



## **CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE 16<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA (ROK) SUMMIT**

9 October 2013

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam

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1. The 16<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Summit, chaired by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, was held on 9 October 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. The Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States had a productive meeting with H.E. Park Geun-hye, President of the Republic of Korea.
2. We noted with satisfaction the substantive progress of ASEAN-ROK relations over the past 24 years, since the establishment of dialogue relations in 1989. We also noted the significant progress achieved in the implementation of the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity and its Plan of Action for 2011-2015.
3. The ASEAN Leaders welcomed the ROK's initiative to further strengthen political and security cooperation with ASEAN, in pursuit of shared peace, including the ROK's concept paper on the proposed ASEAN-ROK security-related dialogue, in accordance with the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity (2011-2015).
4. The ASEAN Leaders expressed their appreciation to the ROK for its unyielding support for ASEAN's community building efforts and ASEAN's central role in the regional architecture. The ASEAN Leaders also encouraged the ROK to support the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009 - 2015) and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II (2009-2015) and to contribute to the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision, as well as to the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) to bring the ASEAN common platform on global issues into reality by 2022.
5. As ASEAN is embarking towards an ASEAN Community and an ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision, we acknowledged the need to deepen and enhance ASEAN's dialogue partnership and external relations, with the aim of having an equal, mutually beneficial, and meaningful partnership.

6. We noted with satisfaction the substantive works undertaken by ROK's Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR), as well as the ASEAN Secretariat, in further strengthening the strategic partnership between ASEAN and ROK.

7. We were encouraged by the significant growth of trade between ASEAN and the ROK, which amounted to US\$ 131.0 billion in 2012 compared with US\$ 124.5 billion in 2011, and in this regard, welcomed further efforts towards achieving the target of US\$ 150 billion by 2015 by fully utilizing the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area (AKFTA). We also underlined the need to conclude the ongoing work for further liberalization and improvement of the AKFTA by 2015 in accordance with the Work Program established at the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Economic Ministers-ROK Consultations in August 2012. ASEAN Leaders welcomed the ROK's intention to inaugurate ASEAN-ROK Business Council in 2014 in order to intensify economic cooperation in pursuit of a shared prosperity between ASEAN and the ROK, in accordance with the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity (2011-2015).

8. We also welcomed the progress of negotiations on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) which would build upon the ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements, including the AKFTA. We acknowledged that the RCEP recognises ASEAN Centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture and contribute to economic integration, equitable economic development, and the enhancement of economic cooperation among participating countries. In this regard, we looked forward to its timely conclusion by 2015.

9. We reaffirmed our commitment to work together in addressing major global and transboundary challenges such as climate change and the environment, as well as disaster management, including through close cooperation on Low Carbon Green Growth Policy and the use of environment-friendly technology, water management and forestry cooperation, in which ASEAN may learn from the ROK's experience. We also noted the outcomes of the ASEAN Regional Forum Disaster Relief Exercise (ARF DiREX) 2013 on 7-11 May 2013 and the successful convening of the 2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit on 19-20 May 2013 in Thailand, which provided important opportunities to enhance the capabilities of ASEAN and the ROK in the areas of disaster and water management. We expressed appreciation for the ROK's contributions to the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief and Military Medicine Exercise (ADMM-Plus HADR and MM Ex) that was held in Brunei Darussalam from 17-20 June 2013.

10. We welcomed ROK's continued commitment to promoting educational cooperation with ASEAN, with concrete activities such as the international college student exchange programme, ASEAN-Korea Academic Exchange Programme and the ASEAN Millennium Leaders College Student Exchange Programme.

11. The ASEAN Leaders noted with appreciation the consultation mechanism that the ROK has established to work with the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC)



in exploring potential cooperation in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), especially in the areas of infrastructure and Information and Communications Technology (ICT), people-to-people and mobilisation of innovative financing for connectivity, including through public-private partnership.

12. They further welcomed the convening of the inaugural meeting between the ACCC and the ROK's Task Force on Connectivity in Balikpapan, Indonesia on 10 June 2013. The ASEAN Leaders encouraged the ROK to support programmes under the ASEAN ICT Master Plan 2015 of which the goals include the expansion of broadband access to and affordability of ICT use.

13. ASEAN Leaders encouraged the ROK to consider providing technological support to the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). The ASEAN leaders also encouraged the ROK to support the implementation of the second phase of the Work Programme of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) 2013-2015.

14. The ASEAN Leaders highlighted the ROK's constant commitment in supporting the ASEAN-Korea Centre, taking into account the ROK's generous contribution to the Centre's financial budget year 2013. We encouraged more efforts to optimize many activities held by the Centre to promote ASEAN-Korea cooperation, mainly in the three areas of trade and investment, culture and tourism, and public relations and information, which includes, among others, the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

15. We also attached great importance to Mekong-ROK cooperation in contributing to ASEAN's endeavour to narrowing the development gaps and enhance regional connectivity, economic integration and ASEAN community building. We welcomed the good outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 30 June 2013 as well as the establishment of the mechanism to utilise the Mekong-ROK Cooperation Fund through Mekong Institute in Thailand. We also welcomed the successful outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mekong-ROK Business Forum held in Bangkok on 23 May 2013, which could further enhance economic linkages and improve trade relations. We looked forward to the 4<sup>th</sup> Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting in the Republic of Korea and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mekong-ROK Business Forum in Viet Nam in 2014.

16. We welcomed the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) by ASEAN Leaders, which would serve as a centre of excellence to encourage efforts to address explosive remnants of war for interested ASEAN Member States, and shall facilitate cooperation with relevant institutions, including the United Nations Mine Action Service and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

17. We stressed the need to maintain peace, security and stability on the Korean Peninsula and encouraged the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to comply fully with its obligations under all relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions as well as its commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six Party



Talks. We reiterated our support for all efforts to achieve the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner as well as creating the positive atmosphere for the resumption of the Six Party Talks conducive to substantial progress on the denuclearization. We welcomed the Trust-building Process on the Korean Peninsula and the Initiative for Peace and Cooperation in Northeast Asia initiated by the President of the Republic of Korea.

18. The ASEAN Leaders welcomed the ROK's intention to provide support to Myanmar during its chairmanship of ASEAN in 2014.

19. We looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-ROK Special Summit in the Republic of Korea in December 2014 that will give the momentum to substantively enhance partnership cooperation between ASEAN and ROK and agreed to conduct commemorative activities throughout the year to mark the 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations.

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