



**JOINT STATEMENT OF THE
THIRD ASEAN PLUS THREE EDUCATION MINISTERS MEETING**

26 May 2016, Selangor, Malaysia

1. The Third ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (3rd APT EMM) was held on 26 May 2016 in Selangor, Malaysia, in conjunction with the Ninth ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (9th ASED) and the Third East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (3rd EAS EMM). The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Dato' Seri Mahdzir Khalid, Minister of Education of Malaysia and H.E. Hao Ping, Vice Minister of Education of China.
2. The Ministers **noted with appreciation the status of the implementation** of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education 2010-2017 and **encouraged greater cooperation** towards the successful completion of all the programmes and activities through involvement of relevant universities and educational institutions in the APT participating countries to assist in the implementation of the remaining programmes in the Plan of Action.
3. The Ministers **noted updates of the People's Republic of China** on the 2016 China-ASEAN Year of Educational Exchanges and **welcomed closer coordination** with ASEAN and the ASEAN Secretariat in ensuring suitable ASEAN representation and role particularly in the conduct of the Ninth China-ASEAN Cooperation Week and the Second China-ASEAN Education Ministers Roundtable Conference which are scheduled in August 2016.
4. In the area of collaboration among universities from the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) countries, the Ministers **noted the report of Japan** on its initiative to support educational collaborations between universities from Japan and universities from the APT countries. In the same manner, the Ministers **noted the report of the Republic of Korea** on expanding the ASEAN Cyber University Open Educational Resource (OER) platform to more participant universities.
5. The Ministers **noted and expressed appreciation for the continuous progress** made by the ASEAN Plus Three Countries, the ASEAN University Network (AUN), the ASEAN Cyber University Network (ACU) Project and the ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-NET) in the 77 activities under the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action on Education 2010-2017 comprising areas such as higher education cooperation, capacity building in higher education, increase of linkages between universities, and promotion of credit transfers between universities in the region.

6. In pursuit of harmonised efforts on education cooperation within the framework of ASEAN, the Ministers **stressed the importance** of fostering long-term and mutually beneficial educational cooperation and promoting people-to-people exchanges through **alignment of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation on Education and ensuring its complementation with the ASEAN Work Plan on Education 2016-2020**.
7. The Ministers **approved the APT Guidelines on Student Exchange and Mobility** with the aim of promoting the development of higher education in the ASEAN Plus Three countries through greater promotion of student exchanges and mobility supported by quality assurance mechanisms. The Ministers **expressed appreciation for the efforts of the APT Working Group** on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education in drafting the Guidelines.
8. The Ministers **noted the preparations for the 4th Working Group** on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education spearheaded by the Philippines to be held on 29 September 2016 in Cebu, the Philippines.
9. The Ministers **welcomed the hosting of the 4th APT EMM by Myanmar** in conjunction with the 10th ASED and the 4th EAS EMM in 2018.
10. Finally, the Ministers **expressed their appreciation to Malaysia** for the warm hospitality extended to the delegates and the excellent arrangements made in hosting the 3rd APT EMM. The Ministers also expressed their appreciation to the ASEAN Secretariat for its valuable contribution to the Meeting.
