

DA NANG DECLARATION Viet Nam, 27 November 2015

Towards a Digitally-enabled, Inclusive, Secure and Sustainable ASEAN Community

We, the ASEAN Ministers responsible for Telecommunications and Information Technology (IT), gathered in Da Nang, Viet Nam on the occasion of the Fifteenth ASEAN Telecommunications and IT Ministers Meeting (15th TELMIN) on 26 and 27 November 2015:

Recalling the Declaration of ASEAN Concord II adopted by the ASEAN Leaders on 7 October 2003 at the 8th ASEAN Summit, which put forth the establishment of an ASEAN Community, comprising three pillars, namely, political-security community, economic community, and socio-cultural community;

Guided by the *ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together*, comprising the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on *ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together*, ASEAN Community Vision 2025, the ASEAN Political-Security Blueprint Community 2025, the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025 and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint 2025 adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 27th ASEAN Summit on 21 November 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia..

Recalling further the objective of establishing an integrated and seamless regional connectivity by enhancing Information and Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure which was set out in the Physical Connectivity Strategy under the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity;

Welcoming the successful completion of the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2015 (AIM2015) to create an empowering and transformational ICT for an inclusive, vibrant and integrated ASEAN, and the final review of the AIM2015 that provided post-2015 recommendations for ASEAN;

Reaffirming the commitment to chart a post-2015 ICT vision for ASEAN in the Singapore Declaration which was adopted at the 13th TELMIN on 15 November 2013 in Singapore;

Hereby agreed to:

1. Adopt the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020 (AIM2020) which will guide ASEAN ICT cooperation from 2016-2020 towards a digitally-enabled economy, which is secure, sustainable, and transformative; and to enable an innovative, inclusive

and integrated ASEAN Community. The AIM2020 is driven by eight strategic thrusts:

- 1.1. **Economic Integration and Transformation:** Utilise ICT and next-generation technologies for sustainable economic development, especially in key priority areas, in order to strategically transform ASEAN Member States to be linchpins in the digital economy.
- 1.2. **People Integration and Empowerment through ICT:** Enable ASEAN citizens to form meaningful connections and build a common ASEAN identity through universal and affordable access to ICT.
- 1.3. **Innovation:** Foster a vibrant ICT sector and encourage more entrepreneurship and idea generation so that the region becomes a leader in ICT and next-generation applications.
- 1.4. **ICT Infrastructure Development:** Continue to develop and improve a strong infrastructural backbone to ensure a sustainable digital economy.
- 1.5. **Human Capital Development:** Equip ASEAN citizens to be digital-literate in the digital economy and continue to strengthen workforce talents through ongoing ICT skills development.
- 1.6. **ICT in the Single Market:** Enable an ASEAN digital economy to grow and develop in aid of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) goals to lower the cost of doing business, achieve economies of scale and enable synergies towards sustainable business models within ASEAN.
- 1.7. **New Media and Content:** Encourage the development and delivery of ASEAN digital content across ICT channels in order to deepen citizen engagement and create new possibilities of co-creation of services.
- 1.8. **Information Security and Assurance:** Build a trusted digital ecosystem to ensure the safety, security and reliability of transactions and information exchange within ASEAN.

2. Encourage ASEAN Member States to cooperate and implement the actions and measures outlined in the AIM2020.

3. Promote further cooperation with Dialogue Partners and international governmental organisations, and adopt a multi-stakeholder approach, where appropriate, in the implementation of ICT programmes to achieve the intended objectives of the AIM2020.

ADOPTED this Declaration at the 15th TELMIN in Da Nang, Viet Nam, on 27 November 2015.