



**JOINT STATEMENT
TENTH BRUNEI DARUSSALAM – INDONESIA – MALAYSIA – PHILIPPINES
EAST ASEAN GROWTH AREA SUMMIT
(10TH BIMP-EAGA SUMMIT)**

11 May 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

1. We, the Leaders of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines held the 10th BIMP-EAGA Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 11 May 2014 to assess the progress of cooperation and provide further direction in achieving our shared vision for BIMP-EAGA. We reviewed and reaffirmed BIMP-EAGA's contribution towards realizing the ASEAN Community 2015.
2. We noted with satisfaction the progress achieved under the four strategic pillars of connectivity, food basket, tourism and environment of the BIMP-EAGA Implementation Blueprint (IB) 2012-2016. We likewise acknowledged the progress made in the implementation of the Priority Infrastructure Projects. In particular, we took note of the completion and official opening of the Brunei Darussalam-Malaysia Friendship Bridge that links Brunei Darussalam to Sarawak, Malaysia; the road improvement projects in Pontianak-Tayan Road section in Indonesia; and the port improvement projects in Puerto Princesa, Palawan. To sustain the momentum, we tasked our Ministers, Senior Officials, Clusters and Working Groups in collaboration with local governments and the private sector to accelerate efforts to ensure the timely implementation of prioritized projects and for their inclusion in the national development plans.
3. We are pleased that under the connectivity pillar, transport initiatives continue to be sustained, noting its critical role in linking the subregion's economic corridors and in enhancing trade and tourism. We welcome the commencement of flights between Pontianak and Kuching by Indonesia's Express Air; and between Kota Kinabalu and Puerto Princesa by Malaysia's MASwings. We called on low cost carriers operating in the subregion to explore co-terminalization and code-share arrangements to better connect areas that are not being served by the national carriers.
4. We recognized the significant role of shipping services in enhancing connectivity and maritime trade in BIMP-EAGA in view of its archipelagic geography. We urged relevant transport authorities to expedite efforts in realizing the Davao-General Santos-Bitung shipping service. As sea routes remain critical in our connectivity network, we will jointly examine ways to promote a more integrated shipping sector.
5. We emphasized the importance of pursuing a multi-sectoral approach to realize BIMP-EAGA's goal of becoming the regional food basket and a premier ecotourism destination. We urged that strategies should also be combined with more community-based actions to allow greater opportunities for economic and social development in the rural areas.

6. We reiterated the need to expand cooperation in environmental management of our resource-rich subregion and promote clean and green technologies. We also stressed the importance of building resilience and capacity in rural farming and fishing communities to adapt to climate change.
7. We are encouraged by active participation of the private sector and the increasing number of private sector-led projects. In this regard, we look forward to the conduct of the 2nd BIMP-EAGA and IMT-GT Trade Fair and Business Leaders' Conference to be held on 23 – 26 October 2014 at Davao City, Philippines. The event will provide the opportunity for Small and Medium Enterprises of the two subregions to access new markets and develop potential partners.
8. We noted that social and cultural activities can contribute in laying the foundation for greater understanding among the diverse communities within the subregion. We therefore urged our Ministers and Senior Officials to explore the inclusion of a socio-cultural pillar under the BIMP-EAGA cooperation.
9. We thanked our Regional Development Advisor, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), for its continued support in the implementation of the IB 2012-2016 and in providing technical assistance in the areas of connectivity, infrastructure, energy, trade facilitation and environment. We acknowledged and welcomed the study report conducted by ADB that mapped the potential benefits of promoting closer links and improving coordination between ASEAN, BIMP-EAGA and other subregions. We also urged ADB to consider further expanding its support including providing assistance in the delivery of projects.
10. We appreciated the ASEAN Secretariat's cooperation in aligning the BIMP-EAGA priorities with the ASEAN Community 2015. We urged the ASEAN Secretariat to deepen its partnership with and support to BIMP-EAGA.
11. We look forward to a more dynamic engagement by all stakeholders to move forward the BIMP-EAGA's relations with Development Partners.
12. We expressed our gratitude to the Government and the people of Myanmar for the warm hospitality and to the Government of Indonesia for the Summit arrangements.

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