



Chairman's Statement
The 10th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers Meeting
22 July 2009
Phuket, Thailand

42nd AMM / PMC / 16th ARF
THAILAND 2009

1. The 10th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN, the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea was held in Phuket, Thailand, on 22 July 2009. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Kasit Piromya, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand.
2. The Foreign Ministers exchanged views on regional and international issues of common interest and concern. The Foreign Ministers stressed the importance of the Joint Press Statement on ASEAN+3 Cooperation in Response to the Global Economic and Financial Crisis issued by Thailand, as the ASEAN Chair and the ASEAN Plus Three Coordinator, on behalf of the ASEAN Plus Three countries, on 3 June 2009. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to work together to support the implementation of the Joint Press Statement and turn the crisis into an opportunity for development, cooperation, and win-win progress.
3. The Foreign Ministers welcomed the agreement of the Special ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers' Meeting on 22 February 2009 in Phuket to increase the total size of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) from the initially agreed level of US\$ 80 billion to US\$ 120 billion and the agreement of the 12th ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers' Meeting on 3 May 2009 in Bali to implement the CMIM before the end of 2009 and to establish the Credit Guarantee and Investment Mechanism (CGIM) with an initial capital of US\$ 500 million under the Asian Bond Market Initiative (ABMI) to support the local currency-denominated corporate bond in the region. They encouraged the Finance Ministers to expedite the launching of the CMIM at the 12th ASEAN+3 Summit in October 2009.
4. The Foreign Ministers expressed their grave concern over the recent underground nuclear test and missile launches undertaken by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) which constituted a violation of the relevant UNSC resolutions. They urged the DPRK to fully comply with its obligations and the relevant UNSC resolutions. They expressed their full support for the early resumption of the Six-Party Talks. They also emphasized the importance of addressing outstanding issues including the humanitarian concerns. The Foreign Ministers also reaffirmed their support for possible contribution of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), as the premier regional security forum that includes all participants of the Six-Party Talks, towards an enduring peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula.

5. The Foreign Ministers welcomed a visit to Myanmar by Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 3-4 July 2009. They reaffirmed their view that the UN has a special role to play in the process of national reconciliation in Myanmar. They encouraged the continuing role of the UN in the democratization process in Myanmar which must be inclusive, credible and transparent. They encouraged the Myanmar Government to hold free, fair and inclusive election in 2010, thereby laying down a good foundation for future social and economic development. They also welcomed close cooperation between the Myanmar Government and the UN in the aftermath of Cyclone Nargis.
6. The Foreign Ministers strongly condemned the acts of terrorism in Jakarta on 17 July 2009 that caused loss of lives as unjustifiable by whomsoever committed such acts. They extended our condolences and sympathy to the families of the victims, and to the people and the Government of Indonesia. They reaffirmed their confidence in the Government of Indonesia's efforts to bring the perpetrators, organizers, financiers, and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice. They are committed to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism/extremist as reflected in the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). They stressed the need, among others, to empower the moderate sectors of society and promote inter-faith dialogue.
7. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers welcomed the Trilateral Cooperation among the Plus Three countries and their commitment to support ASEAN's role as the driving force for East Asia cooperation. They noted the upcoming China-Japan-ROK Trilateral Summit this year in the People's Republic of China as a positive contribution to East Asia cooperation.
8. In light of the recent outbreak of a new Influenza A(H1N1), the Foreign Ministers welcomed a number of collective measures and joint actions agreed at the ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Special Meeting on Influenza A(H1N1) on 8 May 2009 in Bangkok. They called for timely implementation of such measures and actions, particularly consideration on the establishment of a system to facilitate the sharing of essential medical supplies in the region in case of emergency needs and the promotion of technology transfer related to the production of anti-viral medicines and pandemic influenza vaccines.
9. The Foreign Ministers noted the progress on the implementation of the 2nd Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017). They noted the completion of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund in April 2009 with an initial amount of US\$ 3 million and the Guidelines for the Implementation of the 2nd Joint Statement and the Work Plan approved by the ASEAN Plus Three Directors-General on 3 July 2009.
10. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to ensure food and energy security in the region. In this regard, they looked forward to the adoption of a Statement on ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on Food Security and Bio-Energy Development at the 12th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in October 2009 in Thailand.

11. The Foreign Ministers welcomed the progress on the implementation of the East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve (EAERR) Pilot Project. They noted the decision of the 8th Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry on 24 October 2008 in Viet Nam to extend the EAERR Pilot Project until 28 February 2010 and the on-going effort to explore the possibility of developing the EAERR into a permanent mechanism under an ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR). The Foreign Ministers welcomed the People's Republic of China's pledge to earmark 300,000 tons of rice for the EAERR on top of which Japan has earmarked 250,000 tons of rice.
12. The Foreign Ministers welcomed the progress of ASEAN Plus Three energy cooperation, especially in the five priority areas: energy security, oil markets, oil stockpiling, natural gas, new and renewable energy and energy efficiency and conservation. They expressed their appreciation to the People's Republic of China for hosting the 2nd ASEAN Plus Three Forum on Nuclear Energy Safety in Shenzhen on 29 June-1 July 2009, which provides a valuable platform for regional cooperation to share experience and knowledge on nuclear energy. They encouraged other ASEAN Plus Three countries to consider hosting the next Forum in response to an increasing importance of nuclear energy development in the region. They also welcomed the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Energy Cooperation in Civilian Nuclear Energy and the ASEAN Plus Three Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Cooperation Program in 2009.
13. The Foreign Ministers welcomed the on-going efforts to explore the formation of the East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA). In this connection, they noted the progress of the Phase II feasibility study of the EAFTA and looked forward to the submission of the final report to the 12th ASEAN Plus Three Summit in October 2009 in Thailand.
14. The Foreign Ministers noted with appreciation projects and activities proposed or undertaken by the ASEAN Plus Three countries as follows:
 - China organized an East Asia Roundtable on Food Security Cooperation Strategy in April 2009, 1st ASEAN Plus Three Forum on Non-traditional Issues by Armed Forces in June 2009, and plans to host the International Symposium on ASEAN Plus Three Trade and Facilitation, Workshop on Promoting EAFTA Process and Seminar on ASEAN Plus Three SMEs and Intellectual Property Right in September 2009.
 - The ROK informed of Progress in establishing the "ASEAN Plus Three Center for the Gifted in Science" as well as preparations for hosting the ASEAN Plus Three Science and Leadership Camp for the Gifted in Science in August 2009 in Seoul and the 7th East Asia Forum (EAF) on 1-2 September 2009 in Seoul.
 - Indonesia organized the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Diplomatic Course in April 2009 and will organize the Promotion of Indonesia

Language for ASEAN Plus Three Diplomatic Course in September-October 2009.

- Thailand hosted the ASEAN Plus Three Higher Education Policy Dialogue on 20-22 March 2009 in Phuket and will organize the East Asia Cultural Festival and Cultural EXPO 2009 in Bangkok on 8-12 August 2009.

15. The Plus Three Foreign Ministers reiterated their firm support for ASEAN community building and welcomed the development in implementing the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on a Roadmap to an ASEAN Community signed by the ASEAN Leaders at the 14th ASEAN Summit at Cha-am Hua Hin, Thailand, on 1 March 2009. They reaffirmed their commitment to the ASEAN Plus Three process and its contribution to the realization of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and the strengthening of East Asia cooperation.
