

## **14<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers Meeting and Related Meetings**

Bangkok, Thailand, 23 January 2015

### **JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT**

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1. The 14<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology (IT) Ministers Meeting (TELMIN) was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 22-23 January 2015. H.E Dr. Pornchai Rujiprapa, Minister of Information and Communication Technology of Thailand, chaired the Meeting, and H.E. Nguyen Thanh Hung, Deputy Minister of Information and Communications of Viet Nam was the Vice-Chairman. The Ministers also held consultations with their counterparts from the People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) on 22-23 January 2015.

#### **TRANSFORMING ASEAN: MOVING TOWARDS SMART COMMUNITIES**

2. The Ministers commended the senior officials and regulators in charge of telecommunications and IT for the good progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2015 (AIM2015), and agreed to further intensify efforts to complete the remaining measures in AIM2015 to facilitate the timely realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015.

3. The Ministers welcomed the signing of the bilateral agreement between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore on the reduction of mobile telecommunication roaming rate, which has been implemented starting 1 January 2015. The Ministers encouraged other ASEAN Member States to take appropriate steps to further reduce mobile roaming charges across ASEAN with the view to facilitate the establishment of single telecommunications market.

4. The Ministers applauded efforts to promote networked society and economy in ASEAN by encouraging innovation in the creation of online services, amongst others, through formulation of enabling policies for online services platforms, promotion of common secure transaction framework, promotion of online public and commercial services, and the holding of annual ASEAN ICT Awards.

5. The Ministers supported several initiatives to improve Information and Communications Technology (ICT) connectivity including the possible use of dynamic spectrum allocation technology to better utilise scarce radio frequencies, strengthening the submarine cable protection regimes to ensure reliability of communications network in ASEAN, and harmonising digital dividend spectrum utilisation.

6. The Ministers also supported continual development of human capital through upgrading of ICT skills, the establishment of ICT scholarship programmes, and development of ICT competency level reference mapping. The Ministers encouraged ICT professionals to utilise the newly established platforms - the ASEAN CIO Association and network of ASEAN ICT Centres of Excellence - to exchange information and share best practices.

7. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of building confidence and security in the use of ICT among ASEAN citizens, public and private sector organisations through development of human and institutional capacity in network and information security, including the framework development activities of the ASEAN Network Security Action Council (ANSAC), information security awareness campaigns, and ASEAN Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) cooperative activities.

8. The Ministers agreed to build upon the progress made under AIM2015 to chart the course for the post-2015 vision to further enhance innovative utilisation of ICT for a sustainable economic development.

9. The Ministers adopted the Bangkok Statement, entitled “Transforming ASEAN: Moving towards Smart Communities”, to reiterate ASEAN’s commitments to realise the benefits of regional integration through the use of ICT as an enabler to narrow the development gap within and between ASEAN Member States.

## **ICT COOPERATION WITH DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

10. The Ministers acknowledged China’s assistance in the successful conclusion of several ICT related activities in 2014 in relation to broadband for driving economic social development, Internet of Things (IoT) technology application in smart city, network security, and telecom interconnection in a converged environment.

11. The Ministers supported in principle China’s proposal for establishing an ASEAN-China CERTs Cooperative Mechanism as an important platform for strengthening cybersecurity cooperation between CERTs of the two sides, and tasked the ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Senior Officials Meeting (TELSOM) to finalise the Cooperative Mechanism.

12. The Ministers endorsed the 2015 ASEAN-China ICT Work Plan to exchange and cooperate in the areas of network interconnectivity, e-commerce development, big data technologies and applications, mobile internet services and network security.

13. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for her assistance in a number of areas of cooperation including cybersecurity, human capacity development, disaster preparedness, prevention and mitigation, and acceleration of ICT utilisation under the ASEAN-Japan ICT Work Plan for 2015.

14. The Ministers acknowledged the initiation of the projects under “ASEAN Smart Network Initiative” to enhance ICT infrastructure in ASEAN. The Ministers agreed to hold several activities under the ASEAN Japan ICT Fund including policy symposium to discuss ICT policy beyond 2015. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to Japan for the additional contribution of USD 100,000.00 to the ASEAN-Japan ICT Fund.

15. The Ministers recognised that the “ASEAN-Japan Collaboration Framework on Information Security” is progressing well including capacity building for young generation and joint research project. The Ministers endorsed the first edition of ASEAN-Japan Critical Information Infrastructure Protection guidelines that was jointly developed in pursuant to this collaboration framework.

16. The Ministers extended their congratulatory remarks to the Republic of Korea for successfully hosting the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference that was held in Busan in 2014. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Republic of Korea for having successfully implemented a series of cooperation activities with ASEAN in ICT development, focusing on priority areas such as expansion of new technology and services, capacity building and knowledge sharing, ICT infrastructure enhancement, as well as through cooperation with international organisations.

17. The Ministers welcomed Republic of Korea's proposal for future cooperation on ICT development through strengthening cooperation in disaster response using ICT, cooperating in the development of mobile applications and services, continuing technical cooperation in digital broadcasting, the Asia Pacific Information Superhighway Initiative, and finally, through developing and promoting projects related to e-Waste recycling.

18. The Ministers recognized the role that the Vitamin Project can play in converging ICT with ASEAN's conventional industries.

19. The Ministers acknowledged EU's technical assistance in the development of coherent and harmonised ICT regulatory frameworks, in particular, on frequency spectrum management, through the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI) Facility. The Ministers welcomed the opportunity to jointly develop cooperation activities under a new facility, Enhanced READI, that is currently under development.

20. The Ministers applauded ITU for their relentless assistance in advancing the development of ICT sector in ASEAN including capacity building on and development of national ICT indicators; establishment of national statistics portals; study on policy and regulatory issues of social media utilisation in ASEAN and ICT accessibility and assistive technologies.

21. The Ministers acknowledged ITU's valuable support and country actions provided to ASEAN individual members in the areas of telecommunication/ICT policy and regulation, cybersecurity, spectrum management, digital inclusion, and capacity building regulation.

22. The Ministers confirmed their intention to renew this cooperation and plan for the extension of the MOU between ASEAN and ITU on ICT Cooperation that will expire in November 2015.

23. The Ministers reiterated ASEAN's commitment to pursue policy and regulatory dialogue with both dialogue and development partners. The Ministers also called for greater participation from private sector to jointly develop quality ICT infrastructure and skill-based workforce to improve ASEAN's competitiveness as we work towards the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015.

## **NEXT MEETING**

24. The Ministers agreed to convene the 15<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Ministers Meeting and its Meetings with Dialogue and Development Partners in Viet Nam in 2015.

22. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government and the people of Thailand for their warm hospitality accorded to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the 14<sup>th</sup> TELMIN and Related Meetings.

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## LIST OF MINISTERS

1. **H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar**, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam;
2. **H.E. Prak Sokhonn**, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Cambodia;
3. **H.E. Rudiantara**, Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Indonesia;
4. **H.E. Hiem Phommachanh**, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Lao PDR;
5. **H.E. Ahmad Shabery Cheek**, Minister of Communications and Multimedia of Malaysia;
6. **H.E. Myat Hein**, 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. Dr. Pornchai Rujiprapa**, Minister of Information and Communication Technology of Thailand;
10. **H.E. Nguyen Thanh Hung**, Deputy Minister of Information and Communications of Viet Nam;
11. **H.E. Shang Bing**, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology of People's Republic of China;
12. **H.E. Yasuo Sakamoto**, Vice Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan;
13. **H.E. Dr. Choi Yanghee**, Minister of Science, ICT and Future Planning of the Republic of Korea;
14. **H.E. Le Luong Minh**, Secretary-General of ASEAN.