

# JOINT PRESS STATEMENT THE THIRD ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON MINERALS

**9 December 2011, Ha Noi, Viet Nam**

1. The Third ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Minerals (AMMin) was held on 9 December 2011 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. H.E. Mr. Nguyen Minh Quang, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Viet Nam, chaired the Meeting.

## **OPENING CEREMONY**

2. The Third AMMin was officially opened by H.E. Mr. Hoang Trung Hai, Deputy Prime Minister of Viet Nam. In his Keynote Address, the Deputy Prime Minister highlighted the importance of the minerals sector in the social and economic development of ASEAN Member States. At the same time, he also underscored the importance of minimising its negative impacts to the environment and community. Through exchange of information and capacity building among ASEAN Member States, he was confident that sustainable development in mineral sector could be achieved. In addition, he also encouraged ASEAN Member States to unify their policies in trade and investment to attract more investment in the mineral sector, including in mineral processing.

## **19<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN SUMMIT**

3. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the 19<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit held on 17 November 2011 in Bali, Indonesia, particularly on the three priorities of ASEAN 2011, namely: to ensure significant progress in achieving the ASEAN Community; to ensure that the regional architecture and regional environment remain conducive to development; and to enhance ASEAN's role in the global community. In response, the Ministers re-affirmed their collective support and underscored the active role of mineral sector to the establishment of ASEAN Community by 2015.

4. The Ministers also welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development as a means to direct ASEAN's efforts to ensure that the population of ASEAN Member States benefits from the economic integration and cooperation, which is one of the key elements of ASEAN vision beyond 2015.

## **ASEAN MINERALS COOPERATION 2009-2011**

5. The Ministers deliberated the implementation of the cooperation activities reflected in the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Scorecard 2009-2011 endorsed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> AMMin held on 16 October 2008 in Manila, Philippines, particularly on the measures carried out under the priority areas of a) facilitating and enhancing trade and investment in mineral, b) capacity building, c) strengthening the ASEAN minerals database system, d) promoting environmentally and socially sustainable mineral development, and e) enhancing private sector participation in mineral development.

6. The Ministers particularly acknowledged the successful implementation of the capacity building activities and events carried out by ASEAN Member States in cooperation with Dialogue Partners, among others: a) Training and Capacity-Building Programmes related to Reclamation and Rehabilitation of Abandoned Mines Lands (AML) including

Wastewater Management and Treatment, b) Training Programme on Minerals/Metals Recovery and Recycling for Governmental Officials, c) Workshop on Sustainable Development of Mineral Resources, d) Mine Safety and Health Management Training Course, e) Mining Environmental Management Training Course, f) Training on Reclamation and Rehabilitation of Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) Including Wastewater Management and Treatment, and g) Seminar on Geo-information Sharing among ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Countries. In order to further enhance capacity building required by ASEAN Member States, the Ministers requested the senior officials to conduct an analysis of training needs of ASEAN mineral administrations and agencies that would enhance their institutional, human and technological capacities.

7. The Ministers emphasised the important role of the ASEAN Mineral Information and Database System that would create greater access for the business community and public in obtaining information on minerals trade opportunities, related policies and, at the same time, promote intra- and inter-ASEAN investment in the mineral sector. The Ministers were pleased to learn the progress of development of ASEAN Mineral Information System and requested the senior officials to operationalise, maintain and enhance this information platform through upgrading its infrastructure, organising training courses and exchanging experts in the mineral database sector amongst ASEAN Member States.

#### **ASEAN MINERALS COOPERATION ACTION PLAN 2011-2015**

8. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen the ASEAN minerals cooperation as embodied in the Manila Declaration adopted at the 2<sup>nd</sup> AMMin with 6 policy directions: 1) Ensure continuous development and utilisation of mineral resources; 2) Accelerate cooperation in facilitating and enhancing trade and investments in minerals; 3) Encourage cooperation to develop policy guidelines and standards for ASEAN Best Mining Practices to promote environmentally and socially sustainable mineral development in the ASEAN region; 4) Strengthen the development of institutional and human capacity building in the geological and minerals sector; 5) Promote a platform for dialogue with the private sector and ASEAN Dialogue Partners; 6) Foster concerted cooperation and joint approaches in international and regional fora on minerals.

9. In further enhancing the minerals sector's contribution to the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), the Ministers adopted the Ha Noi Declaration on Sustainable ASEAN Connectivity in Minerals to provide policy directions to intensify cooperation in the ASEAN minerals sector. The Ministers also endorsed the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan (AMCAP) 2011-2015 with "*Dynamic Mineral Sector Initiatives for a Prosperous ASEAN*" as its theme. As the successor to the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Scorecard 2009-2011, the AMCAP 2011-2015 would focus on following strategies: promoting information sharing, facilitating trade and investment, promoting environmentally and socially sustainable mineral development, and strengthening institutional and human capacities in the ASEAN minerals sector. The Ministers noted the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) that is known as international quality standard on revenue collection in minerals sector, and agreed to include capacity building on EITI in the AMCAP 2011-2015. The Ministers agreed to timely implement the AMCAP 2011-2015.

10. In supporting the implementation of the AMCAP 2011-2015, the Ministers reiterated the important role of the *ASEAN Mineral Trust Fund* to support the cooperative programmes, projects and activities under the AMCAP 2011-2015 and any other future plans approved

by the ASEAN Senior Officials on Minerals (ASOMM)/AMMin. The Ministers agreed to make the funds available to support the implementation of AMCAP measures.

## **COOPERATION WITH DIALOGUE PARTNERS**

11. The Ministers were pleased with the progress of the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) cooperation activities carried out under the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials on Minerals Meeting (ASOMM+3). The Ministers expressed their appreciation to China, Japan and Republic of Korea for their significant contributions and continued support provided through technical assistance to ASEAN Member States in implementing agreed measures under the AEC ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Scorecard 2009-2011. The Ministers encouraged China, Japan and Republic of Korea to organise more dialogues for interaction and exchange of knowledge on sustainable mineral development.

12. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and People of Viet Nam for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

### **List of Ministers/Head of Delegations**

1. **Mr. Hj Muhammad Lutfi bin Abdullah**, Permanent Secretary (Administrative and Finance), representing H.E. Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Hj Suyoi bin Hj Osman, Minister of Development of Brunei Darussalam;
2. **H.E. Chea Sieng Hong**, Secretary of State, representing H.E. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines, and Energy of Cambodia;
3. **H.E. Prof. Dr. Widjajono Partowidagdo**, Vice Minister, representing H.E. Jero Wacik, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia;
4. **H.E. Somboun Rasasombath**, Vice Minister, representing H.E. Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR;
5. **Datuk Azyiah Binti Mohamed**, Deputy Secretary General, representing H.E. Dato Sri Douglas Uggah Embas, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Malaysia;
6. **Mr. Win Htein**, Director General, representing H.E. Thein Htaik, Minister of Mines of Myanmar;
7. **H.E. Demetrio L. Ignacio, Jr.**, Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines;
8. **Mr. Chua Chin Wei**, Divisional Director for International Enterprise Singapore, representing H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry of Singapore;
9. **Mrs. Anong Pajitprapapon**, Director, Bureau of Logistics, Department of Primary Industries and Mines, representing H.E. Wannarat Channukul, Minister of Industry of Thailand;
10. **H.E. Nguyen Minh Quang**, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Viet Nam; and
11. **Mr. Tran Dong Phuong**, Head Infrastructure Division, ASEAN Economic Community Department, representing H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary General of ASEAN.