

# **ASEAN Chairman's Statement on the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conferences (PMCs) + 1 Sessions**

**(Ha Noi, 22 July 2010)**

## **1. ASEAN-Australia**

1.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with Australia was co-chaired by Mr. Peter Ho, Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Singapore and Ms. Gillian Bird, Australia's Ambassador to ASEAN and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia.

1.2. The Meeting was pleased with the speedy implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership. The Meeting highly appreciated Australia's assistance and contributions within the framework of the Second Phase of the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme for the period 2008-2015, to support the ASEAN Community building process, narrowing the development gap in the region, accelerating economic integration, and strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat's institutional capacity.

1.3. The Meeting welcomed the entry into force of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA), noting that the FTA represents an important milestone towards a more integrated regional economy. ASEAN highly appreciated Australia's technical assistance given to ASEAN and in particular its assistance through the "AANZFTA Economic Support Programme (AECSP)" to assist ASEAN in fulfilling the obligations and commitments under the AANZFTA.

1.4. The Meeting agreed that future cooperation should focus on areas under the Plan of Action, including trade and investment promotion and facilitation, transport, promoting efficient and sustainable use of natural resources, best practices in sustainable water management, mitigating global and regional environmental problems such as climate change, disaster management, education, culture, human resource development, transnational crime, people smuggling and human trafficking, people-to-people contact, interaction and networking between the business communities. ASEAN also encouraged Australia to support and assist in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity with Australia noting its willingness to work closely with ASEAN to explore ways to expand existing cooperation in this area.

1.5. The Meeting welcomed the convening of an ASEAN-Australia Summit in October 2010 and agreed to work closely together to ensure its substantive outcome.

## **2. ASEAN-Canada**

2.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with Canada was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Kasit Piromya, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and H.E. Mr. Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada.

2.2. ASEAN welcomed Canada's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) which reflected Canada's commitment to peace and stability in the region.

2.3. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the outcomes of the implementation of the Second ASEAN-Canada Joint Cooperation Work Plan 2007-2010. The Meeting shared the view that the early conclusion of the ASEAN-Canada Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) will further enhance trade and investment relations. ASEAN noted Canada's interest in assisting the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and ASEAN Committee on Women and Children (ACWC).

2.4. The Meeting congratulated Canada on its successful organisation of the recent G20 Summit and thanked Canada for the invitation extended to Vietnam as the current Chairman of ASEAN to attend the Meeting. The Meeting discussed, among others, the ASEAN Community building process, regional connectivity, and narrowing development gaps through capacity building programmes, technical assistance, and shared best practices. ASEAN welcomed Canada continued cooperation and assistance in this regard.

2.5. The Meeting adopted the Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership (2010-2015). This Plan of Action will help translate the spirit of cooperation into reality.

## **3. ASEAN-China**

3.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with China was co-chaired by H.E. Dr Pham Gia Khiem, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and H.E. Mr. Yang Jiechi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

3.2. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the achievements made within the framework of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations and in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the period of 2006-2010 to Implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity. The Meeting also noted the progress in drafting the new Plan of Action for the period of 2011-2015 which will be submitted to the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Summit for adoption.

3.3. The Meeting recalled the realization of the ASEAN-China FTA at the beginning of this year. The Meeting appreciated China's active role in strengthening cooperation with ASEAN in infrastructure development, trade and investment facilitation, and looked forward to the further implementation of the initiatives put forth at the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Summit in Thailand by the Chinese Premier including the setting up of the US\$ 10 billion China-ASEAN Investment Cooperation Fund.

3.4. The Meeting welcomed China's enhanced cooperation with ASEAN in such priority areas as infrastructure, energy and resources, information and communication technology and other fields. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Working Group Meeting on the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in April in Ha Noi and looked forward to the early resumption of the ASEAN-China Senior Officials' Meeting on the implementation of the DOC in the South China Sea.

3.5. The Meeting recalled the signing of the MoU on the establishment of the ASEAN-China Centre last October and stressed the need to work closely with China for the early operation of the Centre.

3.6. The Meeting agreed to recommend the commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations with meaningful activities throughout 2011.

#### **4. ASEAN-EU**

4.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with the European Union (EU) was co-chaired by HRH Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam, and H.E. Mr. János Martonyi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, on behalf of the EU. The EU welcomed the progress ASEAN has made in the implementation of the ASEAN Charter and reiterated its continued support for ASEAN integration and community building process. The EU also reaffirmed its support for ASEAN's central role in various regional processes including the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference Plus One, the ASEAN Plus Three and the East Asia Summit.

4.2. The Meeting recalled the successful outcome of the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting held on 26 May 2010 in Madrid, Spain, and expressed satisfaction with the progress of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Nuremberg Declaration on an EU-ASEAN Enhanced Partnership (2007-2012), under the two periodic list of activities namely the List of Indicative Activities for the First Two Years (2007 – 2008) and the Phnom Penh Agenda

(2009-2010). It also expressed the commitment to implement the subsequent list of activities for 2011 – 2012.

4.3. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment made in Madrid to intensify cooperation and dialogue in areas such as counter terrorism, food and energy security, disaster management, science and technology, people-to-people exchange, and climate change and environment, through existing mechanisms including Trans-Regional EU-ASEAN Trade Initiative (TREATI), and the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI). The Meeting also welcomed the renewed commitment to further strengthen trade relations between the two regions, and noted the launch of bilateral FTA negotiations between the EU and various individual ASEAN Member States.

4.4. The EU expressed its appreciation to ASEAN on its efforts to facilitate the EU's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), and in this regard, ASEAN and the EU looked forward to quick finalisation of the EU's accession process. ASEAN also expressed its appreciation to the EU for its commitment and efforts in promoting peace and security. ASEAN also noted the EU's announcement to lead the Humanitarian, Rehabilitation and Development Component of the International Monitoring Team (IMT) in Southern Philippines.

## **5. ASEAN-India**

5.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with India was co-chaired by H.E Dr. KAO Kim Hourn, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia and H.E. Ms. Preneet Kaur, Minister of State for External Affairs of the Republic of India.

5.2. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the progress of the ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations. The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the Rules for Operation and Management of ASEAN-India Green Fund and Guidelines of Management of ASEAN-India Science and Technology Development Fund and encouraged the relevant officials to initiate concrete projects in support of cooperation in the areas of science and technology and environment.

5.3. The Meeting underscored the importance of the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, once it is adopted by ASEAN Leaders. The Meeting welcomed India's continuing support to the Initiative of ASEAN Integration and ASEAN Connectivity.

5.4 The Meeting endorsed of the ASEAN-India Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2010-2015), which will then be

submitted to Leaders for adoption at the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Summit in October 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. The Plan of Action would serve as a key instrument to make ASEAN-India cooperation more action-oriented. The Meeting also agreed to establish an ASEAN-India Eminent Persons Group (EPG) to take stock of the 20 years of ASEAN-India cooperation and chart future direction of ASEAN-India dialogue relations in the long run. The Meeting also looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in 2012 in India to mark 20 years of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations.

## **6. ASEAN-Japan**

6.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with Japan was co-chaired by H.E.R.M. Marty Natalegawa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia and H.E. Mr. Katsuya Okada, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.

6.2. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the important progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action, including cooperation in such areas as environment, climate change, disaster management, health and welfare, pandemic diseases, counter-terrorism, maritime issues, energy efficiency and people to people contact. In this regard, ASEAN expressed its appreciation for the continuation of the ASEAN-Japan Counter Terrorism Dialogue. The Meeting also expected the enhanced cooperation in science and innovation, and green development, and noted ASEAN's proposal for a Japan-ASEAN green development promotion center.

6.3. The Meeting welcomed Japan's contribution to the ASEAN-Japan Integration Fund and appreciated Japan's assistance to narrow the development gap and support ASEAN integration based on Japan-ASEAN Strategic Partnership. The Meeting welcomed Japan's proposal to further promote ASEAN-Japan cooperation toward economic growth through enhancing ASEAN connectivity, and also looked forward to Japan's further assistance to the drafting and implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity through dialogue.

6.4. The Meeting supported the efforts for the early entry into force and effective implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement, serving as a comprehensive framework to strengthen economic ties between ASEAN and Japan. In this connection, ASEAN called for Japan's technical assistance, especially to the less developed countries in ASEAN to enable them to participate fully and effectively in cooperation programmes and implement their commitments under the AJCEP. The Meeting also welcomed the ASEAN-Japan EPG Report last October and agreed to work on concrete measures to further advance the ASEAN-Japan strategic partnership. The Meeting appreciated the on-going progress in implementing the outcomes of the First Mekong-Japan Summit and welcomed the

successful convening of the Third Mekong-Japan Foreign Ministers' Meeting and "A Decade toward the Green Mekong" Initiative.

6.5. The Meeting appreciated Japan's continued support for ASEAN's central role in regional processes and Japan's intention to establish its permanent mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, and to appoint its Ambassador to ASEAN.

## **7. ASEAN-New Zealand**

7.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with New Zealand was co-chaired by H.E. Dato' Sri Anifah Aman, Foreign Minister of Malaysia, and H.E. Mr. Murray McCully, Foreign Minister of New Zealand.

7.2. The Meeting noted that various activities had been undertaken within the 2006-2010 New Zealand Framework for Cooperation. The Meeting welcomed the entry into force of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement and looked forward to its effective implementation. The Meeting agreed to enhance cooperation in various areas, including education, capacity building, people-to-people contacts, disaster risk management, climate change, trade and investment as well as regional integration.

7.3. The Meeting adopted the Joint Declaration for ASEAN-New Zealand Comprehensive Partnership and the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration for ASEAN-New Zealand Comprehensive Partnership, 2010-2015, which will contribute to the deepening and broadening of relations.

7.4. The Meeting welcomed the announcement by New Zealand of four flagship initiatives within the framework of the Plan of Action, namely the ASEAN-New Zealand Scholarships Programme, Young Business Leaders Exchange Programme, initiatives on Disaster Risk Management and on Agricultural Diplomacy.

7.5. The Meeting looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-New Zealand Commemorative Summit, back-to-back with the 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Hanoi, in October 2010, to mark the 35<sup>th</sup> year of dialogue relations.

## **8. ASEAN-ROK**

8.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with the Republic of Korea was co-chaired by H.E. Dr Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR, and H.E. Mr. Yu Myung-hwan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea (ROK).

8.2. The Meeting was encouraged to see the fast and substantive development of the ASEAN-ROK dialogue relations through the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership. The Meeting renewed the commitment to achieve the target of increasing two-way trade volume to US\$ 150 billion by 2015 through the ASEAN-ROK FTA.

8.3. The Meeting looked forward to enhanced cooperation in other areas such as culture and arts, people-to-people contact, tourism, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), ICT, education, rural technology, finance and tourism, energy, disaster management, environment and climate change, infectious disease and food security. The Meeting also encouraged ROK to assist ASEAN in connection with the realisation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity.

8.4. The Meeting agreed to submit the proposal to elevate the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations to Strategic Partnership, and a draft Joint Declaration on ASEAN-ROK Strategic Partnership to the Leaders for their consideration and adoption at the ASEAN-ROK Summit in Ha Noi in October this year. The Meeting took note of the follow-up to the proposal by the ROK to establish the Asian Forest Cooperation Organisation AFoCO at the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit, including the drafting of the Agreement for the Establishment of AFoCO, with an aim to strengthening forestry cooperation and enhancing the capacity in dealing with climate change in the region.

8.5. The Meeting welcomed the establishment and operation of the ASEAN-Korea Centre in Seoul. The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN-ROK EPG Report last October and agreed to further advance the ASEAN-ROK partnership through concrete measures, and to effectively and efficiently address the new challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Meeting expressed its high appreciation to the ROK for its plan to invite the Chair of ASEAN, Viet Nam, to attend the G-20 Summit this year.

## **9. ASEAN-Russia**

9.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with the Russian Federation was co-chaired by H.E. U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar and H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

9.2. The Meeting noted the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-Russia Comprehensive Programme of Action to Promote Cooperation 2005-2015. The Meeting welcomed the successful opening of the ASEAN Centre at the Moscow State University of International Relations (MGIMO) in Moscow on the 15 June 2010.

9.3. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the Second ASEAN-Russia Summit back-to-back with the 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, in October 2010 and agreed to work closely to ensure its successful outcomes. The Meeting noted with appreciation the progress made in drafting ASEAN-Russian Federation Joint Statement which will be adopted at the Second ASEAN-Russian Federation Summit. The Meeting looked forward to the finalisation of the Agreement on Cultural Cooperation between ASEAN and Russia.

9.4. The Meeting also looked forward to commemorative activities for the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Relations including Days of Russian Culture in ASEAN countries, as recommended by the 7<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Russia SOM held in Moscow in June 2010.

## **10. ASEAN-US**

10.1. The ASEAN PMC+1 with the United States of America (US) was co-chaired by H.E. Erlinda F. Basilio, Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, and Hon. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State of the U.S.

10.2. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the significant developments in the ASEAN-US dialogue partnership over the past year, especially the convening of the First ASEAN-US Leaders' Meeting, and the recent ASEAN Roadshow in the US jointly organised by the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and United States Trade Representative (USTR). The Meeting agreed to further promote cooperation in all areas of mutual interest, including economic, trade and investment cooperation, science and technology, education and scholarships for ASEAN students, and in addressing pandemics, energy security, disaster management, and climate change. The Meeting noted the development of a substantive Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership for Enduring Peace and Prosperity (2011-2015), and the progress in drafting the ASEAN-US Science and Technology Cooperation.

10.3. The Meeting welcomed the invitation to reconvene the consultations between the AEM and USTR on the occasion of the AEM in August 2010 in Viet Nam, with a view to promoting effective implementation of the Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement. The Meeting encouraged greater involvement of the US private sector in ASEAN-US and regional cooperation programmes, including in the ASEAN Master Plan on Connectivity through appropriate forms of investment. The Meeting welcomed the outcome of the first Lower Mekong-US Ministerial Meeting on the proposed cooperation activities in the areas of environment, health, education and infrastructure development and looked forward to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ministerial Meeting to be held on this occasion.

10.4. The Meeting noted the US' offer to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-US Leaders' Meeting in autumn this year in the US. The Meeting emphasized the need to work together to ensure the successful outcomes of the Meeting, and noted the U.S' concurrence to the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN-US EPG. The Meeting welcomed the US' expressed interest to join the EAS and the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' recommendation to the ASEAN Leaders on this issue, and noted in this regard related information given by the US. The Meeting also welcomed the participation of the US Defense Secretary at the ADMM+8 meeting in October 2010. In this regard, the Meeting appreciated the US' support for ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture.

10.5. The Meeting welcomed the establishment of the US mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, Indonesia from January 2010. The Meeting also noted the US offer for a study tour by the AICHR to the US later this year.