

SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES OF THE SECOND EAS ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS MEETING

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 15 October 2010

1. The Second East Asia Summit (EAS) Environment Ministers Meeting was held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 15 October 2010. The Meeting was attended by the Environment Ministers or their representatives from the 10 ASEAN Member States, namely Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Union of Myanmar, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, and Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, and New Zealand. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Pehin Dato Suyoi Haji Osman, Minister of Development, Brunei Darussalam.

2. The Meeting was opened by H.E. Pehin Dato Suyoi Haji Osman, Minister of Development, Brunei Darussalam. In his opening statement, His Excellency highlighted that countries in East Asia have varying background and are in the different stages of development. Therefore, the EAS EMM is a valuable forum to provide the platform for building and emulating on the strength, experiences and success stories of EAS Countries. He further highlighted that through this forum EAS Countries could continue to better address the current and emerging global and regional challenges more effectively.

3. The Ministers exchanged views on regional cooperation and international development on issues related to environment and sustainable development. The Ministers took stock and reviewed the progress of implementation of the *Singapore Declaration on Climate Change, Energy and the Environment* adopted by the EAS Leaders at their Third Summit in November 2007, in particular those actions related to environment and sustainable development. The Ministers, noting that the Singapore Declaration established the EAS Environment Ministers Forum, emphasized their commitment to (i) actualize the visions of the EAS Leaders on environmental cooperation, with ASEAN as the driving force working with other participating countries in the EAS, and (ii) discuss ways and means to put these ideas into practice through regional cooperative efforts and activities. The Ministers expressed satisfaction on the implementation of the Singapore Declaration both the national level and regional level and resolved to further enhance EAS regional cooperation on environment and sustainable development.

4. The Ministers also reviewed the implementation of the outcomes of their inaugural meeting in October 2008 with the theme "Achieving Environmentally Sustainable Cities in East Asia." The Ministers welcomed the successful organization and significant outputs of the EAS High Level

Seminar on Environmental Sustainable Cities (HLS/ESC), led by the Government of Japan, hosted by Indonesia and supported by Australia and Singapore, on 2-4 March 2010. The Ministers commended the EAS countries and several regional and international organizations that actively participated in the Seminar, and noted their active interest to follow through on the recommendations of the Seminar. The Ministers supported and endorsed the follow-up proposal to implement concrete activities at the national and regional level on environmentally sustainable cities, and encouraged the full participation of all EAS countries and relevant international organizations in this effort. The Ministers endorsed the proposal by Japan to organise the Second HLS/ESC in the first quarter of 2011. The Ministers also noted that this process and mechanism for promoting ESC cooperation could form the model for initiating EAS regional cooperation in other areas, through networking, knowledge management including sharing good practices, financial mobilization and technical support.

5. The Ministers noted that ASEAN has collectively highlighted their position towards a positive and equitable outcome at COP16/CMP6, in particular through the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Joint Response to Climate Change, adopted at the 16th ASEAN Summit. The Ministers expressed concern over the slow pace of climate change negotiations, and that many key issues remain unresolved at this late stage.

6. The Ministers agreed to enhance EAS regional cooperation on climate change through cooperative actions to promote the exchange of information on policies and actions on mitigation and adaptation to climate change, share knowledge and best practices, promote the joint development and the transfer of climate-friendly technologies, facilitate cost-effective, project-based, and other forms of mutually beneficial cooperative activities that contribute to greenhouse gas emission reductions, and to evaluate the effects of the cooperative projects on emission reductions in an appropriate manner.

7. The Ministers agreed to work together to reach a successful and fruitful outcome at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP10) held in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan on 18-29 October 2010.

8. The Ministers noted the Busan outcome document adopted at the 3rd Intergovernmental and multi-stakeholders meeting on Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) held in Busan, Korea, from 7-11 June 2010, which set the path towards establishing an IPBES.

9. The Ministers noted the potential of the *Satoyama* Initiative led by Japan and supported by several countries to promote sustainable use and management of natural resources in human-influenced natural environments such as agricultural fields and secondary forests for biodiversity conservation and human well-being.

10. The Ministers noted the progress of the implementation of the Road Map for an ASEAN Community by 2015, in particular the section on ensuring

environmental sustainability in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint. The Ministers agreed to enhance efforts to implement EAS regional cooperation programmes taking into consideration the ASCC Blueprint actions.

11. The Ministers noted the progress of the existing initiatives and new initiatives by EAS countries, including “Clean Asia Initiative”, “Asian Co-benefits Partnership”, “Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases”, and “Regional 3R Forum in Asia.”

12. The Ministers noted the progress of Viet Nam’s proposal for setting up the East Asia Centre on Environment Education. The Ministers agreed to establish a senior-official level Task Force to explore the feasibility of establishment of the Centre, in particular its long-term financial sustainability.

13. The Ministers directed the officials of EAS with the assistance of the ASEAN Secretariat to prepare for the Third EAS Environment Ministers Meeting, preferably to be held back-to-back with the 13th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (IAMME) in Cambodia in 2011.

14. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government of Brunei Darussalam for the excellent arrangements and hospitality and for successfully hosting the Second EAS Environment Ministers Meeting.

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