

The 8th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (IAMMST-8)

25 August 2014, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia

Chairman's Statement

1. The 8th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (IAMMST-7) was held on 25 August 2014, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Prof. Dr. Ir. H. Gusti Muhammad Hatta, Minister for Research and Technology, the Ministry of Research and Technology (RISTEK) and attended by Science and Technology Ministers and Senior Officials from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. Dr. Alexander Lim, Head of Science and Technology Division of ASEAN Secretariat and his staff were also in attendance.
2. The Ministers congratulated Indonesia for the successful hosting of various events in conjunction with the celebration of 9th ASEAN Science Technology Week (ASTW-9) prior to the convening of 8th Meeting of IAMMST. These events include the 4th Science Congress and Conference; ASEAN Flagships Workshop (Open Source Software and Early Warning System for Disaster Risk Reduction); the 25th Meeting of the Advisory Body on the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science and Technology (ABAPAST); the 24th Meeting of the Advisory Body of ASEAN Science Fund (ABASF); the 68th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST-68); the 5th Meeting of the ASEAN-Japan Cooperation Committee on Science and Technology; the 9th Meeting of the ASEAN-China Joint Science and Technology Committee (ACJSTC-9); the 5th ASEAN-EU Dialogue on Science and Technology; and the 4th ASEAN-US Consultation on Science and Technology.

Recommendations of High-Level Task Forces:

3. The Ministers supported the recommendations of the High-Level Task Force (HLTF) on strengthening ASEAN Secretariat and review of work processes of ASEAN Organs. In this regard, the Ministers agreed that the appropriate mechanism in restructuring COST and its subsidiary bodies should be clearly defined in the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2015-2020 that is currently being developed.
4. The Ministers noted the proposed ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Post-2015 vision "AEC 2025: Consolidation and Going Beyond". The Ministers further noted that the AEC vision will be anchored on 5 pillars, namely, i) Integrated and Highly Cohesive Economy; ii) Competitive, Innovative and Dynamic ASEAN; iii) Inclusive, People-Centred and Resilient ASEAN; iv) Enhanced Sectoral Integration and Cooperation; and v) Global ASEAN.

APASTI 2015-2020 Vision and Goals:

5. The Ministers approved the following proposed vision and its goals on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) that will serve as guide in the formulation of the APASTI 2015-2020:

Vision

“A Science, Technology and Innovation-enabled ASEAN which is innovative, competitive, vibrant, sustainable and economically integrated”

Goals

- i. Economically integrated ASEAN involving active collaboration between the public and private sectors and talent mobility;
 - ii. Deep awareness of STI and the beneficial impacts of STI on the Bottom of the Pyramid;
 - iii. Innovation-driven economy leveraging on ICT and with a strong engagement of our youth in STI;
 - iv. ASEAN innovation reaching Global Markets;
 - v. ASEAN innovation addressing the Grand Challenges of the new millennium; and
 - vi. Active R&D collaboration, technology commercialisation, entrepreneurship and network of Centres of Excellence.
6. The Ministers tasked COST to ensure that that the key thrusts and actions in the APASTI 2015-2020 should be consistent and supportive of the above vision and goals. The Ministers welcomed the offer of the Philippines to host the review of the revised draft APASTI in October 2014.

Expanding the scope of utilisation of the ASEAN Science Fund (ASF)

7. The Ministers approved the proposed amendments to the ASF Guidelines so that innovation-focused initiatives could be funded. The Ministers further agreed that the ASF shall, henceforth, be rebranded as the ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Fund (ASTIF).
8. The Ministers agreed to form a task force consisting of the ABAPAST and ABASF members with the representation from the private sector to jointly study and define the appropriate criteria for the selection innovation-related projects. Said task force shall also establish the mechanism to ensure that the level of utilisation of ASTIF as well as the allocation of appropriate sum from ASTIF to specifically fund innovation-related projects could be rationalised.
9. The Ministers recalled its expression for support of the proposed ASEAN STI grand challenges initiative. The Ministers tasked COST to facilitate the speedy implementation of pilot projects falling under the areas identified under said initiative.
10. The Ministers further noted that the study on the ASEAN Talent Mobility (ATM) and two ATM workshops in November 2014 and March 2015 will be implemented in Thailand with the support from ASTIF. The Ministers also

welcomed the offer of Thailand to host a Crowd-Funding Workshop and an STI for Water Management Workshop to be held back-to-back with the 69th Meeting of COST in May 2015.

Cooperation with Dialogue Partners:

11. The Ministers agreed that the decisions on the proposed individual Memoranda of Understanding with China and with India on STI cooperation shall be deferred until the new APASTI is approved or accepted by the Ministers.
12. The Ministers noted that the ASEAN-ROK STI Forum will be held on 1-3 December 2014 in Daejeon, ROK as a side event of the commemorative Summit to celebrate the 25th year of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations. The Ministers welcomed the proposal of ROK to convene the Ministerial Meeting with science ministers of OECD countries and requested the ASEAN Secretariat to get more detailed information of the said meeting.

Japan

13. The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the various initiatives which include e-ASIA Joint Research Program; Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS); Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange of Students and Youths (JENESYS 2.0): "Science and Technology"; and Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program in Science. The Ministers also thanked the Government of Japan in supporting through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), the participation of ASEAN and Japan scientists at the 4th ASEAN Science Congress and Sub-Committee Conferences and ASEAN S&T Exhibition as part of ASTW-9 event.

China

14. The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the various initiatives under the China-ASEAN Science and Technology Partnership (STEP) Program such as the Joint Laboratory Program; China-ASEAN Technology Transfer Center; China-ASEAN Remote Sensing Satellite Data Sharing and Service Platform; and the Talented Young Scientist Visiting Program.
15. The Ministers welcomed the proposal of China to conduct of the 2nd Forum on China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation which will be held on 15-19 September 2014 in Nanning, China. The Ministers further noted that the proposed development of China-ASEAN New & Renewable Energy Action Plan and the establishment of the China-ASEAN Science Technology & Innovation Policy Research Center shall be reviewed by relevant COST's Sub-Committee.

European Union

16. The Ministers noted the updates on Horizon 2020 as the successor of the 7th Framework Programme of the EU as well as the progress of implementation of various initiatives such as SEA-EU-NET 2 (INCO-NET Southeast Asia);

CONNECT2SEA; Network of Excellence under the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI) facility; and EURAXESS links ASEAN

17. The Ministers welcomed the offer of EU through READI and Horizon 2020 to assist in the development of the APASTI or its implementation plan relating to the enhancing the role of Dialogue Partners in achieving the APASTI vision and goals. The Ministers look forward to increased ASEAN-EU cooperation in areas such as talent mobility, access to physical research infrastructure, developing joint funding mechanisms and frameworks for IPR protection.

The United States (U.S)

18. The Ministers noted the progress of implementation of the initiatives such as ASEAN-US S&T Fellows Pilot Program and the ASEAN-US Prize for Women in Science, including the planned Natural Hazards Workshop.
19. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) for granting a special prize to recognise the outstanding works of women in science in the field of water quality research and congratulated Dr. Nuttaporn Pimpha, scientist at Nanotec, Thailand as the recipient of the award. The Ministers expressed their hope that the initiative can be sustained in the future.
20. The Ministers also noted that the ASEAN Secretariat and the US Mission in ASEAN in Jakarta are now discussing the planned 2nd phase of the ASEAN-US S&T Policy Fellows Program. Once, approved, the implementation of the program is expected to commence in the first quarter of 2015.

Recipients of the ASEAN Science and Technology Awards:

21. The Ministers congratulated to the following recipients of various ASEAN S&T Awards:

ASEAN Young Scientist and Technologist Award (AYSTA):

Assoc Prof Ir Dr. Sharifah Rafidah Wan Alwi
Director of Process Systems
Engineering Centre (PROSPECT)
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

ASEAN Outstanding Scientist and Technologist Award (AOSTA):

Prof. Dr. Harith Ahmad
Director
Photonics Research Centre
University of Malaya, Malaysia

ASEAN Meritorious Service Award (AMSA):

Brunei Darussalam - Dato Paduka Awang Haji Suhaimi Haji Gafar
Cambodia - Mrs. Tep Rany
Indonesia - Dr. Elizabeth Anita Widjaja
Lao PDR - H.E. Houmphanh INTHARATH
Malaysia - Professor Emeritus Dato' Sri Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid

Philippines - Professor Fortunato T. dela Pena
Singapore - Dr. Rajendran Thampuran
Thailand - Dr. Theerayut Toojinda
Viet Nam - Dr. Le Thanh Binh

ASEAN-US Prize for Women in Science:

Dr. Nuttaporn Pimpha
National Nanotechnology Center (NANOTEC)
National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)
Thailand

Schedule of forthcoming events:

22. The Meeting noted the conduct of the following forthcoming events:
- a. The 2nd Forum on China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation on 15-19 September 2014 in Nanning, China;
 - b. ASEAN-ROK Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Forum on 1-3 December 2014 in Daejeon, ROK;
 - c. APASTI review Meeting in October 2014;
 - d. The study on the ASEAN Talent Mobility (ATM) and two workshops in November 2014 and March 2015 in Thailand with the support from ASF;
 - e. EURAXESS Workshop in November 2014;
 - f. The Crowd-Funding Workshop to be held back-to-back with 69th Meeting of COST in May 2015;
 - g. The 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Science & Technology Committee and the ASEAN-ROK Ministerial Meeting with OECD Ministers in October 2015;
 - h. Meeting on ASEAN Biofuel Flagship Programme to be held back-to-back with 69th Meeting of COST in Thailand in May 2015; and
 - i. Trainings and Workshops on Synchrotron Technology in Bangkok in 2014 and 2015.
23. The Ministers noted that the 16th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (AMMST-16) will be held in Vientiane, Lao PDR in 2015.

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