

**The 15th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology
Ministers Meeting and Related Meetings**
Da Nang, Viet Nam, 27 November 2015

JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

1. The 15th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology (IT) Ministers Meeting (TELMIN) was held in Da Nang, Viet Nam, on 26 and 27 November 2015. H.E. Dr. Nguyen Bac Son, Minister of Information and Communications of Viet Nam, chaired the Meeting, and H.E. Dato Mustappa Sirat, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam was the Vice-Chairman. The Ministers also held consultations with their counterparts from the People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

**TOWARDS A DIGITALLY-ENABLED, INCLUSIVE, SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE
ASEAN COMMUNITY**

2. The Ministers commended the senior officials and regulators in charge of telecommunications and IT for the successful completion of the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2015 (AIM2015) and its contribution to the creation of empowering and transformational Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for an inclusive, vibrant and integrated ASEAN Community.

3. The Ministers noted that ASEAN has put in tremendous efforts to complete the AIM2015, with 87 projects undertaken to implement the masterplan. These efforts have led to substantial improvements in ICT development and connectivity in the region. In particular, the Ministers were encouraged to note that the cost of accessing fixed broadband as a percentage of GNI per capita in the region has decreased considerably from 37.16% in 2010 to 6.21% in 2013. Further, the number of mobile subscriptions per 100 inhabitants rose from 90.43 in 2010 to 121.75 in 2014.

4. The Ministers applauded the efforts to promote digital economy in ASEAN, including through the formulation of enabling regulatory policies for ICT development, development of a secure transactions framework, promotion of a safe and secure ICT environment, as well as encouraging industry innovation through the ASEAN ICT Awards.

5. The Ministers supported several initiatives to improve ICT connectivity including through the use of dynamic spectrum allocation technology to better utilise scarce radio frequencies, harmonising digital dividend spectrum utilisation, strengthening of submarine cable protection regimes to ensure reliability of communications network, and supporting broadband development in rural communities.

6. The Ministers also supported the continual development of human capital through the development of ICT skills upgrading programmes and the continued development of ICT competency level reference mapping. The Ministers encouraged ASEAN ICT professionals to take advantage of the ASEAN CIO Association and the

network of ASEAN ICT Centres of Excellence to exchange ideas and share best practices.

7. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of collective efforts in ensuring a secure ICT ecosystem in ASEAN through the development of human and institutional capacity in network and information security, including cybersecurity awareness campaigns and the cooperative activities of the ASEAN Network Security Action Council (ANSAC).

8. The Ministers welcomed the launch of the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020 (AIM2020) to guide ASEAN ICT cooperation from 2016-2020 towards a digitally-enabled economy, which is secure, sustainable, and transformative; and one that would enable the achievement of an innovative, inclusive and integrated ASEAN Community.

9. The Ministers adopted the Da Nang Declaration, entitled “Towards a Digitally-enabled, Inclusive, Secure and Sustainable ASEAN Community”, to reiterate ASEAN’s commitment to realise the benefits of the ASEAN Community through the use of ICT.

ICT COOPERATION WITH DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

10. The Ministers acknowledged the 10 years of Ministerial dialogues on ICT cooperation and collaboration between ASEAN and China, Japan and ROK, respectively. The Ministers looked forward to deeper cooperation in strengthening ICT policy, adopting emerging technology, and improving the quality of network and information security across the ASEAN region towards achieving the objectives of AIM2020.

11. The Ministers acknowledged China’s assistance in the successful conclusion of several China-ASEAN ICT related training activities held in China in the areas of network convergence and interconnection, mobile Internet innovation, electronic commerce, big data technology and application, and network security, and were of the view that the cooperation between the two sides in the ICT field should be further enhanced, particularly given the recent ICT development initiatives of the two sides.

12. The Ministers endorsed the 2016 ASEAN-China ICT Work Plan which includes the activities to exchange and cooperate in the areas of broadband development and USO, Internet-based new business and applications, cloud computing and big data, ICT’s role for economic and social development, as well as the Action Plan for Implementing the ASEAN-China Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) Cooperative Mechanism.

13. In relation to the Action Plan of the newly established ASEAN-China CERTs Cooperative Mechanism, the Ministers noted that the Action Plan would facilitate future ease of implementation by first discussing and developing an agreed list of cyber incident types, information sharing protocols and processes to be covered under the mechanism. The Ministers also noted that the Mechanism would serve as a platform to strengthen cybersecurity cooperation between CERTs in ASEAN Member States and China.

14. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for her assistance in several areas of cooperation in 2015, including the ICT-infrastructure enhancement studies under the “ASEAN Smart Network Initiative”. The Ministers acknowledged Japan’s proposed ASEAN Smart ICT Connectivity Vision composed of a number of potential areas for cooperation.

15. The Ministers agreed to hold several activities under the ASEAN-Japan ICT Fund including policy symposium to discuss ICT policy including IoT and 5G. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Japan for the additional contribution of USD 100,000.00 to the ASEAN-Japan ICT Fund.

16. The Ministers commended the progress made in the implementation of the "ASEAN-Japan Collaboration Framework on Information Security", including the conduct of the Cyber SEA Game, joint research projects and the development of the ASEAN-Japan Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Guidelines. The Ministers welcomed Japan's proposal for cooperation in cyber security human resource development. With regard to the establishment of "ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Cooperation Hub", the Ministers tasked the Senior Officials to consider the proposal.

17. The Ministers acknowledged the Republic of Korea for having successfully implemented a series of cooperative activities under ASEAN-Korea ICT Partnership 2012-2016, focusing on priority areas such as expansion of new technology and services, capacity building and knowledge sharing, ICT infrastructure enhancement, as well as cooperation with international organizations. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to Korea for strengthening ICT cooperation with ASEAN through training programs for 160 ICT government officers, and dispatching 400 Korean ICT experts to ASEAN.

18. The Ministers endorsed the 2016 ASEAN-Korea ICT Work plan to further extend cooperation on establishing an ecosystem for start-ups and supporting SMEs, enhancing Women ICT manpower, building capacity in cyber security, as well as promoting convergence of ICT with different industries by developing mobile applications. The Ministers agreed to start programs for young people and women in ASEAN to become a main driving force for the economic development by supporting their employment and start-ups.

19. The Ministers noted the implementation progress and plan of ASEAN-India ICT Collaboration during 2012-2015, in particular, the project on the set up of Center of Excellences in Software Development and Training (CESDT) for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam (CLMV) Countries. The Ministers also noted the CESDT activities for 2016 in the areas of cybercrime and e-Governance.

20. The Ministers welcomed the United States' assistance in the successful conclusion of ICT-related activities in relation to promoting e-commerce and wireless broadband connectivity and dynamic frequency allocation.

21. The Ministers welcomed the proposal presented by the United States during its consultation with Senior Officials for cooperation in the areas of emerging technologies, e-commerce, bridging the digital divide, and capacity building.

22. The Ministers appreciated ITU for its assistance in advancing the development of the ICT sector in ASEAN including capacity building in 2015 on Over-the-Top (OTT) services: business, policy and regulatory trends. The Ministers also acknowledged the valuable support and direct country actions implemented by ITU in individual ASEAN Member States in the areas of telecommunication/ICT policy and regulation, cybersecurity, spectrum management, digital inclusion, transition from Analogue to Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting (DTTB) and other ICT-related capacity building activities.

23. The Ministers signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ASEAN and ITU on Joint Cooperation in ICT Development and looked forward to continue the valued ASEAN-ITU working relationship and to further strengthen the cooperation and implementation of joint activities in the future within the framework of the MoU.

24. The Ministers reiterated ASEAN's commitment to pursue policy and regulatory dialogue with both dialogue and development partners. The Ministers also called for greater participation from the private sector to jointly develop quality ICT infrastructure and services to improve ASEAN's competitiveness to support the goals of the ASEAN Community.

NEXT MEETING

25. The Ministers agreed to convene the 16th ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Ministers Meeting and its Meetings with Dialogue Partners and ITU in Brunei Darussalam in 2016.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

26. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government and the People of Viet Nam for their warm hospitality accorded to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the 15th TELMIN and Related Meetings.



LIST OF MINISTERS

1. **H.E. Dato Mustappa Sirat**, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam;
2. **H.E. Prak Sokhonn**, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Cambodia;
3. **H.E. Rudiantara**, Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Indonesia;
4. **H.E. Dr. Thansamay Kommasith**, Vice Minister of Post and Telecommunications of Lao PDR;
5. **H.E. Azmil Mohd Zabidi**, Ambassador of Malaysia to Viet Nam;
6. **H.E. U Zay Yar Aung**, Union Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Myanmar;
7. **H.E. Louis Napoleon C. Casambre**, Undersecretary of the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines;
8. **H.E. Dr. Yaacob Ibrahim**, Minister for Communications and Information of Singapore;
9. **H.E. Dr. Uttama Savanayana**, Minister of Information and Communication Technology of Thailand;
10. **H.E. Dr. Nguyen Bac Son**, Minister of Information and Communications of Viet Nam;
11. **H.E. Chen Zhaoxiong**, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology of People's Republic of China;
12. **H.E. Yasuo Sakamoto**, Vice Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan;
13. **H.E. Choi Jae You**, Vice Minister of Science, ICT and Future Planning of the Republic of Korea;
14. **H.E. Le Luong Minh**, Secretary-General of ASEAN.