

**Joint Ministerial Statement of the 11th ASEAN Telecommunications and IT  
Ministers Meeting and its Related Meeting with External Parties  
Myanmar, 9 December 2011**

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*"ICT: Engine for Growth in ASEAN"*

1. The 11th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology (IT) Ministers Meeting (TELMIN) was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 8 – 9 December 2011. H.E. U Thein Tun, Union Minister, Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar chaired the Meeting. H.E. Mr. Louis Napoleon C. Casambre, Undersecretary/Executive Director of the Information and Communications Technology Office, Department of Science and Technology of the Republic of the Philippines was the Vice-Chairperson. On this occasion, the ASEAN Ministers also had separate dialogues with their counterparts from China, Japan, Republic of Korea, India and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

2. H.E. U Thein Sein, Honourable President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar officiated the 11th ASEAN Telecommunication and IT Minister's Meeting (11th TELMIN) and its related meetings with external parties.

3. In his speech, President U Thein Sein mentioned that "ASEAN ICT cooperation has grown steadily in all spectrums over a decade of time. And today, besides the ten ASEAN Member States, China, Japan, Republic of Korea, India, the European Union, and ITU, have been joining ASEAN to implement many important initiatives for long term cooperation in accordance with the ASEAN visions of co-prosperity and peaceful coexistence".

4. The President also informed all delegates that Myanmar's Chairmanship for ASEAN in 2014 has been confirmed at the November 2011 ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia. He highlighted that ICT will be used for all preparatory activities for the 2014 ASEAN Summit, as well as the empowering tool to realise a cleaner, more transparent and more effective government, and to increase the spread of ICT usage in the rural population. He wished the Meetings reach useful decisions that will benefit the whole ASEAN region, and that will also improve the livelihoods of all of our citizens including the social-economic standards.

**ICT: ENGINE FOR GROWTH IN ASEAN**

5. The Ministers commended the work completed by senior officials and regulators in charge of telecommunications and IT in the region, and noted the good progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2015 (AIM2015). The Ministers were of the view that the first year's implementation of the AIM2015 laid a good foundation for achieving specific ICT targets

towards creating an inclusive, vibrant and integrated ASEAN Community.

6. The Ministers noted that even during economic uncertainty, many ASEAN Member States have been continuing to invest more on ICT with attention to fundamental matters such as education, research and development, regulatory regime and IT industry policy, etc. These efforts have contributed to an upward shift on national ICT competitiveness of many ASEAN Member States.

7. The Ministers issued the “*Nay Pyi Taw Statement on ICT: an Engine for Growth in ASEAN*” to emphasise ASEAN ICT cooperation on broadband, information security and ICT adoption by SMEs. The Ministers recommended the creation of national broadband plan in all ASEAN Member States as the broadband network is a basic infrastructure and a critical foundation for socio-economic development. Through the innovative services that emerge from such networks, everyone and all sectors of society can be engaged and be part of the information society.

8. The Ministers regarded the vital importance of information security in the broadband network and agreed to strengthen ASEAN cooperation on this subject. The Ministers believed that to increase users' confidence; new technologies and services developed for broadband network should be exploited to the fullest in creating a trustworthy environment for ASEAN information society.

9. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the Addendum on ATRC Intra-ASEAN Mobile Roaming Rates (MRR) to the Record of Intent (ROI), by the 17th ASEAN Telecommunication Regulators Council (ATRC), as a critical step of ASEAN Member States to reduce international mobile roaming charges. The Ministers encouraged all parties, especially the policy making and regulatory bodies, to consider this initiative seriously and to implement the Addendum as soon as they are ready.

10. The Ministers noted that bilateral arrangements on international mobile roaming charges have been implemented or are in the progress of implementation between several ASEAN Member States, i.e. Malaysia-Singapore, Brunei Darussalam-Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam-Singapore, and encouraged other Member States to take a proactive consideration in joining this effort.

11. The Ministers were cognisant of the need to promote and nurture innovative ideas and creativity in the ICT sector. As such, the 11th TELMIN Meeting announced the launch of the ASEAN ICT Awards programme. The first ASEAN ICT Awards will be conferred in 2012.

## **ICT COOPERATION WITH DIALOGUE PARTNERS AND OTHER PARTIES**

12. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation to China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the European Union, India and ITU for the successful implementation of their respective annual ICT work plans and joint activities

with ASEAN in 2010 - 2011.

13. The Ministers of ASEAN and China noted that the Plan of Action to Implement the Beijing Declaration on ASEAN-China ICT Cooperative Partnership for Common Development (Plan of Action) signed in 2007 has been well progressed which has provided good direction and strong commitment for wide ranging cooperation in ICT. In view of its potential contribution to the "2010 Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity (2011-2015)" and the "ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2015", the Ministers of ASEAN and China agreed to continue the implementation of the Plan of Action. Both sides agreed to initiate discussion on the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between the People's Republic of China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on ICT Cooperation which would expire by the end of 2012;

14. The Ministers of ASEAN expressed the appreciation on the series of cooperation activities organised by China in the areas of cyber and information security and ICT applications in disaster preparedness and response, which have further promoted the experience sharing and policy exchanging between ASEAN and China.

15. The Ministers of ASEAN welcomed the proposal of China to continue the exchange of policy and regulation, and implement joint initiatives on broadband wireless mobile technologies, cloud computing, network security, and human resources development.

16. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation for Japan's assistance in a number of key projects, notably on information security, human resource development, simulations for improvement of ASEAN ICT services, and the utilisation of ICT for disaster management and preservation of the environment. The ASEAN Ministers also expressed their sincere thanks to Japan for her 3rd contribution of USD 150,000 to the ASEAN-Japan ICT Cooperation Fund.

17. The Ministers of ASEAN and Japan noted that the "ASEAN-Japan Collaboration Framework on Information Security" is progressing well according to the expectation of both sides. Both sides agreed to expand the information security cooperation to a higher level, notably on the joint awareness raising initiatives, information security screening, and a framework on information security.

18. The Ministers of ASEAN welcomed the proposal of Japan to expand the current cooperation to cover more areas on advanced infrastructure to respond to high speed and large capacity demand on internet traffic, ICT disasters countermeasure system, and information security, as well as the ASEAN Smart Network concept which will help to the realisation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity.

19. The Ministers appreciated the strong support and assistance given by the Republic of Korea to ASEAN in ICT development especially through policy

consultation, human resources development, and dispatch of Korea's ICT experts to ASEAN Member States and ICT workshops with ASEAN.

20. The Ministers welcomed Korea's initiative on the Korea-ASEAN ICT Partnership Project as a new collaborative plan from 2012 to 2016 focusing in such priority areas as ICT infrastructure, new technology, capacity building and ICT knowledge sharing.

21. The Ministers noted significant progress in India's initiated Feasibility Study on the ASEAN e-Network Project for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam (CLMV Countries). The Ministers of ASEAN welcomed the initiative of India on the setting up of IT Resource and Study Centre for ASEAN, and their proposals to provide assistance to CLMV countries, including assistance in IT curriculum development and IT teacher trainings, and setting up of Centre of Excellence in Software Development and Training in CLMV countries.

22. The Ministers of ASEAN and India also agreed to explore new areas of cooperation in the future.

23. The ASEAN Ministers noted that the "Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI)" Facility is on track to intensify interaction between EU and ASEAN on ICT, amongst others, notably on implementation of the priority projects of the AIM2015 and supporting ASEAN in the development of transparent and coherent and harmonised ICT regulatory frameworks, in particular on spectrum management, broadband development, and reducing international roaming charges.

24. At this Meeting, ASEAN and ITU concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on "Joint Cooperation on Information and Communication Technology Development in ASEAN Countries" to strengthen the cooperation between the Parties in the areas of ICT development and to assist ASEAN in the implementation of its objectives, goals and measures as set out in AIM2015.

25. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation for ITU's initiative on cyber-security for CLMV in collaboration with ASEAN TELSOM in 2011 as well as various ITU's direct country actions for/in ASEAN countries for the last many years and 2011 inter alia. They welcomed ITU's proposals for the areas of cooperation in 2012 that had been identified in the MoU. They also noted and expressed support for the major ITU Conferences in 2012 such as the Radiocommunications Assembly (RA 2012), World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC 2012), World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA 2012), World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT 2012) and ITU TELECOM World 2012.

26. The Ministers further stressed that ASEAN is not only open to policy and regulatory dialogue but also to greater interaction with Dialogue Partners and the industry towards increasing commercial activities and investments. The Ministers expressed that greater private sector participation is needed, as an effective public-private partnership produces competitive edge towards quality

infrastructure and skill-based workforce. More importantly, it contributes to efficient delivery of public services and realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015. In this regard, the Ministers congratulated the US-ASEAN Business Council and the Philippines in successfully co-organising the ASEAN ICT Dialogue on 24 - 25 October 2011 in Manila, Philippines. The Ministers welcomed the recommendations of the industry and encouraged increased dialogue between ASEAN, the industry, and the US-ASEAN Business Council to promote ICT as an engine of growth.

## **NEXT MEETING**

27. The Ministers agreed to convene the 12th ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Ministers Meeting and its Related Meetings with Dialogue Partners and ITU in the Philippines in 2012.

28. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government and the people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for their warm hospitality accorded to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the 11th TELMIN and its Related Meetings with Dialogue Partners.

## **LIST OF MINISTERS**

*H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam;*

*H.E. Mr. So Khun, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Cambodia;*

*H.E. Dr. Basuki Yusuf Iskandar, Deputy Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Indonesia;*

*H.E. Mr. Hiem Phommachanh, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Lao PDR;*

*H.E. Dr. Rais Yatim, Minister of Information, Communications and Culture of Malaysia;*

*H.E. U Thein Tun, Union Minister of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs of Myanmar;*

*H.E. Mr. Louis Napoleon C. Casambre, Undersecretary/Executive Director of Information and Communications Technology Office at the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines;*

*H.E. Dr. Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts of Singapore;*

*H.E. Group Captain Anudith Nakornthap, Minister of Information and Communication Technology of Thailand;*

*H.E. Mr. Nguyen Thanh Hung, Vice Minister of Information and Communications of Viet Nam;*

*H.E. Mr. Shang Bing, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology of China;*

*H.E. Mr. Kimiaki Matsuzaki, State Secretary for Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan;*

*H.E. Mr. Yong Sup Shin, Commissioner of the Korea Communications Commission of the Republic of Korea;*

*Hon. Sachin Pilot, Minister of State for Communications and IT of India;*

***H.E. Mr. Houlin Zhao**, Deputy Secretary General of the International  
Telecommunication Union; and  
**Mr. Somsak Pipoppinyo**, Director for Finance, Industry and Infrastructure  
Directorate, ASEAN Economic Community Department, the ASEAN Secretariat,  
representing the Secretary-General of ASEAN.*