

**Press Conference  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

Excellencies  
Ladies and Gentlemen  
Good Afternoon!

This is to inform you of the outcomes of the 17<sup>th</sup> ATM Meeting, the 10<sup>th</sup> ATM+China, the 9<sup>th</sup> ATM+Japan, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> ATM+ROK.

- 1. The 17<sup>th</sup> ATM Meeting** was held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2011, in Phnom Penh, attended by all 10 ASEAN Member States. The Meeting achieved the following outcomes:

On the **ASEAN Community**, the Ministers applauded the efforts made by the senior officials and its working groups in strengthening the competitiveness of ASEAN Economic Community and expediting the realisation of the ASEAN Connectivity through the implementation of the Brunei Action Plan (BAP)/ASEAN Strategic Transport Plan (ASTP) 2011-2015 and transport related measures under the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). The Ministers were pleased with the notable progress in implementing the various measures under the BAP/ASTP and MPAC.

**On the ASEAN Air Connectivity**, the Ministers welcomed the entry into force of the ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on the Full Liberalisation of Passenger Air Services (MAFLPAS) and its two Protocols signed on 12 November 2010 in Brunei Darussalam, which would further facilitate and enhance air services as well as complement the transport facilitation and liberalization efforts. The Ministers issued the Declaration on the Adoption of the Implementation Framework of the ASEAN Single Aviation Market (ASAM), one of the key strategies under the MPAC and the BAP. The Implementation Framework is a significant undertaking that will guide the key work of ASEAN in the aviation sector over the next four years and beyond 2015. In line with the targets and timelines of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint adopted at the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit held on 21 November 2007 in Singapore, the Ministers signed the Protocol to Implement the Seventh Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services.

**On the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme**, the Ministers supported the ASEAN Secretary-General's communication to the European Commission to register ASEAN's objections to the unilateral and mandatory extension of the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme to include all flights by non-European Union carriers, including those of carriers of ASEAN Member States, operating to and from European Union Member States.

**On the Seamless Transportation of Goods within ASEAN**, the Ministers signed the Protocol 6 on Railways Border and Interchange Stations

under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT). This is a substantial milestone in ASEAN's endeavour to facilitate cross border movement of goods trains within the region.

**On the implementation of ASEAN Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB) Overall Work Plan**, the Ministers recognised and the involvement of other ASEAN sectoral bodies, namely the ASEAN Customs Procedure and Trade Facilitation Working Group (CPTFWG), the ASEAN Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (AC-SPS), and the ASEAN Council of Bureaux (CoB) in the implementation of TTCB work plan.

**On the Seamless Maritime Transport Network**, the Ministers welcomed the conduct of the “Master Plan Study and Feasibility Study on the Establishment of an ASEAN Roll-On/Roll-Off (RO-RO) Shipping Network and Short Sea Shipping” which aims to assess the viability of establishing RO-RO routes within ASEAN that will link mainland and archipelagic regions in order to provide a seamless inter-modal transport system for ASEAN.

Noting the work on formulating an ASEAN Single Shipping Market (ASSM) Implementing Strategy was being carried out by Maritime Transport Working Group, the Ministers encouraged the substantive contribution from all ASEAN Member States in identifying the barriers and obstacles to the establishment of an ASEAN Single Shipping Market and looked forward to its final report next year.

**2. The 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN and China Transport Ministers Meeting** was held on 16 December 2011 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and attended by all ministers from ASEAN and China, and produced the outcomes as follows:

The Ministers noted the steady progress of ASEAN-China Maritime Cooperation through fruitful exchange of information under the ASEAN-China Maritime Consultation Mechanism, and encouraged their senior officials to further strengthen communication and cooperation among maritime Administrations of ASEAN Member States and China Maritime Safety Administration towards promoting greater capacity building programmes, and enhancing the quality of the seafaring profession.

The Ministers were pleased with the entry into force of the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement and its Protocol 1 as this is a significant milestone in ASEAN-China transport cooperation. The Ministers noted the progress of discussion on Protocol 2 of AC-ATA that would expand the Agreement to include fifth freedom traffic rights, and requested their senior officials to exert best efforts to expedite the conclusion of this Protocol 2.

Recognising that the accomplishment of Singapore-Kunming Rail Link (SKRL) would have high and immediate impact on ASEAN-China connectivity, the Ministers reaffirmed their strong commitments on the completion of the SKRL project and tasked their senior officials to exert the best efforts to accelerate work on SKRL and to look into the expansion of its coverage.

**3. The 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN and Japan Transport Ministers Meeting** was held in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia on 16 December 2011 and was attended by all ministers of ASEAN and Japan. The meeting achieved the following results, among others:

The Ministers expressed satisfaction with the notable progress made in implementing the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP). The ASEAN Ministers appreciated Japan's continued support in advancing ASEAN's transportation sector under the AJTP framework. The Japanese Minister reaffirmed Japan's determination to work closely with ASEAN Member States in the spirit of "work together, advance together" for the further development of transport in ASEAN region and Japan.

The Ministers agreed to implement the AJTP Work Plans for 2011–2012, including the "Automobile Technical Cooperation Project on Safety and Environment" and "Action Plan on Environment Improvement", as specified under the Manila Action Plan. The ASEAN Ministers acknowledged Japan's support for enhancing ASEAN connectivity and integration which has become an integral part of the AJTP Work Plans.

The Ministers endorsed a new initiative on "ASEAN-Japan Logistics Partnership" proposed by Japan to promote efficient logistics in ASEAN. With the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community, the flow of goods is expected to increase in this region. This initiative includes cooperation in undertaking the Study on Roll-On/Roll-Off (RO-RO) Network and Short Sea Shipping, technical cooperation in the field of Port Electronic Data Interchange (Port EDI), a cooperative programme to promote palletisation in ASEAN and promotion of Human Resource Development in collaboration with educational institutions.

In accordance with the "Operational Guideline of the ASEAN-Japan Transport Statistics Database" which was endorsed at the 7<sup>th</sup> ATM+Japan in 2009, the Ministers welcomed the "Opening of the AJTP Information Center to the Public" on 26 December 2011. The AJTP Information Center, as a reliable transport statistics database, would serve as an analytical tool for facilitating policy making in the transport sector.

The Ministers welcomed Japan's proposal for convening the "Ad-hoc Expert Meeting for Cooperation on Disaster Prevention in Transport Sector" which will be held in Tokyo early next year.

**4. The Third ASEAN and ROK Transport Ministers Meeting** was held on 16 December 2011 in Phnom Penh and was attended by all ministers from ASEAN and Republic of Korea. The meeting has achieved, among others, the following outcomes:

The Ministers were encouraged with the outcome of the 14<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ROK Summit held on 18 November 2011 in Bali and welcomed the commitment of ROK to support the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity.

The Ministers were pleased with the steady progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN-ROK Transport Cooperation Roadmap and its 27 joint projects for the period 2010-2015, and appreciated that these projects have been catered to the specific needs of ASEAN Member States and provided strong support to capacity building and transport infrastructure feasibility studies and asked STOM to align the priorities projects with the strategic goals and priorities of ASEAN Transport Cooperation as specified in the AEC Blueprint, Brunei Action Plan 2011-2015, and Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity.

The Ministers tasked their senior officials to make expeditious efforts for the discussion on air services agreement, to convene a Working Group meeting after receiving the draft Agreement from ROK and to report progress at the Fourth ATM+ROK Meeting.

The 18<sup>th</sup> ATM, the 11<sup>th</sup> ATM+China, the 10<sup>th</sup> ATM+Japan and 4<sup>th</sup> ATM+ROK will be held in Indonesia next year.

**Thank you very much.**

**Now we open for questions,**