

NAY PYI TAW DECLARATION OF THE SIXTH AYEYAWADY- CHAO PHRAYA-MEKONG ECONOMIC COOPERATION STRATEGY SUMMIT

We, the Heads of State/Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, gathered in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 23 June 2015 for the 6th Summit of the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (hereinafter referred to as ACMECS).

We reaffirmed our determination to strengthen the traditional relations of friendship, good neighborliness and mutual benefits among the ACMECS Countries.

We adopted the ACMECS Plan of Action 2016-2018 and reiterated our strong commitment to implementing the goals and objectives enshrined in the Bagan Declaration and all succeeding Declarations of the ACMECS summits to build good neighborliness among ACMECS Countries, to enhance peace and stability in the region and to promote sustainable and inclusive development in our countries to support the ASEAN Community building in 2015 and beyond.

We noted with satisfaction the important progress made in the implementation of the Vientiane Declaration on the ACMECS and its Plan of Action 2013-2015.

We agreed to redouble our efforts individually, bilaterally and collectively to move ACMECS forward more effectively for the interests and benefits of the ACMECS Countries and peoples.

We hereby declared as Follows:

1. In Trade and Investment Facilitation Cooperation, we agreed to:
 - Further implement the ACMECS Leader's Declaration on Facilitation and Promotion of Trade, Investment and Tourism adopted at the 3rd Summit in Ha Noi;
 - Strengthen coordination in trade and investment promotion, among ACMECS Countries, including through participation in each other's trade and investment events, exhibitions and missions in order to increase trade and investment in the region, particularly in the border areas. We also agreed to encourage non-ACMECS countries, especially those in Southeast Asia and the ACMECS potential partners to join trade and investment fairs and exhibitions organized in ACMECS Countries to enable ACMECS' businessmen to expand trade and investment opportunities into the wider regional and global markets;
 - Further facilitate and promote foreign direct investment, particularly among ACMECS Countries, and from other countries in the region, through the provision of investment incentives under the respective domestic laws and regulations of the ACMECS Countries;
 - Encourage regular meetings between ACMECS Business Council and business communities with a view to creating a pro-business environment in the ACMECS Countries; and

2. In Agriculture Cooperation, we agreed to:
 - Expedite the implementation of ACMECS rice cooperation mechanism, to promote the rice sector development amongst ACMECS Countries;
 - Encourage consultation and cooperation between the ACMECS Countries and development partners to promote rice production and ensure food security;
 - Strengthen cooperation on technology transfer and information sharing in the field of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, livestock and veterinarian and aquaculture to ensure food security and the betterment of the livelihood of farmers in ACMECS Countries;
 - Enhance cooperation to address the National Zero Hunger Challenge program amongst ACMECS countries to achieve Sustainable Development Goals;
 - Encourage the implementation of Bilateral and Multilateral Contract Farming as an efficient mechanism to promote market stability and food security among ACMECS Countries; and
3. In Industrial and Energy Cooperation, we agreed to:
 - Encourage experience and information sharing as well as technology transfer on the production, energy efficiency technologies, application and production of bio-energy and renewable energy and promote best practices and appropriate standards in the ACMECS Countries;
 - Reiterate the commitment in facilitating investment on sustainable and environmental friendly energy development and enhancing cooperation on renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation;
 - Promote the development of power transmission lines and network across the ACMECS Countries and beyond;
 - Further promote industrial policy development cooperation among ACMECS Countries through organising workshops/training courses on a regular basis;
 - Encourage the establishment of industrial zones, Special and Specific Economic Zones along the ACMECS Countries' borders and other potential areas along the East-West Economic Corridor (EWEC), North South Economic Corridor (NSEC), the Southern Economic Corridor (SEC) and the "inter-corridor linkages" focusing on green growth and sustainable development; and
 - Encourage cooperation in other potentially industrial sectors such as mining and mineral exploitation, sustainable hydropower development, oil and gas exploration, chemical, mechanical, production and food processing, and textile and enhance cooperation to exchange information and technologies, and to develop joint research in the fields of industry and energy.
 - Enhance the competitiveness and sustainability for long run development of SMEs on the challenges such as Technical, Financial, Regulatory Framework, Human Resource Development and Enable Business Environment; Encourage to figure out the competency of SMEs on Global Supply Chains by enabling suitable business environment which is relevant to regional and international standards; Promote the transfer of Technology and innovation through investment for the development of SMEs and to provide the economic strength. resiliency and creation of job opportunities and services for the people.
4. In Transport Linkages, we agreed to:

- Further coordinate to complete multi modal transport connectivity and make full use of existing road transportation networks and economic corridors. particularly the East-West Economic Corridor (EWEC), North South Economic Corridor (NSEC) and Southern Economic Corridor (SEC) under the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) cooperation programme to promote trade, investment services and tourism among the ACMECS Countries. In this regards, we welcome the progress made within the Vice Foreign Ministers on EWEC cooperation framework.
 - Encourage the development of air linkages among major cities, cultural and natural heritage sites in the ACMECS Countries, as well as railways and feeder roads to increase trade, investment and tourism flows;
 - Encourage ACMECS Countries to further strengthen coordination and cooperation among EWEC countries, ACMECS Countries and related development partners to maximise the use of existing transport linkages as well as further develop transport linkages. Welcome the successful organisation of the Third Vice Foreign Ministers' Meeting on East-West Economic Corridor on 19-20 May 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand; and
 - Welcomed the recent ratification by Thailand of the remaining Annexes of the GMS-CBTA and encourage the ACMECS Countries to fully ratify the GMS-CBTA Annexes and Protocols to support the seamless cross border transportation of goods and people between and among the parties to the agreement.
5. In Tourism Cooperation, we agreed to:
- Promote cross border travel within the ACMECS Countries and conduct a joint tourism marketing and promotion, joint programme activities in tourism in order to realise the concept of “Five Countries, One Destination”;
 - Promote travel facilitation, especially visa and transport facilitation within ACMECS Countries and note the implementation of ACMECS single visa between Cambodia and Thailand;
 - Enhance capacity-building programmes for tourism professional skills and the tourism stakeholders in ACMECS; and
 - Promote the green and responsible tourism in the ACMECS region.
6. In Human Resource Development, we agreed to:
- Provide scholarships and fellowships as well as vocational training and skills development programmes, inclusive of the private sector, in the cooperation sectors of ACMECS;
 - Promote partnership and linkage among academic institutions, particularly higher education, vocational training and skills development in the ACMECS Countries;
 - Encourage development partners to participate in, and provide financial and technical assistance for, ACMECS training projects in the various sectors of cooperation;
 - Further encourage the establishment of the partnership and network among academic institutions in the ACMECS Countries;
 - Enhance cooperation on development of accreditation standards and skills certification system among ACMECS Countries;
 - Create a conducive environment for the development of a skilled work force through sharing of experiences and development of suitable policies; and

- Enhance the role of the industrial and services sectors to increasingly promote and support vocational education and labour skills training by collaboration amongst relevant partners and stakeholders.
7. In Public Health and Social Welfare Development, we agreed to:
 - Strengthen cooperation and facilitate information sharing on infectious disease surveillance and response, particularly to emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases at cross border and at the animal-human environment interface through multi-sectoral actions, prevention and control of disease through collaborative activities and dissemination of best practices;
 - Promote and support capacity building programmes in animal and human health sectors; and
 - Promote cooperation of AMECS Countries in sharing experience in social welfare development in order to improve access to social security and healthcare services and the quality of life of the peoples in the ACMECS Countries.
 8. In Environmental Cooperation, we agreed to:
 - Reiterate the commitment to integrate the appropriate environmental goals into all the ACMECS projects on economic development;
 - Further strengthen cooperation among ACMECS Countries on environmental conservation and sustainable use of natural resources of the Ayeyawady, Chao Phraya and Mekong rivers; and
 - Enhance cooperation between ACMECS Countries in regional and international institutions, as well as with non-ACMECS countries, to promote green development and address climate change and global warming.
 9. With regard to resources mobilisation, we agreed to further encourage development partners to participate in the implementation of ACMECS projects and programmes in line with the agreed Guidelines for Development Partners' Participation in ACMECS Projects.
 10. In view of the new developments in the Mekong sub-region cooperation, we instructed the Ministers and Senior Officials to conduct a thorough review of the areas of cooperation and working mechanism of ACMECS and submit recommendation on ways to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of ACMECS at the 7th ACMECS Summit.
 11. We welcomed the offer of the Kingdom of Thailand to host the Seventh ACMECS Summit. The specific date and venue will be coordinated a through diplomatic channels.
 12. All ACMECS Countries expressed their sincere thanks to the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the warmest hospitality and excellent arrangements accorded to all member delegations during the Summit.

Adopted in Nay Pyi Taw, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, on 23 June 2015.