

**TWENTY FOURTH ASEAN TRANSPORT MINISTERS (ATM) MEETING
8 November 2018, Bangkok, Thailand**

JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

1. The Twenty Fourth ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) Meeting was held on 8 November 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand. H.E. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Minister of Transport of Thailand, chaired the Meeting, with H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van The, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam, serving as Vice-Chairperson. The 24th ATM Meeting was preceded by the 46th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) and STOM meetings with Dialogue Partners held on 5-7 November 2018.

Strengthening the ASEAN Single Aviation Market

2. The Ministers signed the Protocol 4 on “Co-Terminal Rights between Points within the Territory of Any Other ASEAN Member State” of the ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on the Full Liberalisation of Passenger Air Services (MAFLPAS). This Protocol allows an airline to serve two or more points in another ASEAN Member State on the same flight routing, which shall only be available as part of an international journey. The Ministers encouraged all ASEAN Member States to prioritise ratification and implementation of the Protocol and looked forward to further liberalisation of key economic elements and removing restrictions on air services under the ASEAN Single Aviation Market.

3. The Ministers welcomed the decision by the relevant STOM working group to conclude Implementing Protocol-1 (IP1) of the Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Flight Crew Licensing (MRA on FCL): Qualification of Flight Simulation Training Devices (FSTD) by 25th ATM in 2019, which aims to facilitate aviation industry development and growth within ASEAN. The Ministers further encouraged ASEAN Member States to continue working on the subsequent IPs to step up efforts to implement the MRA on FCL.

4. The Ministers commended the initiatives by the relevant STOM working group to implement the ASEAN Air Traffic Management Master Plan adopted in 2017, such as through the appointment of lead countries to progress the five air traffic management initiatives identified as priorities for ASEAN-wide harmonised implementation. The Ministers noted that these initiatives will enhance air traffic management safety, efficiency, and capacity in the region, and advance the Seamless ASEAN Sky in support of the ASEAN Single Aviation Market.

Towards seamless cross-border movement of passengers and goods

5. The Ministers welcomed the full ratification of Protocol 1 (Designation of Transit Transport Routes and Facilities) of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT) on 5 February 2018 and the signing of AFAFGIT Protocol 2 (Designation of Frontier Posts) by all ASEAN Member States, which would pave the way for the full ratification of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Inter-State

Transport (AFAFIST). The Ministers urged the remaining ASEAN Member States to ratify AFAFGIT Protocols 2, 6 (Railways Border and Interchange Stations) and 7 (Customs Transit System) to complete ratification of all implementing protocols under AFAFGIT.

6. The Ministers supported the initiative to implement ASEAN Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-Border Transport of Passengers by Road Vehicles (ASEAN CBTP) in pilot countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia, and encouraged ASEAN Member States to expedite their ratification process of ASEAN CBTP, as the first and only regional agreement facilitating cross-border transport of passengers by road vehicles at this moment. The Ministers also looked forward to the implementation of ASEAN CBTP, which would enhance People-to-People Connectivity as well as promote tourism and investment in the region.

Intensifying efforts on realisation of ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM)

7. The Ministers welcomed the signing of the ASEAN MOU on the Improvement of Safety Standards and Inspection for Non-Convention Ships (NCS) within ASEAN Member States as well as the adoption of the Guidelines for Safety Standards for Non-Convention Ships. Both the MOU and the Guidelines will serve as a reference for cooperation among ASEAN Member States in improving the safety standards and inspection of NCS.

8. The Ministers adopted the ASEAN Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan, which was developed to implement Article 2 Paragraph 1(c) of the MOU on ASEAN Cooperation Mechanism for Joint Oil Spill Preparedness and Response signed in 2014. The Contingency Plan provides a mechanism whereby ASEAN Member States can request and provide mutual support in response to oil spills, to the extent that their resources allow, and ensures there is a common understanding and effective integration between affected and assisting ASEAN Member States, in the event of incidents involving oil spill.

9. The Ministers endorsed the ASEAN Search and Rescue (SAR) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), which would serve as a technical guide for coordination, communication and procedures for a SAR operation in ASEAN, to help ASEAN Member States to work together to achieve an optimal outcome in the conduct of a SAR operation.

Making transportation more sustainable

10. The Ministers welcomed the adoption of the sustainable transport related documents, namely: (i) the ASEAN Fuel Economy Roadmap for Transport Sector 2018-2025: with focus on Light-Duty Vehicles (LDVs), which aims to transform ASEAN LDVs market to be more fuel-efficient; (ii) Guidelines on Sustainable Land Transport Indicators on Energy Efficiency and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions in ASEAN, which provides overview and methodology for data collection of the selected sustainable transport indicators; and (iii) the ASEAN Regional Strategy on Sustainable Land Transport, which provides recommended actions for cooperation at the regional-level and serves as guidance for national-level action plans and strategies on sustainable land transport.

11. The Ministers appreciated exchanged views on recent development and policy updates from ASEAN Member States for the implementation of sustainable transport and

welcomed collaboration with the relevant sectors for the cross-sectoral issues to enhance integrated and sustainable transport network and to support achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Transport Partnership with Dialogue Partners

12. With China, the Ministers were pleased to note the adoption in principle of the 2018 – 2020 Action Programme of the Revised Strategic Plan for ASEAN-China Transport Cooperation, which identifies feasible projects and activities for implementation of the Strategic Plan. The Ministers also lauded the full ratification of ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement (AC-ATA) and its Protocol 1 and 2 by all ASEAN Member States and China. With this, the Ministers urged both sides to expedite the negotiations to reach an agreement on a new Protocol 3 to expand Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights between ASEAN and China, under the intra-package of Protocol 2, which would enhance connectivity as well as promote trade, tourism and investment in ASEAN and China.

13. The Ministers applauded the progress of ASEAN-Japan cooperation through the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP), particularly the activities in the Work Plan for 2017–2018. The Ministers also welcomed new initiatives under the AJTP, including New ASEAN-Japan Aviation Security Project, Road Traffic Safety and Applying Mobile Data for Transport Planning. The Ministers also welcomed the result of the Mid-Term Review of the Pakse Action Plan. The Ministers also noted the progress of negotiations on an ASEAN-Japan Air Services Agreement (AJ-ASA) and urged both sides to reach an agreement on a more liberal and mutually beneficial AJ-ASA that is over and above what has been exchanged bilaterally between Japan and individual ASEAN Member States.

14. With ROK, the Ministers welcomed the positive outcomes of the exploratory talks between ASEAN and ROK reaching an agreement to resume the 2nd ASEAN-ROK Working Group Meeting on Regional Air Services Agreement (2nd AKWG-RASA) in the 1st half of 2019. The Ministers further encouraged both sides to work towards the conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial ASEAN-ROK air services agreement with an exchange of traffic rights that is over and above what has been exchanged bilaterally between each ASEAN Member State and the ROK. The Ministers further agreed that the exchange should include 3rd, 4th, and 5th freedom traffic rights, as set out in the Kuala Lumpur Transport Strategic Plan 2016-2025.

15. The Ministers welcomed the good progress made thus far in the negotiations of ASEAN-EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (CATA), which would be the first ever bloc-to-bloc agreement aiming to serve a combined population of 1.1 billion people. The agreement would further strengthen cooperation on civil aviation and enhance air connectivity between and beyond ASEAN and the EU. The Ministers agreed to task the ATWG to conclude negotiations with the EU on an ambitious and pace-setting ASEAN-EU CATA at the 8th round of ASEAN-EU CATA negotiations in November 2018.

16. The Ministers thanked Germany for its technical assistance to ASEAN Member States and acknowledged the project achievements on “Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Mitigation in the Land Transport Sector in the ASEAN Region” (TCC) during its implementation in 2012-2018. The Ministers appreciated continued support from Germany

to the implementation of the KLTSP 2016-2025, particularly in the area of sustainable transport.

17. The Ministers welcomed the operations of the ASEAN Regional Integration Support from EU (ARISE Plus) and the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), which would provide additional support to ASEAN in the areas of air transport, transport facilitation, road safety and Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS).

Twenty-Fifth ATM

18. The Ministers agreed to convene the Twenty-Fifth ATM Meeting in Viet Nam in 2019.

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



LIST OF MINISTERS

- (a) H.E. Dato Abdul Mutalib Yusof, Minister of Communications of Brunei Darussalam
- (b) H.E. Mr. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Public Works and Transport of Cambodia
- (c) H.E. Mr. Budi Karya Sumadi, Minister for Transportation of Indonesia
- (d) H.E. Dr. Bounchanh Sinthavong, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lao P.D.R
- (e) H.E. Mr. Loke Siew Fook, Minister of Transport of Malaysia
- (f) H.E. Mr. Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister of Transport and Communications of Myanmar
- (g) H.E. Mr. Arthur P. Tugade, Secretary of Transportation of the Philippines
- (h) H.E. Mr. Khaw Boon Wan, Coordinating Minister for Infrastructure and Minister for Transport of Singapore
- (i) H.E. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Minister of Transport of Thailand
- (j) H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van The, Minister of Transport of Viet Nam
- (k) H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary General of ASEAN