



**THE 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS &  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MINISTERS MEETING  
AND ITS RELATED MEETINGS WITH DIALOGUE PARTNERS**

16 October 2009, Vientiane, Lao PDR



## **JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT**

1. The Ninth ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers Meeting (TELMIN-9) was held on 15 – 16 October 2009 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The Meeting was preceded by the Tenth ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Senior Officials Meeting (TELSOM-10). The ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Ministers also had joint meetings with their counterparts from Dialogue Partners, i.e. China, Japan, Republic of Korea, and India, respectively.
2. H.E. Mr. Khamlouat Sidlakone, Minister to the Prime Minister Office and Chairman of the National Authority of Posts and Telecommunications of Lao PDR, chaired TELMIN-9.

### **Opening Ceremony**

3. H.E. Mr. Khamlouat Sidlakone welcomed all Ministers and their respective delegations to the TELMIN-9 and its related meetings with Dialogue Partners.
4. H.E. Mr. Douangchai Phichit, Deputy Prime Minister of Lao PDR, delivered a Keynote Address and officially opened the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Ministers Meeting (TELMIN-9) and its related Meetings with Dialogue Partners.
5. In his Keynote Address, Deputy Prime Minister Douangchai Phichit underlined the importance of ICT as one of the major sectors facilitating ASEAN integration at all levels and sectors of the society, and enabling it to make a quantum leap to a new level of competitiveness in moving forward to an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015. To that end, integration of ASEAN ICT infrastructure should result in seamless provision of services and applications to all in ASEAN. The Deputy Prime Minister called on the ASEAN ICT Ministers to strengthen their efforts to accelerate the deployment of communication infrastructure and to bridge the ICT development gap across the region. As broadband is envisioned as a transformative force which will catalyse positive economic and social changes, the Deputy Prime Minister welcomed the adoption by the ASEAN ICT Ministers of an initiative to promote broadband in ASEAN. He also welcomed works of the ASEAN ICT Ministers and senior officials to develop a comprehensive ICT master plan, which is an absolute requirement in the regional integration. The Deputy Prime Minister congratulated all Ministers and senior officials for their tremendous effort and achievement.

## **Vientiane Declaration**

6. The Ministers agreed that the realization of broadband connectivity across ASEAN is important to forge closer cooperation among ASEAN Member States and prepare our region for further integration and development. To that end, the Ministers adopted the ***“Vientiane Declaration on Promoting the Realization of Broadband across ASEAN”***, which will serve as a guide to promote ASEAN-wide broadband initiatives to enable ICT to become a major empowering and transformative force in the ASEAN information society.

7. The Ministers urged all agencies concerned to expeditiously facilitate the development of high speed broadband connections between national information infrastructures in ASEAN and to increase broadband adoption through, amongst others, affordable solutions and relevant content to stimulate information flow within the region.

## **ASEAN ICT Master Plan 2015**

8. The Ministers also agreed that there is a need to develop an ASEAN ICT Master Plan 2015 as a strategic document to bring the ASEAN ICT sector to a higher level and to reinforce the role of ICT for ASEAN integration. The Ministers agreed that the vision of the ASEAN ICT Master Plan will be ***“Towards an Empowering and Transformational ICT: Creating an Inclusive, Vibrant and Integrated ASEAN”***, and tasked the senior officials to further develop the details of the Master Plan for consideration at the next TELMIN Meeting.

## **ICT for Disaster Mitigation**

9. The Ministers urged the senior officials to continue the work in implementing measures under the “Framework for ASEAN International Telecommunications Network Connectivity Disaster Preparedness and Recovery” to mitigate the effects of disasters. The Ministers further requested senior officials to accelerate the completion of the study on common frequencies for disaster relief communication in emergency situations and relief operations, and to improve the early warning system.

## **Cooperation Areas**

10. Reviewing ASEAN’s ICT cooperation in 2008-2009, the Ministers were pleased with the progress made, notably in the areas of ICT human capital development, information security, e-commerce technology platform and regional network connectivity resilience and diversity. The Ministers hoped that these initiatives would reduce the costs of doing business in the ASEAN region and promote ASEAN as an attractive destination for ICT investment.

11. The Ministers endorsed new cooperation areas which aimed to promote sustainable ASEAN integration, including green ICT, cyber education for children,

mobile data roaming, e-commerce interoperability, digital dividend and frequency management and the ASEAN Internet Exchange.

### **Expanding Cooperation with Dialogue Partners**

12. The ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers held separate meetings with H.E Mr. Yang Xueshan, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology of China; H.E Mr. Kazuhiro Haraguchi, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan; H.E Mr. Taegun Hyung, Commissioner of Communications of the Republic of Korea; and H.E. Mr. Chandra Prakash, Vice Minister of Telecommunications, the Ministry of Communications and IT of India, respectively.

#### ***China***

13. The Ministers expressed great satisfaction on the implementation activities described in the “Plan of Action to Implement Beijing Declaration on ASEAN-China ICT Cooperative Partnership for Common Development”. The Ministers adopted the 2009-2010 ASEAN-China ICT Work Plan and looked forward to strengthen cooperation in new areas, such as ICT development in industry, promotion of ICT in rural areas (e-farmer) and e-health, etc. The Ministers further endorsed the “China + ASEAN Telecommunication Regulators Council’s Framework for Cooperation on Network Security” to strengthen cooperation in network security issues.

#### ***Japan***

14. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation for Japan’s contribution to the ASEAN ICT Fund, hosting next ASEAN+CJK Workshop on Human Resource Development, demonstrations for improvement of ASEAN ICT services, utilization of information and communications technology for disaster management and preservation of the environment, and ASEAN-Japan collaboration on information security. The Ministers of ASEAN and Japan agreed on the “ASEAN-Japan ICT Work Plan 2009 - 2010” and urged all relevant agencies to expeditiously implement the activities under the Work Plan. The Ministers welcomed the proposal from Thailand to host the 2nd ASEAN-Japan Information Security Policy Meeting in 2010.

#### ***Republic of Korea***

15. The Ministers noted the strong support and assistance given by Republic of Korea to ASEAN in ICT development policies and green ICT cooperation, especially through policy consultation, human resources development and dispatch of Korea’s ICT experts to ASEAN Member States. The Ministers welcomed Korea’s continued support for projects under “ICT Cooperation towards Co-prosperity in East Asia (2007-2011)”.

## ***India***

16. The Ministers of ASEAN and India agreed to foster their strategic engagement in the ICT sector. Both sides noted the success of the “Workshop on Establishing the ASEAN e-Network Project for CLMV Countries” in March 2009, and agreed to support the project to be implemented in the concerned countries in ASEAN. The Ministers also agreed that a feasibility study should be conducted for this project in a timely manner.

## ***European Commission***

17. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed EC’s appointment of a Counsellor for ICT and Audiovisual for Southeast Asia to further enhance ICT cooperation with ASEAN. The Ministers also noted that frequency management, new information society and media services would continue to be among the priorities of ICT cooperation between the two regions.

## **Next TELMIN Meeting**

18. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government and people of Lao PDR for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangement for the TELMIN-9.

19. The next TELMIN and its Meetings with Dialogue Partners will be held in Malaysia in 2010.

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## LIST OF TELMIN LEADERS

1. **H.E. Pehin Dato Abu Bakar Apong**, Minister of Communications, Brunei Darussalam;
2. **H.E. Mr. So Khun**, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Cambodia;
3. **H.E. Dr. Basuki Yusuf Iskandar**, Vice Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Indonesia;
4. **H.E. Mr. Khamlouat Sidlakone**, Minister to the Prime Minister Office, Chairman of the National Authority of Posts and Telecommunications of Lao PDR;
5. **H.E. Mr. Zainal Abidin Ahmad**, Ambassador of Malaysia to Lao PDR, representing H.E. Dato' Seri Utama Dr. Rais Yatim, Minister of Information, Communication and Culture, Malaysia;
6. **H.E. Major General Thein Tun**, Deputy Minister of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, Myanmar;
7. **H.E. Mr. Ray Anthony Roxas-Chua III**, Secretary of Information and Communications Technology, the Philippines;
8. **H.E. RADM (NS) Lui Tuck Yew**, Acting Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts, Singapore;
9. **H.E. Sub Lt. Ranongruk Suwunchwee**, Minister of Information and Communication Technology, Thailand;
10. **H.E. Mr. Le Nam Thang**, Vice Minister for Information and Communications, Viet Nam;
11. **H.E. Mr. Yang Xueshan**, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology, China;
12. **H.E. Mr. Kazuhiro Haraguchi**, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan;
13. **H.E. Mr. Taegun Hyung**, Commissioner, Korea Communications Commission, Republic of Korea;
14. **H.E. Mr. Chandra Prakash**, Vice Minister, Department of Telecommunication, India;
15. **Mr. Subash Bose Pillai**, Director for Market Integration, ASEAN Economic Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat, representing the Secretary-General of ASEAN.