



**CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE ASEAN POST MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE  
(PMC) 10+1 SESSIONS WITH THE DIALOGUE PARTNERS**  
**5 August 2015**  
**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

1. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) + 1 Sessions with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, namely Australia, Canada, China, the European Union, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America were held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 5 August 2015.
2. The PMC sessions serve as a platform for ASEAN and the Dialogue Partners to review and take stock of the progress in the respective dialogue relations, including progress in implementing the respective Plans of Action (PoA). The Ministers welcomed the strong cooperation between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners and reiterated their commitment to further strengthen the existing relationship.
3. The Ministers also took the opportunity to exchange views on regional and international issues of mutual concern. Recognising the long-standing relationship between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners, the Ministers reaffirmed their strong commitment to work closely together to promote peace, security, stability and prosperity in the region and explore ways to further enhance and deepen cooperation in addressing various regional and global challenges of mutual concern, such as climate change, environmental sustainability, natural disasters and disaster preparedness, pandemic diseases, and transnational crimes including irregular movement of persons.
4. The Ministers underscored the importance of maintaining ASEAN unity and centrality in the evolving regional architecture and welcomed the on-going progress with regard to the development of the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision and its attendant documents.

**Australia**

5. The ASEAN PMC +1 Session with Australia was co-chaired by H.E. Albert F. Del Rosario, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines and the Hon. Julie Bishop MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia.

6. The Meeting welcomed the Commemoration of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations and the elevation of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations to a Strategic Partnership which was formally adopted by Leaders at the ASEAN-Australia Commemorative Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, November 2014. In recognition of the Strategic partnership, the Meeting agreed to convene biennial Leaders' Summits, beginning in 2016.
7. The Meeting appreciated the role of Australia in promoting peace, security, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region through its active participation in regional and international fora.
8. The Meeting welcomed the progress report on the implementation of the ASEAN-Australia Plan of Action (2015-2019) and looked forward to the ongoing effective implementation of commitments outlined in the Plan of Action and the Progress Report for the next five years.
9. The Meeting expressed appreciation for Australia's active participation in ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Ministerial Meeting (ADMM)-Plus, Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF), and East Asia Summit (EAS), as well as its support for ASEAN Centrality. Both sides reaffirmed the commitment to work together in strengthening these mechanisms and in promoting a rules-based and norms-based regional architecture.
10. The Meeting shared the concern over the territorial of Islamic State (IS) also known as Daesh and condemned the acts by IS which had cost many innocent lives and threatened regional and international security. Both sides viewed that the issue of international terrorism should be addressed in a comprehensive manner, including through moderation.
11. The Meeting supported the strong determination to jointly tackle the imminent threat of international terrorism and violent extremism, intensify cooperation in search and rescue at sea including through the on-going tripartite project (among Australia, Indonesia, and Malaysia) on a standardised global flight tracking system, and further promote business and people-to-people linkages.
12. The Meeting looked forward to the early implementation of the First Protocol to Amend the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA), which will assist in improving administrative efficiency and encourage enhanced business utilization of the AANZFTA. The Meeting welcomed the strong growth in two-way trade, which totalled over US\$ 81 billion in 2014.
13. The Meeting noted the benefits of deeper regional economic integration and appreciated Australia's broader ongoing support to prepare for and implement the forthcoming establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and maximise the benefits of the AANZFTA to all of its parties, through development cooperation, trade promotion and economic diplomacy activities.

14. The Meeting noted Australia's regional aid program closely aligned with ASEAN's priorities of supporting regional economic growth, human security and empowering women and girls. The Meeting noted Australia's support to the Mekong Water Program to help manage the region's water resource for greater economic opportunities. The Meeting noted Australia's support to women's rights organisation to support women's leadership in the AEC. Ministers welcomed Australia's support to combat human trafficking through the A\$50 million Australia-Asia Program in Trafficking in Persons.
15. The Meeting welcomed Australia's current ASEAN cooperation programmes, especially those focused on ASEAN economic integration. In particular, the Meeting noted agreement to extend AADCP II from 2015-2019, allowing for assistance with institutional strengthening of ASEAN Secretariat and supporting regional mechanisms and capacities to implement the AEC Blueprint. The Meeting welcomed Australia's substantial support of \$A8 million for the WEF's Grow Asia Initiative developed in partnership with the ASEAN Secretariat.
16. The Meeting supported efforts to intensify people-to-people links especially in education. ASEAN Ministers welcomed the pilot program of the New Colombo Plan and its expansion to all ASEAN Member States from 2015. The Meeting noted Australia's commitment of more than A\$100 million over five years to implement the New Colombo Plan, which supports young Australian undergraduates to study and undertake internships in the Indo-Pacific region, and noted that around 2,250 young Australians were now working and studying in the region through the New Colombo Plan. The Meeting also acknowledged Australia's soft-diplomacy approach through the promotion of education under the New Colombo Plan.
17. The Meeting reiterated the importance of ASEAN Leadership advancing the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations towards a high-quality and mutually beneficial economic partnership agreement among the ASEAN Member States and ASEAN's FTA Partners.
18. The Meeting underlined the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability, freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea. The Meeting noted ASEAN Member States and China commitment to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China (DOC) in its entirety, and welcomed ASEAN Member States and China recent agreement to proceed to the next stage of consultations and work towards the early establishment of an effective Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).
19. The Meeting welcomed the continuous efforts in narrowing the development gap within and between ASEAN Member States through the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II and its successor documents, as well as alleviating poverty and promoting sustainable development in order to realise ASEAN Community and regional integration.

20. The Meeting welcomed Australia's decision to contribute an additional A\$1 million to support the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre) for the period from June 2015 to December 2016. Australia looked forward to continuing its partnership with ASEAN through relevant regional such as the ADMM-Plus to enhance military-military and military-civilian coordination in rapid disaster response.
21. The Meeting thanked Philippines as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Myanmar as the incoming Country Coordinator.

## **Canada**

22. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with Canada was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. K Shanmugam, Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Law of the Republic of Singapore and H.E. Mr. Daniel Jean, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada.
23. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the significant progress achieved in the implementation of the Plan of Action (PoA) to implement the Joint Declaration of ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership (2010-2015), in areas such as combating transnational crime and international terrorism, trade and investment, disaster risk management and capacity building support for ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat.
24. The Meeting adopted the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership (2016-2020), which provides a robust framework for cooperation in support of ASEAN's Post-2015 priority areas.
25. The Meeting welcomed Canada's ongoing preparations for the establishment of its Mission to ASEAN in 2015, to be headed by a new dedicated Ambassador to the organization. The Meeting also noted Canada's preparations to open new diplomatic offices in Cambodia and Lao PDR, which will provide Canada with a resident diplomatic presence in all 10 ASEAN Member States.
26. The Meeting agreed to expand and deepen cooperation to realise the full potential of their partnership and further contribute to peace, stability and prosperity in the region. The Meeting agreed to explore further opportunities in areas such as trade and investment, energy including clean and renewable energy, agricultural innovation, food security, Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) development, science and technology, public health, education, tourism and people-to-people connectivity, disaster management, and promoting sustainable development. The Meeting welcomed Canada's commitment to support the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and discussed opportunities for further collaboration between ASEAN and Canada in this area, including the promotion of Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) projects.
27. The Meeting recognised terrorism, violent extremism, and radicalisation as serious threats and agreed to cooperate in combating these threats through measures such as information sharing, preventing terrorism financing and

enhancing collaboration at the regional and international levels through mechanisms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the United Nations.

28. The Meeting reiterated Canada's commitment to assist ASEAN in areas of common interest, including its pledge of CAD\$ 14 million in additional funding at last year's ASEAN-Canada Ministerial Meeting to address regional security and connectivity issues. The Meeting also highlighted its initiatives in support of the ASEAN-Canada Joint Declaration on Trade and Investment, including the successful organisation of the ASEAN Next Generation CSR and Anti-Corruption Forum in February 2015, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-Canada Business Forum held in Bangkok in March 2015.
29. The Meeting thanked Singapore as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Philippines as the incoming Country Coordinator.

### **China**

30. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with China was co-chaired by H.E. General Tanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand and H.E. Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.
31. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity for the period 2011-2015 and looked forward to the adoption of the Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity for the period of 2016-2020.
32. The Meeting welcomed continuing efforts by both sides to intensify their dialogue and consultations to further enhance trust and confidence in each other and in the region.
33. The Meeting welcomed China's continued support to ASEAN Community-building efforts as well as to give priority to ASEAN's unity and centrality in the evolving regional architecture.
34. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress made on China's initiatives under the 2+7 Cooperation Framework for ASEAN-China relations, and looked forward to working closely with China to realise cooperation on the basis of equality, mutual respect, benefit and consensus.
35. The Meeting underscored the value of regional economic integration and expressed a desire to upgrade the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA) with a view to achieving the two-way trade of USD 1 trillion and two-way investment of USD\$ 150 billion by 2020.
36. The Meeting noted that the year 2016 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations and emphasised the need to in outlining concrete

activities and projects as well as substantive deliverables to commemorate the milestone.

37. The Meeting expressed appreciation on China's continued support to the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and welcomed the successful establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to promote regional connectivity.
38. The Meeting appreciated China's continued commitment to sub-regional cooperation in support of ASEAN Community building by its active participation in the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation and other sub-regional cooperation frameworks. The Meeting underlined the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability, freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment of ASEAN Member States and China to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China (DOC) in its entirety: to build, maintain and enhance mutual trust and confidence; to exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities; to not to resort to threat or use of force; and for the parties concerned to resolve their differences and disputes through peaceful means, in accordance with international law including 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Meeting welcomed the recent agreement between ASEAN Member States and China to proceed to the next stage of consultations towards the establishment of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) and looked forward to the expeditious negotiations on the framework, structure and elements of the COC.
39. The Meeting noted China's initiative of building a closer ASEAN-China community of common destiny, and synergizing China's "One Belt, One Road" initiative with development strategies of ASEAN Member States to promote common development and prosperity.
40. The Meeting thanked Thailand as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Singapore as the incoming Country Coordinator.

### **European Union**

41. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with the European Union (EU) was co-chaired by H.E. Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam and H.E. Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.
42. The Meeting took note the progress in the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to Strengthen the ASEAN-EU Enhanced Partnership (2013-2017). The Meeting also took note the outcome of the Informal ASEAN-EU Leaders' Meeting held in October 2014 in Milan as well as the 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN-EU SOM in July 2015 in Brussels.
43. The Meeting agreed to intensify efforts towards greater headway in the ASEAN-EU relations, including the possibility of establishing an ASEAN-EU Strategic

Partnership embracing all aspects of mutual interest. In this connection, ASEAN welcomed the interest of the EU in furthering engagement with the region through all ASEAN-led processes.

44. The Meeting appreciated EU's commitment to further strengthening ASEAN-EU relations as highlighted in the Joint Communication "The EU and ASEAN: a Partnership with a Strategic Purpose" adopted by the European Commission on 18 May 2015, and the conclusions of the Council of the European Union on EU-ASEAN relations, adopted at the Foreign Affairs Council of 22 June 2015.
45. The Meeting welcomed the establishment of EU's dedicated diplomatic mission and appointment of EU's dedicated Ambassador to ASEAN.
46. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers welcomed EU's continued support for the ASEAN Community Building efforts, as well as ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture.
47. The Meeting appreciated the EU's contribution to the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) through co-hosting and co-chairing the ARF Seminar on Preventive Diplomacy and Mediation Training with Brunei Darussalam in Bandar Seri Begawan in October 2014, the 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF Workshop on Space Security in Tokyo in October 2014 and, the 9<sup>th</sup> ARF EEPs Meeting with in Helsinki in March 2015.
48. The Meeting agreed to further strengthen efforts to tackle transnational crime challenges particularly in the areas of terrorism, trafficking in persons and cyber-crimes through the effective implementation of ASEAN-EU Work Plan to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime (2014-2017) adopted in December 2014 and EU-ASEAN Migration and Border Management Programme II (EA-MBMP II) signed in June 2015.
49. The Meeting agreed to promote maritime cooperation including through the ASEAN-EU High Level Dialogue on Maritime Security Cooperation as a useful platform to share best practices, experiences and lessons learned from both ASEAN and the EU's efforts to build integrated regional strategies and capacities on maritime security. The Meeting underlined the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability, freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea. The Meeting noted ASEAN Member States and China commitment to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China (DOC) in its entirety, and welcomed ASEAN Member States and China recent agreement to proceed to the next stage of consultations and work towards the early establishment of an effective Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).
50. The Meeting also welcomed the 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-EU Business Summit to be held on 23 August 2015 in Kuala Lumpur and the EU-ASEAN Days with B2B meetings to be held in Milan on 29-30 September 2015 as opportunities to enhance business relations between Europe and ASEAN.
51. The Meeting highlighted the importance of connectivity as a key priority for ASEAN-EU cooperation and welcomed the EU's commitments to support the

Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). Recalling the inaugural meeting between the EU and the ACCC held in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 September 2014, the Meeting discussed opportunities for further collaboration between ASEAN and the EU in this area, including by sharing lessons learnt at both national and EU-level deriving from the European integration process and promoting private-public partnership (PPP) projects.

52. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the progress made in strengthening cooperation in the area of climate change, environment and disaster management. In this regard, the Meeting welcomed the political and public interest in the Regional Forum on Climate Change (RFCC), co-organized by ASEAN, the French Government and the EU and hosted by the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) from 1 to 3 July 2015 in Bangkok. The Meeting also welcomed EU's continued support to the development and implementation of the successor AADMER Work Programme and the work of AHA Centre.
53. The Meeting also appreciated the EU's interest in promoting exchange of best practices on narrowing the development gap and trans-boundary cooperation between countries in the Danube regions.
54. The Meeting thanked Viet Nam as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Thailand as the incoming Country Coordinator.

### **India**

55. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with India was co-chaired by H.R.H. Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam, and H.E. General (Retd.) Vijay Kumar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs of the Republic of India.
56. The Meeting also expressed satisfaction with the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-India Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2010-2015). The Meeting adopted the ASEAN-India Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2016-2020) to serve as an action-oriented document to further deepen the ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership as well as ASEAN Community building and integration.
57. The Meeting expressed appreciation for India's engagement and support in the ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM) and the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) to address the regional and international issues faced by the region.
58. The Meeting welcomed India's "Act East Policy" within the framework of the ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership, particularly in supporting the ASEAN Community Building process covering the three pillars of ASEAN Community, Connectivity, and strengthening ASEAN centrality for regional growth, prosperity and global peace and security.

59. The Meeting agreed to further address the transnational security challenges particularly in the areas of combating terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons and cybercrime. The Meeting reiterated their commitment to strengthen cooperation in implementing the ASEAN-India Joint Declaration for Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism. The Meeting welcomed India's interest and support for the recently established ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation.
60. The Meeting agreed to strengthen maritime cooperation through existing mechanisms in order to maintain peace and stability in the region. The Meeting agreed to further enhance the close cooperation between ASEAN and India on maritime issues, with a particular focus on maritime security and addressing the emerging challenges at sea.
61. The Meeting looked forward to the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) in New Delhi that would pave the way to the early operationalization of the AIC.
62. The Meeting welcomed the recent entry into force of the ASEAN-India Trade in Services and Investment Agreement on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 and expressed confidence that these Agreements would serve as catalyst for a strategic economic partnership between ASEAN and India. The Meeting encouraged the remaining ASEAN Member States to expedite their internal requirements for the entry into force of both Agreements, and accelerate efforts to promote trade linkages and economic integration.
63. The Meeting agreed to pursue a modern, comprehensive, balanced and mutually beneficial Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement that will cover trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical cooperation, intellectual property, competition, dispute settlement and other issues. The Meeting underscored the need to expedite the on-going RCEP negotiations and the timely implementation of the ASEAN-India FTA.
64. The Meeting expressed appreciation for India's support and role for the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and highlighted the importance of building physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity between ASEAN and India. The Meeting noted the progress made on the establishment of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral highway and plans for its possible extension to Lao PDR, Cambodia and Vietnam and looked forward to its completion. The Meeting welcomed India's proposed special facility to facilitate project financing on connectivity that would further integrate both regions. ASEAN Member States promised to provide necessary support for the success of the initiative.
65. The Meeting expressed appreciation for India's strong support and commitment to the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) through its assistance in promoting human resources development, infrastructure development and ICT development in the CLMV countries.

66. The Meeting welcomed India's expression of interest to further strengthen cooperation in disaster management through the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), and to support the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre).
67. The Meeting welcomed ongoing cooperation between ASEAN and India in science & technology, including space, as well as on global issues of concern such as food security, energy security and climate change.
68. The Meeting thanked Brunei Darussalam as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Viet Nam as the incoming Country Coordinator.

### **Japan**

69. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with Japan was co-chaired by H.E. HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia and H.E. Minoru Kiuchi, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.
70. The Meeting welcomed the advancement of the ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership under the Joint Declaration for Enhancing ASEAN Japan Strategic Partnership for Prospering Together (Bali Declaration), the Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation and the Joint Statement "Hand in hand, facing regional and global challenges" and reiterated its commitment to work together on regional and global challenges as stated in the Joint Statement adopted by ASEAN and Japan Leaders at the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in Tokyo in 2013.
71. The ASEAN Ministers commended Japan's continuing support for ASEAN Community building, including the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II. The ASEAN Minister further welcomed Japan's initiative of "Partnership for Quality Infrastructure: Investment for Asia's Future" in collaboration with other countries, international organizations including the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and other financial institutions.
72. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed Japan's current efforts under "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation which will enable Japan to contribute more proactively to peace, stability and prosperity of the region and the international community.
73. The Meeting reiterated its commitment to strengthen cooperation under the ASEAN-Japan Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime, emphasising the importance of promoting moderation in order to counter violent extremism which poses a serious threat to the region. In this regard, the Meeting noted the successful convening of the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC)+Japan Consultation held on 10 June 2015 in Siem Reap, Cambodia which agreed to develop a SOMTC+Japan Work Plan.

74. The Meeting appreciated Japan's support for the convening of the Regional Seminar on the Establishment of an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) on 2-3 November 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) 2.0.
75. The Meeting welcomed the progress of cooperation in disaster management between ASEAN and Japan including Japan's support to full operationalization of the ASEAN coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) and looked forward to further enhancing cooperation on the Implementation of the Work Programme for the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER). In this regard, the Meeting welcomed the successful convening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai, Japan in March 2015, including the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.
76. The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of people-to-people contacts by establishing networks among ASEAN Member States and Japan, in particular in the areas of tourism and cultural exchanges to strengthen mutual trust and heart-to-heart understanding. The Meeting commended the steady implementation of exchange programmes under various initiatives such as Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) 2015, "WA-Project" and Sport for Tomorrow, which aims to spread sporting values and promote the Olympic movement toward the success of the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.
77. Recognizing that urgent and concrete action is required to address climate change, the Meeting reaffirmed their commitment to enhance cooperation in climate change and environment protection through ASEAN-Japan Dialogue on Environmental Cooperation. Furthermore, the Meeting agreed to closely cooperate toward the adoption of an effective legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force applicable to all Parties under the UNFCCC at COP21 in Paris to be held at the end of 2015.
78. The Meeting recognized the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability of the Korean Peninsula, and called for the denuclearization of the Peninsula through peaceful dialogue including creating the conditions for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks. The Meeting shared concerns over North Korea's continued development of nuclear and missile programs. The Meeting urged North Korea to refrain from any further provocation, including any launch using ballistic missile technology, and to fully comply with its obligations under all relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions and commitments under the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. The Meeting reiterated commitment to full compliance with the UNSC resolutions. The Meeting also emphasized the importance of addressing humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the abductions issue.
79. The Meeting underlined the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability, freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea. The Meeting shared the concerns over recent and on-going developments in

the South China Sea, which has eroded trust and confidence amongst parties, and may undermine peace, security and stability in the South China Sea. The Meeting emphasised the need for ASEAN Member States and China to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China (DOC) in its entirety, and welcomed ASEAN Member States and China recent agreement to proceed to the next stage of consultations and work towards the early establishment of an effective Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).

80. The Meeting thanked Cambodia as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Brunei Darussalam as the incoming Country Coordinator.

#### **Republic of Korea (ROK)**

81. The ASEAN PMC+ 1 Session with ROK was co-chaired by H.E. Retno L.P. Marsudi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and H.E. Yun Byung-se, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea.
82. The Meeting acknowledged the successful convening of the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit, held in Busan, ROK, on 11-12 December 2014, which has renewed ASEAN and the ROK's commitment to bring ASEAN-ROK relations to new heights. In this connection, the Meeting expressed satisfaction with the progress in implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement Joint Declaration on ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity (2011-2015) and adopted the ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity for the period 2016-2020.
83. The Meeting noted the trade performance between ASEAN and the ROK and reaffirmed the commitment to achieve the target of two-way trade of USD 150 billion by 2015 and USD 200 billion by 2020. In this regard, the Meeting commended efforts made by ASEAN and the ROK to effectively implement and maximize utilization of the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area (AKFTA) for greater mutual benefit.
84. The Meeting looked forward to the endorsement of the Third Protocol to Amend the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Goods Agreement at the upcoming ASEAN-ROK Economic Ministerial Meeting, August 2015 and endeavour to improve market access by, among others, further liberalisation in line with the discussions at SEOM-ROK Consultations, in order to maximise FTA utilisation.
85. The Meeting acknowledged the importance of creating a people-oriented, people centred partnership through the enhanced participation of the business sector and welcomed the ASEAN-ROK Business Council and the ASEAN-ROK CEO Summit established during the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit in 2014. The Meeting further agreed that the ASEAN-ROK Business Council should be utilised to promote the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

86. The Meeting expressed appreciation to the ROK for its commitment and continuous efforts in promoting cooperation in the areas of culture and arts, mass media, youth, and education through the Future Oriented Cooperation Program (FOCP).
87. The Meeting noted the ASEAN-Korea Centre's activities to further promote a mutually beneficial relationship in the areas of trade, investment, tourism and culture, and to raise the awareness of ASEAN in the ROK, particularly through people-to-people exchange programs, in line with the Centre's vision to build a genuine partnership between the ROK and ASEAN.
88. The Meeting encouraged the ROK to support the work and full operationalization of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Center) as well as the implementation of the second phase of the Work Programme of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) 2013-2015.
89. The Meeting underlined the impact of climate change, and underscored efforts made to implement projects in the area of forestry to support sustainable forest management through the ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation (AFoCo) Agreement. The Meeting noted the ongoing dialogues towards the establishment of the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFOCO).
90. The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of enhancing cooperation in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, particularly in the area of physical infrastructure, information and communications technologies (ICT) development, maritime, people-to-people connectivity and Public-Private-Partnership (PPP). The Meeting took note on the importance of ameliorating cooperation within the ROK-Mekong framework in enhancing connectivity and integration in ASEAN. In this connection, the Meeting welcomed ROK's official announcement of its financial assistance for the implementation of projects: Feasibility Study on the construction of missing link section of the Singapore-Kunming Rail Link in Viet Nam and Lao PDR" and the "Development Study for the Inland Waterway Improvement in Thailand and CLMV countries".
91. The Meeting further reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the region and expressed support for the early denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. In this regard, the Meeting expressed concern over the DPRK's ongoing nuclear and ballistic missile-related activities and urged the DPRK to refrain from any further provocations and fully comply with relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution. The Meeting called for early resumption of the Six-Party Talks so as to achieve the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. The Ministers expressed their support for the Trust-Building Process on the Korean Peninsula and the Initiative for Peaceful Unification of the Korean Peninsula of the Republic of Korea as well as the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI) in promoting lasting peace on the Korea Peninsula and cooperation and trust in Northeast Asia.

92. The Meeting thanked Indonesia as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Cambodia as the incoming Country Coordinator.

### **New Zealand**

93. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with New Zealand was co-chaired by H.E. Thongloun SISOULITH, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR, and the Hon. Murray McCully, Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand.
94. The Meeting appreciated the substantive progress of ASEAN-New Zealand cooperation, particularly in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration for ASEAN-New Zealand Comprehensive Partnership 2010-2015 and the Four Flagship Initiatives as well as the activities under the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI).
95. The ASEAN Ministers appreciated New Zealand's continued support and recognition to ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture and recognised New Zealand's increased engagement in the region through ASEAN-led mechanisms, namely ARF, EAS and ADMM-Plus. In this regard, the Meeting agreed to deepen cooperation in those mechanisms to further contribute to peace, stability and prosperity in the region.
96. The Meeting welcomed 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-New Zealand dialogue relations and look forward to the convening of the ASEAN-New Zealand Commemorative Summit in Kuala Lumpur in November 2015. In this regard, the Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to enhance the dialogue relations and agreed to elevate the ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue Relations from a Comprehensive Partnership to a Strategic Partnership.
97. The Meeting looked forward to the adoption of ASEAN-New Zealand Plan of Action for 2016-2020 and a Joint Statement of the Leaders at the ASEAN-New Zealand Commemorative Summit, with a view to setting strategic direction for future ASEAN-New Zealand cooperation. In this connection, the Meeting welcomed New Zealand's commitment to continue the Four Flagship Initiatives beyond 2015 and focus on two key strategies in the areas of Education and Leadership, and Agriculture and Trade in the next five years.
98. The Meeting expressed appreciation to New Zealand for its valuable support to the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), education, disaster risk management, and agriculture cooperation. The Meeting also welcomed New Zealand's interest to enhance cooperation on connectivity and encouraged New Zealand to support ASEAN in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC), particularly sharing with ASEAN its expertise and experiences in attracting investment in infrastructure/connectivity projects.
99. The Meeting noted the importance of deepening trade and economic relations through supporting the implementation of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) and advancing the negotiations towards a Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

100. The Meeting emphasized the need to further strengthen cooperation in other areas such as education, business-to-business interaction, SMEs development, technology innovation, agriculture, food productivity, safety and sanitary, connectivity, people-to-people contacts, and disaster management.
101. The Meeting also appreciated New Zealand's role as a Non-Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council in contributing to efforts towards international peace and security.
102. The Meeting thanked the Lao PDR as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Indonesia as the incoming Country Coordinator.

### **Russian Federation**

103. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with the Russian Federation was co-chaired by H.E. Dato' Sri Anifah Aman, Minister of Foreign Affairs, of Malaysia, and H.E. Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.
104. The Meeting emphasized the significance of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership as an important element in contributing towards peace, stability and security in the region. In this context, the Meeting reaffirmed Russia's role in continuing its support for ASEAN's Community Building efforts, as well as ASEAN's unity and centrality in the evolving regional architecture. The Meeting also welcomed the enhanced engagement of Russia in the region through ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Ministerial Meeting (ADMM)-Plus, and Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF).
105. The Meeting noted that the year 2016 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Relations. The Meeting looked forward to the successful convening of the ASEAN-Russia Commemorative Summit in 2016 and welcomed the proposal to conduct commemorative activities throughout 2016.
106. Recognizing the importance of further broadening and deepening the existing ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Relations, the Meeting welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN-Russia Eminent Persons Group (EPG). The Meeting agreed that the ASEAN-Russia EPG shall take stock of the current ASEAN Russia Dialogue Relations and make recommendations on the future direction of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Relations. The Meeting agreed that these recommendations and strategies shall be submitted in the form of a report for the consideration of the Leaders of ASEAN and Russia during the proposed ASEAN-Russia Commemorative Summit in year 2016.
107. The Meeting reviewed the progress of the implementation of the Comprehensive Programme of Action to Promote Cooperation between ASEAN and the Russian Federation (2005-2015). The Meeting further encouraged both sides to step up efforts to implement pending activities and programmes expeditiously before the end of 2015.

108. The Meeting noted the on-going negotiations of the successor document to the current Comprehensive Programme of Action to Promote Cooperation between ASEAN and the Russian Federation (2005-2015). The Meeting underlined the importance for this successor document to be finalised by November 2015.
109. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the ASEAN-Russia trade volume growth and commended efforts made by ASEAN and Russia to effectively implement and maximize utilization of the ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Roadmap for greater mutual benefits.
110. The Meeting welcomed various initiatives to promote people-to-people connectivity. These initiatives among others include the convening of ASEAN-Russia Youth Summit in 2015. The Meeting looked forward to organizing more activities to enhance the awareness of ASEAN through education, sports and culture exchanges. The Meeting commended ASEAN Member States for its successful ratification of the ASEAN-Russia Agreement on Cultural Cooperation which enables the implementation of the various initiatives under the Agreement.
111. The Meeting agreed to designate the Year 2016 as the ASEAN-Russia Year of Culture. In this regard, the Meeting emphasised the need to work closely together in coming up with concrete activities/projects as well as substantive deliverables in commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership.
112. The Meeting thanked Malaysia as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Lao PDR as the incoming Country Coordinator.

### **United States of America**

113. The ASEAN PMC+1 Session with the United States of America was co-chaired by H.E. U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Hon. John Kerry, Secretary of State of the United States of America.
114. The Meeting discussed the progress and future direction of ASEAN-U.S Dialogue Relations and the intention to elevate the status of relations between ASEAN and the United States from a comprehensive to a strategic partnership. The Meeting reinforced reciprocal intentions to promote closer engagement through ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus), as well as the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF). The Meeting underlined the importance of the United States' continued support to ASEAN Community building, and ASEAN integration efforts through various programs including through sub-regional initiatives such as the Lower Mekong Initiative.
115. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the substantial progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action on the ASEAN-U.S. Enhanced Partnership for Enduring Peace and Prosperity (2011-2015) and an understanding was

reached an understanding on the goals of the next Plan of Action for 2016 to 2020.

116. The Meeting pledged to work together to promote the rule of law, good governance, democracy, and human rights and to address traditional and non-traditional security challenges such as terrorism, maritime security, cybercrime, wildlife trafficking, and trafficking in persons through greater engagement, information and exchange and cooperation. ASEAN welcomed the United States' support program, the ASEAN-U.S. Partnership for Good-Governance, Equitable and Sustainable Development and Security (ASEAN-U.S. PROGRESS), particularly in regard to providing technical assistance related to good governance, human rights and counter-human trafficking. The United States commended ASEAN for its work on a prospective regional anti-trafficking convention and for holding an emergency ASEAN meeting on irregular migration, and establishing a regional trust fund to respond to the migrant crisis.
117. The ASEAN Ministers appreciated the U.S.'s continued support for the ASEAN's Centrality in the evolving regional architecture and ASEAN Community building, and recognized the U.S.'s role in promoting regional cooperation to address security challenges through its active participation in ASEAN-led mechanisms.
118. The Meeting looked forward to the early accession of the Nuclear Weapons States (P5) to the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Protocol, which will contribute positively to keeping the region free of nuclear weapons.
119. The Meeting agreed to push forward the implementation of the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement and the Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) Initiative, as well as underscoring joint support for the ASEAN Connectivity through Trade and Investment (ACTI) program. The Meeting pledged to build a stronger foundation for economic ties, create more job opportunities in both regions, and further complement ASEAN's efforts in building the ASEAN Economic Community. The Meeting also acknowledged the outcomes of cooperation among the ASEAN-U.S. Business communities, including the successful organization of the annual ASEAN-U.S. Business Summit, which has also contributed to the further enhancement of the ASEAN-U.S. relations.
120. The Meeting highlighted the importance of addressing socio-cultural issues and promoting sustainable development that requires a coherent and multi-faceted approach. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed the U.S.'s proposal to further strengthen cooperation in fisheries and marine conservation, education, health, climate change, environment and cultural exchanges.
121. The Meeting also took note of the need to come forward with strong Intended Nationally Determined Contributions well in advance of COP-21 to fulfil the commitment from the ASEAN-U.S. Joint Statement on Climate Change last year and to inject important momentum into the climate negotiations.

122. The Meeting recognised that unsustainable human activities pose a great threat to biodiversity, in particular to wildlife, pushing some species to the brink of extinction, and decided to work together to conserve biodiversity, sustainably manage ecosystems and protect wildlife and natural habitats in the region
123. The Meeting recognized the continued success of the English Language Program being jointly organized by the U.S. and Brunei Darussalam, the ASEAN-U.S. Fulbright initiative, the Young Southeast Asia Leaders Initiatives (YSEALI), ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme and the ASEAN-U.S. Science and Technology Fellows Pilot Programme. The Meeting also agreed to further promote people-to-people exchanges and nurture young leadership in the ASEAN region.
124. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the current status of ASEAN-U.S. cooperation that has been contributing to peace, stability and prosperity in the region. The Meeting also welcomed the enhanced engagement of the U.S. in the region through ASEAN-led mechanisms such as ARF, EAS, EAMF and ADMM Plus.
125. The Meeting underlined the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability, freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea. The Meeting shared the concerns over recent and on-going developments in the South China Sea, which has eroded trust and confidence amongst parties, and may undermine peace, security and stability in the South China Sea. The Meeting took note of a number of proposals put forward by various parties to address current and ongoing developments in the South China Sea. The Meeting emphasised the need for ASEAN Member States and China to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China (DOC) in its entirety, and welcomed ASEAN Member States and China recent agreement to proceed to the next stage of consultations and work towards the early establishment of an effective Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).
126. The Meeting thanked Myanmar as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Malaysia as the incoming Country Coordinator.

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