global economic and financial challenges, as well as implement measures to prevent and address future crisis. In this regard, considering that the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) is a key instrument, we encourage our ASEAN Finance Ministers to work closely with the Plus Three Partners to enhance the CMIM mechanism.
4. We call for a comprehensive Mid-term Review of the IAI Work Plan II in 2012 in order to stock-take the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II and set out concrete and practical measures to expedite its objectives and chart its future direction, including enhancing the implementation of the priority projects and the CLMV Priority Action List.
5. We call for the effective and timely implementation of the "Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity" (MPAC), which was adopted in 2010. In this regard, we shall work toward accelerating the operationalization and utilization of the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund, with the support of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), through the participation of ASEAN partners. Furthermore, we shall continue to encourage the participation of the private sector in the implementation of this Master Plan.
6. We shall continue to enhance cooperation in the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint in order to realize an ASEAN Community by 2015. We task the ASEAN Labor Ministers Meeting to continue their work to implement the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, including to take a phased approach in the development of an ASEAN Instrument on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in the region, starting by focusing on issues which are comfortable to all ASEAN Member States, in line with the existing national laws and/or policies, and in accordance with the Cebu Declaration.
7. We shall continue to give our priority to disaster management has become a significant global issue, particularly in our region, as evidenced by

the persistent occurrence of natural calamities in ASEAN Member States. In this regard, we consider collaboration in this area as a priority in 2012 and there is a need to work towards the full operationalisation of the AHA Centre to serve as a regional hub for information and knowledge sharing as well as ASEAN's collective response to the disaster affected areas. There is also a need to enhance practical cooperation among ASEAN Member States and between ASEAN and Dialogue Partners and other Partners of ASEAN using the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and its mechanisms as the main regional policy backbone and coordinating platform for disaster management in the region, including under other ASEAN initiatives.

8. We recognise that food security remains a major challenge for ASEAN and the world as a whole, at a time of high commodity prices and economic uncertainty. Considering the potential of the agriculture sector in the region to secure food security, ASEAN shall focus on enhancing existing ASEAN priorities, particularly on programmes that increase agricultural productivity and production. We note that such measures can include enhancing infrastructure development and capacity both at the national and regional levels, improving credit schemes for the agriculture sector, and improving market access for the region's agricultural-related products. In this regard, we direct our responsible Ministers to build on existing and explore new initiatives on food security including using ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) as a role model for food commodities in addition to rice. Furthermore, we tasked the relevant government agencies/ministries to look into the possibility of forming an agreement/arrangement on the cooperation related to the rice business cooperation to ensure food security in the region.
9. We recognise the important role of women in regional development. Therefore, we call for the optimisation of ASEAN mechanisms responsible to women issues, namely ASEAN Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), ASEAN Committee on Women and ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women, and other sectoral bodies related to women, to ensure the effective implementation of their planned activities.

Phnom Penh Declaration on ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 3-4 April 2012

WE, the Heads of State/Government of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), gathered in Phnom Penh, on 3-4 April 2012, at the 20th ASEAN Summit;

BEING COGNIZANT of the importance of building an ASEAN Community by 2015 respectful of the diversity of cultures, languages, and religions of the peoples of ASEAN, through the fostering of its cultures and heritage as an engine for economic growth, a building block for social cohesion and transformation, an asset for regional pride, and a vehicle for forging closer friendship and understanding;

RECOGNIZING the significance of ASEAN's key political documents and instruments such as, ASEAN Declaration, Bali Concord I, II and III, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Treaty on Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ); Declaration on the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN);

ACKNOWLEDGING the significance of the ASEAN Charter and the progress in the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) comprising of three Community Blueprints, namely, the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Strategic Framework and IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015), toward realizing an ASEAN Community by 2015;

ACKNOWLEDGING also the progress made in narrowing the development gap under the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Strategic Framework and the IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015);

APPRECIATING the rapid progress of the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) which will substantially contribute to the realization of an ASEAN Community by 2015 and beyond;

RECOGNIZING ASEAN's deepened relations with Dialogue Partners and external parties in various areas such as political and security, economic, socio-cultural and development cooperation thus contributing to ASEAN Community building;

EXPRESSING our collective support to Cambodia as the Chair of ASEAN in 2012 for intensifying efforts aimed at building a rules-based, people-centred, people-oriented, and fully integrated ASEAN through the implementation of the ASEAN Charter, the ASEAN Community Blueprints and IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015), Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, and further deepening cooperation and partnership with ASEAN Dialogue Partners and other external parties while maintaining ASEAN Centrality;

INSPIRED by the achievements of ASEAN in its 45 years of existence in striving towards a fully integrated, people-centred, people-oriented and rules-based organization;

ENDORISING the theme of ASEAN Chairmanship for 2012 "ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny" as the reflection of ASEAN's collective commitment to work together closely in the spirit of unity and solidarity to fully realize the ASEAN Community by 2015 and beyond;

DO HEREBY agree to:

1. Continue to maintain a united and prosperous Southeast Asia as a region of peace, security, stability and cooperation by implementing various ASEAN initiatives and agreements.
2. Actively promote friendly and peaceful inter-state relations within and beyond the region based on the principles and provisions of the ASEAN Charter, Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as well as the Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations.
3. Continue our efforts to contribute to the global nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament by preserving Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction through, among others, the full implementation of the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ), and the finalization of the accession of Nuclear Weapon States to the Protocol to the Treaty on SEANWFZ.
4. Develop a coordinated ASEAN approach that would contribute to global undertakings to improve nuclear safety, in cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other relevant partners, as well as promote and uphold IAEA standards of safety and security in the development of nuclear energy for peaceful use.
5. Continue to uphold the collective commitments reflected in the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and the universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and to move for the eventual realization of a regional code of conduct (COC).
6. Reaffirm our commitment to enhance and expand the efforts in maritime cooperation and joint collaborative efforts in maritime related fields for common benefit, including through the framework of the ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) and other existing ASEAN mechanisms.
7. Strengthen close coordination and cooperation among ASEAN Member States and with Dialogue Partners in addressing the non-traditional challenges faced by the region as well as the international community, through the promotion of closer and more effective collaboration and cooperation in the relevant areas of cooperation, inter alia, disaster risk reduction and management, peace-keeping operations, counter-terrorism activities, combating transnational crimes, maritime security and cooperation, trafficking in persons and other regional challenges.
8. Continue to enhance effective coordination and cooperation among ASEAN Member States and between ASEAN and external parties to ensure that the region is free from all forms of threats, including terrorism and to eradicate transnational crimes.
9. Promote the work of ASEAN in Human Rights, including the adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, and the contribution of AICHR to this effort.
10. Strengthen people to people connectivity by encouraging greater intra-ASEAN people mobility including through the full realisation of a visa exemption regime for ASEAN nationals as well as to undertake a study on progressive visa relaxation and an ASEAN common visa for non-ASEAN nationals.
11. Continue to consolidate our efforts to realize the establishment of ASEAN Economic Community

(AEC) by 2015 through effective implementation of measures in the AEC Blueprint, which consists of four important pillars such as Single Market and Production Base; Competitive Economic Region; Equitable Economic Development; Integration into the Global Economy.

12. Commit to implement AEC blueprint measures toward full economic integration under the ASEAN single market and production base, by deepening and broadening its internal economic opportunities, fostering effective cross-border facilitation to provide greater market size and bigger economies of scale, and by nurturing dynamic linkages with the global supply chain and the world economy by increasing competitiveness through both hard and soft connectivity, and by attaining regional integration through effective implementation of various ASEAN initiatives and Action Plans.
13. Maintain the momentum in ensuring ASEAN's competitiveness through trade facilitation measures, including non-tariff barriers, to realize effective free flow of goods, eliminating substantially all restrictions to trade in services and implementing existing ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangements on professional services, and removing the impediments to achieving a free and open investment regime, while understanding that domestic adjustments may be required.
14. Further enhance ASEAN's relations with both FTA and Economic Partners and Dialogue Partners to deepen economic integration based on mutual interest, transparency and best practices. Recognizing the benefits of sound and sustainable economic relations, ASEAN will also engage its FTA Partners through new initiatives such as the ASEAN Framework for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and adhering to the work plan which will broaden and deepen ASEAN's economic relations with the global community.
15. Expedite the work on the realization of the ASEAN Power Grid (APG) and the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP), with particular emphasis on harmonization of regulatory frameworks and standards as well as establishing appropriate energy trading arrangements.
16. Strengthen and enhance cooperation among ASEAN Member States and with external parties to ensure food security and reduce the impact of food price volatility for the most vulnerable people by increasing production and productivity, expanding cooperation in research and transfer of technology, promoting the exchange of market information and increasing investment in the agriculture sectors.
17. Strengthen cooperation among ASEAN Member States and external partners to ensure energy security and reduce the excessive volatility of energy prices by promoting the implementation of ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2011-2015 and promoting the conservation and efficient use of energy as well as the exploration of alternative and renewable sources of energy.
18. Continue to reinforce all efforts to promote sustainable management of water resources to ensure the interest of all the peoples of ASEAN, including those people along the Mekong river and riparian countries.
19. Support activities in promoting and developing social welfare and protection policies and programmes and the quality of life and well being of the elderly, persons with disabilities, youth, women and children living under poverty, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, including exchanging best practices in all related fields such as accessibility to education, rehabilitation, protection and care including health care.
20. Promote regional cooperation in the development of programmes for skills development of women, youth, the elderly and persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.
21. Commit to undertake, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, various programmes for raising domestic awareness on climate change adaptation and mitigation and inculcating habits towards a low emissions society, including through enhancement of public and private incorporation of climate change in educational curricula.
22. Promote education networking in various levels of educational institutions of ASEAN Member States and further enhance networking between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners to promote ASEAN identity, culture, values and a harmonious community.
23. Implement the Declaration on ASEAN Unity in Cultural Diversity: Towards Strengthening ASEAN Community in order to strengthen the ASEAN identity through better mutual awareness, solidarity and understanding among the ASEAN peoples by developing a plan of action to implement the Declaration.

24. Work to ensure that the ASEAN Member States are safe from disasters through enhancing cooperation and promote the use of technology in the area of disaster management at both regional and international levels in order to achieve a disaster resilient ASEAN Community. ASEAN will continue to utilize the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) to cope with disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.
25. Work to ensure that regional economic integration helps to alleviate poverty and narrow the development gaps within and between ASEAN Member States through mutual assistance and cooperation, as set out in the ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Developments.
26. Support efforts to narrow the development gaps between Member States in order to accelerate ASEAN integration and enable CLMV countries to be fully integrated into the ASEAN Community by 2015 and beyond.
27. Continue to support the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) as well as other sub-regional growth areas, such as Greater Mekong Sub-Region Economic Cooperation (GMS), Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), Ayeyawady - Chao Phraya - Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), Cambodia-Lao-Viet Nam (CLV) Development Triangle that would bridge the development gap within ASEAN.
28. Operationalize and utilize fully the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to further improve physical connectivity and narrow the infrastructure development gap in ASEAN.
29. Intensify our efforts to connect ASEAN through the effective and timely implementation of the MPAC to promote enhanced physical infrastructure development, effective institutional arrangements, and people empowerment. ASEAN will also continue to engage ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, regional fora such as the ASEAN Plus Three and the East Asia Summit, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the MPAC.
30. Continue to work closely and constructively based on the existing and mutually agreed new initiatives and agreements within the framework of ASEAN cooperation with Dialogue Partners, including

ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three, East Asia Summit, ASEAN Regional Forum and ADMM Plus to contribute to our vision of the realization of an ASEAN Community.

31. Advance ASEAN's common interests and concerns at the global level and ensure ASEAN's increased role to contribute to the solution of common global challenges as well as establish ASEAN as a reliable regional player in the global community of nations through the implementation of the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III).
32. Reaffirm our support to the ASEAN Chairs to ensure the successful achievements of ASEAN Community by 2015 and to continue our work on mutually agreed new initiatives in order to make ASEAN as One Community, One Destiny.

ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 3-4 April 2012

WE, the Heads of State/Government of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member States of ASEAN, gathered at the 20th ASEAN Summit, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 3-4 April 2012;

RECOGNISING that the international drug problem remains one of the main security concerns to all ASEAN Member States. Apart from the suffering caused to individuals, particularly the young, illicit drug abuse and trafficking weaken the social fabric of nations, represent direct and indirect economic costs to governments and entail criminal activities which could threaten the stability of states;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the illicit drug trafficking, which is inextricably linked to other transnational crimes, including money laundering and arms smuggling, could escalate to such a level where perpetrators can pose serious political and security threats to the region;

RECALLING the Joint Declaration for a Drug-Free ASEAN signed by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers in Manila, on 25 July 1998; the agreement of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers at their 33rd AMM in Bangkok, in July 2000 to speed up the realization of Drug-Free ASEAN from 2020 to 2015; the Bangkok Political Declaration in Pursuit of a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 in October 2000; the ASEAN Work Plan on Combating Illicit Drug Production, Trafficking, and Use 2009-2015; the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III); and the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint for which ASEAN will work towards a drug-free ASEAN by 2015;

ENCOURAGED by the increasing ASEAN efforts in addressing the menace of narcotic drugs which will directly complement regional efforts in halting and reversing the spread of communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS;

WELCOMING the efforts of the ASEAN Sectoral Bodies under the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Council, ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council, and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council in implementing ASEAN initiatives, especially the objectives in the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) on Drug-Free ASEAN, especially in the priority areas of drug education, drug information, prevention within the community, treatment, rehabilitation and law enforcement;

NOTING the growing resolve of ASEAN that the realisation of a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 can be achieved by successfully and effectively controlling illicit drug activities and mitigating their negative consequences to society, primarily on significant and sustainable reduction;

EMPHASISING the importance of strengthening institutional linkages and coordination between the various ASEAN mechanisms involved in the fight against illicit drug trafficking and other transnational crimes, particularly the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), the ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (AFMM), the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD), the ASEAN Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM), the ASEAN Directors-General of Customs, the ASEAN Directors-General for Immigration Department and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs Meeting (DGICM), and the ASEANAPOL;

WELCOMING also the efforts undertaken by the international community to succeed over the deleterious nature of illicit drugs in light of the United Nations

Decade on Drug Abuse (1991-2000), as well as the continuous commitment of ASEAN Dialogue Partners in providing assistance to the ASEAN Member States in solving this menace;

REAFFIRMING our commitment to realising an ASEAN Community by 2015, in accordance with the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint, to be free from the threat of illicit drug abuse, use and trafficking;

DO HEREBY declare to:

1. Intensify concerted efforts to realize the vision and goal of a drug-free ASEAN Community by 2015 as a high-priority agenda of ASEAN by tasking relevant Ministers to speed up the implementation of the ASEAN Work Plan on Combating Illicit Drug Production, Trafficking, and Use 2009-2015 and the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) on drug-free ASEAN by 2015.
2. Task relevant Ministers of the ASEAN Sectoral Bodies through the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC) to make annual reports to the ASEAN Leaders on the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint in the area of drug-free ASEAN.
3. Deepen our cooperation and coordination measures through the sharing of information and best practices in order to enhance more effective enforcement of illicit drug control in the region.
4. Further enhance cooperation and coordination in a comprehensive manner with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners and external parties to eradicate illicit drug production, processing, trafficking and use in the ASEAN region by 2015.

Adopted in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, this Fourth Day of April in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve.

Statement by the Chairman of ASEAN on the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN: The Way Forward

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 4 April 2012

1. Inspired by, and united under the ASEAN motto “One Vision, One Identity, One Community,” ASEAN has been intensifying its efforts to attain a fully integrated, people-oriented and rules-based ASEAN, and working to ensure concrete achievements in the targeted areas, as mandated in the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community Building, 2009 - 2015.
2. ASEAN has made significant achievements over the past 45 years since its establishment. Starting from its inception in 1967, with its original four Member States, the successful expansion to ten Member States in 1999, the adoption of the ASEAN Charter in 2008 and the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community Building by 2015, ASEAN has developed into a mature, credible and trustworthy regional organisation.
3. With the entry into force of the ASEAN Charter in December 2008, ASEAN, with its legal personality, has been moving steadily on track with a number of newly established organs, including the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC), the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Council, the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council, and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council, the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) and the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR). With these new organs and bodies, ASEAN's institutional framework and mechanisms have been further strengthened in order to advance its interests, both individually and collectively.
4. With the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community Building, 2009-2015, the ASEAN Leaders had strategically set out a clear vision and direction to achieve the Community building by 2015, in order to serve the peoples of ASEAN.
5. One of ASEAN's significant achievements over the years has been in the area of peace, security and stability. First established in 1976, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) continues to be a key instrument governing inter-state relations. The accession to the TAC by eighteen non-ASEAN Member States has reinforced the importance of the TAC and the principles enshrined therein.
6. In addition to the well-established ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), which is the premier political and security dialogue mechanism in the Asia-Pacific region, the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) was established in October 2010 to promote regional dialogue and cooperation on peace and defence-security issues and help ensure ASEAN centrality on matters affecting the region's security.
7. The establishment of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) is another milestone in ASEAN's recent history. The AICHR has already started its work on drafting the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration.
8. ASEAN's increasing role in regional and international affairs is well recognised, particularly after the entry into force of the ASEAN Charter in December 2008, as evidenced by the accreditation of 63 non-ASEAN Ambassadors to ASEAN and the establishment of 30 ASEAN Committees in Third Countries around the globe.
9. On the economic front, the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA) launched in 1993 is a foundation for the region's economic integration and development. Within ten years, the AFTA has been fully realised in the ASEAN-6 Member States (Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand), and all tariffs in intra-ASEAN trade among them have been removed since 2010.
10. ASEAN has concluded the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with six countries participating in the East Asia Summit (EAS), namely, Australia and New Zealand, China, India, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. Of these FTAs, the ASEAN-China FTA and the ASEAN-Korea FTA have already been realised for the ASEAN-6 and the concerned FTA partner on 1 January 2010. In light of the rapid regional and global developments, it has become imperative for ASEAN to move beyond its current FTAs to enhance its centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture. Through the ASEAN Framework on Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, adopted by the Leaders in November 2010, ASEAN aims to become the primary driving force in establishing a comprehensive economic partnership comprising its Member States,

ASEAN's FTA partners and eventually other external economic partners.

11. In enhancing a competitive investment environment ASEAN has adopted a new investment agreement to replace the two investment-related agreements signed in 1987 and 1998. The new agreement – the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA), which contains comprehensive and improved provisions at par with international best practices on investment liberalization, protection, facilitation and promotion, has entered into force on 29 March 2012. Through ACIA, ASEAN aims to create a free and open investment environment for ASEAN.
12. In the field of social development, the ASEAN Governments have worked very closely with international organisations and civil society organisations (CSOs) such as the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) in addressing the HIV epidemic. In 2011, ASEAN Leaders adopted the ASEAN Declaration of Commitment: Getting to Zero New HIV Infections, Zero Discrimination, Zero AIDS-Related Deaths. Current initiatives are underway to implement the objectives of this Declaration.
13. Considerable progress has also been made in other sectors like education, youth development, culture, information and the arts, among others.
14. As part of efforts to build the people-oriented community where the role and involvement of all stakeholders are valued, the ASEAN Leaders continue to undertake meetings/interactions with the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), representatives of civil society and youth leaders.
15. Various initiatives across the broad spectrum of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint are currently being undertaken. One such example is the Mobilisation Framework that sets fifteen priority areas aimed at promoting disability inclusive development in ASEAN that is currently being finalized. Furthermore, the Inaugural Meeting of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW) has been scheduled for October 2012 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.
16. The implementation of the IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015) remains a priority effort in regional integration and narrowing the development gap among the ASEAN Member States. To this end, the support and assistance by ASEAN Member States and

ASEAN Dialogue Partners and other development external parties have been instrumental.

17. The ASEAN Connectivity is a key step towards realizing the ASEAN Community of continued economic growth, reduced development gap, and improved connectivity among the ASEAN Member States, and between Member States and the rest of the world by enhancing physical, institutional and people-to-people linkages at the national and regional levels. In this regard, the ASEAN Leaders adopted a Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) in October 2010 and in November 2011, the Leaders agreed on the need to expand the ASEAN Connectivity beyond the region to ASEAN Plus Three Connectivity. To expedite the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, it is important to ensure that effective modalities of coordination and resource mobilisation strategies are in place to benefit all Member States through enhancing trade, investment, tourism, people-to-people exchanges and development.
18. In tandem with ASEAN's accomplishments at regional cooperation and integration, ASEAN's global profile and delivery at the global level received an impetus when the ASEAN Chair and the Secretary-General of ASEAN were invited to the G-20 Summits. ASEAN's presence at future G-20 Summits is intended to align and coordinate regional policies with the global economy and to have at the 20th ASEAN Summits.
19. ASEAN has made important achievements through many activities and processes under the frameworks of the ASEAN+1, ASEAN+3, ASEAN, ADMM Plus, the ARF, and the EAS whereby ASEAN continues to maintain its central role in these mechanisms.
20. Under the theme "ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny," the Heads of State/Government of the ASEAN Member States, gathered in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, for the 20th ASEAN Summit and on the occasion of 45th Anniversary of ASEAN, pledged to undertake the following in order to build the ASEAN Community by 2015 and beyond:
 - a. To maintain the momentum of ASEAN's progress and development;
 - b. To continue ASEAN's priority on community building efforts by 2015 with effective, efficient and timely implementation of the Roadmap for ASEAN Community (2009-2015) especially the strategic thrusts provided for in the Roadmap;

- c. To further accelerate and deepen regional integration by further implementing the IAI Work Plan II as integration is an essential pre-requisite of community-building;
 - d. To undertake concrete steps to realize ASEAN Connectivity through effective implementation of the strategic thrusts provided for in the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and other initiatives such as ASEAN Plus Three connectivity and beyond;
 - e. To continue enhancing ASEAN's central role in the regional architecture by focusing on ASEAN's engagement with all external partners and the global community, particularly the leading role of ASEAN in regional initiatives, such as the ASEAN+1 processes, the ASEAN+3 process, EAS, ARF, G-20 and the UN;
 - f. To ensure that ASEAN will address regional peace-building and peace-management more effectively taking into account the provisions in the ASEAN Charter, the TAC and other international principles;
 - g. To support the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) as a mechanism to promote practical cooperation between ASEAN and its key partners in defence and security issues with a view to maintaining regional peace and security;
 - h. To continue our efforts on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament and to have the Nuclear Weapon States to accede to the Protocol of the SEANWFZ Treaty as early as possible;
 - i. To strengthen ASEAN cooperation among the Member States and with Dialogue Partners and to deal with challenges facing ASEAN, such as natural disasters, food and energy security, terrorism, transnational crimes, human trafficking and other issues;
 - j. To promote democracy, enhance good governance and the rule of law, and promote and protect human rights and social justice;
 - k. To promote principles of the TAC and encourage the accession of non-ASEAN Member States to the TAC;
 - l. To strengthen ASEAN cooperation on disaster management and emergency response through the full operationalisation of the established AHA Centre;
 - m. To strengthen cooperation in addressing non-traditional security issues, including transnational crimes and other transboundary challenges;
 - n. To ensure full implementation of the DOC and look forward to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the DOC at the 15th ASEAN-China Summit in November 2012, in Phnom Penh;
 - o. To promote ASEAN as a single market and production base and intensify efforts in making ASEAN a single investment destination;
 - p. To continue to further engage with external partners, including all ASEAN Dialogue Partners, regional groupings such as the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), MERCOSUR, RIO Group, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (CSC) to boost relations and cooperation, and to gather their support for ASEAN's initiatives, including the ASEAN Community building process, Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), ASEAN Connectivity as well as ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture.
 - q. To work closely with the Plus Three countries to undertake meaningful activities to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation, and with Canada and the U.S. to mark the 35th Anniversary of ASEAN-Canada and ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue Relations, respectively. We also look forward to the convening of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in India, in December 2012, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations.
21. As the Chair of ASEAN in 2012, Cambodia will work to ensure the successful achievement of the strategic thrusts provided for in the Roadmap, especially to gear up its efforts to realise regional integration, and thus contribute to the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015, a Community of prosperity and development, with the theme of the "ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny."
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**Joint Statement of
the 8th Brunei Darussalam –
Indonesia – Malaysia – The
Philippines East ASEAN Growth
Area Summit
(8th BIMP - EAGA Summit)**

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 4 April 2012

1. We, the Leaders of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines had extensive, open and fruitful discussions on developments in the sub-region. We reiterated the importance of sub-regional economic cooperation in BIMP-EAGA as a strategy for complementing ASEAN initiatives to achieve the ASEAN Community by 2015. We noted the encouraging gains achieved towards realizing the strategic thrusts of establishing BIMP-EAGA as a regional food basket and ecotourism destination, as well as enhancing connectivity and managing the environment. We reaffirmed our commitment and support to the BIMP-EAGA cooperation initiatives and we agreed to step-up our individual and collective actions to more effectively address the issues and challenges that continue to impede the realization of BIMP-EAGA's vision and goals.
2. We adopted the BIMP-EAGA Implementation Blueprint (IB) 2012-2016 which would serve as guide for timely and effective achievement of these strategic thrusts. To ensure the successful implementation of the strategies and policies as well as projects identified in the Implementation Blueprint, we called upon all stakeholders at the local and national levels particularly the private sector to expedite the implementation of the projects identified in the IB, including the strengthening of the operational and institutional mechanism.
3. We reaffirmed the significant contribution of the BIMP-EAGA sub-regional cooperation in the development of ASEAN Connectivity as a whole and reiterated the importance of connectivity advancements to the economic development and to the narrowing of the development divide within the BIMP-EAGA countries. We commended the transport sector for moving the connectivity agenda forward and for the accomplishments thus far in improving transport and logistics in the subregion. We noted with encouragement the commencement of the inaugural flight of Kalstar, MASwings and Mid Sea Express to serve BIMP-EAGA routes, and support the initiative to identify additional points outside of BIMP-EAGA as part of expanding co-terminalization operations to sustain air services on existing routes and encourage the entry of new sub-regional air connections. We also support the transport sector for its efforts to pave the way for the formalization of non-convention sized ships' operation in the sub-region. Towards this end, we urge relevant Ministries to extend special regulatory arrangements to entice entry of players in the air and shipping services within the sub-region. We are also pleased with the progress on the Priority Infrastructure Projects (PIPs) and continue to urge our officials to take proactive measures in accelerating the implementation of these PIPs as well as identifying and prioritizing additional infrastructure projects to support and promote overall connectivity in the subregion.
4. We have declared, at the ASEAN level that food security is one of our main priorities in our regional development programmes and, therefore, reaffirm the potential contribution of the food basket strategy of BIMP-EAGA to achieving food security, not only in BIMP-EAGA, but in ASEAN as a whole. We were encouraged by the progress in the formulation of the action and investment plans under the food basket strategy. We supported the initiatives to jointly enhance our production capacity and strengthen cross-border trade of raw materials as the initial building blocks towards enhancing long-term cooperation. We urged our agriculture and fisheries officials to work more closely with the private sector in forging joint venture projects related to food production and product/resource consolidation; establishing a policy and incentive environment, particularly on trade facilitation measures. In this regard, we look forward to the conduct of the "BIMP-EAGA and IMT-GT High Value Agriculture Business Conference and Expo" in Melaka in 2012 and its recommendations, which will further strengthen the food basket strategy.
5. We were encouraged with the continued initiatives to promote the "Equator Asia" tourism brand and applauded the tourism sector for the launching of the Equator Asia "Hop On Hop Off" bus service linking Pontianak, Indonesia, through Kuching, Malaysia and Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam to Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. We welcomed the collaboration between the transport and tourism sector in promoting sustainability of intra-EAGA connectivity and thus supported the conduct of the 1st "Equator Asia Air Access Forum and Airline Summit in the Philippines on 18 - 19 April 2012.

- We urge the Tourism Ministers to strongly support and include in their national tourism campaigns the marketing and promotion programs of Equator Asia, especially the needed support for the development of the priority community-based ecotourism sites with the end view of increasing tourist arrivals in the sub-region.
6. Recognizing that BIMP-EAGA's long-term economic development is anchored on the efficient and sustainable use of its natural resources, we encouraged relevant sectoral ministries to actively involve local governments and the private sector in developing a strategic plan of action to protect and conserve the sub-region's forest and marine resources and biodiversity. Consistent with our commitment to actively engage in addressing climate change issues both at the global and regional levels; and recognizing its significant implications to connectivity, food basket and tourism initiatives, we also directed our relevant sectoral ministers to start discussions at the BIMP-EAGA level towards addressing sub-regional climate change issues both in terms of mitigation and adaptation.
 7. We noted the progress undertaken to formalize the establishment of BIMP-EAGA Facilitation Center (BIMP-EAGA FC) as the central secretariat for our sub-regional cooperation, and look forward to the conclusion of this agreement as soon as possible. We welcomed the initiatives to strengthen the BIMP-EAGA FC, including through technical assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). We also look forward to the recommendation on the strategy in strengthening the collaboration among regional secretariats and other sub-regional institutions to achieve a more coordinated approach to BIMP-EAGA development particularly in the context of supporting the implementation of the projects in the IB.
 8. We continue to urge the private sector to play a more pro-active role in implementing initiatives that would encourage public-private partnerships as well as introducing innovations in project development. We, therefore, affirmed our support to various business initiatives of the private sector in BIMP-EAGA and encourage to BIMP-EAGA Business Council (BEBC) to actively engage private sector individuals, groups and industry associations into business interactions within and across the sub-region, as well as sourcing out funds to implement their projects, programs and activities.
 9. We are grateful to the ADB, our Regional Development Advisor, for its unwavering support, which now spans over a decade, in the areas of strategy formulation, sector studies and capacity building. We are particularly appreciative of ADB's contribution in the completion of the BIMP-EAGA IB 2012-2016, a landmark document signifying our collective stance for a more focused and results-based cooperation in the coming years. We requested ADB to assist in taking forward the Implementation Blueprint and strengthening the BIMP-EAGA Facilitation Center.
 10. We appreciated the ASEAN Secretariat's increasing engagement with BIMP-EAGA and urged them to strengthen their support in high-profiling the sub-regional cooperation to ASEAN's dialogue and external partners; provide advice and guidance in aligning the BIMP-EAGA development agenda with the ASEAN Economic Community Initiatives and help mobilize knowledge, technical and financial resources. We welcomed the growing recognition of this sub-regional program to ASEAN community building, including its contributions in the implementation of some priority projects in the Masterplan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). We looked forward to BIMP-EAGA priority infrastructure projects to be financed by the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund.
 11. We looked forward to a more dynamic engagement by all stakeholders to establish joint venture undertakings to move forward the sub-region's existing relations with China and Japan. We also appreciated the support of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) especially in transport and logistics development.
 12. We expressed our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Governments of Brunei Darussalam and the Kingdom of Cambodia for the successful organization of the Eighth BIMP-EAGA Summit.
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Joint Statement of the 6th Indonesia - Malaysia - Thailand Growth - Triangle Summit

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 4 April 2012

1. We, the leaders of the Governments of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Kingdom of Thailand, met today in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, on the occasion of the 6th Indonesia - Malaysia - Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) Summit to review the progress of cooperation and provide further direction in pursuit of our shared vision of a seamless, progressive, prosperous and peaceful subregion with improved quality of life. We believe that an accelerated pace of sub regional integration in the IMT-GT will contribute to achieving our common aspiration for an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015 and the realization of ASEAN as a region of equitable economic development as envisaged by the 18th ASEAN Summit in May 2011, Jakarta, Indonesia. We therefore reaffirmed our commitment to pursue regional cooperation with even stronger resolution to enhance the subregion's competitiveness, narrow development gaps within and among our countries, and uplift our peoples from poverty.
2. We expressed our appreciation to our Ministers and Senior Officials and other stakeholders on the progress made in the preparation and implementation of projects and activities in 2011. We noted the importance of deepening the involvement of the IMT-GT states and provinces, including through the identification, preparation, and implementation of projects and activities consistent with national development priorities, to help narrow development gaps within and among the member countries of the subregion. We commended the efforts of the IMT-GT Joint Business Council in bringing about greater awareness on the potentials in IMT-GT and urged them to redouble their efforts to expand their membership and promote business oriented and joint- venture projects.
3. We adopted the IMT-GT Implementation Blueprint (2012-2016) as the strategic guiding document following the conclusion of the IMT-GT Roadmap to Development (2007-2011). The Implementation Blueprint comprises a range of projects, including priority connectivity projects, and activities designed to implement the strategic thrusts of the subregional grouping over the next five years in infrastructure and transport, trade and investment, agriculture, agro based industry and environment, halal products and services, tourism, and human resources development, along and around the five designated economic corridors. To help ensure concrete results, the Implementation Blueprint comprises a rolling pipeline of projects and activities which are ready to start implementation within a two year period. The initial two year rolling pipeline, which will cover the period 2012-2013, includes 25 projects and activities, with an emphasis on improving physical connectivity and facilitating the movement of goods and people within the subregion. The two year rolling pipeline would be updated annually. The Implementation Blueprint also reflects a revised institutional structure and enhanced operational mechanisms to enable sustainable project development from 2012 onward. In that connection, we mandated closer involvement of all the relevant line Ministries and agencies, including, where relevant, in IMT-GT Ministerial Meetings, to ensure more effective cross sectoral coordination and accelerated implementation.
4. We acknowledged that IMT-GT cooperation aimed at physically integrating the subregion involves close collaboration among the three countries in the spatial planning of infrastructure connectivity, improving transport facilitation, and promoting air services and facilities as well as sea linkages through ports and ro-ro services. We therefore were pleased to note the commencement of priority connectivity projects under the initial two year rolling pipeline of the Implementation Blueprint. These include the CIQS Facility at Sadao - Bukit Kayu Hitam border crossing, where both Thailand and Malaysia are upgrading the border facilities to relieve capacity constraints, and enhance trade facilitation measures to reduce time and cost of border crossings; and the feasibility study for the Hat Yai - Sadao Intercity Motorway, to be completed in early 2013, which would ease existing traffic congestion and enable the development of this economic corridor with northern Malaysia, including through the development in the border economic zones on both sides of the border. We welcomed Thailand and Malaysia initiative to create greater linkages through a new bridge linking at Tak Bai, Narathiwat - Pengkalan Kubor, Kelantan and the second bridge at Sungai Golok, Narathiwat Rantau Panjang, Kelantan with integrated border economic activities including border economic zones. We also welcomed the ambitious plan of the Indonesian Government to develop the Sumatra corridor under

the Masterplan on Acceleration and Expansion of Economic Development, which will over time have beneficial spill over effects for the connectivity of the sub region.

5. We were also pleased to note the enhanced air connectivity in the sub-region with the new Melaka Medan route of Melaka Air, and the new route of Ipoh - Medan by Firefly. With the entry into force of the ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on the Full Liberalisation of Passenger Air Services (MAFLPAS) and its two Protocols signed on 12 November 2010 in Brunei Darussalam, we encouraged further private public cooperation to maximise the potential of air linkages in the subregion to enhance trade, investment and tourism. To facilitate further the connectivity in the subregion, we also called for all IMT-GT Countries to expedite the ratification and implementation of the various ASEAN Transport Agreements.
6. We reiterated the significance of putting equal emphasis on software aspects of infrastructure connectivity, consistent with ASEAN related initiatives. We therefore tasked the Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ) Task Force to expedite the finalization of the IMT-GT Cooperation Framework, as well as its implementation action plan, to reduce the time and cost of border crossing procedures and facilitate trade development in this subregion. We commended the IMT-GT Trade, Investment and Tourism Database (ITITD) Task Force in the completion of an initial database on relevant socio-economic, trade, investment, and tourism data at both national and state/provincial levels. We requested ADB to continue its assistance in enhancing the database and ensuring its sustainability to enable close monitoring and effective impact assessments of the IMT-GT cooperation programme.
7. We reaffirmed our commitment to improve food security in the subregion and are pleased to note the advanced preparations for the joint IMT-GT and BIMP-EAGA High Value Agriculture Business Conference and Expo with the theme Promoting High-Value Agriculture through Public-Private Subregional Partnerships, which will be organized in Melaka, Malaysia in 2012. We encouraged all IMT-GT stakeholders to maximise this opportunity to share experiences and expertise in innovations and good practices of multi-pronged approaches to achieving quality and sustainable food production, taking advantage of technology advances. We expressed our hope that this event will result in higher intra and inter-regional trade and investment among business players in food items, and thereby enhance food security for all in the subregion.
8. We reaffirmed our shared vision of an ASEAN Community of enduring peace, stability and shared prosperity in the subregion. As members of ASEAN, our IMT-GT cooperation programme shall always seek convergence with those of ASEAN's goals, including the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), and be consistent with the ASEAN Charter to which our Governments have subscribed. We view the IMT-GT subregion as both a test-bed and a key building bloc toward realizing the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by 2015 as reiterated during the ASEAN Connectivity Symposium in Nusadua, Bali in 2011. We look forward to seeing more joint initiatives between IMT-GT and ASEAN and financing of some IMT-GT's priority connectivity projects from the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF). We will continue to work with the ASEAN Secretariat to ensure that our activities are complementary and mutually reinforcing.
9. We acknowledged our growing and deepening relationship with the ADB, our Regional Development Advisor for IMT-GT subregional cooperation. We appreciated the strategic policy advice and practical technical assistance extended to IMT-GT that enabled us to progress in our cooperation, particularly in the preparation of the Implementation Blueprint 2012 - 2016, Promoting Links between ASEAN, BIMP-EAGA, GMS and IMT-GT, the compilation of the initial IMT-GT Trade, Investment and Tourism database; and the development of the Framework Cooperation of IMT-GT Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Agencies. We requested ADB to continue providing strategic, technical, and operational advice and support to the subregional grouping, including in strengthening the Centre for IMT-GT Subregional Cooperation (CIMT). We tasked our Senior Officials and relevant working groups to work closely with ADB on these initiatives through dialogues and other appropriate measures.
10. We commended the initiation of a research project on Asian Potential of Biofuel Markets as a follow up of the Symposium on Energy Saving and Biodiesel Utilization held successfully in September 2010 in Songkhla, Thailand. As an outcome of the symposium, through cooperation with members from IMT-GT countries, we are looking forward to materialize development of suitable design to nurture and deploy healthy biofuels market in the subregion. We expressed appreciation to

Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) for the support on this initiative and expressed hope for ERIA to continuously provide support to the subregional activities through its expertise towards a prosperous subregion with close cooperation with IMT-GT secretariat.

11. We tasked our Ministers To monitor the progress in cooperation with the Government of Japan, the IMT-GT development partner in creating joint activities in potential areas. We also expressed our interest to expand our relations to other potential development partners, especially in South Asia and the Pacific in order to reach greater opportunities in reaching regional transportation and logistics network and potential markets for IMT-GT products, exchanging of expertise in potential areas such as alternative energy, tourism, halal science and technology, food security and human resource development.
12. With the launching of the Implementation Blueprint, we tasked the Ministers to explore ways to further strengthen CIMT to enhance its important role in facilitating various consultation processes among the IMT-GT stakeholders. These, among others, include improving the institutional framework for the private sector activities, effectively evaluating and monitoring projects, encouraging the establishment of closer relationships with potential investors and donors, and extending its outreach activities to better disseminate information within and outside the subregion.
13. We expressed our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Governments of the Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of Cambodia for the successful organisation of the 6th IMT-GT Summit.

ASEAN's Concept Paper on Global Movement of Moderates

INTRODUCTION

1. The Prime Minister of Malaysia first mooted the idea of establishing a Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) when he delivered his maiden speech at the 65th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 27 September 2010. Since then, the initiative has

garnered support from many world leaders. At the recently concluded 18th ASEAN Summit in Jakarta, the Leaders in the Chairman's Statement on 8 May 2011 have welcomed the initiative to establish the GMM as one of ASEAN's positive contributions in shaping global developments. The leaders have now tasked the ASEAN Secretariat to produce a concept paper on how ASEAN can promote this idea at the global level.

OBJECTIVE

2. The objective of this paper is to explain the overall concept of GMM and explore the necessary approaches that would assist in promoting the idea and ensuring its success at the global level through the relevant ASEAN mechanisms with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat.

GLOBAL MOVEMENT OF MODERATES

The Concept

3. GMM is an approach on how to address extremism. Essentially, it calls on the voices of moderation to drown the voices of extremism. There is an urgent need for moderates to reclaim the centre and moral high ground. The voices of moderation should be from all religious beliefs and faiths, committed to working together to combat and hence marginalize extremists. However, the concept is not confined to religion alone, but encompasses all aspects of interfaith, intercultural and inter-civilisational relations. In other words, the concept aims to address all forms of political extremism, including religious extremism, ultra-nationalism and radicalism.
4. GMM should support the commitment to promote democratic values. Strong support of ASEAN Member States, the progress of democracy among ASEAN Member States and their commitment to democratic values will foster cooperation among them in addressing extremism. Adherence to social justice and good governance are also ways to address the root causes of extremism.
5. GMM is a new and important initiative. It could complement other initiatives such as the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations. At the same time, we should learn from other initiatives such as "Enlightened Moderation" by Pakistan, the Inter-civilisational Dialogue by Iran, and the Interfaith Dialogue by Indonesia.
6. GMM is to be promoted through the existing mechanisms within the ASEAN Member States

aimed at achieving global peace. The GMM concept could be explained as follows:

- Embracing 'moderation' is an important ASEAN value. Moderation comes with a high degree of tolerance, trust and mutual understanding as well as places dialogue as an important tool to resolve disputes which is the fundamental principle of how ASEAN was first founded in 1967 and successfully practised among ASEAN Member States. Undoubtedly, this value has contributed to the relative peace and harmony experienced by the region until today. Along with ensured political and economic stability, it has contributed to the high level of economic growth and development in the region.
 - The practice of moderation in ASEAN should not just be confined to religion alone but should be all encompassing to include other areas such as the economics, politics, culture and social dimensions. Awareness as well as programmes to promote the values of moderation to ASEAN citizens could easily be made through the 3 (three) ASEAN Community pillars namely the ASEAN Political and Security Community, the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. Reference can be made to action point A.1.9 of the APSC Blueprint which refers to the promotion of peace and stability in the region and action point E.1 of the ASCC Blueprint which refers to the promotion of ASEAN awareness and a sense of community.
 - Moderation also includes the importance of engaging in dialogue on political, economic and socio-cultural issues.
7. ASEAN is primed to promote GMM due to its multi-racial, multi-religious and multi-cultural background where diversity can be used as a source of its strength. This is evident in the positive interaction and synergy between peoples of the Southeast Asia region, which has contributed to the success of what ASEAN is today. As such ASEAN can utilise the idea of GMM as part of its current agenda to raise this particular ASEAN value – the practice of moderation – at the international level. After all, the composition of the global village is similar to ASEAN, particularly in terms of ethnic, culture, social and religion. If embracing and practicing moderation has worked for ASEAN, it is not impossible for it to work in the global village. If all sectors of the global village namely: governments, civil society, mass media, inter-governmental organisations and non-governmental organisations, could embrace,

adopt and practice moderation in their actions, policies and way of life, then achieving peace and harmony in the world is very possible. Those who believe and support moderation could then move in concert to encourage others to embrace this value. The movement of moderates is therefore an important approach that ASEAN could contribute to the world in achieving global peace.

Approach

8. Promoting GMM would have to be undertaken at three (3) different levels i.e. at the national, regional and international levels. This has to be done simultaneously. There cannot be 'a one glove fits all' type of approach. There is a need to apply different strategies to different audiences and at different levels.
9. In order to move GMM forward, the following approaches could be undertaken:
 - 9.1 At the national level:
 - 9.1.1 Convene National Symposiums – Each ASEAN Member State to convene their own respective symposiums in which their own citizens from all walks of society, including civil society organisations, could be invited to attend and interact with prominent speakers as well as personalities where discussions would ensue after a brief presentation is made. There should be a series of forums, the first of which would be in Malaysia organized by the Razak School of Government. A time-table to be drawn up with the symposiums to be hosted annually by other ASEAN Member States.
 - 9.1.2 Encourage all ASEAN Member States to organise official celebrations of international events such as the World Interfaith Harmony Week in country. Civil society organisations in each ASEAN Member States can also be encouraged to do the same.
 - 9.1.3 Convening community outreach programmes / cross-cultural roundtables / community engagement programmes, and rehabilitation programmes can also be encouraged.
 - 9.2 At the regional level:
 - 9.2.1 Establish a special ASEAN unit handling only GMM issues -This Unit will serve as the secretariat, staffed by selected MFA officers from appointed representatives

from ASEAN Member States. The Unit will be tasked to initiate, promote, coordinate, monitor respond, and evaluate all GMM related activities within ASEAN and globally. This unit should also collaborate closely with organisations and institutions in ASEAN Member States involved in promoting moderation.

- 9.2.2 Establish an ASEAN online space for voices of 'moderates'—Make use of the popular mediums of communication such as social networks, blogs, and other forms of new social media, to get feedback and support of the masses particularly the young generation on GMM. This portal could be established as part of the ASEAN Secretariat's website. All communications on GMM should be monitored and responded by a specialised unit within the ASEAN Secretariat. Technology does and can play a role in becoming part of the solution, helping to engineer a turn away from violence and extremism and towards moderation. The use of social media would be able to assist in initiating a global conversation on preventing young people from becoming radicalised and how to de-radicalise others.
- 9.2.3 Explore the possibility of the ASEAN Foundation and the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) to conduct seminars/workshops/trainings in promoting the voice of moderation. Promoting moderation should also be a permanent feature of the AIPR's activities.
- 9.2.4 Establish an ASEAN academic space – Local universities and other academic institutions within ASEAN could organise GMM related programmes and activities. They could also include international academicians in their programmes and activities. This should be considered as a second track initiative and is independent of the main process. Second track initiatives can also be encouraged to involve representatives from civil society and relevant groups in the region to participate and provide additional inputs.
- 9.2.5 Engage with the relevant sectoral bodies across the three ASEAN Community pillars, with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat, in exploring initiatives on, and in fighting extremism. The relevant sectoral bodies can for example consider programmes and

projects in this area subject to the availability of resources.

- 9.2.6 Take the lead in sharing ASEAN Member State's experience of inter-faith and intra-faith consultative forums and other bridge-building initiatives among the faith communities at the regional level through seminars and workshops to reaffirm and rebuild crucial attitudes of respect, tolerance and acceptance. Community engagement and outreach programmes, cross-cultural roundtables and rehabilitation programmes on this issue could also be promoted.
 - 9.2.7 ASEAN should also take the lead in stressing that extremism should not be associated with any culture, religion or civilisation. Taking into account that however, extremist ideologies have been perpetuated which have provided fertile ground for exploitation, ASEAN should stress the identification of national strategies that could promote greater tolerance amongst different cultures, religions and civilisations. This would play a useful and important role in ensuring that such extremist ideologies do not take root in society.
- 9.3 At the International level
- 9.3.1 Convene an International Lecture Series—The theme of the lecture should be related to GMM. Prominent speakers should be invited to deliver a speech at the lecture. Outstanding personalities could also be considered. Member States of ASEAN could take turn to host this Lecture Series. Since the GMM is initiated by Malaysia, the first lecture series could be undertaken by the Razak School of Government of Malaysia. Subsequent lecture series could be hosted by other schools of government or management of ASEAN Member States.
 - 9.3.2 The role of the private sector should also be encouraged such as the role of 'Google Ideas' in launching a summit against violent extremism.
 - 9.3.3 Promote the idea to countries in all regions – Utilise the ASEAN +1 and other regional meetings to promote the GMM. This can take the form of a reference to the GMM in the various Joint Statements. More concretely, this initiative should also be included in ASEAN's functional cooperation

programmes with the dialogue partners and in the context of regional meetings. For example, as education has been identified as one of the five priority areas in the EAS, GMM-related programmes can be included in this priority area. At the same time, the Chair of ASEAN could be tasked to undertake efforts to promote the GMM at the global level. Looking forward, ASEAN may wish to contemplate taking the initiative to the United Nations for consideration and adoption through the tabling of a Resolution. ASEAN Chapters in various capitals and multilateral posts could also be tasked to forward ideas on how to promote the GMM there.

9.3.4 Collaborate with Dialogue Partners, international organisations and other international parties to conduct seminars/workshops for the sharing of best practices and successful case studies of engagement and integration policies that have led to the voices of moderation to prevail.

9.3.5 Take cognizance of programmes on inter-faith dialogue at the international level, for example the NAM Ministerial Meeting on Inter-faith Dialogue and to consider how ASEAN programmes could complement programmes at the international level.

9.3.6 Recognition can also be given to the recommendations in the Manila Statement on ASEM Interfaith Dialogue on Migration to highlight how such programmes can bolster regional and international cooperation in addressing challenges associated with areas such migration.

10. A roadmap to promote GMM should also be drawn up to synchronize the activities at the national, regional and international levels to ensure that the necessary momentum is maintained. The roadmap should be drawn up as soon as possible by the GMM secretariat.

Conclusion

11. As the Leaders of ASEAN have adopted the Malaysian Prime Minister's clarion call to utilise the GMM as part of ASEAN's contribution to global peace in the 18th ASEAN Summit held on 8 May 2011 in Jakarta, time is of the essence. It is also important that the initiative moves forward without delay so as to take advantage of the interest it has generated with the global community and to ensure

that those who have indicated their support would continue lending it.

Chairman's Statement of the 21st ASEAN Summit

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
18 November 2012**

1. The 21st ASEAN Summit, with the theme of "ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny" held in Phnom Penh, on 18th November 2012, was chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, as Chair of ASEAN, in 2012. The Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member-States had substantive, frank and productive discussions in plenary and retreat sessions.
2. We, the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, gathered in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, for the 21st ASEAN Summit, reaffirmed our support for the priorities outlined by Cambodia during its Chairmanship in 2012 to advance our efforts towards the ASEAN Community by 2015. In this regard, we also agreed to work together based on these priorities to ensure the successful realisation of community building and integration goals and establish a solid foundation for ASEAN to move beyond 2015.
3. We agreed that ASEAN must remain united, cohesive and resilient and continue to play a central role in the evolving regional architecture that is conducive to promoting ASEAN credibility, peace, security, stability and prosperity in the region. We were also committed to further encourage the participation of our people and all stakeholders in the ASEAN Community building process.
4. We expressed our deep sympathy and deepest condolences to the people and the Royal Government of Cambodia and especially to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah BOROMNEATH NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, and Her Majesty Queen NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK, for the passing away of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK, the late King-Father of Cambodia,

on 15 October 2012. We shared our sadness of this great loss with the people of Cambodia at this juncture. Cambodia expressed gratitude to the respective ASEAN Leaders for expressing their condolence to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, Her Majesty Queen Mother, the Royal Government of Cambodia and the people of Cambodia.

5. We agreed to sign, adopt and note the following documents as the outcome documents:
 - Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration
 - ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD);
 - ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the Establishment of an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre;
 - Concept Paper on the Establishment of an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC); and
 - Bali Concord III Plan of Action (2013-2017).

ASEAN Community Building

Implementation of the ASEAN Charter and Roadmap for an ASEAN Community

6. We noted the Report of the Secretary-General of ASEAN on the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Charter and Roadmap for an ASEAN Community which highlighted ASEAN's progress, opportunities and challenges in its Community building and integration process. We noted that various activities have been successfully implemented taking into account the strategic thrusts provided under the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community, including the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II. We emphasized the importance of regional integration efforts towards the ASEAN Community building. We acknowledged the progress and achievements made in the implementation of the ASEAN Community building – Annual Targets 2012, as well as other new initiatives. In this regard, we tasked all concerned ASEAN Ministerial Sectoral Bodies under the three community pillars to accelerate their necessary and immediate actions to ensure that the Annual Targets 2012 are appropriately and timely implemented.
7. We noted that close and effective coordination between various sectoral bodies under the three community pillars continue to be an important task for ASEAN as it will ensure that the implementation of activities are responsive to the advancement

of the ASEAN Community building process. In this regard, we were encouraged by the efforts in ensuring effective coordination work among all the sectoral bodies under the three Community Councils and stressed the importance of the need to further coordinate and synergize among those three pillars. We also commended the ASEAN Secretariat for its efforts in helping to promote better coordination between the ASEAN Community pillars in shaping the ASEAN future direction.

8. We further reaffirmed our collective determination to maintain the central and proactive role of ASEAN as the primary driving force in its relations and cooperation with external partners in an evolving regional architecture, such as, the ASEAN Plus One, the ASEAN Plus Three, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) and the East Asia Summit (EAS) in ensuring ASEAN's role in maintenance of peace, security, stability and prosperity in the region as well as promoting ASEAN credibility and development in the international fora.
9. While expressing our satisfaction on the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Community building and integration agenda, we decided that the date of realisation of the ASEAN Community would be on 31 December 2015.

ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY (APSC)

10. We were encouraged by the progress and successful achievements in the implementation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint. We took note of the importance of the activities and initiatives that have been initiated and/or implemented under the APSC Blueprint, as outlined in the ASEAN Community Building – Annual Targets 2012.

Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC)

11. We underscored the importance of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) in Southeast Asia, as the key instrument to govern inter-state relations, which will contribute to peace, security and stability in the region. Based on the principles of the TAC, we continue to promote greater and closer cooperation and understanding among High Contracting Parties to promote peace and harmony in the region. In this regard, we welcomed the entry into force of the Third Protocol Amending the TAC on 8th June 2012, which paved the way for the European Union to accede to the TAC on 12th July 2012, in Phnom

Penh. We also welcomed the accession to the TAC by the United Kingdom on 12th July 2012, and Brazil on 17th November 2012 at the sidelines of the 21st ASEAN Summit.

12. We noted the continued interest of other countries, including Norway and Serbia to accede to TAC, and tasked our relevant Ministers to further deliberate on their applications to accede to the TAC in accordance with the agreed principles on accession to TAC.

SEANWFZ Treaty

13. We emphasized the importance of preserving the Southeast Asia as a nuclear weapon-free zone and free from the threat of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction (WMD). We also emphasized the importance of the full implementation of Non-Proliferation and Disarmament regime in pursuit of peace, security and prosperity in the region. We looked forward to the signing of the Protocol to the Treaty on SEANWFZ and its related documents without reservations as early as possible.
14. We noted with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen the Implementation of SEANWFZ Treaty 2007-2012. We recognized that the Plan of Action remained relevant, and therefore, we welcomed the extension of the Plan of Action to Strengthen the Implementation of the Treaty on the SEANWFZ to another five years (2013-2017), with a renewed commitment and a stronger emphasis on concrete action.

ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation

15. We emphasized the importance of promoting conflict resolution and conflict management to enhance peace, security and stability in the region. We, therefore, recalled our decision at the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia, on 17 November 2011, to establish the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR). We welcomed the endorsement of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting in July 2012 and agreed to officially launch the Institute on this 18th November 2012, in Phnom Penh, at the sidelines of our 21st ASEAN Summit. We looked forward to the full and effective operationalization of the Institute so as to contribute to the interest of ASEAN in this regard.

ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC)

16. We welcomed Cambodia's proposal to establish an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) to be based in Cambodia. We therefore agreed to adopt an ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the Establishment of an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre. We also noted the Concept Paper on the Establishment of an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre as a basic document for the development of the modalities in setting up of the Centre by the relevant ASEAN Ministers with the view to recommend for consideration and approval by the ASEAN Leaders in 2013.

ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD)

17. We reiterated the importance of the promotion and protection of human rights in ASEAN. We welcomed the progress of the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) as reflected in the ASEAN Community Building – Annual targets 2012, including the finalisation of the draft ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD) for adoption by the ASEAN Leaders at the 21st ASEAN Summit. In this regard, we signed the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of an ASEAN Human Rights Declaration affirming our resolve to the full implementation of the AHRD through broad national, regional and international cooperation thus contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights in the region. The adoption of the AHRD marks a new milestone for ASEAN in the implementation of the ASEAN Charter as well as highlights the strong commitment of ASEAN in the promotion and protection of human rights in the region as part of the process towards ASEAN Community by 2015.

Defence and Security Cooperation

18. We underlined the important role of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) in promoting and addressing defence and security cooperation issue in the region. In this regard, we welcomed the outcomes of the 6th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM), in Phnom Penh, on 29 May 2012. We acknowledged the progress and achievements made on defence and security cooperation that have contributed significantly to ASEAN Community building efforts.
19. We encouraged continuing close cooperation between the ASEAN Defence Ministers and their non-ASEAN counterparts, while acknowledging the significant role of defence cooperation through

the ADMM Plus mechanism. In this regard, we recognised the importance of maintaining and enhancing the central role of ASEAN in the ADMM Plus process. We also emphasized the importance of having dialogue in a frank manner between ADMM and the Plus countries. In this regard, we took note of the informal meetings between ASEAN Defence Ministers and their Plus Partners, including the informal meeting between ASEAN Defence Ministers with the Minister of Defence of the People's Republic of China, on the sidelines of the 6th ADMM in Phnom Penh, in May 2012, and the informal meeting between ASEAN Defence Ministers and the Secretary of Defence of the United States of America at the sidelines of the ADMM Retreat in Siem Reap, Cambodia, in November 2012.

20. We welcomed the significant progress of the practical cooperation implemented in the ADMM-Plus through the Experts' Working Groups. In this regard, we reaffirmed the 6th ADMM's support for the conduct of an ADMM-Plus HADR/MM Exercise in Brunei in 2013 as a concrete effort of practical cooperation.
21. We emphasized the important role of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in promoting peace, security and stability in the Asia-Pacific region through constructive dialogues and consultations among the ARF participants. We noted that the ARF process has been moving at a pace comfortable to all based on its established practices and stages, namely Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) and Preventive Diplomacy (PD). We encouraged the ARF to undertake further necessary measures to ensure that the CBMs and PD stages are effectively and satisfactorily carried out, including through the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy. In this regard, we encouraged further contributions of the ARF Experts and Eminent Person (EEPs) in advancing the ARF process. We reiterated the importance of the ARF Chair in continuing to play a central role in accordance with the ARF Paper on the Enhanced Role of the AF Chair. We underlined the importance of promoting synergy between the ARF and regional mechanisms, including that of the ADMM Plus and EAS.

Drug-Free ASEAN

22. We recalled that the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 was adopted by the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, which highlighted the goal and vision of a drug-free ASEAN called

for the relevant ASEAN Ministers to undertake necessary measures to ensure the effective and timely implementation of the Declaration. In this regard, we were encouraged by the progress of the efforts that has been made by sectoral bodies both at national and regional levels to ensure the realization of this aim, which is in line with the ASEAN Charter and the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009-2015.

23. We noted the successful convening of the ASEAN Special Ministerial Meeting on Drugs held on 31 August 2012, in Bangkok, with the recommendations to address the illicit production, trafficking and abuse of drugs in the region. We, therefore, encouraged the relevant sectoral bodies of ASEAN to continue undertaking necessary action to ensure the implementation of these recommendations.

ASEAN Security Outlook (ASO)

24. We reaffirmed the importance of strengthening mutual understanding and transparency among ASEAN Member States which will contribute to the maintenance of peace, security and stability in the region. In this regard, we looked forward to the first publication of the ASEAN Security Outlook (ASO) in 2013.

Visa Exemption for ASEAN Nationals

25. In acknowledging that the ease in the movement of people within the ASEAN region are key elements for an integrated and realisation of the ASEAN Community, we encouraged the ASEAN Member States to undertake ratification and implementation of the 2006 ASEAN Framework Agreement for Visa Exemption for ASEAN Nationals.
26. In this regard, we welcomed the depositary of Cambodia's Instrument of Acceptance of the ASEAN Framework Agreement with the Secretary-General of ASEAN on 10th September 2012.

Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crimes

27. We recognized the importance of the need to effectively address transnational crimes in the region. In this regard, we resolved to forge closer cooperation on eight priority areas in the Work Programme to implement the Plan of Action to combat transnational crime such as terrorism, trafficking in persons, illicit narcotics trafficking, arms smuggling, money laundering, economic crime, piracy and cyber-crime.

28. We were satisfied with the progress of the regional cooperation in promoting ASEAN's responses to trafficking in persons, and on the protection of victims of trafficking in accordance with the ASEAN Declaration against Trafficking in Persons Particularly Women and Children. In this regard, we took note of the progress made in considering the development of an ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) and a Regional Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons which reflects the need to urgently combat trafficking in persons. In this regard, we encouraged relevant ministerial sectoral body to expedite their deliberation on these matters.

ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

29. We reaffirm our commitment to promote growth and foster financial stability in our economies. We agree to take all necessary actions to strengthen domestic demand, and expand markets in order to sustain economic growth and create opportunities for jobs, trade and development. Recognizing the need to further support demand, we ask the relevant Ministers to consider how policy coordination would enhance resilience against the current difficulties in global environment.
30. We have progressed in delivering the commitments we made last year to deepen economic integration under the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). We are pleased that the implementation rate of AEC Blueprint has increased to 74.5 percent. Nonetheless, we recognize the challenges we all face domestically in implementing the AEC. We agree to intensify our efforts in those areas under the AEC in order to achieve AEC goals by 2015. We welcome the prioritization of AEC measures undertaken by the AEC Council, as well as the recommendations of the AEC Blueprint Mid-term Review, on taking forward the timely, full and consistent realization of our AEC commitments.
31. We reiterate our commitment to facilitating trade and investment and reducing barriers in all forms. We are encouraged by the progress made under the various initiatives of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement and we look forward to the full implementation of the 2012 ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature by end of this year. We continue to uphold our monitoring work on eliminating or reducing the barrier effects of non-tariff measures and we encourage the officials to reinforce and deepen work in the improvement of NTM database, private sector engagement on NTMs and discussion of actual cases of NTMs and to finalize the Roadmap on ASEAN NTMs.
32. We are committed to strengthening trade facilitation which is a necessary pre-condition for sustained and deeper economic integration. We encourage all Member States to take the necessary steps to enable the ASEAN-wide implementation of Self-Certification Program by 2015. We acknowledge the progress made in the pilot implementation of the ASEAN Single Window, but we also recognize that for substantial progress to be made, Member States should implement their National Single Windows and rapidly put in place the needed legal and operational architecture to fully operationalize the ASW. We also urge progress in ratification and entry into force of various customs and transport protocols and agreements, particularly Protocol 2 (Designation of Frontier Posts) and Protocol 7 (Customs Transit System).
33. Recognizing the importance of investment in economic growth and recovery, we are committed to open, transparent and predictable business environment for investors. To this end, we stand ready to fully implement the reduction and elimination of restrictive measures under the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement. We will continue to uphold the peer review process in order to enhance the monitoring of Member States' commitments in improving their business environment and implementing domestic reforms to support investment.
34. We resolve to intensify our efforts toward services liberalization and integration. We welcome the signing of the ASEAN Agreement on Movement of Natural Persons (MNP) that will facilitate the movement of ASEAN people engaging in trade in goods, trade in services and investment in the region. We also welcome the signing of the Protocol to implement the 7th Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services and the adoption of the Implementation Framework of the ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM) which will guide the key work of ASEAN in aviation sector until and beyond 2015, including air transport services liberalization. We are pleased with the conclusion of the 8th AFAS Package. We agree that the current services liberalization framework under AFAS should be significantly enhanced. We look forward to a report of this activity at the next Summit in 2013.
35. In view of the renewed financial market tensions, we reiterate the need to integrate our financial and capital markets. We welcome the full establishment

of the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF). The AIF strongly demonstrates the strength and commitment of ASEAN toward sustaining growth, facilitating the physical connectivity, and narrowing the infrastructure development gap in ASEAN. We also welcome on-going efforts in the region to address tax-related impediments to integration, competition policies, intellectual property rights and consumer protection.

36. We are encouraged by the initial work to implement the ASEAN Framework Agreement for Equitable Economic Development (AFEED), including the stock-taking exercise of current work program and capacity building initiatives undertaken for CLMV countries, and the proposal to establish the ASEAN Forum on Financial Inclusion. We encourage similar efforts to advance implementation of AFEED by developing strategic projects with medium-term development goals. We welcome the successful conduct of the 4th IAI Development Forum, convened at the ASEAN Secretariat, on 29 October 2012, which serves as a mean to chart strategies to narrow the development gap in the region.
37. Recognizing the key role that SMEs play in economic development, we are encouraged by the completion of several initiatives under the Strategic Action Plan for ASEAN SME Development (2010-2015). We welcome the on-going efforts to review the Plan with the view toward developing a comprehensive roadmap that will guide the development of SMEs across the region. We are committed to pursue SME development as a priority under the AEC and we urge the Dialogue Partners to continue to render their assistance to develop SMEs in the region.
38. We recognize that enhancing food security is one of the most important challenges that the region faces today. We welcome the signing and entry into force of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) as a permanent mechanism to help relief requirements arising from natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies, and we look forward to the full implementation of APTERR at the next Summit. We also welcome the proposed transformation of the ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Information System (AFSIS) as a regional self-sustained mechanism to reduce price volatility and promote food security.
39. We note the strengthened efforts in the implementation of the ASEAN ICT Master Plan (AIM) 2015, particularly the implementation of

the ASEAN Broadband Corridor (ABC) Project to promote greater broadband penetration, affordability and universal access; harmonisation of radio frequencies in ASEAN to utilise the benefit of economies of scale and for better interference management, enhanced transparency measures on international roaming charges; and the presentation of the ASEAN ICT Awards to ICT companies to encourage creativity and innovation in the application of ICT. We welcome the adoption of the Mactan Cebu Declaration on "Connected ASEAN: Enabling Aspirations" by the ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers, which maps out the priority actions in the implementation of the AIM 2015, acknowledging that ICT is an enabler for ASEAN economic and social development and integration.

40. Monitoring the progress of the AEC remains our priority. Toward this end, we reiterate the need to strengthen the development of strong AEC monitoring framework to monitor the AEC outcomes, identify issues and address implementation gaps. We are encouraged by the work of the ASEAN Integration Monitoring Office (AIMO) to support the AEC, and we stand ready to strengthen the capacity and resources of AIMO and the ASEAN Secretariat.
41. We welcome the initiatives and measures being undertaken to promote private sector role in regional economic integration. We reiterate the need for an effective private sector engagement and we call on the officials to develop new and innovative strategies to maximize the dynamic contribution of private sector to integration. To this end, we welcome the holding of the 1st AEC Symposium at the ASEAN Secretariat last September where representatives from private sector discussed the impact of AEC on their business operations.
42. We reaffirm our commitment to global and regional economic partnerships, and we are pleased to note the considerable progress in our various Free Trade Agreements, including the signing of the Protocol to Amend the Agreement on Trade in Goods under ASEAN-China FTA and Third Protocol to Amend the ASEAN-China Framework Agreement. We stand by the ASEAN Framework for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) that we adopted in 2011 and we value the substantial work by our officials. We encourage them to deepen discussions with our partners and we call on them to commence negotiations towards a successful conclusion of RCEP.

43. We welcome the outcomes of the seminar on “Realizing a more Integrated, Competitive, Equitable and Resilient ASEAN Community” jointly organized by the Royal Government of Cambodia, Economic Research Institute for East Asia (ERIA) and Harvard University, in Phnom Penh, in October 2012, which provides useful basis recommendations for ASEAN in moving toward realization of ASEAN economic integration in 2015.

ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY (ASCC)

Progress of the Implementation of the ASCC Blueprint

44. We noted with the appreciation the progress of the implementation of the ASCC Blueprint through which 87 projects have been completed and 72 projects are in various stages of implementation. We encouraged the relevant sectoral bodies under the ASCC Blueprint to accelerate their efforts with a view to ensure that ASCC activities/projects will be implemented timely as it is part of ASEAN's efforts on moving forward ASEAN Community building.

Disaster Management

45. We recognized that natural disasters exacerbated by climate change continue to affect the economic, physical, social and environmental assets of ASEAN Member States.
46. We noted the entry into force of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) in December 2009 which has served as a foundation for ASEAN to work collectively to address disaster issues in the region and has put in place the operational as well as legal requirements to establish the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre).
47. We emphasized the importance of using existing mechanisms, in particular the Conference of the Parties (COP) under the AADMER, the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and the AHA Centre, as the coordinating platform and cooperation arrangement for disaster management.
48. We were encouraged with the progress of the operationalization of the AHA Centre since the signing of the Agreement on the Establishment of the AHA Centre in November 2011. To enable the

entry into force of the Agreement, we urged the relevant ASEAN Member States to accelerate their internal procedures in finalizing the instrument of notification as early as possible by the end of 2012.

49. We were encouraged by the active participation of ASEAN Member States and the generous contribution of Dialogue Partners and other partner organisations in the course of the operationalisation of the AHA Centre. We welcomed further contribution for the AHA Centre as well as for ASEAN Disaster Management and Emergency Relief (ADMER) Fund to ensure sustainable operation of the AHA Centre and support the implementation of AADMER.

Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women, Children and other Vulnerable Groups

50. We reiterated our commitment towards gender equality and women's advancement in ASEAN. In this regard, we welcomed the First ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW) in October 2012, in Vientiane, Lao PDR, to serve as a platform for the development of strategies to mainstream gender perspective across all sectors of ASEAN cooperation. We are pleased with the adoption of the Vientiane Declaration on Enhancing Gender Perspective and ASEAN Women's Partnership for Environmental Sustainability at the First AMMW. We tasked the relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies to effectively implement the commitments reflected in the Declaration and monitor its progress.
51. We are encouraged by the progress made by the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) in finalising its five-year Work Plan (2012-2016) as well as in enhancing civil society participation in the ASEAN Community building process. In this context, we welcomed the convening of the Fifth ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) in July 2012 at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta.
52. We noted with satisfaction that the Mobilization Framework, which sets fifteen priority areas aiming at promoting disability inclusive development in ASEAN as a follow-up to the ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities 2011-2020, proclaimed at the 19th ASEAN Summit.
53. We applauded the efforts of ASEAN sectoral bodies in promoting meaningful engagement of civil society and stakeholders in building a caring and sharing

ASEAN Community that is socially responsible and people-oriented, including the establishment of the ASEAN Forum on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication as a regular dialogue platform between the ASEAN governments and non-governmental organisations. In this regard, We recognised the continued efforts being made by the ASEAN Ministers' Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication in improving the well-being and livelihood of the poor, especially in rural areas.

54. We also noted the work of the ASEAN GO-NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development and the ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour under the ASEAN Committee to Implement the Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers (ACMW) which involves government officials, tripartite partners and civil society from ASEAN Member States.
55. We reiterated our support for the progress of democratization process in Myanmar. We reaffirmed of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Statement in August 2012 on the recent development in the Rakhine State, Myanmar. In this context, we reiterated our readiness to lend our support as necessary in addressing the humanitarian challenges in the Rakhine State, and looking forward to work closely with the Government of Myanmar to bring normalcy to the region. We also reiterate our support to working closely with the Government of Myanmar as appropriate to support the relief and rehabilitation of victims of the incident in the Rakhine State.

Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers

56. We encouraged the ASEAN Labour Ministers to continue implementing the Cebu Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant on the Workers by taking a phased approach to the development of an ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers.

Health

57. We emphasized the importance of promoting health of the peoples of ASEAN and ensuring the peoples of the region are healthy in mind and body and living in harmony in a safe environment. In this context, we encouraged the ASEAN Health Ministers, health subsidiary bodies, and relevant partners in ASEAN Member States to advance further cooperation collectively to ensure that

peoples in the ASEAN region are living in a healthy and safe environment.

58. We recognized the threat of emerging infectious diseases in the region, particularly the new emerging dangerous pathogen EV-71, which critically affected the daily lives of the peoples, particularly those of school children. In this regard, we expressed our sympathy for the loss of lives of loved ones in ASEAN Member States affected by the EV-71, last July 2012. In this context, we called upon the relevant Sectoral Ministers to undertake necessary measures at the national and regional levels to collectively address the health and non-health issues of this emerging infectious disease. We also encouraged the sharing of information and best practices between health agencies and bodies of ASEAN Member States with a view to effectively address this emerging disease as well as other communicable disease threats in ASEAN.
59. We welcomed the convening of the 11th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting; the 4th ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting; and the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting last July 2012 in Phuket, Thailand that emphasized further collaborative efforts of relevant partners in addressing issues of communicable diseases, emerging infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, increased access to health care for the ASEAN people, and drug resistance. We encouraged the ASEAN Health Ministers to further task relevant health subsidiary bodies in the implementation of the prioritized strategic health directions provided.

Social Protection

60. We acknowledged that diverse factors such as globalization, recurring financial crisis, climate change, intensifying occurrence of disasters and the threat of food and energy insecurity have exacerbated the ability of the poor and marginalized population to cope with the negative impacts and prosper. We agreed that there may be a need for ASEAN Member States to continue improving the quality, coverage and sustainability of social protection and increasing the capacity of social risk management. Noting the cross-cutting nature of this issue, we encouraged the relevant sectoral bodies and stakeholders, with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat, to deliberate further on ways and means to strengthen social protection in the region, taking into account the different needs of ASEAN Member States.

Civil Service Matters

61. We noted with satisfaction the work being carried out by ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters, including the ASEAN Plus Three Heads of Civil Service Matters in October 2012 in Putrajaya, Malaysia. In this regard, we noted the follow-up activities to the Luang Prabang Joint Declaration on ASEAN Plus Three Civil Service Cooperation, including the adoption of the ACCSM +3 Work Plan (2012-2015), particularly its nine pilot projects to facilitate closer cooperation with the Plus Three Countries on e-governance, human resources management and development, as well as productivity in the public sector.

Culture and Information

62. We recognized that both the new and traditional media would continue to play a significant role in the dissemination of information to the peoples of ASEAN, subsequently connecting them beyond their borders and bridging the cultural gap. To support it, we agreed that it is the imperative of the information sector to ensure that media, traditional or new, are optimally utilized to connect the different peoples within ASEAN towards the achievement of one ASEAN Community.
63. We noted Singapore's role as ASEAN's City of Culture for 2012-2014 and acknowledged the need to enhance ASEAN cooperation in the areas of culture and arts focusing on human resources development, protection and promotion of ASEAN cultural heritage and development of small and medium-sized cultural enterprises, including creative industry projects.

Education

64. We noted with satisfaction the successful convening of the First ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting as well as the First East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. We reiterated the need to promote a coordinated, cohesive and coherent ASEAN's position in education and enhance cooperation in the sector, which is regarded as a significant factor on the success of building a dynamic, prosperous and people-oriented ASEAN Community.
65. We acknowledged that successful education cooperation with the relevant stakeholders and Dialogue Partners would also create the means for bridging development gaps, enhancing

regional competitiveness, achieving sustained economic development, and promoting friendship and mutual understanding among the peoples in the region.

Science and Technology

66. We acknowledged ASEAN's efforts to operationalize the Krabi Initiative that aims to provide a framework for ASEAN S&T cooperation in the context of ASEAN Community building. We expressed our support to the development of a renewed ASEAN Plan of Action on Science and Technology (APAST) that is inclusive and focusing on more people-oriented S&T cooperation framework by engaging more non-state players such as the private sector, local governments, people, foundations, and international organizations.
67. We noted with satisfaction the new strategies for partnership on S&T with dialogue partners, such as the establishment of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Science and Technology Committee in December 2011 in Jeju, ROK and the China-ASEAN Science and Technology Partnership Programme which was launched by the science and technology Ministers of China and ASEAN in Nanning, China on 22 September 2012.
68. We recognized the importance of encouraging interaction among young scientists and the gifted in science and their mentors, and in this regard, we welcomed the progress of implementation of various initiatives under the purview of the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Center for the Gifted in Science (ACGS). We noted the successful conduct of the 1st APT Junior Science Odyssey on 10-17 June 2012 in Brunei Darussalam and looked forward to the successful conduct of the 5th APT Teachers' Workshop and Students' Camp for the gifted in science in 2013.

Sports

69. Recognizing the sports industry as a strong partner not only in promoting a healthy and active lifestyle among the citizens of ASEAN Member States through sports but also in contributing to the socio-economic development in the region, we welcomed the initiative of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports (AMMS) to mark 2013 as ASEAN Sports Industry Year. We encouraged the individual ASEAN Member States to engage the industry in implementing various sports-related activities.

Transboundary Haze Pollution

70. We noted with concern the significant increase of hot spot activities in 2012 due to increased forest fires which led to transboundary haze pollution in the region. We agreed that the relevant agencies should remain vigilant and enhance their efforts to anticipate, monitor, and prevent fires and transboundary haze pollution. In this respect, we noted the usefulness of, and encouraged the development of the ASEAN-wide Fire Danger Rating System (FDRS), which provides early warning on potential fire occurrences that would enable preparedness and preventive actions during dry weather periods.

ASCC Fund

71. We recognized that there are challenges in the existing resources available to achieve the strategic objectives of the ASCC Blueprint, a vital component of the ASEAN Road Map to fully realize the vision of an ASEAN Community in 2015 and beyond. In this regard, we appreciated the effort by the ASEAN Social Cultural Community (ASCC) Council to form a Working Group, under the guidance of the Senior Officials Committee on ASCC (SOCA) and with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat, to study the feasibility of the establishment of an ASCC Fund, as proposed by Cambodia.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IAI WORK PLAN II (2009-2015)

72. We emphasized the importance of the realization of regional integration as the priority agenda for ASEAN Community building. In this regard, we reiterated that regional integration and narrowing the development gap should be enhanced in a timely and effective manner. In this regard, we welcomed the progress of the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015), including other new initiatives that would also help the realization of regional integration.
73. We welcomed the support and contribution by the ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Dialogue Partners and other external parties in the efforts to contribute to regional integration in ASEAN and looked forward to their further support and contribution. To ensure the continuation and efficient implementation of the IAI Work Plan II, we instructed our Ministers to undertake a Mid-Term Review of this Work Plan.

ASEAN CONNECTIVITY

74. We welcomed the significant progress in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, as a priority to promote economic growth and narrowing development gaps, enhance the competitiveness of ASEAN and enhance connectivity among ASEAN Member States, and between Member States and the rest of the world. We attached great importance to the expeditious achievement of enhanced connectivity through improved infrastructure development (physical connectivity), effective institutional arrangement (institutional connectivity) and empowered people (people-to-people connectivity) at the regional, sub-regional and national levels. These three-pronged strategies would catalyze the realization of ASEAN Connectivity by 2015. We also stressed the importance of enhancing national connectivity as it is an integral part of regional connectivity. We welcomed the convening of the 3rd ASEAN Connectivity Symposium held in Phnom Penh, on 7-8 September 2012.
75. We noted that Sub-regional cooperation arrangements of Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT, Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS), the Ayeyawady - Chao Phraya - Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) in synergy and mutually reinforcing with the MPAC. We looked forward to the joint initiatives within sub-regional projects and within ASEAN Connectivity, including those which could be funded by the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF). We called on the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) to intensify its engagement and cooperation with the sub-regional arrangements. We also appreciated the efforts of the ACCC and the ASEAN Connectivity National Coordinators (ACNC) in their work to realize regional connectivity and beyond.
76. We expressed appreciation for the support of ASEAN's Dialogue Partners in the ASEAN Plus One process, as well as in the EAS and ASEAN Plus Three (APT), in the implementation of the MPAC. In this context, we encouraged the effective implementation of the Declaration of the 6th EAS on ASEAN Connectivity and the finalization of ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity. We reiterated our decision to the possible expansion of ASEAN Connectivity beyond the region and that the MPAC remains the key priority areas of cooperation with our Dialogue Partners. In this regard, we instructed our relevant Ministers

to undertake necessary measures and to work closely with ASEAN Dialogue Partners and external parties in order to achieve our vision.

77. We reiterated our support for the establishment of consultative mechanisms between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners on a regular basis, such as those between the ACCC and the Japan Task Force on Connectivity and the ACCC's and the Chinese Working Committee of the China-ASEAN Connectivity Cooperation Committee, to mobilize resources for the implementation of the MPAC and foster cooperation.
78. We also reiterated the importance of the establishment of ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF) based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which would help in mobilizing resources from external parties, including the private sector for the effective implementation of the MPAC. In this regard, we encouraged the effective operationalization of the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund.

ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION OF THE PEOPLE AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

79. We reiterated the importance of our engagement with all ASEAN stakeholders in the ASEAN Community building and integration process. In this regard, we looked forward to our meeting with representative of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), including the informal meetings with ASEAN's Youth representatives as well as representatives from the Civil Society Organization (CSOs).

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

80. After the entry into force of the ASEAN Charter on 15 December 2008, we were encouraged to note that 68 non-ASEAN Ambassadors have accredited to ASEAN and over 35 ASEAN Committees have been established in Third Countries/International Organizations around the world. More accreditations of non-ASEAN Ambassadors to ASEAN reflect that international community values ASEAN as well progressed politically, economically and socio-culturally.
81. We noted with satisfaction the progress of relations between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners and the United Nations to further strengthen and deepen cooperation and partnership with a view to making positive contributions to ASEAN integration, and

community building. We are encouraged to note that ASEAN has established Strategic Partnership with China, Japan, and ROK; Enhanced Partnership with the US, EU, and Canada, Comprehensive Partnership with Australia, New Zealand and Russia; Partnership with India; as well as with the United Nations.

82. We took note with appreciation that ASEAN continues to maintain the centrality and proactive role of ASEAN as the primary driving force in its relations and cooperation with its Dialogue Partners and external parties in the present evolving regional architecture, namely the ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the East Asia Summit (EAS), and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus) in ensuring the maintenance of peace, security, stability, and enhancing prosperity in the region.
83. We took note the progress of implementing commemorative activities to mark Anniversary of our dialogue relations with many of our Dialogue Partners, including, the 20th Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations, the 35th Anniversary of ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue Relations, and the 35th Anniversary of ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Relations, and the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in 2012. We looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in Japan in 2013 to mark the 40th Anniversary of the ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations and to celebrate this special event with various meaningful commemorative activities.
84. We looked forward to the Reports of the ASEAN-India Eminent Persons Group (EPG), the ASEAN-U.S. Eminent Persons Group (EPG), East Asia Vision Group II (EAVG II) which will be submitted to the 10th ASEAN-India Summit, the 4th ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Meeting and the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in Phnom Penh in November 2012 respectively. We expressed confidence that the Reports will provide key practical recommendations to further strengthening and advancing dialogue relations.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW SECRETARY GENERAL OF ASEAN

85. We expressed our high appreciation for the important contribution of H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan in his capacity as Secretary-General of ASEAN in advancing the work of ASEAN during his five-year term of 2008-2012. We welcomed the recommendation of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers

and agreed to appoint H.E. Le Luong Minh as a new Secretary-General of ASEAN from Viet Nam for the next five-year term of 2013-2018.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

South China Sea

86. We underlined the importance of DOC as a milestone document which signifies the collective commitment of ASEAN Member States and China to promote peace, stability and mutual trust in the South China Sea. We underscored the importance of the ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea.
87. We reaffirmed our commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) 1982, and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), *inter alia*, which shall serve as the basic norms governing state-to-state relations.
88. We also reaffirmed our commitment to continue to fully and effectively implement the DOC; enhance maritime security cooperation; to encourage the parties concerned to resolve territorial and jurisdictional disputes by peaceful means, without resorting to the threat or use of force, through consultations and negotiations by sovereign states directly concerned. We welcomed the progress in the implementation of the Guidelines to implement the DOC through the agreed cooperative activities.
89. We underscored the importance of exercising self-restraint by all parties concerned and not to undertake any activities which may complicate and escalate disputes and affect peace and stability, and to handle their differences in a constructive manner.
90. We agreed to work together to enhance favourable conditions for a peaceful and durable solution of differences and disputes among the countries concerned, in accordance with the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS as well as the provisions and the spirit of the DOC.

Korean Peninsula

91. We reaffirmed our support to the efforts for achieving a denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a

peaceful manner. We urged all parties concerned to exercise self-restraint and not to undertake any steps which could lead to the escalation of tensions in the Korean Peninsula.

92. We called on all the parties concerned to fully respect the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions, in particular, the UNSC Resolutions 1718 and 1874. We also called for the early resumption of the Six-Party Talks for the interest of peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula. We further reiterated the call for all parties concerned to explore all possibilities to engage in peaceful dialogue which would lead to creating an atmosphere of trust and confidence among the concerned parties.

Middle East and North Africa

93. We exchanged views on recent developments in Middle East and North Africa, and expressed support for peaceful solutions and reconciliations in accordance with the UN Charter and international law through an inclusive dialogue reflecting the aspirations of the people in the countries concerned.
94. Following the escalation of conflicts in Gaza Strip, we called upon all parties to exert their utmost self-restraint. We urged the United Nations Security Council to take necessary and concrete measures to bring peace to the region. We called upon all parties to return to the negotiation table in resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. We reaffirmed our support for the two-state solution where Palestine and Israel can live side by side in peace.
95. We followed closely the ongoing crisis in Syria, particularly the escalation of armed conflicts and civilian casualties. We underlined the need for the Syrian people to find the best possible peaceful solution for the country as well as to ensure the protection of the Syrian people. We were concerned that the prolonged crisis and the absence of adequate response could create new security challenges in the region. We called upon all States to take the necessary diplomatic measures to bring an immediate end to the violence and to restore calm in Syria. In that regard, we supported initiatives that aim at facilitating a political settlement in the country.

G-20

96. We emphasized the continued invaluable contribution of the G-20 to global economic recovery and stability. We welcomed the briefing by Samdech Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia of his participation at the G-20 Summit in Los Cabos Mexico, in June 2012, as Chairman of ASEAN, representing ASEAN in the G-20 Summit this year at the invitation extended by Mexico. We recognized the efforts by Cambodia and Indonesia to highlight the role of regional initiative to give valuable contribution in tackling global economic challenges at the G-20 Summit in Mexico. We agreed that ASEAN should continue to be invited to participate in the G-20 in order to ensure that ASEAN's voice is conveyed to the world's major economies and to promote ASEAN's centrality in international fora.

Global Movement of Moderates (GMM)

97. We noted that the ASEAN Concept Paper on Global Movement of Moderates was adopted by the 20th ASEAN Summit. In this regard, to put forward concrete implementation of the Concept Paper, we looked forward to the adoption of the Roadmap to implement the Concept Paper as proposed by Malaysia.

OTHER MATTERS**ASEAN Global Dialogue**

98. We took note of the briefing made by Samdech Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, on the preparations for organizing the ASEAN Global Dialogue back-to-back with the 7th EAS in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 20 November 2012. We noted with interest the objective of the ASEAN Global Dialogue, as a high level forum to bring together leaders from countries in the region and the heads of key international organizations such as the World Bank (WB), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Asia Development Bank (ADB), and World Trade Organization (WTO), and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to interact on global challenges particularly, on financial and economic matters.
99. We looked forward to constructive participation and engagement in the ASEAN Global Dialogue in Phnom Penh, on 20 November 2012.

ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the Establishment of An ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC)

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
18 November 2012**

WE, the Heads of State/Government of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member States of ASEAN, at the 21st ASEAN Summit;

COMMITTED to intensify our efforts toward the maintenance of regional peace in accordance with the spirit enshrined in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) of 1976 and other relevant ASEAN documents;

INSPIRED BY the purposes and principles of the ASEAN Charter as a basis and legal institutional framework for an ASEAN Community 2015 and beyond as well as the principles of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint which envisages a Cohesive, Peaceful, Stable and Resilient Region with shared responsibility for comprehensive security;

RECOGNIZING that the presence of landmines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) in the soil poses constant threats to the safety of the people and hinders national socio-economic development and aggravates humanitarian problems in many countries in the region as well as other parts of the world;

ENCOURAGED by the progress and achievements in landmine and ERW clearance in the region and recognizing that some ASEAN Member States are actively engaging in landmine and ERW clearance as part of the UN Peacekeeping Operations and the UN Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Programme;

DETERMINED to address the humanitarian aspects of landmine and ERW issues in the region;

RECALLING the reference to demining in the Annex to the ASEAN-UN Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnerships at the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali in November 2011;

TAKING NOTE of the Concept Paper on the Establishment of an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) aiming at providing a framework for ASEAN Member States to collectively tackle the humanitarian aspects of the landmines and ERW through an integrated approach of experiences sharing, skills training and other capacity building activities.

DO HEREBY:

- Task the relevant Ministers to develop modalities of an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) and to submit their recommendations to the 22nd ASEAN Summit for consideration.

Adopted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, this Eighteenth of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve, in a single original copy, in the English language.

ASEAN Human Rights Declaration

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
18 November 2012**

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as “ASEAN”), namely Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, on the occasion of the 21st ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

REAFFIRMING our adherence to the purposes and principles of ASEAN as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, in particular the respect for and promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as the principles of democracy, the rule of law and good governance;

REAFFIRMING FURTHER our commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Charter of the United Nations, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and other international human rights instruments to which ASEAN Member States are parties;

REAFFIRMING ALSO the importance of ASEAN’s efforts in promoting human rights, including the Declaration of the Advancement of Women in the ASEAN Region and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the ASEAN Region;

CONVINCED that this Declaration will help establish a framework for human rights cooperation in the region and contribute to the ASEAN community building process;

HEREBY DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. All persons are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of humanity.
2. Every person is entitled to the rights and freedoms set forth herein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, gender, age, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, economic status, birth, disability or other status.
3. Every person has the right of recognition everywhere as a person before the law. Every person is equal before the law. Every person is entitled without discrimination to equal protection of the law.
4. The rights of women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, migrant workers, and vulnerable and marginalised groups are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
5. Every person has the right to an effective and enforceable remedy, to be determined by a court or other competent authorities, for acts violating the rights granted to that person by the constitution or by law.
6. The enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms must be balanced with the performance of corresponding duties as every person has responsibilities to all other individuals, the community and the society where one lives. It is ultimately the primary responsibility of all ASEAN Member States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms.
7. All human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated. All human rights and fundamental freedoms in this Declaration must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the

same footing and with the same emphasis. At the same time, the realisation of human rights must be considered in the regional and national context bearing in mind different political, economic, legal, social, cultural, historical and religious backgrounds.

8. The human rights and fundamental freedoms of every person shall be exercised with due regard to the human rights and fundamental freedoms of others. The exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of others, and to meet the just requirements of national security, public order, public health, public safety, public morality, as well as the general welfare of the peoples in a democratic society.
9. In the realisation of the human rights and freedoms contained in this Declaration, the principles of impartiality, objectivity, non-selectivity, non-discrimination, non-confrontation and avoidance of double standards and politicisation, should always be upheld. The process of such realisation shall take into account peoples' participation, inclusivity and the need for accountability.

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

10. ASEAN Member States affirm all the civil and political rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Specifically, ASEAN Member States affirm the following rights and fundamental freedoms:
11. Every person has an inherent right to life which shall be protected by law. No person shall be deprived of life save in accordance with law.
12. Every person has the right to personal liberty and security. No person shall be subject to arbitrary arrest, search, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty.
13. No person shall be held in servitude or slavery in any of its forms, or be subject to human smuggling or trafficking in persons, including for the purpose of trafficking in human organs.
14. No person shall be subject to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
15. Every person has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.

Every person has the right to leave any country including his or her own, and to return to his or her country.

16. Every person has the right to seek and receive asylum in another State in accordance with the laws of such State and applicable international agreements.
17. Every person has the right to own, use, dispose of and give that person's lawfully acquired possessions alone or in association with others. No person shall be arbitrarily deprived of such property.
18. Every person has the right to a nationality as prescribed by law. No person shall be arbitrarily deprived of such nationality nor denied the right to change that nationality.
19. The family as the natural and fundamental unit of society is entitled to protection by society and each ASEAN Member State. Men and women of full age have the right to marry on the basis of their free and full consent, to found a family and to dissolve a marriage, as prescribed by law.
20. (1) Every person charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a fair and public trial, by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal, at which the accused is guaranteed the right to defence.

(2) No person shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence, under national or international law, at the time when it was committed and no person shall suffer greater punishment for an offence than was prescribed by law at the time it was committed.

(3) No person shall be liable to be tried or punished again for an offence for which he or she has already been finally convicted or acquitted in accordance with the law and penal procedure of each ASEAN Member State.
21. Every person has the right to be free from arbitrary interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence including personal data, or to attacks upon that person's honour and reputation. Every person has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.
22. Every person has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. All forms of intolerance,

discrimination and incitement of hatred based on religion and beliefs shall be eliminated.

23. Every person has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information, whether orally, in writing or through any other medium of that person's choice.

24. Every person has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly.

25. (1) Every person who is a citizen of his or her country has the right to participate in the government of his or her country, either directly or indirectly through democratically elected representatives, in accordance with national law.

(2) Every citizen has the right to vote in periodic and genuine elections, which should be by universal and equal suffrage and by secret ballot, guaranteeing the free expression of the will of the electors, in accordance with national law.

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

26. ASEAN Member States affirm all the economic, social and cultural rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Specifically, ASEAN Member States affirm the following:

27. (1) Every person has the right to work, to the free choice of employment, to enjoy just, decent and favourable conditions of work and to have access to assistance schemes for the unemployed.

(2) Every person has the right to form trade unions and join the trade union of his or her choice for the protection of his or her interests, in accordance with national laws and regulations.

(3) No child or any young person shall be subjected to economic and social exploitation. Those who employ children and young people in work harmful to their morals or health, dangerous to life, or likely to hamper their normal development, including their education should be punished by law. ASEAN Member States should also set age limits below which the paid employment of child labour should be prohibited and punished by law.

28. Every person has the right to an adequate standard of living for himself or herself and his or her family including:

a. The right to adequate and affordable food, freedom from hunger and access to safe and nutritious food;

b. The right to clothing;

c. The right to adequate and affordable housing;

d. The right to medical care and necessary social services;

e. The right to safe drinking water and sanitation;

f. The right to a safe, clean and sustainable environment.

29. (1) Every person has the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical, mental and reproductive health, to basic and affordable health-care services, and to have access to medical facilities.

(2) The ASEAN Member States shall create a positive environment in overcoming stigma, silence, denial and discrimination in the prevention, treatment, care and support of people suffering from communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

30. (1) Every person shall have the right to social security, including social insurance where available, which assists him or her to secure the means for a dignified and decent existence.

(2) Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period as determined by national laws and regulations before and after childbirth. During such period, working mothers should be accorded paid leave or leave with adequate social security benefits.

(3) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. Every child, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

31. (1) Every person has the right to education.

(2) Primary education shall be compulsory and made available free to all. Secondary education in its different forms shall be available and accessible to all through every appropriate means. Technical and vocational education shall be made generally available. Higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

(3) Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and the sense of his or her dignity. Education shall strengthen the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in ASEAN Member States. Furthermore, education shall enable all persons to participate effectively in their respective

societies, promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial and religious groups, and enhance the activities of ASEAN for the maintenance of peace.

32. Every person has the right, individually or in association with others, to freely take part in cultural life, to enjoy the arts and the benefits of scientific progress and its applications and to benefit from the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or appropriate artistic production of which one is the author.
33. ASEAN Member States should take steps, individually and through regional and international assistance and cooperation, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of its available resources, with a view to achieving progressively the full realisation of economic, social and cultural rights recognised in this Declaration.
34. ASEAN Member States may determine the extent to which they would guarantee the economic and social rights found in this Declaration to non-nationals, with due regard to human rights and the organisation and resources of their respective national economies.

RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT

35. The right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and the peoples of ASEAN are entitled to participate in, contribute to, enjoy and benefit equitably and sustainably from economic, social, cultural and political development. The right to development should be fulfilled so as to meet equitably the developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations. While development facilitates and is necessary for the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the violations of internationally recognised human rights.
36. ASEAN Member States should adopt meaningful people-oriented and gender responsive development programmes aimed at poverty alleviation, the creation of conditions including the protection and sustainability of the environment for the peoples of ASEAN to enjoy all human rights recognised in this Declaration on an equitable basis, and the progressive narrowing of the development gap within ASEAN.
37. ASEAN Member States recognise that the implementation of the right to development

requires effective development policies at the national level as well as equitable economic relations, international cooperation and a favourable international economic environment. ASEAN Member States should mainstream the multidimensional aspects of the right to development into the relevant areas of ASEAN community building and beyond, and shall work with the international community to promote equitable and sustainable development, fair trade practices and effective international cooperation.

RIGHT TO PEACE

38. Every person and the peoples of ASEAN have the right to enjoy peace within an ASEAN framework of security and stability, neutrality and freedom, such that the rights set forth in this Declaration can be fully realised. To this end, ASEAN Member States should continue to enhance friendship and cooperation in the furtherance of peace, harmony and stability in the region.

COOPERATION IN THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

39. ASEAN Member States share a common interest in and commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms which shall be achieved through, inter alia, cooperation with one another as well as with relevant national, regional and international institutions/organisations, in accordance with the ASEAN Charter.
40. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to perform any act aimed at undermining the purposes and principles of ASEAN, or at the destruction of any of the rights and fundamental freedoms set forth in this Declaration and international human rights instruments to which ASEAN Member States are parties.

Adopted by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States at Phnom Penh, Cambodia, this Eighteenth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve, in one single original copy in the English Language.

Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD)

Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
19 November 2012

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), on the occasion of the 21st ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia;

REAFFIRMING ASEAN's commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as the purposes and the principles as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, including the principles of democracy, rule of law and good governance;

REITERATING ASEAN and its Member States' commitment to the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and other international human rights instruments, to which ASEAN Member States are parties as well as to relevant ASEAN declarations and instruments pertaining to human rights;

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of the role of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), as the overarching institution responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights in ASEAN, that contributes towards the building of a people-oriented ASEAN Community and as a vehicle for progressive social development and justice, the full realization of human dignity and the attainment of a higher quality of life for ASEAN peoples;

COMMENDING AICHR for developing a comprehensive declaration on human rights, in consultation with ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and other relevant stakeholders;

ACKNOWLEDGING the meaningful contribution of ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and other relevant stakeholders in the promotion and protection of human rights in ASEAN, and encourage their continuing engagement and dialogue with the AICHR;

DO HEREBY:

1. **ADOPT** the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD);
2. **AFFIRM** our commitment to the full implementation of the AHRD to advance the promotion and protection of human rights in the region; and
3. **REAFFIRM** further our commitment to ensure that the implementation of the AHRD be in accordance with our commitment to the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action, and other international human rights instruments to which ASEAN Member States are parties, as well as to relevant ASEAN declarations and instruments pertaining to human rights.

DONE at Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, this Eighteenth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve, in a single original in the English language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

HAJI HASSANAL BOLKIAH
Sultan of Brunei Darussalam

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

SAMDECH AKKA MOHA SENA PADEI TECHO HUN SEN
Prime Minister

For the Republic of Indonesia:

SUSILO BAMBANG YUDHOYONO
President

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

THONGSING THAMMAVONG
Prime Minister

For Malaysia:

DATO' SRI MOHD NAJIB TUN ABDUL RAZAK
Prime Minister

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

U THEIN SEIN
President

For the Republic of the Philippines:

BENIGNO S. AQUINO III
President

For the Republic of Singapore:

LEE HSIEN LOONG
Prime Minister

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

YINGLUCK SHINAWATRA

Prime Minister

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

NGUYEN TAN DUNG

Prime Minister

Joint Declaration on the Launch of Negotiations for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
20 November 2012**

We, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and ASEAN's free trade agreement(FTA) partners – Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea and New Zealand – gathered on 20 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on the occasion of the 21st ASEAN Summit and Related Summits,

Welcoming the ASEAN Framework for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 19th ASEAN Summit;

Recognizing ASEAN Centrality in the regional economic integration process and the interest of ASEAN's FTA partners in broader and deeper engagement;

Considering the recommendations from the studies of the Experts Groups for an East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA) and Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA); and

Desiring to achieve a comprehensive and mutually beneficial economic partnership that would ensure RCEP participating countries and their peoples are provided with the opportunities to fully participate and benefit from deeper economic integration and cooperation,

HEREBY DECLARE OUR COMMITMENT TO:

Achieve a modern, comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial economic partnership agreement

establishing an open trade and investment environment in the region to facilitate the expansion of regional trade and investment and contribute to global economic growth and development;

Boost economic growth and equitable economic development, advance economic cooperation and broaden and deepen integration in the region through the RCEP, which will build upon our existing economic linkages; and

Commence RCEP negotiations in early 2013 and aim to complete them by the end of 2015 based on the Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership adopted by our Economic Ministers in Siem Reap, Cambodia in August 2012, which we hereby endorse.

II. ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY

ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM)

Press Release of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' (AMM Retreat)

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 11 January 2012

The ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Retreat (AMM Retreat), which was convened in Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia, on 10-11 January 2012, was attended by all the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the ASEAN Member States and Secretary-General of ASEAN, and chaired by His Excellency Mr HOR Namheng, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia.

The AMM Retreat marks the first series of ASEAN meetings under the chairmanship of Cambodia for 2012.

At the AMM Retreat, His Excellency HOR Namhong shared his views on Cambodia's theme "**ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny**", as follows:

1. To continue enhancing ASEAN integration and the three pillars of the Community building, namely the ASEAN Political-Security Community, the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, by implementing the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015);
2. To work to promote regional integration through effective implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II, which is crucial to The realization of the ASEAN Community by 2015;
3. To ensure speedy implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity focusing on physical, institutional and people-to-people linkages.
4. To further closer cooperation and better relations with all ASEAN Dialogue Partners and other external partners, including regional and international organizations, while ensuring ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture.

The Retreat discussed a number of regional and international issues of common concern to ASEAN, such as the Korean Peninsula and the implementation of the Declaration of the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), and the progress of democratization in Myanmar.

On the Korean Peninsula, the Meeting deliberated on the leadership change in the DPRK, taking into account of the uncertainty and the delicate situation on the Korean Peninsula. The Meeting looked forward to the participation of the DPRK Foreign Minister at the upcoming ARF Ministerial Meeting in Phnom Penh, in July 2012, and the early resumption of the Six Party Talks.

On South China Sea, the Meeting stressed the need to intensify efforts to ensure the effective and full implementation of the DOC, especially after the adoption of the Guidelines for The Implementation of the DOC in order to continue to the maintenance of peace, security and stability in the South China Sea. The Retreat welcomed the progress of the Second Meeting of the ASEAN SOM Working Group on Code of Conduct (CoC), on 9 January 2012, in the drafting of the key elements on the Code of Conduct. The Retreat also welcomed the upcoming Meeting of the ASEAN-China SOM on DOG and ASEAN-China Joint Working Group on DOC, which will take place in Beijing, on 13-15 January 2012.

On Myanmar, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers agreed to reiterate their call for the lifting of the economic sanctions on Myanmar which would significantly contribute to the socio-economic development of Myanmar. The Meeting also agreed to call for the end of the role of good offices of the United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG) on the situation of human rights in Myanmar taking into account Myanmar's pledge to continue to work closely with the UN. Given the good progress of the democratization process in Myanmar, the Ministers also shared the view that there is no longer necessary to convene any international conference on Myanmar outside this country while encouraging Myanmar to continue the process of democratization.

To accelerate the building of ASEAN Community, The Retreat agreed to speed up the implementation of the three blueprints of the ASEAN Community. The Meeting also endorsed Cambodia's proposals to convene the IAI Development Cooperation Forum (IDCF) in Jakarta, in the first half of 2012, to mobilize funds for the

implementation of the IAI Work Plan II, and to organize the ASEAN Connectivity Symposium in Phnom Penh, in September 2012, under the theme “Realizing ASEAN Connectivity: Towards Shared Prosperity” to promote the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity with the participation of key stakeholders.

The Meeting adopted the five-year Work Plan, Priority Programs and the budget of the ASEAN Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and underlined their commitment to promote and protect human rights in ASEAN. The Meeting also agreed that AICHR should continue to work towards the conclusion of the ASEAN Declaration on Human Rights as soon as possible in 2012.

The Meeting agreed to propose to designate 2012 as the Year “Visit ASEAN Plus Three” and to drive towards nominating a Cultural City of East Asia from 2012 onward. Cambodia has offered to nominate Siem Reap - Angkor City as the Cultural City of East Asia for the Year 2012 in order to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.

Since our region is prone to natural disasters, and with positive indications of the support of ASEAN Dialogue Partners, the Meeting tasked the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) and the ASEAN Secretariat to study the structure, modality and funding mobilization for the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) so that the Center can be operationalized as soon as possible.

The Retreat highly commended Indonesia for taking the lead and making progress in the negotiations with the Nuclear Weapon States (NWSs) on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ) Protocol toward the early signing of the SEANWFZ Protocol at the 45th AMM/PMC/ARF in July 2012, which will mark an important milestone in the building of a nuclear-free regime in Southeast Asia and the world over.

On maritime cooperation, the Meeting recalled the ASEAN Leaders’ interest at their 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali to convene an expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) as a Track 1.5, back-to-back with the future meetings of the AMF, which may include countries in the wider East Asia region. While expanding the existing AMF to include the non-ASEAN Member States from EAS, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers are mindful of the role of ASEAN to remain the driving force in this mechanism.

In the evolving regional architecture, the Meeting stressed the importance for ASEAN to keep its centrality, particularly in the frameworks of ASEAN+1, ASEAN+3, ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus) and East Asia Summit (EAS).

The Meeting took note with appreciation Cambodia’s interest to organize the ASEAN’s Global Dialogue in Phnom Penh, in November 2012 immediately after the East Asia Summit in November 2012, with the participation of the heads of the main international organizations, such as the World Bank, IMF, ADB, WTO, UN, UNCTAD, among others, to raise the profile of ASEAN in the wider global community.

The Retreat also welcomed Malaysia’s proposal to organize a Borneo Road Trip (Indonesia-Malaysia-Brunei Darussalam-Philippines) to promote ASEAN’s physical and people-to-people connectivity.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International
Cooperation
Kingdom of Cambodia

Siem Reap, 11 January 2012

Instrument of Incorporation of the Rules for Reference of Non-Compliance to the ASEAN Summit to the Protocol to the ASEAN Charter on Dispute Settlement Mechanisms

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 2 April 2012

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), hereinafter collectively referred to as “Member States” or individually as “Member State”;

RECALLING that the Protocol to the ASEAN Charter on Dispute Settlement Mechanisms, hereinafter referred to as “the Protocol”, was signed on 8 April 2010;

BEARING IN MIND that the Protocol has not entered into force;

RECALLING ALSO that the Rules for Reference of Non-Compliance to the ASEAN Summit was adopted by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on 2 April 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

The Annex of this Instrument, which is titled “Rules for Reference of Non-Compliance to the ASEAN Summit”, shall be incorporated as Annex 6 to the Protocol and constitute an annex under Article 20 thereof.

ARTICLE 2

1. This Instrument shall enter into force upon signature.
2. Annex 6 to the Protocol shall be applicable upon the entry into force of the Protocol.
3. The Instrument of Ratification of the Protocol by any Member State shall also represent its consent to be bound by Annex 6 to the Protocol.
4. This Instrument shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN, who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof to each Member State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Instrument of Incorporation of the Rules for Reference of Non-Compliance to the ASEAN Summit to the Protocol to the ASEAN Charter on Dispute Settlement Mechanisms.

DONE at Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, on the Second Day of April in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve, in a single copy in the English language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

PEHIN DATO LIM JOCK SENG

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

HOR NAMHONG

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

For the Republic of Indonesia:

DR. RM. MARTY M. NATALEGAWA

Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

DR. THONGLOUN SISOLIT

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs

For Malaysia:

DATO' SRI ANIFAH BIN HAJI AMAN

Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

WUNNA MAUNG LWIN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of the Philippines:

ALBERT F. DEL ROSARIO

Secretary of Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of Singapore:

K. SHANMUGAM

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

SURAPONG TOVICHAKCHAIKUL

Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

PHAM BINH MINH

Minister for Foreign Affairs

ANNEX 6: Rules for Reference of Non-Compliance to the ASEAN Summit

These Rules have been made for the purpose of the Protocol to the ASEAN Charter on Dispute Settlement Mechanisms signed on 8 April 2010 in Ha Noi (“the Protocol”) and pursuant to Paragraph 2 of Article 27 of the ASEAN Charter and are annexed to the Protocol.

Rule 1

- (a) For the purpose of these Rules, “any Member State affected by non-compliance” shall mean any ASEAN Member State that is a Party to the dispute to which the instance of non-compliance relates.

- (b) Any Member State affected by non-compliance with an arbitral award or settlement agreement resulting from good offices, mediation or conciliation under the Protocol, may refer the matter to the ASEAN Summit for a decision, through notification to the ASEAN Coordinating Council.

Rule 2

Upon receipt of the notification of non-compliance pursuant to Rule 1, the ASEAN Coordinating Council shall inform all other Member States that are Parties to the dispute to which the instance of non-compliance relates of such notification.

Rule 3

- (a) Before a non-compliance is submitted to the ASEAN Summit, the ASEAN Coordinating Council shall attempt to facilitate consultations amongst the Member States that are Parties to the dispute to which the instance of non-compliance relates with a view to facilitating compliance with the arbitral award or settlement agreement without reference to the ASEAN Summit. Where such Member States have consulted amongst themselves they shall report the outcome of the consultation to the ASEAN Coordinating Council.
- (b) The ASEAN Coordinating Council may authorise the Chair of the ASEAN Coordinating Council, or some other person, to facilitate the consultations under Paragraph (a) of this Rule, and report to it the outcome of the consultations.

Rule 4

Any Member State affected by non-compliance may, at any time, withdraw its referral of non-compliance to the ASEAN Summit made under Paragraph (a) of Rule 1, including when that Member State is satisfied with the outcome of the consultations under Rule 3. Such withdrawal shall be made in writing.

Rule 5

- (a) The ASEAN Coordinating Council shall refer the non-compliance to the ASEAN Summit within 90 days of the receipt of the notification pursuant to Rule 1 or within any other timeframe agreed by the Member States that are Parties to the dispute to which the instance of non-compliance relates.
- (b) The referral by the ASEAN Coordinating Council to the ASEAN Summit of an instance of non-compliance shall be accompanied by a report of the ASEAN Coordinating Council setting out the following:

- (i) the arbitral award or settlement agreement in question;
- (ii) information provided by the relevant Parties to the dispute to which the instance of non-compliance relates, on actions taken to ensure compliance with the arbitral award or settlement agreement in question;
- (iii) actions taken by the ASEAN Coordinating Council to facilitate consultations;
- (iv) reference to the report of the Secretary-General of ASEAN submitted to the ASEAN Summit pursuant to Paragraph 1 of Article 27 of the ASEAN Charter, if any; and
- (v) recommendations of the ASEAN Coordinating Council, if any.

Rules of Procedure for the Interpretation of the ASEAN Charter

Rule 1 Scope of the Rules

1. These Rules shall be applicable to the interpretation of the ASEAN Charter by the ASEAN Secretariat upon the request of any Member State pursuant to Article 51(1) of the ASEAN Charter.
2. Notwithstanding the right of Member States to request interpretation of the ASEAN Charter, these Rules shall not prevent requests to the ASEAN Secretariat by any ASEAN organ seeking clarification or information relating to matters within the scope of its activities.

Rule 2 General Provisions

1. The interpretation of the ASEAN Charter by the ASEAN Secretariat shall be non-binding and non-authoritative in nature and shall not be considered as representing the view of any Member State or of ASEAN as an intergovernmental organisation.
2. The ASEAN Secretariat shall interpret the ASEAN Charter in good faith in accordance with the ordinary meaning to be given to the terms of the ASEAN Charter in their context and in the light of its object and purpose.

3. A pending request for interpretation of the ASEAN Charter shall not affect the proceedings or suspend the effect of a decision, finding or recommendation resulting from a dispute settlement mechanism under the ASEAN Charter on the same issues.
4. A request for interpretation of the ASEAN Charter which relates to an ongoing dispute concerning the interpretation of the ASEAN Charter on the same issue shall be undertaken in accordance with the timeframe as provided in Rule 4, except when such interpretation may prejudice the dispute resolution, in which case it shall be undertaken upon the resolution of such dispute.

Rule 3 Content of Request

1. A request for interpretation of the ASEAN Charter submitted by a Member State shall be addressed to and filed with the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. The request shall specify that it is a request pursuant to Article 51(1) of the ASEAN Charter and shall contain the following as a minimum:
 - (a) the provision(s) of the ASEAN Charter to be interpreted; and
 - (b) the specific question(s) on which the interpretation is sought.

Rule 4 Procedure

1. Upon receipt of a request for interpretation of the ASEAN Charter, the ASEAN Secretariat shall acknowledge the receipt of the request within 15 days. In its acknowledgement, the ASEAN Secretariat may seek further clarification, as necessary, on the issues that the ASEAN Secretariat is requested to address.
2. Within seven days from the date of acknowledgement of the request, the ASEAN Secretariat shall notify and transmit copies of the request to all Member States and invite their views or observations on the request in order to enable the ASEAN Secretariat to render the requested interpretation.
3. Where a Member State wishes to provide its views or observations in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Rule, such views or observations shall be furnished to the ASEAN Secretariat and other Member States at the earliest opportunity but not later than 60 days after the date of the invitation.
4. The ASEAN Secretariat shall, upon taking into account the views or observations of Member States, if any, render its interpretation within 30

days after the expiration of the timeframe provided in paragraph 3 of this Rule, except in circumstances as provided for in paragraph 4 of Rule 2.

Rule 5 Contents of Interpretation

The interpretation by the ASEAN Secretariat of the ASEAN Charter shall contain the following:

- (a) the issues presented to the ASEAN Secretariat;
- (b) the rationale of the interpretation;
- (c) the interpretation by the ASEAN Secretariat; and
- (d) the name and signature of the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Rule 6 Delivery of the Interpretation

The ASEAN Secretariat shall send the interpretation to the requesting Member State(s) and copies of such interpretation to other Member States.

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on Hosting and Granting Privileges and Immunities to the ASEAN Secretariat

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 2 April 2012

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, hereinafter referred to individually as “the Party”, and collectively as “the Parties”;

REAFFIRMING the commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence, territorial integrity and the importance of principles of good neighbourliness and non-interference in the internal affairs of one another in accordance with the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia of 1976;

NOTING the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Secretariat concluded in 1976 and its Protocols of 1983, 1985, 1989, 1992 and 1997;

NOTING also the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and ASEAN Relating to the Privileges and Immunities of the ASEAN Secretariat of 1979 implementing Article 11 of the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Secretariat of 1976 and the Agreement on the Use and Maintenance of the Premises of the ASEAN Secretariat of 1981;

REFERRING to the ASEAN Charter signed on 20 November 2007, which entered into force on 15 December 2008 serving as a legal and institutional framework, as well as an inspiration for ASEAN in the years ahead;

NOTING also the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of ASEAN signed on 25 October 2009;

RECOGNISING the need to accommodate the development and expansion of the ASEAN Secretariat through a more comprehensive arrangement to provide greater efficiency in the coordination of ASEAN organs and for more effective and efficient services to support community building in ASEAN; and

NOTING that the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has maintained its commitment to facilitate the functioning of the ASEAN Secretariat.

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

CHAPTER I DEFINITIONS AND JURIDICAL CAPACITY

ARTICLE 1 Definitions

For the purpose of this Agreement, the following expressions shall have the meaning hereunder assigned to them:

1. "Appropriate Indonesian Authorities" means the officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Host Country or such other authorities which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs deems appropriate;
2. "Archives of ASEAN" means the records and correspondences, documents, manuscripts, data media, still and moving pictures, films and sound recordings belonging to or held by ASEAN;
3. "ASEAN" means the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;
4. "Deputy Secretaries-General" means the Deputy Secretaries-General of ASEAN;
5. "Directors" means heads of directorates of the ASEAN Secretariat;
6. "Experts" means persons other than the staff members of the Secretariat appointed to carry out specific tasks for the Secretariat or on its behalf and at its expense for a specific period of time;
7. "Heads of Divisions" means heads of divisions of the ASEAN Secretariat;
8. "Host Country" means the Republic of Indonesia;
9. "Laws and regulations of the Host Country" means legislative acts, decrees, regulations, orders and other instruments issued by or under the authority of the Government of the Host Country or Appropriate Indonesian Authorities;
10. "Members of the family" means husband or wife, and dependent child or children under 21 years old who are notified from time to time to the Appropriate Indonesian Authorities;
11. "Member States" means Member States of ASEAN which comprise Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;
12. "Premises" means the building or parts of the building and the land ancillary thereto, irrespective of ownership, used as the Secretariat for ASEAN, and the residence of the Secretary-General of ASEAN;
13. "Property" means all property whether movable or immovable, including funds, assets and income within the Host Country, which belongs to or is assigned to ASEAN;
14. "Public Services" shall include, but not limited to postal, telecommunication, electricity, water, sewage, waste collection and disposal, cleaning of public street adjoining the Premises;
15. "Staff of the Secretariat" means staff employed directly by the Secretariat, through open

recruitment or secondment from Member States whose names are communicated from time to time to the Host Country including those who hold the position of Director and Head of Division;

16. "Secretariat" means the permanent Secretariat for ASEAN duly established under the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Secretariat signed on 24 February 1976. The location of the Secretariat is at Jalan Sisingamangaraja No. 70A, Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta 12110 as shown in Annex 1, which may be placed at any other location as agreed by the Parties; and
17. "Secretary-General" means the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

ARTICLE 2 **Juridical Capacity of ASEAN**

1. ASEAN shall have the juridical capacity under Indonesian laws to:
 - (i) enter into contracts;
 - (ii) acquire and dispose of movable and immovable properties in accordance with the laws and regulations of Indonesia; and
 - (iii) institute and defend itself in legal proceedings.
2. For the purpose of exercising the capacity set out in Paragraph 1 of this Article, the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretaries-General or any member of the Staff of the Secretariat, authorised by the Secretary-General, in accordance with ASEAN rules and regulations, shall represent ASEAN.

CHAPTER II **PREMISES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** **OF THE PARTIES**

ARTICLE 3 **The Premises**

1. The Host Country, as the owner of the Premises, shall continue to provide, without any rent or charge, the Premises located at Jalan Sisingamangaraja 70A, Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta 12110 or at other locations for the functioning of the Secretariat.
2. For the purpose of exercising its sovereignty and for upholding its national interest, the Host Country may terminate the allocation of Premises for the Secretariat, in which case a new allocation of

Premises shall be granted expediently, so that the functioning of the Secretariat is not disrupted.

ARTICLE 4 **Public Services and Division of Responsibilities** **Concerning Installation and Maintenance** **of the Premises**

1. The Host Country shall exercise, to the extent requested by the Secretary-General, the powers, which they possess to ensure that the Premises shall be supplied on equitable terms with all the necessary Public Services.
2. In case of any interruption of Public Services, the Appropriate Indonesian Authorities shall consider the needs of the Secretariat as being of equal importance to those of key government agencies of the Host Country, and shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the functioning of the Secretariat is not disrupted.
3. In cases where the Public Services referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article are made available to ASEAN by the Host Country, or where the prices thereof are under its control, the rates for such services shall not exceed the best comparable rates accorded to diplomatic missions or international organisations.
4. ASEAN shall be responsible for charges arising out of maintenance and repairs due to wear and tear in the Premises, and on public services as mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this Article.
5. The Host Country shall be responsible for all repairs resulting from *force majeure*, structural defects or deterioration, and for the replacement, within a reasonable period, of any building or parts thereof which may be totally or partially destroyed.

ARTICLE 5 **Protection of the Premises**

1. The Appropriate Indonesian Authorities shall take actions that are deemed necessary to ensure that ASEAN shall not be dispossessed of its Premises, except in the event that ASEAN ceases to use the Premises.
2. The Appropriate Indonesian Authorities shall exercise due diligence to ensure that the tranquility of the Premises is not disturbed by unauthorised

entry of person(s) or group of persons from outside or by any disturbance within its vicinity and shall provide within and outside the boundaries of the Premises such police protection as is required.

3. If so requested by the Secretary-General, the Appropriate Indonesian Authorities shall provide sufficient police protection for the preservation of law and order in the Premises and for the removal therefrom of person(s) or group of persons as requested under the authority of the Secretary-General.

ARTICLE 6 **Responsibilities of ASEAN**

ASEAN shall be responsible for:

1. subject to Paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 4 of this Agreement, the maintenance of the building, landscape, parking facilities, fencing and the remodelling thereof to the Premises;
2. the cost of janitorial services, security services, electricity, telephone and water charges, and all other charges for public services;
3. the cost of maintenance and replacement, if necessary, of office equipment, minor repairs of recurring nature, the upkeep through the provision of services and general maintenance of the Premises in a proper and suitable condition;
4. allowing duly authorised representatives of public services bodies to inspect, repair, maintain, reconstruct, and relocate utilities, conduits, mains and sewers within the Premises and its facilities; and
5. Providing insurance for property within the Premises against man-made and natural disasters, emergencies and accidents.

ARTICLE 7 **Access, Transit and Residence**

1. The Host Country shall facilitate travel and entry into and the transit to and from the Premises to the following persons:
 - (i) Representatives of Governments and International and Regional Organisations;
 - (ii) Secretary-General, Deputy Secretaries-General, Staff of the Secretariat and Members of the family;

- (iii) Other persons including Experts invited by the Secretariat on official duties; and
- (iv) Representatives of press, radio, film or other information agencies, who have been accredited to the Secretariat.

2. The Host Country shall grant visas and residential permits for the persons mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this Article in a timely manner, subject to prevailing laws and regulations of the Host Country.

ARTICLE 8 **Official Communication**

1. ASEAN, including the Secretariat shall enjoy, for all its official communication, treatment no less favourable than that accorded by the Host Country to representative offices of international organisations in the Host Country.
2. All forms of official correspondence and other official communication of ASEAN, including the Secretariat, shall be inviolable.
3. ASEAN, including the Secretariat shall have the right to dispatch and receive official communication either by courier or in sealed bags, all of which shall be inviolable and shall have the same privileges and immunities as diplomatic courier and bags.

ARTICLE 9 **Freedom of Action of the Secretariat**

1. The Host Country shall grant to the Secretariat, as well as to the Staff of the Secretariat and other institutions in their relation with the Secretariat, the freedom to hold activities in conformity with ASEAN's purposes and principles in the territory of the Host Country.
2. The Host Country shall facilitate access to the Secretariat for any person, irrespective of nationality, who performs any function for the Secretariat, subject to the prevailing laws and regulations of the Host Country.
3. The Secretariat shall have the power to make rules and regulations operative within the Premises for the full and independent exercise of its activities and performance of its functions.

ARTICLE 10**Inviolability of the Premises and the Archives**

1. The Premises shall be inviolable and shall be under the control and authority of the Secretary-General as provided for in this Agreement. The Property of ASEAN shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of interference, whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action.
2. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 9 of this Agreement, the Secretariat shall not permit the Premises to be used as a refuge for avoiding arrest or performing any act in violation of the laws and regulations of the Host Country, or in any other manner incompatible with the purposes and principles of ASEAN, as laid down in the ASEAN Charter and other applicable ASEAN instruments.
3. Archives of ASEAN shall be inviolable.
4. Officials of the Host Country, whether administration, judicial, military or police performing official duties, shall not enter the Premises except with the consent of the Secretary-General. The Host Country reserves the right to enter the Premises without prior consent in the event of natural calamities and emergencies.

ARTICLE 11**Exemption from Taxation of ASEAN and its Property**

1. ASEAN and its Property shall be exempted from:
 - (i) any form of direct taxation. It is understood, however, that the Secretariat will not claim exemption from taxes which are, in fact, no more than charges for public utility services;
 - (ii) customs duties, prohibitions and restrictions, and other levies on imports and exports in respect of articles imported or exported by the Secretariat for its official use. It is understood, however, that articles imported under such exemptions shall not be sold by the Secretariat within the territory of the Host Country, except under conditions agreed upon with the Host Country and in accordance with its laws and regulations; and
 - (iii) customs duties, prohibitions and restrictions, and other levies on imports and exports in respect of its publications.
2. The Secretariat shall, for the purpose of importation, inform the Host Country of the details of its imports.
3. While the Secretariat shall not, as a general rule, claim exemption from excise duties and from taxes on the sale of movable and immovable property which form part of the price to be paid, nevertheless when the Secretariat is making important purchases for official use of the property on which such duties and taxes have been charged or are chargeable, the Host Country shall, whenever possible, make appropriate administrative arrangements for the remission or return of the amount of duty or tax.
4. The exemption from taxation and duties referred to in this Article shall not apply to such taxes and dues payable under the laws and regulations of the Host Country by persons contracted by ASEAN.

ARTICLE 12**Free Disposal of Funds**

1. Without being restricted by any financial controls, regulations or moratoria of any kind, the Secretariat acting on behalf of ASEAN:
 - (i) may hold funds, gold or currency of any kind and operate accounts in any currency; and
 - (ii) shall be free to transfer its funds, gold, securities or currency from one country to another or within the territory of the Host Country and to convert any currency held by it into any other currency.
2. Notwithstanding the above, the Secretariat shall comply with the laws and regulations of the Host Country relating to the reporting of funds and foreign exchange movement.

CHAPTER III**SECRETARY-GENERAL, DEPUTY SECRETARIES-GENERAL, STAFF OF THE SECRETARIAT AND EXPERTS****ARTICLE 13****Composition**

1. The Secretariat shall comprise the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretaries-General and Staff of the Secretariat.
2. With regard to the granting of privileges and immunities, this Agreement shall prevail over the composition of the Secretariat as set out in the

Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Secretariat of 1976 and its Protocols of 1983, 1985, 1989, 1992 and 1997.

3. Pursuant to Article 4 of the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of ASEAN, the Secretary-General, subject to the decision of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN, shall specify the categories of Staff of the Secretariat to which the provisions of Article 14 below apply. These categories and the names of the persons included in them shall be communicated to the Host Country from time to time.

ARTICLE 14

Privileges and Immunities of the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretaries- General and the Staff of the Secretariat

1. The Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretaries-General and Staff of the Secretariat referred to in Paragraph 3 of Article 13, to the extent that they are not Indonesian nationals within and with respect to the territory of the Host Country, shall, while in the performance of and for the independent exercises of their respective duties, functions and responsibilities, be granted privileges and immunities as stipulated in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations 1961 and:
 - (i) be immune from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by him or her while in his or her official capacity;
 - (ii) be exempt from taxation on the salary and emoluments paid to him or her by ASEAN through the Secretariat;
 - (iii) be immune, together with his or her members of the family, from immigration restrictions and alien registration;
 - (iv) be accorded the same privileges in respect of exchange facilities as are accorded to the officials of comparable rank of diplomatic missions;
 - (v) be given, together with his wife or her husband, relatives and children, the same repatriation facilities, in times of international crisis as diplomatic envoys;
 - (vi) be immune from personal arrest or detention;
 - (vii) be immune from seizure of personal baggage;
 - (viii) be immune from seizure of official baggage;
 - (ix) have the freedom to maintain, within the territory of the Host Country, or elsewhere, foreign securities, and other movable and immovable property, and while employed by the Secretariat, and at the time of termination of such employment, the right to take out of the Host Country, funds in any foreign currency without restriction or limitation, provided that the said officials can show good cause for their lawful possession of such funds.
 - (x) have the right to import free of duty and other levies, prohibition and restriction on imports, furniture and personal effects, including one motor vehicle, within six months after first taking up post in the Host Country. The same regulations shall apply in the case of importation transfer and replacements of automobiles as are in force for the resident members of diplomatic missions of comparable rank.
 - (xi) be immune from national service obligations.
2. The Director, Head of Division, who are not of Indonesian nationality, shall enjoy privileges and immunities as accorded to the Secretary-General in accordance with Paragraph 1 of this Article.
3. The Staff of the Secretariat who are not of Indonesian nationality and do not fall under the categories referred to in Paragraph 3 of Article 13 shall enjoy:
 - (i) immunity from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by him or her while in his or her official capacity;
 - (ii) exemption from taxation on the salary and emoluments paid to him or her by the Secretariat;
 - (iii) immunity from seizure of official baggage;
 - (iv) have the freedom to maintain, within the territory of the Host Country, or elsewhere, foreign securities, and other movable and immovable property, and while employed by the Secretariat, and at the time of termination of such employment, the right to take out of the Host Country, funds in any foreign currency without restriction or limitation, provided that the said officials can show good cause for their lawful possession of such funds; and
 - (v) have the right to import free of duty and other levies, prohibition and restriction on imports, furniture and personal effects, including one motor vehicle, within six months after first taking up post in the Host Country. The

same regulations shall apply in the case of importation transfer and replacements of automobiles as are in force for the resident members of diplomatic missions of comparable rank.

4. Indonesian nationals who are appointed as Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Director, Head of Division and Staff of the Secretariat shall enjoy, within and with respect to the territory of the Host Country:
 - (i) immunity from legal process in respect of acts including words spoken or written, performed by them while in their official capacity and in the discharge of their duties; and
 - (ii) immunity from seizure of their official baggage.
5. Members of the family of the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretaries-General, referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article, shall enjoy privileges and immunities as stipulated in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations 1961 and in Paragraph 1 (v), (vi) and (vii) of this Article.
6. The Secretariat shall notify the Host Country biannually on matters concerning the employment of its Staff, including the list of names, addresses and nationalities of all its employees.
7. Appropriate Indonesian Authorities shall provide the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretaries-General and the Staff of the Secretariat with identity cards.

ARTICLE 15

Experts on Missions for ASEAN

1. Experts, except Indonesian nationals, on missions for ASEAN, shall be accorded such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the proper exercise of their functions during the period of their missions, as follows:
 - (i) inviolability for all papers, documents and records in any form;
 - (ii) for the purpose of communicating with the Secretariat, the right to receive papers and correspondence by courier or in sealed bags;
 - (iii) immunities and facilities in respect of their personal baggage as are accorded to diplomatic envoys; and
 - (iv) the same facilities in respect of currency or exchange restrictions as are accorded to representatives of foreign governments on temporary official missions.

2. Experts on missions for ASEAN for at least one year are entitled to bring their members of the family, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Host Country.

ARTICLE 16

Waiver of Immunities

1. The privileges and immunities under this Agreement are granted in the interest of ASEAN or the Secretariat and not for the personal benefit of the individuals themselves.
2. The Secretary-General shall have the right and the duty to waive the immunity of any member of the Staff of the Secretariat in any case where, in his or her opinion, the immunity would impede the course of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the interests of ASEAN. The immunity of the Secretary-General of ASEAN may be waived by the ASEAN Summit, or by whomsoever authorised by the ASEAN Summit.
3. The Secretary-General shall have the right and the duty to waive the immunity of Experts on missions for ASEAN in any case, where, in his or her opinion, the immunity would impede the course of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the interests of ASEAN.
4. The Secretary-General shall cooperate at all times with Appropriate Indonesian Authorities to facilitate the proper administration of justice, secure the observance of police regulations and prevent the occurrence of any abuse in connection with the privileges and immunities and facilities provided under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 17

Respect for the Laws and Regulations of the Host Country

1. Without prejudice to their privileges and immunities provided for in this Agreement, it is the duty of all persons enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect the laws and regulations of the Host Country. They also have a duty not to interfere in the internal affairs of the Host Country.
2. The Premises shall not be used in any manner incompatible with the exercise of the Secretariat functions.

CHAPTER IV GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 18 Security of the Host Country

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the right of the Host Country to apply appropriate safeguard in the interests of its security. If any such measure is considered necessary, the Host Country shall contact the Secretariat to decide jointly on the appropriate measures to protect the interest of the Secretariat.
2. The Secretariat shall cooperate with the Appropriate Indonesian Authorities to ensure that the activities of the Secretariat will not prejudice the security of the Host Country.

ARTICLE 19 Supplementary Arrangements

ASEAN and the Host Country may enter into such arrangements as may be necessary to give effect to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 20 Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be settled amicably by the Parties through consultation or negotiation.

ARTICLE 21 Amendments

This Agreement may be amended in writing subject to the mutual consent of the Parties. The amendments to this Agreement shall enter into force on the date of notification by the Host Country of the completion of its internal requirements for the entry into force of the amendment.

ARTICLE 22 Entry into Force and Termination

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of written notification to the Secretary-General by the Host Country of the completion of its internal requirements for the entry into force of this Agreement.

2. Either Party may terminate this Agreement by giving a notice in writing of not less than six (6) months to the other Party of its intention to terminate this Agreement.

ARTICLE 23 Final Provisions

1. The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and ASEAN Relating to the Privileges and Immunities of the ASEAN Secretariat of 1979 and the Agreement on the Use and Maintenance of the Premises of the ASEAN Secretariat of 1981 shall be terminated with immediate effect upon the entry into force of this Agreement.
2. Wherever this Agreement imposes obligations on Appropriate Indonesian Authorities, the responsibility for the fulfillment of such obligations shall rest with the Host Country.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being the authorised representatives of the Parties have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on the Second of April in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve, in two original copies in both Indonesian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in the interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Association of Southeast Asian Nations
DR. SURIN PITSUWAN
Secretary-General of ASEAN

For the Government of the Republic of Indonesia
DR. R. M. MARTY M. NATALEGAWA
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Chairman's Statement of the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conferences (PMC) +1 Sessions

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 11 July 2012

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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Statement of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 20 July 2012

As a result of consultations among the ASEAN Foreign Ministers, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers issue the following:

“ASEAN’s Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea

ASEAN Foreign Ministers reiterate and reaffirm the commitment of ASEAN Member States to:

1. the full implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (2002);
2. the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (2011);
3. the early conclusion of a Regional Code of Conduct in the South China Sea;
4. the full respect of the universally recognized principles of International Law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);
5. the continued exercise of self-restraint and non-use of force by all parties; and
6. the peaceful resolution of disputes, in accordance with universally recognized principles of International Law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

The ASEAN Foreign Ministers resolve to intensify ASEAN consultations in the advancement of the above principles, consistent with the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (1976) and the ASEAN Charter (2008).”

Statement of ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the Recent Developments in the Rakhine State, Myanmar

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 17 August 2012

Following consultations, ASEAN Foreign Ministers issue the following statement:

1. ASEAN Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their strong support for the ongoing democratization process in Myanmar. Within the context of such positive progress, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers are following closely recent developments in the Rakhine State, Myanmar, following the incidents that took place on 28 May 2012 and on 3 June 2012.
 2. They welcomed the steps the Government of Myanmar has taken to address the domestic issue, including its cooperation with the United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to address the humanitarian needs of the affected persons and communities. They further encouraged Myanmar to continue and to enhance the steps it has taken.
 3. ASEAN Foreign Ministers expressed their readiness, upon the request of the Government of Myanmar, to lend necessary support in addressing the humanitarian assistance in the Rakhine State.
 4. ASEAN Foreign Ministers recalled and underlined that the promotion of national solidarity and harmony among the various communities in Myanmar constitute an integral part of Myanmar’s ongoing democratization and reform process. They expressed confidence and expectation that Myanmar will continue to remain consistent with its commitment on the irreversibility of the democratization and reform process in the country.
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Chairman's Statement of the Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (IAMM)

New York, US, 27 September 2012

1. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers have met at the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, United States of America, on 27 September 2012.
2. The Foreign Ministers discussed various UN-related issues of common concern, in line with the common objective to enhance ASEAN's role and contribution to global issues. They also had their informal meeting with The Honorable Hillary Clinton, U.S. Secretary of State, to discuss issues of common concern.
3. The Foreign Ministers look forward to their forthcoming meeting with the President of the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly and the UN Secretary-General on 28 September 2012.
4. They also deliberated follow-up measures of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in Phnom Penh, in July 2012, and the ASEAN Summit and related Summits in November of this year.
5. They exchanged views on the recent regional and international developments, particularly on the developments in Southeast and East Asia region.
6. In this context, they reaffirmed their commitment to advance the ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea. With regard to the recent developments on the East Asia region, the Foreign Ministers underlined the importance of the East Asia Summit (EAS) Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles) to all EAS participants in the common endeavors to maintaining peace and stability in the East Asia region.
7. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers encouraged all countries in the region to resolve differences and disputes through peaceful means in line with the said Principles and international law.

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly

New York, US, 28 September 2012

The ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting with the United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (ASEAN-UN Ministerial Meeting, or AUMM) was held on 28 September 2012 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia; H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations; and H.E. Mr. Vuc Jeremic, the President of the 67th UN General Assembly. H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN, was also in attendance.

This was the first AUMM since the adoption of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the UN at the 4th ASEAN-UN Summit in Bali last November. In this regard, the AUMM participants reviewed the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership, based on the joint report by the Secretariats of ASEAN and the UN. They also held discussions on the preparations for, as well as key issues to be raised at, the forthcoming 5th ASEAN-UN Summit, which is scheduled to take place in Phnom Penh on 20 November 2012. The participants welcomed the institution of a process of regular dialogue between the Secretariats of the two Organizations and called on them to further enhance their cooperation as called for in the Joint Declaration.

The AUMM was briefed by the ASEAN Chair on the continuing efforts of ASEAN to establish the ASEAN Community by 2015. The AUMM was also briefed by the United Nations Secretary-General on the Organization's global and regional priorities. The President of the General Assembly spoke about the priorities of the United Nations during the current session of the General Assembly, which is focusing on the theme, "adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations by peaceful means".

ASEAN Ministers informed the meeting that, as part of the international community, ASEAN was determined to contribute to, and be part of the solution of global challenges currently at hand, including by promoting with the UN the values of moderation as espoused by the Global Movement of Moderates (GMM). The United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly reaffirmed the readiness of the United Nations to work closely with ASEAN to enhance ASEAN's capacity to fulfill these objectives, in particular through concrete collaborative activities to be undertaken within the framework of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership.

The Meeting also discussed various regional and international issues, particularly those of common concern and interest to ASEAN and the UN that are on the agenda of the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly, including education, global health, climate change, disaster management, conflict resolution, human rights, global financial crisis, sustainable development and post-2015 agenda, peacekeeping operations, and the peace-building.

Chairman's Statement of the 3rd ASEAN Maritime Forum

Manila, Philippines, 3-4 October 2012

1. The 3rd ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) was held in Manila, Philippines on 3-4 October 2012. It was chaired by the Honorable Erlinda F. Basilio, Undersecretary for Policy of the Department of Foreign Affairs and ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) Leader of the Philippines. The 3rd AMF was attended by delegates representing the ten ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. Honorable Jejomar C. Binay, Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines, delivered the keynote speech. He stressed that it is the collective interest of ASEAN to deepen cooperation across all fronts, including maritime security and cooperation, as well as maritime connectivity and protection of the marine environment. He emphasized that seas and waterways should not separate ASEAN Member States from one another, but rather connect them together.
3. The ASEAN Member States discussed various cross-cutting maritime issues in ASEAN, as well as ways of enhancing cross-sectoral maritime cooperation, in line with the activities listed in the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint. They also discussed recommendations made in previous meetings of the ASEAN Maritime Forum. Experts from different sectors dealing with cross-cutting maritime issues were invited to provide information and share their views on these issues.
4. The ASEAN Member States discussed and exchanged views on the following: (a) maritime security and cooperation in ASEAN; (b) maintaining freedom and safety of navigation and addressing sea piracy; (c) protecting the marine environment and promoting eco-tourism and fishery regime in East Asia; and (d) future work of the ASEAN Maritime Forum. They agreed that maritime security and cooperation should contribute to the three pillars of ASEAN community building, namely, the ASEAN Political Security Community, the ASEAN Economic Community, and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community.
5. The ASEAN Member States made an assessment of the current status of regional maritime security and cooperation and shared country perspectives on the current prospects and challenges concerning maritime cooperation. They emphasized in particular the respect of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and other ASEAN initiated documents such as the 1967 Bangkok Declaration, the Bali Concord, the 1976 Treaty of Amity of Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), and the recent Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea. They recognized the critical role of sharing information and best practices. Dr. Samuel Walter Bateman, a noted maritime security and cooperation scholar, provided an expert's view as resource speaker.
6. The ASEAN Member States highlighted recent concepts and trends on maintaining freedom of navigation and stressed the importance of recent developments in enhancing current cooperation activities aimed at addressing sea piracy on high seas and armed robbery at sea. Ms. Brenda Pimentel, Regional Coordinator, International Maritime Organization (IMO) Regional Presence for Technical Cooperation in East Asia, Mr. Yoshihisa Endo, Executive Director, Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and

Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) Information Sharing Center, and Mr. Krishna Adi Poetranto, Deputy Director for Treaties on Maritime Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, provided expert views on these issues.

7. The ASEAN Member States exchanged views on the protection of marine environment and promoting eco-tourism and fishery regime in East Asia. They identified several best practices of cooperation that are being observed to protect marine resources and bring sustainable growth to communities that can potentially benefit from such cooperative activities. Mr. Antonio A. Oposa Jr., Director, School of the SEA (Sea and Earth Advocates), Philippines, and Mr. Tran Thanh Tuan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam presented their views as resource speakers.
8. The ASEAN Member States also discussed the future work of the ASEAN Maritime Forum by looking at the various recommendations from previous meetings of the AMF and the views shared by delegates and guest experts on cross-cutting maritime issues. Mr. Pratap Parameswaran, Head of Political Cooperation Division, ASEAN Secretariat, gave an extensive briefing of the actions taken following the first and second ASEAN Maritime Forums. The ASEAN Member States also discussed the need for the AMF to be the venue to discuss maritime issues affecting all three ASEAN community pillars. They welcomed the addition of the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum as an event back-to-back with the ASEAN Maritime Forum and emphasized the need for ASEAN centrality.
9. The ASEAN Member States recommended that the ASEAN Secretariat conduct a study and make recommendations on the potential institutionalization of the ASEAN Maritime Forum.
10. Finally, the ASEAN Member States agreed to hold the 4th ASEAN Maritime Forum and the 2nd Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum in 2013.

Chairman's Statement of the 1st Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum

Manila, Philippines, 5 October 2012

1. The 1st Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) was held in Manila, Philippines on 5 October 2012. It was chaired by the Honorable Erlinda F. Basilio, Undersecretary for Policy of the Department of Foreign Affairs and ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) Leader of the Philippines. It was attended by government and non-government delegates from the East Asia Summit (EAS) participating countries, namely: the ten ASEAN Member States, Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and the United States of America, and the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. The 1st Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) was convened in response to the statement of the ASEAN Leaders, as well as the Leaders of the East Asia Summit (EAS), in Bali, Indonesia in November 2011, who encouraged a "dialogue involving EAS participating countries to utilize opportunities and address common challenges on maritime issues building upon the existing ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF)," wherein they also "positively noted the proposal of convening an expanded AMF, back-to-back with the future meetings of the AMF, to include countries in the wider East Asia region."
3. In her opening remarks, Undersecretary Basilio noted that the inaugural Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) would enhance the EAS cooperation not only in the geographical sense, but also in the participation of relevant stakeholders, such as international organizations, maritime training institutes, ship owners, the academe, and civil society. She stressed that strengthening maritime security and cooperation through the ASEAN Maritime Forum and the Expanded Maritime forum can contribute significantly to ASEAN community-building efforts by promoting a peaceful, more integrated and prosperous ASEAN within a stable, diverse and dynamic East Asia.
4. In his remarks, Ambassador Kan Pharith, Permanent Representative of Cambodia to ASEAN and Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN, emphasized the importance of the Phnom Penh Declaration on ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny, where the ASEAN Leaders reaffirmed their commitment at

the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh in April 2012 to enhance and expand ASEAN maritime cooperation and joint collaborative efforts in marine related fields.

5. His Excellency Koji Tsuruoka, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, served as keynote speaker. In his speech, he stressed the importance of international cooperation and order at sea under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) framework; the need to establish maritime order depending on characteristics of each region in accordance with relevant international law, including UNCLOS; the importance of identifying tangible areas of cooperation on maritime issues among the EAS member countries; and the significance of ASEAN centrality and integrity in addressing maritime issues in the Asia-Pacific region.
6. The delegates welcomed positively the inaugural meeting of the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) as an avenue for Track 1.5 diplomacy on cross-cutting maritime issues that are of common concern to the EAS participating countries. They emphasized the importance of ASEAN centrality, in partnership with other EAS participants, in the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum process.
7. Discussions during the 1st Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) focused on the following: the relevance of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in today's context, maritime connectivity and capacity building, infrastructure and equipment upgrading, seafarers' training, protecting the marine environment, promoting eco-tourism and fishery regime in East Asia, and identifying best practices of cooperation.
8. On the relevance of the UNCLOS in today's context, delegates recognized the importance of universally-recognized principles of international law, specifically UNCLOS, in providing a rules-based framework for maritime security and cooperation in the region, as well as for addressing the issue of conflicting claims. In this regard, delegates also highlighted the importance of the regional agreements and arrangements such as the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), and the eventual adoption of a regional Code of Conduct (COC) in the South China Sea on the basis of consensus. Resource speakers for this session on UNCLOS in Today's Context were Mr. Richard Rowe, Senior Legal Adviser, International Organisations and Legal Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia; Ambassador Chen Shiqiu of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China; and Ms. Tara Davenport, Research Fellow, Centre for International Law of the National University of Singapore.
9. Delegates exchanged views on the prospects of enhancing maritime connectivity by looking at strategies for capacity building, including infrastructure and equipment. There was also an extensive discussion on seafarers' training. Resource speakers for this session on Maritime Connectivity and Capacity Building: Infrastructure and Equipment Upgrading and Seafarers' Training were Mr. Joseph Y. Yun, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State, United States of America; Mr. Lim Chinsoo; Senior Research Fellow, Korea Maritime Institute, Republic of Korea; Capt. Khoo Gek Hung, Principal Marine Surveyor, Training Standards Department, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore; and Mr. Jeremiah Acena, Team Leader- ASEAN RO-RO Connectivity Project, REID (Research Education and Institutional Development) Foundation, Inc.
10. Delegates welcomed the proposal of the United States to partner with an ASEAN Member State to establish an expanded ASEAN Seafarers' Training Program (EAST) to conduct a series of training seminars, workshops, and events to promote cooperation in the field of training and education of civilian maritime personnel. Detailed proposal would be circulated in due course. They also noted the announcement of the intent of the United States to join the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP).
11. On protecting the marine environment, delegates discussed various perspectives and best practices on cooperation for the protection of the region's marine resources, ways to promote eco-tourism and sustainable and responsible fisheries management and fishery development as well as the involvement of all stakeholders, including local communities. Resource speakers for this session on Protecting the Marine Environment and Promoting Eco-Tourism and Fishery Regime in East Asia: Identifying Best Practices of Cooperation were Mr. Ichiro Nomura, Former Assistant Director-General of Fisheries and Aquaculture Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Senior Principal Research Fellow of the University of

Tokyo Ocean Alliance, Japan; Ms. Karen N. Scott, Associate Professor in Law, Proctor, Editor, New Zealand Yearbook of International Law, School of Law, University of Canterbury, New Zealand; Dr. Marie Antonette Menez, Director, Marine Science Institute, University of the Philippines; Dr. Firdaus Agung Kunto Kurniawan, Assistant Deputy Director for Conservation Area Design, Directorate of Marine and Aquatic Resources Conservation, Directorate General of Marine, Coastal and Small Islands, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia; and Mr. Oleg Rykov, Counsellor (Fisheries), Embassy of the Russian Federation, Washington D.C.

12. Delegates looked forward to the holding of the 2nd Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) to be held back-to-back with the 4th ASEAN Maritime Forum in 2013.

Joint Statement by United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

Following is the joint press statement of the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) following their ministerial-level meeting in New York on 24 September:

The ASEAN Foreign Ministers' meeting with the United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the sixty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly (ASEAN-United Nations Ministerial Meeting, or AUMM) was held on 28 September 2012 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Meeting was chaired by Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia; Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations; and Vuk Jeremic, President of the sixty-seventh General Assembly. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN, was also in attendance.

This was the first AUMM since the adoption of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the United Nations at the fourth ASEAN-United Nations Summit in Bali last November.

In this regard, the AUMM participants reviewed the implementation of the ASEAN-United Nations Comprehensive Partnership, based on the joint report by the Secretariats of ASEAN and the United Nations. They also held discussions on the preparations for, as well as key issues to be raised at, the forthcoming fifth ASEAN-United Nations Summit, which is scheduled to take place in Phnom Penh on 20 November 2012. The participants welcomed the institution of a process of regular dialogue between the Secretariats of the two organizations and called on them to further enhance their cooperation, as called for in the Joint Declaration.

The AUMM was briefed by the ASEAN Chair on the continuing efforts of ASEAN to establish the ASEAN Community by 2015. The AUMM was also briefed by the United Nations Secretary-General on the Organization's global and regional priorities. The President of the General Assembly spoke about the priorities of the United Nations during the current session of the General Assembly, which is focusing on the theme of "Adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations by peaceful means".

ASEAN Ministers informed the meeting that, as part of the international community, ASEAN was determined to contribute to, and be part of, the solution to the many global challenges currently at hand. The United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly reaffirmed the readiness of the United Nations to work closely with ASEAN to enhance ASEAN's capacity to fulfil these objectives, in particular through concrete collaborative activities to be undertaken within the framework of the ASEAN-United Nations Comprehensive Partnership.

The meeting also discussed various regional and international issues, particularly those of common concern and interest to ASEAN and the United Nations that are on the agenda of the sixty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly, including education, global health, climate change, disaster management, conflict resolution, human rights, global financial crisis, sustainable development and the post-2015 agenda, peacekeeping operations and peace building.

Instrument of Accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia by the Federative Republic of Brazil

Brasilia, Brazil, 7 November 2012

WHEREAS the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, which was signed on 24 February 1976 in Bali, Indonesia, was amended by the First, the Second and the Third Protocols Amending the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, which were signed on 15 December 1987, on 25 July 1998, and on 23 July 2010, respectively;

WHEREAS Article 18, Paragraph 3. of the aforesaid Treaty as amended by Article 1 of the aforesaid Third Protocol provides that States outside Southeast Asia and regional organisations whose members are only sovereign States may accede to the Treaty subject to the consent of all the States in Southeast Asia, namely, Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; and

WHEREAS all the States in Southeast Asia have consented to the accession of the Federative Republic of Brazil to the Treaty;

NOW, therefore, the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil, having considered the aforesaid Treaty as amended by the Protocols, hereby accedes to the same and undertakes faithfully to perform and carry out all the stipulations therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Instrument of Accession is signed by the Minister of External Relations of the Federative Republic of Brazil.

DONE at Brasilia, Brazil, this Seventh of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve.

ANTONIO DE AGUIAR PATRIOTA
Minister of External Relations
Federative Republic of Brazil

Instrument of Extension of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia

Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
17 November 2012

WHEREAS the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, which was signed on 24 February 1976 in Bali, Indonesia, was amended by the First, the Second and the Third Protocols Amending the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, which were signed on 15 December 1987, on 25 July 1998, and on 23 July 2010, respectively;

WHEREAS Article 18, Paragraph 3, of the aforesaid Treaty as amended by Article 1 of the aforesaid Third Protocol provides that States outside Southeast Asia and regional organisations whose members are only sovereign States may accede to the Treaty subject to the consent of all the States in Southeast Asia, namely, Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; and

WHEREAS the Federative Republic of Brazil, in the Declaration on Accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia by the Federative Republic of Brazil signed in Bali, Indonesia, on 16 November 2011, expressed its desire to accede to the Treaty;

NOW, therefore, the Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, having considered the said Declaration, hereby consent to the accession to the Treaty as amended by the Protocols, by the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil.

DONE at Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, this Seventeenth of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve.

For Brunei Darussalam:
PEHIN DATO LIM JOCK SENG
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

HOR NAMHONG

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation

For the Republic of Indonesia:

DR. R.M. MARTY M. NATALEGAWA

Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

DR. THONGLOUN SISOLITH

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs

For Malaysia:

DATO' SRI ANIFAH BIN HAJI AMAN

Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

U WUNNA MAUNG LWIN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of the Philippines:

ALBERT F. DEL ROSARIO

Secretary of Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of Singapore:

K SHANMUGAM

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

SURAPONG TOVICHAKCHAIKUL

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

PHAM BINH MINH

Minister for Foreign Affairs

ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM)

Joint Declaration of the ASEAN Defence Ministers on Enhancing ASEAN Unity for a Harmonised and Secure Community

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 29 May 2012

WE, the Defence Ministers of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, and the Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam, gathered here in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, on 29 May 2012 for the 6th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM);

RECALLING the signing of the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) on 17 November 2011, which calls for a strengthened ASEAN Community with the ASEAN Charter as the foundation, while upholding the fundamental principles, values and norms of ASEAN;

RECOGNISING the outcome of the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, which was held on 2-3 April 2012; and committing to implement the Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building and the Phnom Penh Declaration on ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny;

REAFFIRMING the commitment of the ADMM to enhance defence cooperation in ASEAN and to contribute towards the realisation of an ASEAN Community, including the ASEAN Political-Security Community by 2015;

ADHERING to the principle of ASEAN centrality, where ASEAN is the driving force in the ADMM-Plus;

EMPHASISING the importance of the ADMM-Plus as an important platform to foster constructive engagement between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners on strategic, defence and security cooperation affecting the region;

UNDERSCORING the role of the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups (EWGs) as platforms for practical cooperation and acknowledging the positive progress made by the five EWGs on maritime security, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), counter-terrorism, military medicine, and peacekeeping operations since their establishment in April 2011;

WELCOMING the recommendation of the ADMM Retreat held on 24 October 2011 in Bali, Indonesia, to review the frequency of ADMM-Plus meetings;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the results of the Ninth ASEAN Chiefs of Defence Forces Informal Meeting (ACDFIM), which was held on 29 March 2012 in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and commending the progress made by the ASEAN militaries in enhancing practical cooperation;

WELCOMING the ASEAN Militaries' Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Table-top Exercise held in July 2011 as the first exercise amongst the ASEAN militaries and as a concrete demonstration of practical cooperation; and supporting the conduct of the second exercise, which will be held in Brunei Darussalam in 2013;

DO HEREBY DECLARE TO:

ADOPT the Concept Paper on Review of Frequency of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus Meetings, which shortens the interval of ADMM-Plus meetings from three to two years commencing after the ADMM-Plus in 2013;

SUPPORT Indonesia and Thailand to co-host the 1st Meeting on the Establishment of ASEAN Peacekeeping Centres Network, which will be held in June 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand;

FURTHER STRENGTHEN the ADMM and ADMM-Plus as key venues for fostering practical cooperation and engagement between ASEAN and the Plus Countries on strategic as well as defence and security issues affecting the region, which contributes towards promoting stable defence relations and military-to-military interactions in the region;

DEEPEN practical cooperation through the five ADMM-Plus EWGs so as to strengthen the region's capacity and effectiveness in addressing common security challenges;

SUPPORT the conduct of the ADMM-Plus HADR/ Military Medicine exercise in Brunei Darussalam in 2013 as a concrete demonstration of practical cooperation;

WELCOME the initiatives undertaken by the ACDFIM to forge practical cooperation and to enhance interoperability among the ASEAN militaries with a view to enhancing ASEAN's capacity to address transnational security challenges;

CONTINUE TO REAFFIRM ASEAN Member States' commitment to fully and effectively implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea, and to work toward the adoption of a regional Code of Conduct in the South China Sea that will further promote peace and stability in the region;

UNDERSCORE the importance of freedom of navigation in, and over-flight above, the South China Sea as provided for by universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);

WELCOME the ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) as a venue for enhancing regional maritime cooperation, including the proposal to convene an expanded AIVIF as noted by the 19th ASEAN Summit and the 6th East Asia Summit, and reinforce the ADMM's efforts to actively participate in the Forum; and

WELCOME Brunei Darussalam's Chairmanship of ASEAN and its hosting of the 7th ADMM and the 2nd ADMM-Plus in 2013.

DONE at Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, this Twenty Ninth Day of May in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve, in a single original copy in the English language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

**PEHIN DATU SINGAMANTERI COLONEL (RTD)
DATO SERI SETIA (DR) HAJI MOHAMMAD YASMIN
BIN HAJI UMAR**
Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

GENERAL TEA BANH
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence

For the Republic of Indonesia:

PURNOMO YUSGANTORO
Minister of Defence

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

LIEUTENANT GENERAL DOUANGCHAY PHICHITH
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence

For Malaysia:

DATO' SERI AHMAD ZAHID HAMIDI
Minister of Defence

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

LIEUTENANT GENERAL HLA MIN
Minister of Defence

For the Republic of the Philippines:

VOLTAIRE T. GAZMIN
Secretary of National Defence

For the Republic of Singapore:

DR NG ENG HEN
Minister for Defence

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SUKUMPOL SUWANATAT
Minister of Defence

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

GENERAL PHUNG QUANG THANH
Minister of National Defence

attended by the Directors-General of Immigration and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the ASEAN Member States, representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat, and DGICM's Dialogue Partner, Australia.

2. The Meeting noted the progress on implementation of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Visa Exemption. The Meeting commended Lao PDR for exempting visas for all ASEAN Nationals. In realizing the ASEAN Community by 2015 and in conjunction with the ASEAN Connectivity, ASEAN Member States are looking forward to the full ratification of the Agreement.
3. The Meeting welcomed Thailand's progress in having ASEAN Immigration Lanes established at Suvarnabhumi and Phuket international airports. They were encouraged to be informed that other ASEAN Member States are in the process of establishing ASEAN Lanes to facilitate intra-ASEAN travels.
4. The Meeting agreed to follow up on the Provision of Emergency Assistance by ASEAN Missions in Third Countries to Nationals of ASEAN Member States in Crisis Situation. The Meeting welcomed the generous offer of Thailand to host the Third ASEAN Technical Working Group.
5. The Meeting produced the report of the 8th ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum (AIIF) held on 4 September 2012 in Phuket, Thailand. The Forum highlighted the significance of immigration intelligence sharing amongst ASEAN Member States particularly in the fight against migrant smuggling, trafficking in persons, drugs trafficking and other transnational crime. Concerned by the increasing threat of criminal network operating on migrant smuggling, the immigration authorities unanimously agreed to take on the issues of People/Migrant Smuggling and Irregular Movement of People under their purview.
6. As such, ASEAN Plan of Action on Cooperation on Immigration Matters would be reviewed by the Technical Working Group in line with ASEAN Community Building Blueprints as well as in response to the prevailing threats in the region.

ASEAN Law Ministers Meeting **(ALAWMM)**

Joint Press Statement of the 16th Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM)

Phuket, Thailand, 5-6 September 2012

1. The 16th Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM) was held on 5-6 September 2012 in Phuket, Thailand. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Pol. Lt. Gen. Wiboon Bangthamai, Commissioner, Immigration Bureau, Royal Thai Police, and was

7. The Meeting agreed that in realizing the establishment of ASEAN Community, secure, practical and systematic immigration and border management system is integral so as to detect, deter and prevent transboundary crimes. The Meeting thus called for a tactical and consolidated

regional programme on border management and immigration with a view to further strengthening regional and inter-agency collaboration.

8. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN and the Meeting expressed gratitude to the warm hospital accorded by the Government and the People of Thailand.

8th ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM) + Australia Consultation

Phuket, Thailand, 6 September 2012

The 8th ASEAN DGICM + Australia Consultation was held on 6 September 2012 in Phuket, Thailand.

The Meeting was co-chaired by Police Maj Gen Nathathorn Prousoontorn, Commander of Immigration Division 2, Immigration Bureau, Royal Thai Police, and Mr Peter Vardos, Deputy Secretary, Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC), Australia.

The Meeting noted the success of ongoing activities undertaken in 2012 as agreed by the 7th DGICM + Australia Consultation.

The Meeting agreed to pursue a number of practical activities in 2012 and 2013, demonstrating the shared interest that ASEAN and Australia have in continuing a constructive partnership that benefits the project countries of ASEAN and Australia.

ASEAN and Australia agreed that they would continue to work together on cooperative arrangements in relation to immigration matters across the region. The meeting also agreed to further publicise, where appropriate, the agreements of the ASEAN DGICM + Australia Consultation through the ASEAN website.

It was agreed that the 9th ASEAN DGICM + Australia Consultation would be held in conjunction with the 17th Meeting of the ASEAN DGICM in Vietnam in 2013.

All participants expressed appreciation to the people and the Government of Thailand for the excellent arrangements and hospitality accorded to all the delegates.

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)

The ASEAN Special Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters

Bangkok, Thailand, 30 August 2012

1. The ASEAN Special Ministerial Meeting on Drugs was held on 31 August 2012 in Bangkok. The Meeting was hosted by Thailand and was attended by ASEAN Ministers in charge of anti-narcotics matters and Heads of National Bureaus for Drugs. The Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN Political Security Community Department was also in attendance.
2. The Ministers shared the efforts and achievements obtained in their respective countries and made tactical recommendations in response to the prevailing challenges being encountered.
3. The Meeting also took note of the Mid-term Review on the Implementation of ASOD Work Plan and the Executive Summary prepared by Indonesia and encouraged the forthcoming 33rd ASOD Meeting to deliberate in detail so as to adequately and effectively address the identified challenges in realizing the regional goal.
4. The Meeting expressed concern about the continuing threat of illicit production, trafficking, and abuse of drugs and recommended the following:
 - to consider interception of illicit drug trafficking as a priority in order to address the drug smuggling across the borders;
 - to continue enhanced and consolidated regional efforts in addressing the precursor chemicals control; demand reduction through sharing best practices and education and public awareness programmes targeting the youth and Rehabilitation Programme; supply

reduction measures, such as law enforcement and inter-agency cooperation and Alternative Development; - to work on the effective cooperation amongst relevant Sectoral Bodies under the APSC and ASCC Communities;

5. The Meeting encouraged ASOD to review their operational mechanism with a view to effectively implementing their delegated responsibilities.
6. The Meeting also urged the development of cross-border investigation and cooperative programmes under the framework of MPAC.
7. The Meeting unanimously agreed that all ASEAN Member States must continue to work towards the realization of ASEAN Drug-Free by 2015.
8. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality.

ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

Chairman's Statement of the 19th ASEAN Regional Forum

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 12 July 2012

1. The Nineteenth Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 12 July 2012, was chaired by His Excellency HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia.
2. The Meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministers and Representatives of all ARF Participants. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance. The List of Delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.
3. The Ministers reiterated the importance of the ARF as the main forum to promote peace, security and stability in the Asia-Pacific region through open and frank discussions on political and security issues and action-oriented cooperation. They underlined the role of ASEAN to continue to serve as the primary driving force within the ARF as well as

the crucial contribution of the ARF to the evolving regional security architecture. The Meeting also underscored the need to pursue the implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement 2020 and all other current work plans in a consistent and comprehensive manner in order to support the development of the ARF from the phase of confidence building to preventive diplomacy.

Highlights of Discussion on Regional and International Issues

4. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the 20th ASEAN Summit, which was held in Phnom Penh, on 3-4 April 2012, during which the ASEAN Leaders adopted four documents, namely: the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN, the Phnom Penh Agenda on ASEAN Community Building, the Phnom Penh Declaration on ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny, and the Concept Paper on Global Movement of Moderates. The Ministers noted that at the Summit, the Leaders addressed priorities such as realising ASEAN integration through implementation of the IAI Work Plan II, advancing the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, realising the ASEAN single market, addressing regional and international peace and security issues such as the South China Sea and the Korean Peninsula, food and energy security, conflict resolution and management, a people-oriented and people-centred ASEAN, disaster management, advancing ASEAN centrality in regional architecture, ARF and ADMM-Plus, ASEAN and external relations, ASEAN Community building and the plan to celebrate the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN.
5. In the discussion on regional security architecture, the Ministers commended the progress of the ARF in entering the phase of preventive diplomacy while continuing to undertake confidence-building measures. The Ministers reaffirmed that the ARF should continue to serve as a platform for countries in the region to deal with challenges in the security environment while continuing to uphold the principles of peaceful settlement of disputes in the Asia-Pacific based on the principles of international law and use of multilateral mechanisms in finding common solutions to problems. The Ministers noted that regional security remains a key area for dialogue and cooperation. In this context, the Ministers noted the role of the ADMM-Plus which will convene their 2nd Meeting in Brunei Darussalam, in 2013.

6. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as a code of conduct for growing inter-state relations. In this regard, they welcomed the entry into force of the Third Protocol Amending the TAC and the subsequent accession to the TAC by the European Union. The Ministers also noted the accession to the TAC by the United Kingdom.
7. The Ministers underlined the importance of peace, security and stability on the Korean Peninsula and urged concerned parties not to take any further provocation actions and to comply with their respective obligations under the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and their commitment under the 2005 Six-Party Talks Joint Statement. The Ministers further reiterated the call for all parties concerned to explore all possibilities to engage in peaceful dialogue which would lead to the creation of an atmosphere of trust and confidence among the concerned parties. The Ministers noted the successful visit of H.E. HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia to Pyongyang, Democratic Republic of Korea on 3-4 June 2012, in his capacity as both the ASEAN Chair and the ARF Chair. The visit has highlighted the enhancing role of the ARF Chair.
8. The Ministers emphasized the importance and continued relevance of the DOC of 2002, as a milestone document signed between ASEAN Member States and China, embodying their collective commitment to promoting peace, stability and mutual trust and to ensuring the peaceful resolution of disputes in the area, and the adoption of the Guidelines for the implementation of the DOC in July 2011. They noted that this year is the 10th Anniversary of the signing of the DOC. They looked forward to the full and effective implementation of the DOC to promote conducive conditions with a view to building confidence and strengthening peace in the South China Sea through, among others, joint cooperative activities and projects.
9. The Ministers stressed the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea, the continued exercise of self-restraint and the non-use of force by all parties concerned, respect for the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS, and the promotion of confidence-building in this area. They called upon all parties to undertake peaceful resolution of the disputes in the area in accordance with the recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS.
10. The Ministers thanked Timor-Leste for the invitation to the ARF participants to send observers to its parliamentary elections on 7 July 2012 and noted that some ARF participants had participated as voluntary election observers on a bilateral basis.
11. The Ministers discussed and expressed deep concern over the situation in Syria which continues to have a severe effect on human lives, peace and stability, and economic development in the country. The Ministers, therefore, called on all parties concerned in Syria for immediate cessation of violence in all its forms through urgent peaceful negotiations with participation of all parties taking into account the legitimate aspiration of all Syrians, and to respect international norms and principles in order to create an environment of peace, security and stability in that country. To this end, the Ministers fully supported the six point plan of the Joint Special Envoy of the UN and the League of Arab States, Mr. Kofi Annan and welcomed the decisions taken by the Action Group for Syria in Geneva on 30 June 2012 and called upon all international and Syrian parties to fully comply with those decisions and to implement them in their entirety.
12. The Ministers exchanged views on recent developments in Afghanistan, emphasizing the need to make concerted efforts to counter the threats of terrorism and illicit drug production and trafficking. They expressed support for reconstruction efforts and peaceful transition to democratic governance in Afghanistan, including its path to self-reliance following the transition to Afghan-led security in 2014. The Ministers highlighted the need to advance economic development in Afghanistan, particularly within the framework of capacity building, such as training programmes and other technical assistance, in order to improve the welfare of local communities and develop human resources.
13. The Ministers welcomed the recent steps taken by Fiji towards holding elections in 2014 and urged continued engagement between Fiji and the Pacific Island Forum, the Commonwealth and the UN.
14. The Ministers supported the international cooperative efforts in non-proliferation, disarmament and peaceful use of nuclear energy. The Ministers also supported the global efforts and initiatives on the non-proliferation and disarmament under current existing international treaties and conventions. In this regard, they agreed to adopt the ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (**ANNEX 2**)

which provides a set of measures to promote the three central pillars of the global non-proliferation regime: preventing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), advancing global disarmament efforts, and promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. They reaffirmed the central role of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in enhancing coordination and cooperation in the region with regard to the issue of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. They encouraged relevant countries to promote greater cooperation with the IAEA including the adoption of the Additional Protocol and to fully comply with its obligations. The Ministers re-emphasised the importance of preserving the Southeast Asia region as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter and the SEANWFZ Treaty.

15. The Ministers reiterated their calls for a peaceful solution to managing conflicts in the Middle East. The Ministers expressed support for the ongoing processes of political transition in parts of the Middle East and North Africa, and welcomed the efforts and the political will to pursue good governance and democracy as the foundation for stability and peace within the region.
16. The Ministers discussed ways and means of how ARF participants can better address natural disaster issues. The Ministers reiterated the importance to develop a “whole of government” approach to ensure coordination between civilian and military parties dealing with disaster relief operations. In this connection, the Ministers adopted the new ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief including its Implementation Annex, which appears as **ANNEX 3**. The Ministers encouraged all ARF participants to volunteer to lead the implementation of each priority area of the Work Plan. They encouraged the ARF to make efforts in pursuing synergy and coordination with other existing regional mechanisms on disaster management, including the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), in terms of policy and guidance on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations. The Ministers were encouraged by the assistance and contribution made by some ARF participants to advance the operationalisation of the AHA Centre and called for further contributions. The Ministers also welcomed the outcomes of the ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx) 2011 and reiterated their support for the recommendations of the ARF DiREx to conduct joint field exercises on a regular

basis, every two years, while convening table-top exercises in between. In this regard, the Ministers encouraged ASEAN Member States and non-ASEAN ARF participants to volunteer to co-chair the exercises in the inter-sessional years to come. They welcomed Thailand and the Republic of Korea as co-hosts of the ARF DiREx in the inter-sessional year 2012-2013. The Ministers further recognised the practical value of bilateral and multilateral cooperation between ARF participants to strengthen humanitarian assistance and disaster relief capabilities.

17. The Ministers discussed the non-traditional security threats in the region. They acknowledged that these threats are still major challenges to peace and stability in the region. On counter-terrorism and combating transnational crimes, the Ministers encouraged the ARF to further enhance the coordination and cooperation among the ARF participants to overcome these threats. The Ministers welcomed the entry into force of the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT) in 2011 and expressed their support to the implementation of the ACCT. The Ministers also underlined the need to foster coordination among ARF participants to ensure security for the use of information and communication technologies and to strengthen detection and surveillance of infectious diseases to ensure early warning for the effective control of outbreaks, whether natural, accidental or intentional in origin. To this end, the Ministers adopted the ARF Statement on Cooperation in Ensuring Cyber Security, which appears as **ANNEX 4**, and the Best Practices for Implementation of a Disease Surveillance System, which appears as **ANNEX 5**. The Ministers agreed to task their relevant Senior Officials to develop an ARF work plan related to cyber security.

Review of Activities of the Current Inter-Sessional Year (July 2011 – July 2012)

18. The Ministers noted the active role by the ARF in ensuring and maintaining peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region through the implementation of ARF activities during the inter-sessional year 2011-2012. They commended the work of the ARF Senior Officials' Meeting (ARF SOM) in Phnom Penh, on 26 May 2012 and the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ISG on CBMs & PD), co-chaired by Cambodia and New Zealand, which was held in Phnom Penh, on 8-9 December 2011, and in Wellington, on 8-9 May 2012. The Ministers noted the Reports and endorsed their

recommendations contained therein. The Report of the ARF SOM is in **ANNEX 6** and the Co-Chairs' Summary Reports of the ISG on CBMs & PD are in **ANNEX 7**.

19. The Ministers welcomed the contribution by the defence officials and highlighted the important role of defence in the ARF process. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the high-level interaction among the ARF defence officials in identifying and reviewing the ARF position and delineation with other regional mechanisms such as the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and the ADMM Plus. The Ministers also noted the discussion of the ARF Defence Officials' Dialogue (DOD) on the streamlining of the ARF DODs in one inter-sessional year and supported its recommendation to discontinue the ARF DOD which is held back-to-back with the ARF Ministerial Meeting.
20. The Ministers welcomed the results of the 11th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR) co-chaired by Indonesia and Australia, held in Brisbane, on 16-17 April 2012. The Ministers noted that the ARF ISM on DR had reviewed the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief and welcomed the participation of the ACDM Chair to the ARF ISM on DR for the first time. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report appears as **ANNEX 8**.
21. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the 4th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (ISM on MS) co-chaired by Indonesia, the Republic of Korea and the United States, held in San Francisco, on 14-15 June 2012. The Ministers noted the discussion at the ARF ISM on MS on how best the ARF participants can enhance cooperation in civil maritime law enforcement and welcomed for the first time the participation of regional civil maritime agencies in order to build stronger ties and greater mutual understanding among the region's civil maritime professionals. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report appears as **ANNEX 9**.
22. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the 4th Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ISM on NPD) co-chaired by the Philippines, Australia and Japan, held in Sydney, on 8-9 March 2012 which finalised the ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (NPD). The Co-Chairs' Summary Report appears as **ANNEX 10**.
23. The Ministers welcomed the results of the 10th Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ISM on CTTC) co-chaired by Viet Nam and Canada, held in Quang Nam, on 16-17 March 2012. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report appears as **ANNEX 11**.
24. The Ministers also noted other ARF activities which were successfully implemented in the inter-sessional year 2011-2012, as follows:
 - a. ARF Workshop on Disease Detection and Surveillance, Manila, the Philippines, 13-15 September 2011;
 - b. ARF High-Level Workshop on Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy in Asia and Europe, Berlin, Germany, 27-29 November 2011;
 - c. 15th ARF Heads of Defence Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting, (HDUCIM), Bali, Indonesia, 29 November – 2 December 2011;
 - d. ARF Workshop on Non-Proliferation Nuclear Forensics, Bangkok, Thailand, 7-9 December 2011;
 - e. 6th ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand, 1-3 February 2012;
 - f. ARF Workshop on Proxy Actors in Cyber Space, Quang Nam, Viet Nam, 14-15 March 2012;
 - g. 3rd ARF Seminar on Laws and Regulations on the Participation in International Disaster Relief by Armed Forces, Beijing, China, 11-12 June 2012;
 - h. ARF Election Observation Mission to the Timor-Leste Parliamentary Election, Dili, Timor-Leste, 7 July 2012.

Programme of Work for the Inter-Sessional Year (2012- 2013)

25. The Ministers reiterated the importance of continuing to promote confidence building measures while progressing in implementing preventive diplomacy. The Ministers therefore welcomed the offer by Brunei Darussalam and China to co-chair the ISG on CBMs and PD and ARF DOD in the inter-sessional year 2012-1013. The Ministers noted that the first meeting of the ISG on CBMs and PD for the inter-sessional year 2012-2013 will be held in the second half of 2012 and the second meeting will be held in the first half of 2013.
26. The Ministers agreed to continue the ARF Inter-Sessional Meetings (ISM) in the four priority areas: Disaster Relief, Counter-Terrorism and

Transnational Crime, Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, and Maritime Security. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed Indonesia and Australia to continue to co-chair the 12th ISM on DR in Indonesia in the first quarter of 2013; the Philippines, Australia and Japan to co-chair the 5th ISM on NPD in the Philippines in 2013; Indonesia, the Republic of Korea and the United States to co-chair the 5th ISM on MS in the Republic of Korea, in April 2013; and **(ASEAN Member State)** and Australia to co-chair the 11th ISM on CTTC in the next inter-sessional year.

27. In view of the 20th anniversary of the ARF in 2013, the Ministers welcomed the project of the Commemorative Publication for the 20th ARF, proposed by Brunei Darussalam and China. The Concept Paper of the project appears as **ANNEX 12**.
28. The Ministers reaffirmed the procedure that all proposed ARF activities should first be discussed at the ARF ISG/ISM level and agreed to by the ARF SOM. The List of ARF Track I Activities for the next inter-sessional year (July 2012 - July 2013) that has been approved by the Ministers appears as **ANNEX 13**.

Future Direction of ARF

29. The Ministers reiterated the importance of continuing to promote confidence building measures while progress is made in implementing preventive diplomacy. The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy at the 18th ARF in Bali, on 23 July 2011. The Ministers encouraged the ARF participants to take the lead in the implementation of the Work Plan.
30. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed ISG co-chairs' proposal on preventive diplomacy training which would provide a good basis for taking forward the ARF Preventive Diplomacy Work Plan that was agreed in 2011. The Ministers tasked the ARF SOM and the ARF ISG to deliberate further on the proposal, with a view to finalising it on time for the next ARF Ministerial Meeting. The Discussion Paper appears as **ANNEX 14**.
31. The Ministers welcomed Brunei Darussalam as the next Chair and Myanmar as the next Vice-Chair of the 20th ARF, beginning on 1 January 2013.
32. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement to guide the ARF process forward

at a pace comfortable to all participants. They reiterated the importance of the ARF to move in a more "action oriented" manner, constructively engaging deeper in preserving peace and stability in the region. The Ministers also emphasised the importance of the annual review of the implementation of the Plan of Action by the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD and the ARF SOM. They noted with appreciation the Matrix on the Status of Implementation of the ARF Hanoi Plan of Action (**ANNEX 15**) prepared by the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat which identified the ARF's progress in implementing the Hanoi Plan of Action. They also tasked the ARF Unit to continue updating the Matrix for consideration of the ARF Ministerial Meeting.

33. The Ministers commended the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat for its excellent efforts in assisting the ARF Chair during this inter-sessional year, including through regularly updating the Matrix of ARF Decisions and their Status (**ANNEX 16**) as well as making available ARF documents on the ARF Net. Taking into account the increased volume of the ARF activities and future work of the implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action, the Ministers reiterated their support for strengthening the ARF Unit with necessary resources and manpower, as part of the ongoing strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat itself.
34. The Ministers exchanged views on how best to improve synergies between the ARF and the ADMM-Plus and acknowledged the central role that ASEAN can play in helping to facilitate this process. They agreed that practical steps can be taken to ensure greater coordination between the ARF and the ADMM-Plus, including enhancing cross-participation and attendance between ARF and ADMM-Plus activities and meetings to promote information sharing between these fora. To this end, the Ministers noted the Discussion Paper on Improving Synergies between the ARF and ADMM-Plus (**ANNEX 17**) which encourages cross-reporting between the ARF and the ADMM-Plus. The Ministers decided that the ADMM-Plus Chair shall be invited to brief the relevant meetings and activities of the ARF from inter-sessional year 2012-2013 onward.
35. The Ministers underlined the need to further utilize the ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) Meeting as Track 1.5 to assist in advancing the ARF process through providing visionary recommendations. The Ministers took note of the recommendations presented by the 6th Meeting

of the ARF EEPs which was held in Bangkok, on 1-3 February 2012. They also looked forward to the convening of the 7th ARF EEPs Meeting and encouraged ARF participants to volunteer convening the meeting in 2013. To further support the ARF EEPs, the Ministers agreed to explore the possibility for the ARF EEP representatives to attend relevant meetings of the ARF ISM and ISG as appropriate.

36. The Ministers welcomed the 2012 ARF Annual Security Outlook (ARF ASO), presented by Cambodia, which has applied the Simplified Standardized Format of the ARF ASO. The Ministers stressed the need to further promote transparency among ARF participants through the publication of the ARF ASO. The Ministers expressed confidence that the standardised ARF ASO would become an essential instrument for the promotion of confidence building and mutual understanding through greater transparency among ARF participants. The Ministers further noted that the ASEAN Security Outlook is due to be published for the first time in 2012.
 37. The Ministers reiterated the importance of continuing to enhance linkages between Track I and Track II, and between the ARF and other regional and international organisations/fora, such as the ASEAN ISIS and CSCAP. The Ministers stressed the need to involve Track II in relevant ISM and ISG meetings, and such involvement shall be carried out as appropriate.
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III. ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

ASEAN Economic Council (AEC) Council

Key Outcomes and Highlights of the 8th AEC Council Meeting and 44th ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting (AEM) and Related Meetings

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 27-31 August 2012

The 44th AEM and Related Meetings include the AEM, ASEAN Investment Agreement (AIA) Council, ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council, CLMV Economic Ministers, the ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC) and consultations with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners (Australia, Canada, China, India, Japan, Russia, South Korea and United States). In addition, the 8th ASEAN Economic Community Council (AEC) Meeting was also held to discuss AEC related issues.

Progress of the ASEAN Economic Community

The 44th AEM discussed the progress of regional economic integration since the 43rd meeting in Manado. The status of implementation of various initiatives under the AEC was discussed including those with external partners.

- Under the AEC, ASEAN has implemented 72 percent of measures under the AEC Blueprint. This is an improvement from 67.5 percent implementation rate reported at the 43rd AEM in Manado last year. The higher implementation rate reflects additional measures being implemented under Phase I (2008-09) and Phase II (2010-11) of the Blueprint, and represent gains made across the four pillars of the AEC. Key achievements noted/endorsed during the 44th AEM are as follows:

Pillar I (single market and production base): endorsement of tariff reduction schedule for

Indonesia, Laos and Thailand under the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA); implementation of ASEAN Single Window (development of ASW new architecture and legal framework), decision to explore mechanisms to effectively address the issues of non-tariff barriers (including the need to promote transparency, ensure proper notification and adequate consultations), the MOU among the Governments of the Participating Member States of ASEAN on the 2nd Self-Certification Pilot Project signed by the Ministers of Indonesia, Lao PDR and the Philippines, completion of 8th AFAS package and ASEAN Agreement on Movement of Natural Persons, implementation of peer review process to eliminate investment restrictions under the new ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA), and entry into force of APTERR (ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve) Agreement on food security.

Pillar II (competitive economic region): holding of first consultation meeting between AEM and ASEAN SME Advisory Board during the 44th AEM, focusing on areas such as SME access to finance and market, internationalization of SMEs and progress of SME projects and initiatives; and progress of implementation of competition policy and law in ASEAN and consumer protection, holding of first consultations with the Director-General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) that focused on strengthening ASEAN-WIPO cooperation under the framework of the ASEAN IPR Action Plan for 2011-2015.

Pillar III (narrowing development gap): progress in implementing the ASEAN Framework on Equitable Economic Development (AFEED), including stock taking of capacity building initiatives undertaken by ASEAN bodies across sectors; greater focus on AFEED particularly in addressing issues related to equitable development, SME financing and financial inclusion.

- ASEAN has further enhanced its external engagement with dialogue partners (***Pillar IV: integration into global economy***). The 44th AEM noted/endorsed the progress of activities with the following partners:

ASEAN Plus ASEAN FTA Partners: Progress in the work of the Senior Economic Officials

in paving the way for the launch of RCEP negotiations in November 2012; agreement to submit recommendations to their governments on the launch of RCEP negotiations; agreement to recommend to the Leaders the Guiding Principles and Approaches to Negotiating the RCEP for their consideration and endorsement in November 2012.

ASEAN-Canada: Convening of the 1st AEM-Canada Consultations; adoption of the 2012-2015 ASEAN-Canada Trade and Investment Work Plan to enhance economic cooperation between ASEAN and Canada; establishment of Canada-ASEAN Business Council (CABC) not only serve as the channel for business-to-business dialogue to raise awareness of trade and investment opportunities in ASEAN and Canada but also as the channel for future government-to-business engagement.

ASEAN-CER (Australia and New Zealand): Entry into force of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA) for all Parties on 10 January 2012; substantial work undertaken in AANZFTA's built-in agenda in goods, services, investment, and intellectual property; good progress achieved in the economic cooperation component of the AANZFTA, particularly the capacity-building activities given to some ASEAN Member States to help them implement their AANZFTA commitments.

ASEAN-China: Completion of tariff elimination for the Normal Track products of ASEAN 6 and China and implementation of tariff commitments for Sensitive Track products on 1 January 2012; agreement to sign two protocols at the 15th ASEAN-China Summit in November 2012: "Third Protocol to Amend the ASEAN-China Framework Agreement" and "Protocol to Incorporate Technical Barriers to Trade and Sanitary and Phytosanitary into the Agreement on Trade in Goods"; agreement to prioritize trade facilitation which include on-going efforts to review the ACFTA Rules of Origin and finalize as soon as possible the text of the Chapter on Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation agreement to organize an ASEAN Roadshow to China in 2013; agreement to push forward the ASEAN-China connectivity cooperation.

ASEAN-EAS: Exchange of views on how EAS can play a significant role in community building in the region, including support for effective implementation of the Declaration of the 6th

EAS on ASEAN Connectivity; emphasis on the importance of finding fresh and credible approaches to successfully conclude the Doha Round; renewed commitment to avoid protectionism, support standstill and rollback of trade-distorting or protectionist measures affecting trade and investment.

ASEAN-India: Instruction for Senior Economic Officials to start the review of the implementation of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement, including the possibility of a package of Product-Specific Rules (PSR) to further facilitate trade between ASEAN and India; instruction to step up effort, exercise flexibility and strive towards an announcement of the conclusion of negotiations for trade in services and investment at the 10th ASEAN-India Summit in November 2012 at the earliest.

ASEAN-Japan: Endorsement of ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap to promote strategic partnership in a number of areas (business environment, trade and investment facilitation, infrastructure development, etc.) and to help achieve the objective of doubling trade and investment flows between ASEAN and Japan by 2022; agreement to exert more effort towards completing negotiations for trade in services and investment under the AJCEP; agreement to cooperate in the protection of Intellectual Property Rights.

ASEAN-South Korea: Completion of tariff elimination for the Normal Track products of ASEAN6 and South Korea and implementation of tariff commitments for Sensitive Track products on 1 January 2012, adoption of the Work Programme for Further Liberalization to enhance utilization of AKFTA tariff preferences, entry into force of the 2nd Protocol to Amend the Agreement on Trade in Goods, launch of AKFTA website (<http://akfta.asean.org>) and the development of AKFTA Seminar Kit to promote the AKFTA.

ASEAN-US: Commitment to further build trade and investment relationship between ASEAN and the United States with the ASEAN-US Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) as vehicle to realize this objective; holding of the 1st ASEAN-US Business Summit on 30 August 2012, and plan to endorse the TIFA Work Plan for 2013, which would include continued cooperation on trade facilitation, digital economy, trade and environment, and priority areas for ASEAN, i.e. SME development and ASEAN connectivity.

Discussion of Key Issues and Challenges to AEC

The 44th AEM/8th AECC discussed key issues and challenges affecting the AEC and exchanged views on how to address these challenges.

- The **uncertain global economy still presents a major risk to ASEAN** economies. Reflecting the weak global economic conditions, developments in the first quarter 2012 show that economic growth, external trade and foreign direct investments in ASEAN have started to show some signs of weakness as well. Thus, the 44th AEM/8th AECC recognized the importance of increased policy coordination to promote recovery and financial stability in the region amidst global downside risks.
- Against this global uncertainty, the 44th AEM/8th AECC agreed to further strengthen the region's internal competitiveness through the AEC. However, they also recognized that as 2015 is fast approaching, there is a need to address a number of challenges. **Of particular concern is the need to accelerate the implementation of AEC.** Among the important actions needed to address the implementation bottlenecks under the AEC are to enhance the ratification of AEC agreements particularly those in customs and transport, strengthen the ability of countries to implement domestic laws and undertake regulatory reforms consistent with regional initiatives, and enhance capacity of countries to implement AEC projects (e.g., National Single Window and Self-Certification Program).
- As an immediate priority, the 44th AEM/8th AECC **agreed to double efforts to achieve AEC by 2015 consistent with the Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building** endorsed by the Leaders at the 20th Summit last April. They agreed to prioritize the AEC measures and aim for realistic targets by 2015, but without lowering the ambitions set by the Leaders and ensuring as well that there's no back tracking of commitments. The goal is still full implementation of commitments by 2015. Among the important measures to prioritize are those that impact the markets most, including measures to address non-tariff barriers, enhance the efficiency of services liberalization through the review of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS), promote attractiveness of ASEAN as an integrated investment area with full implementation of ACIA, and strengthen trade and investment facilitation (particularly in customs and transport facilitation) to encourage greater trade, services, and investment flows into ASEAN.
- Second, the 44th AEM/8th AECC **agreed to increase political commitments for deeper economic integration.** In particular, they recognized the importance of increased institutional support for integration to increase the transparency of the trade and investment trade regime in the region. Among the important decisions by the Ministers are to: (i) institutionalize a mechanism for addressing issues related to Non-Tariff Measures/Barriers, (ii) enhance peer review process in investment, (iii) promote regulatory reforms through the work of High-Level Task Force on Economic Integration (HLTF-EI), and (iv) strengthen monitoring of AEC through the ASEAN Integration Monitoring Office (AIMO) of the ASEAN Secretariat.
- Finally, the 44th AEM/8th AECC **agreed that more efforts are needed to address the development challenges of AEC.** Of particular importance is the need to address the issue of equitable economic development through the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Equitable Economic Development (AFEED) that the Leaders adopted last year in Bali. The 44th AEM/8th AECC discussed the approach of implementing AFEED and other issues related to its structure and funding requirements, including potential projects under AFEED like the development of SMEs and financial inclusion.
- The 44th AEM/8th AECC also **recognized the importance of increased engagement with the private sector and other stakeholders** not only to effectively communicate the nature and activities of AEC but also to get their inputs and perspective which were viewed as crucial to the successful economic integration of the region. They agreed to bring AEC to the people through an effective communication and dissemination strategy and greater engagement of the private sector. At the sidelines of the 44th AEM meetings, a number of activities were organized with private sector including the 1st AEM-ABAC Consultation, 1st ASEAN-US Business Summit, consultations with other business councils, such as, the East Asia Business Council (EABC), US-ASEAN Business Council (USABC), Federation of Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in ASEAN (FJCCIA), the newly-created Canada-ASEAN Business Council and the ASEAN Federation of Textile Industries (AFTEX).

Way Forward and Deliverables for the 21st ASEAN Summit

The 44th AEM/8th AECC agreed on the following deliverables for the 21st ASEAN Summit in November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

- Submission of 8th AEC Council Report to the Leaders, highlighting key achievements and challenges in implementing the AEC since the 20th Summit as well as key recommendations to realize the AEC by 2015.
- Conclusion of negotiations for trade in services and investment under the ASEAN-India FTA
- Signing by the AEM of the following AEC-related Agreements and Protocols:
 - ASEAN Agreement on Movement of Natural Persons (MNP)
 - Protocol to Incorporate Technical Barriers to Trade and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures into the Agreement in Goods [under ASEAN-China FTA]
 - Third Protocol to Amend the ASEAN-China Framework Agreement [under ASEAN-China FTA]
 - Declaration to Launch Negotiations of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), including the Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating the RCEP

ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM)

Joint Media Statement of the 4th CLMV Economic Ministers' Meeting

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 26 August 2012

1. The Fourth Cambodia-Lao PDR-Myanmar-Viet Nam (CLMV) Economic Ministers' Meeting (EMM) was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 26 August 2012. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Nam

Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce of Lao PDR.

2. The Ministers exchanged views on the economic development in CLMV countries and the challenges they faced in the midst of growing uncertainties in the global financial market.
3. The Ministers noted that CLMV's nominal GDP in 2011 has increased by 14.1% from 2010 to US\$ 194 billion, which accounts for 8.9% of ASEAN's nominal GDP. The Ministers also noted that foreign direct investment to CLMV countries reached US\$ 8.6 billion in 2011, which accounts for 9.7% of total foreign direct investments into ASEAN.
4. The Ministers further noted that CLMV countries will experience an average national growth rate of around 6.6% in 2012 (based on government official statistics), which is larger than the projected growth rate for ASEAN as a region at between 5.2% to 5.9%, as stated in the 2012 ASEAN Surveillance Report.
5. The Ministers emphasized on the importance of the integration of CLMV countries into ASEAN to sustain its projected growth. The Ministers also recognized the contribution of the CLMV Action Plan to the implementation of agreed measures in the AEC Blueprint as ASEAN works towards establishing an ASEAN Community by 2015.
6. The Ministers noted the progress and challenges in implementing the CLMV Action Plan 2012. The Ministers tasked the Senior Economic Officials to ensure the timely implementation of the remaining activities by the end of the year.
7. The Ministers endorsed the CLMV Action Plan 2013 which includes fifteen priority activities on Economic-Trade, Human Resource Development and Coordination Mechanism. The Ministers also agreed to include additional activities, as the need arises, which would help to contribute to the promotion of equitable economic development of CLMV countries.
8. The Ministers tasked the CLMV SEOM to explore collaborations with various stakeholders, amongst others, including ASEAN sectoral bodies, Dialogue and Development Partners to facilitate the effective and efficient implementation of the CLMV Action Plan 2013.
9. The Ministers agreed to report the progress made in advancing economic cooperation in CLMV

countries to the Leaders at its 6th Summit which will be held in Lao PDR.

10. The Ministers from Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam, expressed deep appreciation to the Government and People of Cambodia for their excellent arrangements and warm hospitality and for the helpful support from the ASEAN Secretariat.

List of Ministers and Head of Delegations

1. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister, Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 2. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 3. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister of National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 4. H.E. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 5. H.E. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

Joint Media Statement of the 44th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Meeting

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 27-28 August 2012

1. The 44th Meeting of the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) was held on 27 – 28 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce of Cambodia, chaired the Meeting, which was preceded by a preparatory meeting of the Senior Economic Officials (SEOM). The AEM also had joint meetings with the 26th ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council and the 15th ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) Council.

Economic Performance

2. The Ministers welcomed the robust economic performance and continued resilience of ASEAN in 2011, which grew by 4.7% despite the heightened uncertainties in the global economy. The positive but moderate economic growth was underpinned by resilient domestic demand, strong macroeconomic fundamentals, sound balance sheets of banks and the corporate sector, and on-going structural reforms since 1997. We are confident that our

economic expansion would remain healthy this year, with projected GDP growth of between 5.2% and 5.9%.

3. The Ministers were pleased to note that ASEAN's merchandise trade grew at 16.8% from US\$ 2.05 trillion in 2010 to US\$ 2.39 trillion in 2011 despite the slowdown global trade, with intra-ASEAN trade remained strong at US\$ 598 billion. Japan was the top export destination, followed by China, EU-27, and the United States. At the same time, export and import in services grew by about 10% in 2011. Travel, transportation, other business services, and financial services continue to be the top services export sectors.
4. The Ministers were also pleased that ASEAN maintained its position as one of the most attractive destinations for foreign direct investment (FDI), which reached US\$ 89.2 billion in 2011. The European Union (EU-27) remained the top source of FDI to ASEAN accounting for approximately 25% of total inward FDI to ASEAN. Japan and the United States were the second and third largest source of FDI, altogether accounting for 22.5% in total. Intra-ASEAN investment grew at 23% in 2011, reaching US\$ 17.5 billion or accounted for 19.7% of total inward FDI into ASEAN.
5. The Ministers agreed to remain vigilant against downside risks such as further contraction of external demand caused by sovereign debt crisis in Eurozone, fiscal problems in some developed economies, tighter global financing conditions, higher oil prices, and volatile global capital flows. The Ministers re-iterated that the region should continue to harness its competitive strength through deeper integration and greater macroeconomic and policy coordination, and to support demand and recovery by opening trade and investment and reducing barriers in all forms.

Implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint

6. The Ministers recalled the Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building issued by the Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in April 2012, especially on the doubling of efforts to ensure the timely realisation of AEC by 2015 through the prioritisation of concrete key measures to address the challenges faced in implementing the AEC. The Ministers tasked all AEC sectoral bodies to allocate sufficient resources to realise their respective deliverables for 2015, in order to transform ASEAN into a single market

and production base, and a highly competitive region with equitable economic development, fully integrated into the global economy.

7. The Ministers thanked the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) for its contribution in undertaking the Mid-Term Review of the AEC Blueprint which highlighted the progress, challenges, and recommendations in moving forward on the implementation of the AEC Blueprint.

Equitable Economic Development

8. The Ministers took note of the development in the implementation of the ASEAN Framework on Equitable Economic Development (AFEED) which includes a stocktaking exercise of the current work programme and capacity building initiatives undertaken by the various sectoral bodies, including sub-regional initiatives, small and medium enterprises (SME) development, food security, and the ASEAN Connectivity, among others.
9. The Ministers appreciated the successful convening of the 1st ASEAN Conference on Financial Inclusion, supported by the ASEAN Finance Ministries from 27-28 June 2012 in Jakarta, Indonesia and looked forward to close collaboration with the ASEAN Finance Ministers in overseeing the development of the work programmes for financial inclusion and SME financing for narrowing the development gap.

Priority Integration Sectors (PISs)

10. The Ministers noted the outcome of the comprehensive update of the status of implementation of all PISs, including the activities undertaken by the Country Coordinators in the implementation of PIS Roadmap. The Ministers also urged participations of all ASEAN Member States at the upcoming workshops/meeting to be undertaken by Country Coordinators to take-stock of the PIS-specific roadmap.

Trade in Goods

11. The Ministers were pleased with the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) of ASEAN Member States. With the signing of the Protocol to Amend Certain ASEAN Economic Agreements Related to Trade in Goods, which has been endorsed by the 26th AFTA Council, the list of eleven (11) ASEAN agreements to be superseded by the ATIGA will be administratively annexed to the ATIGA. While

noting the progress made in finalising the domestic requirements for the Protocol, the Ministers agreed to sign the Protocol at the AEM Retreat in 2013.

12. Recognising the progress made in the ASEAN Committee on Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary (AC-SPS), the Ministers tasked the officials to further enhance the internal and external mechanism to enable the AC-SPS to play a vital role in trade facilitation while protecting human, animal and plant life or health in the region in order to strengthen the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by 2015.

Tariff Liberalisation

13. The Ministers noted that the transposition of ATIGA tariff reduction schedules from AHTN 2007 into AHTN 2012 and the issuance of legal enactments of ASEAN Member States are on-going. The Ministers endorsed the ATIGA tariff reduction schedules for AHTN 2012 of Indonesia, Lao PDR, and Thailand and urged other ASEAN Member States to accelerate the process to ensure the implementation of the AHTN 2012 by the end of this year.

Elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers

14. The Ministers noted several initiatives of ASEAN to address effectively the issues of non-tariff barriers i.e. the new classification of ASEAN Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) database, the private sector engagement on trade impediments, and the discussion of actual cases on NTMs, and agreed in-principle to put the NTM database on the ASEAN Secretariat website. The Ministers re-iterated the need for transparency, proper notification, and consultation as required by the provisions of ATIGA in addressing NTMs implemented by ASEAN Member States.

Self-Certification

15. The Ministers noted the significant progress made under the 1st Self-Certification Pilot Project, which involves the participation of 4 ASEAN Member States, namely Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. The Memorandum of Understanding among the Governments of the Participating Member States of the ASEAN on the 2nd Self-Certification Pilot Project for the Implementation of a Regional Self-certification System has been signed among Lao PDR, Indonesia, and the Philippines. The Ministers urged the participants of the two pilot projects to consult each other on the way forward in implementing

the ASEAN-wide self-certification by 2015. Other Member States who have yet to participate are urged to consider participation in one of the two pilot projects available.

ASEAN Single Window (ASW)

16. The Ministers commended the substantial progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Single Window (ASW), particularly the development of the endorsed design of the ASW architecture which commenced in November 2011 and is scheduled for completion towards the end of 2012. The ASW architecture includes a 2-month pilot testing among seven Member States on the exchange of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) Form D and the ASEAN Customs Declaration Document (ACDD).
17. The Ministers urged the ASWSC to expedite the work on the development of the ASW legal framework that would govern the actual implementation of the ASW legally across Member States and a crucial component for the successful implementation of the ASW Project.
18. Noting the importance of the National Single Windows (NSWs) in the implementation of the ASW, the Ministers urged the remaining Member States to expedite the development and implementation of their respective NSWs to ensure the timely realisation of ASW by 2015.

Standards and Conformance

19. The Ministers took note of the on-going efforts in the harmonisation of standards, mutual recognition arrangements for conformity assessments and technical regulations for the priority integration sectors. They encouraged ASEAN Member States to prioritise the measures to be implemented and to work towards the completion of the AEC blueprint.

Trade in Services

20. The Ministers welcomed the completion of the 8th Package of services liberalisation commitment under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS), underscoring the commitment of ASEAN Member States to work towards free flow of services by 2015. The package provides for at least 80 services subsectors with high degree of liberalisation, including allowing for foreign equity participation of at least 70% for the priority sectors and 51% for the other sectors.

21. To emphasise the commitment to work towards free flow of services by 2015, the Ministers tasked the Senior Officials to liberalise the remaining services subsectors through the 9th and 10th AFAS Packages by 2013 and 2015, respectively. The Ministers also endorsed the recommendation of the Senior Officials to work on the enhancement of the AFAS for completion in 2015 which, building upon current AFAS achievements, shall be comprehensive and forward-looking for post-AEC ASEAN integration.

22. The Ministers endorsed the ASEAN Agreement on Movement of Natural Person (MNP) for signing during the 21st ASEAN Summit in November 2012. This Agreement shall facilitate the movement of ASEAN people engaging in trade: in goods, trade in services and investment in the region.

Investment

23. The Ministers noted that ASEAN has intensified programs/projects to promote and facilitate ASEAN as single investment area following the entry into force of the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA) on 29 March 2012. ASEAN Member States, individually and collectively, have undertaken investment missions to promote intra-ASEAN investment and are currently developing an ASEAN Investment website and a Guidebook on ACIA. Concurrently, ASEAN also started implementing the Peer Review process under the *“Modality for the Elimination/Improvement of Investment Restrictions and Impediments in ASEAN Member States”* to monitor Member States' compliance/adherence to the ACIA provision on progressive liberalisation and improvement of the measures on investment. Aligned with ACIA, Member States have likewise implemented domestic reforms to improve their business environment, particularly in terms of facilitating investment, increasing transparency and achieving further liberalisation in the region.

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

24. The Ministers noted the developments of regional cooperation on ASEAN SMEs, including: (i) on-going review of the Strategic Action Plan for ASEAN SME Development (2010-2015); (ii) launching of the Directory of Outstanding ASEAN SMEs 2011 in November 2011 and the plan to launch the Directory of Innovative ASEAN SMEs 2012 at the sideline of the ASEAN Business & Investment Summit (ASEAN-BIS) 2012; (iii) progress on the development of the ASEAN SME Policy Index; and (iv) progress of the implementation of the ASEAN

Framework for Equitable Economic Development (AFEED).

25. The Ministers noted the outcome of the first Joint Consultation between the ASEAN SME Advisory Board and the ASEAN Economic Ministers with the focus on SMEs' Access to Finance and SMEs' Access to Market and Internationalisation of SMEs. The Ministers deliberated on the progress of the SME projects and initiatives undertaken by the ASEAN SME Advisory Board and the ASEAN SME Working Group, as well as the challenges presented and considered the recommendations presented by the Board.

Intellectual Property

26. The Ministers endorsed the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC) Work Programme for 2012-2015. The Ministers noted that AWGIPC adopted the Implementation Work Plans for 28 initiatives under the five (5) Strategic Goals in the ASEAN IPR Action Plan for 2011-2015. The Ministers also noted that the ASEAN Patent Search and Examination Cooperation (ASPEC) has become operational on 30 April 2012 with the posting of requirements and procedures in the websites of all participating ASEAN IP Offices. The Ministers also noted (i) the signing of Memorandum of Cooperation on Industrial Property between the Intellectual Property Offices of the Member States of the ASEAN (ASEAN-IPOs) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO); (ii) the adoption of ASEAN-China Work Plan 2012 which focuses on databases on traditional knowledge and traditional Chinese medicines, national intellectual property strategy at the provincial level, and cloud patent examination solution; and (iii) the endorsement of capacity building activities under Arrangement between the ASEAN Secretariat and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on Cooperation in the Field of IPRs for 2013.
27. The Ministers noted the outcome of consultation between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and Director General Dr. Francis Gurry of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) which focused on strengthening WIPO-ASEAN cooperation in the framework of the ASEAN IPR Action Plan for 2011-2015.

Competition Policy

28. The Ministers noted the good progress in the implementation of competition policy and law in

ASEAN Member States, in particular the entry into force of Malaysia's competition law in January 2012, and the establishment of the Office for Competition under Department of Justice as the Philippines' competition authority in June 2011.

Consumer Protection

29. The Ministers welcomed (i) the completion of ACCP website (www.aseanconsumer.org) which was launched at the 5th ACCP Meeting in Bali on 2-4 May 2012; and (ii) the launch of ASEAN Consumer Complaints Leaflet on 3 April 2012. The ACCP website will serve as the main reference point for matters pertaining to consumer redress.

ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS)

30. The Ministers noted the on-going work towards the establishment of the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) by 2015, including the strengthening of its institutional framework, planning, monitoring, and quality assessment mechanisms, as well as the improvement of availability of trade in goods, trade in services, investment statistics and the MDG indicators. The Ministers also expressed support to the initiative for a voluntary secondment programme to the ASEANStats and tasked ASEAN Secretariat to explore the possible funding and arrangement for this programme.

Public-Private Sector Engagement

31. The Ministers underscored high importance and priority in engaging with the private sector as the inputs and recommendations raised by the private sector are crucial to the successful economic integration of the region. The Ministers noted the public-private sector engagements (PPE) that ASEAN have at all level with the ASEAN business organisations and the foreign business organisations based in ASEAN, ranging from business summit, business dialogue, trade fair and exposition.
32. The PPE activities to date include, among others, the 2nd ASEAN-EU Business Summit, ASEAN-Latin Business Summit, the 5th Dialogue between Secretary-General of ASEAN and the Federation of Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industries in ASEAN (FJCCIA), and the 1st ASEAN-US Business Summit, which was recently inaugurated alongside the 44th AEM.

33. The Ministers supported and urged participations of the public and private sectors from all the

ASEAN Member States at the upcoming events namely (i) the 9th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) and the 9th China-ASEAN Business Summit (CABIS) to be convened from 21 to 25 September 2012 in Nanning, China; (ii) ASEAN-BIS to be convened alongside the 21st ASEAN Summit on 16-18 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; and (iii) the 2nd India-ASEAN Business Fair (AIBF) and Business Conclave on 18 December 2012 in New Delhi, India.

External Economic Relations

34. The Ministers urged ASEAN Member States to be conscious of the importance and need to implement their commitments made in the various ASEAN plus 1 FTAs in a timely manner to ensure the opportunities arising from these Agreements are made available to all ASEAN Member States for maximum benefits. The Ministers also underscored the need to complete the transposition of tariff reduction schedules from AHTN 2007 to AHTN 2012 in all ASEAN plus 1 FTAs, in order to avoid implementation problems that may arise.

Technical Assistance and Capacity-Building

35. The Ministers expressed appreciation to ASEAN's dialogue and development partners' continuing contribution through technical assistance and capacity building facilities, i.e. ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme II (AADCP II), ASEAN Regional Integration Support from the EU (ARISE), ASEAN Development Vision to Advance National Cooperation and Economic Integration (ADVANCE) from the US, and operationalisation of the ASEAN-ADB Memorandum of Understanding (2012-2015). These technical assistance facilities provide support to ASEAN's community-building efforts and institutional strengthening.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. H.E. Kong Vibol, Secretary of State, Ministry of Economy and Finance, and Vice Chairman of the Council for the Development of Cambodia, Cambodia; 4. H.E. Gita Wirjawan, Minister of Trade of Indonesia; 5. H.E. Muhamad Chatib Basri, Chairman of Investment Coordinating Board, Indonesia; 6. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 7. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry,

Malaysia; 8. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 9. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 10. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 11. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 12. H.E. Pongsvas Svasti, Minister of Industry, Thailand; 13. H.E. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 14. H.E. Nguyen Van Trung, Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment, Viet Nam; 15. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Media Statement of the 1st ASEAN Economic Ministers Plus ASEAN FTA Partners Consultations

**Siem Reap, Cambodia,
30 August 2012**

1. ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and their counterparts from ASEAN's FTA Partners today made an important first step towards establishing a new regional free trade area in the form of a Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Ministers recognized the significance of RCEP in strengthening the region's economic architecture, and committed to making RCEP a modern, high quality agreement, which will underpin and promote future growth, development and integration in the participating countries.
2. Economic Ministers from ASEAN, Australia, China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea and New Zealand participated in the First AEM Plus FTA Partners Consultations, which were chaired by H.E. Dr. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce of Cambodia.
3. The Ministers welcomed the first meeting among the Economic Ministers of ASEAN and its FTA Partners as a key step towards launching the RCEP negotiations, which could potentially transform the region into an integrated market comprising over 3 billion people with a combined GDP of about US\$ 17.23 trillion (based on 2010 figures).

4. The Ministers were pleased with the progress that is being made by Senior Economic Officials in paving the way for the launch of RCEP negotiations in November 2012. The Ministers also noted the progress made in the RCEP Working Group on Trade in Goods and instructed officials to commence parallel work in the areas of trade in services and investment at the Working Group level as soon as possible. On the basis of this preparatory work by officials, the Ministers agreed to submit recommendations to their governments on the launch of RCEP negotiations.
5. The Ministers agreed to recommend to the Leaders the Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership for their consideration and endorsement in November 2012. The Ministers expressed confidence that this good momentum in the preparatory stage of the RCEP process augurs well for RCEP's contribution to strengthening the region's economic architecture.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. Hon. Craig Emerson MP, Minister for Trade and Competitiveness, Australia; 2. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 3. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 4. H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce, China; 5. H.E. Anand Sharma, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Textile, India; 6. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; 7. H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan; 8. H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea; 9. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 10. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 11. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 12. Hon. Tim Groser, Minister of Trade, New Zealand; 13. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 14. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 15. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 16. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 17. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN

ASEAN Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons

Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
19 November 2012

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member States of the Association of South East Asian Nations ("ASEAN"), hereinafter collectively referred to as "Member States" or singularly as "Member State";

NOTING the mandate of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint adopted at the 13th ASEAN Summit held on 20 November 2007 in Singapore that free flow of skilled labour is one of the core elements of an ASEAN single market and production base; which allows for managed mobility or facilitated entry for the movement of natural persons engaged in trade in goods, trade in services and investment, according to the prevailing regulations of the receiving country;

RECALLING the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services ("AFAS") signed by ASEAN Economic Ministers ("AEM") on 15 December 1995 in Bangkok, Thailand and its subsequent Implementing Protocols, which lays the foundation for elimination of restrictions to trade in services amongst Member States in all modes of supply, including mode 4 (Movement of Natural Persons);

DESIRING for an effective mechanism to further liberalise and facilitate movement of natural persons towards free flow of skilled labour in ASEAN through close cooperation among related ASEAN bodies in the areas, including and not limited to trade in goods, trade in services, investment, immigration, and labour;

ALSO DESIRING to eliminate substantially all restrictions in the temporary cross-border movement of natural persons involved in the provision of trade in goods, trade in services and investment within the provisions of this Agreement;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

Article 1 Objectives

The objectives of this Agreement are to:

- (a) provide within the scope of this Agreement the rights and obligations additional to those set out in the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services and its Implementing Protocols in relation to the movement of natural persons between Member States;
- (b) facilitate the movement of natural persons engaged in the conduct of trade: in goods, trade in services and investment between Member States;
- (c) establish streamlined and transparent procedures for applications for immigration formalities for the temporary entry or temporary stay of natural persons to whom this Agreement applies; and
- (d) protect the integrity of Member States' borders and protect the domestic labour force and permanent employment in the territories of Member States.

Article 2 Scope

1. This Agreement shall apply to measures affecting the temporary entry or temporary stay of natural persons of a Member State into the territory of another Member State. Such natural persons may include:
 - (a) business visitors;
 - (b) intra-corporate transferees;
 - (c) contractual service suppliers;
 - (d) other categories as may be specified in the Schedules of Commitments for the temporary entry and temporary stay of natural persons of the Member State.
2. This Agreement shall not apply to measures affecting natural persons seeking access to the employment market of another Member State, nor shall it apply to measures regarding citizenship, residence or employment on a permanent basis.
3. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall prevent a Member State from applying measures to regulate the entry into, or temporary stay, of natural persons of the other Member State in its territory, including those measures necessary to protect the integrity of its territory and to ensure the orderly movement of natural persons across its borders, provided that

such measures are not applied in a manner so as to nullify or impair the benefits accruing to the other Member State under the terms of a specific commitment.

4. The sole fact of requiring natural persons to meet visa requirements prior to entry into the territory of a Member State shall not be regarded as nullifying or impairing benefits under this Agreement.

Article 3 Definitions

For the purposes of this Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) **Business Visitor** means a natural person seeking to enter or stay in the territory of another Member State temporarily, whose remuneration and financial support for the duration of the visit is derived from outside of that other Member State;
 - (i) as a representative of a goods seller/service supplier, for the purpose of negotiating the sale of goods or supply of services or entering into agreements to sell goods or supply services for that goods seller/service supplier, where such negotiations do not involve direct sale of goods or supply of services to the general public;
 - (ii) as an employee of a juridical person as defined in subparagraphs e(i), e(ii) and e(iii) of this Article only for the purpose of establishing an investment or setting up a commercial presence, for the juridical person in the territory of another Member State;
 - (iii) for the purpose of participating in business negotiations or meetings; or
 - (iv) for the purpose of establishing an investment or setting up a commercial presence in the territory of another Member State;
- (b) **Contractual Service Supplier** means a natural person who is an employee of a juridical person established in the territory of a Member State which has no commercial presence in the territory of the other Member State where the services will be provided, who:
 - (i) enters the territory of that other Member State temporarily in order to supply a service pursuant to a contract(s)¹ between his/her employer and service consumer(s)¹ in the territory of the other Member State;
 - (ii) is either an executive, manager, or specialist as defined in subparagraph e(i), e(ii) and e(iii)

¹ In the case of Indonesia and Thailand, the service consumer(s) have to be juridical person(s).

of this Article, who receives remuneration from his/her employer;

(iii) must possess the appropriate educational and professional qualifications relevant to the service to be provided; and

(iv) as may be applicable, has been an employee of the juridical person for a period as may be specified in the Schedule of Commitments;

(c) **Granting Member State** means a Member State who receives an application for temporary entry or temporary stay from a natural person of another Member State who is covered by Article 2 (Scope);

(d) **Immigration Formality** means a visa, permit, pass or other documents or electronic authority granting a natural person of one Member State the right to temporarily enter, stay, work, or to establish commercial presence in the territory of the granting Member State;

(e) **Intra-Corporate Transferee (ICT)** means a natural person who is an employee of a juridical person established in the territory of a Member State, who is transferred temporarily for the supply of a service through commercial presence (either through a representative office, branch, subsidiary or affiliate) in the territory of another Member State, and who has been an employee of the juridical person for a period as may be specified in the Schedule of Commitments, and who is:

(i) an **Executive**: a natural person within the organisation who primarily directs the management of the organisation and exercises wide latitude in decision making and receives only general supervision or direction from higher level executives, the board of directors, or stockholders of the business; an executive would not directly perform tasks related to the actual provision of the service or services of the organisation;

(ii) a **Manager**: a natural person within the organisation who primarily directs the organisation / department / subdivision and exercises supervisory and control functions over other supervisory, managerial or professional staff; does not include first line supervisors unless employees supervised are professionals; does not include employees who primarily perform tasks necessary for the provision of the service; or

(iii) a **Specialist**: a natural person within the organisation who possesses knowledge at an advanced level of expertise essential to the

establishment/provision of the service and/or possesses proprietary knowledge of the organisation's service, research equipment, techniques or management; may include, but is not limited to, members of a licensed profession;

(f) **Natural Person** means a natural person who is a national of a Member State², in accordance with its laws, regulations and national policies; and
(g) **Temporary Entry or Temporary Stay** means entry into or stay by a natural person covered by this Agreement, without the intent to establish permanent residence.

Article 4

Grant of Temporary Entry or Temporary Stay

1. Each Member State shall, in accordance with that Member State's Schedule of Commitments in **ANNEX 1**, grant temporary entry or temporary stay in accordance with this Agreement to natural persons of another Member State provided those natural persons:
 - (a) follow prescribed application procedures for the immigration formality sought; and
 - (b) meet all relevant eligibility requirements for temporary entry or temporary stay of the granting Member State.
2. Any fees imposed in respect of the processing of an immigration formality shall be reasonable and in accordance with domestic law.
3. A Member State may deny temporary entry or temporary stay to natural persons of another Member State who do not comply with paragraphs 1(a) and 1(b) of this Article.

Article 5

Processing of Applications

1. Where an application for an immigration formality is required by a Member State, that Member State shall promptly process complete applications for immigration formalities or extensions received from natural persons of another Member State covered by Article 2 (Scope).
2. Each Member State shall, upon request and within a reasonable period after receiving a complete

² In the case of Brunei Darussalam, Natural Persons also refer to those who have the rights of permanent residence in its country in accordance with its laws and regulations.

application for an immigration formality from a natural person of another Member State covered by Article 2 (Scope), notify the applicant of:

- (a) the receipt of the application;
 - (b) the status of the application; and
 - (c) the decision concerning the application including, if approved, the period of stay and other conditions.
3. In the case of an incomplete application, at the request of the applicant, the Member State shall notify the applicant of all the additional information that is required to complete the application and provide the applicant with the opportunity to remedy deficiencies in his/her application.

Article 6

Schedules of Commitments for the Temporary Entry and Temporary Stay of Natural Persons

1. Each Member State shall set out in **ANNEX 1** a schedule containing its commitments for the temporary entry or temporary stay in its territory of natural persons of other Member States covered in Article 2 (Scope). These Schedules shall specify the: general conditions and limitations governing those commitments, including the length of stay, for each category of natural persons included in each Member State's Schedule of Commitments.
2. Upon entry into force of this Agreement, the Schedules of Commitments as referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall supersede commitments made under the AFAS in relation to mode 4 (Movement of Natural Persons)

Article 7

Further Liberalisation

1. Member States shall enter into discussion to review the Schedules of Commitments under this Agreement with a view to achieving further liberalisation on the movement of natural persons. The initial discussion to review the Schedules of Commitments shall take place one year from entry into force of the Agreement. Subsequent discussions shall take place at intervals to be agreed by Member States.
2. The revisions of the Schedules of Commitments as a result of the discussions referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be incorporated into this Agreement, subject to paragraphs 2, 3, 4

and 5 of Article 15 (Revisions, Modifications and Amendments).

Article 8

Transparency

Each Member State shall:

- (a) publish or otherwise make publicly available explanatory material on all relevant immigration formalities which pertain to or affect the operation of this Agreement;
- (b) maintain or establish contact points or other mechanisms to respond to inquiries from interested persons regarding regulations affecting the temporary entry or temporary stay of natural persons;
- (c) to the extent possible, allow reasonable time between publication of new regulations affecting the temporary entry or temporary stay of natural persons and their effective date. Such publication may be made electronically available;
- (d) no later than six month after entry into force of this Agreement publish, such as on its immigration website, or otherwise make publicly available in its own territory and to persons in the territory of the other Member States, the general requirements for temporary entry or temporary stay under this Agreement, including explanatory material and relevant forms and documents that will enable natural persons of other Member States to become acquainted with those requirements; and
- (e) upon modifying or amending any immigration measure that affects the temporary entry or temporary stay of natural persons, ensure that the information published or otherwise made available pursuant to subparagraph (d) of this Article is updated as soon as possible within 90 days.

Article 9

General Exceptions

Subject to the requirement that such measures are not applied in a manner which would constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination between countries where like conditions prevail, or a disguised restriction on the movement of natural persons, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to prevent the adoption or enforcement by any Member State of measures:

- (a) necessary to protect public morals or to maintain public order;³
- (b) necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health;
- (c) necessary to secure compliance with laws or regulations which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement including those relating to:
 - (i) the prevention of deceptive and fraudulent practices or to deal with the effects of a default on services contracts;
 - (ii) the protection of the privacy of individuals in relation to the processing and dissemination of personal data and the protection of confidentiality of individual records and accounts; (iii) safety.

Article 10 Security Exceptions

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed:
 - (a) to require any Member State to furnish any information, the disclosure of which it considers contrary to its essential security interests; or
 - (b) to prevent any Member State from taking any action which it considers necessary for the protection of its essential security interests:
 - (i) relating to the supply of services as carried out directly or indirectly for the purpose of provisioning a military establishment;
 - (ii) relating to fissionable and fusionable materials or the materials from which they are derived;
 - (iii) taken in time of war or other emergency in international relations; or
 - (c) to prevent any Member State from taking any action in pursuance of its obligations under the United Nations Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security.
2. The AEM shall be informed to the fullest extent possible of measures taken under paragraphs 1(b) and 1(c) of this Article and of their termination.

Article 11 Dispute Settlement

1. Member States shall endeavour to settle any differences arising out of the implementation of this Agreement through consultations.

³ The public order exception may be invoked only where a genuine and sufficiently serious threat is posed to one of the fundamental interests of society.

2. A Member State shall not recourse to the ASEAN Protocol on Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism, signed on 29 November 2004 in Vientiane, Lao PDR and amendments thereto, regarding a refusal to grant temporary entry or temporary stay under this Agreement unless:
 - (a) the matter involves a pattern of practice on the part of the granting Member State; and
 - (b) the natural persons affected have exhausted all available domestic remedies regarding this particular matter.

Article 12 Relation with ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement

1. This Agreement does not apply to measures adopted or maintained by each Member State to the extent that they are covered by the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement ("ACIA").
2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this Article, this Agreement shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to measures adopted or maintained under Article 22 of the ACIA (Entry, Temporary Stay and Work of Investors and Key Personnel) affecting the movement of natural persons of a Member State in the territory of any one of the other Member States.
3. For greater certainty, Section B (Investment Dispute Between an Investor and a Member State) of the ACIA shall not apply to this Agreement.

Article 13 Recognition

1. A Member State, by agreement or arrangement with another Member State, may recognise the education or experience obtained, requirements met, licenses or certifications granted in the other Member State for the purposes of the fulfilment, in whole or in part, of its standards or criteria for authorisation, licensing and certification of service suppliers of the other Member State and subject to the requirements of paragraph 3 of this Article.
2. Where a Member State recognises, by agreement or arrangement with a non-Member State or unilaterally whether in favour of another Member State or a non-Member State, the education or experience obtained, requirements met, licenses or certifications granted in the other Member State or non-Member State, the Member State shall

afford adequate opportunity for any other Member State to demonstrate that education, experience, licenses, or certifications obtained or requirements met in the territory of that Member State should be recognised.

3. A Member State shall not accord recognition in a manner which would constitute a means of discrimination against another Member State in the application of its standards or criteria for the authorisation, licensing or certification of service suppliers, or a disguised restriction on trade in services. Where appropriate, recognition should be based on multilaterally agreed criteria.
4. Each Member State shall encourage competent bodies in its territory to enter into cooperation, agreement or arrangement, multilaterally or bilaterally, on recognition of professional:
 - (a) qualification requirements;
 - (b) qualification procedures; and
 - (c) licensing, certification or registration requirements and procedures.

Article 14 Institutional Mechanism

1. The AEM shall be responsible for the implementation of this Agreement.
2. The AEM shall coordinate and oversee the implementation of this Agreement across Member States and across related ASEAN bodies.
3. The ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Services ("CCS") and, for the purposes of this Agreement, other relevant government officials shall assist the AEM in implementing this Agreement.
4. In the fulfilment of its functions, the AEM may establish subsidiary bodies and assign them to perform/ undertake/accomplish certain tasks or delegate its responsibilities to any subsidiary bodies.

Article 15 Revisions, Modifications and Amendments

1. Any Member State may request in writing a revision, modification, or amendment of all or any part of this Agreement.
2. The provisions of this Agreement may only be revised, modified or amended when mutually

agreed upon in writing by the Governments of all Member States.

3. Any revision, modification, or amendment agreed to and in writing shall form an integral part of this Agreement.
4. Such revision, modification, or amendment shall come into force on such date as may be determined by all Member States.
5. Any revision, modification, or amendment shall not prejudice the rights and obligations arising from or based on this Agreement prior or up to the date of such revision, modification, or amendment.

Article 16 Entry into Force

1. This Agreement shall enter into force after all Member States have notified or, where necessary, deposited instruments of ratification with the Secretary-General of ASEAN, which shall not take more than 180 days after the signing of this Agreement.
2. The Secretary-General of ASEAN shall promptly notify all Member States of the notifications or deposit of each instrument of ratification referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 17 Depositary

This Agreement shall be deposited with the ASEAN Secretary-General, who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof to each Member State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed the ASEAN Agreement on Movement of Natural Persons.

DONE at Phnom Penh, Cambodia, this Nineteenth day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve, in a single copy in the English Language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

LIM JOCK SENG

Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

CHAM PRASIDH

Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce

For the Republic of Indonesia:

GITA IRAWAN WIRJAWAN

Minister of Trade

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

NAM VIYAKETH

Minister of Industry and Commerce

For Malaysia:

MUSTAPA MOHAMED

Minister of International Trade and Industry

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

KAN ZAW

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development

For the Republic of the Philippines:

GREGORY L. DOMINGO

Secretary of Trade and Industry

For the Republic of Singapore:

LIM HNG KIANG

Minister for Trade and Industry

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

BOONSONG TERIYAPIROM

Minister of Commerce

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

VU HUY HOANG

Minister of Industry and Trade

Negotiations for the RCEP will recognize ASEAN Centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture and the interests of ASEAN's FTA Partners in supporting and contributing to economic integration, equitable economic development and strengthening economic cooperation among the participating countries.

RCEP negotiations will be guided by the following principles:

1. The RCEP will be consistent with the WTO, including GATT Article XXIV and GATS Article V.
2. The RCEP will have broader and deeper engagement with significant improvements over the existing ASEAN+1 FTAs, while recognizing the individual and diverse circumstances of the participating countries.
3. The RCEP will include provisions to facilitate trade and investment and to enhance transparency in trade and investment relations between the participating countries, as well as to facilitate the participating countries' engagement in global and regional supply chains.
4. Taking into consideration the different levels of development of the participating countries, the RCEP will include appropriate forms of flexibility including provision for special and differential treatment, plus additional flexibility to the least-developed ASEAN Member States, consistent with the existing ASEAN+1 FTAs, as applicable.
5. The ASEAN+1 FTAs and the bilateral/plurilateral FTAs between and among participating countries will continue to exist and no provision in the RCEP agreement will detract from the terms and conditions in these bilateral/plurilateral FTAs between and among the participating countries.
6. Any ASEAN FTA Partner that did not participate in the RCEP negotiations at the outset would be allowed to join the negotiations, subject to terms and conditions that would be agreed with all other participating countries. The RCEP agreement will also have an open accession clause to enable the participation of any ASEAN FTA partner that did not participate in the RCEP negotiations and any other external economic partners after the completion of the RCEP negotiations.
7. Provisions for technical assistance and capacity building may be made available, building upon the ASEAN+1 FTAs, to the developing and least-developed countries participating in the RCEP

Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership

Recognizing the ASEAN Framework for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the objective of launching RCEP negotiations is to achieve a modern, comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial economic partnership agreement among the ASEAN Member States and ASEAN's FTA Partners. RCEP will cover trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical cooperation, intellectual property, competition, dispute settlement and other issues.

to enable all parties to fully participate in the negotiations, implement obligations under the RCEP and enjoy the benefits from the RCEP.

8. The negotiations on trade in goods, trade in services, investment and other areas will be conducted in parallel to ensure a comprehensive and balanced outcome.

I. TRADE IN GOODS

The RCEP will aim at progressively eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers on substantially all trade in goods in order to establish a free trade area among the parties.

Tariff negotiations will be conducted on a comprehensive basis. Such negotiations should aim to achieve the high level of tariff liberalization, through building upon the existing liberalization levels between RCEP participating countries and through tariff elimination on a high percentage of both tariff lines and trade value. The scheduling of tariff commitments should seek to maximize the benefits of regional economic integration.

Priority will be attached to early tariff elimination on products of interest to the least developed ASEAN Member States.⁴

II. TRADE IN SERVICES

The RCEP will be comprehensive, of high quality and substantially eliminate restrictions and/or discriminatory measures with respect to trade in services between the RCEP participating countries. Rules and obligations on trade in services under the RCEP will be consistent with the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and will be directed towards achieving liberalization commitments building on the RCEP participating countries' commitments under the GATS and the ASEAN+1 FTAs. All sectors and modes of supply will be subject to negotiations.

III. INVESTMENT

The RCEP will aim at creating a liberal, facilitative, and competitive investment environment in the region. Negotiations for investment under the RCEP will cover the four pillars of promotion, protection, facilitation and liberalization.

IV. ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Economic and technical cooperation under the RCEP will aim at narrowing development gaps among

the parties and maximizing mutual benefits from the implementation of the RCEP agreement. The economic and technical cooperation provisions in the RCEP will build upon existing economic cooperation arrangements between ASEAN and ASEAN's FTA partners participating in the RCEP. Cooperation activities should include electronic commerce and other areas that would be mutually agreed upon by the RCEP participating countries.

V. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The text on intellectual property in the RCEP will aim to reduce IP-related barriers to trade and investment by promoting economic integration and cooperation in the utilization, protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights.

VI. COMPETITION

Provisions on competition will form the basis for parties to cooperate in the promotion of competition, economic efficiency, consumer welfare and the curtailment of anti-competitive practices while cognizant of the significant differences in the capacity and national regimes of RCEP participating countries in the area of competition.

VII. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

The RCEP will include a dispute settlement mechanism that would provide an effective, efficient and transparent process for consultations and dispute resolution.

VIII. OTHER ISSUES

The RCEP negotiations will consider including other issues covered by FTAs among RCEP participating countries, which may be identified and mutually agreed in the course of negotiations, and take into account new and emerging issues relevant to business realities. The RCEP negotiations will commence in early 2013 and aim to complete by end-2015.

⁴ As determined by the criteria issued by ECOSOC's Committee for Development Policy.

ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting

Joint Media Statement of the 16th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (AFMM)

Theme:

ASEAN - One Community, One Destiny

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 30 March 2012

Introduction

1. We, the ASEAN Finance Ministers, convened our 16th Annual Meeting under the chairmanship of H.E. Keat Chhon, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Economy and Finance of the Kingdom of Cambodia.
2. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia delivered the Keynote Address at the opening ceremony of the 16th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting. He emphasized that "The 16th AFMM today will provide an excellent opportunity for the ASEAN Finance Ministers to discuss how best to enhance stability of the financial system and mobilize financial resources for supporting investment, which will maintain a favorable climate for growth in the region".
3. Together with the troika of ASEAN Central Bank Governors of Indonesia, Cambodia and Brunei Darussalam, we reaffirmed our commitment to maintain growth and development momentum and financial stability of the region in the face of difficult global challenges. We agreed to take all necessary actions to sustain growth and preserve the stability of financial markets. We exchanged views with the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund on policies to maintain stability in the current environment, and we called on them to continue to pursue innovative projects and assistance to better serve the needs of our economies.
4. We have progressed in delivering the commitments we made in previous years to deepen the integration of our markets under the Roadmap for Monetary

and Financial Integration of ASEAN. We are committed to take more concrete steps to achieve the goals of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). We look forward to the operationalization of the USD485.2 million ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF) this year, as well as the launching of initial projects for the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF). We also welcome the studies by the ASEAN+3 on Infrastructure Financing and the flexibility regarding access by less developed member countries. We also look forward to the enhancement of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) by the next ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' Meeting in May 2012.

Regional Economic Update and Policy Challenges

5. We are pleased that our economies grew by 4.5 percent last year despite the heightened uncertainties in the global economy. The positive but moderate economic growth was underpinned by resilient domestic demand, strong macroeconomic fundamentals, sound balance sheets of banks and the corporate sector, and on-going structural reforms since 1997. We are confident that our economic expansion would remain healthy this year, with projected GDP growth of between 5.6 percent and 6.3 percent. Nonetheless, we agreed to remain vigilant against downside risks such as further contraction of external demand, tighter global financing conditions, higher oil prices, and volatile global capital flows.
6. We will continue to implement appropriate monetary and fiscal policies to sustain the economic growth and maintain stability of financial markets. Cognizant of our varying levels of development, our macroeconomic policies may be adjusted, if needed, according to specific conditions facing our respective economies. Enhancing resilience to manage volatile capital flows is also important and we will continue to adopt appropriate measures among others, to ensure that price and financial stability remain supportive of growth. To strengthen the medium-term foundations for growth, we are committed to move toward more domestic-led growth. This action shall be reinforced by our continued commitments to pursue structural reforms, rebalance growth in favour of private investment, and to promote inclusive development. We affirm our commitment to work towards increased cooperation and integration, to enhance resilience against external shocks by developing dynamic and efficient internal markets.

Roadmap for Monetary and Financial Integration of ASEAN (RIA-Fin)

7. Today we agreed to continue intensifying our efforts to build stronger integrated financial markets to achieve the AEC goals.
8. We also noted the updates by the troika of ASEAN Central Bank Governors of Indonesia, Cambodia and Brunei Darussalam on the development of an ASEAN Financial Integration Framework and the work program of the newly established Senior Level Committee on Financial Integration, under which the Task Force on ASEAN Banking Integration Framework was also established. We also noted the ongoing work on payments and settlements system.
9. We are also encouraged by the establishment of the Steering Committee on Capacity Building by the ASEAN Central Banks in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank and the SEACEN Research and Training Center. The enhancement of capacity building initiatives in the financial sector will help narrow development gaps among ASEAN economies and allow members to fully participate in ongoing integration efforts.

Capital Market Development

10. We acknowledge the importance of having resilient capital markets to mitigate capital flow volatility. We will therefore continue to deepen regional capital markets, to more effectively absorb and redeploy foreign capital and broaden the range of investment instruments available, so as to ensure that the flow of capital is better channelled to productive investments in our economies. We are encouraged to see that regional cooperation through the ASEAN Working Committee for Capital Market Development (WC-CMD) and ASEAN Capital Markets Forum (ACMF) have led to steady development in regional capital markets.
11. The WC-CMD's Bond Market Development Scorecard has been a useful benchmark for ASEAN finance and central bank officials to measure the state of ASEAN's bond market development, openness and liquidity. To achieve further ASEAN capital market integration, we tasked the WC-CMD to facilitate the implementation of targeted and focused capacity building programmes to help members address market gaps identified in the scorecard.
12. We are encouraged by the significant progress made by the ACMF in the integration of capital

markets, particularly the recent signing of the MoU on Expedited Review Framework for Secondary Listings, launching of the ASEAN Corporate Governance Scorecard for assessing corporate governance practices of ASEAN listed companies, and the development of the ASEAN Disclosure Standards that will facilitate more efficient cross-border securities offerings within the region. We are further encouraged that the ASEAN Exchanges are working towards developing a model for the integration of post-trade services. All these efforts have contributed significantly to the integration of our capital markets and we continue to support the work of the ACMF and ASEAN Exchanges in this regard.

13. Furthermore, we tasked the ACMF together with the WC-CMD and ASEAN Secretariat to develop an independent study to streamline and improve cooperation efforts across various regional capital markets initiatives to better meet the gaps, constraints and challenges that were identified. We look forward to the development of new initiatives to further support regional capital market integration efforts, which includes facilitating the development of a diverse range of regionally-focused market offerings of products and services in the region.

Financial Services Liberalization

14. We are encouraged with the on-going Sixth Round of negotiations of financial services liberalization under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services. We urge our officials to closely work together to ensure the progressive liberalization and integration of our financial markets as financial services commitments under the Sixth Package in 2014 will come close to the AEC's crucial timeline of 2015. We are encouraged by the initiative of the Working Committee on Financial Services Liberalisation (WC-FSL) for the integration of the insurance sector in an effort to deepen regional non-banking sector financial integration. We continue to support the work of the WC-FSL in their role of driving financial services liberalisation under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services.

Capital Account Liberalization

15. We resolve to continue liberalizing our capital account regimes to promote greater capital mobility in support of closer economic and financial integration within our economies in line with the goals of the AEC. The freer capital mobility is envisioned to create a more facilitative environment for investment, trade and business

activities which will certainly benefit the economies of member countries, and strengthen integration of our markets with the global economies. In this regard, we have successfully completed our mutual assessment process by identifying rules to progressively liberalize current account transactions, direct and portfolio investments, and initiated the same for other flows. Notwithstanding, the liberalisation process will be sequenced based on the readiness of the economy of member countries and supported by safeguards to ensure that the benefits of the liberalisations outweigh the costs. In view of this, greater focus will be given on capacity building initiatives in support of capital liberalisation so as to increase the readiness and willingness of members in their liberalisation endeavours.

Strengthening ASEAN Finance Cooperation and Economic Integration

Enhancing Regional Surveillance

16. We reiterated the need to strengthen surveillance in support of regional economic integration. We are encouraged by the work of the ASEAN Integration Monitoring Office (AIMO) to support the AEC, particularly the development of analytical reports, monitoring tools, and capacity building programs for integration. We stand ready to strengthen the capacity and resources of AIMO and call on Member States and development partners to assist AIMO in delivering its mandate.
17. We reaffirm the importance of, and our support for the role of ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) in macroeconomic and financial surveillance of the region, particularly with respect to the CMIM. We agreed to invite AMRO to future ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meetings to brief us on the macroeconomic and financial situation in the region.

Infrastructure Financing

18. We welcome the signing of the Shareholders Agreement Relating to the AIF by all Parties and we look forward to the full establishment of AIF at its forthcoming meeting on 3 May 2012 in Manila and the commencement of AIF lending operations in the near future. This will strongly demonstrate the strength, solidarity and consensus of ASEAN towards sustaining growth, facilitating the physical connectivity, and narrowing the infrastructure development gap in ASEAN. We appreciate the continued support from the ASEAN-World Bank

Infrastructure Finance Network (IFN) and endorse the programs for 2012.

Cooperation on Customs Matters

19. We are pleased with the progress of activities under customs cooperation, particularly the pilot project to implement the two-month ASEAN Single Window pilot testing among seven participating countries as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) 2012 that will provide a single harmonized tariff nomenclature for firms doing business in ASEAN. We signed today the new ASEAN Agreement on Customs that will enhance the delivery of customs services in the region. We urged our customs officials to fully implement the other initiatives, including the finalisation of agreements and protocols, to support the establishment of a single market and production base under the AEC.

ASEAN Cooperation on Taxation

20. Addressing the tax-related impediments to integration remains our priority. As such, we encourage the ASEAN Forum on Taxation (AFT) to further enhance regional dialogue on taxation and strengthen cooperation in tax matters. We welcome the initial work plan by members of the AFT that will examine options to address the withholding tax and double taxation issues in the region.

ASEAN Cooperation in Insurance

21. We welcome the initiatives and measures being undertaken to improve insurance penetration in the region, including the development of regulatory frameworks to promote insurance products, tax incentives for purchase of insurance products, and consumer education to increase awareness. We agreed to strengthen information sharing amongst regulators and ministries as a strategy to improve insurance penetration in the region. We also agreed on capacity building initiatives to assist member regulators in aligning their regulations with international best practices.

Engaging and Building a Stronger ASEAN

22. We reaffirm our shared commitment in a stable and integrated ASEAN, and our support for strong, sustainable, and balanced growth in the region. We are more determined than ever to deepen our economic and financial integration. Building on the commitment made by our Leaders to promote sustainable development, we will ensure

that reducing barriers to trade, investment and financial flows will help reduce the development gap and increase the welfare of our people. We are committed to promote social and financial inclusion.

23. We stand ready to bolster the prospects for effective economic policy cooperation and coordination. We will continue to coordinate policies in the future, taking into account economic conditions and developments. To this end, we welcome the proposal by the Philippines to host the 2012 ASEAN Finance Ministers' Investor Seminar to promote ASEAN as an asset class.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act

24. We recognize the impact of Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act on the operation of the ASEAN financial institutions. We agreed for ASEAN to work closely to adopt a common approach to address the matter.

Acknowledgement

25. We thank the Kingdom of Cambodia for hosting the 16th AFMM this year and welcome Brunei Darussalam as chair in 2013.

ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF)

34th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (34th AMAF)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 27 September 2013

1. We, the Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry held our 34th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) Meeting on 27 September 2012 in Vientiane, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr.

Vilayvanh Phomkhe, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR.

Prioritizing Key Measures and Targets for 2015

2. We, while noting and appreciating on-going progress and significant achievements under the food, agriculture and forestry cooperation, continue to recognise the need for the effective and timely realisation of integration and community-building targets. In this regard, we have committed to ensure that the ASEAN Community Blueprints' measures are implemented according to the strategic timeline, including their integration into national policy and programmes. To this end, we commit ourselves to intensify, strengthen our efforts and fast track implementation of measures at both national and regional levels. In doing so, we have agreed to identify strategies to fill gaps and develop supporting initiatives, prioritise key measures and develop a list of yearly targeted achievements on the implementation of the Community Blueprints.
3. We, in support for the attainment of the priority policies and measures, agreed to look into possible and effective ways of streamlining the processes and modus operandi of our Subsidiary Bodies, taking into account their potential synergies and respective complementarities. This streamlining process will be guided by a rational and flexible approach, and will be directed towards ensuring the achievement of AEC targets by 2015 in a more focused, high-impact, and realistic manner. However, cognizant of the daunting tasks ahead in delivering these targets and in consideration that some measures may require longer time to accomplish, we have agreed to support the proposed timeline for ASEAN Community by 31 December 2015.

Meeting Challenges and Opportunities for Food Security

4. We, while noting the good progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and the Strategic Plan of Action on ASEAN Food Security (SPA-FS) (2009-2013), including the entry-into force of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement, agreed to remain vigilant on the opportunities and challenges of food security in the region and the world, particularly at a time of high volatility of commodity prices and economic uncertainties. Moreover, we agreed to continue building on existing mechanisms and

explore new initiatives that contribute to food security in the region.

5. We noted the outcomes of the Mid-Term Evaluation on the AIFS Framework and SPA-FS (2009-2013), and agreed to support the continued implementation of the AIFS Framework, including the development of a new SPA-FS (2014-2018). We also continued to recognize the importance of constructive platforms for private sector and civil society engagement in addressing food security in the region and urged close collaboration and partnership with other ministries, dialogue partners, development and international organisations to foster coordination and implementation of activities as well as monitoring and reporting of progress of the AIFS Framework and the SPA-FS.
6. We commended the contributions and support by development partners such as the Asian Development Bank's extension of technical assistance to support the implementation of AIFS framework particularly on the area of emergency rice reserve, rice trade and food security information system through existing mechanisms such as the APTERR, ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board (AFSRB), and ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS). We also expressed our appreciation for continuing support from the European Commission-Food and Agriculture Organisation's Food Security Programme: Linking Information and Decision Making to Improve Food Security, and Learning Programme for Food Security Professionals; Global Rice Science Partnership (GRiSP), led by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI); and the Maximizing Agricultural Revenue through Knowledge Enterprise and Trade (MARKET) Project of the United States.

Strengthening of Cooperation on Sectoral and Priority Issues

7. We expressed satisfaction on the continuing progress in food, agriculture and forestry cooperation and further endorsed the following ASEAN standards and documents as a basis for supporting trade facilitation and joint approaches in food, agriculture and forestry sectors:
 - i. List of twelve (12) MRLs for nine pesticides: beta-cyfluthrin (cabbage), triazophos (soybean immature in whole pods, soybean immature seeds, yard long bean), lambda cyhalothrin (okra and citrus), imidacloprid (okra), profenofos (pummelo), cypermethrin (carambola), chlorpyrifos (chilli), metalaxyl (pineapple), thiamethoxam (orange);
 - ii. ASEAN Standards for i) Wax apple (ASEAN Stan 29:2011), ii) Chico (Sapodilla) (ASEAN Stan 25:2011), iii) Eggplant (ASEAN Stan 26:2011), iv) Pumpkin (ASEAN Stan 27:2011), and v) Sweet Corn (ASEAN Stan 28:2011)
 - iii. Revised ASEAN Standards for i) Mango (ASEAN Stan 2: 2006, Rev.1-2012), ii) Pineapple (ASEAN Stan 3: 2006, Rev.1-2012), iii) Banana (ASEAN Stan 3: 2006, Rev.1-2012), and iv) Durian (ASEAN Stan 1: 2006, Rev.1-2012);
 - iv. Intra-ASEAN Phytosanitary Guidelines for the Importation of Paddy, Oil Palm, and Banana;
 - v. Guidelines and Audit Checklist for ASEAN Nursery Certification Scheme for Export;
 - vi. Additional Role and Functions of ASWGL and SOM-AMAF in the Utilisation and Management of the ASEAN Animal Health Trust Fund (AAHTF);
 - vii. Executive Report on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI); and
 - viii. Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee of the ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (ARASFF).
 - ix. Terms of Reference of the ASEAN SPS Contact Points (ASCP)
8. We agreed to strengthen cooperation on ensuring food safety and SPS issues. In this regard, we agreed for the maximisation of the ASEAN SPS Contact Points (ASCP) as the central body to coordinate SPS policies and cooperation initiatives under AMAF and those issues that cross-over with other sectors such as health, standards and conformance, science and technology, and trade, as well as the establishment of the ASEAN Rapid Alert System on Food and Feed as a formal mechanism under AMAF.
9. We noted and supported the efforts to harmonise the ASEAN Halal Food Standards in order to facilitate trade within the region and to the external market. We also supported the proposal on the ASEAN Halal Science Exchange Programme which is aimed to establish scientific and academic networking and exchange between halal research and development institutions and laboratories in ASEAN countries.
10. We also noted the efforts to establish a long-term vision/perspective on the management of ASEAN Good Agricultural Practices (ASEAN GAP) in preparing for economic integration, by having an

ASEAN GAP Management System that includes a recognition mechanism and certification system for identified priority sub-sectors and with commodities of high potential for intra- and extra-ASEAN trade.

11. We recalled and continue to support the ASEAN Ministerial Statement, issued during the 32nd AMAF Meeting, on “ASEAN Cooperation on Animal Health and Zoonoses: HPAI and Beyond”, which embodies our collective aspiration for a strengthened national veterinary services that could effectively manage and address high impacting animal and zoonotic diseases in the region. We particularly highlighted our support for the commemoration of the “World Rabies Day” on 28 September and for the realization of a Rabies-free ASEAN by 2020. We further commended the efforts and provide support to the Preparatory Committee for the establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses (ACCAHZ). We also recognized that financial support is very critical in the implementation of this Statement hence, we agreed in the streamlining of mechanism for the utilization of the ASEAN Animal Health Trust Fund (AAHTF).
12. We also noted and supported the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) on ASEAN Cooperation in Fisheries (2011-2015), developed based on the adopted “Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020” and ASEAN Programme Framework on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security (2011-2015).
13. We further noted and continue to support cooperation activities under the ASEAN Cooperation in Forestry which include, ASEAN Cooperation on Trans-boundary Haze Pollution, Sustainable Forest Management in ASEAN, Pan ASEAN Timber Certification Initiative, Forest Products Promotion Scheme, Development of Herbal and Medicinal Plants in ASEAN, Cooperation in Forest Products Development, ASEAN Experts Group on CITES, ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN), ASEAN Social Forestry Network (ASFN), International Forest Policy Processes, Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG), Asia Forest Partnership (AFP), ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network on Forests and Climate Change (ARKN-FCC), ASEAN Multisectoral Framework on Climate Change: Agriculture and Forestry towards Food Security (AFCC), and ASEAN-ROK Cooperation in Forestry including

the outcomes of the recently concluded Special ASEAN Ministerial and ASEAN-ROK Ministerial Meetings on Forestry.

Responding to the Impact of Climate Change and Emerging Issues

14. We recalled the Declaration of Joint Response to Climate Change by the 16th ASEAN Summit, in which the Leaders tasked the agriculture and forestry sectors to engage in cooperation in research and development and knowledge sharing, and reaffirmed their agreement on the effective implementation of Reduced Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD)-plus mechanisms in phases, as these initiatives will contribute to enhanced food production, agricultural productivity and water resources sustainability, while adapting to the adverse effects of climate change and mitigating greenhouse gas emissions from the sectors, thus ensuring sustainable livelihoods of farmers and food security in the ASEAN region.
15. We particularly noted the good progress of collaborative initiatives with dialogue and development partners related to climate change, namely: German-ASEAN Programme on Response to Climate Change: Agriculture, Forestry and related Sectors (GAP-CC); ASEAN-Swiss Partnership on Social Forestry and Climate Change (ASFCC); ASEAN-Korea Network on Climate Change Adaptation in Aquaculture; impacts of climate change in the fisheries and aquaculture sector under the Maximizing Agricultural Revenue through Knowledge, Enterprise Development, and Trade Project (MARKET); Workshop on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in Agriculture Sector in India and ASEAN Countries; ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme Phase II (AADCP II) Project on REDD Plus; and new initiative with FAO on Biomass Energy for Food Security. We also noted the outcomes and supported the recommendations of the 1st Ad-hoc Steering Committee on Climate Change and Food Security to effectively monitor the progress of work and coordinate activities (i.e. Climate Smart Agriculture, and low carbon green growth in agriculture and forestry sectors) being implemented by various subsidiary bodies and partners.

Moving Together with Partners towards 2015

16. We collectively expressed our continued appreciation for the assistance and support, in advancing cooperation on food, agriculture

and forestry in ASEAN region, rendered by various dialogue partners and international organizations, among others: Australia, China, European Commission, India, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, Russia, United States of America, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations, the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and the Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC). In particular, we have agreed to support the implementation of the various cooperation work plans and initiatives that contribute towards a strengthened institutional capacity of our Member States and achievement of our priority measures and targets.

17. We, together with H.E. Mr. Niu Dun, Vice Minister of Agriculture of People's Republic of China, agreed to extend our Memorandum of Understanding on Agriculture Cooperation for another year and also endorsed 2013 China-ASEAN Agriculture Cooperation Work Plan. We urged our senior officials to finalize the new Memorandum of Understanding on Food and Agriculture Cooperation for signing at the 35th AMAF Meeting which will be held in Malaysia next year. We also seek the support of H.E. Mr. Niu Dun to facilitate the development of a Memorandum of Understanding on Forestry Cooperation with the relevant ministry in China.
18. We, in recognizing the critical role of the private sector and civil society organisations towards economic integration and community building, agreed to continue contributing in building an enabling environment and collaborative platform for dialogue and engagement. We, therefore, are encouraged by the successful outcomes of the second AMAF-Private Sector Dialogue held on 27 September 2012, and will look forward to our future engagements with all relevant stakeholders in ensuring a food secure and prosperous ASEAN Community.

35th AMAF Meeting

19. We agreed to meet again for the 35th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Meeting in Malaysia in 2013.
20. The Ministers from other ASEAN Member States expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Lao PDR for hosting the 34th AMAF Meeting and for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS

H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam; H.E. Prof. Dr. Chan Sarun, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia; H.E. Dr. Suswono, Minister of Agriculture, Indonesia; H.E. Mr. Vilayvanh Phomkhe, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR; H.E. Datuk Seri Noh Bin Omar, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia; H.E. Mr. Ohn Than, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar; H.E. Mr. Joel . Rudinas, Under Secretary of Agriculture, Philippines; H.E. Dr. Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Defence, Singapore; H.E. Mr. Theera Wongsamut, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand; H.E. Dr. Bui Ba Bong, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam; H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM)

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 30th ASEAN Ministers of Energy Meeting (AMEM)

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
12 September 2012**

1. The 30th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) was held on 12 September 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. *H.E. Mr. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy of Cambodia* chaired the *H.E. Mr. Jero Wacik, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia* was the Vice-Chairperson. The 9th Meeting of Energy Ministers of the ASEAN Plus Three Countries (China, Japan and the Republic of Korea), the 6th East Asian Summit Energy Ministers Meeting, and a dialogue with the International Energy Agency (IEA) were also held on this occasion.
2. The 30th AMEM and related meetings were officiated by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN

SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. In his Opening Remarks, the Prime Minister expressed that ASEAN cooperation has successfully enabled the Member States to enhance solidarity, build closed cooperation and improve integration in various sectors including energy connectivity. He also expressed that through the selection of the theme of 'ASEAN Green Connectivity', ASEAN Member States reflect their high participation in production and utilisation of energy to minimize any harm to the environment, ecosystem, nature and society aiming reduction on global climate change. With the view to achieve ASEAN goals of ASEAN Community Building, ASEAN Connectivity in the context of climate change, natural disasters threatening, with the increase of energy demand, fluctuation of fuel prices in the international markets, and to secure energy in the region along with resisting the increase of electricity pricing, He requested the ASEAN Ministers on Energy to look into the following issues: improve cooperation in order to produce technological facilities producing renewable energy-based electric power to enhance ASEAN Green Connectivity; improve Regional Power Trade toward establishing ASEAN Power Pool in the future; to initiate the connection of ASEAN Power Grid with large scale power sources due to tendency of increasing fuel price; as well as to archive the ASEAN Plan of Actions for Energy Cooperation 2010-2015.

3. In reviewing the region's energy situation, the Ministers were pleased to note that as a result of measures to improve energy efficiency applied at both regional and national levels, ASEAN's energy intensity has been reduced by 4.97% between 2005 and 2009. This demonstrates that the region is on the right track towards achieving the target set in the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2010-2015 to reduce regional energy intensity by at least 8% from 2005 levels by 2015.
4. The Ministers were, however, also fully aware of the tremendous challenges faced by the ASEAN energy sector, as the total final energy consumption of the region is projected to rise at an annual average growth rate of 4.4% from 375 Mtoe in 2007 to 1,018 Mtoe in 2030 under the Business-as-Usual scenario in the 3rd ASEAN Energy Outlook. The Ministers therefore reiterated their resolve to step up individual and collective efforts by ASEAN Member States to ensure secure, stable, affordable and environmentally sustainable energy supplies, so as to enable ASEAN to achieve the economic and social development goals of the ASEAN Community by 2015. In this regard, the

Ministers endorsed the plan for the Mid-Term Review of APAEC 2010-2015, to be conducted by the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) through the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and in cooperation with the other ASEAN Specialised Energy Bodies, to identify necessary actions and measures to achieve the ASEAN Community goals. The Ministers tasked the Senior Officials to complete the Mid-Term Review through the Regional Energy Policy and Planning Sub-sector Network (REPP-SSN) and submit their appropriate recommendations for the Ministers' consideration at the 31st AMEM in 2013.

5. In strengthening the APAEC 2010-2015, the Ministers reiterated their commitment made in 2010 to further strengthen ASEAN efforts in addressing climate change and enhancing ASEAN energy cooperation towards a greener ASEAN energy sector and low-carbon economy, and the role of clean energy technologies towards this end. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the inclusion of a dedicated chapter on ASEAN in the IEA publication "Energy Technology Perspectives 2012" as part of the Clean Technology Development project that ASEAN is pursuing with the IEA.
6. While noting the progress made in the implementation of the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP) project through bilateral interconnections between ASEAN Member States, the Ministers welcomed the new strategic focus of the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) in oil and gas cooperation, to be implemented through a) bilateral connections; b) LNG cooperation with a focus on destination flexibility; c) harmonisation of LNG specifications; d) ship-shore compatibility; e) promotion of regional technical support; and f) studies on establishing proactive strategic gas supply buffer management to ensure supply availability during gas shortage, etc. The Ministers also endorsed the establishment of the Task Force on APSA/CERM Operationalisation to propose the necessary procedures, guidelines and plan of action, and required infrastructure for the operationalisation of the Coordinated Emergency Response Measures (CERM) Mechanism under the ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA). The Ministers acknowledged the significant impact that global gas developments, particularly shale gas developments in North America, would have on the ASEAN region. The Ministers tasked the Senior Officials and ASCOPE to explore with the United States a specific platform where ASEAN could obtain information about shale gas developments and the US' LNG export regulatory framework.

7. The Ministers welcomed the new developments in the implementation of the ASEAN Power Grid (APG) project, particularly the signing of the MOU between Indonesia and Malaysia on the Interconnection Project No. 4 Peninsular Malaysia- Sumatra (with its commercial operation date (COD) expected in 2017), and the agreement that the two Member States would start power exchanges of the Interconnection Project No. 6 West Kalimantan-Sarawak in 2015. The Ministers also welcomed the new structure of the Working Groups under the Council of the Heads of ASEAN Power Utilities/Authorities (HAPUA), which would enable the more effective implementation of the APG project. The Ministers welcomed HAPUA's efforts to accelerate work on the harmonisation of regulatory framework and technical standards for the operation of the APG. The Ministers noted the need to better harmonise regulatory standards and systems, and to understand local conditions and regulations in order to bring the APG forward. They tasked HAPUA to prepare a report on these specific challenges and to propose initiatives to overcome these impediments and to report back to the 31st AMEM.
8. The Ministers commended the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Sub-Sector Network (EE&C-SSN) for the good progress made in promoting and improving energy efficiency in the region, which includes the establishment of National Councils of the ASEAN Energy Management System (AEMAS) in six (6) Member States; the award of certifications to 779 energy managers and 6 energy end-users under the AEMAS project; and the adoption of the Strategic Framework for the Harmonisation of Energy Efficiency Standards for Household Appliances in ASEAN, with air conditioners (A/C) being selected as the first product for harmonisation. The Ministers noted the successful completion of the 12-year long PROMEEC and MTPEC Projects; and welcomed the new initiatives under the ASEAN-Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership (AJEEP). The Ministers encouraged the EE&C-SSN to expedite work on establishing a long-term target for ASEAN Energy Intensity (EI) improvement beyond the current 8% reduction from 2005 levels by 2015 that could help transform ASEAN towards a low-carbon and smart-energy region and submit their recommendation to the next AMEM for adoption. The Ministers congratulated the winners and the runners-up of the ASEAN Energy Awards 2012 (Best Practices in Energy Management Award and Best Practices in Energy Efficient Building Award).
9. The Ministers noted the activities undertaken by the Renewable Energy Support Program (RESP) and the Renewable Energy Sub-Sector Network (RE-SSN) in promoting the development of renewable energy in the region, including: a) Study and Workshop on RE Support Mechanisms for Bankable Projects; b) Workshop on RE Technical Standards and Harmonisation in ASEAN; c) Study and Workshop on Innovative Rural Electrification Approaches in ASEAN; and d) the establishment of the Hydropower Competence Centre (HYCOM) as a training centre for Small-Scale Hydropower in ASEAN. The Ministers also noted that the Workshop on Trade and Investment in Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency was held on 27-28 August 2012 in Thailand with cooperation of EE&C-SSN and RE-SSN. The workshop aimed to prepare ASEAN Member States for the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers and harmonisation of standards to facilitate intra-ASEAN trade and investment in RE and EE products and services in the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by 2015. The Ministers encouraged the RE-SSN to develop a mechanism for monitoring ASEAN's progress on achieving the regional target of 15% of renewable energy in total installed power capacity by 2015. The Ministers acknowledged that Distributed Green Generation (community-scale renewable energy power station) being promoted in Thailand could be an effective example for the region to enhance rural electrification, system stability and green economy. The Ministers congratulated the winners and runners-up of the ASEAN Energy Awards 2012 (Renewable Energy) coordinated by the ACE in the on-grid, off-grid and co-generation categories.
10. As coal is becoming an increasingly important component with a rapid rate of increase in the share of ASEAN energy mix (accounting for 11.1% in the region's primary energy consumption in 2005, 14.8% in 2007, and projected 29.3% by 2030), the Ministers requested the Senior Officials to formulate regional cooperation in coal supply and trading, mutual assistance in emergency situations of coal supply in ASEAN Member States, and application of clean coal technologies and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) as key mitigation technologies to reduce the environmental effects of coal use.
11. The Ministers reaffirmed the commitment made by Leaders in the Phnom Penh Declaration, issued on the occasion of the 20th ASEAN Leaders' Summit on 3 April 2012, to develop a coordinated ASEAN approach that would contribute to the global undertaking to improve nuclear safety, in

- cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other relevant partners, as well as to promote and uphold the IAEA standards of safety and security in the development of nuclear energy for peaceful, the Ministers noted the initiatives of the Nuclear Energy Cooperation Sub-Sector Network (NEC-SSN) in developing an ASEAN Action Plan on Public Education on Nuclear Energy and Nuclear as the Clean Energy Alternative Option with a view to enhancing public awareness and acceptance of the usage of nuclear energy for power generation. The Ministers noted the survey of country needs conducted by the ACE which would serve as a useful reference for the NEC-SSN in enhancing the work program with Dialogue Partners and International Organisations. The Ministers encouraged the NEC-SSN to continue to promote and intensify capacity building efforts, in collaboration with the IAEA and other relevant partners, so that the region will be more informed and kept updated on the latest nuclear safety standards, developments and technologies.
12. The Ministers noted that effective energy regulation promotes energy sustainability and facilitates the economic development of the region. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed closer collaboration among the ASEAN regulatory bodies through the establishment of the ASEAN Energy Regulators' Network (AERN). The Ministers requested ASEAN Energy Regulators to strengthen communication channels to promote mutual understanding of energy regulations of member states and regional economic development.
 13. The Ministers endorsed a plan to enhance the ACE to ensure that it serves as a high-performing institution which builds a coherent, coordinated, focused and robust energy policy agenda and strategy for ASEAN that fulfills three critical roles: i) advance ASEAN energy goals; (ii) function as an energy data and knowledge hub; and (iii) serve as an ASEAN Energy think tank. This includes the recommendations to (i) hire a professional Executive Director with a long-term performance-based contract; and (ii) establish a Task Force to execute the recommendations of the Study by McKinsey & Company which would include, inter-alia, the funding options for ACE to ensure its long term sustainability, reporting to the Senior Officials. The Ministers also reaffirmed the crucial role of the ASEAN Secretariat in providing necessary support to ASEAN energy cooperation, including to AMEM, SOME, and the SSNs and ASEAN Specialised Energy Bodies, as provided for under the ASEAN Charter.
 14. The Ministers welcomed the following ACE database and publication initiatives in line with APAEC 2010-2015: (a) ASEAN Energy Review and Statistics, (b) ASEAN Energy Indicators, (c) 4th ASEAN Energy Outlook, (d) Energy Policy Review and Analysis Series, and (e) ASEAN RE Development 2006-2010. The Ministers instructed ACE to consult with ASEAN Member States in defining the strategic thrusts of the publications to reflect ASEAN's energy priorities and issues.
 15. In the Dialogue with the IEA Executive Director, the ASEAN Ministers and the IEA Executive Director were pleased to note that the first year of the implementation of the ASEAN-IEA MOU on Energy Cooperation had yielded important results. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation to IEA for its advisory role in the preparations for the operationalisation of the Coordinated Emergency Response Measures (CERM) Mechanism under the ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA). On the Clean Technology Development project, the Ministers expressed appreciation to the IEA for the successful completion of the ASEAN Chapter in the Energy Technology Perspectives 2012 and looked forward to the next phase of the project on "Technology Development Prospects for the ASEAN Power Generation Sector". The Ministers agreed with the IEA's suggestion of exploring further collaboration in the areas of energy efficiency and renewable energy.
 16. The Ministers noted that energy cooperation between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners had progressed further in the past year, and expressed their appreciation to the Dialogue Partners for the valuable assistance in supporting the implementation of the APAEC 2010-2015. The Ministers noted the recent convening of the 13th SOME-METI Consultations, the 3rd SOME-EU Dialogue on Energy Cooperation, the 3rd SOME-Russia Consultation, the 3rd SOME-US Consultation, the SOME-IEA Dialogue, the 17th EAS-ECTF in July 2012 and the 11th SOME+3 in September 2012. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the work plans and concrete cooperation activities with the respective Dialogue Partners for implementation, including the activities under the SOME-METI Energy Cooperation Program Priorities 2012-2013, the SOME-EU Energy Cooperation Annual Work Plan 2012-2013, the ASEAN-US Energy Cooperation Work Plan 2012-2014 and the EAS-ECTF Work Plan 2012-2013. The Ministers welcomed the continued sharing of best practices and capacity building activities through the ASEAN-US Energy

Efficiency Education Workshop on 4-5 July 2012 and the ASEAN-EU Seminar on Energy Security and Investment Regulation Framework on Interconnections on 10-11 September 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. In this connection, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) for its support in research and valuable recommendations for energy cooperation in ASEAN and EAS member countries.

17. The Ministers agreed to convene the 31st ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting and its Associated Meetings with Dialogue Partners in Indonesia in 2013.
18. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government and the people of the Kingdom of Cambodia for the warm hospitality accorded to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the 30th AMEM and its Associated Meetings.

ASEAN MINISTERS FOR ENERGY

1. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Mr. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia; 3. H.E. Mr. Jero Wacik, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of the Republic of Indonesia; 4. H.E. Mr. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; 5. H.E. Dato' Sri Peter Chin Fah Kui, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia; 6. H.E. U Than Htay, Union Minister for Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; 7. H.E. Mr. Jose Rene D. Almendras, Secretary, Department of Energy of the Republic of the Philippines; 8. H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Home Affairs and Trade and Industry of the Republic of Singapore; 9. H.E. Mr. Arak Chonlatanon, Minister of Energy of the Kingdom of Thailand; 10. H.E. Mr. Le Duong Quang, Vice Minister of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; and 11. H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

ASEAN Telecommunication and IT Ministers (TELMIN)

Joint Media Statement of the 12th ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Ministers Meeting and Its Related Meetings with Dialogue Partners

Cebu, Philippines, 15-16 November 2012

1. The 12th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers Meeting (TELMIN) was held in Cebu, the Philippines, on 15-16 November 2012. H.E. Mario G. Montejo, Secretary Of the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines Chaired the Meeting. H.E. Dr. Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Communications and Information of Singapore Was the Vice-Chairman. On this occasion, the ASEAN Ministers also had separate dialogues with their counterparts from the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea.
2. H.E. Jejomar C. Binay, Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines Officiated the 12th ASEAN Telecommunication and IT Minister's Meeting (TELMIN-12) and its related meetings with Dialogue Partners.
3. In his speech, Vice President Jejomar C. Binay highlighted the belief of ASEAN reflected in the theme of the 12th TELMIN Meeting: "We are stronger when we are connected". By sharing best practices in telecommunications and digital infrastructure development, we not only intensify our respective communication industries, but more importantly strengthen our foothold as the world's center of information technology and business processing. The Vice President mentioned that ASEAN success in the ICT-related industry finds root in the increased investor confidence in the skill and quality of our workforce, and in the renewed optimism in government and institutions. ASEAN recognised that a larger and more connected ICT industry means more efficient services, which in turn, ensure satisfaction, encourage greater interest, and thus ultimately lead to business expansion and investments. More importantly, it also means empowering people: giving them the

chance to speak out their minds and to contribute to social discourse and development, and by so doing, help find answers to the problems they are facing. At the end of the day, the work carried out by ASEAN in ICT is all about building capacities, bridging gaps, and ensuring that everyone has an equal access to information and opportunities.

CONNECTED ASEAN – ENABLING ASPIRATIONS

4. The Ministers commended the senior officials and regulators in charge of telecommunications and IT in the region for the good progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2015 (AIM2015). The Ministers were of the view that the first two years in the implementation of the AIM 2015 laid a strong foundation for achieving specific ICT targets towards creating an inclusive, vibrant and integrated ASEAN Community.
5. The Ministers noted that even during economic uncertainty, many ASEAN Member States have continued to invest in ICT with attention to fundamental matters such as education, innovative research and development, regulatory regime and IT industry policy, etc. These efforts have strengthened many ASEAN Member States national ICT competitiveness.
6. The Ministers adopted the Mactan Cebu Declaration, entitled “Connected ASEAN – Enabling Aspirations”, to reiterate ASEAN’s commitments to promote ICT-driven economic transformation through people engagement and empowerment, innovation, infrastructure development, human capital development, and bridging the Digital Divide. It maps out the priority actions in the implementation of the AIM 2015, acknowledging that ICT is an enabler for ASEAN economic and social development and integration.
7. The Ministers recognised the importance of information security in the broadband network and agreed to strengthen ASEAN cooperation in this field. The Ministers believed that users’ confidence in the security of new technologies and services developed for broadband network should be enhanced so that the latter can be harnessed to the fullest to create a trustworthy environment for ASEAN information society.
8. The Ministers commended the success of the first ASEAN ICT Awards which was held on 15 November 2012. They welcomed the recommendations of the study of the ASEAN Broadband Corridor and agreed to give positive consideration to implement

them. They also welcomed the recommendation to strengthen Universal Service Obligation policy to facilitate the provision of broadband to every school and the completion of the first ASEAN Chief Information Officer Forum, ASEAN Cyber kids Camp 2012, Public-Private Partnership Models for ICT Project and ASEAN-EU Workshop on International Mobile Roaming Charges. The Ministers urged the officials to continue the good progress to contribute to the development and integration of the ASEAN Community.

9. The Ministers expressed their interest and welcomed the idea of conducting a mid-term review of the initiatives, actions and programmes of the AIM2015. They acknowledged the value in taking stock of completed, on-going and planned AIM2015 projects, as well as the significance in highlighting success stories to encourage AMS to persist in our ICT development efforts.

ICT COOPERATION WITH DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

10. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the European Union, and International Telecommunications Union (ITU) for the successful implementation of their respective annual ICT work plans and joint activities with ASEAN in 2012 - 2013.
11. In light of the fact that the Memorandum of Understanding between ASEAN and the People’s Republic of China on ICT Cooperation has expired in October 2012 and considering that the ICT environment has undergone significant changes since 2003, the Ministers of ASEAN and China agreed to amend the Memorandum of Understanding and complete the amendment in 2013;
12. The Ministers of ASEAN and China noted that the Plan of Action to Implement the Beijing Declaration on ASEAN-China ICT Cooperative Partnership for Common Development signed in 2007 has expired. In order to provide guidance for future exchanges and cooperation, the Ministers of ASEAN and China agreed to adopt the Plan of Action to Deepen the China-ASEAN ICT Cooperative Partnership for Common Development (2012-2016).
13. The ASEAN Ministers expressed the appreciation on the series of cooperation activities organised by China in the areas of broadband communications, ICT for small and medium-sized enterprises, distance education for rural areas, cloud computing

and wireless broadband; and welcomed the initiatives proposed by China in the use of ICT to upgrade traditional industries and establish e-government.

14. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for her assistance in a number of areas of cooperation including information security, human resource development, improvement of ASEAN ICT infrastructure, and utilisation and development of ICT applications under the ASEAN-Japan ICT Work Plan for 2011-2012. The ASEAN Ministers also expressed their sincere thanks to Japan for her 5th contribution to the ASEAN-Japan ICT Cooperation Fund.
15. The Ministers of ASEAN and Japan recognised that the “ASEAN-Japan Collaboration Framework on Information Security” is progressing well and agreed to deepen and widen cooperation on information security through joint activities. Both sides also agreed to enhance the information security cooperation to a higher level and agreed to hold the “Japan-ASEAN Ministerial Policy Meeting on Cyber Security Cooperation” in Japan in September 2013 as a part of joint activities.
16. The Ministers also welcomed Japan’s proposal to expand the current cooperation to implement ASEAN Smart Network concept which will help to the realisation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity.
17. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Republic of Korea for the support and assistance in expanding digital opportunity in the ASEAN through policy consultation on the field of cyber security and spectrum management, human resources development by ICT training program and workshop, and technical assistance of ICT certification system and ICT standardization.
18. The Ministers welcomed Korea’s cooperation plan on the Korea-ASEAN ICT Partnership Project as a new collaborative strategy focusing on priority areas such as ICT infrastructure, new technology, capacity building and ICT knowledge sharing, and cooperation with international organisations, in connection with three pillars of AIM 2015.
19. The Ministers noted that the “Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI)” Facility is well on track to intensify interaction between EU and ASEAN on ICT, amongst others, implementing priority projects of the AIM2015 and supporting ASEAN in the development of transparent and coherent

and harmonised ICT regulatory frameworks, in particular on spectrum management, broadband development, and reducing international roaming charges.

20. The Ministers welcomed the signing of the “Memorandum of Understanding on Joint Cooperation on Information and Communication Technology Development in ASEAN Countries between ASEAN and ITU” to strengthen cooperation in the areas of ICT development and to assist ASEAN in the implementation of measures as set out in AIM 2015. The Ministers noted the joint initiative between ASEAN and ITU on cyber-security for CLMV in collaboration with TELSOM as well as the initiatives with individual ASEAN Member States over the years.
21. The Ministers emphasised that ASEAN is not only open to policy and regulatory dialogue but also for greater interaction with dialogue and development partners and the industry towards increasing commercial activities and investments. The Ministers also called for greater private sector participation to jointly develop competitive edge through quality infrastructure and skill-based workforce which will contribute to the efficient delivery of public services and realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015. In this regard, the Ministers thanked the Philippines, in collaboration with UNCTAD, for successfully organising the Workshop on e-Commerce Law Harmonisation on 9 - 10 November 2012 in Cebu, the Philippines.

NEXT MEETING

22. The Ministers agreed to convene the 13th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers Meeting and Related Meetings with Dialogue Partners in Singapore in 2013.
23. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government and the people of the Republic of the Philippines for their warm hospitality accorded to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the 12th TELMIN and its Meetings with Dialogue Partners.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam;
2. H.E. Chin Bunsean, Secretary of State of Posts and Telecommunications of Cambodia;
3. Dr. Basuki Yusuf Iskandar, Secretary General, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of

Indonesia, representing Minister of Communication and Information Technology of Indonesia; 4. H.E. Hiem Phommachanh, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Lao PDR; 5. H.E. Datuk Joseph Salang, Deputy Minister of Information, Communications and Culture of Malaysia; 6. H.E. U Thein Tun, Union Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Myanmar; 7. H.E. Mario G. Montejo, Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines; 8. H.E. Dr. Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Communications and Information of Singapore; 9. H.E. Group Captain Anudith Nakornthap, Minister of Information and Communication Technology of Thailand; 10. H.E. Dr. Tran Duc Lai, Deputy Minister of Information and Communications of Viet Nam; 11. H.E. YANG Xueshan, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology of China; 12. H.E. Dr. Kenzo FUJISUE, State Secretary for Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan; 13. H.E. DaeHee KIM, Commissioner of the Korea Communications Commission of the Republic of Korea; 14. H.E. LIM Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN.

MACTAN Cebu Declaration Connected ASEAN: Enabling Aspirations

**Mactan, Cebu, Philippines,
16 November 2012**

We, the ASEAN Ministers responsible for Telecommunications and Information Technology, on the occasion of the Twelfth ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers Meeting (12th TELMIN) held in Mactan, Cebu, the Philippines, on 15 and 16 November 2012:

RECALLING the strong commitment of ASEAN Leaders in the 2007 Cebu Declaration to accelerate the establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015, in which the Leaders agreed to hasten the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015 and to transform ASEAN into a region with free movement of goods, services, investment, skilled labour and freer flow of capital;

CONSIDERING that the ICT sector is an enabler for ASEAN's social and economic integration;

RECOGNISING that the ASEAN ICT Master Plan (AIM) 2015, with its strategic thrusts, will serve as catalyst for achieving ASEAN goals and aspirations of economic integration;

AFFIRMING that with rapid ICT development, it is important to develop e-government to provide efficient, effective and equitable public services.

NOTING that high cost of ICT services hinder accessing by many people in ASEAN Member States (AMS) to benefits from the technological advancement;

WELCOMING ASEAN Telecommunication Regulators' Council (ATRC) initiatives to (1) review the Universal Service Obligation (USO) policy for ASEAN to set minimum standards for USO in the region to include broadband access; (2) conduct an in-depth Study on Harmonisation of Interconnection, Licensing, Competition and USO; and (3) promote regional collaboration on the frequency band for digital divide; and

RESPONDING to increased frequency of information and network security activities by strengthening both international and regional collaboration to enhance security of the ASEAN information infrastructure for sustainable economic and social development;

Hereby agree to implement the following in line with AIM 2015 strategic thrusts:

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

1. Work towards a conducive, safe, secured and trusted environment and harmonised ICT rules and regulations that will promote trade, investment and entrepreneurship within and among AMS;
2. Promote and share Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) models and practices within and among AMS to be utilised in the implementation of ASEAN ICT projects and to strongly encourage the participation of the private sector in building a more conducive business environment;

PEOPLE ENGAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

3. Further develop policy frameworks that promote widespread use of mobile broadband and facilitate the growth of affordable ICT services within and among AMS;
4. Encourage AMS to develop, promote and share best practices and experiences resulting in a non-discriminatory, transparent and

reasonable environment to promote universal access (ACCESS: A-Affordable, C-Consistent, C-Countrywide, E-Efficient, S-Safe, and S-Secured) to both fixed and mobile broadband;

5. Collaborate to develop network infrastructures, content applications and online services for affordable ICT services that can be adapted for local use;
6. Develop common e-transaction framework to increase trust and confidence for businesses and people of the AMS;
7. Cooperate and participate in the building and promotion of a safe, secure and trusted online environment to enhance cyber security and counteract online threats within and among AMS;

INNOVATION

8. Provide incentives to acknowledge, recognise and reward ICT R&D efforts that promote and encourage creativity and innovation in government, businesses, citizens and other institutions;
9. Further promote the effective and efficient management of spectrum to enable innovative use of this limited resource and mitigate frequency interference;
10. Encourage the ICT industry in AMS to adopt best practices towards supporting green growth and mitigate effects of climate change by addressing the increasing industry carbon footprint and employing safer disposal methods for ICT equipment and devices.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

11. Work towards the implementation of the ASEAN Broadband Corridor by 2015 and continue to develop programmes that improve access to high-speed broadband networks and services in ASEAN;
12. Facilitate the presence of a robust and resilient information infrastructure within the ASEAN region through the development and implementation of National Frameworks on Submarine Cable Connectivity Protection and Risk Mitigation to support trade, facilitate investment, enlarge markets and accelerate the regional integration process;
13. Continue to study the feasibility of establishing an ASEAN Internet Exchange Network to facilitate

peering amongst ASEAN Internet access providers so as to improve latency and speed as well as lower interconnectivity costs;

14. Further enhance policy framework development, cooperation, and sharing of best practices on the protection of data and information infrastructures to safeguard the networks among AMS;
15. Further leverage on ICT to develop disaster risk reduction and management programmes such as environment warning sensor networks to mitigate effects of natural disasters, including disaster prevention and early warning, relief and rescue, reconstruction efforts as well as sharing best practices among AMS in disaster recovery plans.
16. Continue the collaborative activities among ASEAN Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) such as the ASEAN CERTS Incident Drills (ACID), so as to enhance incident investigation and coordination amongst CERTs in support of the ASEAN Network Security Action Council (ANSAC) activities;
17. Urge AMS to strengthen the cooperation on spectrum management, especially in frequency planning in order to optimise the use of spectrum in the region towards reducing costs of services and equipment as well as cross-border interference.

HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

18. Support the creation of an ASEAN ICT Scholarship Program to attract and support individuals in ASEAN with strong aptitude for ICT;
19. Affirm the importance of ICT skill standards within and among AMS to further develop a competitive ASEAN ICT workforce and experts through skills upgrading, so as to ensure marketability of ICT experts within and among AMS;

BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

20. Encourage the establishment of strong and clear policies and programmes to accelerate the achievement of universal access to broadband within and among the AMS;
21. Improve access of broadband (fixed/mobile) Internet in rural and remote areas and develop clear policies on how to provide affordable ICT access and services;

22. Continue to promote Broadband connectivity to rural areas through new emerging technologies.
23. Urge the adoption of ICT in primary school curricula to encourage creativity, and support continuous collaboration between the ICT and Education sectors to promote the use of ICT creatively, effectively, and positively within and beyond the school environment;
24. Further encourage AMS to initiate programs and strategies to ensure every child and those with special needs in the region, including in rural, under served and unserved areas, have access to broadband Internet; and
25. Maintain the support for continuous development and advances in ICT through the concerted efforts of all stakeholders in acquiring full benefits of technology for economic and social development so as to enable ASEAN aspirations through ICT.
26. ADOPTED this Declaration at the 12th ASEAN TELMIN in Mactan, Cebu, the Philippines, on 16 November 2012.

ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM)

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 18th ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM)

Bali, Indonesia, 29 November 2012

1. The Eighteenth ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) Meeting was held on 29 November 2012 in Bali, Indonesia. H.E. Mr. E.E. Mangindaan, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia chaired the Meeting, with H.E. Mr. Sommad Pholsena, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR serving as Vice-Chairperson. The 18th ATM Meeting was preceded by the 34th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) and STOM meetings with Dialogue Partners held on 26-28 November 2012.

Transport Connectivity for ASEAN Community

2. In line with the Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 21st ASEAN Summit, the Ministers reaffirmed their commitment towards the timely and effective implementation of the measures and initiatives for an enhanced ASEAN transport connectivity as set out in the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint, the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and the Brunei Action Plan (BAP)/ASEAN Strategic Transport Plan (ASTP) 2011-2015 to support the realisation of AEC by 2015. In this regard, the Ministers supported the prioritisation of AEC key measures and deliverables to be implemented by 2015 as initiated by the AEC Council.
3. The Ministers also recognised the importance of continued close collaboration and cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners, international organisations and relevant private sector associations in the implementation of strategic transport initiatives to reinforce the efforts to establish the ASEAN Community by 2015.
4. The Ministers noted the progress made in the implementation of the BAP and transport related measures under the MPAC and tasked the senior officials and their working groups to expedite the work on prioritised key measures and engage relevant stakeholders to address the challenges faced in implementing these measures.

Vision of Seamless ASEAN Sky

5. The Ministers considered and endorsed the vision developed under the Air Transport Technical Cooperation (ATTC) Work Plan for the ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM) which envisaged ASEAN airspace as a seamless block of airspaces in Asia-Pacific, with harmonised and interoperable procedures and operations. The Vision aspires, among others, to increase the capacity within the airspace of ASEAN while enhancing safety as well as improving the traffic flows on existing airways and/or newly established airways.
6. The Ministers welcomed the proposed establishment of a database which will host information on the operation and planning of air navigation systems in ASEAN. The Ministers noted that such information will be of great help to ASEAN Member States in undertaking their respective air transport planning and navigation system developments.

7. The Ministers noted the on-going efforts in coming up with the 8th Package of Commitments on Air Transport Ancillary Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) and tasked the senior officials and relevant working group to conclude the negotiations and finalise its associated protocol for signing at the 19th ATM meeting in 2013.

Solidifying Transport Facilitation

8. The Ministers welcomed the initiative to facilitate seamless movement of people in the region and supported the establishment of the Expert Group on the Finalisation of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Cross Border Transport of Passenger (CBTP). The Ministers noted that the Expert Group will be looking into the simplification and harmonisation of transport procedures to facilitate cross border road transport of people between and among ASEAN Member States and works towards concluding the ASEAN CBTP in accordance with the target set in the ASTP/BAP and MPAC.
9. The Ministers were pleased with progress made on the implementation of ASEAN Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB) Overall Work Plan. The Ministers also noted the potential impacts of transport facilitation agreements on the movement of people, goods and services in the region and agreed that the operationalisation of such agreements will be TTCB's priority. In this regards, the Ministers urged ASEAN Member States to expedite the completion of all necessary regulatory procedures to operationalise these agreements while continuously improve the implementation of cross border transport operation at both sub-regional and bilateral levels.

Enhancing ASEAN Maritime and Marine Environment Protection Cooperation

10. The Ministers noted the importance of the recognition of seafarer education and training in the region to the shipping sector and welcomed the establishment of a Task Force to look into the possibility of formulating a Memorandum of Understanding on Recognition of Near-Coastal Voyage (NCV) Certificates issued by ASEAN Member States.
11. The Ministers reiterated their commitment to realise a free flow of intra-ASEAN shipping services without substantial restrictions to ASEAN shipping services suppliers in providing their services within the region. Towards this end, the Ministers

look forward to the finalisation of the Study on "Formulating an ASEAN Single Shipping Market Implementing Strategy".

12. The Ministers welcomed the initiative to conclude a Memorandum of Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation Mechanism for Joint Oil Spill Preparedness and Response which will promote a regional collaborative mechanism to build up capacities and capabilities in enhancing preparedness for and response to oil spill incidents, as well as for promoting mutual assistance in preventing, controlling and combating major oil spill incidents in the ASEAN region. In this regard, the Ministers look forward to the signing of the MOU.

Intensified Transport Search and Rescue (SAR) Cooperation

13. The Ministers agreed to establish the ASEAN Transport SAR Forum to enhance cooperation between SAR-related institutions for efficient transport SAR operations in the region. The Ministers noted that the Forum would review, among others, the 1972 Agreement for the Facilitation of Search for Aircrafts in Distress and Rescue of Survivors of Aircraft Accident and the 1975 Agreement for the Facilitation of Search and Rescue of Survivors of Ship Accidents and, implement ASEAN Joint Air and Maritime SAR Exercise.

Transport Partnership with Dialogue Partners

14. The Ministers acknowledged the significant progress made in various cooperation programmes under the established transport partnerships with China, Japan and ROK as well as the enhanced partnership with India, Germany, and EU. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the dialogue partners for the technical assistance and support rendered in advancing ASEAN transport cooperation.
15. Under the ASEAN-China partnership, the Ministers noted the good progress reached by both sides in achieving full liberalisation of air services through the conclusion of negotiations of the 5th freedom traffic right under the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement. The Ministers look forward to the signing of the Protocol 2 at the earliest opportunity before the next ATM+China Meeting.
16. The Ministers also noted the progress made under the ASEAN-Japan partnership including the launching of the Best Approaches Book which

will help to promote better understanding on environmental measures in ASEAN while providing guidance on the drafting and operationalisation of “National Implementing Plan”.

17. The Ministers acknowledged the steady progress made in implementing the ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation Roadmap including the convening of the Inaugural Meeting of ASEAN-Korea Working Group on Air Services Agreement to discuss the realisation of an open sky between ASEAN and the ROK.
18. Under the ASEAN-EU partnership, the Ministers agreed that ASEAN should express its interest to initiate an ASEAN-EU air transport agreement for this will help to enhance trade, investment, movement of people and tourism between the two regions.
19. The Ministers also acknowledged the strategic importance of having greater physical connectivity between ASEAN and India including both land and sea connectivity. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to India for its commitment to contribute to the development of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Highway, its extension to Lao PDR, Cambodia and Viet Nam.
20. The Ministers thanked Germany for their technical support in the implementation of Phase II of the Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region Project, and the Project on Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Mitigation in the Land Transport Sector. The Ministers also welcomed the commencement of the operations of the ASEAN Regional Integration Support from EU (ARISE) and the EU-ASEAN Air Transport Integration Project (EU-AATIP) programmes which will provide additional support to ASEAN in the implementation of the ASEAN transport facilitation agreements and the ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM), respectively.

Eighteenth ATM

21. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of Indonesia for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting. The Ministers agreed to meet for the 19th ATM in Lao PDR in 2013.

LIST OF MINISTERS

(a) H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam; (b) H.E. Mr. Tram Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia; (c) H.E. Mr. E.E. Mangindaan, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia; (d) H.E. Mr. Sommad Pholsena, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR; (e) H.E. Dato' Seri Kong Cho Ha, Minister of Transport of Malaysia; (f) H.E. Mr. Han Sein, Deputy Minister for Transport of Myanmar; (g) H.E. Ms. Catherine P. Gonzales, Undersecretary (Deputy Minister), Department of Transportation and Communications of the Philippines; (h) Mr. Pang Kin Keong, Permanent Secretary, representing H.E. Mr. Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport of Singapore; (i) H.E. Mr. Chadchart Sittipunt, Minister of Transport of Thailand; (j) H.E. Mr. Dinh La Thang, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and (k) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

Meeting of the ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM)

Joint Media Statement of the 15th Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (15th M-ATM)

Manado, Indonesia, 11 January 2012

1. The Fifteenth Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (15th M-ATM) was held on 11 January 2012 in Manado, Indonesia in conjunction with the ASEAN Tourism Forum 2012 (ATF 2012). The Meeting was preceded by the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of ASEAN National Organisations (NTOs) and other ASEAN NTOs meetings with Dialogue Partners. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Mari Elka Pangestu, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy of Indonesia, with H.E. Prof. Dr. Bosengkham Vongdara, Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism of Lao PDR, as Vice Chairman.
2. Based on the preliminary figure, the Ministers were pleased to acknowledge the significant growth of international visitor arrivals into ASEAN in 2011.

ASEAN attracted more than 79 million visitors last year, posting a healthy 7.4 per cent growth. Intra-ASEAN travel maintained its position as the major share of tourists, making up 43 per cent of total international arrivals.

Progressing the ASEAN Tourism Integration

3. The Ministers were pleased to note the progress achieved in the implementation of the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2011-2015, where all ASEAN tourism working groups and committees had identified the detailed measures for the implementation of the ATSP 2011-2015 and lead coordinators of the measures. In further supporting the implementation of ATSP, the Ministers agreed to welcome the minimum annual contribution to the ASEAN NTOs Fund and, at the same time, to increase Member States' additional in-kind contributions to support the implementation of ASEAN tourism initiatives.

Enhanced ASEAN Connectivity

4. The Ministers acknowledged the advancement of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) measures that would bring about complementary progress in various sectors in ASEAN, mainly tourism, transportation and telecommunication. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to continue their support and facilitate the process of developing ASEAN Connectivity.
5. The Ministers welcomed the entry into force of the ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on the Full Liberalisation of Passenger Air Services (MAFLPAS) and its Protocols. The MAFLPAS would further facilitate and enhance air services connectivity within the region, and thus support the development of tourism in the region. With the current state of ASEAN Open Skies, designated airlines of a Member State could provide international air services with full third (3rd), fourth (4th), and fifth (5th) freedom traffic rights within the region.
6. The Ministers were also pleased to note the entry into force of the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement and its Protocol 1, as it would significantly enhance air accessibility between ASEAN Member States and China, a major source market for ASEAN tourism.
7. The Ministers were pleased to note ASEAN Member States' commitment to continue and accelerate the easing of visa requirements for ASEAN nationals

through the full implementation of the 2006 ASEAN Framework Agreement for Visa Exemption, which was reaffirmed by the ASEAN Leaders at the 19th ASEAN Summit. The Ministers also welcomed the initiative to develop an ASEAN common visa for non-ASEAN nationals in the future that would contribute to the ASEAN Community building process, as well as to ASEAN's greater integration and contribution to the global community. The Ministers pledged their strong support for this initiative, and tasked their senior officials to actively take part in the conduct of the comprehensive study that will accelerate the necessary time line towards the establishment of an ASEAN common visa for submission to the 23rd ASEAN Summit.

Improving Human Resources Capacity in Tourism

8. The Ministers were pleased with the progress achieved by ASEAN Member States in establishing the necessary requirements under the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Tourism Professionals such as Tourism Professional Certification Board (TPCB) and National Tourism Professional Board (NTPB), including the convening of Workshop on the Achievement of ASEAN Member States in Implementing MRA on Tourism Professionals held in 14-15 June 2011 in Palembang, Indonesia. The Ministers emphasised the importance to support the implementation of MRA and supported the regular convening of regional gathering to enhance its awareness by relevant stakeholders.
9. In further developing regional infrastructure to support the implementation of MRA, the Ministers welcomed the conduct of following projects to further enhance preparation of ASEAN Member States in implementing the MRA Work Plan funded by the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme (AADCP) Phase II: (a) Toolbox Development for Priority Tourism Labour Division; (b) Training of ASEAN Master Trainers and Master Assessors for Housekeeping Division. (c) Toolbox Development for Front Office, Food and Beverage Services, and Food Production. (d) Gap Analysis on Implementation of MRA on Tourism Professional. (e) Feasibility Study for the Establishment of Regional Secretariat for ASEAN Tourism Professionals.
10. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government of Australia for the technical assistance provided in implementing the above projects through the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme (AADCP).

11. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the ASEAN Tourist Guide Contest 2011 held on 24-28 September 2011 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia and encouraged the Southeast Asia Tourist Guides Association to sustain the convening of this competition in the future.
 12. The Ministers noted the convening of the "ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism" held on 28 September - 2 October 2011 in Bandung, Indonesia; and the Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism held on 17-19 June 2010 in Solo, Indonesia as part of the activities of ASEAN Tourism Resource Management and Development Network of Heritage. Ensuring Quality of Tourism Services.
 13. The Ministers welcomed the presentation of the ASEAN Green Hotel Award held on 11 January 2012 in Manado to provide recognition to hotels in respective ASEAN Member States that have fulfilled the ASEAN Green Hotel Standards. In further improving the quality of hotels in the region, the Ministers noted the progress of the development of comprehensive ASEAN Green Hotel Standards, including the finalisation of criteria and requirements and the activities to identify its performance indicators and certification process. The Ministers were pleased to note the finalisation of criteria and requirement including the Work Plans for development of ASEAN Homestay and Spa Standards.
 14. The Ministers supported the development of ASEAN Clean Tourist City Standard that would create a tool to improve the quality of tourism in main destinations, to increase marketing competitiveness, to improve participation of local residents and their livelihood by alleviating poverty including to protect the environment thus responding to the impacts of climate change and contributing to ASEAN tourism sustainable development.
 15. The Ministers noted the development of an ASEAN Tourism Security and Safety Guidelines that focus on hotel and resort facilities. The guidelines would equip the ASEAN tourism sector in its endeavor to create and maintain a secure and safe environment as a basis for sustainable tourism development.
- on the implementation of the Visit ASEAN Campaign and previous ASEAN tourism marketing activities. This strategy is designed to support and build a worldwide recognition of ASEAN as a tourism destination, in part by coordinating and leveraging the power and influence of the ASEAN NTOs. Through this Strategy, individual Member States would be responsible to develop products and attractions by creating packages, circuits and clusters using the product and experience development efforts of the individual Member States. The outcomes of this exercise are expected to strengthen and renew activities of the Visit ASEAN Campaign activities in line with the ASEAN Tourism Agreement signed by the ASEAN Leaders in 2002.
17. The Ministers supported the establishment of the ASEAN Tourism Market Research Group (ATMRG) that would carry out analysis of marketing trends, situation and future of ASEAN tourism. The result of this exercise would also utilise as reference in carrying out the ASEAN joint marketing activities in the future.
 18. The Ministers noted the convening of ASEAN Golf Tourism Forum held on 2-5 November 2011 in Pattaya, Thailand. As a collaborative effort to promote and market golfing attractions in ASEAN Member States, the Ministers encouraged the Marketing and Communication Working Group to organise this Forum regularly.
 19. The Ministers acknowledged joint tourism promotional activities to create brand awareness and promote ASEAN as a region carried out by the ASEAN Promotional Chapter for Tourism (APCT) in Sydney in 2011 through participation in major tourism consumer shows in Australia. The Ministers were pleased with the in pending impending establishment of APCT in Mumbai that would have important role as an ASEAN tourism marketing and promotional arm in India.

ASEAN Tourism Product Development

ASEAN Tourism Marketing Strategy

16. The Ministers endorsed the ASEAN Tourism Marketing Strategy 2012-2015 developed based
20. In line with the ATSP 2011-2015, the Ministers were pleased with the progress of joint collaboration in further developing four main ASEAN tourism products, namely: nature, cultural and heritage, community, and cruise and river-based tourism. The three-year work plans for these main ASEAN tourism products have been finalised.
21. The Ministers noted the efforts of ASEAN NTOs to collaborate and collectively promote ASEAN

Cruise Tourism through joint participation at the Cruise Shipping Miami 2011 from 14-17 March 2011 and the ASEAN Cruise Working Group Study Mission to North Asia conducted from 30 May to 4 June 2011 to Busan, Fukuoka, Nagasaki and Kagoshima. The Ministers agreed to further develop the cruise potential of the region by further developing three cruise corridors namely Malacca Straits, Karimata Strait/ Java Sea/ Flores Sea and South China Sea/ Gulf of Thailand through opening new itineraries/routes, joint marketing and data collation in collaboration with the other ASEAN bodies and private sector.

22. Recognising tremendous opportunities and potential multi-faceted impact of cruise tourism on the development of ASEAN tourism, the Ministers agreed to develop concerted measures and initiatives to promote the growth of this promising travel segment. As a first step, a Workshop on cruise tourism will be organised in the next few months, involving all key players in the cruise value chain, such as the transport, maritime and immigration agencies, cruise lines and cruise associations, to identify pertinent steps to accelerate cruise development in ASEAN.

ASEAN with Dialogue Partners

23. The Ministers welcomed the establishment of ASEAN-China Centre that would promote ASEAN tourism to the Chinese market through organising tourism fairs, food festivals, and exhibitions in China.
24. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the ASEAN-Japan Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre for their efforts in providing continuous support and technical assistance to the development of ASEAN tourism sector, including promoting ASEAN tourism to Japanese and Korean markets and strengthening product development.
25. The Ministers are pleased to note Russia's proposal on holding a Russian Language Course for ASEAN Tour Operators in Russia as a continuation of successful program in Jakarta 2010. This program will enhance ASEAN tour operators ability in mastering Russian language and cross cultural communication skills as well as promoting ASEAN-Russia people-to people contact.

ASEAN Tourism Forum 2012

26. The ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) held on 8-15 January 2012 in Manado with the theme: "ASEAN

Tourism for a Global Community of Nations" was attended by more than 390 international buyers and more than 920 sellers with 438 booths in ASEAN. The Ministers acknowledged the partnership with CNN International and CNBC as the Official Sponsor for ATF 2012.

27. The ATF 2013 will be convened in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 17-24 January 2013 with "ASEAN: Hand in Hand, Conquering Our Future" as the theme.
28. Malaysia confirmed to be the host of ATF 2014.
29. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Indonesia for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the Meetings.

LIST OF MINISTERS

The Meeting was attended by:

- (i) H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam; (ii) H.E. Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism, Cambodia; (iii) H.E. Dr. Mari Elka Pangestu, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia; (iv) H.E. Prof. Dr. Bosengkham Vongdara, Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR; (v) H.E. Dato' Sri Dr. Ng Yen Yen, Minister of Tourism, Malaysia; (vi) H.E. Mr. Htay Aung, Vice Minister for Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar; (vii) H.E. Mr. Ramon R. Jimenez, Jr. Secretary of Tourism, Philippines; (viii) H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Second Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; (ix) H.E. Mr. Sombat Kuruphan, Vice Minister for Tourism and Sports, Thailand; (x) H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van Tuan, Chairman of Vietnam National Administration of Tourism; and (xi) Dr. Somsak Pipoppinyo, Director, Finance, Industry and Infrastructure Directorate, representing H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC)

Joint Media Statement of the 14th Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC)

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 29 August 2012

1. The purpose of the ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC) is to enhance the economically sound and sustainable development of the Mekong Basin through the establishment of economic partnerships and linkages between the riparian and non-riparian members of the Cooperation. Its members include all ASEAN Member States and the People's Republic of China.
2. The 14th Ministerial Meeting on the ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 29 August 2012, and was chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Kingdom of Cambodia.
3. At the Meeting, the Ministers took note of the progress made in the implementation of AMBDC projects. As of August 2012, there are 52 projects. A total of 14 projects still require funding worth US\$ 272.5 million. Recognising that financing of activities remain a priority and challenge for the countries, the Ministers discussed opportunities to further strengthen cooperation among countries and stakeholders to benefit development of the region.
4. The Ministers also noted the progress of activities from the various countries on the Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL) Project and that further developments on the SKRL will be reported at the 14th Meeting of the Special Working Group on the SKRL scheduled in October 2012 in Lao PDR.
5. As one of the many key actions under the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity, the Ministers noted the strengthening of coordination between the Special Working Group on the SKRL with the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC).
6. Apart from infrastructure, the Ministers have placed renewed interest on the other areas of cooperation set in the AMBDC Basic Framework, such as human resource development and capacity building. The Ministers highlighted that providing technical assistance and training for the CLMV countries in establishing and operating their segments of the SKRL must continue and be appraised regularly.
7. The Ministers noted the progress at the country initiatives and the importance of sustaining efforts at the national level for the region's benefit. For the remaining years leading up to the creation of an ASEAN Community by 2015, the AMBDC will need to set priorities in identified areas and concerns under the cooperation. The Ministers recognised that the issue of implementation has become bigger and more complex and will require steps to rationalise and prioritise the agenda of the AMBDC.
8. In this regard, the Ministers tasked the Steering Committee to ensure effective implementation of the activities under this cooperation in coordination with the countries, and with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat.
9. The Ministers agreed that Brunei Darussalam will chair the AMBDC for the period 2013 and will host the 15th AMBDC Ministerial Meeting.
10. In closing, the Ministers expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia for the excellent arrangements for the meeting and warm hospitality in Siem Reap.

List of Ministers

1. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam (represented by H.E. Lim Jock Hoi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam);
2. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia;
3. H.E. Du Ying, Vice-Chairman, National Development and Reform Commission, the People's Republic of China;
4. H.E. Gita Irawan Wirjawan, Minister, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia (represented by Mr. Iwan Suyudhie Amri, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia);

5. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister, Ministry for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry, the Philippines (represented by Mr. Angelo S.M. Benedictos, Director, Bureau of International Trade Relations, Department of Trade and Industry, the Philippines); 9. H.E. Lim Hong Kiang, Minister, Ministry for Trade and Industry, Singapore (represented by Ms. Sulaimah Mahmood, Director, Ministry for Trade and Industry, Singapore); 10. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam (represented by H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Vietnam); 12. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

IV. ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (AMRI)

Joint Media Statement of the 11th Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (11th AMRI) and 2nd Conference of ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Information (2nd AMRI+3)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1 March 2012

1. Malaysia hosted the Eleventh Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (11th AMRI) and the Second Conference of ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Information (2nd AMRI+3) in Kuala Lumpur, on 1st March 2012.
2. The conferences were preceded by the Senior Officials Meeting for the 11th AMRI on 28th February 2012 and the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting for the 2nd AMRI+3 on 29th February 2012.

Opening Ceremony

3. The Conference was officiated by the Honourable Tan Sri Dato' Haji Muhyiddin bin Haji Mohd Yassin, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia at the Royale Chulan Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. In his Opening Address, the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister emphasized the need to lay out a multi-platform framework, engaging both the main stream and the social media to facilitate the free flow of information to enlighten the ASEAN people. He urged this be given utmost priority so that the people of the ASEAN region are not left in the dark as to this important development and are empowered with the right kind of information. The Malaysian National Anthem 'Negaraku' and ASEAN Anthem

'The ASEAN Way' were played at the opening ceremony.

4. The Conference was chaired by His Excellency (HE) Dr. Rais Yatim, Minister of Information, Communications and Culture, Malaysia. The list of Ministers from all ASEAN Member States as well as Plus Three Countries is presented in Annex 1. 11th AMRI's Theme: "Media: Connecting Peoples and Bridging Cultures Towards One ASEAN Community"
5. The Chairman in his opening statement highlighted that ASEAN should leverage on the popularity of social media that would keep it current and relevant as a disseminator of information. He expressed his view that the Information Ministers should re-look their engagement through new media and the social network, especially with the younger generation, otherwise they may not be able to play an effective role in promoting ASEAN awareness or building the ASEAN Community.
6. At the Conference, the Ministers agreed to adopt the theme "Media: Connecting Peoples and Bridging Cultures Towards One ASEAN Community". The Ministers recognized that the theme was highly relevant as both the new and traditional media would continue to play a significant role in the dissemination of information to the peoples of ASEAN, subsequently connecting them beyond their borders and bridging the cultural gap.

ASEAN Digital Broadcasting

7. The ASEAN Ministers noted the progress in the implementation of digital broadcasting in ASEAN Member States towards Analogue Switch-Off from 2015 to 2020. The Ministers also endorsed the 'Guidelines for ASEAN Digital Switch-Over' which will serve as a shared blueprint to aid all Member States in their transition towards digital broadcasting. This guideline is based on the best practices of the various ASEAN Member States and referencing the "Guidelines for the transition from analogue to digital broadcasting" developed by the ITU.
8. In addition, the Ministers supported the ADB's initiatives to embark on the joint production of a television series entitled, 'Colours of ASEAN' in

High Definition (HD) to be completed by December 2013. The Ministers noted that ADB will seek funding from the ASEAN-COCI to support this project.

9. In the area of technical standards, the Ministers noted that ADB recognizes that Digital Video Broadcasting–Terrestrial Second Generation (DVB-T2) is a more advanced technology compared to DVB-T and acknowledges the benefits of migrating directly to DVB-T2. The Ministers also noted that the ADB will be developing common specifications for DVB-T2 receivers to enjoy economies of scale.
10. The Ministers also took note of Japan's input on the constantly evolving digital technology and that adoption of the standard may vary under different socio-economic situations.

New and Social Media

11. The Ministers recognised the emergence of new and social media as an important tool for communications and interaction in ASEAN today. The Ministers agreed that efforts should be made to leverage on social media to promote ASEAN awareness towards achieving an ASEAN Community by 2015.
12. To this end, the Ministers called for active discussion among ASEAN Member States to identify appropriate programmes and activities that would utilise social media positively to inculcate cultural values, understanding and solidarity among the peoples of ASEAN.
13. To reflect current realities of social media, the Ministers considered the proposal to consolidate the ASEAN Culture and Information Portal and the ASEAN Media Portal, incorporating new media elements. The Ministers concurred that both portals could be integrated and requested the ASEAN Secretariat to study and make recommendations on improvements to be made.
14. In addition, the Ministers considered the proposal to review the current format of the successful ASEAN Quiz programme. After a decade of implementation, the Ministers recognised that it is timely to have a more structured and standardised format both at national and regional levels as well as, a repository of quiz questions based on a complementary curriculum developed by the Education Sector. By including an online element, the proposal will provide easier access to ASEAN resources, with a view to enhancing knowledge

and increasing awareness of ASEAN among the younger generation.

The role of AMRI in the ASEAN Community Building Efforts

15. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint, in particular the ongoing projects to increase ASEAN awareness such as the television and radio news exchanges (ASEAN TV News and ASEAN-In-Action) and the implementation of the ASEAN Quiz.
16. Appreciating the need to implement a comprehensive communications plan to meet the vision of One ASEAN Community by 2015, the Ministers directed a technical working group to study the immediate communications need and recommend an effective communications plan, using media channels that are available in Member States. It is envisioned that this plan will promote a clearer understanding on what One ASEAN Community means for the entire region and its peoples.

Development of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on Information

17. ASEAN Plus Three Ministers endorsed the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Through Information and Media 2012 – 2017, which listed out programmes ASEAN and the Plus Three countries could collaborate on. ASEAN Member States have agreed to take the lead in coordinating 17 concrete activities listed in the Work Plan. ASEAN Ministers appreciated the support provided by the Plus Three Countries towards the implementation of these projects.

Closing and Acknowledgment

18. The Ministers agreed to convene the 12th Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (12th AMRI) and its related meetings with Dialogue Partners in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in 2014.
19. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Malaysia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 11th AMRI Conference. The Conference was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality.

ANNEX I

1. HE Dr. Rais Yatim, Minister of Information, Communications and Culture, Malaysia – Chairperson of 11th AMRI and 2nd AMRI+3; 2. HE Pehin Datu Singamanteri Colonel (R) Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Awang Haji Mohammad Yasmin bin Haji Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office, Brunei Darussalam; 3. HE Dr. Khieu Kanharith, Minister of Information, Kingdom of Cambodia; 4. HE Mr. Freddy Herman Tulung, Director General of Information and Public Communication, Republic of Indonesia; 5. HE Mr. Savankhone Razmouny, Vice Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR; 6. HE Datuk Maglin Dennis D'Cruz, Deputy Minister of Information, Communications and Culture, Malaysia; 7. HE Mr. Soe Win, Deputy Minister of Information, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; 8. HE Mr. Herminio B. Coloma Jr., Secretary, Presidential Communications Operations Office, the Philippines; 9. HE Ms. Grace Fu, Senior Minister of State for Information, Communications and the Arts & the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore; 10. HE Tongthong Chandransu, Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office, Thailand; 11. HE Nguyen Thanh Hung, Vice Minister of Information, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; 12. HE Mr. Wang Chen, Minister of State Council Information Office, People's Republic China; 13. HE Mr. Tetsuo Yamakawa, Vice Minister for Policy Coordination, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan; 14. HE Mr. Kim Yong Hwan, Vice Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Republic of Korea; 15. HE Dato' Misran Karmain, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community.

ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASED)

Joint Statement of the 7th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 4 July 2012

1. The Seventh ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (7th ASED) was convened on 4 July 2012 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in conjunction with the First ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (1st APT EMM) and the First East Asia

Summit Education Ministers Meeting (1st EAS EMM).

2. The Ministers commended the good progress in the first year's implementation of the ASEAN 5-Year Work Plan on Education (2011-2015) which laid a good foundation for achieving specific goals on ASEAN cooperation, which among others include (i) enhancing ASEAN Identity through education, and (ii) expansion of student and faculty mobility through a wide range of regional programmes. The Work Plan has a significant importance for the empowerment of the peoples of ASEAN and for the strengthening of the ASEAN Community.
3. The Ministers noted educational challenges and opportunities in a global world, and agreed to further collaborate toward development of a more coordinated, cohesive and coherent ASEAN position and its contribution to global education issues, particularly related to the the primary and secondary levels, e.g. (i) universal and equal access to quality primary education, (ii) standardised information on the level of literacy of early grade students within the ASEAN region, and (iii) professional development of teachers and school leaders and evaluation methods. These will help to support the attainment of the MDG Goal 2, which is "achieve universal primary education" as well as the UNESCO "Education For All" (EFA) initiative.
4. The Ministers further indicated the need for greater interaction and dialogue with other ASEAN sectoral bodies with an interest in education, regional and international educational organisations, Dialogue Partners, the private sector and other parties to ensure synergy, minimise any overlapping areas of cooperation, and to maximise efficiency in the allocation of resources. Member States are also encouraged to exert more effort to avail national resources to implement programmes and activities of the ASEAN 5-Year Work Plan on Education (2011-2015). In addition, the ASEAN-help-ASEAN mechanism could be strengthened further to help the ASEAN developing member state.
5. The Ministers agreed that there is a need to focus on youth involvement in education through the different platforms, be it through new and social media, education volunteerism or people to people exchange and connectivity programmes.
6. The Ministers welcomed joint initiatives and activities with the Southeast Asia Ministers

of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) and its regional centres to achieve the shared goals and advance the educational purposes articulated in the ASEAN Charter. Amongst others, the Ministers officiated at the launch of the ASEAN Curriculum Sourcebook which can be utilised for national curricula development, and noted the progress of the ASEAN Studies Course for undergraduate students at ASEAN universities.

7. The Ministers also noted the proactive role of the ASEAN University Network (AUN) and SEAMEO-RIHED in promoting student mobility in ASEAN. In this regard, the Ministers agreed that the ongoing implementation of the ASEAN Credit Transfer System (ACTS) among the AUN Member Universities may be extended to all eligible universities in the future to facilitate more student mobility and raise a number of exchange activities at in-country level, between ASEAN universities or beyond the region.
8. The Ministers, in view of the progress in implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education: 2010 - 2017 and the East Asia Summit Education Cooperation Action Plan 2011 - 2015, agreed to formalise the respective ASEAN Plus Three and the EAS education cooperation process.
9. The Ministers also agreed on the development of the education scorecard within the ASEAN Socio-Culture Community (ASCC) Scorecard to assess the implementation of the ASCC Blueprint and to put forward recommendations to ensure the timely implementation of the ASCC Blueprint.
10. The Ministers acknowledged and welcomed the policy paper presented by Indonesia on ASEAN Single Window in the education sector.
11. The Ministers welcomed Lao PDR's offer to host the 8th ASED in 2014.
12. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Indonesia for the warm hospitality and arrangements made in hosting the 7th ASED and to the ASEAN Secretariat for its technical assistance to the Meeting.

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)

Chairman's Statement of the 1st Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response

Jakarta, Indonesia, 16 March 2012

1. The First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), held in Jakarta on 15-16 March 2012, was chaired by the Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Agung Laksono, as Chair of COP in 2012. The Meeting was attended by Ministers in charge of disaster management or their representatives from all ASEAN Member States and the Secretary-General of ASEAN.
2. The COP was the first meeting held after the AADMER entered into force on 24 December 2009. It was held following the direction of the ASEAN Leaders at the 19th ASEAN Summit in November 2011 and the signing of the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) at the sidelines of the Summit.
3. At the outset, Thailand as the new elected Chair of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) presented a progress report on the implementation of AADMER. The COP noted several major milestones that have been achieved, including adoption of the AADMER Work Programme for 2010-2015, implementation of various flagship projects under the Work Programme, ongoing cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners, United Nations, Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the civil society, in particular the AADMER Partnership Group (APG), operationalisation of ASEAN

Standard Operating Procedure for Regional Standby Arrangements and Coordination of Joint Disaster Relief and Emergency Response (ASEAN-SASOP), and deployment of ASEAN-Emergency Rapid Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) in disaster emergencies.

4. The COP adopted the Rules of Procedure for Meetings of the COP as the guiding principles to organise, chair and host the COP. In line with practices of other ASEAN ministerial meetings, the host country would serve as chair of the COP. The chairmanship is for one year and will be rotated alphabetically.
5. To support the effective implementation of AADMER, the COP agreed to set up financial procedures for the ASEAN Disaster Management and Emergency Relief Fund, and expected that Member States provide voluntary contributions to the Fund soonest and preferably on a regular basis. These will provide the impetus to facilitate ASEAN's collective response to disasters and support the implementation of AADMER Work Programme, including providing additional resources for the AHA Centre. The COP also welcomed contributions from ASEAN Dialogue Partners and international donor community to contribute to the Fund.
6. To operationalise the newly-established AHA Centre, the COP agreed to the annual and equal contributions for the AHA Centre Fund to provide sustainable resources for the operationalisation of the Centre, and expected that contributions for 2012 can be made soon as possible. The COP also appreciated the contribution by the Indonesian Government as well as ASEAN Dialogue Partners, in particular Australia, European Union, Japan, New Zealand and the United States of America, and welcomed the incoming support from other partners for the establishment of the AHA Centre.
7. The COP expected that all Member States would submit their instruments of notification by June 2012 the latest, marking the entry into force of the Agreement on the Establishment of the AHA Centre.
8. The COP endorsed the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM), who has been instrumental in operationalising the AADMER and in setting up the AHA Centre, to serve as the main subsidiary body under the COP and to function as the Governing Board for the AHA Centre. The COP welcomed ACDM's decision to appoint Mr. Said Faisal as the Executive Director for the AHA Centre for a three (3) year-period. The COP tasked the Executive Director for the AHA Centre, with the support of ASEAN Secretariat, to immediately set up the AHA Centre, utilising contributions from ASEAN Member States and Dialogue Partners.
9. The COP noted that there are a few challenges with regard to the implementation of AADMER, particularly in terms of institutionalisation of AADMER at the national level, and ensuring that AADMER is utilised by other sectors and mechanisms in ASEAN as the common coordinating platform in disaster management.
10. In this regard, the COP re-affirmed that AADMER should remain as the main regional policy backbone and coordinating platform for disaster management in ASEAN. This is in line with the decision of ASEAN Leaders for other sectors and mechanisms related to disaster management in ASEAN, including those under ASEAN+1, ASEAN+3, East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus), to synchronise their policies using AADMER as the common platform to ensure the principles of ASEAN Centrality. The COP welcomed the interest of other EAS participating countries to cooperate in the area of disaster management, and tasked the ACDM to establish a working group, consisting of ASEAN Secretariat, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Australia as a representative of the EAS Participating Countries, to study the linkage between the AADMER Work Programme and the proposed EAS Work Plan on Disaster Management.
11. The COP appreciated the important role of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator, and considered that such a role would be particularly critical in a large-scale disaster where high-level coordination would be required to mobilise resources within the region as well as from partners and the humanitarian community.
12. The COP expressed confidence for Thailand's leadership as Chair of the ACDM and the Governing Board for the AHA Centre in 2012, and thanked Singapore for the impressive leadership in 2011.
13. The COP expressed appreciation to the Government of Indonesia for hosting the First

Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the AADMER and the excellent arrangements made and hospitality provided.

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (AMME)

Joint Statement of ASEAN Environment Ministers for the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

WE, the Ministers responsible for environment of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member States of ASEAN, on the occasion of the 11th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

RECOGNIZING that the ASEAN region occupies only three per cent of the earth's total surface but is home to over 20 per cent of all known plant, animal and marine species, providing food, medicine, shelter, clothing and other biological goods and ecosystems services to almost 600 million people in ASEAN;

RENEWING our commitments made in the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Climate Change at the 19th ASEAN Summit in November 2011, the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Joint Response to Climate Change at the 16th ASEAN Summit in April 2010, the ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability at the 13th ASEAN Summit in November 2007, and the 2003 ASEAN Declaration on Heritage Parks;

COMMITTING to further strengthen ASEAN regional cooperation on biodiversity, as embodied in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint of the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for the ASEAN Community (2009-2015), which aims to ensure ASEAN's rich biological diversity is conserved

and sustainably managed toward enhancing social, economic and environmental-well being as one of its strategic objectives;

ENHANCING the role of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity to function as an effective regional centre of excellence in promoting biodiversity conservation and management;

NOTING the Cha-am Declaration on Biodiversity adopted at the Asia Regional Forum on Biodiversity which recognizes that nature is the foundation of life and that protecting nature is the joint task of business, government, academia, and other multi-stakeholders in society;

FURTHER NOTING the regional initiatives, such as ASEAN-WEN, Heart of Borneo, Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security, ASEAN Heritage Parks, Greater Mekong Sub-Region; and the pivotal role of Indigenous and Local Communities (ILCs) and their traditional knowledge in the conservation of biodiversity;

REAFFIRMING our commitment to the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) namely the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources;

FURTHER REAFFIRMING our commitments to implement the CBD Strategic Plan on Biodiversity for the period 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Targets with the mission "to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet's variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication";

NOTING the Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development, and reiterating ASEAN's support to implement it in the context of nationally determined priorities, capacities and needs;

DO HEREBY AGREE TO:

- **REAFFIRM** our right to sustainable development and urge the Parties to CBD to achieve the three objectives of the CBD namely conservation, sustainable use, and access and benefit sharing, in a balanced manner;
- **URGE** all Parties to effectively implement the CBD Strategic Plan on Biodiversity for the period

2011 – 2020 and ensure that sufficient new and additional financial resources and appropriate transfer of relevant technologies are provided in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibility;

- **ENHANCE** international cooperation in addressing the impacts of climate change by adopting an ecosystem-based approach that focuses on the role of biodiversity in adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, including REDD Plus mechanism;
- **NOTE** the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising From Their Utilization, and urge Parties to develop domestic legislative, administrative and policy measures on Access and Benefit Sharing in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication, and environmental sustainability;
- **URGE** Parties, other governments, international organisations, the Global Environment Facility, regional development banks and other financial institutions, to provide financial resources to support national capacity building and development initiatives to support implementation of the Protocol;
- **RECOMMEND** for the GEF-6 replenishment to provide support to Parties in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to provide support for national capacity building and development initiatives in the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol;
- **FURTHER REQUEST** GEF to consider establishing a South-South biodiversity cooperation trust fund, based on voluntary contributions;
- **ENHANCE** efforts on valuing ecosystem services and promoting investments by governments and private sector, considering also incentive and disincentive measures, and further promoting payment of ecosystem services schemes among the various stakeholders;
- **MOBILIZE** efforts in awareness-raising in support of the “UN Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020” to promote implementation of the objectives of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, with the goal of significantly reducing biodiversity loss;

- **ENHANCE** regional and national mechanisms to promote transition to a green economy, understanding its potential contribution for sustainable development and poverty alleviation in the region, including the conduct of an ASEAN study on the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity (ASEAN-TEEB) in the region as a means to mainstream green growth;
- **RESOLVE** to make available information on the progress and development in working towards the Aichi Targets through the preparation of the 2nd ASEAN Biodiversity Outlook by 2015;
- **SUPPORT** the implementation of the Plan of Action on Sub-national Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities on Biodiversity (CBD Decision X/22) and the application of the Singapore Index on Cities’ Biodiversity as a tool for cities and local authorities to monitor their biodiversity conservation efforts;
- **FURTHER RESOLVE** to be more proactive in the capacity building program and public awareness campaign involving all concerned sectors and communities, forge policy-science interface for advocacy and decision-making, mainstreaming biodiversity conservation to the issues of poverty alleviation and climate change, and mainstream biodiversity conservation into other sectors; and engage cities and local authorities in national biodiversity conservation strategies and incorporating their inputs in national reporting frameworks.

Bangkok Resolution on ASEAN Environmental Cooperation

Bangkok, Thailand, 26 September 2012

We, the ASEAN ministers responsible for environment from Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Member States of ASEAN, on this occasion of the 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (12th AMME);

Recognising the significance of the ASEAN Charter and the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015);

Recalling our commitments to further strengthening ASEAN regional cooperation on natural resources and environment for sustainable development and regional integration and to realising the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint with a view to achieving the ASEAN vision of “Clean and Green ASEAN”, the success of which will ensure in our region the protection of the environment, the sustainability of natural resources and the high quality of life of our peoples;

Reaffirming our commitments made in the Declaration of Bali Concord III (2011), the ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on Climate Change to the 17th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 7th Session of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (2011), the ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on Joint Response to Climate Change (2010) and the ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability (2007);

Reaffirming further our commitments to the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, and the outcome of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions;

Acknowledging the significance of ASEAN’s role in addressing challenges such as climate change, biodiversity conservation and transboundary pollution;

Emphasising the importance of efforts to strengthen regional and international cooperation for the adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, the stemming of the loss of biodiversity, the management and control of natural disasters as well as the enhancement of public awareness on these issues;

Realising the importance of environmental education and awareness for sustainable development, furthermore

highlighting 2012 as the ASEAN Environment Year celebration;

DO HEREBY AGREE TO:

1. Continue the efforts to establish a balance among economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability as well as to strengthen ASEAN’s commitments for the attainment of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to accelerate the implementation of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development’s outcomes;
2. Continue to implement the action lines on environmental sustainability in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint in an effective and timely manner towards a clean and green ASEAN Community;
3. Work to eliminate transboundary haze pollution in the ASEAN region by further intensifying regional and international cooperation in preventing land and forest fires by continuously monitoring weather and ground conditions, and implementing preventive activities including those under the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) and promote efforts among the AMS to ensure that companies adopt zero burning techniques in land clearing;
4. Contribute actively to a conclusion of a balanced and comprehensive outcome of the 18th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-18 UNFCCC) and the 8th Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP-8 Kyoto Protocol) in Doha, Qatar, in November-December 2012, in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention, the development priorities, objectives, circumstances and capacity of developing countries;
5. Encourage ASEAN Member States to address climate change through the implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures in line with their respective country policies;
6. Strengthen regional cooperation efforts in this regard, including through the implementation of the ASEAN Climate Change Initiative and the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change;

7. Take steps to complete the ratification of the Establishment Agreement of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity and contribute to the ASEAN Biodiversity Fund;
8. Enhance efforts to protect, conserve, and sustainably utilise ASEAN's biodiversity by effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for the Biodiversity 2011 - 2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
9. Accelerate efforts to develop and update the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and request the Global Environment Facility and other possible sources of funding to provide sufficient and timely financial support for the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs);
10. To take preparatory national work as a sound and informed basis for ratifying the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress under the context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
11. Support the Cha-am Declaration on Biodiversity adopted by the Asia Regional Forum on Biodiversity on 4 November 2011, which aims to communicate examples of environment-friendly best practice, to encourage multi-stakeholder partnerships; promote leadership and public awareness of the value of biodiversity and the need for cooperation from all sectors; and to recognise the ongoing contributions and support for the conservation of biodiversity;
12. Intensify regional cooperation to enhance national and regional capacities to fully implement our commitments under the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in accordance with each AMS' respective principles and provisions,;
13. Call upon the developed countries to enhance their efforts to transfer low carbon and other climate-friendly technologies to developing countries, as well as encourage innovative financing options to promote investment in research and development of climate-friendly technologies for deployment in developing countries, in line with their respective national priorities;
14. Promote the mainstreaming of sustainable development at all levels and integrate sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns into our national policies which is fundamental in addressing all aspects of environmental sustainability;
15. Promotesustainablewaterresourcesmanagement through Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) initiative by enhancing efforts to implement the ASEAN Strategic Plan of Action on Water Resources Management in order to ensure sufficient water quantity of acceptable quality to meet the needs of the people of Southeast Asia;
16. Strengthen cooperation among ASEAN Member States and our partners in the prevention of flood and drought and the relief and rehabilitation of its impacts, including through the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER);
17. Enhance existing transboundary water cooperation within ASEAN which aims to reduce poverty, protect natural resources, prevent crisis and resolve conflicts between countries;
18. Promote sustainable management and utilization of marine and coastal resources, conservation and sustainable management of key ecosystems in coastal and marine habitats, enhance public awareness about the importance of coastal and marine environment;
19. Encourage capacity building on marine and coastal resources conservation and rehabilitation and improve our resilience against floods and risk of coastline shifting as well as coastal erosions;
20. Promote sustainable forest management in ASEAN with strengthened cooperation among ASEAN Member States in afforestation and reforestation and to reduce deforestation and forest degradation;
21. Promote the proper use/reuse, monitoring and management of hazardous and toxic chemicals and waste, including e-waste, in an effective and sustained manner;
22. Enhance coordination and collaboration among AMS and partner organisations to provide an opportunity to share and exchange information and knowledge on sustainable urban issues to further establish environmentally sustainable cities in ASEAN region;

23. Promote sustainable development through environmental education and public participation, incorporation of environmental education and environmentally sustainable development in the curricula, materials and resources, participation of relevant stakeholders in the promotion of public awareness on the importance of sustainable development and environmentally sustainable practices;
24. Continue to work closely with Dialogue Partners, within the frameworks of ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three and East Asia Summit including through the mechanisms of ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers' Meeting and EAS Environment Ministers' Meeting to address both existing and emerging global environmental issues;
25. Call upon financial institutions and donors to provide sources of fund and technical assistance in enhancing environmental protection and management in the ASEAN region;
26. Support the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and sub-regional cooperation such as the Greater Mekong Sub-region Economic Cooperation (GMS), the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECES) and the Brunei Darussalam - Indonesia - Malaysia - Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMPEAGA), which are relevant to natural resources and environmental aspects.

DONE in Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand, this Twenty Sixth Day of September in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve.

Media Release of the 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (AMME) and 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution

Bangkok, Thailand, 26 September 2012

Ministers responsible for the environment from ASEAN Member States (AMS) held their 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment and the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution on 26 September 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Ministers reviewed regional cooperation on a number of environmental issues in particular the related actions in the environmental sustainability section of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint, and discussed new initiatives to further promote regional environmental cooperation.

The Ministers adopted the *Bangkok Resolution on ASEAN Environmental Cooperation* to reaffirm ASEAN's commitment to further strengthen ASEAN regional cooperation on natural resources and environment for sustainable development and regional integration and the realisation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC). The Ministers also agreed to, among others, continue the efforts to establish a balance among economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability; strengthen ASEAN's commitments for the attainment of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and accelerate the implementation of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development's outcomes, contribute actively towards the agreed outcome under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); and continue to work closely with Dialogue Partners to address existing and emerging global environmental issues. The Ministers adopted the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change which aims to implement the ASEAN Leaders Statement on Joint Response to Climate Change adopted at the 16th ASEAN Summit in April 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. The Ministers agreed in principle to issue the Joint Statement of ASEAN Environment Ministers for the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP-11) in October 2012, highlighting ASEAN's

position towards a positive and equitable outcome at CBD COP11.

The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) namely the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources; and urged the Parties to CBD to implement the three objectives in a balanced manner.

The Ministers urged Parties to CBD to develop domestic legislative, administrative and policy measures on Access and Benefit Sharing in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication, and environmental sustainability following the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The Ministers approved the nomination of U Minh Thuong National Park in Vietnam and Nat Ma Taung National Park in Myanmar as 31st and 32nd ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHP), respectively. The AHP aims to generate greater awareness, appreciation, enjoyment and conservation of ASEAN's rich natural heritage, through the creation of a regional network of representative protected areas.

The Ministers reviewed national, sub-regional and regional activities to address land and forest fires in the region and its associated transboundary haze pollution. The Ministers welcomed the significant progress in the implementation of the Work Programme of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, including concrete on-the-ground activities; the progress in the development of the ASEAN-wide Fire Danger Rating System; implementation of the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (2006-2020) and the implementation of the Strategic Review on Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution programmes. The Ministers, however, expressed serious concern on the report of the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC) which shows significant increase in hotspots in the region in 2012.

The Ministers noted that in the northern ASEAN region, the prevailing rainy season is expected to keep hotspot activities subdued until the onset of the traditional dry season in late November/December 2012. For the southern ASEAN region, an increase in rainfall is expected during the Inter-Monsoon season between October and November 2012 and this would help to

subdue the hotspot activities in the region. However, with the El Nino conditions currently developing in the equatorial Pacific Ocean, dry season may slightly be prolonged and extended dry weather conditions leading to increased hotspot activities in the region can be expected. Therefore, the ASEAN Member States pledged to remain vigilant to continuously monitor the situation on the ground and implement haze prevention activities.

The Ministers noted that several ASEAN Member States have contributed to the ASEAN Transboundary Haze Pollution Control Fund towards realising the pledge of providing an initial seed contribution of US\$500,000 for the Fund.

The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the project on Rehabilitation and Sustainable Use of Peatland Forests in Southeast Asia (funded by Global Environment Facility) and the SEApeat Project (funded by European Union), including the various activities conducted at the pilot sites in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Viet Nam. The Ministers encouraged international and regional collaborative partnerships to support this Project as it seeks to address climate change and biodiversity loss through mitigation of land and forest fires.

The Ministers noted the completion of the ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) Model Cities (Year 1) project funded by the Government of Japan which has provided AMS with experience and confidence in implementing and improving their ESC activities. The Ministers look forward to the implementation of the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) in ASEAN and East Asian Countries (Year 2).

The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government of Malaysia for hosting the inaugural ASEAN Eco-schools Award 2012 for primary and secondary eco-schools from ASEAN Member States in conjunction with the ASEAN Environment Year (AEY) Celebration 2012 on 17-18 July 2012 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Award recognises exemplary efforts of the schools in inculcating environmental awareness in every aspect of education to their students and surrounding communities.

The Ministers will meet their counterparts from the People's Republic of China, Japan and Republic of Korea at the 11th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers Meeting on 27 September 2012 to exchange views on global environmental issues, and to discuss activities on areas such as biodiversity, climate change, environmental education, water resources

management, promotion of environmentally sound technology and cleaner production, and environmentally sustainable cities. The Ministers will also meet their counterparts from the East Asia Summit participating countries at the 3rd East Asia Summit Environment Ministers Meeting to discuss and exchange views on the progress of EAS cooperation on environment.

The Ministers responsible for the environment will meet again in Indonesia tentatively in October 2013 on the occasion of the 14th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment.

Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COP)

Media Release of the 14th Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution

Bali, Indonesia, 31 October 2012

1. Ministers responsible for the environment from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore and the Vice-Minister of Natural Resources and Environment from Thailand met at the Fourteenth Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution on 31 October 2012 in Bali, Indonesia.
2. The Ministers noted the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre's (ASMC's) weather outlook of increased shower activities with the end of the traditional dry season in the southern ASEAN region in mid-October 2012. With the onset of the traditional rainy season around late November/early December 2012, the expected increase in

rainfall in the region will generally subdue hotspot activities. Nonetheless, the MSC countries agreed to maintain vigilance and to continue the sub-region's strong commitment and steady progress to tackle land and forest fires, and minimise the spread of transboundary smoke haze.

3. The Ministers acknowledged the availability of technologies that would enable MSC member states to enhance hotspot monitoring including the critical role of digital geo-referenced concession maps in efforts to hold plantation companies and land owners responsible. The Ministers also agreed to explore the sharing of such maps by MSC member states. The Ministers acknowledged that greater transparency is required to make plantation companies and land owners responsible for the haze, more accountable, and employing best management practices in land clearing activities as well as to undertake concerted effort in fire suppression. The Ministers agreed that MSC member states undertake more deterrent and effective enforcement measures against offenders. The Ministers agreed to the proposal for the formation of an MSC Technical Task Force (MTTF) to develop a fire monitoring platform at the MSC level.
4. The Ministers expressed appreciation on the substantive efforts by Indonesia in implementing its Plan of Action (PoA) in Dealing with Transboundary Haze Pollution especially the integrated efforts in the pilot districts in Riau and West Kalimantan. Other preventive and preparedness measures undertaken by Indonesia included campaign of zero burning technique, the increase of Manggala Agni operation areas from 30 to 33, revitalizing of Manggala Agni equipment, strengthening of Manggala Agni Operation procedure, and the mobilization of 144 Manggala Agni units in 10 provinces. A budget of up to IDR 127 billion has also been proposed by the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia to be allocated for addressing land and forest fire issue at all levels, which shows Indonesia's commitment to seriously tackle the fire and haze problems.
5. The Ministers appreciated the priority that Indonesia has placed on ratification of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution.
6. The Ministers provided guidance on the implementation of the Strategic Review of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) Programmes and Activities, which covers enhancing haze control management through

early warning/monitoring, fire prevention and fire suppression, including refinement of the Fire Danger Rating System; enhancing bilateral collaboration and replication of bilateral projects, where appropriate; conducting training courses offered by member states under the Regional Haze Training Network, and organising of the MSC Forum.

7. The Ministers noted the successful completion of the bilateral collaboration with Indonesia in Riau and Jambi Provinces. Malaysia and Singapore expressed interest to continue such collaboration in other fire prone areas when Indonesia is ready.
8. The Ministers noted outcomes of the 2nd MSC Forum held on 8-9 May 2012 in Brunei Darussalam. The Ministers noted that the Forum brought together over 50 participants representing local governments, regional and international NGOs, academia, financial institutions, businesses and consulting firms. The Ministers further noted that a key outcome of the Forum was the recognition that plantation companies had a key role to play in achieving the vision of a haze-free ASEAN.
9. The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the project on Rehabilitation and Sustainable Use of Peatland Forests in Southeast Asia (funded by Global Environment Facility) and the SEApeat Project (funded by European Union), including the various activities conducted at the pilot sites in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Viet Nam. The Ministers encouraged international and regional collaborative partnerships to support this Project as it seeks to address climate change and biodiversity loss through mitigation of land and forest fires.
10. The Ministers expressed appreciation to Singapore for chairing the MSC for the period 2011-2012 and agreed for Thailand to chair the MSC in 2013.
11. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government of Indonesia for organising the 14th MSC Meeting and the excellent arrangements made and hospitality provided.

ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting (AHMM)

Joint Statement 11th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting

Phuket, Thailand, 5 July 2012

WE, the Ministers of Health of ASEAN Member States, representing Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, convened the 11th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting on 5 July 2012 in Phuket, Thailand.

We and all health officials will continue implementing the framework and key guiding principles of "Healthy ASEAN 2020", emphasising that health is a fundamental right of our peoples; health development is a shared responsibility and must involve greater participation and empowerment of the people, communities and institutions; and, ASEAN cooperation shall strive to achieve social justice and equity in health development and solidarity in action towards a healthy paradigm that emphasises health promotion, disease prevention and control, and health care for all.

We commend the efforts made by the Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (SOMHD), the 10 subsidiary bodies on health, and relevant networks in finalising their respective work plans to implement the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015, endorsed by the 10th AHMM) and fulfilling the 55 health action lines stipulated in ASEAN Socio-Cultural Blueprint.

We support and reinforce the implementation mechanisms of these work plans that include the valuable roles of lead countries; improved collaboration with partners; the critical roles of SOMHD and its Chair; and also the respective Chairs of the Working Groups/Task Forces/Networks; and the role of the ASEAN Secretariat.

We recognise and fully commit to the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Prevention and

Control of Non-communicable Diseases (A/RES/66/2) in September 2011; the Moscow Declaration adopted at the First Global Ministerial Conference on Healthy Lifestyles and Non-communicable Disease Control; and, resolution WHA64.11 ["Moscow Declaration"] and WHA65.8 ["Rio Declaration"] of the World Health Assembly.

With our ultimate goal of improving health situation in the region, we have discussed and exchanged views on the progress of implementation of joint activities in the health sector under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Blueprint and agreed to the following resolutions:

1. We commit to intensify ASEAN cooperation in health development and to mobilise resources at the national, regional, and international levels to tackle health priorities, especially the increasing disease burden from Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs); the increasing prevalence of tobacco consumption; the goal to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC); the effort in getting to zero new infection of HIV/AIDS in the region; and, the effective response system to all kinds of public health emergencies at national and regional levels, Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs), artemisinin-resistant malaria and dengue.
2. We agree to intensify the current prevention strategies for disability and premature death from NCDs by using two levels of actions: the first involves population-wide measures to reduce exposure to risk factors by implementing cost-effective interventions, both within the health sector and beyond. These include measures on Social Determinants of Health (SDH), tobacco and alcohol control, promoting healthy diet and physical activities. The second concern interventions targeting those who are already suffering from NCDs, and affected by associated complications, or who are at high risk of developing them. Health systems that respond more effectively and equitably to the health-care needs of people with NCDs, through early detection and effective treatment, can further reduce premature mortality by at least one third.
3. We pursue our aim to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in all Member States by tasking the SOMHD to discuss the formation of an ASEAN network on UHC. We will support this network to collectively build up capacity to assess and manage health systems to support UHC, through sharing of experiences, information and experts. We commit to collectively move the UHC to all top levels of regional and global development forum,

including the ASEAN Summit and the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

4. We reaffirm our commitment to implement the "ASEAN Declaration of Commitment: Getting To Zero New HIV Infections, Zero Discrimination, Zero AIDS-Related Deaths" as adopted by the 19th ASEAN Summit in November 2011 in Bali, Indonesia. We will advance our commitment to raise the awareness on HIV/AIDS, working with other ministries at national and regional levels to reduce undesirable social determinants, which are the root causes of the problem. We will steer our region to be on time and on the right course of getting to zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination, and zero AIDS-related death. We applaud the initiation of ASEAN Cities Getting to Zero and support its expansion for the years to come. We will continue to advocate harm reduction programs, where appropriate and applicable, for all vulnerable groups.
5. We support our senior officials and International Health Regulations (IHR) national focal points to share and exchange information on EIDs especially drug-resistant malaria and dengue; and public health emergencies of all causes that happen in an ASEAN Member State. A joint study/multi-country investigation in response to epidemic or other threats by the expert groups or field epidemiologists of the ASEAN Plus Three FETN should be conducted using the Minimum Standards on Joint Multi-sectoral Outbreak Investigation and Response (MS JMOIR) – that has been endorsed in our last meeting. We will collectively work with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other agencies to have all ASEAN Member States achieve the IHR core-competency within the next two years.
6. We resolve to sustain our collective efforts and incremental gains in the prevention and control of EIDs through whole-of-society approaches, built on new health advocacy initiatives and, achieve momentum such as our groundbreaking ASEAN Dengue Day through improved communication strategies; and lastly, to be vigilant as we identify and address future serious threats to our region's health security as with artemisinin-resistant malaria through effective collaboration and enabling environment.

We look forward to further exchanges of views on joint collaboration in health development at our next Meeting in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, in 2014.

ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM)

Joint Communiqué of the 22nd ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (22nd ALMM)

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 10 May 2012

1. The Twenty Second ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (22th ALMM) was convened in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 10 May 2012. It was preceded by the Eighth ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting (8th SLOM) on 6-7 May 2012. The 22th ALMM adopted the theme, "Improving Social Protection and Skill Development".
2. The Opening Ceremony of the 22th ALMM was officiated by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. In his Opening Speech, Samdech Techo Prime Minister welcomed all the Ministers and delegates of ASEAN Member States to the Meeting. He noted with satisfaction the progress made by ASEAN Member States on the implementation of the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme 2010-2015. He also recommended the ASEAN and Plus Three Labour Ministers to pay high attention on social protection which is the key factor to improve the people's welfare and sustainability of economic development. Attention should also be given to the strengthening of social protection systems in ASEAN in the context of poverty alleviation strategy and in responding to the global and regional economic and labour market development. Hence, continued improvement of knowledge, skills and competitiveness of human resources in the region should be combined with stronger and more comprehensive social protection strategies.
3. The 22nd ALMM was attended by the ASEAN Labour Ministers from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam and their respective delegations. The Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) and staff representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat were also in attendance. The list of Ministers is enclosed.

Exchange of Views on Improving Social Protection and Skills Development in the ASEAN Region

4. The Ministers exchanged views on strategies and challenges in improving social protection and skills development in ASEAN. The Ministers underlined that in building the ASEAN Community with greater mobility of skilled workers by 2015, the issues of youth unemployment, vulnerabilities caused by natural disasters and economic crisis, unsafe migration, quality and coverage of education and skills training especially in rural areas, are of common concerns and would need to be addressed by ASEAN through concerted efforts and close cooperation. The Ministers acknowledged that ASEAN Member States continue to undertake strategies and efforts towards the improvement of the coverage, effective delivery and sustainability of social protection schemes and creating skilled and competent labour force. The Ministers called for closer cooperation amongst ASEAN Member States and with Dialogue Partners, international organisations, tripartite partners and other relevant parties in improving social protection and skills development in the region.

Relevant Decisions of Other ASEAN Meetings

5. The Ministers took note of relevant decisions made by the Leaders at the 20th and 19th ASEAN Summits held in April 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and in November 2011 in Bali, Indonesia, respectively, as well as the 7th and 6th ASCC Council Meeting held in April 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and in October 2011 in Semarang, Indonesia, respectively, and other related ASEAN Meetings convened recently. The Ministers exchanged views on strategies to effectively implement those directives/relevant decisions concerning ASEAN cooperation in the labour sector.

Status and Monitoring of the ASCC Blueprint Implementation

6. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the implementation progress of the ASCC Blueprint, particularly on the Action Lines concerning labour issues, by SLOM and its subsidiary bodies. The Ministers tasked SLOM and its subsidiary bodies to expedite the ASCC Blueprint implementation by prioritising projects and activities to be carried out under the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme 2010-2015 in a timely and efficient manner.
7. The Ministers agreed in principle on the set of indicators that were developed by SLOM for the

ASCC Scorecard to track the implementation of the ASCC Blueprint Strategic Objectives concerning the labour sector. The Ministers also recognised that the ASCC Scorecard is a useful tool to assess the achievements of goals, outcomes and targets towards the ASCC. The first (medium-term) ASCC Scorecard Report is planned for 2012.

Implementation of the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme (2010-2015)

8. The Ministers noted the significant achievements made under the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme 2010-2015 since its adoption at the 21st ALMM held on 24 May 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. The Ministers lauded the initiatives and commitment of ASEAN Member States to lead the implementation of various projects and activities.
9. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to continue implementing the ASEAN Statement on Human Resources and Skills Development for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Growth adopted at the 17th ASEAN Summit in 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. In this regard, the Ministers supported the regular conduct of the Human Resources Conference and ASEAN Skills Competition, as well as other relevant projects and activities.
10. The Ministers took note of the recommendations of the 3rd ASEAN Human Resource Conference, which carried the theme "Skills Development towards a Greater Mobility of Skilled Labour in ASEAN", held on 9 May 2012, and reiterated their commitment to organise the ASEAN Human Resources Conference as a regular activity of the ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting.
11. The Ministers were committed to continue the implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, including to take a phased approach in the development of an ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers in the region, starting by focusing on issues which are comfortable with ASEAN Member States, in accordance with existing national law and/or policies, and in pursuant to the Cebu Declaration. The Ministers expressed satisfaction with the significant progress of the drafting of the ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers by ASEAN Member States in the ASEAN's spirit of cooperation. In this regard, the Ministers agreed with the scope and timelines of the phased approach of the instrument drafting as recommended by SLOM, and tasked the drafting team to sustain its momentum in these efforts.
12. The Ministers were satisfied to note the progress of the operationalisation of the ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health Network (ASEAN-OSHNET) Plan of Action on Occupational Safety and Health Frameworks 2007–2011, and deliberations made at the 13th ASEAN-OSHNET Coordinating Board Meeting held on 18-19 April 2012 in Manila, the Philippines. Numerous projects and activities have been completed including the convening of the ASEAN-OSHNET Workshop on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in Small and Medium Enterprises and Informal Economy Workplaces in July 2011 in Siem Reap, Cambodia; the 5th ASEAN-OSHNET Plus Three Policy Dialogue on Occupational Safety and Health Management Systems on 29 February-1 March 2012 in Singapore; and the Conference on Occupational Safety and Health and the Second ASEAN Labour Inspection on 15-16 March 2012 in Dong Nai, Viet Nam. The Ministers adopted the Plan of Action on Revitalizing ASEAN OSHNET which reflects the continued effort of ASEAN-OSHNET in raising its profile by, among others, expanding its international and regional cooperation beyond its current partners.
13. The Ministers were also satisfied with the progress of work of the SLOM's Working Group on Progressive Labour Practices to Enhance the Competitiveness of ASEAN (SLOM-WG) under its current Work Plan 2010-2015, and the deliberations made at its 3rd and 4th SLOM-WG Meetings held on 15 October 2010 in Ha Long City, Viet Nam and on 9-10 November 2011 in Langkawi, Malaysia, respectively. Various projects and activities have been completed, including the convening of the 1st and 2nd ASEAN Labour Inspection Conferences held on 13-14 October 2010 in Ha Long City, Viet Nam, and on 14-15 March 2012 in Dong Nai, Viet Nam, respectively; Workshop on the Development of Labour Market Information System (LMIS) in ASEAN held on 23 November 2011 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam; ASEAN Seminar on Work-Life Harmony and Flexible Labour Practices on 25-26 August 2011 in Singapore; ASEAN Seminar on Decent Work for All on 23 May 2011 in Penang, Malaysia; and ASEAN Seminar on Labour Management Cooperation (Focusing on Bipartism) on 9-10 May 2011 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The Ministers tasked the SLOM-WG to implement its planned projects and activities as scheduled.

14. The Ministers were pleased that the Working Group on HIV Prevention and Control in the Workplace (SLOM-WG-HIV) had successfully convened its Inaugural Meeting on 28-29 July 2011 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Ministers endorsed the SLOM-WG-HIV Work Plan for 2011-2015 that will guide ASEAN Member States in undertaking concerted efforts collectively to address the issues of HIV and AIDS in the workplace.

Strengthening Labour Cooperation with Dialogue Partners and Other Entities

15. The Ministers agreed to strengthen the cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners in the labour sector and in support of the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015. The Ministers were pleased to note the significant achievements made under the framework of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and were keen to fostering the collaboration and exploring new initiatives with the Plus Three countries under ALM's Work Programme 2010-2015.
16. The Ministers noted a number of activities which have been implemented with support from the International Labour Organization (ILO) in various areas such as industrial relations, progressive labour practices, occupational safety and health, social protection, labour standards, labour market statistics and child labour. The Ministers tasked SLOM and its subsidiary bodies to continue the close cooperation with ILO in implementing the ALM's Work Programme 2010-2015.
17. The Ministers reiterated ASEAN Member States' continued interest to dialogue with and engage ASEAN Dialogue Partners, tripartite partners and other relevant external parties in strengthening the skills and competitiveness of human resources, labour administration and labour inspection, as well as promoting decent work for all.

23rd ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting

18. The Ministers agreed that the 23rd ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting would be held in Myanmar in 2014.
19. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Royal Government of Cambodia, particularly the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training, for the warm hospitality extended to the ASEAN delegates and excellent arrangement of the Meeting.

List of Ministers attending the 22nd ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting

1. H.E. Vong Sauth, Minister of Labour and Vocational Training, Cambodia; 2. H.E. H. A. Muhaimin Iskandar Minister of Manpower and Transmigration, Indonesia; 3. H.E. Bounkhong Lasoukanh, Vice Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Lao PDR; 4. H.E. Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam, Minister of Human Resources, Malaysia; 5. H.E. Aung Kyi, Minister of Labour Myanmar; 6. H.E. Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz, Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment, The Philippines 7. H.E. Tan Chuan-Jin, Minister of State for Manpower, Singapore; 8. H.E. Phadermchai Sasomsub, Minister of Labour, Thailand; 9. H.E. Pham Thi Hai Chuyen, Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, Viet Nam; 10. H.E. Dato' Misran Karmain, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, The ASEAN Secretariat.

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD)

Joint Statement of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence Against Children

Manila, the Philippines, 17 January 2012

The ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) convened a Consultative Meeting with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC) and CEDAW Committee experts on violence against women in Manila, the Philippines, on 16-17 January 2012. The Consultation was supported by UN Women and UNICEF.

The Consultation provided an opportunity to exchange views on a rights-based approach to initiatives designed to prevent and address all forms of violence against children (VAC) and violence against women (VAW), in the light of international human rights standards, in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), both ratified by all ASEAN Member States.

The Consultation helped to highlight good practices and experiences on the implementation of laws, policies and actions aimed at overcoming the invisibility of violence, promoting an integrated agenda for violence prevention and elimination, and improving the availability and quality of data and research on the magnitude and incidence of violence against children and violence against women.

The Commission welcomed the insightful information provided by the SRSG-VAC on the process of follow-up to the recommendations of the UN Study on Violence against Children promoted in countries around the globe, and the experience gained from cooperation developed between her mandate and regional organizations and institutions aiming at building a world free from violence.

The Commission recognized the importance and potential of enhancing opportunities for dialogue and cooperation with strategic partners at the national, regional and international levels, including with the United Nations system, to accelerate progress towards the elimination of violence against children and violence against women.

The Commission and the SRSG-VAC expressed commitment to pursue collaboration in the context of the ACWC's mandate for the promotion and protection of the rights of women and children and efforts for violence prevention and response including within the framework of the Commission's five-year work plan in the following activities:

- a. Compiling, documenting and disseminating good practices and studies on the implementation of legislations, programmes, services and strategies to address all forms of VAW and VAC in the region;
- b. Conducting regional studies of legal frameworks and response strategies towards the elimination of VAW and VAC in ASEAN Member States;
- c. Promoting advocacy and policy development for the prevention and elimination of all forms of VAW and VAC;

- d. Promoting, in collaboration with relevant government agencies, the availability and quality of data collection and analysis concerning VAW and VAC in ASEAN Member States;
- e. Launching a regional public campaign to eliminate all forms of VAW and VAC in collaboration with the relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies, civil society, religious and local leaders, private sector and other stakeholders;
- f. Developing minimum standards of delivery of services to the victims and survivors as well as perpetrators of VAW and VAC;
- g. Strengthening the capacity of service providers in ASEAN Member States to prevent and address all forms of VAW and VAC; and
- h. Promoting dialogues with other relevant government agencies, civil society and other stakeholders aiming at improving awareness of all forms of VAW and VAC in various sectors.

The ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) Joins Hands with Civil Society for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Violence against Children

Manila, the Philippines, 18 January 2012

The ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) convened a dialogue with forty national and regional civil society organisations in the ASEAN region in Manila, the Philippines, on 18 January 2012.

The Dialogue provided a platform for the ACWC and civil society to share information and exchange views on issues of violence against women (VAW) and violence against children (VAC) that are of great concerns in the region, and on challenges in the efforts towards the elimination of VAW and VAC.

The Dialogue recognised the importance of responding to the various forms of VAW and VAC in public and private spheres based on a rights-based approach and collaborative and systematic approach with the involvement of civil society and other stakeholders at regional and national levels, as well as with children and women as rights bearers.

Representatives of the participating civil society organisations expressed their views and made recommendations as feedback to the ACWC in finalising its 5- year Work Plan which has to observe the mandate and responsibilities in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the ACWC.

Representatives of the civil society organisations also articulated their interests to work together with the ACWC for the prevention and elimination of all forms of VAW and VAC including, but not limited to, the following actions: (a) documentation and dissemination of good practices, programmes, research findings, and data concerning VAW and VAC in the region; (b) advocacy for the elimination of VAW and VAC through public campaign in the ASEAN region; and (c) dialogues between the ACWC and civil society for more effective responses to the concerns of victims and survivors of VAW and VAC.

The ACWC expressed its appreciation to the civil society for its work and contribution in promoting and protecting the rights of women and children in general and to those organisations that were participating in the Dialogue in particular. The ACWC recognized the importance of enhancing dialogues and cooperation with civil society to accelerate progress towards the elimination of VAW and VAC in the ASEAN region.

3rd Press Release of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 18 February 2012

The ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) concluded its Fourth Meeting which was

convened from 16-18 February 2012 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

At this Meeting, the ACWC's work plan for 2012-2016 was concretized to ensure that the Commission's journey in the next five years would bring impacts to women and children in the region. Among the activities/projects identified are publication of the compilation of good practices in combating violence against women and children in ASEAN and establishment of an ACWC network of social service agencies involved in preventing, protecting and helping victims of violence against women and children in ASEAN.

Projects and activities that were identified at the ACWC's Consultation Meeting with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC) and prominent international experts on elimination of violence against women on 16-17 January 2012, and the ACWC's Dialogue with civil society on 18 January 2012 in Manila, the Philippines, were taken into consideration in developing ACWC's 2012-2016 work plan.

At the Meeting, the ACWC Representatives included a visit to the Counseling and Protection Centre for Women and Children in Vientiane in the afternoon of 18 February 2012. This Centre, which is the first shelter established by the Lao Women's Union, provides comprehensive services for victims of domestic violence, trafficking and sexual exploitations with the support of its networks throughout districts and villages in the country. The study visit is the first of the ACWC's series of study visits designed for the ACWC Representatives to have a better knowledge and understanding of what each Member State is doing for the healing, well-being, and reintegration into society.

The ACWC continues to synergize their work with other ASEAN bodies relevant to their focus areas by welcoming consultations, dialogues and meetings with them. Notable among them were the meeting of ACWC Chair with the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD) in September 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand; the meeting of ACWC Chair and Vice-Chair with the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) in October 2011 in Bogor, Indonesia; and the dialogue of the ACWC Representatives with the ASEAN Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) in November 2011 in Bali, Indonesia. A consultation of the Drafting Team of the ASEAN Committee on the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers (ACMW-DT) with the ACWC representatives is in April 2012 in Singapore.

The Meeting welcomed Brunei Darussalam's new Representative for children's rights, Datin Paduka Hajah Apsah binti Haji Majid, who is replacing the former Representative, Datin Hajah Adina Othman.

The Fifth ACWC Meeting is scheduled for 3-5 July 2012 at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia.

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW)

Media Statement of the 1st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW)

“Enhancing Gender Perspective and ASEAN Women’s Partnership for Environmental Sustainability”

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 19 October 2012

1. We, the Ministers/Heads of Delegations of ASEAN Member States, convened the First ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW) on 19 October 2012 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, which carried the theme “Enhancing Gender Perspective and ASEAN Women’s Partnership for Environmental Sustainability”. The Meeting was convened following the ASEAN Leaders’ approval on the establishment of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women at the 19th ASEAN Summit held on 17 November 2011 in Bali, Indonesia. The AMMW was established to further strengthen ASEAN cooperation on women’s empowerment and gender mainstreaming.
2. We shared information and exchanged views on the policies, strategies, practices, achievements and experiences of ASEAN Member States as well as the challenges encountered in mainstreaming gender perspective and strengthening women’s knowledge, skills and participation in policies, programmes and strategies to sustain the environment and build a disaster-resilient region.
3. We adopted the Vientiane Declaration on Strengthening Gender Perspective and ASEAN Women’s Partnership for Environmental Sustainability. We tasked the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) to effectively implement the commitment reflected in the Vientiane Declaration and monitor its progress in collaboration and coordination with other relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies.
4. We acknowledged the progress of work of the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) in implementing the planned projects and activities under its Work Plan for 2011- 2015. We noted with satisfaction the completion of several regional activities in 2012, notably the ASEAN Multi-sectoral Workshop on MDGs: Acceleration Strategies and Priorities Beyond 2015 which was held on 30-31 July 2012 in Yangon, Myanmar; the Workshop on Strengthening National Capacities to Collect Violence Against Women (VAW) Statistics in the ASEAN Region which was convened on 6-9 August 2012 in Jakarta, Indonesia; Regional Workshop on the Promotion of Female Entrepreneurs to be Leader of Local Wisdom Products and Business under the Skill Development Promotion for the Advancement of Women (2010-2012) which was convened on 29-31 August 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand; and the Consultative Meeting on HIV and Key Affected Women and Girls: Reducing Intimate Partner Transmission of HIV within ASEAN which was convened on 24-25 September 2012 in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR.
5. We acknowledged the development of key indicators by the ACW to monitor the achievements of goals and targets concerning gender equality and women’s advancement in the ASCC Blueprint towards the ASEAN Community that is socially responsible and people-oriented by 2015. We supported the effort of the ACW to collect data against the agreed key indicators for the first report of the ASCC Scorecard by the end of 2012.
6. We commended the efforts of the ACW through various initiatives towards the integration of gender perspective and analysis in the work programmes and commitments of ASEAN across the political-security, economic and socio-cultural pillars. For this purpose, a consultation has been convened between the ACW and ASEAN Task Force on AIDS on 26 September 2012 in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR, to identify joint actions to prevent and curb HIV transmission among key affected women and girls in the region. We tasked the ACW to continue

its consultations, coordination and cooperation with other ASEAN sectoral bodies.

7. We welcomed the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs' Network by the ACW aiming at improving the capacity of ASEAN women entrepreneurs and boosting their development and networking. We noted with appreciation that Viet Nam would be the Network's coordinator for the first two years of its work. We tasked the ACW to nominate the initial members of the Network from national women entrepreneurs' associations and/or micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, associations, clubs and/or other economic entities owned or managed by women in all economic sectors, as well as organisations participating in promoting business skills and opportunities of women entrepreneurs in ASEAN Member States.
8. We noted the convening of the 4th Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three Committee on Women (ACW+3) on 18 October 2012 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, which, among others, reviewed the implementation of completed projects as well as status of on-going and planned projects for implementation in the period of 2012-2015. We further noted that the 5th ACW+3 Meeting would be hosted by Malaysia in 2013.
9. At the Informal Session, we exchanged views with the Ministers/Heads of Delegations of the Plus Three Countries on ways to strengthen the cooperation for gender equality and women's advancement in the region through the existing mechanisms of the ASEAN Plus Three Countries and East Asia Countries. We expressed our sincere appreciation to the continued support and cooperation of the Plus Three Countries in promoting gender equality and women's advancement in ASEAN.
10. We applauded the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) for the finalisation of its Work Plan 2012-2016 and Rules of Procedure. We exchanged views with the ACWC Chair and Vice-Chair and agreed to continue the coordination and collaboration with one another in empowering women as well as promoting gender equality, social justice, well-being and rights of women in the region.
11. We appreciated the Australia's Global Ambassador for Women and Girls for its support to ASEAN and interest to cooperate with the

AMMW in empowering and promoting substantive participation of women and girls in the region.

12. We also appreciated the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and UN Women Deputy Assistant Director for its support to the work of the AMMW. We agreed to continue the cooperation in fostering gender responsiveness of policies, programmes and strategies of ASEAN Member States to accelerate the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and ASEAN's development agenda beyond 2015.
13. We thanked the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, particularly the Lao Women's Union, for their warm and generous hospitality accorded to us and our respective delegations and the excellent arrangements of the Meeting.
14. We welcomed the generous offer of the Philippines to host the Second AMMW in 2015.
15. The First AMMW was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality.

Vientiane Declaration on Enhancing Gender Perspective and ASEAN Women's Partnership for Environmental Sustainability

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 19 October 2012

We, the Ministers/Heads of Delegations of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, gathered in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 19 October 2012 for the First ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW);

Reaffirming our commitment to pursue a holistic and cooperative approach in advancing the participation of women and enhancing gender perspective in the political-security, economic and socio-cultural aspects of the ASEAN Community-building process;

Upholding the goals, purposes and principles of ASEAN in the ASEAN Charter and Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for the ASEAN Community (2009-2015);

Recalling the ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 13th ASEAN Summit held on 20 November 2007 in Singapore;

Reiterating the commitments of ASEAN to promote gender equality and empower women as reflected in the Ha Noi Declaration on the Enhancement of Welfare and Development of ASEAN Women and Children adopted at the 17th ASEAN Summit held on 28 October 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, ASEAN Declaration on the Advancement of Women in the ASEAN Region signed at the 37th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) held on 30 June 2004 in Jakarta, Indonesia, and ASEAN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the ASEAN Region signed at the 21st AMM held on 5 July 1988 in Bangkok, Thailand;

Noting with satisfaction the significant achievements made in implementing the regional projects and activities agreed in the Work Plan of the ASEAN Committee on Women (2011-2015) to promote gender equality, social justice, well-being and rights of women in the region;

Acknowledging the commitment of ASEAN Member States to the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA), BPFA+5 Outcome Document, and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

Noting the outcome of the Women Leader's Summit at the Rio+20 Conference in June 2012 on the Future Women Want; and

Recognising that women represent a large untapped potential for environmental sustainability and the need to mainstream gender perspective and promote women's partnership and participation in sustaining the environment in ASEAN through holistic and effective strategies in collaboration and coordination with other relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies, with the participation of stakeholders, and in partnership with external partners, including ASEAN Dialogue Partners;

Do hereby declare our commitment to promote:

1. Women's knowledge and skills in environmental management and biodiversity conservation;

2. Women's knowledge and skills in climate change adaptation and mitigation and disaster risk reduction and management;
3. Women's knowledge and skills in soil conservation and appropriate land use technologies under the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus (REDD+) and ensuring gender responsiveness of the REDD+ implementation in ASEAN Member States which would contribute to environmental protection and sustainability of livelihood;
4. Women's capacity in coping with the social and environmental impacts of deforestation and diversion of agricultural land for industrialisation and urbanisation;
5. Women's access, ownership and control over resources to support sustainable livelihoods and their active involvement in mitigating pollution and contamination of ecosystems;
6. Gender mainstreaming and active involvement of women in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of environmental policies and programmes at the national, regional and international levels;
7. Women's full and substantive participation in the decision making process particularly concerning climate change and natural resource management at all levels;
8. Women's adequate protection and safety during the time of natural disasters and climate change hazards;
9. Legal measures, policies, strategies, and programmes on environmental sustainability for women especially those from vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

We task the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) to effectively implement this commitment and monitor its progress in collaboration and coordination with the relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies including the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Environment (ASOEN) and ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM). ASEAN Member States shall support these ASEAN sectoral bodies in the implementation of this Declaration through maximum efforts by such appropriate instruments as may be necessary and consistent with their respective national laws and policies.

We task the ACW to collaborate with the concerned ASEAN sectoral bodies to mobilise resources to implement this Declaration and to foster closer cooperation with external partners, including ASEAN Dialogue Partners, as well as other relevant stakeholders in building ASEAN as a gender-responsive and environmentally-responsible Community.

ADOPTED on this Nineteenth Day of October in the year two thousand and twelve in Vientiane, the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

List of Ministers / Heads of Delegations Attending The First ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women (AMMW), 19 October 2012, Vientiane, Lao PDR.

H.E. Pehin Dato Hazair Abdullah

Minister
Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
Brunei Darussalam

H.E. Dr. Kantha Phavi ING

Minister
Ministry of Women's Affairs
Kingdom of Cambodia

H.E. Linda Amalia Sari Gumelar

Minister
Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection
Republic of Indonesia

H.E. Sysay LEUDEMOUNSONE

President
Lao Women's Union
Lao People's Democratic Republic

Mr. Harjeet Singh

Deputy Secretary General (Strategic)
Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development
Malaysia

H.E. Dr. Myat Myat Ohn KHIN

Minister
Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

H.E. Remedios I. Rikken

Chairperson
The Philippine Commission on Women
Republic of the Philippines

H.E. Halimah Yacob

Minister of State
Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports
Republic of Singapore

E. Santi PROMPHAT

Minister
Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
Kingdom of Thailand

H.E. Pham Thi Hai Chuyen

Minister
Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

V. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

ASEAN – Australia

25th ASEAN-Australia Forum Co-Chairs' Statement

Manila, Philippines, 6 November 2012

1. The 25th ASEAN-Australia Forum was held in Manila on 6 November 2012, with participation by representatives from Australia, ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. The Forum was co-chaired by Ms. Erlinda Basilio, Undersecretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines and Mr. Rod Smith, First Assistant Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia.
3. The participants reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Partnership, established in 1974, and noted the invaluable contributions of Australia to the establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015. ASEAN welcomed Australia's deepening engagement with Asia, as enunciated in the Australia in the Asian Century White Paper announced by Prime Minister Julia Gillard on 28 October 2012. ASEAN welcomed Australia's announcement of the appointment of a resident Ambassador to ASEAN in Jakarta.
4. The participants reviewed the progress made in the various sectors of cooperation, welcomed the outcomes of the ASEAN-Australia Post Ministerial Conference held in Phnom Penh in July 2012, and discussed ways to move the partnership forward as both sides prepare for the 40th anniversary of the ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Partnership in 2014.
5. The participants reaffirmed commitment to the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership signed by the Foreign Ministers in Manila in August 2007 and its implementing Plan of Action covering the period 2008 – 2013. To enhance the ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Partnership, they agreed to craft a strategic and forward-looking Plan of Action for 2014 to 2018.
6. The participants pledged to strengthen cooperation in areas such as: combating of transnational crimes, including terrorism and trafficking in persons; promotion of human rights; maritime cooperation; environment, climate change and biodiversity; and food and energy security. They also emphasized the importance of pursuing regional integration and addressing both traditional and non-traditional security concerns through ASEAN-centric for a such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM+). They welcomed the Philippines' hosting of the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) and thanked Australia for its initiative on drug-resistant malaria, which is expected to be among the key topics for discussion in the East Asia Summit in Phnom Penh in November 2012.
7. The participants appreciated the ongoing progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA), noting that total ASEAN-Australia two-way trade amounted to approximately USD 88 billion in 2011. They also looked forward to the launching of negotiations for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), which would take place at the sidelines of the upcoming EAS. It is envisioned to build on existing free trade areas to create a comprehensive, mutually beneficial and inclusive regional economic framework. Participants acknowledged Australia's support for the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and highlighted opportunities for further collaboration. In this context, participants reaffirmed the importance of physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity, including public-private partnerships and other opportunities for private-sector engagement to support ASEAN community building and integration.
8. The participants expressed appreciation for Australia's contributions in narrowing development gaps, alleviating poverty and promoting sustainable development in the region, including through the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program Phase II (AADCP-II). They highlighted the importance of regional efforts on disaster management through continued support for the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Relief (AADMER), the ASEAN Coordinating Centre

for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre) and the Indonesia-Australia EAS initiative endorsed by leaders in November 2011. They agreed to strengthen collaboration in these areas and discussed possible further collaboration in sub-regional growth areas including the Mekong Delta and the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA).

9. The participants recognized the value of increased people-to-people exchanges and enhance collaboration on education through scholarship programs, student and teacher exchanges, and partnership arrangements among educational institutions. They also welcomed Australia's intention to expand its work and holiday programs with countries in Asia.
10. The participants agreed that the 26th ASEAN-Australia Forum would be held in Australia in late-2013 or early-2014.

ASEAN – Canada

Joint Media Statement of the 1st AEM-Canada Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 31 August 2012

1. The First AEM-Canada Consultations were held on 31 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia, and H.E. Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade and Minister of the Asia-Pacific Gateway of Canada. The inaugural Consultations took place during the 35th anniversary year of the ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Partnership.
2. The Ministers welcomed the first ministerial-level AEM-Canada Consultations and expressed hope that they would provide the catalyst for expanding ASEAN-Canada commercial relations. The Ministers underscored that, despite the uncertainty in the global economy and the European financial crisis, total trade between ASEAN and Canada continues to be on the upswing with bilateral

merchandise trade growing by approximately 10 percent between 2010 and 2011.

3. The Ministers noted that investment flows between ASEAN and Canada represents an important component of the bilateral commercial relationship. Drawing on ASEAN statistics, investment flows from Canada to ASEAN reached US\$ 0.9 billion in 2011, ranking Canada as the seventh largest source of foreign direct investment in ASEAN. Canadian investment data revealed that, in 2011, known Canadian direct investment in the ASEAN region reached nearly C\$ 6.7 billion, exceeding that in both mainland China and India combined.
4. The Ministers adopted the 2012-2015 ASEAN-Canada Trade and Investment Workplan to implement the ASEAN-Canada Joint Declaration on Trade and Investment adopted in October 2011. The Ministers tasked Senior Economic Officials to develop and implement the activities under the Workplan with the aim of enhancing economic cooperation as well as promote trade and investment between ASEAN and Canada. The Workplan will set the stage for deepened economic ties through a forward looking agenda.
4. The Ministers welcomed the establishment of the Canada-ASEAN Business Council (CABC), which will serve as the channel for business-to-business dialogue to raise awareness of trade and investment opportunities in ASEAN and Canada. The Ministers expressed confidence that the CABC could also eventually serve as the channel for future government-to-business engagement aimed at seeking private-sector inputs on further enhancing ASEAN-Canada economic relations.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade and Minister of the Asia-Pacific Gateway, Canada; 3. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 4. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; 5. Mr. Bounsom Phommavithane, Director-General, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. Datuk Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria, Secretary-General, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. Mr. Angelo Salvador M. Benedictos, Assistant Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry,

Singapore; 10. Mr. Somkiat Triratpan, Deputy Director-General, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

ASEAN – China

Joint Statement of the 4th ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting

Phuket, Thailand, 6 July 2012

1. WE, the Ministers of Health of ASEAN Member States, representing Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the People's Republic of China, convened the 4th ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting on 6th July 2012 in Phuket, Thailand. We share our concerns and express our commitment to strengthen our collaboration in the spirit of governments and people of ASEAN and China.
2. We express deep concerns on the increasing trend of tobacco use in several countries. We fully recognise the adverse impact of tobacco use on public health, as well as its social, economic consequences, including the serious health effect of tobacco use and second hand smoke for non-smokers particularly mothers and children. We acknowledge the role of the governments in exercising taxation and regulation to control the increasing trend of smoking. We recognise the roles of the special funds derived from additional levy on the Tobacco and Alcohol Tax to reduce consumption, and also mobilize more funding for health development. We fully understand the roles of Social Determinants of Health (SDH) and Health in all Policies (HiAP) to support tobacco control. We commit to advocate and do the best to incorporate tobacco control in other ministerial agenda in our countries.
3. We recognize and commit to implement the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (A/RES/66/2). We will collectively support the development, before the end of 2012, for a comprehensive global monitoring framework, including indicators, and a set of voluntary global targets for the prevention and control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). We agree to prioritise our actions to address four principal NCDs, i.e., cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases, and diabetes, together with the underlying common risk factors, namely unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, harmful use of alcohol, and in particular tobacco use.
4. We note the progress made in ASEAN and China collaboration in the areas of communicable, and emerging infectious diseases including artemisinin-resistant malaria, pandemic influenza, and dengue. We learned of the increasing number of ASEAN and China tourists and the need to increase exchange of surveillance information and disease control experts/field epidemiologists for the purpose of learning and developing a timely containment and control of all epidemic of regional significance.
5. We also note the need for further collaboration pertaining to HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, and care to facilitate a collective response to achieve the universal call to Zero New HIV Infections, Zero Discrimination, and Zero AIDS-related Deaths.
6. We also note the progress made in the ASEAN and China collaboration in the areas of traditional and complementary alternative medicine; and efforts in information exchanges in facilitating its integration into the national health care system.
7. We acknowledge the efforts made by the ASEAN-China Senior Officials in convening the first two consecutive Meetings. We strongly urge them in maximising the avenue of the ASEAN-China Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (ASEAN-China SOMHD) to strengthen current collaborations including monitoring the progress of these identified collaborative areas and identifying new areas of working together.
8. We commit to the signed ASEAN-China MOU on Health Cooperation and task the ASEAN-China SOMHD to develop a work plan to concretely implement the signed MOU.

9. We welcome and commend the achievement of China and some ASEAN countries, which strive to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and those that are moving fast towards UHC. We appreciate and strongly support the collaboration between China and countries in ASEAN in strengthening the policy on UHC and improving quality and coverage of health service provisions. We commit to mobilize more financial and human resources to enrich our collaboration and to achieve UHC as stated in the national health development plan of each country. We have tasked our senior health officials to work closely, share experiences, increase exchange of human resources, and other necessary means to expedite the movements towards universal access to equitable, efficient and affordable essential health services, in order to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

We look forward to further exchange of views and joint collaboration in health development at our next meeting in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in 2014.

Joint Media Statement of the 11th AEM-MOFCOM Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 29 August 2012

1. The Economic Ministers from the ten ASEAN Member States and the Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China met on 29 August 2012 for the Eleventh AEM-MOFCOM Consultations. The consultation was co-chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia and H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce of China.
2. The Ministers noted that China continued to be ASEAN's largest trading partner since 2009. Trade between ASEAN and China increased by 20.9% from US\$232.0 billion in 2010 to US\$280.4 billion in 2011. China has also maintained her position as the second biggest export destination for two consecutive years. According to ASEAN statistics, in 2011, ASEAN exported US\$145.7 billion, an increase of 28.9% compared to the previous year. Imports from China grew by 13.2% amounting to US\$134.7 billion. Balance of trade was in ASEAN's favour for the first time in 2011, with exports exceeding imports by US\$11.0 billion. According to the Chinese statistics for 2011, ASEAN is currently China's third largest trading partner, stepping up from fourth place in 2010.
3. The Ministers noted that according to ASEAN statistics, the foreign direct investment flow from China to ASEAN increased significantly by 117.0% from US\$2.7 billion in 2010 to US\$5.9 billion in 2011.
4. The Ministers were pleased to note that H.E. Madam Yang Xiuping, China's first resident Ambassador to ASEAN has been deployed to the country's permanent mission in Jakarta, Indonesia to promote and strengthen ASEAN-China strategic partnership.

ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement

5. The Ministers welcomed the completion of tariff elimination for the Normal Track products of ASEAN 6 and China on 1 January 2012. The Ministers were pleased to note that these countries have also issued their respective legal enactments to implement their commitments in reducing tariff for products in the Sensitive List to 20% in 2012 and subsequently to 0-5% not later than 1 January 2018.
6. The Ministers looked forward to the signing of the Third Protocol to Amend the ASEAN-China Framework Agreement to provide the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA) Joint Committee (JC) a legal standing at the 15th ASEAN-China Summit in November 2012. At the 10th AEM-MOFCOM Consultations on 12 August 2011, the Ministers endorsed the establishment of the ASEAN-China FTA Joint Committee in place of the ASEAN-China Trade Negotiating Committee (ACTNC). The Joint Committee's main tasks will include overseeing, supervising, coordinating and reviewing the implementation of the Agreement.
7. The Ministers also looked forward to the signing of the Protocol to incorporate Technical Barrier to Trade and Sanitary and Phytosanitary into the Agreement on Trade in Goods during the 15th ASEAN-China Summit in November 2012.
8. The Ministers acknowledged the on-going efforts to review the Rules of Origin in the ACFTA and to finalise the text for Chapters on Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation as soon as possible.

9. The Ministers emphasized the increasing contribution of services in an economy and urged remaining Parties to ratify the Protocol to Implement the Second Package of Specific Commitments under the Agreement on Trade in Services between ASEAN and China as soon as possible. The Protocol was signed on 16 November 2011 during the 14th ASEAN-China Summit and took effect on 1 January 2012.

Hong Kong's Request to Join the ACFTA

10. The Ministers took note of the positive findings of the Study on the Implications of Hong Kong's Accession to the ACFTA and welcomed ASEAN's positive consideration of Hong Kong's request to join the ACFTA. Ministers noted that further studies and domestic consultations would have to be undertaken to ensure a clearer understanding of the implications of Hong Kong joining the ACFTA. China requested ASEAN to start the consultations with Hong Kong on the accession issue at an earlier date.

Economic Cooperation

11. The Ministers noted the economic cooperation projects and activities under the ACFTA framework, which included the Workshop on Post China-ASEAN FTA Age held on 12-13 December 2011 in Guizhou, China; the Training of Trainers on Clean Technology and Energy Efficiency Practices for the Paper Industry held on 24-30 June 2012; and the forthcoming Workshop on Operational Certification Procedure which would be held on 27-31 August 2012 in Shanghai, China.
12. The Ministers were pleased with the success of the 8th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) held on 21-28 October 2011 in Nanning, China and looked forward to the 9th CAEXPO scheduled on 21-25 September 2012.
13. The Ministers noted that, in response to the initiative of formulating Pan Beibu Gulf (PBG) Economic Cooperative Roadmap on the 14th China-ASEAN summit, the 5th meeting of the Joint Expert Group on Pan Beibu Gulf Economic Cooperation was held in July 2012, during which it was agreed that experts from China and ASEAN Member States would form a working group to formulate the Roadmap with ADB's support.
14. China briefed the meeting that the Chinese side had been closely coordinating with ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) to

establish a consultation mechanism and convene the first meeting at the earliest possible date. The Ministers agreed to further push forward China-ASEAN connectivity cooperation.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam;
2. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia;
3. H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce, China;
4. H.E. Gita Irawan Wirjawan, Minister of Trade, Indonesia;
5. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR;
6. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia;
7. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar;
8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines;
9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
10. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand;
11. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam;
12. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Chairman's Statement of the 15th ASEAN-China Summit

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
19 November 2012**

1. The 15th ASEAN-China Summit chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, was held on 19 November 2012, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) had a substantive meeting with H.E. Wen Jiabao, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China (PRC).
2. We expressed our deepest sympathy and condolences to the people and the Royal Government of Cambodia and especially to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah BOROMNEATH NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia and Her Majesty Queen Mother NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK, for the

- passing away of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK, the late King-Father of Cambodia, on 15th October 2012. We shared our sadness of this great loss with the people of Cambodia during this mourning period. Cambodia expressed gratitude to the respective ASEAN Leaders and Premier of China for their share of condolences to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, Her Majesty Queen Mother, the Royal Government of Cambodia and the people of Cambodia.
3. The ASEAN Leaders expressed sincere appreciation to H.E. Wen Jiabao for his active contribution to expanding and strengthening ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership. This has been his significant and invaluable personal contribution for the purpose of promoting peace, security, and stability in the region and for building close ties, friendship and cooperation between countries and peoples of ASEAN and China. The ASEAN Leaders also expressed optimism that ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership will continue to be further enhanced and deepened.
 4. We acknowledged that ASEAN and China are dynamic and important strategic dialogue partners, significantly contributing to the development and the promotion of peace, stability and prosperity in the region. In this context, we reaffirmed our strong commitment to deepen our strategic partnership as well as enhance and expand our cooperation in all sectors, particularly in the eleven priority areas, namely agriculture, information and communication technology, human resource development, mutual investment, Mekong development, transportation, energy, culture, tourism, public health and environment.
 5. ASEAN Leaders welcomed the establishment of China's Mission to ASEAN based in Jakarta and the appointment of the first resident Ambassador of China to ASEAN this year which is important for further promoting mutual communication and coordination as well as for advancing the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership to a new height.
 6. We noted with pleasure the significant progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the period of 2011-2015 to implement the Joint Declaration on the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership. We also reaffirmed our firm commitments and exerted efforts to ensure the full and effective implementation of various concrete projects and activities under the Plan of Action.
 7. We underscored the significant importance of DOC as a historic document which reflects the collective commitment of ASEAN Member States and China to promote peace, stability, mutual trust and confidence in the South China Sea.
 8. We reaffirmed our commitment to continue to effectively implement the DOC in full, to enhance maritime security, and to encourage the parties concerned to resolve territorial and jurisdictional disputes by peaceful means, in accordance with the universally recognized international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
 9. We emphasized the importance of exercising self-restraint by all parties concerned in the conduct of activities which may complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability in the region, and to resolve their differences peacefully.
 10. We agreed to use the existing dialogue mechanisms between and among the ASEAN Member States and China at all levels to promote mutual trust and confidence. We agreed to enhance favorable conditions for a peaceful and durable solution of differences and disputes among the countries concerned.
 11. We reaffirmed that ASEAN Connectivity is the first priority and fundamental in the development of an enhanced connectivity between ASEAN and the wider region, including ASEAN with China. ASEAN Leaders appreciated China's support for the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, in particular the additional US\$10 billion credit, including US\$4 billion preferential loans, to finance the infrastructure and related projects. We welcomed the convening of the First Meeting between ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and the Chinese Working Committee on Connectivity at the ASEAN Secretariat on 7 November 2012. We tasked the ACCC and the Chinese Working Committee on Connectivity to identify key areas for connectivity cooperation and work out a list of prioritised projects, and coordinate technical and financial resource mobilization from both ASEAN and China to better support financing for connectivity cooperation projects. ASEAN Leaders also looked forward to China's continuing support for the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II, which is important for the ASEAN community-building process.
 12. We welcomed China's proposal to set up of the China-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation Fund, with

RMB3 billion, to provide financial support to ASEAN-China cooperation in the areas of maritime scientific research, connectivity and navigation safety, particularly to implement agreed cooperative activities and projects within the DOC framework.

13. The Leader of China welcomed the adoption of the Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 by the ASEAN Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, in April 2012. The ASEAN Leaders looked forward to enhance cooperation with China to address the trafficking of illegal drug and narcotics.
14. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration at the 21st ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh on 18 November 2012 and emphasized our continuing support to realize an ASEAN Community based upon the adherence to the rule of law, democracy, promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
15. We also noted that in spite of the global economic difficulties, ASEAN-China economic relations continue to show encouraging developments. China continued to maintain its position as ASEAN's largest trading partner since 2009, while ASEAN has now become China's third largest trading partner, stepping from fourth place in 2010. ASEAN statistics showed that our bilateral trade raised by 20.9% from US\$232 billion in 2010 to US\$280.4 billion in 2011 and the foreign direct investment flow from China to ASEAN also had doubled from US\$2.7 billion in 2010 to US\$5.9 billion in 2011.
16. We reiterated our shared commitment to work closely to further deepen and expand our economic ties, including the timely implementation of agreements under the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area framework. Through this endeavor, we are strongly confident that our common goals to achieve our two-way trade volume of US\$500 billion by 2015 will be realized in a balanced, sustained and mutually beneficial manner.
17. We welcomed the signing of two protocols: (1) the Third Protocol to Amend the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between ASEAN and China, to provide the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA) Joint Committee (JC) a legal standing; and (2) the Protocol to Incorporate Technical Barriers to Trade and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures into the Agreement on Trade in Goods of the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between ASEAN and

China, which will further facilitate, strengthen and promote our trade and economic cooperation and effectively eliminate technical barriers for trade between ASEAN and China.

18. We welcomed Hong Kong's desire to join the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area, and took note of the findings of the study on the implications of Hong Kong's Accession conducted by ASEAN. We tasked our ministers to expedite the domestic consultations and assessment of each individual member country. We need to ensure that the conclusion of Hong Kong would provide mutual benefits to all parties.
19. We recalled the official launch of the ASEAN-China Centre last year and welcomed the appointment of the first Secretary-General of this Centre as well as the successful convening of the First Meeting of the Joint Council of ASEAN-China Centre in Beijing, in May 2012. We also welcomed the commitments of Indonesia and Thailand to send their officials to serve in the position of Director of Education, Culture and Tourism Division, and Director of Information and Public Relations Unit at the ASEAN-China Centre in Beijing in the first semester of 2013, respectively. We expressed our strong confidence that the full operation of the centre would deeply advance our mutual trade and investment, tourism, cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts.
20. We congratulated the successful convening of the 9th China-ASEAN EXPO (CAEXPO), in Nanning, on 21-25 September 2012, which served as an international significant event and platform for economic and trade exchanges to further help promote the ASEAN-China FTA and providing opportunities for cooperation and development for both sides. We also noted with pleasure the fruitful outcome of the Forum on ASEAN-China Free Trade Area held in Nanning, China on 21 September 2012, which is conducive to the future implementation of ASEAN-China FTA.
21. We noted with satisfaction the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Governments of the Member States of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Health Cooperation by Ministers of Health of ASEAN and China in Phuket, Thailand, on 6th July 2012, to promote ASEAN-China health cooperation. In this regard, we tasked our ministers and senior officials to fully implement this MOU.

22. We commended China's designation this year as the China-ASEAN Year of Cooperation in Science and Technology and the convening of the First ASEAN-China Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting on 21 September 2012, at the 9th CAEXPO, particularly the launching of the ASEAN-China Science and Technology Partnership Program at that meeting. We tasked our relevant ministers to speed up their deliberations towards the early signing of the ASEAN-China Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation.
23. We noted with appreciation the establishment of ten ASEAN-China Education and Training Centers in six provinces of China, which further contribute to the ASEAN Community building efforts and promote the solidarity, development and cooperation in the East Asia Region as well as to assist ASEAN's efforts to promote socio-economic and human resources development.
24. ASEAN Leaders welcomed new initiatives proposed by China at this Summit to strengthen ASEAN-China cooperation in the political, economic and trade, connectivity, science and technology, cultural and people-to-people dimensions, including joint celebration of the 10th anniversary of ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership, establishing ASEAN-China Maritime Cooperation Partnership, continued implementation of the ASEAN-China Science and Technology Partnership Program, mapping out an overall plan for ASEAN-China connectivity, convening a ASEAN-China Forum on Tourism Cooperation, launching ASEAN-China Plan of Private Sectors Cooperation, launching ASEAN-China Think-Tank Network. ASEAN Leaders highly appreciated China's decision to provide an additional US\$ 5 million to the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund to support wide-ranging cooperation between China and ASEAN Member States.
25. We welcomed Thailand as the Country Coordinator for ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations from July 2012 to July 2015. We looked forward to enhancing the multi-faceted cooperation and advancing the ASEAN-China strategic partnership.

Joint Statement of the 15th ASEAN-China Summit on the 10th Anniversary of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea

Enhancing Peace, Friendship and Cooperation

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
19 November 2012**

1. We, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the People's Republic of China gathered on 19 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC). We reaffirm the Joint Declaration of the Heads of State/Government of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations and the People's Republic of China on Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity of 8 October 2003.

A Decade of Enhancing Mutual Confidence and Trust

2. We reaffirm that the DOC signed in 2002 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, is a milestone document which embodies the collective commitment of ASEAN Member States and China to promote peace, stability and mutual trust in the South China Sea.
3. Following the successful conclusion of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the DOC in July 2011, we note the progress in the implementation of agreed joint cooperative projects under the DOC, which has contributed to the promotion of mutual confidence, trust and cooperation in the South China Sea.
4. We also recognise that the full and effective implementation of the DOC would strengthen the strategic relations and partnership between ASEAN and China, and promote peace, stability and prosperity in the wider East Asian region. In this regard, we reiterate our desire to enhance favorable conditions for a peaceful and durable solution of differences and disputes among the countries concerned.

A Future of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation

5. We reaffirm our commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations (UN), the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and other universally recognised principles of international law which shall serve as the basic norms governing state-to-state relations.
6. We reaffirm our mutual respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity in accordance with international law, and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states.
7. We agree to continue to uphold the spirit and principles of the DOC to contribute to the promotion of peace, friendship, mutual trust, confidence and cooperation between and among ASEAN Member States and China.
8. On the occasion of this 10th Anniversary of the DOC, we reaffirm our commitment to the principles of the DOC by undertaking to:
 - Continue to fully and effectively implement the DOC;
 - Carry out agreed joint cooperative projects and activities in accordance with the Guidelines for the Implementation of the DOC;
 - Continue to cooperate to enhance maritime security, including to ensure freedom of commerce, safety of navigation and maritime traffic, in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS;
 - Continue to encourage the parties concerned to resolve territorial and jurisdictional disputes by peaceful means, without resorting to the threat or use of force, through friendly consultations and negotiations by sovereign states directly concerned, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS;
 - Continue exercising self-restraint by all parties concerned in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability including, among others, refraining from action of inhabiting on the presently uninhabited islands, reefs, shoals, cays, and other features and to handle their differences in a constructive manner;

- Keep the momentum of dialogue and consultation to enhance trust, confidence and cooperation, and work together for the adoption of a code of conduct in the South China Sea on the basis of consensus.

9. We task our Ministers and Senior Officials to realise the goals, initiatives and activities outlined in this Statement.

ADOPTED in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on the Nineteenth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve, in two original copies in the English Language.

Joint Media Statement of the 11th ASEAN and China Transport Ministers Meeting (11th ATM+China)

Bali, Indonesia, 30 November 2012

1. The ASEAN and China Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM+China) was held on 30 November 2012 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting was preceded by the Eleventh ASEAN and China Senior Transport Officials Meeting (11th STOM+China) held on 28 November 2012. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. E.E. Mangindaan, Minister of Transportation of Indonesia, and H.E. Mr. GAO Hongfeng, Vice Minister, Ministry of Transport of the People's Republic of China.
2. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of 15th ASEAN-China Summit held on 19 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia including reaffirmation of the Leaders' strong commitment to deepen strategic partnership as well as enhance and expand the cooperation in all sectors, particularly in the eleven priority areas, namely transportation, agriculture, information and communication technology, human resource development, mutual investment, Mekong development, energy, culture, tourism, public health and environment.
3. The Ministers supported the Leaders' mandate for the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity and Chinese Working Committee

- on Connectivity to discuss and identify key areas for connectivity cooperation and work out a list of prioritised projects, and coordinate technical and financial resource mobilisation from both ASEAN and China to better support financing for connectivity cooperation projects. The Ministers welcomed China's proposal to set up a RMB 3 billion China-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation Fund to provide financial support to ASEAN-China cooperation in the areas of maritime scientific research, connectivity and navigation safety, particularly to implement agreed cooperative activities and projects within the DOC framework. The Ministers also welcomed China's additional contribution of USD 5 million to the China-ASEAN Cooperation Fund to support the implementation of transport infrastructure projects linking ASEAN Member States and China.
4. The Ministers noted the on-going exchange of views through the ASEAN-China Maritime Consultation Mechanism on the implementation and impact of several maritime international conventions including the Maritime Labour Convention, Amendment of Annex VI to 1973 International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) and Cooperation on Emergency Response/Search and Rescue. The Ministers commended the efforts by both sides to implement and comply with maritime international standards and tasked their senior officials to further enhance cooperation through maritime joint activities.
 5. The Ministers commended the officials for the conclusion of negotiations on Protocol 2 on the exchange of 5th freedom air traffic rights between ASEAN Member States and China under the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement, which will provide more opportunities for their airlines to fly to more cities to further enhance business and leisure travel connectivity, and look forward to its signing at the earliest opportunity. The Ministers tasked the senior officials to continue with their on-going efforts to work towards a fully liberalised air services regime.
 6. The Ministers reiterate their commitment to accelerate the completion of Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL) which will facilitate the realisation of ASEAN-China connectivity. The Ministers tasked their senior officials to look into the realisation of the seamless railway system and the possibility of going beyond ASEAN and China.
 7. The Ministers welcomed the successful conclusion of the following ASEAN-China Transport events/ meetings held this year:
 - (a) The Sixth ASEAN-China Working Group Meeting on Regional Air Services Arrangements held on 10-12 September 2012, Kunming, Yunnan Province, China;
 - (b) The Eighth Meeting of ASEAN-China Maritime Consultation Mechanism held on 30-31 October 2012, Guangzhou, China;
 - (c) Workshop on China-ASEAN Civil Aviation Safety Management held on 12-24 November 2012, Kunming, Yunnan Province, China; and
 - (d) Scholarships for Master Programme with More Selections of Majors Eligible for ASEAN Member Countries' personnel to Dalian Maritime University.
 8. The Ministers also welcomed the following projects activities for implementation in 2013:
 - (a) The Second Working Group Meeting on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for the ASEAN-China Transport Cooperation;
 - (b) The Seventh ASEAN-China Working Group Meeting on Regional Air Services Arrangements;
 - (c) The Ninth Meeting of ASEAN-China Maritime Consultation Mechanism; and
 - (d) Scholarship for Master Programme in Dalian Maritime University.
 9. The Twelfth ASEAN and China Transport Ministers Meeting will be held in Lao PDR in 2013.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- (a) H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam; (b) H.E. Mr. Tram Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia; (c) H.E. Mr. GAO Hongfeng, Vice Minister, Ministry of Transport of the People's Republic of China (d) H.E. Mr. E.E. Mangindaan, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia; (e) H.E. Mr. Sommad Pholsena, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR; (f) H.E. Dato' Seri Kong Cho Ha, Minister of Transport of Malaysia; (g) H.E. Mr. Han Sein, Deputy Minister for Transport of Myanmar; (h) H.E. Ms. Catherine P. Gonzales, Undersecretary (Deputy Minister), Department of Transportation and Communications of the Philippines; (i) Mr. Pang Kin Keong, Permanent Secretary, representing H.E. Mr. Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport of Singapore; (j) H.E. Mr. Chadchart Sittipunt, Minister of Transport of Thailand; (k) H.E. Mr. Dinh La Thang, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and (l) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

ASEAN – European Union

Joint Media Statement of the 11th AEM-EU Trade Commissioner Consultation

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 1 April 2012

1. The ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the EU Trade Commissioner held their Eleventh Consultation on 1 April 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The 11th AEM-EU Trade Commissioner Consultation was co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce of Cambodia, and H.E. Mr. Karel De Gucht, the EU Commissioner for Trade.
2. The Ministers exchanged views on the current economic environment in the EU and noted the latest developments in ASEAN, in particular, the initiatives towards realising the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by 2015. The EU Trade Commissioner welcomed the continuing progress in ASEAN's regional economic integration process and encouraged ASEAN in its efforts in driving the economic integration in East Asia.
3. The Ministers noted that despite the prevailing financial crisis in the EU, trade between ASEAN and the EU grew by 21.5% in 2010, amounting to US\$208.6 billion. The EU continued to be ASEAN's second largest trading partner and the biggest source of investment flow.
4. The Ministers stressed the importance of the WTO as a strong multilateral trading system, which has been successful in promoting free trade. The Ministers reiterated their commitment to this stable, transparent, and rules-based system and emphasised, as a priority, the need to ensure it is continuously strengthened and improved on to remain relevant. The Ministers welcomed the pragmatic approach currently employed to move the Doha Development Agenda forward in areas where progress is feasible, in particular trade facilitation. The Ministers agreed to work together towards the prompt conclusion of the Round and, building on the progress already made, for an ambitious and balanced outcome. The Ministers also reiterated their support for the accession of Lao PDR to the WTO at the earliest time possible.
5. Following the success of the first ASEAN-EU Business Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia last year, the second ASEAN-EU Business Summit was held on 1 April 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. In their dialogue with the business delegates on the recommendations of the Business Summit, the Ministers reiterated the important role of the private sector in the development and implementation of the ASEAN-EU trade agenda.
6. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen trade and investment between ASEAN and the EU through the activities endorsed under the ASEAN-EU Trade and Investment Work Programme. The Work Programme aims at enhancing economic cooperation as well as address emerging challenges and opportunities for enhanced trade and investment between ASEAN and the EU.
7. The Ministers were pleased to note the status of the implementation of the various ASEAN-EU economic cooperation programmes and encouraged greater use of these programmes for technical assistance and capacity-building requirements as ASEAN and EU deepen and broaden economic and trade relations.
8. The Ministers also agreed on the importance of enhancing ASEAN-EU cooperation in the area of trade facilitation. The Ministers noted the progress made by ASEAN in the ASEAN Single Window initiative. The Ministers agreed to look at the possibilities for region-to-region trade facilitation initiatives to further enhance intra-and inter-regional trade.
9. The Ministers acknowledged the support and contribution of H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN towards the AEM-EU Consultations and economic relations. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan was participating in the Consultations for the last time as Secretary-General of ASEAN as his term of office will expire at the end of 2012.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- (i) H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; (ii) H.E. Karel De Gucht, European Commissioner for Trade; (iii) Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General for International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; (iv) H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; (v) Datuk Dr. Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria, Secretary General, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; (vi) H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Minister for National Planning and Economic

Development, Myanmar; (vii) H.E. Adrian S. Cristobal, Jr, Undersecretary, Department of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; (viii) H.E. Lim Hng Kiang Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; (ix) H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand; (x) H.E. Vu Huy Hoang, Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam; and (xi) H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Co-Chairs' Statement of the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting

**Bandar Seri Begawan,
Brunei Darussalam, 26-27 April 2012**

1. Celebrating the unique partnership which ASEAN and the EU have achieved over the past 35 years, Foreign Ministers, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN met in Bandar Seri Begawan on 26-27 April 2012. The Ministers reviewed current relations and how they could best work together to secure a more prosperous future for the people of both regions. His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam, as Country Coordinator of ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations, and Her Excellency Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission co-chaired the meeting.
2. The Ministers took stock of developments in both regions since their last meeting in Madrid, Spain, in May 2010. The EU welcomed the outcome of the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh on 3-4 April 2012 particularly the adoption of the Phnom Penh Declaration on ASEAN: One Community, One Destiny; the Phnom Penh Agenda on ASEAN Community Building, the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Drug Free ASEAN 2015 and also on the promotion of Global Movement of Moderates. ASEAN welcomed EU measures to consolidate public budgets, reduce public borrowing and put in place an effective framework to underpin economic growth and financial stability in the EU and in turn, to support the international economy and world trade. ASEAN congratulated the EU on its expanded membership, with the accession of Croatia on 1 July 2013.
3. The Ministers looked forward to the EU's early accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), once the Third Protocol Amending the TAC has entered into force and all necessary arrangements have been made. The Ministers emphasised the importance of the TAC as a key instrument in governing inter-state relations and contributing to peace, security, stability and prosperity in the region.
4. The Ministers exchanged views on regional and international issues including events in the Middle East and North Africa, Iran, Afghanistan, the Korean Peninsula and efforts in particular by the G20, to address the global economic and financial situation. Furthermore, they discussed climate change concerns, including mitigating measures across borders, and a wide range of security-related issues. The Ministers exchanged views on maritime security and stressed the importance of promoting cooperation in this area in accordance with international law and UNCLOS 1982. As the world's two most integrated and dynamic regions, the Ministers agreed that ASEAN and the EU should work together more closely to address international issues of mutual concern and advance their shared interests in international fora. The Ministers also discussed the various ASEAN-led processes such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the ASEAN Defence Ministerial Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus) in promoting greater cooperation in East Asia.
5. The Ministers welcomed the positive developments in Myanmar, including the successful holding of the by-elections on 1 April 2012, as a significant step towards democratisation. ASEAN welcomed the step just taken by the EU to suspend restrictive measures, and to open a new chapter in Myanmar-EU relations while strengthening the overall ASEAN-EU partnership.
6. The Ministers expressed satisfaction with the implementation of the Plan of Action to implement the Nuremberg Declaration of an ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership (2007-2012), the Phnom Penh Agenda for the Implementation of the ASEAN-EU Plan of Action (2009-2010) and the Indicative List of Activities for 2011-2012 and concluded that ASEAN-EU relations have matured and diversified.
7. The Ministers were also pleased with progress in bilateral cooperation between the EU and ASEAN Member States in negotiating Partnership and

Cooperation Agreements (PCA) as well as Free Trade Agreements (FTA) that would contribute to the enhancement of cooperation at regional level. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the launching of PCA negotiations between Brunei Darussalam and the EU.

8. The Ministers adopted the Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to Strengthen the ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership (2013-2017) which aims to give a more strategic focus to cooperation and dialogue. The Ministers urged both sides to work for its effective and comprehensive implementation.
9. The Ministers stressed the need to enhance cooperation in political and security areas. This includes stepping up efforts to work together in the ARF and increasing ASEAN's institutional capacity and capability in conflict management and resolution, complementing its decision to establish the ASEAN Institute of Peace and Reconciliation.
10. The Ministers welcomed the EU's offer to contribute towards enhancing capacity of ASEAN Member States on crisis response and in this regard, tasked the senior officials to explore this further.
11. The EU reaffirmed its commitment to intensify cooperation with ASEAN in building disaster resilient societies; enhancing maritime cooperation; combating sea piracy and armed robbery against ships in accordance with international law; combating terrorism and transnational crime; promoting cooperation in combating illicit drug production, trafficking and use; mitigating chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks.
12. The Ministers agreed to strengthen mutual cooperation in promoting and protecting human rights, in particular by supporting the work of the ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) with emphasis on capacity building. In this regard, they recalled the fruitful visit of the AICHR to Europe in 2011.
13. The Ministers agreed on the need to strengthen the international non-proliferation and disarmament regime by, among others, contributing to the entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.
14. The Ministers looked forward to intensifying cooperation in the social and cultural field. They were encouraged by growing collaboration in science and technology, and expressed support for the "ASEAN-EU Year of Science, Technology and Innovation in 2012". This demonstrated the potential for cooperation in the framework of the EU's Framework Programme 7 and its successor

Horizon 2020 as well as the Krabi Initiative. The Ministers underlined their interest in higher education cooperation through expanding possibilities for joint degrees and mobility of students and academics under Erasmus Mundus and also through closer links between ASEAN University Network and European University Association.

15. The Ministers also agreed on the need to promote gender equality, women's empowerment and improving the lives of girls and women.
16. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the economic and trade relationship between the EU and ASEAN. The Ministers welcomed further engagement to enhance this relationship through the ASEAN Economic Ministers and the EU Trade Commissioner Consultations and the ASEAN-EU Business Summit. The Ministers looked forward to further implementation of the Trade and Investment Work Programme endorsed by Economic Ministers in May 2011, to complement ASEAN's efforts to realise the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015. Recognising that a region-to-region FTA would deepen the trade and investment links between the two regions and strengthen their respective economies, the Ministers reiterated the importance of the bilateral FTAs between individual ASEAN Member States and the EU as 'building blocks' for a region-to-region FTA.
17. The Ministers also welcomed the EU's commitment, through the new Plan of Action and its Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (2011-2013), to support the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity. In this regard, ASEAN looked forward to learn from the EU's experience in advancing physical infrastructures, communication systems and sophisticated technologies. ASEAN also encouraged the EU to meet with the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and explore ways to promote cooperation in this area. In this broad context, the Ministers agreed that it would be worthwhile to explore cooperation on, and exchange of experience in water management such as between the Mekong and the Danube region.
18. The Ministers also welcomed further technical cooperation and peer support under the Plan of Action in urgent areas, such as food security and energy security. The Ministers further agreed to enhance economic cooperation, notably in the fields of energy efficiency and conservation, clean and renewable energy and food and agriculture research and development. The Ministers also welcomed institutional and private sector initiatives

to promote business links and encourage industrial cooperation and synergies in the production sector.

19. In line with their efforts to promote equitable economic development, the Ministers looked forward to intensifying cooperation to promote technical support and capacity building, including sharing of best practices and experience in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) development, through the conduct of various activities such as workshops, seminars, courses as well as business portals.
20. ASEAN welcomed the commitment by the EU, including its individual Member States, to continue providing support to further strengthen the capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat.
21. The Ministers agreed that the 20th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting would be held in the EU in 2014.

Annex to the Co-Chair's Statement at the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting

**Bandar Seri Begawan,
Brunei Darussalam, 27 April 2012**

With regard to the Paragraph 10 of the Co-Chair's Statement of the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting, noting the complexity and evolving nature of this field, ASEAN and the EU will explore potential areas of relevance in disaster management and emergency response within ASEAN.

Enhanced ASEAN-EU cooperation in strengthening capacity in disaster management and emergency response will benefit both sides and add-value to existing ASEAN's and regional disaster management cooperation frameworks.

In this regard, ASEAN and the EU will forge closer cooperation and coordination on disaster risk reduction and management at the global and regional levels; enhance dialogue and cooperation in crisis management, notably, in the form of knowledge transfer and exchange of best practices; establish a regional network of information sharing and early warning systems for emergency situations.

In particular, ASEAN and the EU will work together to realize the following activities:

1. Strengthening the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for humanitarian assistance and disaster management (AHA Centre) through close cooperation in implementing the AADMER 5-Year Work Programme (2010-2015) in the following areas: (i) Risk Assessment, Early Warning and Monitoring; (ii) Preparedness and Response; (iii) Prevention and Mitigation; and (iv) Recovery. In particular this can be conducted through the following capacity-building activities:
 - Sharing of knowledge between relevant authorities by organizing visits in each other's installations and agencies, and by developing a plan for a longer term arrangement for knowledge sharing;
 - Building the capacity of the AHA Centre through in-house training of staff, implementing an executive programme for senior officials, building capacity in areas identified in dedicated studies, provide technical assistance in the areas identified in the AHA Centre Strategic Work Plan and developing a set of protocols and standard operating procedures;
 - Enhancing the interaction and inter-operability of the AHA Centre with national centres in ASEAN Member States;
 - Enhancing cooperation in post-disaster relief recovery and rehabilitation and improve the effectiveness of coordination of such efforts;
 - Sharing experiences on civil protection;
 - Tapping the EU's expertise on hazard-mapping especially in landslide-prone areas;
 - Enhancing cooperation through the sharing of best practices in management of water resources with a view to alleviating floods.
2. Capacity-building in national disaster management mechanisms, upon request, by ASEAN Member States through:
 - Sharing of experiences in setting up appropriate national mechanisms;
 - Strengthening the capacity of existing national mechanisms through staff-training, networking, resource mobilisation and assistance in information and communication technology (ICT);
 - Supporting collection and analysis of data.
3. Promoting exchanges of experience and knowledge in civilian-military cooperation on disaster risk reduction and emergency response. ASEAN and the EU will explore cooperation in

the above-mentioned areas, in accordance with domestic law and regulations. In recognition of the non-exhaustive nature of the elements listed above, ASEAN and the EU will further consider other future activities, in line with their priorities when appropriate, with the view to strengthening collaboration between both regions.

Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to Strengthen the ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership (2013-2017)

**Bandar Seri Begawan,
Brunei Darussalam, 26-27 April 2012**

This Plan of Action responds to the decision of Foreign Ministers at the 18th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting in Madrid, on 26 May 2010. Building upon the achievements of thirtyfive years of ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations, it aims to bring cooperation to a higher level, through addressing regional and global challenges of shared concern over the coming five years (2013-2017). It covers a wide range of areas – political/security, economic/trade, sociocultural – reflecting the multifaceted character of ASEAN – EU relations.

This Plan of Action will thus serve as a vehicle to strengthen the ASEAN-EU Partnership, while at the same time supporting ASEAN's goals of regional integration and community building, including enhanced ASEAN connectivity, to underpin an ASEAN Community by 2015 and beyond.

ASEAN and the EU hereby renew their commitment to strengthen Dialogue Relations, as affirmed in the Nuremberg Declaration on ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership (2007) and its Plan of Action. They agree to pursue cooperation in conformity with their respective obligations under international law and in accordance with their respective domestic laws, regulations, measures and policies.

1. Political and Security Cooperation

1.1 Enhancing political dialogue

- 1.1.1. Continue to hold biennial ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meetings (AEMM) and the annual ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with the EU (PMC)+1, supported by regular meetings of the ASEAN-EU Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) and the ASEAN-EU Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) ;

1.2 Promoting regional cooperation to maintain peace, security, and stability

- 1.2.1. Continue to strengthen ASEAN's centrality in the evolving regional architecture;
- 1.2.2. Encourage substantial EU contribution in the areas of maritime security; humanitarian assistance and disaster relief; peacekeeping operations; military medicine; counter terrorism;
- 1.2.3. Enhance the role of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), with ASEAN as the primary driving force, in promoting peace and stability, as well as dialogue and cooperation, in the Asia-Pacific region;
- 1.2.4. Cooperate in the implementation of the Preventive Diplomacy Work Plan adopted at the 18th ARF, while strengthening confidence building measures, through participation in activities, programmes and projects under the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN Regional Forum Vision Statement;
- 1.2.5. Promote regular dialogues and exchange of best practices between the Track I and Track II and continue, within the ARF framework, exchanges of best practices between the ARF and other regional and international organisations;
- 1.2.6. Further support cooperation and enhancement of ASEAN capacity on mediation, reconciliation, conflict prevention, and peace building through workshops, seminars, exchanges of best practices and other capacity building initiatives as well as explore cooperation with the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) in accordance with its TOR;
- 1.2.7. Explore the possibility of cooperating in the field of crisis response through the sharing of experiences and capacity building;

- 1.2.8. Promote the exchange of experience in maritime-related issues and sharing knowledge and expertise in the sustainable joint management of marine resources;
- 1.2.9. Strengthen cooperation on maritime security, such as in combating sea piracy, armed robbery against ships, hijacking and arms smuggling, in accordance with relevant universally agreed principles of international law and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS 1982);
- 1.2.10. Strengthen cooperation in maritime safety and search and rescue (SAR), including the implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Cooperation in Search and Rescue of Persons and Vessels in Distress at Sea, through activities such as exchange of information, technological cooperation and exchange of visits of relevant ASEAN and EU officials;
- 1.2.11. Convene ASEAN Senior Officials' Meetings on Transnational Crime (SOMTC)-EU Consultations in the margins of ASEAN SOMTC to promote dialogue and cooperation on ways to tackle transnational crime in accordance with the respective domestic laws and policies on transnational crimes;
- 1.2.12. Support the implementation of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism (2007), and work together to implement the ASEAN-EU Joint Declaration on Cooperation to Combat Terrorism (2003), through exploring the establishment of a regular policy dialogue on counter-terrorism and undertaking with the aim of promoting exchange of experiences and information, capacity-building, and enhanced cooperation between relevant governmental agencies and academia by cooperating with institutions in ASEAN such as the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC), the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT) in Kuala Lumpur and the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Bangkok, including to address the root causes of terrorism and conditions conducive to terrorism;
- 1.2.13. Promote cooperation to address unintended consequences of enhanced connectivity particularly in countering trafficking in persons, and peoplesmuggling in ASEAN and the EU in accordance with the respective domestic laws and policies on trafficking in persons and people smuggling and support the implementation of the ASEAN Leaders' Joint Statement in Enhancing Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons in Southeast Asia through measures such as information sharing and the use of technologies relevant to border management and document security;
- 1.2.14. Recognising the importance of ASEAN Connectivity, implement the new ASEAN EU Comprehensive Border Management Programme which aims to develop a more efficient border management system in ASEAN Member States;
- 1.2.15. Promote cooperation in accordance with the respective domestic laws and policies on combating corruption through, inter alia, encouraging the ratification and implementation of the UN Convention Against Corruption. In this respect, also promote the sharing of best practices;
- 1.2.16. Cooperate in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, through existing applicable disarmament and non-proliferation treaties, conventions and instruments such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) in accordance with the respective domestic laws and policies on the matter;
- 1.2.17. Cooperate in combating illegal transfer and excessive accumulation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in accordance with the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all Its Aspects and the respective domestic laws and policies on the matter;
- 1.2.18. Promote cooperation in mitigating risks associated with chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) materials, and facilitate transfer of technology, exchange of expertise and physical or legal requirements, best practices and capacity building through the CBRN Centre of Excellence in Southeast Asia in accordance with the respective domestic laws and policies on the matter; and
- 1.2.19. Intensify cooperation on interfaith and inter-civilisation dialogues.

1.3. Cooperation on human rights

- 1.3.1. Support the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), as the overarching body for the promotion and protection of human rights in ASEAN through regional dialogues, seminars, awareness raising activities, exchange of best practices and other capacity building initiatives aimed at enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights through technical cooperation programmes as well as giving support to the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC).

1.4. Cooperation in Regional and International Fora

- 1.4.1. Develop ASEAN-EU cooperation in multilateral fora, including in the United Nations and other bodies within the UN system, as well as in Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), and the G20 in order to strengthen the multilateral system and, where appropriate to develop joint positions.

2. Economic Cooperation

2.1. General

- 2.1.1. Continue to support the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Blueprint;
- 2.1.2. Continue to convene regular consultations between ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the EU Trade Commissioner, and regular meetings of the ASEAN-EU Senior Economic Officials (SEOM-EU);
- 2.1.3. Encourage public-private sector dialogue and business-to-business engagement, with the aim of effectively representing both ASEAN and EU business interests through high-level meetings between business representatives and senior officials in ASEAN and the EU. Encourage the implementation of the ASEAN-EU Business Summit recommendations including through supporting the ASEAN-EU Business Council;
- 2.1.4. Implement the ASEAN Regional Integration Support Programme by the EU (ARISE) as a key instrument for supporting ASEAN integration with its specific focus on strengthening the overall process of ASEAN economic integration and assisting progress towards achieving the free flow

of goods within ASEAN through enhanced trade facilitation measures and progress towards removing non-trade barriers, as well as strengthening the capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat to support AEC implementation and integration;

- 2.1.5. Continue dialogue and cooperation in the agreed sectors under the Regional EC-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI – disaster management, science and technology, information society and energy). Expand READI as a key instrument for reinvigorating ASEAN-EU Relations by focusing on a modern policy agenda on issues of mutual interest, such as climate change, employment and social affairs, civil aviation including support of ASEAN integration;
- 2.1.6. Support the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) including technical assistance on all aspects of connectivity, particularly in the areas of infrastructure, transport, customs and communication technology aspects of connectivity, and institutional connectivity;
- 2.1.7. Encourage dialogue and cooperation between ASEAN and EU through the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) on issues relating to regional connectivity;
- 2.1.8. Encourage European Investment Bank (EIB) to invest in ASEAN Member States;
- 2.1.9. Promote participation of the EU's private sector in implementing the MPAC, including through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mechanisms and encourage institutional linkages between the European PPP Expertise Centre and their counterparts in ASEAN;
- 2.1.10. Intensify interaction between ASEAN and EU on ICT, notably on the implementation of the priority projects of the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2015 and supporting ASEAN in working towards the development of transparent, coherent and harmonized ICT regulatory frameworks, in particular on spectrum management and broadband development, as well as sharing information and expertise on efforts at reducing regional roaming charges;
- 2.1.11. Continue to contribute towards narrowing the development gap within and between ASEAN Member States through the

implementation of IAI Work Plan II for Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Viet Nam (CLMV), as well as taking into account existing sub-regional cooperation frameworks;

- 2.1.12. Strengthen dialogue and cooperation in the field of economic and social policy, with a view to contributing to sustainable and inclusive growth, social cohesion and labour market stability;
- 2.1.13. Continue the support to the accession of the Lao PDR to the World Trade Organisation and after eventual accession, ensure continuity in technical assistance to help the Lao PDR duly implement its accession commitments; and
- 2.1.14. Continue to support, including through technical assistance, the gathering and availability of reliable statistical data at regional level, in order for ASEAN to be able to assess its current evolution as an integrated economic region and support further integration measures.

2.2. Trade and Investment

- 2.2.1. Reaffirm the ultimate goal of a regional ASEAN-EU FTA. The ASEAN-EU FTA will build on the bilateral agreements with the individual ASEAN Member States and will take into account their different levels of development and capacity to carry out comprehensive trade and investment liberalisation and facilitation. Implement the EU programme on Enhancing ASEAN FTA Negotiating Capacity as a key initiative to pursue the above objective;
- 2.2.2. Implement the ASEAN-EU Trade and Investment Work Programme endorsed by Economic Ministers in May 2011. This includes: (1) high level policy dialogue both at Ministerial and Senior officials' level, (2) enhancing business dialogue, (3) ensuring sectoral dialogues on trade related issues between ASEAN-EU officials and (4) ensuring optimum benefits from EU-funded trade related projects for ASEAN countries;
- 2.2.3. Promote understanding of each other's legislation and regulations on trade and investment, including anti-dumping, subsidies, tariff and non-tariff measures, such as sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) and technical barriers to trade (TBT);

- 2.2.4. Maximise the positive role of ICT and the internet in promoting economic and social development;
- 2.2.5. Continue technical assistance to ASEAN in the area of intellectual property rights, as a means to contribute to enhancing the ASEAN intellectual property system;
- 2.2.6. Continue technical assistance to ASEAN in the areas of standards, quality and conformity assessment to reduce technical barriers to trade;
- 2.2.7. Continue cooperation in the development of an ASEAN Customs Transit System, which will improve customs clearance and transit in ASEAN, through technical assistance and by strengthening the capacity of the Customs Administrations and the ASEAN Secretariat; and
- 2.2.8. Enhance cooperation in the SPS field which would cover issues of mutual interests such as food safety, animal (including fishery) and plant health with the aim of enhancing the international competitiveness of the ASEAN Member States in these sectors, as well as strengthening the food safety, animal and plant health standards in the region and regional integration.

2.3. Small and Medium Enterprises

- 2.3.1. Promote sharing of best practices and experience in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) development and financing.

2.4. Transport

- 2.4.1. Strengthen ASEAN-EU cooperation on civil aviation with the aim of promoting air travel between the two regions and cooperation for safety, and security; and
- 2.4.2. Explore cooperation, inter alia human resources development and capacity building, in innovative applications in the use of satellite navigation systems and related applications (EU), including Galileo.

2.5. Food, agriculture and forestry

- 2.5.1. Promote ASEAN-EU cooperation, joint approaches, capacity building and technology transfer in agriculture, food and forestry products.

2.6. Energy security

- 2.6.1. Improve energy access, promote energy security and multilateral measures to ensure stable, effective, open and competitive global energy markets;
- 2.6.2. Cooperate closely in the promotion of energy efficiency and conservation (EE&C) measures and technologies; renewable energy and other clean energy programmes and technologies, through mobilisation of Europe's expertise, capacity and energy technology market with the view of developing a low emission pathway in ASEAN;
- 2.6.3. Build on the results of the EC-ASEAN Energy Facility Programme which serves to stimulate regional energy projects and initiatives proposed by the energy industry, either public or private, from the EU and ASEAN;
- 2.6.4. Promote the development of alternative energy, and also nuclear energy particularly nuclear energy safety;
- 2.6.5. Continue to implement the ASEAN-EC Energy Work Plan adopted in 2009 in Chiang Mai, Thailand by focusing, in particular, on Energy efficiency and conservation, Renewable Energy, and Regional Energy Policy and Planning as well as explore additional areas of cooperation in the field of energy security and poverty eradication.

2.7. Tourism

- 2.7.1. Develop information exchange and cooperation in the area of tourism between ASEAN and EU, including undertaking joint promotion, marketing and holding conferences and workshops on tourism.

3. Socio-Cultural Cooperation

3.1. Enhancing cooperation in education, health, and promoting people-to-people contacts

- 3.1.1. Continue to promote mobility of students and academics between ASEAN and EU higher education institutions;
- 3.1.2. Strengthen collaboration between international educational organisations in ASEAN Member States and the EU to enhance the quality of education in areas inter alia upgrading the standard of teaching, teaching and learning of languages and culture, and use of Information and

Communication Technology (ICT) in education;

- 3.1.3. Explore the possibility for ASEAN-EU cooperation in achieving Education For All (EFA) movement in contributing to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- 3.1.4. Continue to promote the exchange of cultural performers and scholars among ASEAN and the EU Member States which improves access to understanding of different cultures between both regions and enhance regional awareness;
- 3.1.5. Support the initiatives of the ASEAN University Network and promote mutual recognition and student mobility in ASEAN;
- 3.1.6. Explore new cooperation in promoting ASEAN awareness to its citizens;
- 3.1.7. Enhance cooperation on the Asia Highly Pathogenic and Emerging Diseases Programme (HPED) and reflect on future cooperation for preventing and mitigating risks at the interface between animals/humans and ecosystems;
- 3.1.8. Encourage collaboration to develop surveillance system for infectious diseases and other communicable diseases through exchange of information, with the view to provide early warning on possible outbreaks, in line with International Health Regulation 2005 and the Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED);
- 3.1.9. Promote the exchange of experience among ASEAN Member States and the EU on public health policy formulation and management; and
- 3.1.10. Promote sharing of knowledge and experience by encouraging the exchange of experts in the field of public health, animal health, medicine, physical and health education.

3.2. Promoting gender equality, well-being of women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities and migrant workers

- 3.2.1. Enhance cooperation on promoting gender equality and socio-economic women empowerment and to promote women's participation in all fields and at all levels; and
- 3.2.2. Promote the exchange of experience and best practices among ASEAN Member

States and the EU on policies and programmes for the well-being of women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities and migrant workers.

3.3. Building together disaster-resilient communities

- 3.3.1. Enhance cooperation on the implementation of the Work Programme for the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and strengthening of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre), through activities such as development of a monitoring and evaluation system for AADMER and the Work Programme, comparative studies on ASEAN's and EU's disaster management set-up, knowledge sharing and institutional strengthening, joint exercises, and networking among the two regional disaster management mechanisms;
- 3.3.2. Continue to promote public awareness and education and sharing of best practices and lessons learnt among all relevant stakeholders to build a disaster-resilient society, using the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 and contribute to the effort on formulating post-Hyogo Framework of Actions;
- 3.3.3. Encourage cooperation between ASEAN and the EU, and with other dialogue partners in supporting ASEAN's efforts on disaster management, emergency response and post-disaster relief measures;
- 3.3.4. Enhance cooperation with the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) to support sharing of experiences and best practices in preventing, mitigating impacts, enhancing preparedness, alleviating and restoring the countries after massive disasters;
- 3.3.5. Promote exchanges of experience and knowledge on disaster risk reduction and emergency response, including civilian-military cooperation; and
- 3.3.6. Promote partnership in developing disaster-resilient ASEAN Member States with relevant stakeholders, including local communities, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and private enterprises.

3.4. Promoting cooperation in Science and Technology (S&T)

- 3.4.1. Continue dialogue between Committee of Science and Technology (COST) and the EU to promote cooperation in research and technology and innovation under the Framework Programme 7 (FP7) and its successor programme "HORIZON 2020". Strengthen ASEAN-EU dialogue in the field of R&D including in applied S&T, as well as to reinforce the policy dialogue;
- 3.4.2. Support ASEAN to establish a network of S&T centres of excellence to promote closer cooperation, sharing of research facilities, technology transfer and commercialisation, and technology development, including joint programmes to promote science technology and innovation in vocational education through work-integrated learning;
- 3.4.3. Facilitate the exchange and mobility of scientists and researchers in accordance to the respective laws, rules, regulation, and national policies; and
- 3.4.4. Promote the implementation of the eight Thematic Tracks of the Krabi Initiative 2010 as a strategic platform for ASEAN-EU Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) cooperation.

3.5. Enhancing food security and safety

- 3.5.1. Enhance cooperation in the field of food security to support the implementation of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework and the Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security (SPA-FS), and the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020.

3.6. Working together to face regional and global environmental challenges

- 3.6.1. Promote public awareness and partnership to enhance integrated water resources management;
- 3.6.2. Support sub-regional cooperation to promote social-economic development and sustainable water management, including the Lower-Mekong region, drawing out experiences from the EU's Strategy for the Danube Region, and promote the sustainable use of inland waters, coastal and marine environment through public awareness campaign to highlight the global

importance of inland waters, coastal and marine environment in addressing food security, maintaining ecosystem services, as well as protecting marine environment including coral reef preservation;

- 3.6.3. Continue to promote biodiversity conservation and management in the region, including through the work of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity;
- 3.6.4. Support biodiversity initiatives in the region, including the Heart of Borneo Initiative, Coral Triangle Initiative and Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion;
- 3.6.5. Support ASEAN in implementing the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) through technical assistance and capacity building; and
- 3.6.6. Strengthen cooperation to address challenges of climate change by reducing air pollution, adapting to and mitigating global warming and improving the global environment and support the ASEAN Climate Change Initiative (ACCI).

4. Institutional support to ASEAN

- 4.1. Implement measures aimed to build capacities in the ASEAN Secretariat as well as in other ASEAN institutions;
- 4.2. Promote exchange programmes between ASEAN and EU institutions, in particular between the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Commission; and
- 4.3. Explore the establishment of institutional linkages between Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) and Committee of Permanent Representatives in the European Union (COREPER), including through the exchange of officials, and the sharing of best practices and visits.

5. Follow-up Mechanism

- 5.1. Review of this Plan of Action will be made through appropriate mechanisms comprising ASEAN and EU officials, including through the ASEAN-EU Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) and the ASEAN-EU Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), with the assistance of the ASEAN Secretariat, on the basis of mutual consent;
- 5.2. Submit progress report of the implementation of the Plan of Action to the annual Post Ministerial Conference (PMC)+1 session with the EU, and the biennial ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting; and

- 5.3. The ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives, the ASEAN Secretariat, and the EU are to explore how to ensure the necessary funding of activities.

Joint Press Release of the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting

**Bandar Seri Begawan,
Brunei Darussalam, 26-27 April 2012**

35 Years of Friendship and Cooperation

ASEAN and the EU, as long-term partners, welcome the launch of two important ASEAN-EU cooperation programmes (totalling € 20 million) that will support ASEAN integration.

The two programmes are:

ARISE (ASEAN Regional Integration Support by the EU), which will through deepening ASEAN-EU cooperation on economic integration, further support the realisation of the ASEAN single market. ARISE includes economic policy dialogue between ASEAN and the EU.

READI (Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument), which will fund policy dialogue between the two regions, the most dynamic economic integration groupings in the world. READI will enhance mutual understanding and coordination between ASEAN and the EU. The programme will, among others, finance cooperation on disaster management, energy, science, technology and innovation, information and communication technologies. It will also foster policy dialogue on issues of global importance.

This support to regional integration comes in addition to EU development support to ASEAN Member States.

The EU is committed to continue and enhance the cooperation with ASEAN in the years ahead. Discussions have started to shape ASEAN-EU cooperation programme directions for the period 2014-2020.

27 April 2012

ASEAN – India

Joint Media Statement of the 10th AEM-India Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 31 August 2012

1. The ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Minister of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India met at the 10th AEM-India Consultations on 31 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce of Cambodia and H.E. Anand Sharma, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Textiles of India.
2. The Ministers were pleased to note that total trade between ASEAN and India grew by 43.0% in 2011 amounting to US\$74.9 billion. India stepped up a notch to be ASEAN's sixth largest trading partner in 2011.
3. The Ministers tasked the senior officials to start their review of the implementation of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement, including the possibility for a package of the Product-Specific Rules of Origin (PSRs) to further facilitate trade between both regions.
4. The Ministers exchanged views on the latest status of the negotiations on trade in services and investment. They reiterated their request to senior officials to step up their effort and flexibility and strive towards an announcement of the conclusion of negotiations at the 10th ASEAN-India Summit in November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia at the earliest.
5. The Ministers noted India's preparation for the 2nd India-ASEAN Business Fair scheduled on 18-20 December 2012 in New Delhi, back-to-back with the 20th ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam;
2. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia;
3. H.E. Anand Sharma, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Textiles, India;
4. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia;
5. H.E.

Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. Datuk Dr. Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria, Secretary General, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 10. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

New Delhi ASEAN-India Ministerial Statement on Biodiversity

New Delhi, India, 7 September 2012

We, the Ministers responsible for environment and their representatives from ASEAN and India, having met in New Delhi on 7th September 2012 and discussed areas of common interest with a focus on biodiversity and:

Reaffirming that States have sovereign rights over their own biological resources;

Reaffirming that though conservation of biodiversity is a common concern of mankind, it needs to be based on the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities", national circumstances and respective capacities;

Committing to meet the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in a balanced manner;

Recognising the need to achieve implementation of other biodiversity related conventions;

Acknowledging that biological diversity underpins ecosystem functioning, contributes to local livelihoods and economic development, and is essential for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), including poverty eradication;

Noting with concern the conclusions of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO 3),

which confirm that the 2010 Biodiversity Target has not been met in full;

Expressing deep concern that the consequences of biodiversity loss and ecosystem disruption affect the poor the most, and also disproportionately, and that biodiversity loss poses a significant barrier to the achievement of the MDGs, especially to ensure environmental sustainability;

Recognising that economic and social development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of developing countries;

Recognising the significant contribution of coastal and marine ecosystems to livelihoods, poverty reduction and food security, and aware of the trans-boundary nature of a number of marine resources that support ecosystem services;

Recognising the importance of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (SP) and the Aichi Targets in promoting effective implementation of the Convention through a strategic approach with adequate resources; Recognising also that the SP represents a useful and flexible framework that is relevant to all biodiversity related conventions;

Recognising the importance of and committing to making the best use of opportunities arising from the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNDB);

Reaffirming the importance of raising public awareness, education and participation on biodiversity related issues; and,

Welcoming the 'Dehradun Recommendations' of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development held in Dehradun, India in December 2011;

Have agreed as follows:

1. To enhance awareness among all stakeholders especially policy-makers and private sector, on the values of and threats to biodiversity;
2. To strive towards mainstreaming biodiversity concerns into development processes, and encourage involvement of all stakeholders in this exercise;
3. To work together towards conservation and management of flagship species that would contribute to conservation of the entire ecosystem;
4. To strive towards enhancing priority in terms of resource allocation and mobilization for biodiversity management in respective national developmental planning processes;
5. To call upon the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Parties (CBD CoP-11) to CBD to agree on interim measures on financial resource mobilization to infuse confidence in the Parties and generate momentum for the implementation of the Aichi Targets;
6. To call upon the CBD CoP-11 to discuss issues relating to biodiversity and livelihoods regularly and recommend concrete actions, considering the critical linkages of biodiversity with livelihoods and poverty alleviation;
7. To work together for enhancing the capacity for conservation, management (especially, monitoring, surveillance and control) and sustainable utilization of coastal and marine biodiversity;
8. To continue dialogue on imminent and emerging issues related to biodiversity including marine and coastal biodiversity through consultations and other means as may be appropriate;
9. To strive for mutual support and cooperation across borders for conservation and sustainable management of coastal and marine biodiversity, as well as to address activities that threaten marine biodiversity rich areas;
10. To create networks for sharing best practices in conservation and resource enhancement in marine and its related ecosystems;
11. To take preparatory national work as a sound and informed basis for ratifying the Nagoya Protocol;
12. To call upon CBD CoP-11 to enhance capacity of the Parties to the CBD in ensuring preparedness for implementing the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol;
13. To support the recommendations of the ASEAN – India Capacity Workshop on Access and Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge held in New Delhi on 4-5 September 2012 and to implement a programme of mutual cooperation and support on issues relating to access and benefit sharing, urban biodiversity and achieving the Aichi Targets among India and ASEAN Member States under the ASEAN India Green Fund;

14. To support the recommendations of the ASEAN-India Expert meeting on climate change held on 27-29 June 2012 in Bangalore, India and to implement a work programme on climate change among India and ASEAN member states under the ASEAN-India Green Fund; and
15. To call upon CBD CoP-11 to facilitate and encourage private sector to contribute to the implementation of the CBD and its Strategic Plan, while emphasizing that developed country Parties bear primary responsibility for providing adequate resources for the implementation of CBD and Strategic Plan.

The Meeting welcomed the proposal for ASEAN-India Ministers and senior officials responsible for environment to meet and exchange views on issues of common interest at appropriate ASEAN Environment Ministers meetings.

The ASEAN Member States express their appreciation to the Government of India for hosting the ASEAN-India Environment Ministers' meeting.

New Delhi, 7th September 2012

Chairman's Statement of the 10th ASEAN-India Summit

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
19 November 2012**

1. The 10th ASEAN-India Summit, chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 19 November 2012. The Summit was attended by all Heads of State/Government of the ASEAN Member States and H.E. Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of the Republic of India.
2. We expressed our deepest sympathy and condolences to the people and the Royal Government of Cambodia and especially to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah BOROMNEATH NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, and Her Majesty Queen Mother NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK, for the passing away of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK, the late King-Father of Cambodia, on 15 October 2012. We share our sadness of this great loss with the people of Cambodia during this period of mourning. Cambodia expressed gratitude to the respective ASEAN Leaders and the Prime Minister of India for their condolences to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, Her Majesty Queen Mother, the Royal Government of Cambodia and the people of Cambodia.
3. We noted with satisfaction the significant achievements made in the ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations over the past twenty years. We were also pleased to note that 2012 marks a milestone year for ASEAN and India with the twin celebrations of the 20th Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations and the 10th Anniversary of the ASEAN-India Summit, where it first began in Phnom Penh, in 2002.
4. We looked forward to the successful convening of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in New Delhi, India, on 20-21 December 2012, to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations.
5. We welcomed the convening of various commemorative activities to mark this special Anniversary, including the meeting between Heads of Space Agencies, ministerial level meetings in tourism, environment, agriculture, new and renewable energy, and the sending of the Sail Training Ship "Sudarshini" on an expedition to ASEAN countries. We also looked forward to other important commemorative activities, such as the 2nd ASEAN-India Business Fair and Business Conclave, and the ASEAN-India Car Rally, which are scheduled to be held in the run up to the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit.
6. We appreciated the good progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2010-2015). We tasked our ministers to timely and fully implement the Plan of Action to contribute to the further deepening of the Dialogue Relations and to supporting the ASEAN Community building efforts.
7. We commended the excellent work of the ASEAN-India Eminent Persons Group (EPG) in producing a good and concise Report, which contains many practical recommendations for further advancing our partnership to the next important

level. In this regard, we tasked our ministers to consider it thoroughly and to implement those key recommendations, where appropriate.

8. We recognized the importance of security, peace, and stability in the region. In this connection, we stressed the need to strengthen maritime cooperation through the existing mechanism in order to maintain and promote peace and stability in the region, amidst the growing security challenges, such as sea piracy, vessel accidents, oil spills, terrorism and natural disasters.
9. We were heartened to note that the total trade between ASEAN and India grew significantly by 43% in 2011 amounting to US\$74.9 billion, surpassing our bilateral trade target of US\$70 billion for 2012. We set the target of US\$100 billion by 2015 for ASEAN-India trade. In this connection, we tasked our economic ministers to step up their efforts and flexibility to conclude the ASEAN-India Trade in Services and Investment Agreements before the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in December in India.
10. The Prime Minister of India welcomed the adoption of the Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 by the ASEAN Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, in April 2012. The ASEAN Leaders looked forward to enhancing cooperation with India to address the trafficking of illegal drug and narcotics.
11. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration at the 21st ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, on 18 November 2012, and emphasized our continuing support to realize an ASEAN Community based upon adherence to rules of law, democracy, promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
12. The ASEAN Leaders appreciated India's commitment to support ASEAN Community building efforts, through the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), particularly India's role in establishing and supporting the Entrepreneurship Development Centres (EDCs) and Centres for English Language Training (CELTs) in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Leaders welcomed the reaffirmation of India's support for ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture. They encouraged India to continue to lend its support to the IAI Work Plan II and the Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building, which was adopted by ASEAN Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, in April 2012.
13. The ASEAN Leaders also welcomed India's commitment to support the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and connectivity in the wider East Asia region and underscored the importance of promoting stronger linkages between ASEAN and South Asia. In this connection, we called for an early construction of the new India-Myanmar-Laos-Viet Nam-Cambodia Highway and for the extension of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway to Laos and Cambodia.
14. We encouraged the strengthening of ASEAN-India connectivity in information and communication technology (ICT), in particular digital connectivity, through sharing of best practices in policy, regulations and technological development and capacity building programmes.
15. The ASEAN Leaders welcomed the establishment of the India's Inter-Ministerial Group on Connectivity and encouraged the regular exchanges between the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and India's Inter-Ministerial Group on Connectivity to explore concrete ways and means to support the MPAC, in particular in areas where India has strong expertise and interest.
16. We welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ASEAN and India on Strengthening Tourism Cooperation in January 2012, which is an important step to advance our cooperation in tourism and to promote the increase of tourist arrivals from India to ASEAN and vice versa.
17. We agreed to enhance our cooperation in human resource development, small and medium enterprises, food and energy security, through activities such as capacity building, exchange programs, sharing of best practices, and technical cooperation.
18. We encouraged our Ministers for Agriculture & Forestry to ensure timely implementation of the Medium Term Plan of Action for ASEAN-India Cooperation on Agriculture and Forestry (2011–2015). We noted with appreciation the successful conduct of agriculture and food security initiatives, particularly ASEAN-India Agri Expo, launching of ASEAN-India Newsletter on Agriculture and Forestry, and series of training and capacity building programmes. We took note of the enhancement and strengthening of cooperation on food security through the widening of food production base and exchange of expertise between ASEAN and India to enhance resilience in food security planning to address price volatility of food commodities.

19. We are committed to enhance our cooperation in responding to climate change and addressing its impacts. In this regard, the ASEAN Leaders appreciated India's contribution of US\$5 million to the ASEAN-India Green Fund to support adaptation and mitigation's cooperation projects and noted the successful conduct of capacity building initiatives in the sector and the first meeting of the ASEAN-India Ministers for Environment in September 2012.
20. We recognized that disaster management remains an issue of high priority for both ASEAN and India as our two regions are prone to the frequent natural disasters such as flooding. To this end, we underlined the need to strengthen our cooperation in disaster management and emergency response to create disaster-resilient and safer communities in the region. In this connection, the ASEAN Leaders encouraged India to support the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the operationalization of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre). We also noted the successful conduct of First EAS-India Workshop on Building Regional Framework for Earthquake Risk Management.
21. We welcomed the successful conclusion of the Sixth Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) Ministerial Meeting held in New Delhi, India, on 3-4 September 2012. We agreed to intensify our cooperation in the four priority areas under the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation, namely tourism, culture, education and transportation and communication, through concrete activities, that aimed at upgrading the livelihoods of people of the riparian countries. We also appreciated India's efforts in establishing an India CLMV Quick Impact Project Revolving Fund.
22. We welcomed the institutionalization of various initiatives to promote people to-people contacts, including annual exchange visits of students, media persons, farmers, scholars, and scientists. We took note of Delhi Dialogue IV in February 2012 and the first ASEAN-India Round Table of Think Tanks in New Delhi, in August 2012.
23. We committed to working closely together on common regional and international issues of mutual concern and supporting each other's role at the global level as well as working together to promote and strengthen inclusive and multi-track regional arrangements.
24. We welcomed Brunei Darussalam as the Country Coordinator for ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations from July 2012 to July 2015. We looked forward to enhancing the multi-faceted cooperation and advancing the ASEAN-India partnership to a higher level.

Vision Statement ASEAN - India Commemorative Summit

New Delhi, India, 21 December 2012

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Republic of India, gathered in New Delhi, India, on 20 December 2012, to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations under the theme of "ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace and Shared Prosperity";

ACKNOWLEDGING that the civilisations of ASEAN and India have been enriched by cross cultural exchanges over several millennia, where knowledge and ideas, goods and spiritual traditions have moved seamlessly across borders, providing a strong foundation for cooperation in a globalised world;

SATISFIED with the rapid growth and progress of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations since its establishment as a sectoral dialogue partnership in 1992;

RECOGNISING the successful conclusion of the first Plan of Action for the period 2005-2010 and the implementation of the new Plan of Action for the period 2010-2015 to implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity;

APPRECIATING India's role in ensuring regional peace and stability through India's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) in 2003 and India's active contribution in the ASEAN+1, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the East Asia Summit (EAS) and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Plus;

RECOGNISING ASEAN's centrality and its role as the driving force of both economic and security structures and institutions currently emerging in the region, which allow for a stable and peaceful regional environment that is essential to the pursuit of sustainable development;

INSPIRED by the progress made in realising the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement, consolidation of the annual ASEAN-India Business Fair and Conclave and reactivation of the ASEAN-India Business Council, which has enhanced trade linkages and economic cooperation between ASEAN and India, as well as contributed to the economic development of the region and a robust bilateral trade volume between ASEAN and India, which has surpassed the USD 70 billion mark as targeted for 2012;

WELCOMING India's consistent support for ASEAN integration, the ASEAN Community building process and ASEAN-India cooperation through contributions via ASEAN-India Fund (AIF), ASEAN-India Green Fund (AIGF), ASEAN-India Science & Technology Development Fund (AISTDF) as also through direct financial assistance to various research and development initiatives;

COMMITTED to working closely together on common regional and international issues of mutual concern and supporting each other's role at the global level as well as working together to promote and strengthen inclusive and multi-track regional arrangements, including promoting the goal of open regionalism and enhancing the prospects for peace, stability and prosperity in Asia;

RECOGNISING the emergence of Delhi Dialogue as one of the premier ASEAN-centric Track 1.5 platforms for discussions on regional and international issues of mutual importance; and

CONSIDERING the work of the ASEAN-India Eminent Persons Group (AIEPG) and its Report with recommendations for forging an even closer partnership for peace, progress and shared prosperity;

HEREBY adopt the following:

1. We declare that the ASEAN-India Partnership stands elevated to a strategic partnership.
2. We will strive towards the full, effective and timely implementation of the ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations across the whole spectrum of political and security, economic, socio-cultural and development cooperation, through further strengthening of relevant institutional mechanisms and broadening

of the network between government institutions, parliamentarians, business circles, scientists, think-tanks, media, youth and other stakeholders, for the building of a peaceful, harmonious, caring and sharing community in our regions. In this context, we will continue to support and encourage active participation of relevant stakeholders in the Delhi Dialogue.

3. We will continue to exert efforts and cooperate to effectively implement the Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2010-2015).
4. India will support and cooperate closely with ASEAN to realise the ASEAN Community in 2015, comprising three pillars, namely, the ASEAN Political Security Community, the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. To further strengthen this cooperation, we agree to establish an ASEAN-India Centre using existing capacities.

Political and Security Cooperation

5. We share the vision of a peaceful, prosperous and resurgent Asia, which contributes to and promotes global peace and security.
6. We are committed to enhancing mutual understanding and friendship through close high-level contacts and exchanges and will continue to strengthen regular bilateral and multilateral dialogue and consultation at different levels on various regional and international issues of common interest.
7. We will make use of existing ASEAN-led regional processes, such as the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) Plus to promote defence and military exchanges and cooperation, and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) to foster constructive dialogue and consultation on political and security issues.
8. We are committed to fostering greater security cooperation and information sharing in the form of regular and high-level security dialogues to further address traditional and non-traditional security challenges, including transnational crimes, and strengthening the effective implementation of the ASEAN-India Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism.
9. We are committed to strengthening cooperation to ensure maritime security and freedom of navigation,

and safety of sea lanes of communication for unfettered movement of trade in accordance with international law, including UNCLOS.

10. We agree to promote maritime cooperation, including through engagement in the ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) and its expanded format, to address common challenges on maritime issues, including sea piracy, search and rescue at sea, maritime environment, maritime security, maritime connectivity, freedom of navigation, fisheries, and other areas of cooperation.

Economic Cooperation

11. In the context of economic globalisation and regional integration, we are committed to our efforts in advancing economic cooperation and engaging the emerging regional economic architecture, including organising multi-sectoral strategic economic dialogues.
12. We are committed to reaching greater trade volume through our FTA and realising our trade and economic potential under our strategic partnership by expanding trade facilitation initiatives. We are, therefore, committed to achieving a target of USD 100 billion for ASEAN-India trade by 2015, and also expect tariff-free lines to increase beyond the existing level in subsequent years.
13. We are committed to realising the ASEAN-India Free Trade Area (FTA) with a combined market of almost 1.8 billion people and a combined GDP of USD 3.8 trillion. In this regard, we welcome the successful conclusion of the negotiation on ASEAN-India Trade in Services and Investment Agreements. The signing of these Agreements will facilitate further economic integration between ASEAN and India, and also contribute to the overall East Asian economic integration.
14. We are committed to promoting private sector engagement and encouraging business-to-business relations, including through establishing a necessary framework to strengthen private sector engagement and public-private partnership (PPP) linkages. Recognising the important role of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) in the region, we are also committed to encouraging collaboration in the SME sector.
15. We recognise the need to ensure long-term food security and energy security in our region, and the use of appropriate technologies for this end, and in this regard, we welcome the efforts to strengthen cooperation in the agriculture sector, and cooperation among centres of energy in ASEAN and India.
16. We encourage further cooperation between ASEAN and India in support of sub-regional developments including within the frameworks of Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC), Bay of Bengal Initiative for MultiSectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines-East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), Cambodia-Laos-Viet Nam Development Triangle Area (CLV-DTA), Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), Greater Mekong Sub-Region (GMS) and the ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC), and other areas.

Socio-Cultural and Development Cooperation

17. We will strengthen socio-cultural cooperation and promote greater people-to-people interaction through increasing exchanges in culture, education, youth, sports, creative industries, science and technology, information and communication technology and software, human resource development and scholarly exchanges. We will also enhance contacts between parliamentarians, media personnel, academics and Track II institutions such as the network of think tanks.
18. We encourage the study, documentation and dissemination of knowledge about the civilisational links between ASEAN and India.
19. We will intensify efforts to preserve, protect and restore symbols and structures representing civilisational bonds between ASEAN and India, including Angkor Wat in the Kingdom of Cambodia, Borobudur and Prambanan temples in the Republic of Indonesia, Wat Phu in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Bagan in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Sukhothai Historical Park in the Kingdom of Thailand, and My Son in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.
20. We are committed to working together to overcome challenges such as climate change, energy security, rapid urbanisation, natural disasters, food security, drug abuse, through both regional cooperation and participation in relevant global initiatives.
21. We are committed to enhancing cooperation in bridging the development gaps among ASEAN

Member States, inter alia, through support for the effective implementation of the IAI Work Plan II (2009-2015) and the Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building, including enhancing capacity building, strengthening human resources development and encouraging involvement of private sector and academic institutions to contribute to the ASEAN integration and the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015.

22. We appreciate India's commitment to continue the special focus on the CLMV countries that represent a bridge between ASEAN and India by intensifying focus on human resource development and capacity building e-initiatives, particularly in the fields of information technology, science and technology, English language training, among others. We support India's call to synergise efforts under the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation from the USD 1 million annual India-CLMV Fund.

Connectivity

23. We are committed to enhancing ASEAN Connectivity through supporting the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and the ASEAN ICT Master Plan 2015. In this regard, we encourage the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee to work closely with India's Inter-Ministerial Group on ASEAN Transport Connectivity to enhance air, sea and land connectivity within ASEAN and between ASEAN and India, through ASEAN-India connectivity projects. We are also determined to cooperate and make the best use of all available resources, including financial and technical assistance, investment and public-private partnership to achieve physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity within ASEAN and with India.
24. We are committed to assisting in the completion of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and its extension to Lao PDR and Cambodia and the new highway project connecting India-Myanmar-Lao PDR-Viet Nam-Cambodia as well as developing the Mekong-India Economic Corridor (MIEC) connecting Southeast Asia to South Asia on the eastern part of India in order to add greater momentum to the growing trade and investment linkages between ASEAN and India.

Regional Architecture

25. We are committed to a stable and peaceful regional environment for the pursuit of sustainable

development in the region. India reaffirms its continued support for ASEAN's centrality in the evolving regional architecture, including the EAS, ARF, ADMM Plus, and other regional processes.

26. We call for the formulation of specific initiatives to achieve the objectives of this Vision Statement, which would be funded through the AIF, AIGF, and AISTDF.

Adopted in New Delhi, the Republic of India, on the Twentieth Day of December of the Year Two Thousand and Twelve.

ASEAN – Japan

Joint Media Statement on the ASEAN Roadshow to Japan

Tokyo, Japan, 28 April 2012

The ASEAN Roadshow to Japan took place from the 25th to the 28th of April 2012 in Sendai and Tokyo, Japan. The Roadshow was organized by the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM), the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan and the Secretary-General of ASEAN, with the support of the AEM-METI Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee (AMEICC), the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), business organizations, government-affiliated organizations and local governments.

Outcomes of the Road Show

1. The AEM expressed sympathy to the people of Sendai for the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami that occurred last year and noted the remarkable progress of the recovery of Japan, particularly in the Tohoku region, from this natural disaster. They conducted site visits to the Sendai Port and a Japanese manufacturing facility and participated in the ERIA Symposium towards a Disaster Resilient Economy in East Asia, all of which were held in Sendai.
2. Following the discussions at the ERIA Symposium, the AEM re-affirmed the importance of deepening

and strengthening the resilience of the supply chain network in East Asia, recognizing the speed at which economic activities were restored after natural disasters such as the earthquake in Japan and floods in the Mekong region took place.

3. The AEM paid a courtesy call to Prime Minister H.E. Yoshihiko Noda, where ASEAN, at the highest level, was assured of the continued support and cooperation of Japan in its economic integration efforts, including the early launch of the negotiation for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership. The AEM also had a dialogue with Diet Members where key issues, such as SME development, connectivity and emerging regional architecture were discussed. ASEAN and the Japanese Diet Members agreed on the importance of: (i) working together to enhance connectivity, not only within ASEAN but also between ASEAN and the rest of East Asia; (ii) collaborating in the development of SMEs in the region to enable them to participate more meaningfully in regional economic integration activities; and (iii) strengthening cooperation to carry forward the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.
4. The AEM also successfully promoted “ASEAN” to key stakeholders in Japan at the ASEAN Investment Forum which included an exhibition showcasing ASEAN goods and information on investing in ASEAN Member States and the FTA Symposium towards Economic Integration in ASEAN and East Asia. These activities enhanced the knowledge of Japanese stakeholders on ASEAN regional integration initiatives such as: the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership. AEM consultations with Japanese industrial organizations demonstrated the strong commitment of Japanese industries in cooperating and collaborating with ASEAN to realize high aspirations for inclusive and sustainable economic growth in East Asia.
5. The AEM also had an opportunity to view best practice principles being employed in Japan to steer the growth and encourage the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) through such practices as the continuous improvement and upgrading of manufacturing processes and the Government's support in addressing the challenges and problems faced by these companies in doing business in ASEAN.

6. At the Public Private Dialogue, the Ministers exchanged views on the main pillars of the ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap and discussed concrete cooperation projects with government-affiliated organizations, taking into account opinions and requests from industry and academe.

Areas for further cooperation

7. Through the various opportunities presented at the Road Show, including the informal AEM-METI meeting, the Ministers outlined the following areas for further cooperation:

(1) Boosting Trade and Investment between ASEAN and Japan in the Evolving Regional Architecture

(Promoting Investment)

- Support the initiatives by Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) to promote mutual investment between Japan and ASEAN, including organizing investment missions to ASEAN, assigning investment advisors, holding seminars and providing individual consultations through JETRO Business Support Centers (BSCs) in ASEAN.
- Prioritize investments by SMEs through supporting activities by the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) along with JETRO which include missions to ASEAN, investment seminars, and individual consultations.
- Support investments for developing industrial infrastructure in ASEAN through Nippon Export and Investment Insurance's (NEXI's) trade and investment insurance.

(Promoting Trade)

- Welcome the “Asia Caravan” by JETRO to introduce high-quality products to ASEAN.
- Strengthen support for service industries in ASEAN including initiatives by JETRO for promoting retail, distribution and restaurant businesses.
- Support trade through NEXI's trade and investment insurance and re-insurance schemes and human resource development cooperation programs between NEXI and Export Credit Agencies (ECAs) in ASEAN.

(Promoting FTAs /EPAs)

- Engage in the continued review and improvement of the ASEAN+1 FTAs and bilateral EPAs into more user-friendly agreements which include support for seamless business environments through the reduction of barriers in the areas of transportation, distribution and logistics, with a view to advancing wider regional integration.
- Work towards the launch of negotiations for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership by year-end through the ASEAN Plus Working Groups.

(Connectivity enhancement)

- Enhance connectivity in ASEAN towards the establishment of the ASEAN Community in 2015 through efforts for facilitating the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, such as logistics improvement, the promotion of customs modernization in cooperation with private sectors and with the support of relevant organizations including JICA.
- Materialize the idea of “connectivity master plan plus” with appropriate reference to the Comprehensive Asia Development Plan based on the importance of connectivity between ASEAN and the other areas in East Asia.

(2) Strengthening Strategic Economic Relations between ASEAN and Japan towards the Future

(ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap)

- Develop the Roadmap with a vision of doubling trade for the mutual benefit of ASEAN and Japan.
- Focus on the following five priority areas; trade and investment liberalization, facilitation and promotion, system harmonization, improvement of logistics and distribution networks, narrowing development gaps, and promoting advanced industrial development.
- Complete the Roadmap by the 18th AEM-METI Consultation in August 2012 based on the various views presented during the Road Show and establish a follow-up mechanism for implementation of the Roadmap by effectively utilizing existing

mechanisms such as AMEICC, in close cooperation with the business community.

- Solicit inputs from the business community on the Roadmap through various channels including the ASEAN-Japan Business Council as well as the forthcoming Asian Business Summit to be organized by Keidanren.

(Dialogue with the Federation of Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in ASEAN (FJCCIA))

- Support the dialogue with the Secretary General and the FJCCIA in July 2012 as a follow-up of requests from the business community.
- Support continuous dialogue between private to private as well as encourage public and private dialogue between ASEAN and Japan.

(Support for Small and Medium Enterprises)

- Promote and support the efforts of the Asia Professional Education Network (APEN) and ERIA to strengthen networks of SMEs in ASEAN and East Asia through “Only-one SME Mission” to ASEAN Member States, the establishment of the “APEN Credibility Index for SMEs” and the development of the “Comprehensive Higher Professional Education System”, which will enhance technology transfer and collaboration among SMEs and enhance human resource development.
- Support efforts by JCCI to strengthen industrial organizations in ASEAN, including the Chambers of Commerce in each ASEAN Member State, and efforts geared towards human resource development for SMEs by JCCI and JICA.

(Cooperation in the area of Energy and Environment)

- Develop energy and environmental infrastructure and promote the Smart Community Initiative in ASEAN.
- Strengthen on-going public-private dialogues to realize Smart Communities in South-East Asia through mission schemes organized by New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) and Japan Smart Community Alliance (JSCA).

(3) Establishing a Disaster Resilient Society in East Asia

- Promote the Disaster Management Network for the ASEAN region, including the possibility of developing a Satellite Network Systems for disaster preparedness and disaster relief.
 - Task ERIA to further study the disaster preparedness of ASEAN's supply chain networks, including institutional prevention mechanisms, effective development of infrastructure and overall connectivity of the region.
 - Explore support to improve ASEAN Member State's individual disaster management system focusing on disaster risk assessment and business continuity plan by fully utilizing the lessons learned from the recent disasters in the areas of risk management and sustainable supply chain network.
8. Ministers looked forward to further discussing the outcomes of the Roadshow at the 18th AEM – METI Consultations in Siem Reap, Cambodia this August 2012.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. H. E. Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam; 2. H. E. Dr Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce of Cambodia; 3. H.E. Bayu Krisnamurthi, Vice Minister of Trade of Indonesia; 4. H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan; 5. H. E. Dr. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce of Lao PDR; 6. H.E. Dato' Mukhriz Mahathir, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry of Malaysia; 7. H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister of National Planning and Economic Development of Myanmar; 8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry of the Philippines; 9. H.E. Sulaimah Mahmood, Director of Ministry of Trade and Industry of Singapore; 10. H. E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce of Thailand; 11. H. E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam; 12. H. E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Media Statement of the 4th Mekong-Japan Economic Ministers Meeting

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 30 August 2012

1. The 4th Mekong-Japan Economic Ministers Meeting was held in Siem-Reap, Cambodia on 30th August 2012. The meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Tin Naing Thein, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar, and H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan and attended by Economic Ministers and representatives from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam, as well as Secretary-General of ASEAN.
2. The Ministers welcomed the steady progress in the implementation of the "Mekong-Japan Economic and Industrial Cooperation Initiative (MJ-CI) Action Plan", as part of the development of Economic Corridors in the Mekong sub-region, which includes completion of the 3rd Mekong Bridge at Thailand and Lao PDR border, commencement of the bilateral Exchange of Traffic Rights between Cambodia and Thailand under the Cross-Border Transport Agreement (CBTA).
3. The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) reported to the Ministers the major findings of "Mekong Business Needs Survey 2012" which covered current business needs and strategies of Japanese and local companies in Mekong countries. The Ministers appreciated the significant results of the survey, such as capturing the production network expansion in the Mekong region especially to the CLM countries. The Ministers also reaffirmed the necessity to effectively utilize the resources for the prioritized projects, such as Neak Loeung bridge and Cai Mep-Thi Vai international port construction, as well as various projects to contribute to the stable energy supply in this sub-region, by appropriately reflecting the business needs, and the changing business environment, such as the on-going domestic reforms in Myanmar.
4. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed inputs from the 5th Mekong-Japan Industry and Government Dialogue, and adopted the "Mekong Development Roadmap under the MJ-CI Action Plan". The Roadmap consists of three pillars (hard infrastructure development, trade facilitation and industrial cooperation) with clear timetable until 2015. Ministers also agreed to regularly review the

progress in the implementation of the Roadmap, as well as to report major progress to the Mekong-Japan Summit.

5. Ministers also agreed to additionally incorporate several projects into the MJ-CI Action Plan such as organizing seminars and workshops for Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) utilization, improving power grid interconnection in the Mekong Region, developing power plants in CLM countries, developing Thilawa Special Economic Zone (SEZ), and establishing industrial development strategies for Mekong Countries.
6. With regard to the Dawei development project, as indicated in the 'Mekong-Japan Action Plan for realization of the "Tokyo Strategy 2012"', the Ministers suggested the AEM-METI Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee's Working Group on West-East Corridor Development (AMEICC WEC-WG) to establish a trilateral framework among Myanmar, Thailand and Japan, in order to coordinate and review the development process to accelerate the project.
7. The Ministers underscored that development of hard infrastructure and trade facilitation, which should be implemented effectively in close cooperation with other relevant initiatives in ASEAN and East Asia, such as the Asian Development Bank – Greater Mekong Sub-region (ADB-GMS) programs, the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, the Comprehensive Asian Development Plan and the Asia Cargo Highway Initiative. The Ministers also reaffirmed the necessity to further cooperate with other sub-regional cooperation framework, such as CLMV Economic Cooperation and CLV Triangle Development Cooperation.
8. The Ministers also tasked the AMEICC WEC-WG to coordinate and follow up on the implementation process of the Roadmap and additional projects of the MJ-CI Action Plan, in close coordination with businesses/industries, government agencies and international organizations.

List of Ministers

1. H.E. Dr. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 2. H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan; 3. H.E. Dr. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 4. H.E. Tin Naing Thein, Minister of National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 5. Mr. Arkhom Termittayapaisith, Secretary General,

National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB), Thailand (representing H.E. Niwattumrong Boonsongpaisan, Minister Attached to Prime Minister's Office, Thailand); 6. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Vice Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 7. H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Media Statement of the 18th AEM–METI Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 30 August 2012

1. The Eighteenth Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan were held on 30 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia and H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan.
2. The Ministers were pleased that trade between ASEAN and Japan continued on an upward trend as total trade grew by 32.3% from US\$206.6 billion in 2010 to US\$273.3 billion in 2011. Japan also moved up from being ASEAN's third largest export destination in 2010 to the region's top export destination in 2011. ASEAN's exports to Japan increased by 43.3% amounting to US\$147.4 billion while imports from Japan grew by 21.4% totalling US\$125.9 billion. Japan maintained its position as ASEAN's second largest trading partner after China.
3. The Ministers noted the increase in foreign direct investment inflows from Japan to ASEAN, which grew by 39.0% from US\$11.0 billion in 2010 to US\$15.3 billion in 2011. Japan remained as an important source of FDI with a share of 17.1% of total inward investments to ASEAN in 2011. Japan stepped up one notch from third to become second largest source of FDI for ASEAN.

ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement

4. The Ministers welcomed the steady progress in the areas of economic cooperation and

standard and conformance in the AJCEP, and reaffirmed their commitment to further promote trade and investment between ASEAN and Japan through the implementation of AJCEP. On economic cooperation, the Ministers particularly welcomed the endorsement of the AJCEP Project Management Guidelines by the AJCEP Joint Committee in December 2011, which have, since then, resulted in the endorsement ten (10) project proposals currently under various stages of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF)'s approval process.

5. The Ministers emphasized the importance of continuing the negotiations for the expanded Chapters on Trade in Services and Investment under the AJCEP to further deepen economic integration between ASEAN and Japan, and encouraged officials to continue the negotiation for addressing the outstanding issues at the AJCEP Joint Committee Meeting.

Private Sector Engagement

6. The Ministers were pleased with the results of the dialogue between FJCCIA and the Secretary-General of ASEAN held on 21 July 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Ministers agreed that the improvement of business environment in ASEAN would be mutually beneficial for ASEAN and Japan and decided to consider possible measures to respond to FJCCIA's requests in an effort to realise AEC by 2015.
7. The Ministers underlined the importance of the expansion of product coverage and membership of the WTO Information Technology Agreement (ITA) for global and regional economic development and are committed to strengthen their engagement in order to swiftly and successfully conclude the negotiation.

ASEAN Roadshow to Japan

8. The Ministers appreciated the successful ASEAN Road Show to Japan on 25-28 April 2012, which helped to promote business relations and economic cooperation between ASEAN and Japan.

ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap

9. The Ministers endorsed the ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap, which aimed to promote strategic partnership in the areas of improvement of business environment,

trade and investment facilitation and liberalisation, infrastructure development, connectivity, human resources development and enhancement and coordination on domestic policies and regulations, among others. The Ministers shared the conviction that the implementation of activities listed in the Roadmap would elevate the partnership between ASEAN and Japan to a new level, in which both parties grow together with further integrated markets and production networks, and help achieve the objectives including doubling trade and investment flows between ASEAN and Japan by 2022.

10. The Ministers also emphasized the importance of broadening and deepening the relationship between ASEAN and Japan, in line with the three pillars below as specified in the Roadmap:

(i) Integration of Markets in ASEAN and the East Asian Region in a Mutually Beneficial Manner

11. The Ministers agreed to cooperate in the protection of Intellectual Property Rights through the Memorandum of Cooperation on Industrial Property and the Action Plan agreed at the ASEAN-Japan Heads of Intellectual Property Offices Meeting on 11 July 2012. The Ministers welcomed the progress of cooperation on chemicals by AMEICC Working Group on Chemical Industry (WG-CI), specifically the decision to develop a prototype database with willing ASEAN Member States and Japan, and appreciate further efforts to enhance economic integration through AMEICC WG-CI.

(ii) Strengthening Industrial Cooperation towards More Advanced Industrial Structures

12. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of capacity building of human resources for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and welcomed Japan's initiatives for introducing a "Comprehensive Higher Professional Education System (Multiversity)" and facilitating networking among SMEs through the Asia Professional Education Network (APEN) in interested ASEAN Member States.
13. The Ministers welcomed the progress of the East Asia Smart Community Initiative (EA-SCI) and confirmed that ASEAN and Japan keep cooperation to materialise smart community projects. The Ministers agreed to expand their collaboration in utilisation of satellite technology not only for

the purpose of disaster management but also for establishing a disaster-resilient society with more advanced industrial structures in ASEAN Member States.

(iii) Improving Economic Growth and Standard of Living

14. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of realising Low Carbon Growth for sustainable economic growth of the region and their cooperation toward the Second Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue, which will be co-chaired by Cambodia and Japan in 2013, and reaffirmed the necessity of cooperation in the area of human resource development, improvement of systems and institutions and possibility of establishing a Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism/Joint Crediting Mechanism (BOCM/JCM).

AEM-METI Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee (AMEICC)

15. The Ministers well-noted the progress of AMEICC working group activities, and especially welcomed the conclusion of its ASEAN Common Curriculum development programme for entrepreneurship education. The Ministers also reaffirmed the necessity of AMEICC to coordinate projects indicated in the “ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap”.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; 4. H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan; 5. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. Mr. Mohd Ridzal Sheriff, Deputy Secretary General (Trade), Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 10. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Chairman’s Statement of the 15th ASEAN-Japan Summit

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 19 November 2012

1. The 15th ASEAN-Japan Summit, chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 19 November 2012. The Summit was attended by all Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States and H.E. Yoshihiko Noda, Prime Minister of Japan.
2. We expressed our deepest sympathy and condolences to the people and the Royal Government of Cambodia and especially to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah BOROMNEATH NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia and Her Majesty Queen Mother NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK, for the passing away of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK, the late King-Father of Cambodia, on 15 October 2012. We shared our sadness of this great loss with the people of Cambodia during this period of mourning. Cambodia expressed gratitude to the respective ASEAN Leaders and the Prime Minister of Japan for their share of condolences to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, Her Majesty Queen Mother, the Royal Government of Cambodia and the people of Cambodia.
3. We acknowledged that ASEAN and Japan have grown together hand-in-hand for the past 40 years, reaffirming the strong bond that they have established. We reiterated our determination to strengthen the relationship between ASEAN and Japan in promoting regional peace, stability and prosperity as enshrined in the Joint Declaration for Enhancing ASEAN-Japan Partnership for Prospering Together, adopted in Bali, on November 2011. We are committed to further strengthening and deepening our cooperation under the five strategies as identified in the Joint Declaration.
4. We took note of the good progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action 2011-2015 to Implement the Joint Declaration for Enhancing ASEAN-Japan Partnership for Prospering Together. We appreciated the efforts to develop more concrete projects and activities to effectively implement this Plan of Action in a timely manner and to further support ASEAN integration, narrowing the development gaps as well as the ASEAN Community building by 2015.

5. The Prime Minister of Japan welcomed the adoption of the Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 by the ASEAN Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, in April 2012. The ASEAN Leaders looked forward to enhance cooperation with Japan to address the trafficking of illegal drugs and narcotics.
6. We also reaffirmed our commitment to move forward our cooperation in combating terrorism and transnational crime as they are inextricably linked to the enhancement of connectivity within the East Asian Region.
7. The Prime Minister of Japan welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration at the 21st ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, on 18 November 2012, and emphasized the importance of continuing efforts to realize an ASEAN Community based upon the adherence to the rule of law, democracy, promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
8. We took note of the significant growth in trade and investment between ASEAN and Japan. Japan remained the second largest trading partner of ASEAN, with trade volume valued at US\$273.34 billion, while foreign direct investment from Japan was valued at US\$15.25 billion in 2011.
9. We welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN-Japan 10-year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap at the Eighteen Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan, held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, on 30 August 2012. We expressed our confidence that this Roadmap, which aims to promote strategic partnership in a wide range of areas including improvement of business environment, trade and investment facilitation and liberalization, infrastructure development and connectivity, would further contribute to advancing our economic cooperation and help achieve our objective of doubling bilateral trade and investment flows between ASEAN and Japan by 2022. In this connection, we tasked our officials to effectively implement this Roadmap with appropriate follow-up mechanism for further integration of markets and deepening of production networks of ASEAN and Japan. Cooperation in the areas of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), industrial human resource development for professionals, intellectual property, low carbon growth including green technologies, chemical management and technologies for disaster resiliency should be prioritized, among others, for sustainable, innovative and equitable growth.
10. We recognized the significance of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP), not only in deepening further economic integration between ASEAN and Japan, but also in contributing to a more robust regional economic architecture. We therefore welcomed the latest progress of the negotiations on Trade in Services and Investment Agreements under AJCEP.
11. In light of the rapid regional and global developments, we stressed the importance of the Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) which was adopted by the ASEAN Economic Ministers and their counterparts from ASEAN's FTA Partners in August 2012. We also welcomed the progress in the preparatory work aiming at the launching of the RCEP negotiations, which reflects the concrete cooperation among the participating countries to strengthen regional economic integration.
12. We also appreciated the efforts to further promote business relations and economic cooperation between ASEAN and Japan. We welcomed the successful convening of the ASEAN Roadshow to Japan on 25-28 April 2012 and the 5th Business Dialogue between the Secretary-General of ASEAN and the Federation of Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in ASEAN (FJCCIA) in Bangkok, Thailand, on 25 July 2012. We underlined the importance of improving business environment as mutually beneficial efforts and expected further interaction with the private sector. We also underlined the importance of the expansion of product coverage and membership of the WTO Information Technology Agreement (ITA) for global and regional economic development and are committed to strengthen their engagement in order to swiftly and successfully conclude the negotiations.
13. We highly appreciated the contribution of the ASEAN-Japan Centre to promote trade, investment and tourism, and its important role in narrowing development gap in ASEAN. We looked forward to the development of its activities.
14. The ASEAN Leaders recognized the important contribution of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) to the implementation of various projects and activities under the ASEAN-Japan cooperation. The ASEAN Leaders also

appreciated Japan's decision to extend the use of the JAIF to the end of December 2013 and hoped for the continuation of the assistance.

15. The ASEAN Leaders underscored the significant contribution of Japan to the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity. We welcomed the steady progress of the implementation of the List of Flagship Projects, composed of 33 projects for enhancing ASEAN Connectivity. We further reaffirmed the importance of continuous efforts between ASEAN and Japan towards enhancing institutional connectivity and people-to-people connectivity. We took note of the good progress in implementing Japan's Visions: "Formation of the Vital Artery for East-West and Southern Economic Corridor" and "Maritime Economic Corridor" as well as the implementation of "soft infrastructure projects on all ASEAN region" for enhancing ASEAN Connectivity. We also appreciated the good progress made in the implementation of Japan's initiative to train 1,000 trainees from East Asia in the field of infrastructure.
16. The ASEAN Leaders looked forward to new initiatives of ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership for further development of safe, green and user friendly transport. They also appreciated Japan's continued cooperation to enhance connectivity in the transport sector as well as ongoing efforts for expansion of "Open Skies" with ASEAN Member States.
17. The ASEAN Leaders further appreciated Japan's active contribution to human resources development in various areas, including the Attachment Programme at the ASEAN Secretariat for Junior Diplomats from CLMV countries. The ASEAN Leaders were also pleased to note the good progress in promoting people-to-people contacts, particularly the successful implementation of the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS), which helped to further enhance mutual understanding and friendship.
18. We welcomed the progress of the Youth-Exchange Project with Asia-Oceania and North America entitled "Kizuna (bond) Project."
19. The ASEAN leaders welcomed the progress of Japan's initiative to promote inter-university exchange through quality-assured collaborative educational programmes with ASEAN Member States.
20. The ASEAN Leaders extended appreciation to Japan for its commitment to continue the ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies which has been regularly convened since 2003. It has been a useful platform for information sharing, enhancing capacity, and strengthening partnerships in social welfare, health and labour sectors amongst ASEAN Member States and Japan. We welcomed the plan to convene the 10th Meeting in October 2012, in Tokyo, which will carry the theme "Caring Societies for the Socially Vulnerable People Suffering After Natural Disasters".
21. The ASEAN Leaders expressed appreciation to Japan for its continued support to ASEAN in the area of social security through the ASEAN/ILLO/Japan Project on Unemployment Insurance and Employment Services, and the ASEAN-Japan Project on Social Safety Nets. We noted with satisfaction the progress made under this project during its first year of implementation. We further noted with satisfaction the plan to kick start the ASEAN-Japan Project on Social Safety Nets in ASEAN Member States in the second half of 2012. We also noted with satisfaction the progress made under the on-going ASEAN-ILO/Japan Project on Industrial Relations including the four Regional Seminars which are combined with national workshops in selected ASEAN Member States.
22. The ASEAN Leaders highly appreciated Japan's continued contribution in the area of disaster management and welcomed Japan's concept on strengthening network "from outer space to rural communities" under the Disaster Management Network for the ASEAN Region. We welcomed the first anniversary of the opening of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster managements (AHA Centre). The ASEAN Leaders also appreciated Japan's firm support for the AHA Centre, namely assistance for ICT equipment, ICT expert, disaster management expert and emergency supplies stockpiling system. We also welcomed the successful conclusion of the World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction held in Tohoku, Japan, on 3-4 July 2012, which aimed at contributing to the building of resilient societies through sharing experiences and lessons learned from recent large-scale natural disasters in the world, including the Great East Japan Earthquake with an emphasis on human security. We also welcomed the offer made by Japan to host the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015. We shared the common view of the importance

- of Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx) under the framework of ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) to be held regularly for strengthening the capacity to cope with disasters in the region. In addition to disaster management purposes, we confirmed to conduct further discussions to strengthen our collaboration in the utilization of satellite technologies.
23. We also welcomed the close consultation and cooperation between the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC) in Japan and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) in Thailand, particularly the joint projects on flood management, information sharing and capacity building.
 24. Realizing the importance of peace, stability and maritime security, we welcomed the progress of maritime cooperation between Japan and ASEAN, noting with appreciation Japan's proposal last year. We also welcomed the fruitful outcomes of the first Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) hosted by the Philippines with close cooperation with Japan in October 2012, aiming at promoting dialogue among EAS participating countries to common challenges on maritime issues. We also look forward to the convening of the second EAMF next year.
 25. We emphasized the need to establish greater maritime connectivity and to enhance cooperation in safety navigation, search and rescue between ASEAN and Japan. A more connected ASEAN will certainly contribute to the economic growth and development of the region.
 26. The ASEAN Leaders appreciated Japan's continued support for ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture through the ASEAN-led processes, in particular the ASEAN Regional Forum, the ASEAN Plus Three Summit, the East Asia Summit and the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus.
 27. We underlined the importance of maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. In this regard, we reiterated that the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula through the Six Party Talks is essential not only for enduring peace and stability in the region but also for the integrity of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. We called on all parties concerned to comply fully with its international obligations under the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and to fulfil commitments under the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. We also emphasized the importance of addressing the issue of humanitarian concerns of the international community, such as the abduction issue.
 28. We underscored the importance of promoting non-proliferation and disarmament of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery, strengthening export control capacity of ASEAN Member States, as well as combating the illicit transfer and trafficking of WMD related materials.
 29. We expressed our hope that the Nuclear-Weapon States (NWSs) will, as soon as feasible, sign the Protocol to the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty, which will further contribute to the maintenance of regional peace and security.
 30. We reaffirmed the urgent need for the United Nations Security Council reform in order to render the body more representative, legitimate, effective and responsive to the realities of the international community in the 21st century by ensuring equitable representation of both permanent and nonpermanent membership. We also reaffirmed our determination to work closely to achieve this reform.
 31. We appreciated the invaluable contribution of the Secretary-General of ASEAN, H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, in strengthening ASEAN-Japan relationship for the past five years.
 32. The ASEAN Leaders welcomed the offer of Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda to host the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in Tokyo, in December 2013, to mark the 40th Anniversary of the ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations in 2013. We expected to discuss a mid-to long-term vision of ASEAN-Japan relationship on this occasion. We also welcomed the successful joint selection of logo and catch phrase for the 40th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation.
 33. We further welcomed the progress of the track-two dialogue between ASEAN's and Japan's intellectuals. We also agreed to cooperate and hold commemorative events in both ASEAN and Japan, and to bring about excitement throughout 2013 and looked forward to the success of the Kickoff-Reception, to be held in January of next year in Jakarta, to commemorate the 40th Year Anniversary of the ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations.

34. We welcomed Cambodia as the Country Coordinator for ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations from July 2012 to July 2015. We looked forward to enhancing the multi-faceted cooperation and advancing the ASEAN-Japan strategic partnership to a higher level.

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 10th ASEAN and Japan Transport Ministers Meeting (10th ATM+Japan)

Bali, Indonesia, 30 November 2012

1. The 10th ASEAN and Japan Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM+Japan) was held in Bali, Indonesia on 30 November 2012. The Meeting was preceded by the Eleventh ASEAN and Japan Senior Transport Officials Meeting (11th STOM+Japan) held on 28 November 2012. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. E. E. Mangindaan, Minister for Transport of Indonesia, and H.E. Mr. Yuichiro Hata Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, co-chaired the Meeting.
2. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of 15th ASEAN-Japan Summit held on 19 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia including Japan's significant contribution to the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and Japan's new initiatives to further develop safe, green and user friendly transport under ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP).
3. The Ministers also welcomed the notable progress made in AJTP since its inception in 2003, in particular the completion and launching of the 'Best Approaches Book', a collection of successful experiences and stories of environmental transport policies in ASEAN and Japan, which will serve as a useful reference to further develop the Green Transport.
4. The Ministers further welcomed Japan's initiative to strengthen cooperation in the promotion of "Quality Transport", which will include the development of "Safe and Secure, Green and User-friendly Transport", as the main focus for AJTP in the next decade. This initiative will be one of the key deliverables to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation in 2013.
5. The Ministers endorsed the AJTP Work Plans for 2012-2013, which cover the following projects/activities, among others: "Technical cooperation in field of Port Electronic Data Interchange", "Eco-Airport and New Air Navigation System", "Automobile Technical Cooperation Project on Safety and Environment" and "Action Plan on Environment Improvement", as specified under the Manila Action Plan and look forward to its successful implementation to facilitate the implementation of ASEAN Strategic Transport Plan (ASTP)/Brunei Action Plan (BAP) and transport measures under Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC).
6. The Ministers also endorsed several new transport initiatives proposed by Japan to enhance ASEAN Connectivity including "Comprehensive Cooperation on Technology for Safe and Efficient Transport", "Cooperation on Natural Disaster Prevention in the Transport Sector", "Project for Improvement and Harmonisation of Safety Standards and Ship Inspection for Coastal Ships" and "New Regional Action Plan on Port Security (New RAPPS) under ASEAN-Japan Maritime Security Transport Programme." The list of the projects appears in the attached ANNEX.
7. The Eleventh ATM+Japan Meeting will be convened in Lao PDR in 2013.

LIST OF MINISTERS

- (a) H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam; (b) H.E. Mr. Tram Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia; (c) H.E. Mr. E.E. Mangindaan, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia; (d) H.E. Mr. Yuichiro Hata, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan; (e) H.E. Mr. Sommad Pholsena, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR; (f) H.E. Dato' Seri Kong Cho Ha, Minister of Transport of Malaysia; (g) H.E. Mr. Han Sein, Deputy Minister for Transport of Myanmar; (h) H.E. Ms. Catherine P. Gonzales, Undersecretary (Deputy Minister), Department of Transportation and Communications of the Philippines; (i) Mr. Pang Kin Keong, Permanent Secretary, representing H.E. Mr. Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport of Singapore; (j) H.E. Mr. Chadchart

Sittipunt, Minister of Transport of Thailand; (k) H.E. Mr. Dinh La Thang, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and (l) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

List of ASEAN and Japan Transport Partnership Projects/Activities

(Transport Logistics)

- ASEAN-Japan Logistics Project
- Support of Sub-Regional Logistics Training Center Project
- Support of "Roadmap towards an Integrated and Competitive Maritime Transport in ASEAN"
- ASEAN-Japan Logistics Partnership

(Safety and Security)

- ASEAN-Japan New Air Navigation System
- ASEAN-Japan Aviation Security Project
- ASEAN-Japan Seafarers Policy Cooperation
- New Regional Action Plan on Port Security (New RAPPS) under ASEAN-Japan Maritime Security Transport Programme
- ASEAN-Japan Port Technology Joint Research Project
- ASEAN-Japan Intelligent Transport System Development
- Automobile Technical Cooperation Project on Safety and Environment
- ASEAN-Japan Road Transport Safety Project
- Comprehensive Cooperation on Technology for Safe and Efficient Transport
- Cooperation on Natural Disaster Prevention in the Transport Sector
- Project for Improvement and Harmonisation of Safety Standards and Ship Inspection for Coastal Ships

(Environment)

- ASEAN-Japan New Air Navigation System
- ASEAN-Japan Airport Study Project
- ASEAN "Mega-Float" Promotion Project
- ASEAN-Japan Port Technology Joint Research Project
- ASEAN-Japan Intelligent Transport System Development
- Automobile Technical Cooperation Project on Safety and Environment
- ASEAN Railways Revival Plan
- Urban Public Transport Policy Framework
- ASEAN-Japan Alternative Fuel Project for Transport Sector

- ASEAN-Japan Action Plan on Environment Improvement in the Transport Sector

(Common Infrastructure and Others)

- Transport Policy Officials Training Program in Japan
- ASEAN-Japan Transport Information Platform Project
- ASEAN-Japan Cruise Promotion Program

ASEAN – Republic of Korea

Joint Media Statement of the 9th AEM-ROK Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 29 August 2012

1. The Ninth Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Minister for Trade of the Republic of Korea were held on 29 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia and H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade of the Republic of Korea.
2. The Ministers noted that in 2011, two-way trade between ASEAN and Korea continued to grow and amounted to US\$124.5 billion compared with US\$98.6 billion the previous year. Exports from ASEAN to Korea expanded by 30.9% amounting to US\$58.9 billion while imports increased by 22.3% totalling US\$65.6 billion. Korea maintained its position as the fifth largest trading partner of ASEAN.
3. The Ministers noted that foreign direct investment (FDI) flow from Korea to ASEAN declined by 36.2% from US\$3.8 billion in 2010 to US\$2.4 billion in 2011. Korea was ASEAN's fifth largest source of FDI.
4. The Ministers welcomed the completion of the tariff elimination for products under the Normal Track on 1 January 2012 by ASEAN-6 and Korea. The Ministers encouraged the remaining Parties to eliminate the tariffs under the Normal Track within the committed timeframe.

5. The Ministers underlined the importance of implementing each Party's commitments under the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Goods Agreement (Agreement), including the tariff reduction of sensitive products for 2012. The Ministers discussed certain implementation-related issues and urged the Parties concerned to take necessary actions to fully live up to the Agreement.
6. In response to the Minister's mandate to review the Sensitive Track, senior officials developed a Work Programme for Further Liberalisation. The Ministers adopted the Work Programme which comprises review of further possible reduction of the number of goods in the Sensitive Track, conditions governing the reciprocal arrangement and development of a comprehensive package to promote trade as well as facilitate utilisation of the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA).
7. The Ministers also welcomed the entry into force of the Second Protocol to Amend the Agreement on Trade in Goods for certain Parties on 11 July 2012. The Protocol which was signed on 17 November 2011, aimed at facilitating the unilateral acceleration of tariff commitments, including the transfer of products from the Sensitive Track to the Normal Track.
8. The Ministers were pleased to note that ASEAN and Korea has agreed on the amendments to simplify the Operation Certification Procedures (OCP) which will help to reduce the administrative burdens of business of both parties. The Ministers tasked senior officials to bring these amendments into force at the earliest possible date and to ensure the smooth transition and timely implementation of the revised OCP.
9. The Ministers also noted the efforts of the Working Group on Services to review the implementation of the AKFTA Services Agreement and consider further measures to liberalise trade in services. The Ministers noted that a Joint Study on the Economic Impact of the AKFTA Services Agreement will be undertaken and is targeted for completion in December 2012.
10. The Ministers launched the AKFTA website (<http://akfta.asean.org>) and seminar kit which were developed to promote the AKFTA. The Ministers tasked the senior officials to effectively utilise the tools for public outreach activities and facilitating the implementation of the AKFTA. The Ministers also noted the significance of their effective management hereafter and encouraged

the continuous cooperation of the Parties and the ASEAN Secretariat.

11. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government of Korea for the continued support in the economic cooperation and contribution towards the ASEAN-Korea Economic Cooperation Fund. The Ministers acknowledged the efforts of the Working Group on Economic Cooperation (WGEC) to enhance the effectiveness of the projects approval and implementation process.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam;
2. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia;
3. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia;
4. H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea;
5. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR;
6. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia;
7. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar;
8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines;
9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore;
10. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand;
11. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam;
12. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Chairman's Statement of the 15th ASEAN-Republic of Korea Summit

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
19 November 2012**

1. The 15th ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Summit chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 19 November 2012. The Heads of State/Government of the ASEAN Member States had a productive meeting with H.E. Mr. Lee Myung-bak, President of the Republic of Korea.

2. The ASEAN Leaders expressed sincere appreciation to H.E. Mr. Lee Myung-bak for his active contribution to expanding and strengthening ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership. This has been his significant and invaluable personal contribution for the purpose of promoting peace, security, and stability in the region and for building close ties, friendship and cooperation between countries and peoples of ASEAN and the Republic of Korea. The ASEAN Leaders also expressed optimism that ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership will continue to be further enhanced and deepened.
3. We noted with satisfaction the significant advancement of ASEAN-ROK cooperation over the past 23 years, in particular following the elevation of the ASEAN-ROK relations from comprehensive cooperation to a strategic partnership in 2010. We also noted substantive progress made in the implementation of the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity and its Plan of Action for 2011-2015.
4. The ASEAN Leaders appreciated the ROK's unyielding support for ASEAN Community building efforts and ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture. The ASEAN Leaders also encouraged the ROK to support the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015), and the Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building, which was adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, in April 2012.
5. The ASEAN Leaders welcomed the appointment of the first resident Ambassador of the ROK to ASEAN and the establishment of the Mission of the ROK to ASEAN in Jakarta in September 2012. They believed that the Mission of the ROK to ASEAN would facilitate closer cooperation and mutual understanding between ASEAN and the ROK.
6. We attached great importance to the role of the ASEAN-Korea Centre in Seoul in promoting trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the ROK. We encouraged the Centre to undertake more concrete activities including the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in order to further promote trade and investment for mutual benefits of ASEAN and the ROK. The ROK Leader encouraged ASEAN Member States to second their officials to the Centre.
7. The ROK welcomed the adoption of the Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 by the ASEAN Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, in April 2012. In this regard, the ASEAN Leaders looked forward to enhancing cooperation with the ROK to address the trafficking of illegal drugs and narcotics.
8. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration at the 21st ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh on 18 November 2012 and emphasized our continuing support to realize an ASEAN Community based upon adherence to rule of law, democracy, promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
9. We welcomed the significant growth of two-way trade between ASEAN and ROK, which amounted to US\$124.9 billion in 2011 compared with US\$97.3 billion the previous year. In this regard, we reaffirmed our commitment to achieve the target of US\$150 billion two-way trade by 2015. For this purpose, we tasked our relevant Ministers to implement concrete measures, including to fully implement the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA) and to effectively utilize ASEAN-Korea Centre, to enhance ASEAN-ROK economic linkages. We also encouraged (SMEs) to take full advantages of the AKFTA.
10. The ASEAN Leaders appreciated the ROK's strong commitment to support the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). In this regard, the ASEAN Leaders welcomed the ROK's decision to establish a consultative mechanism to engage with the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) to discuss practical means to support the implementation of the MPAC, in particular in areas relating to infrastructure development and information and communication technology (ICT).
11. We agreed to further strengthen and enhance our mutually beneficial cooperation in the fields such as education, disaster management, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), migrant workers, water management, combating of transnational crimes such as trafficking in persons, and post harvest technology, including food storage, processing, preservation and distribution.
12. We underscored the importance of future generations in promoting ASEAN-ROK cooperation and welcomed the ongoing and increased opportunities for youth exchange on a regular basis.
13. We reaffirmed our commitment to actively cooperate in addressing major global and

transboundary challenges such as climate change and the environment. We are also keen in close cooperation and exchanging best practices on “Low Carbon Green Growth Policy” and the use of environmentfriendly technology. In this connection, we welcomed the entry into force of the Agreement between ASEAN and the ROK on Forest Cooperation and agreed to promote cooperation for the effective implementation of the Agreement. The ASEAN Leaders also invited the ROK to support the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). They also welcomed the ROK’s offer to co-host the ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (DiReX) with Thailand in 2013.

14. We attached great importance to the Mekong-ROK cooperation in contributing to ASEAN’s endeavor to enhance ASEAN connectivity and ASEAN Community building. We welcomed the good outcomes of the 2nd Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers’ Meeting held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 10 July 2012, in which both sides agreed to consider the establishment of the “Mekong-ROK Cooperation Fund”, to carry out first several pilot projects in the six priority areas and to come up with the “Mekong-ROK Action Plan” in 2014, to hold the First Mekong-ROK Business Forum in Thailand in 2013, and to designate the year 2014 as the “Mekong-ROK Exchange Year”. We also agreed to task our relevant ministers and senior officials to fully and timely implement the Han-River Declaration of the Establishment of the Mekong-ROK Comprehensive Partnership for Mutual Prosperity, which was adopted at the inaugural Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Seoul in October 2011.
15. The ASEAN Leaders congratulated the ROK for the successful hosting of the 2nd Nuclear Security Summit, which was a milestone in the global efforts to ensure nuclear security and prevent nuclear terrorism. In this regard, we looked forward to the participation of ASEAN Chair in the future Nuclear Security Summit.
16. We recognized the importance of peace, stability and maritime security in the region. In this connection, we stressed the need to strengthen maritime security cooperation through the existing mechanism in order to maintain and promote peace and stability in the region, amidst the growing security challenges such as sea piracy, vessel accidents, oil spills, terrorism and natural disasters.

17. We welcomed Indonesia as the Country Coordinator for ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations from July 2012 to July 2015. We looked forward to enhancing the multi-faceted cooperation and advancing the ASEAN-ROK strategic partnership to a higher level.

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 4th ASEAN and Republic of Korea Transport Ministers Meeting (4th ATM+ROK)

Bali, Indonesia, 30 November 2012

1. The Fourth ASEAN and ROK Transport Ministers (ATM+ROK) Meeting was held on 30 November 2012 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting was preceded by the Fourth ASEAN and ROK Senior Transport Officials Meeting (4th STOM+ROK) held on 28 November 2012. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. E.E. Mangindaan, Minister of Transportation of Indonesia, and H.E. Mr. Park Kee Poong, Deputy Minister for Planning and Coordination, Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Korea.
2. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the 15th ASEAN-ROK Summit held on 19 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, including ROK’s initiative to establish a consultative mechanism to discuss practical measures to support the implementation of Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, in particular related to infrastructure development.
3. The Ministers also welcomed the notable progress made in implementing the ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation Roadmap including the successful conclusion of:
 - (a) Conduct of International Program on Port & Logistics (IPPL) for ASEAN Countries;
 - (b) Conduct of HRD Program for Performance Based Navigation (PBN) Implementation Plan Requirements; and
 - (c) Completion of Feasibility Studies for the Development and Modernisation of Iloilo Port and Cagayan de Oro Port.

4. The Ministers requested ROK to extend technical assistance in other strategic projects, such as railway and port development which will help to facilitate the implementation of ASEAN Strategic Transport Plan (ASTP)/Brunei Action Plan (BAP) and Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC).
5. The Ministers noted the outcomes of the 1st ASEAN-ROK Working Group on Regional Air Services on 22-23 October 2012 and tasked the senior officials to deepen cooperation in the aviation under ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity.
6. The Ministers welcomed the successful outcomes of the 3rd ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation Forum on 7–8 June 2012 in Yeosu, ROK and supported the undertaking of the following projects/activities next year:
 - (a) Capacity Building Workshop for Road Traffic Safety in ASEAN Countries; and
 - (b) Capacity Building Program on Port and Shipping for ASEAN Transport Officials.
7. The Fifth ATM+ROK Meeting will be held in Lao PDR in 2013.

LIST OF MINISTERS

(a) H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam; (b) H.E. Mr. Tram Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia; (c) H.E. Mr. E.E. Mangindaan, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia; (d) H.E. Mr. Sommad Pholsena, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR; (e) H.E. Dato' Seri Kong Cho Ha, Minister of Transport of Malaysia; (f) H.E. Mr. Han Sein, Deputy Minister for Transport of Myanmar; (g) H.E. Ms. Catherine P. Gonzales, Undersecretary (Deputy Minister), Department of Transportation and Communications of the Philippines; (h) H.E. Mr. Park Kee Poong, Deputy Minister for Planning and Coordination, Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Korea; (i) Mr. Pang Kin Keong, Permanent Secretary, representing H.E. Mr. Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport of Singapore; (j) H.E. Mr. Chadchart Sittipunt, Minister of Transport of Thailand; (k) H.E. Mr. Dinh La Thang, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and (l) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

ASEAN – Russian Federation

Co-Chairs' Press Release on ASEAN-Russian Federation 10th Joint Cooperation Committee Meeting

Jakarta, Indonesia, 19 April 2012

The 10th Meeting of the ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee (ARJCC) held in the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, Indonesia, on 19 April 2012, was attended by Permanent Representatives from ASEAN Member States, the Russian Federation and ASEAN Secretariat. The ARJCC was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Alexander A. Ivanov, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to ASEAN, and U Myint Thu, *Charge d'Affaires* a.i. / Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to ASEAN.

The Meeting deliberated on the progress of implementation of the decisions taken at the Second ASEAN-Russian Federation Summit which was held on 30 October 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, as well as on the status of the Roadmap on the Comprehensive Programme of Action (CPA) to Promote Cooperation between ASEAN and the Russian Federation (2005-2015). The Meeting exchanged views on how to enhance cooperation in a number of priority areas, such as combating terrorism and transnational crimes, disarmament and non-proliferation, trade and economy, energy, transport, agriculture and food security, tourism, science and technology, disaster management and culture as well as ASEAN connectivity. The Meeting noted the importance of the Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) initiative and would work closely together to address the issues of extremists and extremism.

The ARJCC also discussed preparations for the 9th ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials Meeting to be held on 8-9 June 2012 in Moscow, Russia.

The ARJCC took note of the salient points of deliberations of the 9th ASEAN-Russian Federation Joint Planning and Management Committee (ARJPMC) Meeting which was held on 18 April 2012. Following the recommendations of the ARJPMC, the Meeting reviewed the status of joint projects under the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership Financial Fund. In addition, the Meeting endorsed the Budget of the

ASEAN Centre in MGIMO University (Moscow) up to the year 2013. The Meeting also discussed the status of joint projects in areas such as renewable energy, disaster management, nano- and biotechnology, space exploration, education and cultural exchange.

The Meeting further endorsed the statement of account of the ASEAN-Russia Federation Dialogue Partnership Financial Fund (ARDPFF) as of 29 February 2012 and the audited report of the ARDPFF for the year ended on 31 December 2010.

The next Meeting of the ARJCC will be held in 2013.

deepen and widen the existing cooperation between ASEAN and the United States as well as to recommend measures for deepening ASEAN-U.S. relations in the future. The recommendations will be submitted to the ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Meeting for their reference.

The Second ASEAN-U.S. EPG Meeting is scheduled to be held tentatively in September 2012.

ASEAN – United States

1st ASEAN-U.S. Eminent Persons Group (EPG) Meeting in Manila to Enhance Relations

Manila, Philippines, 24 July 2012

The First ASEAN-U.S. Eminent Persons Group (EPG) that was successfully held in Manila, the Philippines, undertook the mandate bestowed by the Leaders of ASEAN and the US to recommend ways and means to enhance ASEAN-US relations to a new high. The meeting under the co-chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Certeza Severino, EPG of the Philippines, and H.E. Mr. J. Stapleton Roy, EPG of the U.S., focused on potential activities to enhance relations including in trade and investment, political security, and cooperation on regional and global issues for the coming years. Other areas highlighted for enhanced cooperation included peace and security, investment, people-to-people exchanges, sports, education, and connectivity.

The EPGs from both sides agreed on the importance of elevating ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue Relations to a higher level. They shared the significance of long-term U.S. commitments to the region. While highlighting the importance of economic and trade cooperation, they emphasized on people-to-people exchanges.

The ASEAN-U.S. Eminent Persons Group was established upon the decision made by the Leaders of ASEAN and the U.S. on 15 September 2009 to take stock of ASEAN-U.S. relations and explore ways to

Joint Media Statement of the AEM-USTR Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 30 August 2012

1. Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the United States Trade Representative ("the Ministers") were held on 30 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia, and Ambassador Ron Kirk, the United States Trade Representative.
2. The Ministers noted that trade relations between ASEAN and the United States remain strong. Drawing from United States' data, total goods trade between ASEAN and the United States in 2011 showed a 9.2% increase in 2011, growing from \$178 billion to \$194 billion last year. ASEAN imports from the United States increased by 8.6% to US\$76.4 billion while ASEAN exports increased 9.8% to US\$118.2 billion in 2011. The United States remained the fourth largest trading partner of ASEAN and, collectively, ASEAN is the fifth largest goods trading partner of the United States.
3. The Ministers noted that the United States remained the third largest foreign direct investor in ASEAN. According to United States' data, U.S. foreign direct investment (FDI) stock in ASEAN countries was US\$ 159.6 billion, up 11.2% compared to 2010. ASEAN FDI stock in the United States demonstrated even stronger growth, increasing 13.1% to US\$ 24.6 billion.
4. The Ministers recalled ASEAN-US Leaders' commitments to redouble effort to strengthen ASEAN-US economic cooperation. They noted that

ASEAN and the United States are considered as engines of global economic activity and growth, and that ever closer economic ties are of crucial importance to ASEAN and the United States, as well as the world.

ASEAN- US Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA)

5. The Ministers underscored the opportunities for deepening economic ties and reiterated their commitment to further building the trade and investment relationship between ASEAN and the United States. They were pleased to note the activities implemented under the ASEAN-US Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA) in 2012, which included:
 - a. Establishment of a new Digital Dialogue, as part of the first ever ASEAN-US Business Summit in August 2012;
 - b. Further work under the Trade Finance dialogue as the US Export-Import Bank continued its outreach efforts to ASEAN Member States;
 - c. Continued commitment to standards cooperation through the “Workshop on Applied Safety and Engineering Techniques” held in May 2012, as well as adoption of the US-ASEAN Workplan for Cooperation in Standards and Conformance at the meeting of the ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ) in March 2012.
6. The Ministers welcomed the first ASEAN-US Business Summit, an activity under the 2012 TIFA Work Plan, which was held on August 30, 2012, on the sidelines of the 44th AEM and related meetings in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Participants included representatives from the U.S. and ASEAN business communities, as well as government officials including the ASEAN Economic Ministers and the U.S. Trade Representative. Ministers expressed hope that the Business Summit, which focused on how technology can contribute to increased competitiveness, economic growth, and expanded trade and investment, will further enhance the economic cooperation between ASEAN and the United States.
7. The Ministers reaffirmed their resolve to further deepen trade and investment ties through initiatives of mutual interest with concrete outcomes, and plan to soon endorse a TIFA Work Plan for 2013. Among the initiatives under consideration for 2013 are continued cooperation on trade facilitation, the digital economy, trade and the environment,

and priority areas for ASEAN integration including Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) development and ASEAN connectivity. Ministers reaffirmed the necessity of organising a second ASEAN Ministers Road Show to the United States in 2013, with the aim of further raising awareness of the ASEAN region and promoting ASEAN-US economic relations.

Regional and global economic development

8. The Ministers exchanged views on the current developments affecting regional and global trade and economy. Given global economic uncertainties and the importance of sustaining trade flows, Minister emphasized the importance of the WTO multilateral trading system and agreed to exert greater efforts to operationalize the “Elements for Political Guidance” outcome document from the WTO 8th Ministerial Conference. They also discussed a number of regional trade initiatives underway. The ASEAN Economic Ministers expressed their appreciation to the United States for its support to Lao PDR’s accession to the WTO.

Consultation with the US-ASEAN Business Council

9. The Ministers consulted with a US-ASEAN Business Council business delegation, which reported the results of their work on doing business in the ASEAN region. Their discussion included the perceptions of ASEAN as an investment destination for U.S. companies, as well as the overall business climate in the region.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation,, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; 4. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 5. H.E. Dato’ Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 6. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 7. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 8. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 9. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 10. Ambassador Ron Kirk, United States Trade Representative; 11. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and

Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Statement of the 4th ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Meeting

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
19 November 2012**

1. We, the Heads of State/Government of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the United States (U.S.), held our Fourth ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Meeting on 19 November 2012 in Phnom Penh. The Meeting was co-chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia in his capacity as Chairman of ASEAN, and the Honourable Barack Obama, President of the United States of America. The ASEAN Secretary General was also in attendance.
2. We expressed our deep sympathy and deepest condolences to the people and the Royal Government of Cambodia and especially to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah BOROMNEATH NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia and Her Majesty Queen Mother NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK, for the passing away of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK, the late King-Father of Cambodia, on 15th October 2012. We shared our sadness for this great loss with the people of Cambodia during this period of mourning. Cambodia expressed gratitude to the respective ASEAN and United States Leaders for their shared condolences to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, Her Majesty Queen Mother, the Royal Government and the people of Cambodia.
3. We commemorated the 35th Anniversary of ASEAN-U.S. Relations, noting with satisfaction the strengthening and deepening of ASEAN-U.S. cooperation, which has contributed to peace, stability, prosperity and resiliency in Southeast Asia and the broader Asia-Pacific region. We decided to accelerate the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-U.S. Enhanced Partnership for Enduring Peace and Prosperity 2011-2015 adopted at the 3rd ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Meeting on 18 November 2011 in Bali.
4. We welcomed efforts to elevate the ASEAN-U.S. partnership to a strategic level. We received with appreciation the report of the ASEAN-U.S. Eminent Persons Group (EPG) and welcomed the recommendation, inter alia, that the annual meeting between the Leaders of ASEAN and the United States is fundamentally important and should be institutionalized from an ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Meeting to an ASEAN-U.S. Summit. We tasked the relevant Ministers to review and consider the recommendations of the ASEAN-U.S. EPG as appropriate.
5. ASEAN welcomed the continued participation of the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States of America, at the East Asia Summit (EAS). We recalled the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration, the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration, and 2011 Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations, which reaffirms and elaborates the broad vision, principles, objectives and modalities of the EAS. We welcomed continued efforts in the six priority areas of cooperation under the EAS framework and recognized high-level U.S. engagement in those areas including energy, education, environment and disaster management and response. We underscored the need for the EAS to address political, economic and strategic issues of common interest and concern, such as nonproliferation and disarmament, maritime security cooperation, food and energy security, and ASEAN Connectivity. We reaffirmed the importance of ASEAN as the driving force of the EAS, working in close partnership with the other participants, and underscored the importance of regular participation at the highest level from all participating countries in the EAS.
6. We appreciated the substantial increase in high-level U.S. engagement in ASEAN-led political-security fora, including the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), the EAS, and the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum. We encouraged efforts to strengthen coordination among these fora. We welcomed the ADMM's decision to increase

the frequency of the ADMM-Plus to once every two years. We welcomed the efforts this year of Indonesia, Republic of Korea and the United States to orient the ARF Inter-sessional Meeting on Maritime Security to include civil maritime law enforcement cooperation and capacity building.

7. We welcomed the progress in the implementation of the activities of the five ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups (ADMM-Plus EWGs) to facilitate cooperation in maritime security, counterterrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, peacekeeping operations and military medicine. We welcomed U.S. participation in the ADMM-Plus Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief and Military Medicine Exercise (AHMX+) to be held in Brunei Darussalam in 2013. We welcomed the 2nd ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Counter-terrorism, which was held in Washington from 3 - 5 April 2012, and took note of the efforts by the United States and Indonesia to develop a scenario for a Counterterrorism Exercise (CTX) to be held in September 2013 in Indonesia.
8. We recognized the enduring importance of the United States and emerging role of ASEAN as a US\$2.2 trillion engine of global economic growth, noting that ever closer economic ties are of crucial importance to both ASEAN and the United States, as well as to the world economy. We committed to redouble our efforts to increase both two way trade and investment. Drawing from U.S. data, total goods trade between ASEAN and the United States in 2011 showed a 9.2% increase to \$194 billion. U.S. foreign direct investment (FDI) stock in ASEAN countries was US\$ 159.6 billion, up 11.2% from 2010. ASEAN FDI stock in the United States demonstrated even stronger growth, increasing 13.1% to US\$ 24.6 billion.
9. We reaffirmed our commitment to deepen trade and investment ties and welcomed the launch of the 2013 ASEAN-U.S. Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA) Work Plan. The Leaders welcomed the launch of the U.S. - ASEAN Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) initiative, which will promote closer economic cooperation between ASEAN and the United States, and facilitate the pursuit of high standard trade agreements. Drawing on the TIFA work plan, E3 initiative activities may include negotiation of a U.S.-ASEAN trade facilitation agreement, the joint development of principles on information and communication technology, the joint development of investment principles, the development of a code of conduct for small and medium-sized enterprises on ethical business practices in key sectors, and the expansion of cooperative work on standards development and practices, including on technical barriers to trade and good regulatory practices. We tasked the Economic Ministers and Senior Economic Officials to explore and develop these activities. Recognising the vital role that business plays in our economic relationship and the success of the inaugural U.S.-ASEAN Business Summit in Siem Reap in August 2012, we agreed to expand our commercial engagement by holding an annual U.S.-ASEAN Business Summit and holding a second ASEAN Economic Ministers Roadshow to the United States in 2013.
10. We noted the official launch of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations as part of ASEAN's efforts towards deepening regional economic integration. We also noted the development of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) as a high-standard agreement, which will boost trade and investment and promote regional economic integration throughout the Asia Pacific region and beyond.
11. We welcomed the strong interest of the United States in supporting the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), and highlighted the unique competencies of the United States Government and American business in support of the implementation of the MPAC in the areas of transportation, energy, and information technology connectivity. We looked forward to further progress on the ASEAN-U.S. Connectivity Cooperation Initiative, supported by the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), including engaging U.S. private sector resources to help ASEAN implement the MPAC. The first of these activities was the ASEAN Emergency Preparedness Workshop, held in Bangkok in May 2012, and the second was the ASEAN Smart Grid Workshop, held in Hanoi in early November 2012. We welcomed the positive outcomes of the "Commitment to Connectivity" ASEAN-U.S. Business Forum (C2C Forum) held in Siem Reap in July 2012, which brought together dozens of business leaders from U.S. and Southeast Asian companies. We also noted the U.S. interest in supporting the development of the Mekong-India-Economic-Corridor (MIEC) which will contribute to the realization of ASEAN's broader regional connectivity goals.
12. We welcomed the innovative and active collaboration between ASEAN and the United States to boost trade facilitation measures that

will support ASEAN's goal of a single economic community and production base by 2015. In particular, we welcomed the significant contribution of the United States through USAID in supporting the development of ASEAN Single Window project, which aims to develop an integrated cross-border process for customs clearance to increase trade efficiency, trade security, and competitiveness across the region. We further recognized consistent United States support for the promotion and implementation of region-wide technical and product standards to facilitate trade with and within ASEAN.

13. We discussed economic challenges that pose threats to global economic recovery, food and energy security, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). We further welcomed the establishment of the United Nations Secretary-General High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on Post 2015 Development Agenda, of which the President of Indonesia is one of the Co-Chairs as representation of the region as well as the developing world. We, therefore, agreed to support the work of the United Nations Secretary-General High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on Post 2015 Development Agenda.
14. We reaffirmed our commitment to resist protectionism and to achieve strong, sustainable, and balanced growth. We stressed that global financial turmoil and elevated commodity prices underscore the urgency for continued attention through policy coordination. We stand by the Doha Development Agenda and reaffirm our commitment to pursue fresh, credible approaches to furthering trade negotiations at the World Trade Organisation (WTO), with an emphasis on specific areas where progress is most likely in the near term. We welcomed Indonesia's offer to host the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali in early December 2013, and stand ready to cooperate with all Members in making the Conference a success and produce outcomes that address the needs of all Members, including developing countries and LDCs. We noted the Los Cabos Growth and Job Action Plan adopted at the G-20 Summit in Los Cabos, Mexico, on 19 June 2012 and recognized the important contributions of ASEAN in the G-20 process.
15. We welcomed the successful convening of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting in Vladivostok, Russian Federation from 8-9 September 2012, where the Leaders from APEC economies agreed to the

APEC List of Environmental Goods on which they would reduce tariffs to 5% or less by the end of 2015; a comprehensive approach to improve supply chain performance; further work to promote market driven and non-discriminatory innovation policy; increased transparency in due process; combating wildlife trafficking; and enhancing food security. We pledged to work together to support Indonesia's 2013 APEC host year. We look forward to the convening of the 21st APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting under the Chairmanship of Indonesia in 2013, with the theme of 'Resilient Asia Pacific, Engine of Global Growth' and looked forward to further advancements on these and other critical issues, including good regulatory practices and local content requirements on APEC's trade and investment agenda, and to attain the Bogor Goals, sustainable and inclusive growth, and connectivity.

16. We looked forward to further positive cooperation and progress on intellectual property rights (IPR). We commended past and on-going cooperation between ASEAN and the United States in the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, the commitment by ASEAN to achieve effective intellectual property regimes and enforcement consistent with international standards and international agreements to which ASEAN Member States are parties, and cooperation in the enforcement against global intellectual property crime. Noting ASEAN's commitment to the ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Action Plan 2011-2015, we looked forward to the progress resulting from cooperation and capacity-building in fighting trademark counterfeiting and copyright piracy and to the development and strengthening of intellectual property rights regimes.
17. We noted progress in the Maximizing Agricultural Revenue through Knowledge, Enterprise Development and Trade (MARKET), a U.S. program that directly supports the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) framework and associated Strategic Plan of Action for Food Security (SPA-FS), emphasizing enhanced trade facilitation as well as improved farmer and policy-maker access to information, in partnership with the private sector. We welcomed the second annual dialogue between ASEAN Agriculture Ministers and food industry leaders in September 2012. We acknowledged that improved agricultural innovation and trade would improve the lives of ASEAN citizens by increasing food supplies to those areas that need it most.
18. We welcomed continued high-level ASEAN-U.S. consultations on energy. We decided to sustain

cooperation on energy efficiency and conservation, and launch new cooperation in renewable energy, civilian nuclear energy and natural gas including the transfer of technology. We welcomed the theme of "ASEAN Green Connectivity" at the 30th ASEAN Ministers of Energy Meeting in September 2012 as a way to reflect their high participation in production and utilization of energy to minimize any harm to the environment, ecosystem, nature and society. We looked forward to the implementation of the ASEAN-U.S. Energy Cooperation Work Plan (2012-2014) and noted the United States' initiative for the "U.S.-East Asia Comprehensive Partnership for a Sustainable Energy Future" to be launched by the United States at the 7th East Asia Summit.

19. We reiterated our strong commitment to address climate change issues and to work together to secure a balanced and comprehensive outcome in the 18th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-18 UNFCCC) and 8th Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP-8 Kyoto Protocol) in Doha, Qatar at the end of 2012. We welcomed the outcome of the 17th Conference of the Parties in Durban, South Africa. We welcomed the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012 (Rio+20) held in Rio de Janeiro on 20-22 June 2012, which reiterated the importance of global commitment in achieving sustainable development. We noted U.S. support for green growth in ASEAN through, inter alia, facilitation of a trade and environment dialogue in ASEAN and looked forward to continued cooperation on green growth, environment, climate change and biodiversity. We welcomed further U.S. support for ASEAN's Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) initiative and ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity.
20. With regard to the problem of poaching of and illicit trade in endangered and protected wildlife and living marine resources, ASEAN welcomed U.S. support in combating illicit trade in wildlife, and both sides agreed to explore future cooperation in this area.
21. Given the high human and economic cost of natural and man-made disasters in the region, we recognized ASEAN's cooperative disaster management and response efforts which promote a sense of ASEAN Community and relevance among its populations. We highlighted consistent ASEAN-US cooperation on disaster management and response in support of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and its mechanism. We welcomed U.S. support to the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) as well as technical support on disaster management to the ASEAN Secretariat's ASEAN Regional Forum Unit. We welcomed U.S. assistance in advancing ASEAN implementation of an all hazard disaster monitoring and response system. We looked forward to a 2013 U.S.-ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology Symposium on Disaster Risk Reduction and real time information sharing. ASEAN welcomed U.S. efforts to promote mechanisms to facilitate disaster relief in the region, and we took note of the US-proposed Rapid Disaster Response (RDR) Agreement Concept, which outlines a legal and procedural bilateral framework to accelerate the deployment and acceptance of assistance personnel, supplies, and services in the event of major disasters. We looked forward to further consultations on RDR concept development in the region. We expressed support for further cooperative efforts between our scientists and researchers in disaster risk reduction.
22. We reaffirmed our shared interests on the importance of regional peace and stability, which are fundamental to growing prosperity in the region. In this context, we underscored the importance of maritime security, freedom of navigation and over flight, unimpeded lawful commerce, respect for international law, continued constructive dialogue and peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). We welcomed deepening ASEAN-U.S. cooperation on maritime issues, through promotion of capacity building, information sharing, and technology cooperation across a variety of maritime fora. We welcomed the outcomes of the 3rd ASEAN Maritime Forum and inaugural Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum, held in the Philippines in October 2012. In this regard, we welcomed the proposal of the United States to establish an Expanded ASEAN Seafarers Training Program. We took note of the U.S. initiative on Southeast Asia Maritime Partnership (SAMP) that aims to enhance maritime cooperation in the region.
23. We recognized the importance of the 2002 ASEAN-China Declaration on the Conduct (DOC) of Parties in the South China Sea and welcomed

its implementation. We looked forward to the early conclusion of a Regional Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC). We expressed support for ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on ASEAN's "Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea", adopted on 20 July 2012, and its effective implementation. We took note of the ASEAN-China Joint Statement on the 10th Anniversary of the DOC in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 19 November 2012.

24. We recognized the grave risks posed by proliferation of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and their means of delivery and acknowledged the need to cooperate to reduce potential threats to legitimate trade. We welcomed the U.S. commitment to achieving general and complete nuclear disarmament and our common vision of a world without nuclear weapons. We affirmed our support for the implementation of the Action Plan adopted by the May 2010 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), and we stressed the necessity for all NPT parties to continue to fulfill their respective obligations under the NPT. We welcomed the successful second Nuclear Security Summit held in Seoul in March 2012. Further, we supported the implementation of actions called for by the Biological Weapons Convention Review Conference in December 2011. On the 15th Anniversary of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), we reiterated our commitment to meeting our obligations under the Convention, including the complete destruction of chemical weapons stockpile under verification as soon as possible, in order to protect the integrity of the Convention. We also urged countries that have yet to join the Convention to do so. We committed to the universalization of the IAEA Additional Protocol as soon as possible. In this regard, we welcomed the accession and ratification to the IAEA Additional Protocol by several ASEAN Member States. We reiterated the importance of a full and non-selective application and implementation of the NPT's three pillars - nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy. ASEAN expressed appreciation for U.S. support of the ASEAN-sponsored United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution on SEANWFZ, which was adopted by consensus at the 66th UNGA.
25. We reaffirmed the critical importance to regional and global security of the complete verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. We called on the DPRK to comply fully with its commitments under the 2005 Joint

Statement of the Six Party Talks and its obligations under the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes and return, at an early date, to the NPT and to IAEA safeguards.

26. We resolved to deepen cooperation against international terrorism under the framework of the ASEAN-U.S. Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism, the ARF statements and its Work Plan on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crimes, and the UN Global Counterterrorism Strategy. The U.S. expressed its appreciation to ASEAN Member States for their counterterrorism efforts. We noted significant achievements of law enforcement and security forces in ASEAN over the past several years in countering terrorist threats. We committed to continue identifying and implementing actions towards this goal.
27. We noted our support for the efforts of ASEAN and the ARF in addressing cyber security matters. We acknowledged the work of the ARF on cyber confidence building measures intended to build transparency and cooperation in an effort to reduce risk in cyberspace, and commended the United States and Vietnam for hosting a workshop this year on Proxy Actors in Cyberspace. We committed to partner on practical workshops for senior experts in law enforcement, IT and other fields to address national cyber strategies, domestic and regional coordination, public-private partnerships in cyber security and the development of national Computer Emergency Readiness Teams (CERTS).
28. We decided to strengthen efforts to prevent and combat other transnational crimes, such as illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, people smuggling, money laundering, arms smuggling, sea piracy, armed robbery against ships, cybercrime and other forms of international economic crime in accordance with national laws and regulations. ASEAN Leaders appreciated U.S. support through ASEAN-U.S. Technical Assistance and Training Facility (TATF) in providing a trade based money laundering training, which help build capacity within ASEAN Member States to detect trade-based money laundering techniques.
29. The United States welcomed ASEAN's goals to realize an ASEAN Community based upon adherence to rule of law, democracy, and the promotion and protection of human rights, and fundamental freedoms as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter. We commended the successful visit to

- the United States of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) in April 2012. We further welcomed the incorporation of a focus on women, gender, and youth issues in all Lower Mekong Initiative Pillars following the July 2012 Women's Gender Equality and Empowerment Dialogue in Siem Reap, and also reaffirmed the Joint Statement on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment adopted by LMI Ministers and endorsed by Friends of LMI Ministers in July 2012.
30. We noted the importance to regional rule of law of increasing exchanges among ASEAN member-states' judiciaries and appreciated the U.S. contributions to ASEAN's first ever judicial cooperation workshop in 2012. ASEAN looked forward to considering the U.S. initiative to organize a workshop on the development of model legislation to support ASEAN integration and community building. In this context, we also welcomed the establishment of the Singapore-US Third Country Training Program, which also offers relevant capacity building programs for ASEAN Member States.
 31. We highlighted continued efforts by the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) to combat trafficking in persons (TIP). We welcomed the U.S. commitment to enhanced collaboration in addressing human trafficking, which presents a serious challenge to the region as well as the world. We looked forward to enhanced cooperation that will include support for efforts to harmonize ASEAN Member States' legal frameworks in defining and prohibiting human trafficking, increase cross-border joint investigation, and build capacity for a standardized response to the needs of trafficking victims. The United States pledged to support ASEAN's plans to develop the Regional Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (RPA) and the ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) as announced at the SOMTC Meeting in September 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand. This is in line with the global efforts under the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. We welcomed continuing U.S.-ASEAN cooperation on the MTV EXIT – End Exploitation and Trafficking – campaign in Southeast Asia, which raises awareness of the problem by reaching millions of ASEAN youth through symposia, live concerts, and regional and local television, radio and online content.
 32. We welcomed increasing regional cooperation under the U.S.-Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) in the areas of energy security, health, agriculture and food security, education, connectivity, environment and water, which significantly contributes to quality of life and capacity building among the Lower Mekong Basin countries, and supports ASEAN's aim of narrowing the development gap among its Member States and addressing the common challenges. We were also pleased to note the admission of Myanmar as sixth member of the LMI at the 5th Lower Mekong Initiative Ministerial Meeting on 13 July 2012 in Phnom Penh. We welcomed the U.S. announcement of \$50 million from the Asia-Pacific Strategic Engagement Initiative (APSEI) for LMI programs over a three year period and also took note of \$1 million support for a Mekong River Commission (MRC) Study on the sustainable management and development of the Mekong River. We noted with appreciation the launch of "Connect Mekong," which facilitates linkages between LMI and ASEAN, fast tracks LMI programs related to ASEAN connectivity, and initiates efforts in grass-roots entrepreneurship in the Mekong sub-region. We looked forward to U.S. support for other sub-regional cooperation frameworks in Southeast Asia.
 33. We welcomed positive steps being taken in Myanmar that could facilitate national reconciliation, and encouraged further progress towards a democratic and open political and economic system. ASEAN Leaders expressed their hope that the United States and Myanmar would continue to deepen their engagement, including through taking advantage of Myanmar's role as Country Coordinator for the ASEAN-United States dialogue relations until July 2015. ASEAN welcomed the United States' continuing engagement in Myanmar.
 34. We welcomed U.S. efforts to build people-to-people ties between the United States and ASEAN. We noted with interest the expansion of the U.S. Fulbright Exchange Program to include regional scholarships with a focus on ASEAN-U.S. priorities. We looked forward to the U.S.-ASEAN Young Leaders Summit on 5-9 December 2012 in Jakarta, which will bring together alumni of the Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) from all ASEAN Member States.
 35. We welcomed the U.S. support for the ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme (AYVP) to promote people-to-people connectivity in ASEAN and enable youth in ASEAN Member States to be deployed to fellow Member States in support of socio-cultural, economic, and environmental programmes. Building on USAID technical assistance working

with the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth (SOMY) and ASEAN Secretariat, the U.S. government will continue to support the launch of the AYVP in 2013.

36. We recognized the importance of science and technology as enabling factors for sustained economic development. We welcomed the United States announcement of the Innovation in Science through Partners and Regional Engagement (INSPIRE) initiative, which will foster cooperation between U.S. and ASEAN scientists in such areas as pandemic flu monitoring and prevention, development of low-cost vaccines, drug treatment monitoring, health innovation, and disease research. We looked forward to the launch of the U.S.-ASEAN Prize for Women in Science. We looked forward to continued dialogues to strengthen ASEAN-U.S. cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation and promote the implementation of the eight thematic tracks of the ASEAN Krabi Initiative and Flagship Program.
37. We highlighted the value of increased and more efficient access to digital content among ASEAN Member States, especially to promote knowledge sharing in matters of academic and policy studies. We expressed appreciation for U.S. contributions to the redesign and relaunch of the ASEAN website, and looked forward to further collaboration to promote digital literacy among ASEAN Member States.
38. We discussed the pivotal role of education in ASEAN in promoting human resources development, bridging the development gap, enhancing regional competitiveness, promoting sustained economic development, and facilitating friendship and mutual understanding among people in the region. We recognized the United States as a longstanding educational resource and destination for students from ASEAN, and highlighted the desirability of increased opportunities for two-way academic exchanges and programmes. We looked forward to continued U.S. support for the ASEAN University Network (AUN), including through implementation of an ASEAN Studies course, which was launched in ASEAN universities in 2012. We welcomed the launch at the 7th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting in Yogyakarta in July 2012 of the U.S.-supported ASEAN Curriculum Sourcebook as a manual for teachers to incorporate lessons on ASEAN into primary and secondary classrooms. We noted that the first group of students in the US\$ 25 million Brunei-U.S. English Language Enrichment Project for ASEAN started their training

at Universiti Brunei Darussalam in September and will complete their training at the East-West Centre in Hawaii in December 2012.

39. We acknowledged the consistent and productive engagement among the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR), the U.S. Mission to ASEAN and the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, and are committed to work together to boost the capacity of ASEAN to address regional challenges. ASEAN appreciated the U.S. Mission to ASEAN's efforts in promoting frequent meetings and exchanges of views with visiting U.S. officials, which have enhanced common understanding of ASEAN and U.S. policies, and facilitated development and implementation of new programs. In this context, we noted the successful visit of the CPR in September 2012 to the United States. We noted the high-level engagement with the United States, including Secretary Clinton's visit to the ASEAN Secretariat on 4 September 2012.
40. We emphasized the importance of sustaining dialogue at the highest level and looked forward to the first ASEAN-U.S. Summit in Brunei Darussalam in 2013.

ASEAN Plus Three

Joint Statement of the 15th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting

Manila, the Philippines, 3 May 2012

I. Introduction

1. We, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of ASEAN, China, Japan and Korea (ASEAN+3), convened our 15th meeting in Manila, the Philippines, under the co-chairmanship of H.E. Keat Chhon, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and H.E. Bahk, Jaewan, Minister of Strategy and Finance of the Republic of Korea. It was the first time that the Central Bank Governors

participated in this meeting to share their expertise and experiences in strengthening the regional financial cooperation. The President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Director of ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) and the Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN were also present at our Meeting.

2. We exchanged views on the recent global and regional economic developments and policy responses. We reviewed the progress of regional financial cooperation achieved since our last Meeting, including the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), AMRO, the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI), the ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG), and Future Priorities. We also discussed measures to further strengthen our regional financial cooperation in the future.
3. We strongly believe that our agreement made today on strengthening the CMIM, including doubling its total size, increasing the IMF de-linked portion, introducing the crisis prevention function, and enhancing the ABMI by adopting New Roadmap+ will serve as another important step forward to strengthen the regional financial safety net and to pursue sustainable growth in the region.

II. Recent Economic and Financial Developments in the Region

4. We are pleased to note that, despite the heightened uncertainties in the global financial markets, the ASEAN+3 region has posted steady growth so far. This was underpinned by robust domestic demand and effective intermediation function provided by financial institutions in the region.
5. We are fully aware of the potential downside risks to the region's economic performance in 2012. The prolonged sovereign debt crisis in the Eurozone could continue to weigh on ASEAN+3 economies through trade and financial channels. Inflationary pressures remain, driven, in particular, by rising oil prices. We are also well aware of the increasing volatility in short-term capital flows and the interconnectedness of ASEAN+3 economies in intra-regional trade and financial market.
6. Under these circumstances, we are firmly determined to heighten our efforts against the impact of such potential risks, pursue appropriate macroeconomic policies, and further strengthen the regional financial safety net by effectively collaborating with AMRO, the ADB and the

IMF while promoting intra-regional trade and investment.

III. Strengthening Regional Financial Cooperation [Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM)]

7. Against this backdrop, we all committed to strengthening the CMIM as a part of the regional financial safety net, and unanimously agreed as follows:
 - i) to double the total size of the CMIM from US\$120bn to US\$240bn;
 - ii) to increase the IMF de-linked portion to 30% in 2012 with a view to increasing it to 40% in 2014 subject to review should conditions warrant;
 - iii) to lengthen the maturity and supporting period for the IMF linked portion from 90 days to 1 year and from 2 years to 3 years, respectively; and those for the IMF de-linked portion from 90 days to 6 months and from 1 year to 2 years, respectively; and
 - iv) to introduce a crisis prevention facility called "CMIM Precautionary Line (CMIM-PL)."

More details can be found in Annex 1.

8. We shall continue to engage the IMF in the areas of surveillance, financial safety net and capability development.
9. We requested the Deputies to work out necessary revisions of the current CMIM Agreement and the Operational Guidelines by the upcoming November Deputies' Meeting to reflect these agreements.

[ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO)]

10. We re-emphasized the importance of strengthening AMRO's role as an independent regional surveillance unit in contributing to effective monitoring and analysis of regional economies, early detection of risks, swift implementation of remedial actions, and effective decision-making of the CMIM. We commended AMRO's work in the past year on its institutional setup, including establishing basic rules and regulations, initiating the secondment scheme and building a good relationship with IFIs. We were also encouraged by the successful start of AMRO's surveillance activities, including submitting periodical regional and country economic surveillance reports, conducting country consultations to eight member

countries and establishing cordial relationship with various authorities. We look forward to the continual enhancement of AMRO's organizational capacity into 2013.

11. In order for AMRO to play a pivotal role under the strengthened CMIM, we requested the Deputies to find out how AMRO's organizational capacity can be strengthened by the upcoming November Deputies' meeting. We encouraged AMRO to further enhance collaboration with relevant international financial institutions, including the ADB, the IMF, and the World Bank. We also instructed the Deputies to accelerate the preparation to institutionalize AMRO as an international organization. In this regard, we endorsed the Deputies' decisions to urge AMRO to prepare a work plan, including a concrete timeline, and Singapore to work with AMRO to come up with the first draft of the treaty. We also affirmed the importance of concluding the Host Country Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AMRO and Singapore to clearly define the responsibility of the Host Country. We welcomed Singapore's commitment to provide the necessary host country support which AMRO deems critical to pursue its mission as an independent surveillance unit, for example to provide budget and liquidity support, protect the member countries' data and information, and facilitate employment pass process.

[Asian Bond Markets Initiatives (ABMI)]

12. We fully took note of the role that the ABMI has played since 2003 in increasing the size of local currency bond markets, with diversified issuers and types of bonds issued. This progress under the ABMI has contributed greatly to developing efficient and liquid bond markets in the region by allowing regional savings to be used for regional investment. However, with the uncertainties lingering in the global financial market, we were of the same view that the ABMI is indispensable in preventing the occurrence of another crisis and alleviating volatility in the regional capital market.
13. We agreed to adopt New Roadmap+ in order to produce tangible and concrete outcomes going forward with the support from the ADB, and to reinvigorate the ABMI discussions as we welcome 10 year anniversary since the launch of the ABMI. Nine priorities based on the three directions in New Roadmap+ are as follows. More details can be found in Annex 2.
 - i) Launching guarantee programs of Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF);
 - ii) Developing infrastructure-financing schemes (including Lao-Thai pilot project);
 - iii) Fostering an investment-friendly environment for institutional investors & transmitting the ABMI knowledge to them;
 - iv) Enhancing ASEAN+3 Bond Markets Forum (ABMF) activities (including Common Bond Issuance Program);
 - v) Facilitating the establishment of the Regional Settlement Intermediary (RSI);
 - vi) Further developing the government bond markets;
 - vii) Enhancing financial access to consumers and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs);
 - viii) Strengthening the foundation for a regional credit rating system; and
 - ix) Raising financial awareness.
14. With regards to the CGIF, we welcomed the completion of the preparatory works to start the guarantee transactions and expect the CGIF to launch the initial guarantee soon. We are pleased to see the progress at the ABMF, in particular the first publication of comprehensive "ASEAN+3 Bond Market Guide," which aims to encourage cross-border bond issuance and investment in the region's local currency bond markets. We also took note of the progress on the ADB listing in Tokyo Pro-Bond market as a pilot project, securitization in Malaysia and Thailand, and collaboration with Association of Credit Rating Agencies in Asia (ACRAA). Furthermore, we recognized the progress made on the reassessment of the legal and regulatory feasibility for the establishment of the RSI. We encouraged further discussion on the RSI establishment and expect that the business feasibility reassessment will be accelerated and completed this year.
15. We recommended the ABMI Task Force (TF) to implement New Roadmap+ by developing a work plan and producing tangible outcomes so that we can push forward with the agreed agendas.
16. We welcomed the ABMI 10th Anniversary Seminar on 4 May in Manila, Philippines. We expect this Seminar to serve as an opportunity for us to review the achievements under the ABMI and exchange views with the private sector on the role of the ABMI in the face of changes in the global financial market.

[ASEAN+3 Research Group (RG)]

17. We appreciated the efforts made by the Research Group on three studies for 2011/2012 regarding i) dealing with commodity price volatility in East Asia, ii) the roles & functions of the banking sector in the financial system of the ASEAN+3 region, and iii) the role of the regional financial safety net in global architecture. We endorsed a study topic for the 2012/2013 Research Group activities as follows: The International Discussions on the Credit Rating Agencies and Enhancing Infrastructure to Strengthen the Regional Credit Rating Capacity in the ASEAN+3 Region. We also welcomed streamlining the process of the Research Group to ensure wider participation and enhanced interaction with researchers.

[Future Priorities of ASEAN+3 Financial Cooperation]

18. We welcomed the initial research findings on each of the three possible areas for ASEAN+3 financial cooperation: i) infrastructure financing, ii) disaster risk insurance, and iii) using local currencies for the regional trade settlement. We recognized the importance of these areas in regional economic growth and sustainability. To this end, we requested the Deputies to build on the initial findings, carry on more in-depth study and put forward concrete policy recommendations in the next phase, with the support from the ADB and the World Bank as appropriate.

IV. Conclusion

19. We expressed our appreciation to the governments of Cambodia and Korea for their excellent arrangements as the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Process in 2012. We also thanked the government of the Philippines for its warm hospitality.
20. We agreed to meet in New Delhi, India, in 2013. Brunei Darussalam and China will be the co-chairs of the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Process in 2013.

[Annex 1]**Key Points for Strengthening the CMIM****1. Strengthening Crisis Resolution Mechanism (CRM)****i) Size**

- a. To double the total size of the CMIM from the current US\$120bn to US\$240bn while keeping the current share of financial contributions and voting power among the member countries the same

ii) IMF De-linked Portion

- b. To increase the IMF de-linked portion to 30% in 2012 with a view to increasing it to 40% in 2014 subject to review should conditions warrant

iii) Maturity, Supporting period and Monitoring

- c. IMF linked portion: To lengthen the maturity period from 90 days to 1 year with 2 renewals, totaling up to 3 years in supporting period
- d. IMF de-linked portion: To lengthen the maturity from 90 days to 6 months with 3 renewals, totaling up to 2 years in supporting period
- e. To conduct monitoring on a bi-annual basis

iv) Name

- f. To adopt "CMIM Stability Facility (CMIM-SF)" as the name for CRM

2. Introducing Crisis Prevention Function (CPF)**i) Introduction**

- a. To introduce one simplified crisis prevention facility

ii) Qualifications and Conditionality

- b. To allow Executive Level Decision Making Body (ELDMB, Deputies' Level Meeting) to flexibly apply the 5 qualification criteria, which are stipulated below, as ex-ante qualifications and ex-post conditionality after considering the economic reports by the requesting country and analyses by AMRO/ADB/IMF as the basis for the decision

< 5 qualification criteria >

- (i) External position and market access
- (ii) Fiscal policy
- (iii) Monetary policy
- (iv) Financial sector soundness and supervision
- (v) Data adequacy

iii) Name

- c. To adopt “CMIM Precautionary Line (CMIM-PL)” as the name for CPF

iv) Duration of Access, Arrangement period, Maturity and Monitoring

- d. To set the Duration of Access of CMIM-PL at 6 months with 3 renewals, totaling 2 years in arrangement period
- e. To set the Maturity at 6 months for the IMF de-linked portion and 1 year for the IMF linked portion
- f. To conduct monitoring on a bi-annual basis

v) Commitment Fee

- g. To introduce the commitment fee of 0.15% to CMIM-PL, in principle

vi) Relationship with CMIM-SF

- h. The total amount that can be drawn by each member country, either for prevention or resolution purposes, should be within the maximum swap amount set aside for that country
- i. To restrict dual-drawing from both CMIM-SF and CMIM-PL
- j. To replace the CMIM-PL with CMIM-SF if any CMIM-PL recipient party is hit with crisis and needs additional support, depending on the decision made by ELDMB

[Annex 2] ABMI ‘New Roadmap+’

1. Three Basic Directions: Prioritizing the ABMI issues and taking a step-by-step approach

1. To produce tangible outcomes, **current and critical ongoing issues need to be further developed.** (F: Follow-up issue)
 2. To strengthen the momentum for the ABMI discussion, **important but undiscussed issues related to bond markets should be added.** (A: Added issue)
 3. To meet and accommodate the changing global financial needs, including mitigation of volatility in the capital flows, **relevant issues need to be addressed.** (R: relevant issue)
- New Roadmap+ will be subject to **periodical reviews, for example 3 years of time, to reprioritize the agendas and/or introduce new**

items. Given the different pace of progress, each Task Force (TF)* is encouraged to set its own review schedule.

2. Overview of New Roadmap+

Direction 1(F)

Follow-up issues that need to be addressed to produce tangible outcomes

- (1) Launching CGIF guarantee programs (TF1)
- (2) Developing infrastructure-financing schemes (including Lao-Thai pilot project) (TF1)
- (3) Fostering an investment-friendly environment for institutional investors & transmitting the ABMI's knowledge to institutional investors (TF2)
- (4) Enhancing ABMF activities (including Common Bond Issuance Program) (TF3)
- (5) Facilitating the establishment of the RSI (TF4)

Direction 2(A)

Additional issues to be addressed to strengthen the momentum for the ABMI discussion

- (1) Further developing the government bond markets (TF2)
- (2) Enhancing financial access to consumers and SMEs (TF3)
- (3) (Strengthening the foundation for a regional credit rating system(TF4)

Direction 3 (R)

New issues to be raised to meet the demands of a changing global financial market

(1) Raising financial awareness (TF4)

- TF1: Promoting Issuance of Local Currency-Denominated Bond
- TF2: Facilitating the demand of Local Currency-Denominated Bonds
- TF3: Improving Regulatory Framework
- TF4: Improving Related Infrastructure for the Bond Markets

3. Timeline for New Roadmap+ categorized by Task Force

(F: Follow-up Issue, A: added issue, R: relevant issue)
Issues to be addressed
Roadmap
First
Second

< TF 1 >

Promoting Issuance of Local Currency-Denominated Bond (China, Thailand)

1) Launching the CGIF guarantee programs (F)

2) Developing infrastructure-financing schemes (F)
- Including Lao-Thai pilot project

3) Developing derivatives and swap markets

< TF 2 >

Facilitating the demand of Local Currency-Denominated Bonds (Japan, Singapore)

1) Further developing the government bond markets (A)
- Developing repo markets and securities borrowing and lending

2) Fostering an investment-friendly environment for institutional investors & transmitting the ABMI's knowledge to institutional investors (F)

3) Enhancing cross-border transactions

< TF 3 >

Improving Regulatory Framework (Malaysia, Japan)

1) Enhancing ABMF activities (F)
- Common Bond Issuance Program

2) Enhancing financial access to consumers and SMEs (A)

3) Improving bankruptcy procedures related to bond transactions

< TF 4 >

Improving Related Infrastructure for the Bond Markets (Korea, Philippine)

1) Facilitating the establishment of the RSI(F)

2) Strengthening the foundation for a regional credit rating system (A)

3) Raising financial awareness (R)

< TACT >

Technical Assistance and Coordination Team (Brunei, Laos, Vietnam)

1) Facilitating technical assistances (TA) to ASEAN member countries to strengthen their capacities in the bond market

Joint Statement of the 7th ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting (7th ALMM+3)

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 11 May 2012

Introduction

1. The ASEAN Labour Ministers and their counterparts from People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (the Plus Three Countries) gathered in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 11 May 2012 to review the progress of the cooperation under frameworks of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation and exchange views on issues relating to efforts improving social protection and skill development.
2. The Seventh ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Meeting (7th ALMM+3) was attended by the Ministers responsible for labour from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam, People's Republic of China, Japan, and Republic of Korea, and their respective delegations. The Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) and staff representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat were also in attendance. The list of the ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers is enclosed.

Exchange of Views on Improving Social Protection and Skills Development In the Region

3. The Ministers shared information and exchanged views on the achievements, experiences, and constraints in implementing social protection and developing skilled labour in their respective countries. The Ministers agreed that closer cooperation among ASEAN Plus Three Countries should be promoted towards coherent and inclusive social protection, skills development, and improved labour market information systems.
4. The Ministers noted that Myanmar is in the process of drafting of a new law for a comprehensive and inclusive social security system, including for retired and unemployed citizens, and an Employment and Skills Development Law. The Ministers congratulated Myanmar for its recently concluded by-elections held in April 2012, and encouraged Myanmar to continue with its labour

reforms towards stability and development in the country.

Status of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in Labour

5. The Ministers were pleased to note the outcomes of the China-ASEAN High Level Seminar on Social Insurance which was successfully convened on 14-16 September 2011 in Chengdu City, China. The Ministers expressed appreciation to China for its commitment to continue such kind of activities of information sharing among ASEAN Member States and China, including the plan to convene the High Level Conference on Social Insurance Administration tentatively in October 2012 in China.
6. The Ministers expressed appreciation to Japan for its continued support to the on-going projects of ASEAN-ILO/Japan Programme on Industrial Relations, ASEAN-ILO/Japan Programme on Unemployment Insurance and Employment Services, ASEAN-Japan Collaboration on Occupational Safety and Health, ASEAN-Japan Fund for Building Social Safety Net, and ASEAN-Japan Collaboration Programme of Human Resources Development. The Ministers supported the plan to convene the 10th ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies in October 2012 in Tokyo, Japan.
7. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress of the ASEAN-Japan HRD Collaboration Programme for CLMV, including the Training Course on Measures for Skill Promotion on 25 July - 3 August 2011 both in Japan and the Philippines, which was followed by a series of national seminars in CLMV Countries in December 2011. The Ministers requested Japan to continue the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan HRD Collaboration Programme for CLMV.
8. The Ministers noted with appreciation the completion of numerous joint programmes supported by the Republic of Korea, including the 12th Human Resources Development Programme for Officials of ASEAN Countries in March 2011 in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, under the theme "International Migration Policies and Socio-Economic Development". The Ministers expressed their support to the plan of the Republic of Korea to share its skills development policies and experiences with ASEAN Member States in conjunction with the opening of the Global Skills Promotion Centre in the end of 2012.

Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting

9. The Ministers looked forward to further exchange of views on joint labour initiatives at the Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting in Myanmar in 2014.

Concluding Remarks

10. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Royal Government of Cambodia, particularly the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training, for the warm hospitality extended to the ASEAN delegates and excellent arrangement of the Meeting.

List of Ministers/Representatives attending the Seventh ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting, 11 May 2012, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

H.E. Vong Sauth, Minister of Labour and Vocational Training, Cambodia; H.E. H. A. Muhaimin Iskandar, Minister of Manpower and Transmigration, Indonesia; H.E. Bounkhong Lasoukanh, Vice Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Lao PDR; H.E. Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam, Minister of Human Resources, Malaysia; H.E. Aung Kyi, Minister of Labour, Myanmar ; H.E. Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz, Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment, The Philippines; H.E. Tan Chuan-Jin, Minister of State for Manpower, Singapore; H.E. Phadermchai Sasomsub, Minister of Labour, Thailand; H.E. Pham Thi Hai Chuyen, Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, Viet Nam; H.E. Hu Xiaoyi, Vice Minister of Human Resources and Social Security, China; H.E. Toshiaki Ota, Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan; H.E. Lee Chae Pil, Minister of Employment and Labor, Republic of Korea; H.E. Dato' Misran Karmain Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, The ASEAN Secretariat.

Joint Statement of the 1st ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 4 July 2012

1. The First ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (1st APT EMM) was convened on 4 July 2012 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in conjunction with the Seventh ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (7th ASED) and the First East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (1st EAS EMM). The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Im Sethy, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport of Cambodia and H.E. Hirofumi Hirano, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan. The Meeting was attended by Ministers and senior officials responsible for education of ASEAN Member States, as well as China, Japan and Republic of Korea. The ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN University Network (AUN) Secretariat, and the Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) Secretariat, were also in attendance.
2. The Ministers noted with appreciation the progress in the ASEAN Plus Three process and the implementation of the "ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017)" adopted in 2007 aimed at broadening ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in education.
3. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitments in strengthening cooperation and joint efforts to promote development in the education sector and to address common challenges of education in the region. In this regard, the Ministers agreed to endorse the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education: 2010-2017 (Plan of Action) which details wide-ranging areas of cooperation, concrete plans, proposals and future direction in the education sector, to realise the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) and to contribute to the ASEAN community building process.
4. The Ministers also noted the significance of education in the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, and agreed to harness the ASEAN Plus Three extensive mechanisms and leverage education's positive spillover effect on regional connectivity.
5. The Ministers reaffirmed that the ASEAN Plus Three education process will support the realization of the long-term goal of building an East Asian community. As such, the Ministers emphasised their strong commitment to strengthen regional cooperation on education by convening the APT Education Ministers Meeting (EMM) on a biennial basis, in conjunction with the ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASED). The Ministers agreed to promote an effective coordination mechanism with relevant regional and international organisations including the ASEAN University Network and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation.
6. The Ministers adopted the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting, which provides a clear process for effective coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Plan of Action: 2010 - 2017, while providing a dialogue on broad educational strategies, common interest and concerns under the framework of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation.
7. China appreciated the efforts from all the ASEAN Plus Three countries for the education cooperation and development in the region. The Ministers noted China's proposal to convene the First APT Rectors' Conference in Peking University in 2012.
8. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and welcomed Japan's intention to invite the ASEAN Plus Three to the World Conference on UN Decade of ESD to be organised in 2014 by UNESCO and the Government of Japan. The Ministers welcomed the SEAMEO-Japan ESD Award established in April 2012, which aims to honour schools which made superior ESD efforts in SEAMEO member countries and to encourage ESD's popularity.
9. The Ministers supported Japan's initiative to set up a higher education quality assurance center for Asia and share with other ASEAN Plus Three countries the achievements and experiences of various collaborative activities in the ASEAN Plus Three countries, which will contribute actively to the Plan of Action in the area of quality assurance.
10. The Ministers noted Japan's proposals to set up a new working group of the APT EMM to strengthen cooperation and links among the ASEAN Plus Three countries on the Plan of Action in the area of quality assurance, which will further develop

and consolidate future quality assurance efforts and deepen debate on these points. The Ministers agreed that Japan's proposal would be discussed at SOM-ED+3 to ask for its recommendation.

11. The Ministers noted ROK's appreciation of the efforts of ASEAN Plus Three countries to enhance educational cooperation and development in this region. Recalling the Master Plan for the ASEAN Cyber University, agreed by the delegates of the ASEAN Member States and ROK in 2011, ROK has made concerted efforts to explore a collective credit transfer system which will be functioned among CLMV countries in mid-September 2012, including tailored e-learning content development and a full-fledge capacity building plan. Noted is that a credit transfer framework will be expanded to ASEAN Member States in 2014, further to be a foundation to establish the ASEAN Cyber University in 2015. Supposed that the ASEAN Cyber University will be designed as a new platform for academic exchange and higher education through e-learning, ROK reaffirmed that this visionary project will be implemented in a coordinated and collaborated manner with the support and cooperation of all ASEAN Member States, with their support and cooperation.
12. The Ministers further reiterated the need to enhance human resource development through the education cooperation, which is regarded as a significant factor on the success of building a dynamic, prosperous and people-oriented ASEAN community and East Asia as a whole. In that context, the Ministers welcomed new initiatives to enhance education cooperation in ASEAN and the East Asian Region.
13. The Ministers expressed full support to Lao PDR to host the 2nd APT EMM in 2014.
14. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Indonesia for the warm hospitality and arrangements made in hosting the 1st APT EMM and to the ASEAN Secretariat for its technical assistance to the Meeting.

Joint Statement of the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting

Phuket, Thailand, 6 July 2012

1. WE, the Ministers of Health of ASEAN Member States, representing Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, The People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, convened the 5th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting on 6 July 2012 in Phuket, Thailand, in the spirit of unity and our ultimate goal to achieve good health for all ASEAN Plus Three citizens. We discuss progress in implementing joint activities in the health sector, especially the topic of Universal Health Coverage, share our concerns and express our commitment to strengthen our collaboration.
2. We confirm that our collaboration shall align with the "ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015)", endorsed by the 10th AHMM) with specific focus on collaborative areas that include Emerging Infectious Diseases, Pandemic Preparedness and Response, and Traditional Medicine as identified by the 1st ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD held in July 2011, in Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. We welcome any additional collaboration agreed in future meetings.
3. We recognise the significant and concrete roles played by the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) on poverty reduction and universal access to essential health services to support the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals. We commit to collectively accelerate the progress towards UHC in all countries by tasking the ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD to discuss the formation of an ASEAN Plus Three network on UHC. We agree to share and collectively build up the national and regional capacity to assess and manage the equitable and efficient health systems to support UHC. We concur and will collectively move the issue of UHC to be discussed and committed at the highest regional and global development forum, including the ASEAN Plus Three Summit, and the United Nations General Assembly.

4. We express deep concerns on the increasing unhealthy lifestyle and risk behaviours, which eventually lead to the rapidly increasing chronic non-communicable diseases. We are fully aware that these risk behaviours relate closely to the Social Determinants of Health (SDH) and need to be tackled through Health in All Policies (HiAP) movements. We will collectively advocate, facilitate and implement more social and economic interventions to halt and reverse the increasing trend on tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol and unhealthy diet, as well as sedentary life style. We commit to implement the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (A/RES/66/2) based on the targets set by the World Health Organization (WHO).
5. We note the progress made in ASEAN Plus Three collaborations in the areas of traditional medicine and maternal and child health. We also note the progress made in the areas of Communicable and Emerging Infectious Diseases such as the initiatives on Field Epidemiology Training Network (FETN), Risk Communication, Partnership Laboratories, Animal Health and Human Health Collaboration, specific disease interventions including malaria, rabies and dengue. We appreciate and strongly support the cross-sectoral work for health development. We strongly support the newly-established ASEAN Plus Three FETN. We support the effort and commit to cooperate in multi-country studies, joint outbreaks investigation, contain and control outbreaks of diseases of regional significance such as dengue, severe hand foot mouth disease, and anti-microbial drug resistance. We commit to achieve and maintain core-competency as stipulated by the International Health Regulations (IHR) not later than 2014.
6. We acknowledge the efforts made by the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD) in convening the first two consecutive Meetings. We strongly urge them in maximising the avenue of the ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD to strengthen current collaborations. We task the ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD to explore models of technical cooperation such as identifying and the matching of health priorities between ASEAN and Plus Three, including seeking opportunities from Plus Three and other sources for technical support. Also we subscribe to monitoring the progress of these identified collaborative areas and identifying new areas of working together.
7. We recognise the contribution by, and commit to collaborate closely with development partners, especially the World Health Organization, the development banks, bilateral development partners, civil society organisations and private sectors.
8. We look forward to further exchanges of views and joint collaboration in health development at our next meeting in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in 2014.

Chairman's Statement of the 13th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 10 July 2012

1. The 13th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 10 July 2012. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia.
2. The Ministers were pleased with the achievements of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation over the past 15 years and took note of the fast growing and deepening of cooperation within the ASEAN Plus Three framework, including political and security, transnational crime, economic, finance and monetary, agriculture and forestry, energy, minerals, tourism, health, culture and arts, environment, science and technology, information and communication technology, social welfare, rural development and poverty eradication, disaster management, youth, women, education, among others.
3. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the substantive progress that was made in the implementation of the 2nd Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). The Ministers exchanged views on how to further implement the work plan more effectively and agreed to task the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN to work closely with the Ambassadors of the Plus Three

countries to ASEAN and the ASEAN Secretariat to conduct a Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan.

4. The Ministers agreed to accelerate regional integration and to envision the long-term future of East Asia, in particular the East Asia community building.
5. The Ministers reaffirmed their strong commitment to further deepening and broadening of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation which will continue to serve as a main vehicle towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force.
6. The Plus Three countries reaffirmed their strong support to the central role of ASEAN in the existing regional mechanisms and in the evolving regional architecture and recognized the mutually reinforcing and complementary roles of the ASEAN Plus Three process and such regional fora as ASEAN Plus One, EAS, and ARF in the East Asian community building process.
7. The Ministers highlighted the importance for East Asian countries to spur the internal growth in the context of downside risks in the global economy, and to promote regional economic development in a sustainable and healthy way.
8. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and ASEAN Member States appreciated the strong support of the Plus Three countries in implementing the Master Plan. The Ministers noted the ASEAN's Paper on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity" and the initiatives contained therein, such as to designate the year 2012 as the "Visit ASEAN Plus Three Year" and to choose one of the cities in ASEAN Plus Three countries as "the Cultural City of East Asia." The Ministers supported Cambodia's proposal to designate Siem Reap City of Cambodia as "the Cultural City of East Asia in 2012." The Ministers also agreed that these initiatives should be launched in 2012 to mark the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.
9. The Ministers took note of the report on Workshop on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity hosted by Thailand on 15 June 2012 in Bangkok, and welcomed the proposal for the Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity to be adopted by the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders at the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to mark the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.
10. The Ministers expressed their commitment to supporting the ASEAN Coordinating Center for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Management (AHA Center) which promotes regional cooperation in disaster management, humanitarian assistance and emergency response to regional disasters.
11. The Ministers underlined the significant roles and contribution of the ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre and the ASEAN-Korea Centre in promoting trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.
12. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction on developments made in the ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting on strengthening the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM), including doubling its total size, increasing the IMF de-linked portion, and introducing the prices prevention function, and on enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Microeconomic Research Office (AMRO)'s organizational capacity.
13. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment for the sustainable and integrated food security in the region and agreed to strengthen regional efforts to enhance cooperation in the agriculture sector, especially investment in infrastructure, technology transfer and technical assistance in order to increase agricultural production and productivity. In this connection, the Ministers stressed the importance of effective implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement, which was signed on 7 October 2011, in Indonesia. The Ministers were encouraged that the Agreement will come into force on 12 July 2012 and look forward to its full and effective implementation. The Ministers welcomed steady implementation of ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) and expected its future development based on the Proposal of Post-2012 AFSIS.
14. The Ministers welcomed convening of the 1st ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers' Meeting in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 4 July 2012 and expressed their satisfaction for the adoption of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education (2010-2017) in order to strengthen

the educational cooperation and human resource development in the region. The Ministers also welcomed the endorsement of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation through Information and Media (2012 - 2017) and looked forward to its successful implementation. They welcomed the progress of the "CAMPUS Asia" initiative, by Japan, China, and the Republic of Korea and their intention to promote university exchanges with ASEAN countries. They reaffirmed the importance of promoting quality assurance in higher education among ASEAN Plus Three countries.

15. The Ministers looked forward to the signing of the ASEAN Plus Three Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on Tourism by the APT Tourism Ministers in the near future.
16. The Ministers took note of Malaysia's proposal to have a dialogue between the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders and Business Circle such as East Asia Business Council (EABC) during the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in Phnom Penh, in November 2012.
17. The Ministers underlined the importance of peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula and urged concerned parties not to conduct any further provocation and to comply with its obligations under the relevant UNSC resolutions and its commitment under the 2005 UNSC Six-Party Talks Joint Statement. The Ministers further reiterated the call for all parties concerned to explore all possibilities to engage in peaceful dialogue which would lead to creating an atmosphere of trust and confidence among the concerned parties.
18. The Ministers appreciated the important contribution of the Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT) and the East Asia Forum (EAF) to strengthen the East Asia Cooperation, and to move forward the East Asia Community Building in the long-term.
19. The Ministers looked forward to the finalization of the final report of the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVG II) at the forth Meeting of the EAVG II to be held on 5-7 September 2012, in Bali, Indonesia. The Ministers also looked forward to its submission to the ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in November 2012.
20. The Ministers highly appreciated the support of the Plus Three Countries for the regular participation of the ASEAN Chair in the G20 Summits.
21. The Ministers agreed to organize the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit as a Commemorative Summit and to have Leaders' Joint Statement to Commemorate the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.
22. The Ministers welcomed Cambodia's initiative to hold two activities to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation, namely the "ASEAN Plus Three Youth Leaders' Symposium" to be held in September 2012, in Phnom Penh, and the "ASEAN Plus Three Joint Cultural Performance: Unity in Diversity" to be held in early November 2012, in Siem Reap; and China's initiative to hold the Symposium on Commemorating the 15th Anniversary of APT Cooperation in the second half of 2012 and publish a collection of documents on APT cooperation over the past 15 years.
23. The Ministers looked forward to the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Brunei Darussalam in 2013.

Joint Media Statement of the 15th AEM Plus Three Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 29 August 2012

1. The Fifteenth Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and Economic Ministers of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea were held on 29 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Consultations were co-chaired by by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China; H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; and H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade of the Republic of Korea.
2. The Ministers exchanged views on the global economic situation and recent economic development in ASEAN and in the Northeast Asian countries. Ministers expressed satisfaction with the progress in economic integration in the region and were pleased to note that ASEAN trade with the

Plus Three Countries remained robust even in the context of the uncertainties of the global economy. In 2011, total trade recorded an increase of 26.2 per cent, amounting to US\$678.2 billion. Exports and imports grew by 34.9 per cent and 18.0 per cent, respectively. Total trade with Plus Three Countries accounted for 28.4 per cent share of ASEAN's total trade in 2011.

3. Total foreign direct investment (FDI) flow from the Plus Three Countries into ASEAN remained on an upward trend, recording an increase of 29.5 per cent amounting to US\$41.2 billion in 2011 from US\$31.8 billion in 2010. FDI flow from the Plus Three Countries accounted for nearly half (46.2 per cent) of the total FDI flows into ASEAN in 2011.
4. The Ministers noted the progress of the East Asia Vision Group (EAVG) II in developing the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation for the next ten years. Ministers looked forward to the final recommendation of EAVG II to the Leaders at the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in November 2012 in Cambodia.
5. The Ministers welcomed the progress in the preparation work for an FTA among China, Japan, and Korea (CJKFTA) and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), both of which are aimed at launching the negotiations within this year. The Ministers shared the view that these initiatives would significantly contribute to deepening economic integration in the region.
6. The Ministers welcomed China's proposal to organise the "Workshop on Economic and Technological Development Zones in 10+3 Countries" in Beijing in November 2012. The workshop will study policy recommendations to accelerate economic development in the region through implementation of economic and technological development zones and explore cooperative opportunities in the area between ASEAN Plus Three countries.
7. The Ministers had a productive discussion with the East Asia Business Council (EABC) at the occasion of the consultation and appreciated its recommendations to strengthen cooperation to maintain better and faster development in the region and promote regional economic integration.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce, China; 4. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; 5. H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan; 6. H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea; 7. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 8. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 9. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 10. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 11. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 12. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 13. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 14. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Media Statement of the 9th AEM-ROK Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 29 August 2012

1. The Ninth Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Minister for Trade of the Republic of Korea were held on 29 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia and H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade of the Republic of Korea.
2. The Ministers noted that in 2011, two-way trade between ASEAN and Korea continued to grow and amounted to US\$124.5 billion compared with US\$98.6 billion the previous year. Exports from ASEAN to Korea expanded by 30.9% amounting to US\$58.9 billion while imports increased by 22.3% totalling US\$65.6 billion. Korea maintained its position as the fifth largest trading partner of ASEAN.

3. The Ministers noted that foreign direct investment (FDI) flow from Korea to ASEAN declined by 36.2% from US\$3.8 billion in 2010 to US\$2.4 billion in 2011. Korea was ASEAN's fifth largest source of FDI.
4. The Ministers welcomed the completion of the tariff elimination for products under the Normal Track on 1 January 2012 by ASEAN-6 and Korea. The Ministers encouraged the remaining Parties to eliminate the tariffs under the Normal Track within the committed timeframe.
5. The Ministers underlined the importance of implementing each Party's commitments under the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Goods Agreement (Agreement), including the tariff reduction of sensitive products for 2012. The Ministers discussed certain implementation-related issues and urged the Parties concerned to take necessary actions to fully live up to the Agreement.
6. In response to the Minister's mandate to review the Sensitive Track, senior officials developed a Work Programme for Further Liberalisation. The Ministers adopted the Work Programme which comprises review of further possible reduction of the number of goods in the Sensitive Track, conditions governing the reciprocal arrangement and development of a comprehensive package to promote trade as well as facilitate utilisation of the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA).
7. The Ministers also welcomed the entry into force of the Second Protocol to Amend the Agreement on Trade in Goods for certain Parties on 11 July 2012. The Protocol which was signed on 17 November 2011, aimed at facilitating the unilateral acceleration of tariff commitments, including the transfer of products from the Sensitive Track to the Normal Track.
8. The Ministers were pleased to note that ASEAN and Korea has agreed on the amendments to simplify the Operation Certification Procedures (OCP) which will help to reduce the administrative burdens of business of both parties. The Ministers tasked senior officials to bring these amendments into force at the earliest possible date and to ensure the smooth transition and timely implementation of the revised OCP.
9. The Ministers also noted the efforts of the Working Group on Services to review the implementation of the AKFTA Services Agreement and consider further measures to liberalise trade in services.

The Ministers noted that a Joint Study on the Economic Impact of the AKFTA Services Agreement will be undertaken and is targeted for completion in December 2012.

10. The Ministers launched the AKFTA website (<http://akfta.asean.org>) and seminar kit which were developed to promote the AKFTA. The Ministers tasked the senior officials to effectively utilise the tools for public outreach activities and facilitating the implementation of the AKFTA. The Ministers also noted the significance of their effective management hereafter and encouraged the continuous cooperation of the Parties and the ASEAN Secretariat.
11. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government of Korea for the continued support in the economic cooperation and contribution towards the ASEAN-Korea Economic Cooperation Fund. The Ministers acknowledged the efforts of the Working Group on Economic Cooperation (WGEC) to enhance the effectiveness of the projects approval and implementation process.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 2. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 3. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; 4. H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea; 5. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 9. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 10. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 11. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 12. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 9th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
12 September 2012**

Introduction

1. The 9th ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM+3) was held in the Kingdom of Cambodia on 12 September 2012. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia and co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Wu Yin, Vice Administrator, National Energy Administration of the People's Republic of China; H.E. Mr. Keiro Kitagami, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; and H.E. Mr. Kwansup Lee, Deputy Minister of Knowledge Economy of the Republic of Korea. The Meeting was participated by the Ministers of Energy of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
2. The Ministers recognised the progress made by the Japanese Government to bring TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Station to a stable condition and hoped that Japan would continue to share with the international community its accumulated knowledge and lessons learned from the accident. Amidst developments, such as, the volatile geopolitical situation in the Middle East and its implications on energy security, as well as rising energy demand, the Ministers recognised the need to balance energy security with economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability. They agreed to strengthen their commitment to the ASEAN+3 energy cooperation towards a sustainable energy future.
3. Recognising the need for improved linkages in energy cooperation, the Ministers agreed that enhancing ASEAN connectivity would bring the region closer to its goal of achieving greater energy security. The Ministers expressed their appreciation for the progress made by the Senior Officials Meeting on Energy +3 (SOME+3) Energy Cooperation. They noted that cooperation amongst the countries is a key to the diversification of energy

sources, capacity building, information sharing and exchange, and the promotion of sustainable development and low-carbon growth economies.

Energy Security

4. On energy security, the Ministers acknowledged the importance of stakeholder cooperation to study possible energy options for the region including, among others, civilian nuclear energy, oil stockpiling, coal and clean coal technologies, and welcomed the steady progress of the activities. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for leading the Energy Security Forum in ASEAN+3 energy cooperation.
5. The Ministers welcomed the Republic of Korea's Second Phase Implementation Plan of the Human Resources Development for Civilian Nuclear Energy and Japan's progress of activities under the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Security.
6. On oil stockpiling, the Ministers welcomed the follow-up activities for 2012-2013, namely: (i) continuing studies and development of the Oil Stockpiling Road Map (OSRM); (ii) collecting annual information on the progress of each country's oil stockpiling activities; and (iii) organising workshops to promote the implementation of each ASEAN country's OSRM, with the support and assistance of the +3 countries. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC) for agreeing to organise the Workshop on Pre-project Phase and Decision Phase, and the Workshop on Construction Phase and Operation Phase of oil stockpiling development. These workshops are expected to enhance energy security and preparedness for emergencies in the region. The Ministers encouraged the ACE, in cooperation with JOGMEC, to continue to collect the Updated Country Report of ASEAN+3 Member Countries, and to finalise the OSRM Report. The Ministers also urged the ACE to continue its work on the questionnaires to identify country needs as a useful reference on OSRM activities. The Ministers encouraged the ASEAN countries to steadily implement their OSRMs, with the +3 countries and International Energy Agency (IEA) providing the support and assistance where appropriate.
7. Recognising that coal is a major fuel source for the region, despite environmental concerns on its use, the Ministers welcomed further efforts to develop cooperation programmes on clean coal

technologies, such as the upgrading of low rank coal technologies, carbon capture and storage (CCS), coal gasification and coal liquefaction. The Ministers supported the initiative to engage the +3 countries in future meetings and activities of the ASEAN Forum on Coal (AFOC) to foster closer cooperation and promote positive collaboration on clean coal utilisation.

8. To enhance greater information sharing amongst the ASEAN+3 countries, the Ministers welcomed continued collaboration of the ACE with the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) in conducting capacity building programmes and developing regional energy outlooks in support of policy research and analysis. The Ministers encouraged the ACE to continue the collection of Oil Price Data of each ASEAN+3 Member Country on a monthly basis to be published in the ACE Website.

Oil Market and Natural Gas

9. Recognising that excessive oil price volatility might be a source of economic instability, the Ministers recognised the need to promote the transparent functioning of the oil markets, and expressed continued support for the Joint Organisations Data Initiative (JODI). The Ministers encouraged the ASEAN+3 countries to further share and exchange information on countermeasures in response to the volatile oil prices in the global market. They also encouraged the countries to share their experiences and lessons learned in seeking solutions to address price volatilities and uncertainties in oil supply caused by perceived geopolitical risks.
10. Given the increasing prominent role natural gas will play in the global and regional fuel mix, the Ministers agreed to enhance cooperation in the natural gas sector, in particular LNG issues, unconventional gas, and increasing and encouraging private sector participation. The Ministers also commended the ACE and Indonesia for organising the 1st Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and the 1st ASEAN+3 Oil Market and Natural Gas Business Dialogue on 24-25 October 2011, and expressed their appreciation to China for leading the Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum.

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation

11. The Ministers noted the good progress in achieving the ASEAN's aspirational goals of

reducing regional energy intensity by at least 8% by 2015 based on 2005 level, and the 15% target for the share of renewable energy in the total installed power capacity by 2015. The Ministers acknowledged the progress of the CDM programme and expressed their appreciation to the Republic of Korea for the continuation and expansion of the ASEAN+3 CDM Cooperation Programme including Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), and for leading the New and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Forum.

12. The Ministers noted the successful completion of ASEAN-Japan EE&C projects coordinated by the ACE, such as, the Promotion of Energy Efficiency and Conservation (PROMECC) and Multi-country Training Programme on EE&C (MTPEC). The Ministers also noted the new energy efficiency cooperation initiatives as a next step towards ensuring more sustainable energy development in the region.
13. Recognising that new and innovative solutions are part of the equation in meeting future energy needs, the Ministers expressed their appreciation to Korea and Japan for sharing their experiences and plans relating to smart grid technologies. They encouraged China, Japan and Korea to also share their best practices on innovative financing schemes for RE and EE&C as well as on demand side energy management measures including mass transportation those designed to reduce energy intensity in the transportation sector.

Next Meeting

14. The Ministers agreed to meet again in Indonesia in 2013 for the 10th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.
15. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government and People of the Kingdom of Cambodia for the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the 9th ASEAN+3 Ministers on Energy Meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS

a. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam; b. H.E. Mr. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia; c. H.E. Mr. Wu Yin, Vice Administrator, National Energy Administration of the People's Republic of China; d. H.E. Mr. Jero Wacik, Minister

of Energy and Mineral Resources of the Republic of Indonesia; e. H.E. Mr. Keiro Kitagami, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; f. H.E. Mr. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao People's Democratic Republic; g. H.E. Dato' Sri Peter Chin Fah Kui, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia; h. H.E. U Than Htay, Union Minister for Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; i. H.E. Mr. Jose Rene D. Almendras, Secretary, Department of Energy, the Republic of the Philippines; j. H.E. Mr. Kwansup Lee, Deputy Minister of Knowledge Economy of the Republic of Korea; k. H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Minister, Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Home Affairs and Trade & Industry of the Republic of Singapore; l. H.E. Mr. Arak Chonlatanon, Minister of Energy of the Kingdom of Thailand; m. H.E. Mr. Le Duong Quang, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; and n. H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

12th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (12th AMAF Plus Three)

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 28 September 2012

1. We, the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea held our Twelfth Meeting in Vientiane on 28 September 2012, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Vilayvanh Phomkhe, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR.
2. We reaffirmed our strong support in advancing the AMAF Plus Three cooperation in food, agriculture, and forestry sectors, which corresponds to the Second Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). Complementing this decision, we supported and welcomed the development of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) Framework consisting of six (6) Strategic Areas, namely, Strengthening Food Security, Biomass Energy Development, Sustainable Forest Management, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Animal Health and Disease Control and Cross-Cutting Issues.
3. We noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of cooperation projects under the APTCS Framework, particularly on capacity building in agriculture production, post-harvest handling, training and extension, research and development in the areas of crops, livestock, fisheries, and forestry.
4. Following the signing of the APTERR Agreement during the 11th Meeting of the AMAF Plus Three held on 7 October 2011 in Jakarta, We welcomed the entry-into-force of the Agreement on 12 July 2012. In response to acute food emergency, We commended initiatives taken by the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) in releasing stockpile rice in Thailand, Lao PDR and Indonesia in 2011-2012. We welcome Thailand's offer to host the APTERR Secretariat subject to the completion of domestic process and urged the APTERR Council to finalise necessary arrangement for the full operationalization of APTERR.
5. We acknowledged successful implementation of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Project with achievements made on establishment of food security information network system, including website and databases, Early Warning Information, Agricultural Commodity Outlook Reports as well as supporting human resources development activities. We reiterated our support to transform the Project into the ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Information System as a self-sustained mechanism while noting an independent study will be undertaken to facilitate the finalization of Terms of Reference and the Rules of Procedure of the new AFSIS. We also support the AFSIS Workplan for 2013-2015.
6. Guided by the Cha-am Hua Hin Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on Food Security and Bioenergy Development adopted by the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders in 2009, We noted progress of cooperation activities in promoting biomass energy towards agriculture and rural development. We recognized the importance of and supported the planned collaboration between the agriculture and energy sector to ensure synergy of

efforts in sustainable bioenergy development and achieving food security.

7. We agreed to meet again for the 13th AMAF Plus Three Meeting in Malaysia in 2013.
8. The Ministers from other ASEAN Member States, the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Lao PDR for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 12th AMAF Plus Three Meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS

H.E. Pehin Dato Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam; H.E. Prof. Dr. Chan Sarun, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia; H.E. Dr. Suswono, Minister of Agriculture, Indonesia; H.E. Mr. Vilayvanh Phomkhe, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR; H.E. Dato' Mohd Hashim bin Abdullah, Secretary General, Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, representing Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia; H.E. Mr. Ohn Than, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar; H.E. Mr. Joel S. Rudinas, Under Secretary of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Philippines; H.E. Dr. Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Defence, Singapore; H.E. Mr. Theera Wongsamut, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand; H.E. Dr. Bui Ba Bong, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam; H.E. Mr. Niu Dun, Vice Minister of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, People's Republic of China; H.E. Mr. Tsukasa Iwamoto, Senior Vice Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan; H.E. Mr. Sang-Kil Lee, Vice Minister, Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Republic of Korea; H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.

Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
19 November 2012**

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, on 19 November 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the multi-layered ASEAN-led regional mechanisms as well as ASEAN's relations with its Dialogue Partners, which are mutually reinforcing in enhancing ASEAN Connectivity;

RECALLING the Phnom Penh Agenda, adopted by ASEAN Leaders during the 20th ASEAN Summit, that has given a high priority on the timely implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), to accelerate the integration process and strengthen ASEAN's external relations;

REAFFIRMING our commitment on this occasion of the 15th anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation to the long-term goal of building an East Asian community, with the ASEAN as the driving force and the ASEAN Plus Three process as a main vehicle, taking into account that East Asia Summit (EAS) framework also plays a complimentary role in community building in the region;

ACKNOWLEDGING that ASEAN Connectivity is a foundation of the development of enhanced connectivity in East Asia and that the enhanced connectivity is one of the key elements in building an East Asian community;

RECALLING ALSO the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration on the Adoption of the MPAC and the 2009 ASEAN Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Connectivity, which will complement and support integration within ASEAN as well as within the broader regional framework in East Asia;

WELCOMING the Declaration of the 6th East Asia Summit (EAS) on ASEAN Connectivity adopted in 2011 that promoted the role of EAS partners in ASEAN Connectivity, including to consider the possibility

of developing the concept of “Connectivity Master Plan Plus” in the future, which would develop further linkages between ASEAN and its EAS Partners, while maintaining ASEAN Connectivity as a priority by effectively implementing the MPAC;

REAFFIRMING ALSO the importance of ongoing efforts on ASEAN connectivity cooperation under the ASEAN Plus One frameworks, which are complementary and mutually-reinforcing to the ASEAN Plus Three and the EAS frameworks;

REALIZING that the geographical proximity, the increasing interdependence, and the wide-ranging existing mechanisms under the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation are mutually beneficial to the development of ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity, which will contribute to the implementation of the MPAC and promote regional connectivity--thereby bringing the region closer towards the shared long-term goal of realizing an East Asian community;

DO HEREBY DECLARE TO:

1. Support ASEAN's efforts in implementing the MPAC;
2. Prioritize enhancing connectivity in all areas of cooperation and mechanisms under the ASEAN Plus Three framework;
3. Develop ASEAN Plus Three partnership to enhance connectivity through the timely implementation of the projects related to connectivity, in particular the 15 Priority Projects identified under the three-pronged strategies of the MPAC, namely physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity;
4. Task our relevant Ministers to explore the possibility of additional financing mechanisms/modalities under ASEAN Plus Three framework to support the implementation of ASEAN connectivity projects.
5. Task our relevant Ministers to study measures to promote infrastructure financing including private sector involvement and public-private partnership in connectivity projects;
6. Task our relevant Ministers to consider establishing study groups, through various mechanisms, to recommend ways and means to push forward ASEAN Plus Three partnership on Connectivity cooperation in relevant areas, covering the three pronged-strategies of the MPAC;
7. Support the ongoing process towards establishing the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) as well as other measures to facilitate economic activities among ASEAN and its Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners including Plus Three countries;
8. Enhance ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in combating transnational crimes to prevent impediments to connectivity development in the region; and further strengthen cooperation on sectors that will be affected by enhanced connectivity, such as by intensifying capacity building activities and promoting good governance through the sharing of best practices on public-private partnerships, transparency and accountability;
9. Support the establishment of an ASEAN Plus Three University Network (AUN+3), as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education, including the promotion of credit transfer system and quality assurances among universities in the ASEAN Plus Three countries;
10. Welcome Siem Reap City as the Cultural City of East Asia for 2012 and a greed to have further discussions on the new initiative of the Cultural City of East Asia;
11. Welcome the designation of the year 2012 as the “Visit ASEAN Plus Three Year”;
12. Look forward to the signing of Memorandum of Cooperation on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation, which will be one of the key instruments to promote people-to-people connectivity in ASEAN and the Plus Three countries;
13. Task our relevant Ministers to synergize as appropriate ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity into the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) as well as to consider the possibility of having a “Connectivity Master Plan Plus” in the future in cooperation with the EAS partners;
14. Encourage the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) to work with Plus Three countries to coordinate the efforts in connectivity under ASEAN Plus Three frameworks.

ASEAN Plus Three Leaders’ Joint Statement on the Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia
19 November 2012**

1. We, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the People’s Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, gathered in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 19 November 2012, to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.
2. The ASEAN Plus Three Commemorative Summit was chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The Heads of State/ Government of ASEAN Member States, the People’s Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea attended the meeting. The Secretary-General of ASEAN also attended the Meeting.
3. We reviewed the achievements of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation over the past 15 years, and discussed its future direction. We took note with satisfaction of the fast growing and deepening of cooperation in all areas of cooperation, in particular politics and security, economy, finance, connectivity, food security, energy, environment, health and pandemic diseases, culture, tourism, science, technology and innovation, information and communication technology, poverty eradication, disaster management, and youth and education.
4. We acknowledged that the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation played an indispensable role in promoting East Asian unity and coordination, deepening regional economic integration and expanding horizon for common development. We have successfully tackled the global financial crisis and preserved economic and financial stability, thus becoming the most vibrant region in the global economy. In light of the profound and complex changes in the world and the multiple pressures to maintain sustainable development of the region, we agreed to come together and work collectively to meet the challenges, make good use of the well-established ASEAN Plus Three cooperation mechanisms and give full play to our advantages.
5. We noted with appreciation the substantive progress of the implementation of the Second Joint Statement on the East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017) which provided strategic guidance for the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation. We welcomed the decision of the ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in July 2012 to conduct a Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan. In order to implement the Work Plan effectively, we supported the strengthening of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund (APTCF).
6. We reaffirmed our strong commitment to deepen and broaden the ASEAN Plus Three process, as guided by, inter alia, the 1999 Joint Statement on the East Asia Cooperation and the 2007 Second Joint Statement on the East Asia Cooperation, to serve as a main vehicle towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community and expressed our continued support for the central role of ASEAN in the evolving regional architecture. We reiterated that the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation would continue to support the realization of the ASEAN Community and pave the way towards regional integration.
7. We realized the importance of maintaining and enhancing peace and stability in the region as indispensable conditions for development and progress. We stressed the importance of respecting for the right of each country to independently choose its development path, and the need to intensify and enhance efforts to promote common values and norms, such as good governance, rule of law, as well as promotion and protection of human rights. We agreed to further strengthen security cooperation, particularly to deal with emerging challenges to peace and stability in both traditional and non-traditional security dimensions.
8. We are committed to further strengthening cooperation and dialogue in political-security area as guided by the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan in order to address emerging regional and global issues as well as to maintain peace, stability and prosperity in the region. We agreed to continue our discussions on establishing regional institutional arrangements in areas, such as law enforcement, disaster management, combating transnational crime and the prevention and control of diseases. We will continue to: (i) promote

mutual trust and understanding through increasing exchanges between officials; and (ii) enhance technical assistance and capacity-building in support of efforts to address traditional and non-traditional security issues in a substantive manner.

9. In light of the shrinking external demand we were confronted with, we agreed to strengthen the internal drivers for East Asia's growth, by boosting demand within the region and promoting intra-regional economic development. We acknowledged the importance of maintaining strong trade relations between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries which had strengthened the region's ability and resilience in dealing with the financial and economic crisis since the inception of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation. To this end, we called upon the relevant ministers to further strengthen and deepen existing ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements with Plus Three countries. We also urged business communities in the region to take full advantage of the opportunities of these FTAs.
10. Due to the rapid regional and global developments, we stressed the importance of achieving a comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial economic partnership agreement in this region in accordance with the Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) approved by the ASEAN Economic Ministers and their counterparts from ASEAN's FTA Partners in August 2012. We therefore welcomed the progress in the preparation work aiming at the official launch of the RCEP negotiations in November 2012, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, which reflects the concrete cooperation among the participating countries to strengthen regional economic integration.
11. We highly appreciated the progress of regional financial cooperation, in particular the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) as a part of the regional financial safety net. In this regard, we welcomed the progress made at the ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting held on 3 May 2012, in Manila, to strengthen the CMIM including by doubling its total size from USD120 billion to USD 240 billion, increasing the IMF de-linked portion to 30% in 2012, and introducing a crisis prevention facility "CMIM Precautionary Line (CMIM-PL)". We welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) and stressed the importance of strengthening its capacity as an independent regional surveillance unit.
12. We also highly appreciated efforts to utilise regional savings for regional investments through the Asian Bond Market Initiative (ABMI), including the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF), to promote the development of local currency denominated bond markets and enhancing macroeconomic and financial stability. We welcomed the adoption of the New ABMI Roadmap+ to produce tangible and concrete outcome on the nine priorities, among others, implementation of guarantee programme of the CGIF and the ASEAN Plus Three Bond Markets Forum (ABMF) activities including the Common Bond Issuance Programme. We also welcomed the initial research findings on priority areas of future regional cooperation. We tasked the relevant Ministers to continue to expeditiously implement the initiative related to regional financial cooperation.
13. We reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN Chair's participation in the G-20 Summit on a regular basis with a view to reflecting ASEAN as a relevant and responsible regional organization to the global economic and financial cooperation. We also welcomed the substantive outcomes of the G-20 Summit which was held on 18-19 June 2012, in Los Cabos, Mexico.
14. We further welcomed the establishment of the United Nations Secretary-General High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, in which the President of Indonesia is one of its Co-Chairs as a representation of the region.
15. We agreed to further enhance the cooperation in food security. We supported the important role of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement, which came into force on 12 July 2012 to serve as a permanent mechanism to ensure sustainable and integrated food security in the region, and welcomed the proposed creation of an ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Information System. We tasked our relevant ministers to explore the possibility of establishing mechanisms for other kinds of food. We supported the continued convening of the annual ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Cooperation Roundtable. We also decided to strengthen regional efforts to enhance cooperation in agricultural sector in order to increase agricultural production and productivity, taking into account the diversity of environmental conditions and positive externalities of agriculture. In this regard, we welcomed steady implementation of ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) and expected its future development based on the Proposal of Post-2012 AFSIS.

16. We looked forward to the signing of Memorandum of Cooperation on ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Cooperation, which will be one of the key instruments to strengthen good relationship and cooperation in tourism industry between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.
17. We agreed to forge cooperation in education and welcomed the convening of the First ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers' Meeting (AEMM+3) held on 4 July 2012, in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and the adoption of the ASEAN Plus Three Action Plan on Education 2010-2017. We appreciated concrete plans, proposals and future direction contained therein which will support the ASEAN Community as well as East Asian community building process through capacity building, improvement of the quality of education, strengthening regional competitiveness, promotion of educational exchange, providing more education opportunities and nurturing innovation in the region.
18. We acknowledged the steady progress achieved in the field of cultural cooperation. We further noted the constructive role that the ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA+3) cooperation mechanism had played in facilitating closer cooperation in the areas of cultural heritage protection, cultural human resource development and cultural industries, as well as promoting dialogues and sharing best practices in the implementation of arts and culture policies. We welcomed the endorsement of the Work Plan on Enhancing ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in Culture by the Ministers at the Fifth AMCA+3 Meeting held on 24 May 2012, in Singapore.
19. We further emphasized the need to strengthen cooperation in the information sector to ensure that multi-platform flows of information are in place to raise awareness of ASEAN and promote mutual understanding among East Asian people. We noted that the Work Plan on Enhancing the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Through Information and Media (2012-2017) has been endorsed and looked forward to the successful implementation of strategic activities listed therein.
20. We welcomed the areas of collaboration in health as detailed in the Joint Statement of the Fifth ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers' Meeting (AHMM+3) held on 6 July 2012, in Phuket, Thailand, and as aligned with the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Health Development (2010-2015) with specific focus on Communicable and Emerging Infectious Disease, Pandemic Preparedness and Response, Traditional Medicine, Universal Health Coverage, Non-Communicable Diseases, and Maternal and Child Health.
21. We noted with satisfaction the plan for operationalisation of the Luang Prabang Declaration on the ASEAN Plus Three Civil Service Cooperation through pilot projects for the improvement of civil service efficiency, competency and accountability. We also welcomed the convening of the ASEAN Plus Three Heads of Civil Service and ACCSM+3 Joint Technical Working Group Meetings for the first time on 2 October 2012, in Putrajaya, Malaysia.
22. We reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation in enhancing the well-being and livelihood of the vulnerable groups in the region. In this regard, we agreed to deepen and widen the cooperation under the ASEAN Plus Three Ministers' Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD+3), ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers' Meeting (ALMM+3), ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials' Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDPE+3) and ASEAN Plus Three Committee on Women (ACW+3).
23. We acknowledged the important role of the ASEAN-Japan Centre, the ASEAN-Korea Centre and the ASEAN-China Centre in promoting trade, investment, tourism, education and cultural exchanges between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.
24. We recognized the importance of promoting an enabling environment for joint research, exchange programmes, development and sharing of educational content for the future scientists in the ASEAN Plus Three region. In this regard, we noted with appreciation the continuing programmes and opportunities provided by the ASEAN Plus Three Center for the Gifted in Science (ACGS) in the Republic of Korea, which are aimed at nurturing the gifted students in science as well as the science teachers in the region.
25. We reaffirmed the importance of effective and timely implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) to enhance intra-ASEAN linkages, strengthen competitiveness and narrow the development gaps. In this regard, ASEAN highly appreciated the continuing support of the Plus Three countries for the realization of the MPAC. We expressed our support to the enhancement of connectivity under the ASEAN Plus Three framework and adopted the Leaders'

Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity in order to prioritize connectivity in all areas of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation and to further promote connectivity between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.

26. We reaffirmed our commitment to strengthen efforts to combat terrorism and transnational crime linked to the enhancement of connectivity within the East Asia region. In this regard, we agreed to facilitate the cooperation under the ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC+3).
27. We underscored the importance of promoting energy diversification, information exchanges, research and sharing of experiences on new, and renewable energy development, energy efficiency and conservation, and the use of clean and environmentally-friendly technologies, to ensure energy security, and sustainability in the region. We also welcomed the outcome of the 9th ASEAN Plus Three Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM+3), held in Cambodia, on 12 September 2012.
28. We agreed to further strengthen regional cooperation in the area of disaster management. We supported the early and full operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) and the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme for 2010 -2015.
29. We noted the constructive role of the ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers' Meeting in facilitating closer environmental cooperation. We agreed to further enhance cooperation on climate change adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity and natural heritage conservation, reduction of transboundary environmental pollution, green growth, sustainable water resources management, sustainable forest management and environmental education.
30. We appreciated the important contribution of the Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT) in strengthening the East Asia cooperation and moving forward the East Asian community building in the long-term. In this regard, we welcomed the outcomes of the 10th NEAT Annual Conference under the theme of "Deepening East Asian Integration through Building Trust," which was held on 28 August 2012, in Beijing, China, the four meetings of the NEAT Working Groups on "NEAT: the Next Ten Years," "Disaster Management," "Inclusive Growth," and "East Asian Cultural Archive," which were held this year in Beijing, Tokyo, Singapore and Seoul, respectively. We noted the Memorandum Number 9 of the NEAT and encouraged the relevant ASEAN Plus Three sectoral bodies to look into NEAT's Policy Recommendations.
31. We appreciated the important contribution of the East Asia Forum (EAF) in supporting the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation and the East Asian community building. In this regard, we welcomed the outcomes of the 10th EAF under the theme "Narrowing the Development Gaps in Rural and Urban Communities: Sharing Lessons and Experiences Among Us," which was held on 15-17 August 2012, in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
32. We noted with appreciation the recommendations contained in the final report of the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVGII). We looked forward to the significant contribution of the EAVG II recommendations for the future direction of the ASEAN Plus Three process, regional cooperation and community building and tasked the relevant ministers to consider the recommendations of the EAVG II for further actions.
33. We welcomed the selection of Siem Reap City of Cambodia as the "Cultural City of East Asia 2012 within the framework of ASEAN Plus Three." We also welcomed the designation of the year 2012 as "Visit ASEAN Plus Three Year."
34. We welcomed the conduct of meaningful activities to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation, namely i) the "Workshop on ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Connectivity" held on 15 June 2012, in Bangkok, Thailand; ii) the "ASEAN Plus Three Youth Leaders' Symposium" held on 18-19 October 2012, in Phnom Penh; iii) the "ASEAN Plus Three Joint Cultural Performance: Unity in Diversity" held on 2-3 November 2012, in Siem Reap, Cambodia; and iv) the Track II Symposium on the Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on 17-18 September 2012, in Beijing.
35. We decided to make concerted efforts to strengthen the ASEAN Plus Three partnership in order to further enhance and broaden cooperation in the region with an aim to building an East Asian community in the long-term.

ASEAN – CER **(Australia and New Zealand)**

Joint Media Statement of the 17th AEM-CER Consultations

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 31 August 2012

1. The 17th Consultations between the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Ministers of Australia and New Zealand (Closer Economic Relations – CER) was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 31 August 2012. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; the Honorable Mr. Tim Groser, Minister for Trade of New Zealand; and Mr. Bruce Gosper, Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia.
2. The Ministers welcomed the positive growth of trade and investment between ASEAN, Australia and New Zealand noting that total merchandise trade in 2011 now stood at US\$67.7 billion.
3. Against the backdrop of continued uncertainties in the global economy, the Ministers underlined the importance of trade as a key driver in fostering growth and development in our region. The Ministers agreed that the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area provided a valuable springboard for trade growth and encouraged Parties to actively promote awareness of the opportunities under AANZFTA so that business is able to take fuller advantage of the benefits on offer.

ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA Implementation

4. The Ministers welcomed the entry into force of the Agreement Establishing AANZFTA for Indonesia on 10 January 2012, making all 12 signatories Parties to the FTA and establishing AANZFTA as one of the key building blocks to achieving economic integration in the Asia-Pacific region.
5. The Ministers acknowledged the quantum step up in the breadth and substance of the FTA work programme where the focus is on delivering concrete outcomes and benefits to business through improved implementation of

AANZFTA. These efforts and practical innovative mechanisms have encouraged businesses to take advantage of the FTA opportunities. The Ministers were pleased to note the increasing use of AANZFTA's tariff preferences citing an analysis of Australia's import clearance data for 2011, which shows an overall 65% utilization rate for imports from 9 ASEAN countries with the potential to use AANZFTA.

6. The Ministers underscored the need to sustain business confidence through greater transparency and predictability by completing the transposition of Parties' AANZFTA tariff schedules from the 2007 version of the Harmonized System (HS 2007) into the 2012 version (HS 2012) by early 2013. The Ministers also urged Parties to expedite finalization of the transposition of the product specific rules and amendments to the AANZFTA, which, among others, would provide for administrative solutions to implement the Ministers' earlier decision on the removal of FOB value in the Certificate of Origin in certain circumstances.

Moving Forward the FTA's Built-in Agenda

7. The Ministers noted the substantial work being undertaken at various FTA committee levels in moving forward the FTA's built-in agenda, including on:
 - a. *Trade in Goods*: approach for the review of Non-Tariff Measures, involving business outreach and the collection of information while developing a substantive work program that selects some areas for initial focus; design and implementation of a pilot project on self-certification on a voluntary basis; and exchanges on the review of Product Specific Rules and cumulation;
 - b. *Trade in Services*: confidence-building initiatives and information exchange in preparation for the discussions on the review of services commitments;
 - c. *Investment*: information exchange and preliminary discussions on threshold issues (such as the MFN treatment and non-Mode 3 investment in services) under the AANZFTA's Investment Work Programme; and
 - d. *Intellectual Property*: progress towards meeting international IP obligations and standards and to strengthen and expand ASEAN IP systems, and development of a strategic approach to managing major multi-year projects.

Economic Cooperation

8. The Ministers were pleased with the good progress achieved in economic cooperation among the Parties, particularly in implementation of the FTA in goods-related, intellectual property and competition policy areas. The AANZFTA Economic Cooperation Support Programme (AECSP), established in 2010, has now reached its halfway mark with actual and committed expenditure to date of AUD 8 million and a further AUD 4.3 million estimated to be spent in 2012-2013.
9. The Ministers noted the breadth and depth of the economic cooperation projects and their increasing focus on achieving inclusive regional economic integration to complement the building of an ASEAN Economic Community as well as narrowing the development gap among the Parties.
10. The Ministers urged the Parties to identify targeted initiatives in Services and Investment to meet the specific needs of ASEAN or individual ASEAN Member States. Furthermore and mindful of the human resource constraints in the design and delivery of ECWP activities, Parties' officials and the ASEAN Secretariat are encouraged to continue to assist with their technical expertise and coordination in the implementation of these economic cooperation initiatives. The Ministers also welcomed the proposal to establish a Committee on Competition to provide a more strategic direction for economic cooperation in the area of Competition.
11. The ASEAN Economic Ministers expressed their appreciation to Australia and New Zealand for the continued technical and financial support given to ASEAN through the AECSP.

Business Outreach

12. The Ministers recognized the adoption of broad initiatives to enhance business outreach and advocacy and develop stronger links between government and businesses including the conduct of business forum or private sector engagement back-to-back with FTA meetings or ECWP activity, creation of business-friendly FTA websites and translation of AANZFTA publications, namely, "A Guide for ASEAN Business" and "AANZFTA: Primer on Rules of Origin" into Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam national languages to reach out to the small and medium enterprises from the newer ASEAN members.

ASEAN-CER INTEGRATION PARTNERSHIP FORUM

13. Ministers noted the outcome of the 2nd ASEAN-CER Integration Partnership Forum (IPF) held on 19 May 2012 in Makati City which aims to continue to provide the opportunity to share insights and lessons learnt from nearly thirty years of the Australia - New Zealand CER journey.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. Mr. Bruce Gosper, Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia; 2. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 3. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 4. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; 5. Mr. Bounsom Phommavithane, Director General, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 6. Datuk Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria, Secretary-General, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 7. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 8. Hon. Tim Groser, Minister for Trade, New Zealand; 9. Mr. Angelo Salvador M. Benedictos, Assistant Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 10. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 11. Mr. Somkiat Triratpan, Deputy Director General, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce, Thailand; 12. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 13. H . E . Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

East Asia Summit

Joint Statement of the 1st East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (1st EAS EMM)

“Strengthening Global Partnership For Education and Humanity”

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 5 July 2012

1. The First East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (1st EAS EMM) was convened on 5 July 2012 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The Meeting was preceded by the 1st EAS Senior Officials Meeting on Education (1st EAS SOM-ED) held on 3 July and the 7th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (7th ASEd) and 1st ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (1st APT EMM) held on 4 July 2012.
2. The Meeting was chaired by His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Nuh, Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia, and was attended by the Education Ministers or their Representatives from ASEAN Member States, Australia, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, as well as the ASEAN Secretariat.
3. The Ministers warmly welcomed the establishment of EAS EMM to strengthen EAS efforts to advance its common endeavors in education.
4. The Ministers recalled the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the East Asia Summit to establish the East Asia Summit as an open, inclusive, transparent and outwardlooking forum for dialogue on broad strategic, political and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia; to promote community building in the region that will be consistent with and reinforce the realisation of the ASEAN Community; and to strengthen global norms and universally recognised values with ASEAN as the driving force, working in partnership with the other participants of the East Asia Summit.
5. The Ministers also recalled the Leaders statements at the 2nd EAS in Cebu, Philippines in 2007, the 5th EAS in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, in 2010, and the 6th EAS in Bali, Indonesia in 2011, which underscored the importance of education, and agreed to enhance quality and adaptability of education through, inter alia, promotion of education exchange, networking and innovation and welcomed cooperation among EAS participating countries on education and training initiatives which contribute to advancing ASEAN's integration goals and improving the lives of its people.
6. Having regard to the Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations adopted at the 6th EAS in Bali, Indonesia in 2011, the Ministers agreed to focus education cooperation on the enhancement of mutually beneficial cooperation in the EAS and with other regional fora. The Ministers further agreed, consistent with the Declaration of the 6th East Asia Summit on ASEAN Connectivity, on the need for education cooperation to promote greater engagement and cooperation in people-to-people connectivity initiatives, including those relating to education and life-long learning, human resource development, innovation and entrepreneurship, cultural exchanges, and tourism.
7. The Ministers recalled their commitment at the Informal EAS EMM of 2011 to prioritize education quality improvement in their future cooperation and reiterated the pivotal role of education, not only in promoting human resources development, but also as a means for bridging development gaps, enhancing regional competitiveness, achieving sustained economic development, and promoting friendship and mutual understanding among people in the region. The Ministers used the meeting as a forum to share views and experiences, as well as to discuss future education cooperation between EAS participating countries.
8. The Meeting welcomed the report by His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Nuh, Minister of National Education of the Republic of Indonesia on the implementation of the projects recommended by the Education Cooperation Task Force (ECTF) to foster closer education cooperation among the EAS participating countries.
9. The Ministers welcomed the success and achievements of the UNESCO conference hosted by Japan in November 2011 to adopt the revised UNESCO Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher

Education in Asia and the Pacific. This conference followed the EAS education cooperation project led by Australia in 2011 to promote awareness and understanding of the revised UNESCO Convention. The conference viewed the revision and adoption of the revised convention as a major step towards improved qualifications recognition arrangements in the Asia-Pacific. The conference also called upon parties and donors to work together to strengthen national information centres in support of that Convention.

10. The Ministers welcomed with appreciation the progress of Australia's project to develop a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) and noted that a TVET QAF has been developed in consultation with many EAS participating countries and was now moving to in-country workshops in five EAS countries to identify capacity building needs. The Ministers noted the great need for capacity building of TVET systems in EAS participating countries as well as continuing inter-country dialogue and information sharing on skills recognition systems and qualifications frameworks, to ensure the benefits of a regional framework were achieved. The Ministers noted that Australia would shortly commence its feasibility study on a regional facility for education quality assessment.
11. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of promoting and assuring high quality student exchange as well as university exchange in higher education among EAS participating countries. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed Japan's initiative to promote cooperation among EAS universities and appreciated the successful holding of the "International Symposium on Exchange among Universities with Quality Assurance in East Asia Region" hosted by Japan in September 2011.
12. The Ministers noted the progress in India's initiative to establish Nalanda University in collaboration with EAS participating countries. The Ministers further noted that the university will shortly commence academic activities in the Schools of Historical Studies and Ecology and Environment. The Ministers also welcomed gracious commitment and financial support made by the governments of Australia, China, Lao PDR and Thailand as well as other independent donors.
13. In order to provide direction and momentum to education cooperation and promote a more comprehensive cooperation based on the principle of unity in diversity the Ministers adopted the EAS

Education Action Plan (2011-2015) developed by the 1st EAS SOM-ED and urged participating countries to support the education cooperation projects identified under the Action Plan or otherwise in support of strengthening education systems, building a community based on mutual understanding and supporting connectivity through the elimination of barriers to the mobility of students, academic and education providers within the EAS in order to expand educational benefits and opportunities.

14. The Ministers welcomed the commitment by several EAS participating countries to lead and to collaborate in the implementation of specific projects on a voluntary basis.
15. The Ministers welcomed additional commitments made by Australia and Korea to work together in relation to developing a network of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) providers in consultation with EAS participating countries.
16. The Ministers recognised the positive contribution made in promoting EAS Education Cooperation by Australia and Japan in relation to building capacity in quality assurance in higher education.
17. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of mechanisms to facilitate regional cooperation, and encouraged discussions and policy dialogues among officials, experts, education providers and industry. The Ministers also expressed their hope that the outcomes of this cooperation would not be limited to projects, but also at the senior policy-making level, for more effective use of sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices among the EAS participating countries.
18. Reaffirming their strong commitment to strengthen regional cooperation on education by convening the EAS Education Ministers Meeting (EMM) on a biennial basis, in conjunction with ASSED and ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers' Meetings, the Ministers agreed on the Terms of Reference of the EAS EMM which provide for effective coordination with relevant regional and international organizations including the ASEAN University Network and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation.
19. The Ministers welcomed the advice of the Minister for Education and Sports of the Lao PDR that the 2nd EAS EMM will be held in July 2014.

20. The Ministers agreed to report the outcomes of the 1st EAS EMM to the 7th East Asia Summit which will be held in Cambodia, in November 2012.
21. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Indonesia for the warm hospitality extended to the delegates and the excellent arrangements made in hosting the 1st EAS EMM. The Ministers also expressed their appreciation to the ASEAN Secretariat for its valuable contributions to the meeting.

Chairman Statement of the 2nd East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 12 July 2012

1. The Second East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 12 July 2012. The Meeting was chaired by **H.E. HOR Namhong**, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia.
2. The Ministers acknowledged the development and growing importance of the EAS as an integral part of the evolving regional architecture. In this connection, the Ministers were pleased to note the strengthening of partnership and cooperation under the EAS framework, and stressed the need to further consolidating and enhancing the role of the EAS as a leaders-led forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic, political and economic issues, including geopolitical issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia. The Ministers underlined the necessity of joining efforts to strengthen the regional architecture, based on mutually-reinforcing mechanisms and the principles of international law and use of multilateral mechanisms in finding common solution to problems. The Ministers also stressed the need to utilize the current configuration as new impetus to strengthen the evolving regional architecture, by fostering closer collaboration among all EAS participating countries, with ASEAN as the driving force.
3. The Ministers reaffirmed their support to the central role of ASEAN in the EAS. They also stressed the important need for all participating countries of the EAS to adhere to the principles, objectives and modalities of the EAS as enshrined in the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on East Asia Summit, the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration in Commemoration of the 5th Anniversary of the EAS, and 2011 Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles).
4. The Ministers reviewed the progress of cooperation in the framework of the EAS, in particular in the priority areas, namely, finance, environment and energy, education, global health issues and communicable diseases, disaster management, and ASEAN Connectivity and regional economic integration. They also exchanged views on the future direction of the EAS.
5. The Ministers were pleased with the implemented activities under the EAS cooperation on environment and energy. They took note with appreciation the outcomes of the 3rd High Level Seminar on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (HLS-ESC) in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 6-8 March 2012, and the East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue in Tokyo on 15 April 2012. They looked forward to the 3rd EAS Seminar on Climate Change Adaptation Capacity Building, the EAS Forum on New Energy which would be held in China, and the Second East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue to be co-chaired by Cambodia and Japan in Tokyo in 2013. The Ministers noted Russia's proposal to set up an instrument to provide financial support to implement activities on Low Carbon Growth as well as its proposal on the EAS Task Force on Energy Cooperation to explore the possibility of creating a new legal framework of international energy cooperation.
6. The Ministers expressed strong commitment to further strengthen the human resource development in the region. They welcomed the convening of the First EAS Education Ministers' Meeting (EMM) in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 5 July 2012, and the adoption of the EAS Education Action Plan.
7. The Ministers welcomed China's proposal to improve cooperation on higher education, especially in bilingual teaching to promote competitiveness of higher education in the East Asia region. They also noted with appreciation Russia's proposal to convene an EAS Rectors' Conference, as well as the US' proposal to conduct English Language Training courses for ASEAN Member States as

well as the US-Brunei Darussalam Partnership for English Language Education in ASEAN as part of its commitment to support capacity building for the peoples of ASEAN.

8. The Ministers emphasized the importance of people-to-people exchanges, particularly among the youth and students with a view to fostering a sense of togetherness, mutual respect and understanding of each other's tradition and values. In this context, they commended the efforts and substantial contribution of Japan in implementing the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS), and welcomed Japan's new youth exchange project named "Kizuna Project" which was a part of Japan's reconstruction plans, aiming at promoting global understanding of Japan revival efforts in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake. The Ministers extended their commitment to the steady implementation of this project.
9. The Ministers reaffirmed the important role of Nalanda University and took note of the progress made in the establishment of the University, including the proposal to conduct a Global Design Competition for the design of the University as soon as possible.
10. The Ministers welcomed China's proposal to convene a training course on public health for the EAS participating countries.
11. The Ministers discussed the threat of emerging drug resistant Malaria and agreed that improved cooperative approaches to address this major health threat are required. The Ministers took note of the recommendations to have a declaration on this agenda adopted at the 7th EAS in November 2012 in Phnom Penh.
12. The Ministers welcomed the progress toward the convening of the Second Meeting of EAS Finance Ministers to discuss EAS finance cooperation.
13. The Ministers expressed commitment to enhance both multilateral and bilateral cooperation in disaster prevention and disaster relief efforts as well as to strengthen the effective operationalization of the ASEAN Coordinating Center for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Management (AHA Centre). In this context, they welcomed Japan's decision to provide a new assistance for the establishment of disaster emergency logistic systems. They reaffirmed the statement by the Leaders at the Sixth EAS in November 2011 held in

Bali, Indonesia encouraging all EAS participating countries to contribute to the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2010-2015.

14. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Working Group Meeting to discuss the implementation of the proposals mentioned in the "Indonesian-Australian Paper: A Practical Approach to Enhance Regional Cooperation on Disaster Rapid Response". The Ministers encouraged further implementation of the Paper based on AADMER Work Programme as well as the AHA Centre Strategic Plan.
15. In this connection, the Ministers welcomed the recent convening of the ACDM Working Group in Bangkok on 2 June 2012 to discuss the linkage between the AADMER Work Programme and the proposed EAS Work Plan on Disaster Management. They also took note of the three main focus areas of ASEAN cooperation in disaster management, namely, i) flood and drought prevention; ii) climate change; and, iii) rapid post-disaster recovery, and welcomed non-ASEAN EAS participating countries to continue working closely with ASEAN in these areas. In this regard, Thailand will host the Information Sharing Dialogue between the ACDM and EAS Participating Countries back-to-back with the 21st Meeting of the ACDM in January 2013. The Ministers noted with appreciation the US' initiative to promote implementation of Rapid Disaster Response agreements among EAS participating countries in the acceptance and deployment of international assistance in response to large scale disaster in the Asia-Pacific region.
16. The Ministers welcomed Japan's commitment to providing \$3 billion to developing countries over the next three years as well as hosting the "World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in Tohoku" in July 2012, in order to share experiences and lessons-learned from the large-scale natural disasters. They reaffirmed the importance to build "resilient society" based on human security and to mainstream disaster reduction in decision-making at all levels. They looked forward to the convening of the Third World Conference on Disaster Reduction, which Japan expressed its intention to host in 2015.
17. The Ministers also welcomed the initiative of India to host the EAS Conference 2012 on Building Regional Responses, and a conference on

capacity building on Disaster Management and Relief to be held in September 2012. They also welcomed Russia's proposal to create a network that would connect national disaster relief centres of all EAS participating countries.

18. The Ministers stressed the importance of ASEAN Connectivity in promoting economic integration and looked forward to the effective implementation of the Declaration of the 6th EAS on ASEAN Connectivity adopted at the 6th EAS in Bali, Indonesia, in November 2011, in particular the development of a regional public-private partnership (PPP) development agenda, the active involvement of the public and private sectors in key priority projects under the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, close cooperation in people-to-people connectivity. They reaffirmed their support for the enhancement of ASEAN Connectivity, and shared the importance of expanding Connectivity beyond ASEAN as well. In this context, the Ministers supported the implementation of the Master Plan as it will contribute to intra-regional efforts towards greater connectivity and integration. To this end, the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity (ACCC) with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat and ERIA will discuss and implement the above-mentioned initiatives, as well as consider working out the modalities of establishing a Working Group under the EAS rubric to look into the issue of financing ASEAN Connectivity.
19. The Ministers welcomed the regional efforts to enhance cooperation in promoting maritime cooperation in the region including on combating piracy and armed robbery against ship, search and rescue at sea, marine environment, maritime security, maritime connectivity, freedom of navigation, fisheries and other areas of cooperation. The Ministers looked forward to the convening of the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) back-to-back with the next ASEAN Maritime Forum to be held on the second half of 2012, in the Philippines, with the view to addressing common challenges on maritime issues. The Ministers noted the proposed idea on studying modalities of fisheries resources management in other regions.
20. The Ministers underlined the importance of the maintenance of peace, security and stability on the Korean Peninsula and urged concerned parties not to conduct any further provocations and to comply with their respective obligations under the relevant UNSC Resolutions and their commitment under the 2005 Six-Party Talks Joint Statement. To this end, the Ministers further reiterated the call for all parties concerned to explore all possibilities to engage in a peaceful dialogue, including the resumption of the Six-Party Talks, which would lead to creating an atmosphere of trust and confidence that could contribute to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.
21. The Ministers reiterated their commitments to further coordinate efforts in combating terrorism and other non-traditional security threat and challenges in the Asia-Pacific region. They strongly supported the strengthening of global disarmament and non-proliferation regime, calling for further elaboration of strict verification mechanism for non-proliferation and disarmament obligations.
22. The Ministers exchanged views on the recent developments in the South China Sea. They emphasized the importance of the full and effective implementation of the DOC, and welcomed the follow-up activities following the adoption of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the DOC. They further reaffirmed the call for all concerned parties to the peaceful resolution of the disputes in accordance with the recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS.
23. The Ministers agreed that on-going processes of political transition in part of the Middle East and North Africa made it necessary for all parties concerned to work collectively in order to find way of addressing of crises in the region. This should be done within the legal framework and through peaceful only, without external interference, rejecting all kinds of violence from all sides, establishing a broad national dialogue with due respect for independent, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the country of the region.
24. The Ministers welcomed the progress made by officials from both ASEAN and ASEAN's FTAs Partners in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Working Groups on Goods, Services and Investments and looked forward to the launch of RCEP negotiations at the 21st ASEAN Summit.
25. The Ministers affirmed their support for the ASEAN's Paper on the Global Movement of Moderates that was adopted by the Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh in April 2012. The Ministers took note that Malaysia and the ASEAN Secretariat are working closely to involve an action plan based on the Concept Paper.

The Ministers took note that the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation (GMMF) has been established as national focal point to spearhead activities at the national level for Malaysia. In this connection, the Ministers agreed to all participating countries of the EAS to begin the process of identifying their national focal points.

26. With regard to the future of the EAS, the Ministers agreed to continue to make the EAS meetings more conducive, constructive, visionary, and strategic with tangible outcomes. In this context, they also welcomed the intention of China to host a track 1.5 International Symposium on East Asia Summit and the Future of East Asia in China in 2012.
27. The Ministers reiterated that EAS cooperation should be directed to strengthen regional resilience and competitiveness, as well as to cope and address adverse effects from challenges in the global fora, by utilizing the existing ASEAN mechanisms.
28. The Ministers were of the view that EAS cooperation and other existing mechanisms in the region, including the ARF and ADMM-Plus, could mutually reinforce one another and positively contribute to the evolving regional architecture.
29. The Ministers also discussed the preparations for the upcoming 7th EAS to be held in Phnom Penh in November 2012.
30. The Ministers looked forward to the 3rd EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Brunei Darussalam in 2013.

Joint Media Statement of the EAS Economic Ministers' Meeting

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 30 August 2012

1. Economic Ministers from of East Asia Summit (EAS) participating countries - the ten ASEAN Member States, Australia, China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea and New Zealand, the Russian Federation (Russia) and the United States of America (US) gathered in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 30 August 2012 for the First EAS Economic Ministers' Meeting. H.E. Dr. Cham Prasidh, Senior

Minister and Minister of Commerce of Cambodia chaired the meeting, which allowed the Ministers to exchange views on global and regional issues affecting the East Asian region as well as developments in areas of economic cooperation within the East Asia Summit (EAS) framework.

2. The Ministers welcomed participation of Russia and the United States in the EAS Economic Ministers' Meeting, which will strengthen EAS economic cooperation.
3. The Ministers noted that the 18 EAS participating countries accounted for around one-half of the world GDP. They were pleased to note that, in 2011, ASEAN's total trade with the other eight EAS countries grew by 20.7 per cent to US\$ 1027.1 billion. Exports from ASEAN to the other EAS countries rose by 23.3 per cent, from US\$ 439.5 billion in 2010 to US\$ 541.8 billion in 2011, while imports from the other EAS countries increased by 17.9 per cent to US\$ 485.3 in 2011. The other EAS countries accounted for 43 per cent of ASEAN's total trade in 2011.
4. The Ministers also noted that foreign direct investment (FDI) flows from the non-ASEAN EAS countries slightly declined by 6.7 per cent from US\$ 50.3 billion in 2010 to US\$ 46.9 billion in 2011, brought about mainly by the global and regional economic and financial uncertainties. Notwithstanding, FDI flows from the non-ASEAN EAS countries continued to account for more than one-half of total FDI flow to ASEAN.
5. The Ministers recalled the Leaders' consensus that the EAS plays a significant role in community building in the region and forms an integral part of the evolving regional architecture. They acknowledged the critical role that ASEAN plays as the driving force in the EAS, working with other participants. Ministers emphasized the important role which trade and economic cooperation plays in the development of the East Asian region.

Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

6. The Ministers welcomed the updates provided by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and commended on its activities in a variety of fields that include SMEs, energy, environment, trade and investment, infrastructure development as well as assistance provided to ASEAN through the Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint,

improving the AEC Scorecard and conducting a comprehensive mapping of ASEAN's free trade agreements.

7. The Ministers, recognising that there is still scope for ERIA to do work in some other important areas, encouraged ERIA to explore expanding its research activities to other emerging areas such as on future economic challenges to sustainable growth and prosperity in the region. The Ministers also underscored the importance of systematically aligning the work of ERIA with the policy objectives of the EAS. This could be achieved through practical arrangements for engagement between policymakers and ERIA's researchers, including consultation about research topics and regular feedback from policymakers on ERIA's research and analysis. The Ministers looked forward to ERIA's continued support and contribution and recognised the importance of further strengthening ERIA to effectively contribute to economic integration and community-building in ASEAN and the greater East Asian region through its research work and policy recommendations. The Ministers appreciated contributions from ASEAN Member States, India, Japan and New Zealand to ERIA.

Regional and global economic development

8. Reaffirming their support to ASEAN's efforts towards the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015, the Ministers also underlined the importance of deepening ASEAN's economic integration beyond 2015 with enhanced participation in global supply networks. In this context, the Ministers reaffirmed their support for the effective implementation of the Declaration of the 6th EAS on ASEAN Connectivity, and anticipated ERIA's further support to the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee as well as to the ASEAN Secretariat.
9. The Ministers exchanged views on the current developments affecting regional and global trade and economy. Given the global economic uncertainties and the importance of sustaining trade flows, Ministers encouraged continuing efforts to find different, fresh and credible approaches with a view to a successful multilateral conclusion of the Doha Round in accordance with its mandate. Ministers welcomed the July decision by the WTO General Council to streamline the processes under which least-developed countries can join the WTO. This was an important step for ensuring that least-developed countries can access the benefits of the multilateral trading system. It was also a timely reminder that multilateral trade negotiations can
- work. The Ministers reemphasized the importance of finding outcomes in areas where progress can be made, including trade facilitation and development-related issues, as part of efforts to advance the Doha development agenda. The Ministers reiterated the value, centrality and primacy of the multilateral trading system as embodied by the WTO and agreed to exert greater efforts to operationalize the "Elements for Political Guidance" outcome document from the WTO 8th Ministerial Conference.
10. Ministers renewed the commitment to avoid protectionism and expressed their support for standstill on measures affecting trade and investment. To this end, they agreed to refrain from raising new barriers to investment or to trade in goods and services, imposing new export restrictions, or implementing WTO-inconsistent measures in all areas, including those that stimulate exports, to rollback the trade-distorting or protectionist measures that may have arisen, and to exercise maximum restraint in implementing measures that may be considered to be consistent with WTO provisions but have a significant protectionist effect and promptly rectify such measures, where implemented.
11. The Ministers welcomed Russia's accession to the WTO as its 156th member underscoring the benefits of Russia's accession to the WTO to global trade as well as Russia's economic development. With Russia's accession to the WTO, more than 97 per cent of world trade will take place among WTO's members. The Ministers also reiterated their support to the early accession for the Lao PDR to the WTO in 2012.
12. The Ministers noted Russia's preparation for the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting to be held in Vladivostok in September 2012. The Ministers in particular noted the areas prioritized by Russia, as APEC Chair for 2012, which include: (i) trade and investment liberalization, and regional economic integration; (ii) strengthening food security; (iii) establishing reliable supply chains; and (iv) intensive cooperation to foster innovative growth. The Ministers agreed to work together to produce significant outcomes at the Vladivostok meetings, in particular to dedicate all available resources to fulfill Leaders' instructions to work to develop in 2012 an APEC list of environmental goods that will serve as the basis for Leaders' 2011 commitment to reduce tariffs on these products. The Ministers expressed their commitment to promote broader economic integration, and trade and investment

liberalization and facilitation in the Asia-Pacific region and to continue to work closely in APEC to achieve these objectives.

13. The Ministers also exchanged their views about measures to be taken to achieve long-term economic growth in this unstable global economy. From the viewpoint of promoting sustainable development in the region, the Ministers reaffirmed their cooperation toward the 2nd Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue, which will be co-chaired by Cambodia and Japan in Spring 2013. The Ministers also reaffirmed the necessity of cooperation in the area of human resource development and broader usage of low carbon technologies and products.
14. In relation with all the agenda discussed at this meeting, the Ministers shared the importance of inputs from private sectors and agreed to explore ways to gain further input from the business community in the future by fully utilizing the existing fora such as the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. Hon. Craig Emerson MP, Minister for Trade and Competitiveness, Australia; 2. H.E. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Second Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam; 3. H.E. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce, Cambodia; 4. H.E. Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce, China; 5. H.E. Anand Sharma, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Textile, India; 6. Mr. Iman Pambagyo, Director-General of International Trade Cooperation, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; 7. H.E. Yukio Edano, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan; 8. H.E. Bark Taeho, Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea; 9. H.E. Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR; 10. H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; 11. H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar; 12. Hon. Tim Groser, Minister of Trade, New Zealand; 13. H.E. Gregory L. Domingo, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines; 14. H.E. Alexey Lihachev, Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Russian Federation; 15. H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; 16. H.E. Boonsong Teriyapirom, Minister of Commerce, Thailand; 17. H.E. Nguyen Cam Tu, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam; 18. Ambassador Ron Kirk, United States Trade Representative; 19. H.E. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Chairman Statement of the 2nd East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 12 July 2012

1. The Second East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 12 July 2012. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia.
2. The Ministers acknowledged the development and growing importance of the EAS as an integral part of the evolving regional architecture. In this connection, the Ministers were pleased to note the strengthening of partnership and cooperation under the EAS framework, and stressed the need to further consolidating and enhancing the role of the EAS as a leaders-led forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic, political and economic issues, including geopolitical issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia. The Ministers underlined the necessity of joining efforts to strengthen the regional architecture, based on mutually-reinforcing mechanisms and the principles of international law and use of multilateral mechanisms in finding common solution to problems. The Ministers also stressed the need to utilize the current configuration as new impetus to strengthen the evolving regional architecture, by fostering closer collaboration among all EAS participating countries, with ASEAN as the driving force.
3. The Ministers reaffirmed their support to the central role of ASEAN in the EAS. They also stressed the important need for all participating countries of the EAS to adhere to the principles, objectives and modalities of the EAS as enshrined in the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on East Asia Summit, the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration in Commemoration of the 5th Anniversary of the EAS, and 2011 Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles).
4. The Ministers reviewed the progress of cooperation in the framework of the EAS, in particular in the priority areas, namely, finance, environment and energy, education, global health issues and communicable diseases, disaster management, and ASEAN Connectivity and regional economic

integration. They also exchanged views on the future direction of the EAS.

5. The Ministers were pleased with the implemented activities under the EAS cooperation on environment and energy. They took note with appreciation the outcomes of the 3rd High Level Seminar on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (HLS-ESC) in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 6-8 March 2012, and the East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue in Tokyo on 15 April 2012. They looked forward to the 3rd EAS Seminar on Climate Change Adaptation Capacity Building, the EAS Forum on New Energy which would be held in China, and the Second East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue to be co-chaired by Cambodia and Japan in Tokyo in 2013. The Ministers noted Russia's proposal to set up an instrument to provide financial support to implement activities on Low Carbon Growth as well as its proposal on the EAS Task Force on Energy Cooperation to explore the possibility of creating a new legal framework of international energy cooperation.
6. The Ministers expressed strong commitment to further strengthen the human resource development in the region. They welcomed the convening of the First EAS Education Ministers' Meeting (EMM) in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 5 July 2012, and the adoption of the EAS Education Action Plan.
7. The Ministers welcomed China's proposal to improve cooperation on higher education, especially in bilingual teaching to promote competitiveness of higher education in the East Asia region. They also noted with appreciation Russia's proposal to convene an EAS Rectors' Conference, as well as the US' proposal to conduct English Language Training courses for ASEAN Member States as well as the US-Brunei Darussalam Partnership for English Language Education in ASEAN as part of its commitment to support capacity building for the peoples of ASEAN.
8. The Ministers emphasized the importance of people-to-people exchanges, particularly among the youth and students with a view to fostering a sense of togetherness, mutual respect and understanding of each other's tradition and values. In this context, they commended the efforts and substantial contribution of Japan in implementing the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS), and welcomed Japan's new youth exchange project named "Kizuna Project" which was a part of Japan's reconstruction plans, aiming at promoting global understanding of Japan revival efforts in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake. The Ministers extended their commitment to the steady implementation of this project.
9. The Ministers reaffirmed the important role of Nalanda University and took note of the progress made in the establishment of the University, including the proposal to conduct a Global Design Competition for the design of the University as soon as possible.
10. The Ministers welcomed China's proposal to convene a training course on public health for the EAS participating countries.
11. The Ministers discussed the threat of emerging drug resistant Malaria and agreed that improved cooperative approaches to address this major health threat are required. The Ministers took note of the recommendations to have a declaration on this agenda adopted at the 7th EAS in November 2012 in Phnom Penh.
12. The Ministers welcomed the progress toward the convening of the Second Meeting of EAS Finance Ministers to discuss EAS finance cooperation.
13. The Ministers expressed commitment to enhance both multilateral and bilateral cooperation in disaster prevention and disaster relief efforts as well as to strengthen the effective operationalization of the ASEAN Coordinating Center for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Management (AHA Centre). In this context, they welcomed Japan's decision to provide a new assistance for the establishment of disaster emergency logistic systems. They reaffirmed the statement by the Leaders at the Sixth EAS in November 2011 held in Bali, Indonesia encouraging all EAS participating countries to contribute to the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2010-2015.
14. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Working Group Meeting to discuss the implementation of the proposals mentioned in the "Indonesian-Australian Paper: A Practical Approach to Enhance Regional Cooperation on Disaster Rapid Response". The Ministers encouraged further implementation of the Paper based on AADMER Work Programme as well as the AHA Centre Strategic Plan.

15. In this connection, the Ministers welcomed the recent convening of the ACDM Working Group in Bangkok on 2 June 2012 to discuss the linkage between the AADMER Work Programme and the proposed EAS Work Plan on Disaster Management. They also took note of the three main focus areas of ASEAN cooperation in disaster management, namely, i) flood and drought prevention; ii) climate change; and, iii) rapid post-disaster recovery, and welcomed non-ASEAN EAS participating countries to continue working closely with ASEAN in these areas. In this regard, Thailand will host the Information Sharing Dialogue between the ACDM and EAS Participating Countries back-to-back with the 21st Meeting of the ACDM in January 2013. The Ministers noted with appreciation the US' initiative to promote implementation of Rapid Disaster Response agreements among EAS participating countries in the acceptance and deployment of international assistance in response to large scale disaster in the Asia-Pacific region.
16. The Ministers welcomed Japan's commitment to providing \$3 billion to developing countries over the next three years as well as hosting the "World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in Tohoku" in July 2012, in order to share experiences and lessons-learned from the large-scale natural disasters. They reaffirmed the importance to build "resilient society" based on human security and to mainstream disaster reduction in decision-making at all levels. They looked forward to the convening of the Third World Conference on Disaster Reduction, which Japan expressed its intention to host in 2015.
17. The Ministers also welcomed the initiative of India to host the EAS Conference 2012 on Building Regional Responses, and a conference on capacity building on Disaster Management and Relief to be held in September 2012. They also welcomed Russia's proposal to create a network that would connect national disaster relief centres of all EAS participating countries.
18. The Ministers stressed the importance of ASEAN Connectivity in promoting economic integration and looked forward to the effective implementation of the Declaration of the 6th EAS on ASEAN Connectivity adopted at the 6th EAS in Bali, Indonesia, in November 2011, in particular the development of a regional public-private partnership (PPP) development agenda, the active involvement of the public and private sectors in key priority projects under the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, close cooperation in people-to-people connectivity. They reaffirmed their support for the enhancement of ASEAN Connectivity, and shared the importance of expanding Connectivity beyond ASEAN as well. In this context, the Ministers supported the implementation of the Master Plan as it will contribute to intra-regional efforts towards greater connectivity and integration. To this end, the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity (ACCC) with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat and ERIA will discuss and implement the above-mentioned initiatives, as well as consider working out the modalities of establishing a Working Group under the EAS rubric to look into the issue of financing ASEAN Connectivity.
19. The Ministers welcomed the regional efforts to enhance cooperation in promoting maritime cooperation in the region including on combating piracy and armed robbery against ship, search and rescue at sea, marine environment, maritime security, maritime connectivity, freedom of navigation, fisheries and other areas of cooperation. The Ministers looked forward to the convening of the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) back-to-back with the next ASEAN Maritime Forum to be held on the second half of 2012, in the Philippines, with the view to addressing common challenges on maritime issues. The Ministers noted the proposed idea on studying modalities of fisheries resources management in other regions.
20. The Ministers underlined the importance of the maintenance of peace, security and stability on the Korean Peninsula and urged concerned parties not to conduct any further provocations and to comply with their respective obligations under the relevant UNSC Resolutions and their commitment under the 2005 Six-Party Talks Joint Statement. To this end, the Ministers further reiterated the call for all parties concerned to explore all possibilities to engage in a peaceful dialogue, including the resumption of the Six-Party Talks, which would lead to creating an atmosphere of trust and confidence that could contribute to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.
21. The Ministers reiterated their commitments to further coordinate efforts in combating terrorism and other non-traditional security threat and challenges in the Asia-Pacific region. They strongly supported the strengthening of global disarmament and non-proliferation regime, calling for further elaboration of strict verification

- mechanism for non-proliferation and disarmament obligations.
22. The Ministers exchanged views on the recent developments in the South China Sea. They emphasized the importance of the full and effective implementation of the DOC, and welcomed the follow-up activities following the adoption of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the DOC. They further reaffirmed the call for all concerned parties to the peaceful resolution of the disputes in accordance with the recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS.
 23. The Ministers agreed that on-going processes of political transition in part of the Middle East and North Africa made its necessary for all parties concerned to work collectively in order to find way of addressing of crises in the region. This should be done within the legal framework and through peaceful only, without external interference, rejecting all kinds of violence from all sides, establishing a broad national dialogue with due respect for independent, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the country of the region.
 24. The Ministers welcomed the progress made by officials from both ASEAN and ASEAN's FTAs Partners in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Working Groups on Goods, Services and Investments and looked forward to the launch of RCEP negotiations at the 21st ASEAN Summit.
 25. The Ministers affirmed their support for the ASEAN's Paper on the Global Movement of Moderates that was adopted by the Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh in April 2012. The Ministers took note that Malaysia and the ASEAN Secretariat are working closely to involve an action plan based on the Concept Paper. The Ministers took note that the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation (GMMF) has been established as national focal point to spearhead activities at the national level for Malaysia. In this connection, the Ministers agreed to all participating countries of the EAS to begin the process of identifying their national focal points.
 26. With regard to the future of the EAS, the Ministers agreed to continue to make the EAS meetings more conducive, constructive, visionary, and strategic with tangible outcomes. In this context, they also welcomed the intention of China to host a track 1.5 International Symposium on East Asia Summit and the Future of East Asia in China in 2012.
 27. The Ministers reiterated that EAS cooperation should be directed to strengthen regional resilience and competitiveness, as well as to cope and address adverse effects from challenges in the global fora, by utilizing the existing ASEAN mechanisms.
 28. The Ministers were of the view that EAS cooperation and other existing mechanisms in the region, including the ARF and ADMM-Plus, could mutually reinforce one another and positively contribute to the evolving regional architecture.
 29. The Ministers also discussed the preparations for the upcoming 7th EAS to be held in Phnom Penh in November 2012.
 30. The Ministers looked forward to the 3rd EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Brunei Darussalam in 2013.

Joint Ministerial Statement of the 6th East Asian Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (6th EASEMM)

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
12 September 2012**

1. The Sixth East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (EAS EMM) was held on 12 September 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy of Cambodia, and co-chaired by H.E. Keiro Kitagami, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan. The Meeting was attended by the Ministers and senior officials responsible for energy from the EAS Countries namely, ASEAN Member States, Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation and the United States. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance.
2. In response to the global economic outlook, heightened uncertainty in the global energy market, and the growing energy demand in East Asia, the Ministers urged EAS countries to continue enhancing EAS energy cooperation towards overcoming these challenges.

3. The Ministers welcomed the steady progress made by EAS countries in the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Work Stream. This includes the adoption, on a voluntary basis, of energy efficiency goals and national plans on energy efficiency, which resulted in a reduction in energy intensity in most EAS countries in the period 2005-2009. The Ministers noted that Total Primary Energy Supply (TPES) of the EAS region is projected under the IEEJ Asia/World Energy Outlook to account for 62% of the World TPES in 2035, demonstrating that actions to be undertaken to improve energy efficiency in the region will play a very important role in the future global energy landscape. The Ministers appreciated the contribution of relevant institutions of member countries by organising activities for the development of human resources and information sharing on energy efficiency. The Ministers also welcomed the studies on energy saving potentials that reflect the progress of action plans of the ASEAN member countries to improve energy efficiency. The Ministers expressed appreciation to Cambodia for hosting the Second Energy Efficiency Conference on 31 July – 1 August 2012 including the report on Lao PDR and noted the Conference's policy recommendations.
 4. The Ministers commended the energy officials for the further progress made in the Biofuels for Transport and other Purposes Work Stream, particularly the further development of the Biofuels Database in East Asia Countries to include good practice of biofuel utilisation in respective countries, the research activities undertaken under the Asia Biomass Energy Researchers Invitation Programme, and the joint studies on Biodiesel Fuel Standardisation and Sustainability Assessment of Biomass Utilisation in East Asia conducted by ERIA. The Ministers encouraged the energy officials to further advance the implementation of these programmes, building on the good achievements made in the past years.
 5. The Ministers expressed appreciation to ERIA for its contribution to the work of the Energy Market Integration Work Stream by conducting the Study on "Energy Market Integration (EMI) in East Asia: Theories, Electricity Sector and Subsidies". The Ministers tasked the Senior Officials to consider the recommendations of the Study for possible practical adoption. The Ministers also expressed appreciation to Singapore and New Zealand for the organisation of the inaugural EAS Energy Market Deregulation Forum on 23 October 2012 in Singapore, to be held in conjunction with the Singapore International Energy Week 2012.
- The Ministers encouraged the EAS Countries to send representatives from relevant Ministries/ Departments/Organisations in-charge of trade, investment and energy and energy regulatory authorities to participate in the Forum.
6. In order to enhance EAS energy cooperation and energy security, the Ministers acknowledged the importance of sharing medium-to-long term outlooks for energy supply and demand, given the growing energy demand in the region and taking into account the possible implications of natural disasters on existing energy infrastructure. In this regard, the Ministers acknowledged that ERIA, in coordination with ACE, will collaborate with the International Energy Agency (IEA) in conducting studies on energy outlooks.
 7. With respect to further enhancement of EAS energy cooperation, the Ministers noted the commencement of the following research studies by ERIA with support from Japan: (i) Energy outlooks for medium-to-long term; (ii) Strategic usage of coal through Clean Coal Technologies; (iii) Optimum electric power infrastructure; (iv) Nuclear power safety management; and (v) Smart urban traffic promoting energy efficiency of transport sector. The Ministers welcomed the establishment of a new energy unit at ERIA and requested ERIA to report on the progress of the new research studies and cooperation initiatives at future ministerial meetings.
 8. Noting the close correlation between energy utilisation and climate change, the Ministers acknowledged the importance of research studies toward low carbon growth. The Ministers welcomed the outcome of the 1st East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue co-chaired by Indonesia and Japan in April 2012 to discuss promotion of regional cooperation for low carbon growth, as agreed by the Leaders at the East Asia Summit in 2011. The Ministers also recognised the important role of diffusing low carbon technologies, products and services to achieve reduction of greenhouse gas emission on a global scale.
 9. The Ministers agreed to meet again in Indonesia in 2013 for further development of EAS energy cooperation.
 10. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government and people of the Kingdom of Cambodia for the warm hospitality accorded and the excellent arrangements made for the 6th EAS EMM.

MINISTERS FOR ENERGY OF EAS COUNTRIES

1. H.E. Ms. Penny Richards, Australian Ambassador to Cambodia, on behalf of the Minister for Resources and Energy of Australia; 2. Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam; 3. H.E. Mr. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia; 4. H.E. Mr. Wu Yin, Vice Administrator, National Energy Administration of the People's Republic of China; 5. H.E. Mr. Jero Wacik, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of the Republic of Indonesia; 6. H.E. R.P.N Singh, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas of the Republic of India; 7. H.E. Keiro Kitagami, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; 8. H.E. Lee Kwansup, Deputy Minister of Knowledge Economy of the Republic of Korea; 9. H.E. Mr. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao People's Democratic Republic; 10. H.E. Dato' Sri Peter Chin Fah Kui, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia; 11. H.E. U Than Htay, Union Minister for Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; 12. Ms. Clare Fearnley, Director, Asia Regional Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, on behalf of the Minister of Energy and Resources of New Zealand; 13. H.E. Mr. Jose Rene D. Almendras, Secretary, Department of Energy, the Republic of the Philippines; 14. Mr. Talyat Z. Aliiev, Deputy Director, Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation; 15. H.E. Mr. S. Iswaran, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Home Affairs and Trade and Industry of the Republic of Singapore; 16. H.E. Mr. Arak Chonlatanon, Minister of Energy of the Kingdom of Thailand; 17. Dr. Phyllis Genther Yoshida, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Asia, Europe and the Americas, Policy and International Affairs, Department of Energy of the United States of America; 18. H.E. Mr. Le Duong Quang, Vice Minister of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; and 19. H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Chairman's Statement of the 7th East Asia Summit (EAS)

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
20 November 2012**

1. The 7th East Asia Summit (EAS) was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 20 November 2012. The Summit was chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The Summit was attended by the Heads of State/Government of the ASEAN Member States, Australia, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, and the United States of America. The Russian Federation was represented by its Foreign Minister.
2. We extended our warmest congratulation to the Honorable Barack Obama on his re-election as the President of the United States of America for the second term.
3. We expressed our deep sympathy and deepest condolences to the peoples and the Royal Government of Cambodia and especially to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah BOROMNEATH NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, and Her Majesty Queen-Mother NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK, for the passing away of the His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK, the late King- Father of Cambodia on 15 October 2012. We shared our sadness of this great loss with the people of Cambodia during this mourning period. Cambodia expressed gratitude to the respective Leaders for sharing condolence to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, Queen-Mother, the Royal Government of Cambodia and the people of Cambodia.
4. We noted with satisfaction the progress in cooperation in the six priority areas, namely environment and energy, education, finance, global health issues and pandemic diseases, natural disaster mitigation and ASEAN connectivity, and also shared our view on the need to utilise existing mechanisms to facilitate the implementation of the concret project in all the six priority areas for EAS cooperation. We also reaffirmed the need to further promote cooperation to support the implementation of ASEAN Connectivity, which will contribute to the enhanced connectivity in the region.

5. Consistent with the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration, we emphasized the role of the EAS as a forum for strategic dialogue and cooperation on political, security and economic issues of common regional concern. We exchanged our views on the future direction of the EAS, as well as regional and international issues. In this regard, we encouraged confidence building among the EAS participating countries and continue the open and frank exchange of views on issues of strategic importance of common peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia.
6. We took note with appreciation of the comprehensive outcome of the Second East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting which was held in Phnom Penh, on 12 July 2012.
7. We took note with appreciation the outcomes of the First EAS Economic Ministers' Meeting which was held on 30 August 2012, in Siem Reap, Cambodia. We recognized the necessity of striking a balance between the deepening of ASEAN integration and its enhanced participation to the global supply chain. In this regard, we stressed the important role of Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) which has been providing valuable inputs to regional efforts towards East Asian Economic Integration under the three pillars, namely "Deepening Economic Integration", "Narrowing Development Gaps", and "Sustainable Development", covering a wide range of policy areas, such as trade and investment, economic integration, SME promotion, human resource and infrastructure development, connectivity as well as energy and environment issues.
8. We welcomed with appreciation the report of the Royal Government of Cambodia-ERIA-Harvard Symposium on "Realizing a More Integrated, Competitive, Equitable, and Resilient ASEAN Community: and the "Phnom Penh Initiatives for Narrowing Development Gaps", which set out the key strategies to further ASEAN agenda to narrow development gaps within ASEAN, both within and between ASEAN Member States, and amplifies an important element of the Phnom Penh Agenda to Realize the ASEAN Community by 2015.
9. We welcomed the Statement of ERIA's 5th Governing Board Meeting issued on 23rd June 2012 and its work plan to undertake research and policy recommendations to enhance community building efforts through consultation, cooperation and consensus in order to maximize the benefits of integration in East Asia and bring them closer to ordinary people. We also encouraged ERIA for its continued support to the Summit activities of ASEAN and East Asia through its research and policy recommendations.
10. We recognized the important contribution of mutually beneficial economic partnerships among the EAS participating countries to the overall growth and development of the region, especially in light of rapid regional and global developments. We recognized the importance of all efforts to enhance regional economic integration toward forming the ASEAN Community. We noted the adoption of the Joint Declaration on the Launching of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Negotiations and the endorsement of the Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership by ASEAN and its FTA Partners.
11. We took note of the outcome of the 2nd Informal East Asia Finance Ministers' Meeting which was held on 13 October 2012, in Tokyo, Japan. We expressed our support for continued finance cooperation in the EAS, and agreed that this priority area of EAS cooperation should be further developed through cooperative work.
12. We welcomed the significant role of the EAS, as a key regional forum bringing together the world's most dynamic economies, in support of promoting sustained economic growth at the regional and global levels. We reaffirmed our commitment to enhance coordination and cooperation, in close collaboration with regional and international financial institutions, including the ADB and the IMF. We also reconfirmed our strong will to further strengthen the cooperation on a broad range of political, security issues of common interests and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia.
13. We reaffirmed our commitment to avoid protectionist measures affecting trade and investment. To this end, we intended to refrain from raising new barriers to investment or trade in goods and services—imposing new export restrictions or implementing WTO-inconsistent measures in all areas, including those that stimulate exports, the rollback the trade—distorting or protectionist measure that may have arisen, and to exercise maximum restraint in implementing measure that may be considered to be consistent with the WTO provisions but have a significant protectionist effect and promptly rectifying such measure, where implemented.

14. We reaffirmed our commitments under the Declaration of the 6th East Asia Summit on ASEAN Connectivity, which emphasized not only intra-regional efforts to enhance ASEAN Connectivity but also shared the importance of expanding connectivity beyond ASEAN. We encouraged the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and its counterparts under EAS to work out the issue of financing connectivity projects towards realizing the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity with appropriate support from ADB, ERIA, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the World Bank.
15. We expressed our commitment to enhance both bilateral and multilateral cooperation on disaster management through regional mechanisms, including strengthening the operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre).
16. We welcomed cooperation between the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and other EAS participating countries through the on-going discussion on the linkage between the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2010-2015) and the Indonesia and Australia Paper on “A Practical Approach to Enhance Regional Cooperation on Disaster Rapid Response”.
17. We expressed appreciation of the U.S. initiative to promote implementation of the Rapid Disaster Response (RDR) agreement concept among the EAS participating countries. We encouraged the development of RDR agreements among EAS countries, on the basis of consensus, in order to speed deployment and acceptance of international assistance more effectively in response to a large-scale disaster in the Asia-Pacific region.
18. We welcomed India's initiative to host the “EAS India Workshop 2012: Building a Regional Framework for Earthquake Risk Management” in New Delhi, in November 2012, and took note Delhi Outcome on Earthquake Risk Reduction in EAS participating countries. We also welcomed Japan's active contribution to promote disaster reduction, providing ICT equipment and emergency stockpile among others to the AHA Centre. We also commended Japan for hosting the “World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in Tohoku” in July 2012 in the disaster stricken area, reaffirming the importance to build resilient societies and to mainstream disaster reduction in decision making at all levels. We welcomed the offer made by Japan to host the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015.
19. We took note of the ADMM-Plus Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief and Military Medicine Exercise (AHMX+) to be held in Brunei Darussalam in June 2013 with the participation of all EAS participating countries to enhance military-to-military interoperability and coordination in a humanitarian assistance and disaster relief scenario incorporating military medicine.
20. We appreciated Thailand's supportive effort in enhancing cooperation on disaster management by hosting the 21st ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Meeting in Thailand in January 2013, with participation from EAS participating countries, which can serve as the forum to push various disaster management related ideas into pragmatic use, and co-hosting with the Republic of Korea, the ASEAN Regional Forum-Disaster Relief Exercise (ARF-DiREx) in Thailand 2013 to strengthen capacity of the region.
21. We took note of New Zealand's intention to arrange a Regulatory Roundtable to further the goals of the Declaration on ASEAN Connectivity adopted at the 6th EAS by complementing and building upon existing ASEAN work to advance regulatory cooperation and to extend the discussion on regulatory/institutional connectivity to ASEAN's economic partners. We agreed that an objective of the Roundtable should be to reinforce and not duplicate regulatory work underway in other regional fora.
22. We welcomed the successful convening of the 6th EAS Energy Ministers' Meeting on 12 September 2012, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, such as commencement of new research studies by ERIA, and tasked relevant Ministers to strengthen energy cooperation. We acknowledged the concrete achievements in the area of Energy Efficiency and Conservation, Biofuels for Transport and other Purposes, and Energy Market Integration. We welcomed the call of establishing efficient, transparent, reliable, competitive and flexible energy markets as a means to provide affordable, secure and clean energy supplies for the region. We expressed appreciation to Cambodia for hosting the Second EAS Energy Efficiency Conference on 31 July – 1 August 2012. We also expressed appreciation to Singapore and New Zealand for

the organization of the inaugural EAS Energy Market Deregulation Forum on 23 October 2012, in Singapore. We welcomed the initiative proposal in setting up an instrument to provide financial support to implement activities on Low Carbon Growth.

23. We welcomed the proposal from Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia and the United States to establish a U.S. – Asia-Pacific Energy Partnership for a Sustainable Energy Future. This partnership will highlight and enhance collaboration on energy issues in the Asia-Pacific region by expanding energy engagement and advancing projects that encourage sustainable economic growth. The Partnership represents a significant step forward toward a shared, sustainable energy future in the Asia-Pacific region.
24. We appreciated the outcome of the First East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue, co-chaired by Indonesia and Japan, in Tokyo, Japan, on 15 April 2012, and looked forward to the fruitful outcome of the Second Dialogue, to be co-chaired by Cambodia and Japan in Tokyo, in 2013.
25. We welcomed progress made at the 3rd EAS Environment Ministers' Meeting in Thailand, in September 2012, and looked forward to further work on environmentally sustainable urban development and climate change adaptation. We took note of the outcomes of the 3rd High Level Seminar on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (HLS-ESC) in Siem Reap, Cambodia, on 6-8 March 2012, and looked forward to the 3rd EAS Seminar on Climate Change Adaptation Capacity Building, the EAS Forum on New Energy, which will be held in China. We expressed our appreciation to Australia for the hosting of two seminars on sustainable cities in Viet Nam and Indonesia, in 2012.
26. With regard to the problem of poaching of and illicit trade in endangered and protected wildlife and living marine resources, we welcomed U.S. support in combating illicit trade in wildlife and agreed to explore future cooperation through the ASEAN and other relevant regional and international bodies.
27. We discussed with concern the emerging public health threat of resistance to antimalarial medicines in the region and acknowledged the significant human costs, potential impact for regional security and wider economic implications including for trade and tourism. We adopted the Declaration of the 7th East Asia Summit on Regional Responses to Malaria Control and Addressing Resistance to Antimalarial Medicines in which decided to strengthen national and regional responses to drug resistant malaria and keep progress on this matter under review in 2013 and 2014. We welcomed Australia's recent hosting of a regional conference, Malaria 2012, which reached consensus on the need to promote high level political leadership and collaboration to control and eliminate malaria in the Asia-Pacific including addressing drug resistant malaria.
28. We adopted the Phnom Penh Declaration on EAS Development Initiative and called for various parties to step up cooperation in this regard. We also expressed our support with appreciation to China's proposal to host the 1st Forum on Human Resources for Health Management Development in Asia-Pacific Region for the EAS participating countries and welcomed the intention of China to host a track 1.5 International Symposium on East Asia Summit and the Future of East Asia in 2012, in China.
29. We expressed strong commitment to further strengthen the human resource development in the region. We welcomed the successful convening of the First EAS Education Ministers' Meeting (EMM) in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 5 July 2012, which adopted the EAS Education Action Plan. We acknowledged the importance of education cooperation in improving regional productivity and prosperity and welcomed cooperative projects underway. We welcomed progress Australia has made on the EAS Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Quality Assurance Framework, on a feasibility study into an EAS regional facility for education quality assessment, and on capacity building projects in higher education quality assurance. We also welcomed the Republic of Korea's initiative to work with Australia in developing an EAS Regional Network of TVET Providers.
30. We welcomed with appreciation the Brunei Darussalam-US English Language Enrichment Project for ASEAN as part of their commitment to support capacity building for the peoples of ASEAN. We looked forward to the new ASEAN Fulbright Scholarship Initiative for ASEAN in support of scholarly exchange. We also welcomed China's proposal to improve cooperation on higher education, especially in bilingual teaching to promote competitiveness of higher education in the East Asia region.

31. We welcomed Brunei Darussalam's offer of scholarships to all EAS participating countries over the next three years, for a Master of Public Policy and Management, which allows special focus on Energy and Environment Policy and Management, at the Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) and includes a semester of study at one of four leading United States' universities, which will strengthen cooperation in higher education and people-to-people linkages amongst EAS participating countries.
32. We welcomed Japan's new youth exchange project, namely "Kizuna Project," which was a part of Japanese reconstruction plans and aimed at promoting global understanding of Japan's revival efforts in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake. We emphasized the importance of people-to-people exchanges, particularly among the youth and students, with a view to fostering a sense of togetherness, mutual respect and understanding of each other's traditions and values.
33. We reaffirmed our support for the important role of Nalanda University and welcomed suggestions on the establishment of other centres of educational excellence in the EAS countries to improve access to quality education in the region. We also welcomed the Lao PDR's contribution of the USD50,000 to support the revival of Nalanda University.
34. We reiterated our firm commitment to work closely towards strong, sustainable and balanced growth and agreed to strengthen our coordination and cooperation on G-20 related matters, including supporting the continued, regular participation of the ASEAN Chair at the G-20 and APEC Summits.
35. We took note and welcomed the positive developments in Myanmar, and we reaffirmed our support for Myanmar's Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2014.
36. We noted the signing of the "Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD)" and the adoption of the "ASEAN Human Rights Declaration."
37. We shared the view of enhancing cooperation on non-traditional security issues, including terrorism, narcotics, and transnational crimes such as human trafficking and people smuggling, that are inextricably linked to strengthening connectivity. We resolved to deepen cooperation against international terrorism under the framework of the ASEAN-US Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism, the ARF statements and its Work Plan on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crimes, and the UN Global Counterterrorism Strategy. We noted the significant achievements in ASEAN over the past several years in countering terrorist threats and bringing terrorists to justice. We committed to continue identifying and implementing actions towards this goal. We also underscored the importance of promoting disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. We recognized the contribution of the Nuclear Security Summits including the one held in Seoul in March 2012 in facilitating regional and international cooperation to combat nuclear and radiological.
38. We underlined the importance of maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. In this regard, we reiterated that the complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula through the Six-Party Talks is essential not only for the enduring peace and stability in the region but also for the integrity of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. In this context, we called on parties concerned to comply fully with their international obligations under the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), and to fulfill their commitments under the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks with a view to achieving long-lasting peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. We also emphasized the importance of addressing humanitarian concerns of the international community. At the same time, we called for the early resumption of Six-Party Talks.
39. We welcomed ASEAN Leaders' commitment to strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in persons. We also recognized that respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms that allow citizens a voice in how they are governed is key to peace and stability. We further recognized that these rights are universal in nature, and we stand ready to continue our shared work of realizing these values for all persons.
40. We noted the efforts of ASEAN, the ARF and APEC in addressing cyber security matters. We also noted the work of the ARF on cyber confidence building measures intended to build transparency and cooperation in an effort to reduce risk in cyberspace.

41. We welcomed progress made in the implementation of the Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) and agreed to expeditiously identify National Focal Points for this initiative. We also welcomed the Malaysia-Australia Muslim Youth Leaders Exchange and called for the convening of similar activities in the future.
42. We reiterated our commitment to implement consistently the Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations, also known as the Bali Principles, a set of principles, or code of behavior, to guide our inter-state relations. We reaffirmed that our conducts and activities must consistently be guided by the Bali Principles, which ensure respect for international law, promotion of good neighborliness, renunciation of the use or the threat of use of force, and settlement of disputes by peaceful means. We realized that through adherence to these principles, we shall further advance the fulfillment of the East Asia Summit objectives of achieving common security, common stability, and common prosperity in the region for our peoples' benefit.
43. We welcomed the regional efforts to enhance cooperation in promoting maritime cooperation in the region including sea anti-piracy, search and rescue at sea, marine environment, maritime security, maritime connectivity, freedom of navigation, fisheries and other areas of cooperation. We also welcomed the positive outcomes of the First Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) hosted by the Philippines in October 2012 with the aim to promote dialogue among EAS participating countries to common challenges on maritime issues. We looked forward to the convening of the Second EAMF in the future.
44. We noted with satisfaction efforts toward successful dialogues and cooperation based on the existing regional structures. We reaffirmed the importance of regional peace and stability, maritime security, freedom of navigation, continued constructive dialogue, peaceful settlement of disputes, and respect for principles of international law.
45. We noted and welcomed the US' intention to accede to the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP), the first regional government-to-government agreement to promote and enhance cooperation against piracy and armed robbery in Asia. We took note of the U.S.-ASEAN Seafarers' Training Terms of Reference which will enhance joint efforts by United States and ASEAN to improve counter-piracy training and education for civilian mariners and to develop best practices and training programs that will enhance vessel security and ensure seafarers are prepared to respond to acts of piracy.
46. We recognized the grave risks posed by proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, their means of delivery, and related materials expertise, to international peace and security, and reaffirmed our common vision of a world without nuclear weapons. We acknowledged that proliferation of these materials and materials not only threatens the lives of our people, but also could undermine Asia's free and robust trade architecture. We discussed the importance of implementing United Nations Security Council resolutions addressing nonproliferation and disarmament.
47. We, State Parties to the NPT, reaffirmed our support for the Action Plan adopted by the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) Parties at the May 2010 Review Conference and the outcomes of their Second Nuclear Security Summit held in Seoul in March 2012. Further, we confirmed our support for implementation of actions called for by the Biological Weapons Convention Review Conference in December 2011. Leaders announced their desire to sign and bring into force the Additional Protocols to Safeguards Agreements with the IAEA. In this regard, we welcomed the entry into force of Vietnam's IAEA Additional Protocol and we committed to universal adoption of the Additional Protocol as soon as possible. We, State Parties to the NPT, reiterated the importance of a full and non-selective application and implementation of the NPT's three pillars - nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
48. We also recognized the critical role of the Mekong Region in all of ASEAN's connectivity goals. We welcomed regional and international support for advancing Mekong sub-regional integration and "narrowing the development gap" within ASEAN. We also welcomed expanding people-to-people ties and emphasizing public-private cooperation as an essential element of moving the region's connectivity vision forward.
49. We also noted the successful hosting of the 9th Asia-Europe Summit (ASEM9) held on 5-6 November 2012 in Vientiane, Lao PDR with the theme of "Friends for Peace, Partners for Prosperity", the Leaders of ASEM partners have exchanged views on important regional and international

issues of common interest and concern, reviewed cooperation between Asia and Europe and set out future direction of ASEM process, including the adoption of Vientiane Declaration in order to strengthen the comprehensive, equal and mutually beneficial cooperation for peace, development and prosperity in the two regions.

50. We commended the efforts of Indonesia for hosting the Bali Democracy Forum on 8-9 December 2012, which provided the opportunity to expand and deepen democracy in the international community.
51. We recalled the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration on the Commemoration of the Fifth Anniversary of the East Asia Summit and welcomed the proposal of Brunei Darussalam to conduct a stock-take review and reflection aimed at further consolidating and strengthening the EAS on the basis of its established principles, objectives and modalities and to provide recommendations to the 8th East Asia Summit.
52. We looked forward to the convening of the 8th East Asia Summit in Brunei Darussalam in 2013.

Phnom Penh Declaration on the East Asia Summit Development Initiative

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
20 November 2012**

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation, and United States of America, on the occasion of the 7th East Asia Summit (EAS) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 20 November 2012;

RECALLING the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the East Asia Summit, the 2010 Ha Noi Declaration on the Commemoration of the 5th Anniversary of the East Asia Summit, and the 2011 Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations, and reaffirming their importance in setting

the broad vision, principles, objectives, and modalities of the EAS;

EMPHASISING the principles of the EAS as a leaders-led forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic, political and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability, economic prosperity and integration in East Asia;

RECOGNISING that EAS has 18 participating countries, including both developed countries, and emerging economies and developing countries, that should leverage their respective strengths to carry out North-South Cooperation and South-South Cooperation;

REAFFIRMING the importance of ASEAN Centrality and ASEAN as the driving force within the EAS, working in close partnership with the other participating countries of the EAS;

REITERATING that the EAS is an integral part of the evolving regional architecture in this region;

REITERATING ALSO the need to further enhance EAS cooperation in keeping with the principles of equality, partnership, consultation, and mutual respect among EAS participating countries;

AFFIRMING our commitment to leverage our respective strengths to enhance cooperation in the priority areas of the EAS, namely energy, education, finance, global health issues including pandemic diseases, environment and disaster mitigation, and ASEAN Connectivity; and

RECOGNISING the development challenges in East Asia, the challenges for the global economy, including the impact of the European sovereign debt crisis and downward pressures as well as numerous other challenges to the growth and development of EAS participating countries.

HEREBY DECIDE TO:

1. Support ASEAN as the driving force in the EAS and its centrality in other related regional mechanisms in close partnership with other participating countries and assist ASEAN's efforts to narrow the development gaps in the region and establish the ASEAN Community by 2015;
2. Mobilise the strengths of various regional cooperation mechanisms such as ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum and the EAS, and strengthen coordination among these mechanisms, with the

aim of driving regional economic growth, facilitating trade and investment, accelerating regional economic integration, and achieving common prosperity which will enhance security and stability in the region;

3. Work toward further mainstreaming sustainable development at all levels and in all its dimensions, promoting balanced, inclusive and sustainable approaches, including the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), in order to encourage sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and promote the fair and equitable distribution of growth opportunities and gains, paying special attention to local and poor people;
4. Call on EAS participating countries to promote common development through mutual support and cooperation and to continue providing in accordance with internationally recognized policies and guidelines, responsible, accountable and transparent support to developing countries in the forum, including funding, equipment and technology support and transfer, technical assistance and capacity development to promote equitable development and to achieve concrete and sustainable results in order to benefit the local economy and the people of those countries;
5. Work within the multilateral framework to encourage developing countries in the EAS to take ownership of development priorities to choose implementing approaches that are tailored to country-specific situation and to boost the internal dynamism of growth, by adjusting economic structure and growth models, and in order to achieve their own development goals;
6. Work closely to strengthen the global economic recovery and regional financial cooperation through exchanges of views on macro-economic and financial developments, including via greater collaboration in the financial sector. ASEAN Plus Three Countries agreed to enhance the effectiveness of the Chiang Mai Initiative multilateralisation (CMIM) with continued linkages to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and to strengthen the role of the ASEAN Plus Three Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) and Asian Bond Market Initiative (ABMI);
7. Support regional economic integration efforts and strengthen trade and investment among the EAS participating countries such as through the

ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) initiative and the proposed China-Japan-Korea FTA;

8. Support ASEAN in enhancing physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity, based on the Declaration of the 6th EAS on ASEAN Connectivity, mobilise private sector resources through public-private partnership, explore ways to set up a regional financing platform for infrastructure development, including through the strengthening of the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF) and effective and expedited implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC); and at the same time encourage the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat to engage with EAS participating countries and other external partners, including the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Asian Development Bank (ADB) and World Bank, in implementing the Declaration of the 6th EAS on ASEAN Connectivity;
9. Encourage EAS participating countries to cooperate in promoting food security and nutrition, especially by improving increasing sustainable agricultural production and productivity, protecting bio-diversity, jointly responding to climate change, securing food and energy supplies for the most vulnerable population, especially women and children and promoting sustainable development;
10. Support the implementation of the initiatives and action plans on energy cooperation undertaken under the ASEAN framework, and between ASEAN and Dialogue Partners, such as the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2010-2015, the work plans of energy cooperation between ASEAN and China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, European Union, Russian Federation, the United States, the EAS energy cooperation work plan and the East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Initiative, in enhancing energy security and sustainable development, particularly in the formulation and implementation of low carbon growth policies;
11. Expedite the implementation of EAS Education Plan of Action (2011-2015) with the objective of improving the quality of education, promoting academic and student mobility, encouraging the exchange of students and enhancing research

and information and knowledge sharing in the field of education services. In this regard, efforts should be made to encourage further cooperation on Technical and Vocational Education and skill Training (TVET), build a platform for inter-cultural education exchanges, support the establishment of the Nalanda University, and promote a life-long learning society;

12. Support the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), and the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2010-2015; and enhance linkages between the AADMER Work Programme and the proposed EAS Work Plan on Disaster Management and work towards the implementation of the initiatives contained in the Indonesian-Australian Paper: A Practical Approach to Enhance Regional Cooperation on Disaster Rapid Response, and welcome the convening of the 'EAS-India Workshop 2012: Building Regional Frameworks for Earthquake Risk Management' on November 8-9, 2012 in New Delhi and the co-hosting of the ARF Disaster Relief Exercise 2013 by the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of Korea; and
13. Enhance coordination and cooperation on public health, promote information exchange and transfer of health related technologies, encourage cooperation to improve public health infrastructure and access to primary health care services, focus on comprehensive prevention, control, care and surveillance of communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS tuberculosis, malaria and other emerging or re-emerging diseases, particularly among mobile population, and improve the public health status of people in the region;

These initiatives will be implemented through existing regional frameworks and mechanisms of ASEAN, in close consultation with EAS participating countries and with appropriate support from relevant international organisations such as Asia Development Bank (ADB), Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).

Adopted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on the Twentieth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve.

Declaration of the 7th East Asia Summit on Regional Responses to Malaria Control and Addressing Resistance to Antimalarial Medicines

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
20 November 2012**

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation and the United States of America, on the occasion of the 7th East Asia Summit (EAS) held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 20 November 2012:

RECALLING that in 2011 at the 6th East Asia Summit in Bali, leaders committed to expand existing cooperation in avian flu prevention to address broader global health issues and pandemic diseases; **NOTING** that resistance to antimalarial medicines (specifically resistance to artemisinin) in the region is an emerging public health threat with significant human costs, potential impact for regional socio-cultural, security and wider economic implications including for trade and tourism;

ACKNOWLEDGING that malaria is a major burden causing significant death and illness in the region;

NOTING that Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Vietnam have declared malaria elimination a national goal;

ACKNOWLEDGING the need to implement integrated approaches to malaria prevention and control through multisectoral collaboration and community responsibility and participation according to the World Health Assembly (WHA) 60.18;

RECOGNISING that although many countries have made significant progress in malaria control and elimination in the last decade in our region, there is still a significant human cost and more concerted action is needed to protect our citizens;

NOTING that resistance to antimalarial medicines is now emerging in the region and that resistance to antimalarial medicines threatens the considerable

gains made in malaria control in the region, and its possible spread represents a major threat to national, regional and global malaria control;

ACKNOWLEDGING that further coordinated action is necessary to sustain the gains we have made to date and to contain resistance to antimalarial medicines and that regional cooperation to address resistance of antimalarial medicines has broader application to protect the effectiveness of existing medicines used to combat tuberculosis and other diseases;

ACKNOWLEDGING current World Health Organisation (WHO) estimate of the funding gap for addressing resistance to antimalarial medicines in currently affected countries is approximately USD175 million per year;

RECALLING the outcomes of the ASEAN Health Ministers' Meeting, and the ASEAN+3 Health Ministers' Meeting in July 2012, where it was agreed that resistance to antimalarial medicines is a regional concern;

NOTING the consensus achieved on malaria control and elimination in the Asia-Pacific at the Malaria 2012 conference convened by Australia and the UN Special Envoy for Malaria;

RECOGNISING that success in controlling and eliminating malaria, including in containing resistance to antimalarial medicines, is a national, regional and global responsibility that requires close urgent coordinated efforts among governments, communities and private sector with the active participation of appropriate regional and international organisations;

RECOGNISING that emerging resistance to antimalarial medicines represents a risk to the development of the region and that addressing resistance to antimalarial medicines requires urgent and coordinated action within and between countries, and across the region.

DECLARE THAT we will strengthen the national and regional responses to contain resistance to antimalarial medicines through existing bilateral, regional and multilateral channels by:

1. Reaffirming our political commitment to increase efforts in eliminating malaria in the region;
2. Reaffirming the critical role of ASEAN and ASEAN Health Ministers in leading the response to public health threats in the region including drug resistant malaria as demonstrated at the ASEAN Health Ministers' Meeting in July 2012 and by lending support to the ongoing efforts of the ASEAN Health Ministers to continue to address this issue;
3. Agreeing that a regional commitment to malaria control and elimination requires a comprehensive approach including the promotion of public health issues, prevention, control, and elimination by integrating cross sectoral programmes;
4. Recognising the achievements of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in malaria prevention and treatment in the region and calling on the Global Fund to enhance the efforts to contain resistance to anti-malarial medicine with adequate level of investment;
5. Recognising that the EAS could explore ways to assist further with the containment of resistance to antimalarial medicines, including in areas such as financing and improving access to adequate and affordable health care, medical services, and medicines;
6. Recognising the leading role of the WHO in working with countries to develop global and regional technical responses to malaria control and elimination, including resistance to antimalarial medicines;
7. Supporting implementation of the WHO Global Plan for Artemisinin Resistance Containment 2011 and its related operational plans, and noting that the Plan calls for sustained national monitoring of the efficacy of antimalarial medicines to prevent a wider emergence of artemisinin resistance;
8. Agreeing to work together across the region to intensify access to affordable, safe, and effective antimalarial combination treatment, consistent with WHA 60.18 which urges Member States, inter alia, to cease progressively the provision of oral artemisinin monotherapies;
9. Agreeing that strong national responses to malaria control and elimination require cross sectoral approaches beyond the health ministries to include areas such as education, finance and immigration and that cross sectoral approaches are critical in addressing resistance to antimalarial medicines given the potential to spread resistance through mobility of people across the region, and in ensuring the sustained quality of antimalarial drugs;
10. Tasking our relevant Ministers or Authorities to keep progress on this matter under regular review

and work in close consultations with ASEAN Health Ministers with the support of WHO, with a view to achieving a 75 per cent reduction (from 2000 baseline) in malaria cases and deaths as soon as possible and preferably by 2015 and the containment of resistance to antimalarial medicines.

Adopted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on the Twentieth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve.
