

EIGHTEENTH ASEAN TRANSPORT MINISTERS (ATM) MEETING
29 November 2012, Bali, Indonesia

JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

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.