



**CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE  
THIRD MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP) TO THE ASEAN  
AGREEMENT ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (AADMER)  
AND SECOND ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT (AMMDM)**

16 October 2014, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) were convened as a joint session in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 16 October 2014. The Meeting was chaired by Yang Berhormat Pehin Dato Haji Badaruddin Othman, Minister of Home Affairs, Brunei Darussalam. The Meeting was attended by Ministers in charge of disaster management or their representatives from all ASEAN Member States and the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC).
2. The Ministers noted the milestones achieved in the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2010-2015) and the operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre). The Ministers noted the good progress in the implementation of the priorities under the AADMER Work Programme, whereby ASEAN Dialogue Partners, various partners and stakeholders, the United Nations, civil society organisations, and relevant international organisations have been engaged in the implementation. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Brunei Darussalam for successfully organising the regional commemoration of the ASEAN Day for Disaster Management (ADDM) on 12 October 2014. The Ministers approved the revised Financial Rules for the ASEAN Disaster Management and Emergency Relief (ADMER) Fund to allow the AHA Centre to mobilise more resources under the Fund in the event of a natural disaster.
3. The Ministers commended the pioneering work of the AHA Centre in establishing the Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN (DELSA), developing the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme and strengthening the ASEAN-Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT), among others. The Ministers likewise hailed the publication of "Weathering the Perfect Storm", which captures the lessons learned by ASEAN from responding to Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in 2013. The Ministers noted

that the Philippines will launch a book documenting the good practices and lessons learned on country's response to Typhoon Haiyan in the first week of November 2014.

4. The Ministers adopted the initial strategy on "One ASEAN, One Response 2020 and Beyond: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One". The strategy builds on the collective strength of ASEAN Member States as they come together when a natural disaster hits the region. The strategy reaches out to other stakeholders within and outside the region who shares the vision of effectively and efficiently responding to disasters. The Ministers tasked the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) to further develop the initial strategy in preparation for its launching at the ASEAN Summit in Malaysia in 2015.
5. The Ministers agreed to the necessity of enhancing the role of AHA Centre to position itself as a world-class disaster coordination centre and capacity building hub. Having established trust and confidence among the ASEAN Member States, and accolades from the humanitarian community, it is imperative that the AHA Centre's role is enriched in order to better serve and complement the work of ASEAN Member States in disaster management and adapt to emerging challenges brought about by the changing humanitarian landscape.
6. The Ministers noted the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC) by the ASEAN Coordinating Council in May 2014, and the progress in developing the operational procedure to implement the Terms of Reference. The operational procedure forms essential linkages and coordination lines between the Secretary-General of ASEAN, AHA Centre, and the ASEAN ministerial bodies and sectoral bodies with the purpose of mobilising much needed resources in a collective manner during a large-scale disaster. As such, the Ministers agreed to support the role of SG-AHAC in resource mobilisation and ensuring ASEAN's collective response to the disaster.
7. The Ministers affirmed the centrality of AADMER as the common platform and regional policy backbone on disaster management with ACDM as the main driver. The changing humanitarian landscape both within and outside the region necessitates cohesion within ASEAN and consistency with AADMER. The Ministers commended the work of the ACDM in forming and convening the Joint Task Force to Promote Synergy with Other Relevant ASEAN Bodies on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), involving the defence, political, health and social welfare sectors.
8. To ensure centrality of AADMER and as directed by the ASEAN Leaders through the ASEAN Declaration on Enhancing Cooperation in Disaster Management, the Ministers would engage in a dialogue with other ASEAN ministerial bodies and various ASEAN-related mechanisms. The Ministers also agreed to leverage the position of the Secretary-General of ASEAN to advocate the centrality of AADMER and the need to synergise efforts and coordination in relevant ASEAN ministerial meetings. Similarly, the Ministers agreed to convene joint sessions with the other ministerial bodies. To ensure ASEAN Centrality, the Ministers agreed to convey to the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the East Asia Summit

(EAS) Foreign Ministers Meeting that all issues related to disaster management must be consulted with and involve the AMMDM and ACDM as its sectoral body at the earliest stage. The Ministers also noted that the ACDM has reviewed and consolidated inputs on the draft Statement on EAS Guidelines for Rapid Disaster Response, to ensure that the Statement will be consistent with the AADMER principles and mechanisms. The Statement would be submitted for adoption by the EAS Leaders in November 2014.

9. The Ministers approved the enhancement of ASEAN's visibility in humanitarian response to underscore ASEAN responding together as one. The Ministers tasked the ACDM to formulate guidelines on carrying both national and ASEAN flag or logo among the first responders in humanitarian missions, and develop strategies to better communicate ASEAN's collective response to the disasters.
10. The Ministers noted the good efforts of the ACDM in developing the elements of the post-2015 AADMER implementation strategy. The identified initial elements contribute to the establishment of the ASEAN Community, affirm ASEAN Centrality, and would lead to streamlining the successor AADMER work programme. The Ministers tasked the ACDM to further develop the strategy and assess the implementation of the current AADMER Work Programme (2010-2015).
11. The Ministers adopted the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM), and agreed that AMMDM will be convened every year, back to back with the meetings of COP to AADMER.
12. The Ministers expressed appreciation for the capable leadership of Viet Nam as Chair of the COP and ACDM in 2013. The Chair expressed thanks for the confidence to the leadership of Brunei Darussalam as the Chair of ACDM, the Governing Board for AHA Centre, the COP to AADMER and the AMMDM in 2014. The Ministers looked forward to the 3<sup>rd</sup> AMMDM and the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COP to AADMER, scheduled in Siem Reap, Cambodia in the second half of 2015.
13. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government of Brunei Darussalam for hosting the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the AADMER and the Second ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM), and for the excellent arrangements made and hospitality provided.

*Bandar Seri Begawan, 16 October 2014*

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