

**THE TWENTIETH ASEAN TRANSPORT MINISTERS MEETING**  
**27 November 2014, Mandalay, Myanmar**

**JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

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1. The Twentieth ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) Meeting was held on 27 November 2014 in Mandalay, Myanmar. H.E. Mr. Nyan Htun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar, chaired the Meeting and H.E. Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, Minister of Transport of Malaysia was the Vice-Chairman. The Twentieth ATM Meeting was preceded by the Thirty-Eighth ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) and their consultations with Dialogue Partners held on 24-26 November 2014.

2. The Twentieth ATM was officially opened by H.E. Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Vice President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. In his Opening Remarks, H.E Dr. Sai Mauk Kham urged the ASEAN Transport Ministers to redouble their efforts for timely and effective implementation of transport related measures and initiatives to support the realisation of the AEC by 2015. He welcomed the development of the Vision for Post-2015 ASEAN Transport Action Plan, and looked forward to the finalisation of the next ASEAN Transport Strategic Plan by 2015. He encouraged the Ministers to exert their best effort to support the establishment of an efficient, secure, sustainable and integrated transport network including the completion of the ASEAN Highway Network (AHN), Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL), ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM) and the ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM) initiatives. He believed that the 20<sup>th</sup> ATM and associated meetings, would be held successfully in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity.

**Towards greater transport connectivity for highly competitive ASEAN**

3. The Ministers reiterated their commitment to strengthen ASEAN transport integration through concerted and coordinated efforts to improve transport infrastructure, enhance transport safety and realise seamless connectivity in the region.

4. The Ministers recognised the significant role of transport sector in facilitating the establishment of a single market and production base which is competitive, equitable and fully integrated into the global economy. In this regard, the Ministers adopted the vision of *“Towards greater connectivity,*

*efficiency, integration, safety and sustainability of ASEAN transport to strengthen ASEAN's competitiveness and foster regional inclusive growth and development"* to guide the region's transport cooperation and integration for the next decade (2016-2025).

### **Strides towards ASEAN Single Aviation Market**

5. The Ministers were pleased with the good progress made on the implementation of ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM) including the ASEAN air services agreements which are set to be fully implemented by 2015 and the completion of several measures under Air Transport Technical Cooperation, including Identification of Key Regional Initiatives and Required Enabling Technologies, Capacity Building Framework on Air Traffic Management, and ASEAN Regional Contingency Plan.

6. The Ministers welcomed the commencement of the negotiation for the Ninth Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) and looked forward to its timely conclusion by end of 2015.

### **Seamless cross-border and transit movement of passengers and goods**

7. The Ministers noted the progress made on the finalisation of ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Cross Border Transport Passenger by Road Vehicles (ASEAN CBTP) to support greater intra-ASEAN social and cultural interaction through people-to-people connectivity. In this regard, the Ministers looked forward to the conclusion of the Framework by 2015.

8. The Ministers also noted the progress made in ratifying and enacting domestic laws and regulations to implement ASEAN Framework Agreement on Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT), ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multimodal Transport (AFAMT) and ASEAN Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Inter-State Transport (AFAFIST) and urged relevant ASEAN Member States to intensify their efforts for the timely implementation of these transport facilitation agreements.

9. The Ministers welcomed the development of pilot project on ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) and acknowledged its role in facilitating the implementation of AFAFGIT and AFAFIST.

## **Further strengthen ASEAN maritime cooperation**

10. The Ministers endorsed the Implementation Framework of the ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM) which will provide strategic guidance to coordinate policy and harmonise rules and regulation to further liberalize shipping services in the region.

11. The Ministers also signed the MOU on ASEAN Cooperation Mechanism for Joint Oil Spill Preparedness and Response which will put in place a regional collaborative mechanism to build capacities and capabilities and promote mutual assistance in preparing for, controlling and combating oil spill incidents in ASEAN region.

## **Build closer cooperation with Dialogue Partners**

12. The Ministers commended the progress made in transport cooperation with China, Japan, and ROK which will further strengthen ASEAN transport connectivity. The Ministers also thanked EU and Germany for their support on the development of ASEAN transport sector.

13. The Ministers were pleased to note the operationalisation of the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement (AC-ATA) and its Protocol 1. The Ministers encouraged ASEAN Member States and China to expedite the ratification process of Protocol 2. The Ministers looked forward to continued engagement between ASEAN and China particularly on further expansion of 5<sup>th</sup> freedom traffic rights.

14. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the Guideline for Introduction of Port EDI System on Port-related Procedures, ASEAN-Japan Cruise Promotion Strategy and the reports of the Survey on Eco-Airports in ASEAN Countries and Preliminary Study on ASEAN Land Bridge Transport. The Ministers also welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP) Work Plan for the period of 2014-2015 which will include 25 project/activities on transport facilitation, transport infrastructure, quality and sustainable transport, and human resource development. The Ministers also welcomed the convening of the 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN-Japan Working Group on Regional Air Services Arrangements and looked forward to the early conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial ASEAN-Japan Air Services Agreement.

15. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the revised ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation which aims to attain the following goals: i) meeting the objectives of the regional development and economic growth policies of the ASEAN region; and creating a win-win outcome for both ASEAN and the Republic of Korea based on co-prosperity. The Roadmap includes the implementation plan of 15 projects/activities related to professional capacity building, master plan studies, infrastructure feasibility studies and research studies for the period of 2014-2017. The Ministers looked forward to continued discussion between ASEAN and ROK on aviation cooperation, and early conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial ASEAN-ROK Air Services Agreement.

16. The Ministers welcomed the successful conduct of the EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit (EAAS) on 11-12 February 2014 in Singapore and its Joint Declaration. Following from the EAAS, the Ministers noted that the inaugural meeting of the ASEAN-EU Aviation Working Group (AEAWG) will be held on 2-3 December 2014 in Brussels, Belgium to discuss how aviation cooperation could be further broadened and deepened between the two regions including the possibility of a comprehensive air transport agreement. The Ministers also welcomed EU's support for the completion of two key studies which has provided recommendations on the implementation of ASEAN transport facilitation agreements under the ASEAN Regional Integration Support from EU (ARISE) programme.

17. The Ministers welcomed India's proposal to convene a Task Force meeting with ASEAN aviation officials in the first quarter of 2015 to move forward the negotiations on ASEAN-India Air Services Agreement, and looked forward to the conclusion of an Air Services Agreement based on 'open skies' principles covering both air freight and passenger services.

18. The Ministers welcomed the signing of the Implementation Agreement for Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region - Phase II with Germany, which will facilitate the monitoring, assessing and advocating sustainable development and effective implementation of the Port Safety, Health and Environmental Management Systems (PSHE-MS) in ASEAN ports in accordance with international standards and conventions.

### **Next Meeting**

19. The Ministers agreed to convene the Twenty-First ATM in Malaysia in 2015.

20. The delegates from ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Secretariat expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Myanmar for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

**LIST OF MINISTERS**  
(TO BE CONFIRMED)

- (a) H.E. Pehin Dato Abdullah Bakar, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam;
- (b) H.E. Mr. Tram Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia;
- (c) H.E. Mr. Ignasius Jonan, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia;
- (d) H.E. Dr. Bounchanh Sinthavong, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao PDR;
- (e) H.E. Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, Minister of Transport of Malaysia;
- (f) H.E. Mr. Nyan Htun Aung, Union Minister for Transport of Myanmar;
- (g) H.E. Mr. Joseph Emilio Aguinaldo Abaya, Secretary of Transportation and Communications of the Philippines;
- (h) H.E. Mr. Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport of Singapore;
- (i) H.E. ACM Prajin Juntong, Minister of Transport of Thailand;
- (j) H.E. Mr. Dinh La Thang, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam; and
- (k) H.E. Mr. Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community.