Opening Remarks by H.E. AKP Mochtan
ASEAN Deputy Secretary-General
Community and Corporate Affairs

Excellencies,
Distinguished Panel of Speakers & Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the ASEAN Secretariat for the 2nd ASEAN-OECD Investment Policy Conference. This is the second Conference in the series, following the successful 1st Conference held here in November 2010.

This Conference is another testimony of the fruitful collaboration between the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the ASEAN Secretariat. We are also grateful for the strong support from the Government of Japan and the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA) Economic Cooperation Support Programme (AECSP).

This Conference will showcase ASEAN’s regional investment integration achievements and efforts with the aim of promoting experience sharing between ASEAN and OECD countries and finding common solutions to similar issues relating to investments for the mutual benefit of both sides. The ASEAN Secretariat is much encouraged with the presence of investment policy makers, experts, as well as industry leaders from ASEAN and OECD members. Your presence promises to make the discussions substantive and lively. Thank you all for being here today.

Highlights of the Conference will include cooperation activities between ASEAN and OECD, and how this cooperation has contributed to the investment policy reforms of Member States, particularly the Investment Policy Reviews (IPR) being undertaken by the ASEAN Member States with the support from the AECSP.
So far, Malaysia and Myanmar have completed the IPR while those of the Philippines, Viet Nam, Cambodia and Lao PDR are underway.

Recommendations from these IPRs feed into the discussions in various ASEAN committees and bodies. The IPRs also serve as the foundation of other cooperation activities. This includes the ASEAN-OECD Training for Investment Policy Making in the CLMV, which was supported by the Government of Japan.

All these testify the very valuable ties between the ASEAN Secretariat and the OECD. Taking this opportunity, I would like to express the ASEAN Secretariat’s sincere appreciation for the OECD’s cooperation and assistance over the years. Through this partnership, not only is the OECD a close supporter of the ASEAN integration process, it is also one of our important Partners in the community building journey.

With these notes, I now declare the ASEAN-OECD Investment Policy Conference open.

Thank you.

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