East Asia Summit

Statement on Issues Related to Security of and in the Use of Information and Communications Technologies

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation and the United States of America on the occasion of the 10th East Asia Summit (EAS) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 22 November 2015;

Reaffirming UN Resolution A/RES/69/28 which noted that information and communication technologies (ICTs) bring immense economic and social benefits, but also can be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international peace and security;

Recalling the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) on the political-security cooperation to respond effectively, in accordance with the principles of comprehensive security, to all forms of threats, transnational crimes, and transboundary challenges, as well as Bali Concord III Plan of Action 2013-2017;

Welcoming the establishment of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) Working Group on Cybercrime as stated in the Joint Statement of the 9th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime to further strengthen the regional cooperation on combating the criminal misuse of ICTs;

Expressing support for ongoing work by bilateral partners and within relevant regional organizations, including the ASEAN Regional Forum and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), to build regional stability of and in the use of ICTs and increased ICT capacity through practical cooperative and capacity building efforts;

Decided that EAS participating countries should endeavor to strengthen national and regional stability in this field by:

1. Intensifying efforts to build robust domestic security of and in the use of ICTs, consistent with their international obligations and domestic law, and to cooperate on transnational issues of and in the use of ICTs, including capacity building and cooperation on combating the criminal misuse of ICTs; and preventing the use of technology, communications and resources for criminal or terrorist purposes;

2. Developing and strengthening practical cooperation on risk reduction confidence-building measures, in accordance with the ASEAN Regional Forum Work Plan on Security of and in the use of Information and Communication Technologies; and

3. Strengthening international cooperation in confidence and capacity building, incident response, and information sharing to address the range of threats to and in the use of ICTs to individuals, businesses, national infrastructure and Governments, consistent with norms, rules and principles of responsible state behavior.