Chairman’s Statement of the East Asia Summit (EAS)
Ha Noi, Viet Nam, 30 October 2010

1. The Fifth East Asia Summit (EAS), chaired by H.E. Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, was held on 30 October 2010 in Viet Nam. The Summit was attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, Australia, the People’s Republic of China, the Republic of India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and New Zealand. The Russian Foreign Minister and the US Secretary of State, who represented their respective Presidents, were invited to the 5th EAS as special guests of the Chair.

2. In commemorating the fifth anniversary of the EAS, we noted with satisfaction the significant achievements recorded so far and stressed the importance of further strengthening the EAS process through reviewing the progress over the past 5 years, re-emphasising the importance of the EAS in fostering dialogue and cooperation in the region, and reaffirming our commitments to further consolidating and strengthening the EAS in line with the principles, objectives and modalities as set out in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration of Inaugural EAS in 2005, in the years to come. In this connection, we adopted and issued the Ha Noi Declaration on the Commemoration of the Fifth Anniversary of East Asia Summit.

3. We had intensive and in-depth discussions on future directions of the EAS in the context of fast changing regional landscape and the evolving regional architecture. In this regard, we welcomed the expressed interest and commitment of the Russia Federation and the United States in the EAS so as to engage more closely with the region, and formally decided to invite the Leaders of Russia and the US to participate in the EAS starting from 2011.
4. We emphasised the importance of strengthening commitment to the objectives and principles of the EAS as a Leaders-led, open, transparent and inclusive forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic political and economic issues of common concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and prosperity in East Asia. We also emphasised the need to further advance the ongoing progress along the priorities that have been set out in the EAS. We reiterated our strong support for ASEAN’s central role in the EAS, working in close partnership with other EAS participating countries. We recognise the need to strengthen follow-up and coordination mechanism within EAS and tasked our Foreign Ministers to study the issue thoroughly.

5. We underscored the EAS important role and contribution in maintaining regional peace and stability, maritime security and safety, and peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with universally agreed principles of international law.

6. We were satisfied with tangible progress in the EAS cooperation, especially in the five priority areas, namely finance, education, energy, disaster management and avian flu prevention.

7. We underscored the importance of education as a key in promoting human resources development, bridging the development gap, enhancing regional competitiveness and in achieving sustained economic recovery and development. We shared the need to promote educational exchange, including in the areas of science and technology and people-to-people interactions, as well as innovation cooperation. We appreciated the steps taken by India including the enactment of the Nalanda University Act for early establishment of Nalanda University as an international institution of excellence with continental focus. We welcomed the proposal to convene an EAS Education Ministers’ Meeting in 2011.

8. We welcomed the convening of the Forum on Higher Education cooperation in Kunming, China on 14-15 October 2010. We appreciated China’s initiative to provide 2000 government scholarships and 200 MPA scholarships for developing countries in the EAS in the next five years, as well as the initiatives to grant over 7500 scholarships between 2011-2015 by Australia and 850 scholarships over next five years by New Zealand. We welcomed the progress
in the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths which have invited more than 27000 youths in three years.

9. We noted with appreciation the ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on Human Resource and Skills Development for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Growth adopted at the 17th ASEAN Summit in Hanoi. We acknowledged the efforts of Australia and Cambodia, India, Laos, Malaysia and Viet Nam in implementing the EAS pilot capacity building program focused on strengthening the institutional development and function of securities market supervisory agencies in developing EAS economies and welcomed new proposals for capacity building in the region. We noted Japan’s initiative to build an “East Asia Science & Innovation Area” and its proposal to convene an EAS Informal Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology.

10. We welcomed the outcome of the Informal EAS Finance Ministers’ Meeting (FMM) in Tashkent on 2 May 2010 and encouraged their further cooperation and coordination. We also welcomed the outcome of the second EAS Workshop on Trade Finance which was held on 13-14 May 2010 in Sydney, Australia and supported the establishment of an EAS Trade Finance Network. We noted the good outcome of the World Economic Forum (WEF) on East Asia 2010 (6-7 June 2010, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam), which focused on enhancing Asian leadership, particularly in the global financial architecture and international trade, regional connectivity.

11. We encouraged efforts toward trade and investment liberalisation and facilitation among the EAS participating Countries. We welcomed the progress made by the four ASEAN Plus Working Groups that were tasked to look into the recommendations of the studies on the East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA) and the Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA) in parallel. We tasked relevant officials to recommend specific targets and timelines within which to complete consolidation work, relevant to their respective Terms of Reference. In this connection, we welcomed Japan’s concept paper on the Initial Steps towards Regional Economic Integration in East Asia: A Gradual Approach and noted the decision by ASEAN’s Economic Ministers to refer this proposal, together with China’s concept paper on the Roadmap on Trade Facilitation among ASEAN Plus Three, to the ASEAN Plus Working Groups for their consideration.
12. Recognising intra-ASEAN connectivity would help catalyse regional integration, we welcomed the adoption of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity at the 17th ASEAN Summit in Ha Noi. We encouraged the EAS participating countries to actively involve in the implementation of the Master Plan. In this regard, we welcomed a Seminar to be held early December 2010 in Viet Nam for detailed briefing of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity.

13. We commended the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) for its effective contributions in enhancing regional economic integration, bridging development gaps and promoting connectivity for both ASEAN and EAS countries, including its intellectual contribution to developing the ASEAN Connectivity Master Plan. We noted the Statement of the ERIA’s 3rd Governing Board Meeting and its study identifying its future contribution to regional integration. We appreciated the completion of the Comprehensive Asia Development Plan (CADP) by ERIA in collaboration with the ADB and the ASEAN Secretariat. We also noted the report of the “Symposium on Evolving ASEAN Society and Establishing Sustainable Social Security Net” held on October 26, 2010 in Hanoi by ERIA, the Central Institute for Economic Management of Viet Nam (CIEM) and Harvard University.

14. Emphasising the need for greater regional cooperation on energy, we welcomed the efforts to address market barriers and promote more transparent energy trade and investments; enhance dialogue and communication between energy producers and consumers, encourage the private sector’s participation in the development of alternative sources of energy, especially new and renewable energy sources, such as bio-fuels to reduce our reliance on fossil fuel. We noted the successful convening of the 4th EAS Energy Ministers Meeting on 22 July 2010 in Viet Nam.

15. We reaffirmed our shared commitments to increasing collaboration in the fight against Influenza A (H1N1) and other pandemics, including sharing information, maintaining regional stockpiles of essential medical supplies and facilitating the sharing of affordable medicines and pandemic influenza vaccines. We noted the outcome of the 10th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting held on 22 July 2010 in Singapore, particularly in exploring the possibility of engaging participating countries of EAS.
16. Recognising climate change as one of our prime concern which requires urgent concerted actions at national, regional and international levels, we welcomed the ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on Joint Response to Climate Change adopted at the 16th ASEAN Summit in Hanoi and shared the view that efforts need to be taken to work toward a positive outcome at COP-16/CMP-6 (December 2010, Mexico). We noted the outcome of the 2nd EAS Environment Ministers Meeting on 15 October 2010 in Brunei Darussalam and 2nd EAS Seminar on Capacity Building for Climate Change Adaptation in March 2010 in Beijing. We noted the proposal to establish an East Asia Environmental Education Center in Viet Nam. We also welcomed Viet Nam's initiative to convene an East Asia Forum on Climate Change, and China’s proposal for establishing an East Asia Research and Cooperation Center on Climate Change. We encouraged effective policies and measures to address climate change based on the principle of “Common but differentiated responsibilities” and other key principles of the United Nations Framework of Convention on Climate Change and emphasised the efforts made by developing countries to address challenges of climate change with the financial support and technology transfer committed by developed countries.

17. We reiterated the need to enhance disaster management cooperation and appreciated Australia’s continued efforts in designing the seven proposals on EAS Disaster Response Initiative which would contribute to the Work Plan of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER). We welcomed New Zealand’s provision of NZ$8 million towards the implementation of the AADMER and Australia’s announcement of A$10 million to enhance EAS disaster response capabilities, with a strong link to AADMER. We looked forward to the full operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance in Disaster Management (AHA) in Jakarta and appreciated the expressed support of the EAS participating countries. We noted a proposal to broaden cooperation in agriculture and rural development which would help enhance poverty reduction and food security in the region, including by transferring agricultural modern technology, strengthening environmental and ecological conservation and promoting the processing of agro-products.

18. We had extensive exchange of view on some important global and regional issues which have impacts on our region. Given the current fragile world
economic recovery, we were of the view that the EAS participating countries could play more proactive role in the international, especially in the G-20, and regional efforts in restoring financial stability and generating sustainable economic growth and development, through enhancing regional financial cooperation and coordination. We noted with appreciation the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Sustained Recovery and Development at the 16th ASEAN Summit in Hanoi. We expressed support for the G-20’s work to reform the international financial institutions and were pleased with the agreement by the G-20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors at their meeting in Korea on 22-23 October 2010 on IMF quota and governance reform for an effective and representative IMF which gives greater weight to emerging and developing economies.

19. We welcomed the Republic of Korea as the chair and host of the upcoming the G-20 Summit in Seoul this November. Recognising the role of ASEAN in the region and its constructive contributions, we expressed our support for the ASEAN Chair to participate in the G-20 Summits on a regular basis to share ASEAN’s insight and perspective. ASEAN Leaders expressed their appreciation to the ROK for inviting Viet Nam as the current Chair of ASEAN to attend the upcoming G-20 Summit in Seoul.

20. We reiterated our common resolve to work for the early conclusion of the Doha Round with a balanced, comprehensive and ambitious outcome. We reaffirmed our rejection against trade protectionist measures, including those enacted in the context of the economic crisis. We looked forward to the successful outcomes of APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting to be held in Yokohama on 13-14 November 2010.

21. We stressed the importance of maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and in the region. We reaffirmed our support for the complete and verifiable denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. We encouraged all concerned parties to fully implement the Joint Statement of 19 September 2005 and create a conducive environment for the resumption of the Six Party Talks with a view to achieving long-lasting peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. We underscored the importance of relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, and of addressing the issue of humanitarian concerns of the international community.
22. We were updated by Myanmar on its preparations for the general elections in Myanmar scheduled for 7 November 2010. We underscored the importance of national reconciliation in Myanmar and the holding of the elections in a free, fair, and inclusive manner, thus contributing to Myanmar’s stability and development.

23. We welcomed the efforts launched at the 2010 Nuclear Security Summit to effectively enhance global nuclear security and encouraged the continuation of such efforts. In this regard, we expressed support for the next Summit in 2012 in the Republic of Korea.

24. We reaffirmed our commitment to combat people smuggling and trafficking in persons. We stressed the importance of continued bilateral and regional cooperative efforts, including through the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, to address the impact of these and other transnational crimes.

25. We took note of the messages conveyed by the Russian Foreign Minister and the US Secretary of State on behalf of their respective Presidents.

26. We looked forward to the Sixth East Asia Summit in Indonesia in 2011.