



ด่วนที่สุด บันทึกข้อความ

สำนักเลขาธิการคณะรัฐมนตรี
รับที่..... ๘๕๕๓..... ๓๓.๑
วันที่ ๙ ๑๖ ๒๕๕๐ เวลา ๑๕.๔๐
คว. 4/155
อ. ๙๓๘๖๐
ล. ๑๕.๖๖๔

ส่วนราชการ สำนักงานคณะกรรมการพัฒนาการเศรษฐกิจและสังคมแห่งชาติ โทร. 0 2280 4085 ต่อ 3700

ที่ นร. 1114/4๙๔๕ วันที่ ๕ ตุลาคม ๒๕๕๐

เรื่อง ผลการประชุมระดับรัฐมนตรีและเจ้าหน้าที่อาวุโส ครั้งที่ 14 แผนงาน IMT-GT

เรียน รองนายกรัฐมนตรี (นายโสมสิต ปันเปี่ยมราษฎร์)

ตามที่ รองนายกรัฐมนตรี (นายโสมสิต ปันเปี่ยมราษฎร์) ได้อนุมัติให้ สศช. เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมระดับรัฐมนตรีและเจ้าหน้าที่อาวุโส ครั้งที่ 14 แผนงานการพัฒนาเขตเศรษฐกิจสามฝ่าย อินโดนีเซีย-มาเลเซีย-ไทย (Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle: IMT-GT) โดยมีการประชุมต่อเนื่องในโอกาสเดียวกันได้แก่ การประชุมระดับสภาธุรกิจ IMT-GT และการประชุมระดับผู้ว่าราชการจังหวัด และมุขมนตรี ครั้งที่ 4 ระหว่างวันที่ 3-6 กันยายน ๒๕๕๐ ณ จังหวัดสงขลา และได้มอบหมายให้รัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงการต่างประเทศ เป็นหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนไทยระดับรัฐมนตรี ซึ่งจะปฏิบัติหน้าที่ประธานที่ประชุมสำนักงานฯ ใคร่ขอรายงานสรุปผลการประชุม ดังนี้

1. การประชุมระดับเจ้าหน้าที่อาวุโส ครั้งที่ 14 แผนงาน IMT-GT

1.1 ผู้เข้าประชุม หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนอินโดนีเซีย ได้แก่ ดร. พีร์แมน เอ็ม ยู ตัมบอน เจ้าหน้าที่อาวุโส ด้านการประสานกิจการภาครัฐและภาคเอกชน กระทรวงประสานกิจการด้านเศรษฐกิจ หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนมาเลเซีย ได้แก่ ดาโต๊ะ ดร. สุไลมาน มาบอับ อธิบดีสำนักงานวางแผนเศรษฐกิจ สำนักนายกรัฐมนตรี หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนไทยและประธานที่ประชุม ได้แก่ นายอาคม เติมพิทยาไพสิฐ รองเลขาธิการ สศช.

1.2 ผลการประชุม (รายละเอียดตามเอกสารแนบ 1)

1.2.1 เห็นชอบการเพิ่มพื้นที่แผนงาน IMT-GT ในส่วนของประเทศไทย ได้แก่ จังหวัดภูเก็ต พังงา กระบี่ สุราษฎร์ธานี ระนอง และชุมพร

1.2.2 รับทราบการจัดตั้งศูนย์ความร่วมมืออนุภูมิภาค IMT-GT (CIMT) และเห็นชอบโครงสร้างและขอบเขตการดำเนินงานตามที่มาเลเซียเสนอ

1.2.3 รับทราบผลการประชุมสภาธุรกิจ IMT-GT และมอบหมายให้คณะทำงานภายใต้กรอบ IMT-GT 6 สาขาพิจารณาให้การสนับสนุนการดำเนินการที่เกี่ยวข้องตามข้อเสนอของสภาธุรกิจ ที่สำคัญ เช่น การเปิดทำการบินโดยสารการบิน Asmara Air ของมาเลเซียมายังจังหวัดตรัง การเปิด IMT-GT Plaza ในพื้นที่แผนงานที่จังหวัดพัทลุง บาตัม เรียว ปอร์ตติคัสัน การจัดกิจกรรมกีฬา วัฒนธรรม นิทรรศการการค้าการลงทุน และกิจกรรมทางตลาดเพื่อส่งเสริมการท่องเที่ยวด้วยงาน Visit IMT-GT Year 2008

1.2.4 รับทราบความก้าวหน้าการดำเนินการของคณะทำงาน 6 สาขาความร่วมมือตามกรอบ IMT-GT ได้แก่

รอง นรม. (1571)
5/๑๐/๕๐ (11.5๐)

- (1) ด้านโครงสร้างพื้นฐานและการคมนาคม ให้เร่งรัดจัดประชุมก่อนการประชุมระดับสุดยอดครั้งที่ 3 โดยพิจารณาด้านทรัพยากรและพลังงานด้วย และเตรียมปรับโครงสร้างพื้นฐานและกฎระเบียบเพื่อส่งเสริม Visit IMT-GT Year 2008
 - (2) ด้านการค้าและการลงทุน สนับสนุนการจัดงาน IMT-GT Conference และ Trade Expo การจัดตั้ง IMT-GT Plaza สาขาใหม่ การส่งเสริมการค้าชายแดนและการค้าแบบ Barter Trade ในกลุ่ม SME และปรับฐานข้อมูลการค้าโดยร่วมกับธนาคารพัฒนาเอเชีย การแก้ไขการจับเก็บภาษีซ้อน การเร่งรัดการร่วมศึกษาความเป็นไปได้การจัดตั้งเขตเศรษฐกิจพิเศษชายแดนบริเวณอำเภอสะเดา-เมืองบูกิตกาญูฮิตัม มาเลเซีย
 - (3) ด้านการท่องเที่ยว สนับสนุนความร่วมมือกับองค์การการท่องเที่ยวโลก (UNWTO) ศึกษาพื้นที่ท่องเที่ยวที่มีศักยภาพเพื่อจัดทำแผนการตลาดร่วม การสนับสนุนภาคเอกชนในการจัดงาน Visit IMT-GT Year 2008 (พิธีเปิดที่จังหวัดสงขลา ระหว่างวันที่ 11-20 มกราคม 2551) การส่งเสริมสายการบินต้นทุนต่ำเปิดเส้นทางบิน
 - (4) ด้านผลิตภัณฑ์และบริการฮาลาล สนับสนุนเครือข่ายห้องปฏิบัติการวิทยาศาสตร์ฮาลาล การจัดงาน International Halal Science Symposium โดยจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัยในปี 2551 การเปิด IMT-GT Halal Minimart
 - (5) ด้านการพัฒนาทรัพยากรมนุษย์ เร่งรัดการปรับกฎระเบียบอำนวยความสะดวกการเคลื่อนย้ายแรงงาน การรับรองร่วมด้านมาตรฐานฝีมือแรงงาน การส่งเสริมการเข้าตลาดแรงงานของสตรี โครงการแลกเปลี่ยนดูงานและฝึกอบรมของบุคลากรและนักศึกษามหาวิทยาลัย การร่วมศึกษาวิจัยและพัฒนาในเครือข่าย IMT-GT UNINET
 - (6) การเกษตร อุตสาหกรรมการเกษตร และสิ่งแวดล้อม เร่งรัดการพัฒนาเครือข่ายข้อมูลสารสนเทศด้านการประมง ปรับปรุงกฎระเบียบเพื่อส่งเสริมการลงทุนด้านอุตสาหกรรมการเกษตร การพัฒนาการแปรรูปอุตสาหกรรมเกษตรที่ลดกระทบต่อสิ่งแวดล้อม
- 1.2.5 รับทราบความก้าวหน้าการร่วมมือกับพันธมิตรการพัฒนาได้แก่ ธนาคารพัฒนาเอเชีย (ADB) ในการร่วมประชุมระหว่างสามประเทศและ ADB เพื่อแปลง IMT-GT Roadmap ปี 2550-2554 สู่การปฏิบัติ การศึกษาการเชื่อมโยงแนวพื้นที่เศรษฐกิจตามกรอบ IMT-GT ระหว่างสามประเทศ และรับข้อเสนอสภาธุรกิจ IMT-GT ให้เพิ่มแนวพื้นที่เศรษฐกิจระนอง-ภูเก็ต-อาเจะห์ เพื่อเชื่อมโยงพื้นที่ IMT-GT ใหม่ของไทยกับอนุภูมิภาค IMT-GT ข้อเสนอโครงการศึกษาจัดทำยุทธศาสตร์ความร่วมมือการพัฒนาเชื่อมโยง IMT-GT กับภูมิภาคเอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้ และโครงการปรับปรุงฐานข้อมูลการค้าการลงทุน
- 1.2.6 รับทราบความก้าวหน้าการเตรียมการจัดประชุมระดับสุดยอดแผนงาน IMT-GT ครั้งที่ 3 ในวันที่ 19 พฤศจิกายน 2550 ณ สาธารณรัฐสิงคโปร์ (โดย

นายกรัฐมนตรีไทยจะเป็นประธานการประชุมสุดยอด IMT-GT) ต่อเนื่องกับการประชุมสุดยอดอาเซียน ครั้งที่ 13 ซึ่งจะมีการฉลองครบรอบปีที่ 40 และเริ่มดำเนินการตามกฎบัตรอาเซียน และรับทราบร่างคำแถลงการณ์ร่วมของผู้นำ (Draft Summit Joint Statement) ซึ่ง สศช. ยกร่าง โดยมอบหมายให้ สศช. จัดประชุมฝ่ายเลขานุการระดับชาติสามประเทศก่อนการประชุมสุดยอดเพื่อร่วมจัดทำร่างสุดท้ายของคำแถลงการณ์ร่วม (รายละเอียดตามเอกสารแนบ 2)

2. การประชุมผู้ว่าราชการจังหวัดและมุขมนตรี ครั้งที่ 4 แผนงาน IMT-GT

- 2.1 **ผู้เข้าประชุม** หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนอินโดนีเซีย ได้แก่ นายอีโค โมลานา อาลี ผู้ว่าราชการจังหวัดบังกา-เบลิตุง หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนมาเลเซีย ได้แก่ ดาโต๊ะ ตัง ซี ฮัง ปลัดบัญชาการรัฐสภา และหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนไทยและประธานที่ประชุม ได้แก่ นายสนธิ เดชานันท์ ผู้ว่าราชการจังหวัดสงขลา
- 2.2 **ผลการประชุม** ที่ประชุมรับทราบผลการประชุมระดับเจ้าหน้าที่อาวุโส ครั้งที่ 14 และเห็นชอบและสนับสนุนตามข้อเสนอของสภาธุรกิจ IMT-GT และสนับสนุนการร่วมดำเนินงานอย่างใกล้ชิดระหว่างจังหวัด/รัฐ กับรัฐบาลกลางและฝ่ายเลขานุการระดับชาติ เพื่อสนับสนุนสภาธุรกิจ IMT-GT พร้อมทั้งจะเร่งแก้ไขปัญหาระดับท้องถิ่นและส่งเสริมกิจกรรมข้ามแดน โดยเฉพาะจะให้การสนับสนุนโครงการสำคัญ ได้แก่ Visit IMT-GT Year 2008 และการจัดตั้ง IMT-GT Plaza การสร้างโอกาสทางธุรกิจ และกิจกรรมทางสังคมวัฒนธรรมระหว่างประเทศ โดยจะจัดประชุมต่อเนื่องกับการประชุมระดับรัฐมนตรีและเจ้าหน้าที่อาวุโส และการประชุมสภาธุรกิจ IMT-GT อย่างต่อเนื่องต่อไป (รายละเอียดตามเอกสารแนบ 3)

3. การประชุมระดับรัฐมนตรี ครั้งที่ 14 แผนงาน IMT-GT

- 3.1 **ผู้เข้าประชุม** หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนอินโดนีเซีย ได้แก่ พลตำรวจเอก ตันศรี ดาอี บัคเดียร์ ผู้แทนพิเศษของประธานาธิบดีอินโดนีเซีย ด้านภารกิจความร่วมมือในอนุภูมิภาค หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนของมาเลเซีย ได้แก่ ดาโต๊ะ ศรี ดร. ซาฮิดัน คัสซิม มุขมนตรีแห่งรัฐปะลิส และหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนไทยและประธานที่ประชุม ได้แก่ นายสนธิ คงศิริ รัฐมนตรีช่วยว่าการกระทรวงการต่างประเทศ โดยได้รับมอบหมายจากรัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงการต่างประเทศซึ่งติดตามการอื่น
- 3.2 **ผลการประชุม** (รายละเอียดตามเอกสารแนบ 4)
 - 3.2.1 เห็นชอบผลการประชุมระดับเจ้าหน้าที่อาวุโส ครั้งที่ 14 พร้อมทั้งได้มอบหมายแนวทางการดำเนินงานเพิ่มเติม ได้แก่ (1) การเร่งรัดเสริมสร้างความร่วมมือด้านพลังงาน โดยเฉพาะด้านก๊าซธรรมชาติ เชื้อเพลิงชีวภาพ และพลังงานทางเลือกอื่นๆ (2) การเสริมสร้างความเชื่อมโยงระบบโลจิสติกส์ ทั้งด้านโครงสร้างพื้นฐาน การคมนาคมและกฎระเบียบ (3) การเชื่อมโยงการพัฒนาระหว่างไทย-มาเลเซีย ในแนวพื้นที่การพัฒนาเศรษฐกิจภาคเหนือ (Northern Corridor Economic Region: NCER) กับแผนพัฒนาเศรษฐกิจภาคใต้ของไทย (4) การพัฒนาตามแนวพื้นที่เศรษฐกิจใหม่ ระนอง-ภูเก็ต-อาเจะห์ (5) การส่งเสริมกิจกรรมในปี Visit IMT-GT Year 2008 แก่สภาธุรกิจ IMT-GT และเร่งรัดการเชื่อมโยงทางอากาศใน

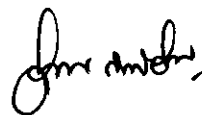
พื้นที่ (6) การส่งเสริมความร่วมมือด้านทรัพยากรมนุษย์ โดยเฉพาะด้าน
เคลื่อนย้ายแรงงาน

- 3.2.2 เห็นชอบผลการประชุมระดับผู้ว่าราชการจังหวัดและมุขมนตรี ครั้งที่ 4 พร้อมทั้ง
ได้มอบหมายดังนี้ (1) เน้นย้ำความสำคัญขององค์กรบริหารระดับจังหวัดและรัฐ
และระดับท้องถิ่นในการกำหนดนโยบายและกฎระเบียบที่ส่งเสริมการลงทุน
(2) ให้เวทีการประชุมระดับผู้ว่าราชการจังหวัดและมุขมนตรีเป็นแบบไม่เป็น
ทางการเพื่อเปิดโอกาสการแสดงความคิดเห็นอย่างกว้างขวาง โดยต้องมีทิศ
ทางการดำเนินงานที่ชัดเจน และ (3) เน้นย้ำความร่วมมือด้านฮาลาล โดยใช้
มาตรฐานระดับ OIC (Organization of the Islamic Conference)
- 3.2.3 เห็นชอบร่างคำแถลงการณ์ร่วมของผู้นำในการประชุมสุดยอด ครั้งที่ 3 และ
มอบหมายให้ฝ่ายเลขานุการระดับชาติสามประเทศ จัดประชุมภายในเดือน
ตุลาคม 2550 เพื่อจัดทำร่างคำแถลงการณ์ร่วมของผู้นำให้แล้วเสร็จ
- 3.2.4 รับทราบการสนับสนุนจากธนาคารพัฒนาเอเชียในการยกระดับศักยภาพองค์กร
และการประสานงานใน IMT-GT และเห็นชอบโครงการศึกษาเพื่อเชื่อมโยงแนว
พื้นที่เศรษฐกิจ IMT-GT และโครงการปรับปรุงฐานข้อมูล IMT-GT และรับทราบ
การสนับสนุนโดยสำนักงานเลขาธิการอาเซียน เพื่อการพัฒนาความร่วมมือสู่ประชาคม
อาเซียน ในปี 2558

4. ข้อเสนอเพื่อพิจารณา

- 4.1 รับทราบผลการประชุมระดับรัฐมนตรีและเจ้าหน้าที่อาวุโส ครั้งที่ 14 และการประชุม
ระดับผู้ว่าราชการจังหวัดและมุขมนตรี ครั้งที่ 4 ของแผนงาน IMT-GT
- 4.2 มอบหมาย สศช. ร่วมกับกระทรวงการต่างประเทศและหน่วยงานที่เกี่ยวข้อง เตรียมการ
จัดประชุมระดับสุดยอดครั้งที่ 3 ของแผนงาน IMT-GT ในวันที่ 19 พฤศจิกายน 2550 ณ
สาธารณรัฐสิงคโปร์
- 4.3 มอบหมายส่วนราชการที่เกี่ยวข้องดำเนินการตามผลการประชุมดังกล่าว โดย สศช. จะได้
ประสานส่วนราชการดังกล่าวต่อไป

จึงเรียนมาเพื่อโปรดพิจารณา หากเห็นชอบขอได้โปรดอนุมัติตามข้อ 4. และนำเสนอคณะรัฐมนตรี
เพื่อทราบและถือเป็นมติต่อไปด้วย จักเป็นพระคุณยิ่ง



(นายอำพน กิตติอำพน)

เลขาธิการคณะกรรมการพัฒนาการเศรษฐกิจและสังคมแห่งชาติ

(นายโสมิต ปิ่นเปี่ยมรักษ์)

รองนายกรัฐมนตรี

ปฏิบัติราชการแทน นายกรัฐมนตรี

๕ ต.ค.๕๐

**INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THAILAND
GROWTH TRIANGLE (IMT-GT)**

**THE 14th IMT-GT
SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING**

AGREED MINUTES

**Songkhla Province, Thailand
4 – 5 September 2007**

**AGREED MINUTES
INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THAILAND GROWTH TRIANGLE
14th SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING
MUANG SONGKHLA, SONGKHLA PROVINCE, THAILAND
4 – 5 SEPTEMBER 2007**

INTRODUCTION

1. The 14th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) was convened in Muang Songkhla, Songkhla Province, Thailand on 4 – 5 September 2007. The Indonesian delegation was led by the Honourable Dr. Firman M.U. Tamboen, Senior Official for the Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs for Investment and Public-Private Partnership. The Honourable Datuk Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob, Director General of the Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department, headed the Malaysian delegation. The delegation from Thailand was headed by the Honourable Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Deputy Secretary-General of the National Economic and Social Development Board, and acted as the Chairperson of the Meeting. The IMT-GT Joint Business Council (JBC) was led by the Honourable Mr. Somkiat Anuras of Thailand.

The list of delegation is attached as **Annex I**.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING REMARKS OF THE OUTGOING
CHAIRPERSON OF SOM OF THE IMT-GT**

2. The Hon. Datuk Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob, in his Opening Remarks, extended his warmest greetings to all delegates and expressed his gratitude to the Government of Thailand for the excellent arrangements and hospitality extended to all the delegates. He noted the beneficial results of public-private sector cooperation in the IMT-GT programme and stressed the leading role of the private sector as the engine of growth in the sub-region. He mentioned that it is an appropriate time for IMT-GT to pursue its programmes more vigorously, consistent with the ASEAN's development goals. He officially handed over the chairmanship of IMT-GT SOM to the Hon. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith. He expressed confidence that significant progress will be achieved under Thailand's chairmanship of the IMT-GT.

The full Opening Remarks of The Hon. Datuk Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob appear as **Annex II**.

AGENDA ITEM 2: REMARKS OF THE INCOMING CHAIRPERSON

3. In his Remarks, the Hon. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, the Head of the Thai delegation to the SOM, as incoming Chairperson of the 14th SOM of the IMT-GT warmly welcomed all delegates to Songkhla Province, which is a growth centre in Southern Thailand linked to IMT-GT countries through the Songkhla-Penang-Medan economic corridor. He demonstrated the vibrancy of IMT-GT cooperation by highlighting achievements in various areas such as

infrastructure connectivity (land, air and sea), trade and investment and tourism. He drew the SOM's attention to various constraints and threats for which adjustments in cooperation have to be made, such as natural disasters which can disrupt livelihoods, climate change, political situation which has impeded project implementation in some areas, and the need to improve coordination and enhance cross-sector cooperation. These threats are better handled with stronger social and environmental cooperation. He put forward various strategies to revitalize IMT-GT cooperation such as: relaxing software-based transport rules and regulations; reinforcing border trade for poverty reduction; reviving tourism; fostering closer public-private collaboration and encouraging a more active role of state and provincial governments; sharing know-how and expertise to enhance competitiveness; and increasing accountability of the business sector to the outside world. He called for more effective coordinating mechanisms to drive the IMT-GT roadmap towards more tangible results.

Remarks of the Hon. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapasith appear as **Annex III**.

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4. The Meeting adopted the agenda as proposed.

The Agenda of the Meeting appears as **Annex IV**.

AGENDA ITEM 4: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

5. The Meeting was held in plenary.
6. The Meeting appointed the following representatives from each country as members of the drafting committee:

- | | | | |
|------|-----------|---|-------------------------|
| i. | Indonesia | - | Ms. Lusye Marthalia |
| | | - | Mr. Bobby Siagian |
| ii. | Malaysia | - | Ms. Zarina Ali Merican |
| | | - | Ms. Rosita Rahim |
| iii. | Thailand | - | Mr. Pairote Potivong |
| | | - | Mr. Kittipol Chotipimai |

The Programme of the Meeting appears as **Annex V**.

AGENDA ITEM 5: CONSIDERATION OF THE ACCEPTANCE OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE IMT-GT

7. The Meeting agreed to accept the following provinces of Thailand as new members of the IMT-GT:
 - i. Chumphon
 - ii. Ranong

- iii. SuratThani
- iv. Krabi
- v. PhangNga and
- vi. Phuket

AGENDA ITEM 6: REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IMT-GT COOPERATION

8. The Hon. Datuk Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob, the Head of Malaysian Delegation presented the progress that has taken place since the 13th IMT-GT SOM and deliberated on the vision and framework for IMT-GT Cooperation under the Roadmap for 2007 – 2011. He welcomed the 6 provinces of Thailand as new members of IMT-GT. In his report, he commended the restructuring of the IMT-GT institutional mechanism which now comprises 6 Working Groups, and the efforts of the WGs to streamline their activities in accordance with the Roadmap. He outlined the coverage of the ADB study on economic connectivity corridors and its proposal for an IMT-GT Database project, while proposing ADB to provide a private sector window for IMT-GT activities. He also informed of Malaysia's efforts in setting up Northern Corridor Economic Region (NCER) that can have spillover effects on the IMT-GT area. Regarding the University Network, UNINET, he reiterated the need for it to move at the faster pace and the need to change the delivery mechanism for UNINET to be effectively functional. He reported on the establishment of the Centre for IMT-GT Sub-regional Cooperation (CIMT) and its role in IMT-GT institutional coordination, consultation processes, project facilitation, external relations and information dissemination. He also urged Ministries, agencies at states/provincial level to provide further commitment to IMT-GT by ensuring a dedicated set-up to facilitate greater cooperation. He concluded by stressing the need for deeper cooperation and adopting a more open attitude to facilitate the private sector to optimally develop the latent resources and possibilities in this sub-region.

9. The Hon. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith thanked the Hon. Datuk Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob for the extensive presentation and noted the excellent accomplishments in IMT-GT cooperation, particularly in the areas identified under the IMT-GT Roadmap.

The Report of the Chairman of the 13th IMT-GT SOM appears as **Annex VI**.

AGENDA ITEM 7: REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE FOR IMT-GT SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION (CIMT)

10. Dr. Ir. Hassan Ibrahim, Executive Director of Centre for IMT-GT Sub-regional Cooperation (CIMT), presented the Terms of Reference of the Establishment of the Centre. He started with providing a background on the need for establishing the Centre, and also the current status of the establishment. He then presented CIMT's objectives which include strengthening coordination mechanisms and consultation processes among IMT-GT institutions, and facilitating implementation and monitoring of priority

projects. CIMT's roles were highlighted which include reporting to the SOM, liaising with the SOM/MM and IMT-GT institutions and partners, and coordinating information flow within the sub-region. The organizational structure was explained indicating the positions of the Governing Council and the Executive Director, and the two divisions of the Centre, namely; the Project Division and the Corporate and Administration Division. Dr. Hassan also deliberated on the role of the Governing Council, which is the highest body in CIMT responsible for the overall policy direction and supervision of the Centre, and the role of the Executive Director who is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the Centre. He also highlighted the funding and staffing arrangements of the Centre. At the end of his presentation, Dr. Hassan requested SOM's endorsement on the Terms of Reference of the Centre to enable the Centre to fully perform its duties.

The Report of Dr. Ir. Hassan Ibrahim of CIMT appears as **Annex VII**.

11. Indonesia suggested two matters in order to ensure long-term operation of the CIMT:

- Setting up the role of the CIMT as the secretariat for all level of IMT-GT meetings, including the Working Groups, Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum, SOM and Ministers Meeting level to ensure that all issues and matters arising in the respective level will be well arranged and integrated in a sustainable discussion as well as its implementation.
- Consideration in inviting the participation of member governments in the operation of the CIMT.

12. Thailand looked forward to the CIMT's full operation by next year and that a calendar of meetings and activities for next year prepared for the guidance of all working groups. Thailand further asked that the CIMT help organize the database to keep record the proceedings of meetings and suggested that the CIMT disseminate information on the roadmap and activities of the Working Groups.

13. Malaysia welcomed the support of member governments and stressed that this is important in ensuring that the CIMT is effective in coordinating the implementation of priority projects.

AGENDA ITEM 8: REPORT OF THE IMT-GT JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL

14. The Hon. Mr. Somkiat Anuras, Chairman of the IMT-GT JBC, informed of the JBC Meetings since the 13th SOM, namely the 21st to the 23rd IMT-GT JBC Meetings. He mentioned that the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum held constructive dialogues with the 21st and 22nd IMT-GT JBC. He announced the first chartered flight by Asmara Air from Malaysia to Trang Province, Thailand and the establishment of the first IMT-GT Plaza in Trang Province. He said the JBC compiled a list of issues, proposals, initiatives and projects arising from the 21st to 23rd JBC Meetings which were classified as follows: (i) those for SOM's information; (ii) those for SOM's response on

previous pending matters; and (iii) those for SOM's endorsement, consideration and facilitation.

The Report of the Chairman of the IMT-GT JBC appears as **Annex VIII**.

15. Thailand requested the respective chairman of Working Groups to consider and act on the issues raised by JBC. Malaysia expressed support for the trade and investment promotion proposals but need to consult further on some of the cultural and sports events proposed. Malaysia also hoped that all events that were organized will take into consideration the different environment and practices in the three countries.

16. Indonesia informed the Meeting that the government has allowed one year limited stay visas for student and subject to be renewed. Such limitation should be applied for monitoring purposes of foreign visitors in Indonesia including foreign students. On granting of authorities to issue investment permits and licenses to the provincial government, it was noted that the government is in the process of formulating a new regulation for the investment law that will allow the local governments in the provincial, the municipality and the regency level to give the investment permits and licenses. However for some of the infrastructure concessions permit has to be given by the central government. Therefore, Indonesia suggested the JBC to work closely with the local governments that have the capability to facilitate the concession issue with the central government.

AGENDA ITEM 9: REPORT OF WORKING GROUPS

9.1 Working Group on Infrastructure and Transportation

17. As lead country of the WG, Malaysia presented the progress Report of the Working Group (WG). The expansion of transport links within the sub-region included the establishment/ enhancement of air services between several points of the IMT-GT and establishment of passenger ferry services between various points. The progress of transport projects under the IMT-GT Roadmap was also presented. Discussions have commenced on enhancing road transport facilitation through mutual recognition of road vehicle registration, including a new framework for transport of goods and people between Thailand and Malaysia. On sea transport, the WG noted the development of Ro-Ro Ferry Services [Belawan-Penang, Penang-Malahayati (Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam), Penang-Trang, and Kuala Linggi (Melaka)-Dumai (Riau, Sumatera)]. On air transport, the three countries have agreed to provide incentives for airlines in the form of reduced parking, landing and passenger service charges. The WG is expected to meet in November 2007 to discuss among others, improving air and maritime linkages. JBC suggested that the WG identify airlines that could serve the requirements of tourists during the Visit IMT-GT Year 2008.

18. JBC raised the need to provide low cost airline services for the provincial people and for this purpose requested that Riau Airlines be granted landing permit at Subang Airport. However, the Meeting was duly informed by

the Malaysian delegates that the Malaysian Government policy with regard to Subang Airport is limited to “turbo-prop” aeroplanes only. Malaysia further proposes, for Riau Airlines to consider landing in Low Cost Carrier Terminal (LCCT) near Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA).

19. Concerning the delay of convening the WG Meeting on Infrastructure and Transportation, Indonesia suggested the Working Group to deliver a special report to the Standing Chair of IMT-GT and copy furnished to all Senior Officials after convening their next Meeting. Indonesia reminded the Meeting regarding the future value of the cooperation that IMT-GT should facilitate the energy and natural resources sector cooperation under the WG of Infrastructure and transportation as this sector becomes an important part of economic development.

The Report of the WG on Infrastructure and Transportation appears as **Annex IX**.

9.2 Working Group on Trade and Investment

20. As lead country of the WG, Malaysia presented the Report of the 1st WG Meeting on Trade and Investment held on 26-27 July 2007 in Banda Aceh, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam, Indonesia. The Meeting noted the progress report on the various projects from the 4th Implementing Technical Group (ITG) Meeting on Trade and In-situ Development. The WG discussed the status of agreements in the Bilateral Payments Arrangement (BPA) and trade facilitation activities. A briefing was held regarding the IMT-GT SME Conference and Trade Expo which would be held on 6th - 9th December 2007 in Penang, Malaysia, and it was agreed that members of the WG would promote the Expo organised by the respective countries among the business communities. The meeting exchanged views on the IMT-GT Roadmap Action Plan and proposed revisions on items pertaining to trade and investment. It was noted that new project proposals for 2008 need to be identified and submitted to the lead-country of the WG, with the JBC requested to submit through the respective National Secretariats. Thailand and Indonesia informed of the planned establishment of new IMT-GT Plazas in Patthalung Province and Pekanbaru, Riau Province, respectively. Indonesia additionally proposed an Agriculture Product Auction Market and invited the participation of IMT-GT members.

21. The Meeting took note on the presentation made by the Working Group on Trade and Investment. JBC expressed appreciation for the support of Governments for the IMT-GT plazas and barter/border trade. The Governments were requested to review past agreements and enter into new agreements to facilitate and enhance barter/border trading within the IMT-GT sub-region. JBC also noted the importance of developing the trade database similar to the pilot database developed for the BIMP-EAGA, for which the CIMT can play a vital role and assisted by Asian Development Bank (ADB). The Meeting agreed on the importance in resolving the issue of double taxation in the sub-region.

22. Thailand also requested Malaysia for cooperation on the joint feasibility study on the establishment of Special Economic Zone on both sides of the border between Sadao and Bukit Kayu Hitam of which Thailand is drafting the final report.

23. In response to the Bilateral Payment Arrangement (BPA), in principal Indonesia has no objection to create such MoU with Thailand as the JBC initiative. Therefore Indonesia suggested JBC to conduct further discussion on the essential requirements of the arrangement.

24. Indonesia also informed the Meeting that Indonesia and Thailand have signed the MoU on Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income on 25 March 1981 in Bangkok and followed by re-negotiation of both Foreign Affairs Ministers of Indonesia and Thailand on 2001. Indonesia has ratified the agreement in 2003 and the implementation of this agreement has been going on well for both sides.

The Report of the WG on Trade and Investment appears as **Annex X**.

9.3. Working Group on Tourism

25. As lead country of the WG, Thailand presented the Report of the 1st IMT-GT WG on Tourism Meeting held at Bukittinggi, West Sumatera Province, Indonesia on 8-9 August 2007. The Meeting discussed the progress of the Tourism programme, particularly its two components: (i) Tourism Development on travel facilitation involving the development of ports and international air linkages and the Master Plan for Tourism Development involving the assessment on areas of tourism potential with technical assistance from UNWTO; (ii) Marketing and promotional activities which include IMT-GT Logo and Theme, Directory/ Travel Guide Book on 3-star hotels, Website, activities for the Visit IMT-GT Year 2008, IMT-GT remaining budget at MITTA's, Travel Fairs, and Home Stay Network. It was noted that Thailand would organize the IMT-GT Tourism Ministerial Meeting planned to be held in Bangkok on 21 January 2008, in conjunction with the ASEAN Tourism Forum in 2008.

26. The Meeting took note on the presentation made by the Working Group on Tourism. Indonesia stressed the importance of close coordination between Governments and private sector in enhancing tourism in the sub-region. JBC asked for strong support from SOM for the WG on Tourism particularly in organizing the Visit IMT-GT Year 2008.

27. Indonesia supported the initiative to establish new air linkages between Banda Aceh and several points in Malaysia. However, the implementation of such initiative should be private sector driven with the need of strong support from the respective governments. In line with this, the meeting suggested that the next WG meeting on transportation and infrastructure to invite airline operator particularly categorised as budget airline or Low Cost Carrier (LCC) with the facilitation from the JBC. The Meeting also suggested to invite the representative from the Working Group on Tourism to attend the meeting.

The Report of the WG on Tourism appears as **Annex XI**.

9.4 Working Group on Halal Products and Services

28. As lead country of the WG, Thailand presented the Report of the 1st WG on Halal Products and Services (WG-HAPAS) Meeting which was held on 2-3 September 2007 in Songkhla Province, Thailand. The WG discussed the structure and rationale of the WG after its establishment based on the new Roadmap for IMT-GT cooperation, and the WG's past and ongoing activities. The meeting agreed that WG-HAPAS should operate as one Working Group encompassing all activities without the subgroups, though it agreed to consider later JBC's proposal for the creation of a subgroup for products and services. The meeting also noted the ongoing projects of WG-HAPAS in each country, such as: the IMT-GT Halal Laboratory Network which will offer more training courses by Halal Science Centre, Chulalongkorn University in 2008; and preparations for the International Halal Science Symposium to be held in Malaysia in November 2007 and in Indonesia in 2008; activities of Halal Science Centre, Bogor Agricultural Institute (Indonesia) including the annual IMT-GT Halal Food and Products Expo, Halal Scientific and Networking and website of Halal Products; and the short and long-term programme of the ongoing project on Halal scientific, academic networking, linking institutions in the sub-region (led by Halal Products Research Institute of Universiti Putra Malaysia). The Meeting expressed appreciation for new projects under WG-HAPAS, namely: publication of Halal Insight Magazine (the Halal Science Centre, Chulalongkorn University); initiation of IMT-GT Halal Minimart project (Andaman Halal Industry Group of Thailand); and setting up of Penang Halal Logistics Hub (Century Logistics, Penang, Malaysia).

29. The Meeting took note on the presentation made by the Working Group on Halal Products and Services. The Meeting stressed the benefits in tapping the huge Halal market and take advantage of the available opportunities.

30. Indonesia suggested that activities of Halal Products and Services should involve the JBC.

31. Malaysia suggested that the lead country of WG-HAPAS be rotated amongst member countries. The meeting welcomed this suggestion and proposed that other WGs to consider the same in their next Meeting.

The Report of the WG on Halal Products and Services appears as **Annex XII**.

9.5 Working Group on Human Resources Development.

32. As lead country of the WG, Indonesia presented the Report of the 1st WG Meeting on Human Resources Development (WGHRD) held in the State of Melaka, Malaysia on 8-11 July 2007. The Meeting was a continuity from the 4th ITG on Cross Sectoral Development as affirmed to the IMT-GT Roadmap 2007-2011. The WG Meeting discussed on the status and progress of WG activities and matters arising from the 4th ITG Meeting on Cross Sectoral

Development. The Meeting took note on the need to establish a Special Task Force to monitor and coordinate the progress of cooperation-agreed projects. New project proposals submitted by the IMT-GT countries were noted, namely: two (2) from Indonesia dealing with HRD Exhibition and Harmonization of Competency Standard; two (2) from Thailand on Management and People Mobility, and Seminar on Women Participation in the Labour Market; and six (6) from Malaysia comprising of Training and Study Visits on Occupational Safety and Health, Labour Management Relations, Productivity-Wage Linkages and other related issues. It was agreed that coordination and cooperation among focal points for each IMT-GT member country would be strengthened to further discuss new project proposals.

33. The Working Group Meeting agreed that the format of cost-sharing basis will be applied in implementing training courses and study visits under programmes of the IMT-GT Working Group on HRD.

34. The SOM Meeting took note on several points. Indonesia encouraged the WG on HRD to work strongly in facilitating labour mobility in the sub-region. The HRD Working Group is considering on working out the necessity to establish task forces. In this regard, the proposal for Mutual Recognition and Skills Certification in enhancing labour mobility will be increasingly explored by IMT-GT member countries. Thailand proposed the initiation of staff and student exchange between universities in the IMT-GT sub-region. The JBC urged that more works be done to enhance Mutual Recognition Arrangements. As the secretariat of the UNINET has been inactive for several years, the representatives from the UNINET suggested that the participation in research and development within the IMT-GT region be opened to other universities that may be interested.

35. The SOM took note that Indonesia conveyed its point of view that Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) achieved limited progress among respective agencies under this working group. Indonesia requested the WG on Human Resources Development to start working on the harmonisation to hasten the MRA implementation. Indonesia had a view that the performance of Working Group Meeting mechanism and the quality of each Meeting discussion should be one of the concerns of the Centre of IMT-GT Sub-regional Cooperation (CIMT). The centre should undertake an active role in strengthening the delivery mechanism of the WGs so that WG Meetings and initiatives will be more effective and productive.

The Report of the WG on HRD appears as **Annex XIII**.

9.6 Working Group on Agriculture, Agro-based Industry and Environment.

36. As lead country of the WG, Indonesia presented the Report of the WG Meeting on Agriculture, Agro-based Industry and Environment (WGAAE) held in Port Dickson, the State of Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia, on 3-4 April 2007. The Meeting noted the progress report of the five projects scheduled for

implementation in 2007 by the WGAAE as reported in the January 2007 IMT-GT Planning Meeting in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. These included palm oil tripartite cooperation, prepare and disseminate business opportunities in agriculture and agro-based industry in the IMT-GT sub-region, inventory of private sector fisheries and the publication of the web portal of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia, IMT-GT Expo and seminar for fisheries, and compile and disseminate information on policies, rules and regulations covering investment in agriculture. On the working mechanism for WGAAE, the Meeting considered the possibility of forming Sub-Working Groups and agreed to continue the existing mechanism. Special papers on various topics of concern to the WG were presented by each IMT-GT member country for the purpose of information exchange and knowledge enrichment. The WG identified nine agriculture and environment projects to be implemented in 2008. It was agreed that each member country would submit projects on agro-based industry to Indonesia by the end of June 2007.

37. The meeting agreed on the important role being played by the WGAAE and agreed on the new project proposals presented by the WG.

38. With regards to the Private Sector Fisheries and Publication of Web Portal coordinated by Indonesia, Indonesia informed that the portal would not be launched by November 2007 due to some incomplete data. However, Indonesia would still give its best effort to ensure that this portal will be able to operate before the next Working Group meeting.

The Report of the WG on Agriculture, Agro-based Industry and Environment appears as Annex XIV.

AGENDA ITEM 10: MONITORING OF IMT-GT ROADMAP

39. Mr. David Jay Green, Advisor, Southeast Asia Department, ADB, supported the progress of the Roadmap and acknowledged the establishment of CIMT by Malaysia. He called upon Mr. Pradeep Srivastava, Regional Cooperation Economist, ADB to present on ADB's assistance in implementing the IMT-GT Roadmap. Mr. Srivastava noted that of the five strategic thrusts of the IMT-GT Roadmap endorsed in the Leaders' Summit last January 2007, ADB has directed its efforts towards the last two thrusts: institutional support and infrastructure support and connectivity. On institutional support, he informed that ADB together with the Malaysian Economic Planning Unit (EPU) organised the first ever Annual Planning Meeting for IMT-GT in Kota Kinabalu in January 2007, which succeeded in developing the IMT-GT calendar of events for 2007, identified 2007 project deliverables and provided strategic directions for subsequent Working Group Meetings. Mr. Srivastava also informed of the discussion with EPU on ADB support for the Centre for IMT-GT Sub-regional Cooperation (CIMT).

40. On infrastructure support, he said that ADB has undertaken a preliminary study for the development of the economic connectivity corridors, which assessed the development prospects and provided some recommendations on the development of identified corridors, which he

showed in a map of the IMT-GT sub-region. He elaborated on the main recommendations of the study, consisting of, among others, road improvements (highway and feeder roads), railway expansion, enhancing private sector role in infrastructure, development of transport master plan for Sumatera, to be expanded into the IMT-GT Master Plan, and study of port development and maritime trade. He stressed the key role of economic connectivity corridors in achieving the long-term growth of trade, investment and tourism in IMT-GT, and that further study and understanding of relevant sector issues is needed.

41. Mr. Srivastava also discussed the archipelagic Southeast Asia (aSEA) Regional Cooperation and Strategy Program (RCSP), through which ADB support for IMT-GT would be carried out. Under this programme, ADB would support the development of a trade and investment database for IMT-GT, undertake analysis of the trade and investment climate in the sub-region and undertake a more detailed assessment of the transport sector including transport costs, logistics development, maritime trade and port development in the sub-region.

42. The Meeting took note on the presentation made by representatives of ADB. Malaysia expressed support for ADB's assistance to IMT-GT and requested ADB to assist CIMT in building its capacity in project monitoring and assessment. Also Malaysia noted the critical importance of mobilizing private resources for public projects under PFI and hoped ADB would provide more support for enhancing public-private partnerships. Indonesia provided the status of its key IMT-GT projects and activities. JBC proposed re-drawing the economic connectivity corridor, Ranong-Phuket-Aceh economic corridor, to encompass the new member provinces of Thailand. ADB replied that it could take into account the wider geographic focus of the IMT-GT in its subsequent studies and concrete projects for the programme. Regarding the aSea Regional Cooperation and Strategy programme, Indonesia principally supported the initiative as long as the program is in line with Indonesia in-country sectoral development programme. Indonesia also requested the project implementation team should have a frequent consultation with the relevant Working Groups, as well as the respective National Secretariat. The SOM thanked ADB for the support to IMT-GT, specifically for its proposed programme of assistance under the aSEA RCSP.

The Full Report of ADB on the IMT-GT Roadmap appears as **Annex XV**.

AGENDA ITEM 11: OTHER MATTERS

Preparation of the 3rd IMT-GT Summit

43. As Standing Chair for the 2nd IMT-GT Summit, Indonesia presented the highlights and directives from the IMT-GT Leaders held in Cebu, the Philippines, at 12 January 2007. The complete presentations as appears in **Annex XVI**.

44. Malaysia reported that Singapore has agreed to host the 3rd IMT-GT Summit on 19 November 2007. Thailand as the technical host is requested to inform Singapore on the requirements of the Meeting as well as to issue invitation to the Heads of Governments of IMT-GT member countries.

The Report on the preparation of the 3rd IMT-GT Leaders' Summit 2007 appears as **Annex XVII**.

45. Thailand gave an overview of the contents of the first draft of the Joint Statement for the Leaders' Summit that was circulated earlier, and requested for comments on the draft. The Meeting agreed to submit comments on the draft Joint Statement, which would be the basis for producing a revised draft. It was further agreed that the Statement would be finalised in October 2007 in a National Secretariat Meeting hosted by Thailand, shortly before the Summit. Thailand as the technical host of the 3rd Summit will circulate the invitation letters to the member countries.

46. Dr. Anish Kumar Roy, Director of Office of Coordination, Bureau for External Relation and Coordination of ASEAN Secretariat noted that the 13th ASEAN Summit, which marks ASEAN's 40th year of establishment, would endorse the ASEAN Charter making it a rule-based organisation that would call for stronger compliance of ASEAN agreements by its members. He stressed the need to look at synergies between efforts of ASEAN and those of sub-regional cooperation programmes like IMT-GT, GMS and BIMP-EAGA in establishing an ASEAN community by 2015. He expressed support for the establishment of the CIMT in Malaysia and looked forward to working closely with CIMT staff.

The Draft Joint Statement appears as **Annex XVIII**.

AGENDA ITEM 12: DATE AND VENUE OF THE 15TH SOM OF THE IMT-GT

47. The Meeting agreed, as proposed by Indonesia, that the next IMT-GT Meeting would be held in either Banda Aceh or Palembang, Indonesia, two weeks after the Ramadan 2008. The exact date and venue will be notified to the other IMT-GT countries.

AGENDA ITEM 13: CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 14TH SOM

12.1 Consideration of the Agreed Minutes of the 14th SOM

48. The Meeting considered and endorsed the Agreed Minutes of the 14th IMT-GT Senior Officials' Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 14: SIGNING OF THE AGREED MINUTES OF THE 14TH SOM

49. The Heads of delegations signed the Agreed Minutes of the 14th IMT-GT Senior Officials' Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 15: CLOSING

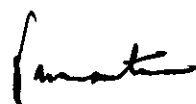
50. The Hon. Dr. Firman M.U. Tamboen and the Hon. Datuk Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob, in their respective Closing Remarks, expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government of Thailand for the warm hospitality accorded to all the delegates. They thanked the Songkhla Provincial Government for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting. They congratulated the Hon. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith for chairing the Meeting successfully. They concluded that the Meeting was pleasant and fruitful and a lot of views and ideas were shared among member countries to further develop the sub-region.

51. In his Concluding Remarks, the Hon. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith noted that even though the Meeting was short, its outcome was commendable. He was very impressed with the support and commitment shown by member countries during the Meeting. He expressed confidence that the continued cooperation would enable member countries to move forward in the right direction and bring more development that will further increase the quality of life for the population in the sub-region. He hoped that the bond of friendship among the IMT-GT members will be further fostered and strengthened.

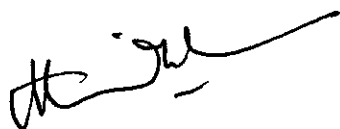
Done in Songkhla Province, Thailand on 5 September 2007



.....
Honourable Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith
Deputy Secretary-General
Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board
THAILAND



.....
Honourable Dr. Firman M.U. Tamboen
Senior Official for the Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs
for Investment and Public-Private Partnership
INDONESIA



.....
Honourable Datuk Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob
Director General of the Economic Planning Unit
Prime Minister's Department
MALAYSIA

**DRAFT
JOINT STATEMENT
THE 3RD SUMMIT OF
INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THAILAND GROWTH TRIANGLE (IMT-GT)
19 NOVEMBER 2007**

1. We, the leaders of the respective Governments of the Republic of Indonesia, Federation of Malaysia and the Kingdom of Thailand, met today on the occasion of the 3rd Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) Summit to discuss cooperation and development prospects in the IMT-GT subregion. Affirming our commitment to the vision of the IMT-GT that is seamless, progressive, prosperous and peaceful subregion with improved quality of life, we primarily focused our discussions on addressing the remaining challenges and building upon the achievements in IMT-GT cooperation. In charting the future direction of the subregion, we are committed to transforming the IMT-GT subregion into one of the leading development areas in ASEAN.

2. We exchanged views on national, regional and global issues that mutually concern our countries, such as [globalization, trade liberalization, etc. rapid technological advancement, growing regional integration and emerging neighboring markets], and noted that these developments have considerable implications on the development of the IMT-GT subregion. We agreed that strengthening cooperation among our countries is critically important to better meet the challenges and harness the opportunities that these developments present. We are firmly resolved to sustain and accelerate cooperation among our countries covering the economic, energy, environment, security and social and cultural areas, and to jointly address the various issues and concerns facing IMT-GT cooperation.

3. We emphasized that the IMT-GT Programme has helped foster peace and stability in the subregion by increasing people-to-people contact and by building trust and confidence and instilling a greater sense of community among the people of the subregion. We are committed to sustaining peace and stability which we believe to be key prerequisites of economic development for the well being of the people of IMT-GT.

7. We reaffirmed our commitment to accelerate the implementation of projects and programs in the IMT-GT Roadmap jointly agreed during the 2nd Summit of the IMT-GT especially those situated on the four economic Connectivity Corridors. All relevant IMT-GT institutions at all levels should

integrate their strategic plans of actions to be consistent with the IMT-GT Roadmap. We also instructed our Ministers and Senior Officials to pursue, monitor and review implementation of all the IMT-GT programs and projects. We highlighted our concern on global warming and the effects of climate change on our economies and ecosystems, and called on all IMT-GT institutions to evaluate the feasibility of all IMT-GT projects and programs taking into account this emerging global concern.

4. We noted with satisfaction the efforts of the private sector led by the Joint Business Council (JBC), in increasing trade, investment and tourism in the sub-region. With recognition of the leading role of the private sector in economic development, we commit to continue to support and facilitate the efforts of the private sector at central, regional and local levels by providing a conducive business environment, promoting closer public-private partnership as well as integrating the supporting infrastructure with the needed logistic linkages within IMT-GT areas.

5. We commended the Governors' and Chief Ministers' Forum on its pivotal and constructive role in bonding interrelations between all development entities and the local institutions in order to bring real benefits to the people of IMT-GT. We will support the Governors' and Chief Ministers' Forum in expanding this role to all IMT-GT stakeholders to ensure cohesive and dynamic participation from the local people in IMT-GT development projects and programs. We also call on the governors and chief ministers to help accelerate and deepen subregional economic cooperation and integration at all levels by formalizing cooperation mechanisms among IMT-GT areas, particularly through the joint implementation measures, programs and projects that are identified in the Roadmap.

6. We welcomed the six provinces from southern Thailand namely, Phuket, PhangNga, Krabi, Ranong, Chumphon and SuratThani as new members of the IMT-GT areas. Cognizant of the inequalities in socio-economic development among IMT-GT areas of the three member countries, we also agreed to intensify implementation of the relevant measures that would enhance development alliances among states and provinces of the IMT-GT in order to narrow development gaps consistent with the ASEAN Vision 2020.

8. We acknowledged and commended the commitment of the State of Selangor, Malaysia for the establishment of the Centre for IMT-GT Subregional Cooperation or CIMT in Selangor State, Malaysia. We called on the collaboration between CIMT and all IMT-GT entities in IMT-GT activities to

ensure attainment of the development goals and targets set forth in the Roadmap as well as the achievement on the policies set forth by the Summit. We called on the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the ASEAN Secretariat to assist the new secretariat to develop capacities adequate to efficiently perform its critical coordinating and monitoring duties at the highest standards.

9. We commended the ADB on its role as IMT-GT Development Partner, especially on its technical support for initiating the development of the IMT-GT Economic Connectivity Corridors. Development of these economic corridors is key to long-term growth of trade, investment and tourism in IMT-GT, and calls for further study and understanding of relevant sectoral issues. In this context, we urged ADB to facilitate development of a trade and investment database for IMT-GT, analysis of trade and investment climate in the subregion, and more detailed assessment of transport sector including transport costs, logistics development, maritime trade and port development in the subregion. We also called on ADB to help mobilize financial and technical resources for implementing prioritized projects as they are identified for further implementing the Roadmap. We commended the ASEAN Secretariat on its coordinating role between IMT-GT and ASEAN especially on the integration of their strategic plans by sectors of development.

10. We expressed our gratitude to the government of The Republic of Singapore for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

11. We agreed to continue to convene the IMT-GT Summit annually in conjunction with the ASEAN Summit.

**INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THAILAND
GROWTH TRIANGLE (IMT-GT)**

**THE 4TH IMT-GT
GOVERNORS AND CHIEF MINISTERS' FORUM**

REPORT

**Songkhla Province, Thailand
5 September 2007**



**REPORT OF THE 4TH GOVERNORS AND CHIEF MINISTERS' FORUM
OF THE INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THAILAND-GROWTH TRIANGLE (IMT-GT)**

5 SEPTEMBER 2007

SONGKHLA PROVINCE, THAILAND

INTRODUCTION

1. The 4th IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum was convened in Songkhla Province, Thailand on 5 September 2007. The Indonesian delegation was led by H.E. Eko Maulana Ali, Msc, Governor of Bangka-Belitung Province. The Malaysian Delegation was led by the Honorable Dato' Tang See Hang, State Executive Councillor, Selangor State Government. The Right Honorable Dr. Sondhi Tejanant, the Governor of Songkhla Province headed the Thai delegation and acted as the Chairperson of the Forum.

The list of delegation appears as Annex I.

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING SESSION

2. The Honorable Dato' Tang See Hang as the outgoing Chairperson expressed his special thanks to the Governor of Songkhla and the organizing committee for their great efforts in organizing the 4th IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum. He was honoured to chair the Meeting and warmly welcome the new Chairman, Governor of Songkhla Province. He hoped that the new Chairman will contribute his full commitments in strengthening the cooperation in the IMT-GT sub-region.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ELECTION OF THE NEW CHAIRPERSON OF GOVERNORS AND CHIEF MINISTERS' FORUM

3. The Forum agreed on electing the Governor of Songkhla Province, The Right Honourable Dr. Sondhi Tejanant as the new Chairperson for the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum.

AGENDA ITEM 3: REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF GOVERNORS AND CHIEF MINISTERS' FORUM

4. The Governor of Songkhla Province, the Right Honourable Dr. Sondhi Tejanant, welcomed all distinguished delegates from the government and private sectors who have come to participate in the 4th Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum. He also extended his sincere appreciation to the Asian Development Bank and the ASEAN Secretariat for their support during the event. He emphasized that the 4th Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum is a very important mechanism for the new IMT-GT Roadmap since Provincial and State governments play a crucial role in the success of cooperation within IMT-GT. The greatest challenge is how to maintain peace and stability as a prerequisite to attain development objectives of IMT-GT. Cooperation between the Provincial and State governments are important.

5. Thus, local officials involved in IMT-GT cooperation projects are expected to act with full understanding of the objectives and strategic thrusts of the Roadmap. There is a call for the Forum to be more proactive and to formulate a clear agenda and work programme that include activities and timelines that are parallel to the six IMT-GT Working Groups, National Secretariats and Joint Business Council (JBC). Development efforts must be directed towards capacity building of knowledge skills such as in Information Communication and Technology (ICT).

The full opening remarks appear as Annex II.

AGENDA 4: OPENING REMARKS OF THE GOVERNOR OF BANGKA-BELITUNG

6. The newly elected Governor of Bangka-Belitung expressed his appreciation to the Governor of Songkhla and guests of the Forum and stated that he believes that this gathering is a good opportunity to bring cooperation among the local governments where the implementation of the programs is actually taking place. Everyone should enhance utilization and existence of IMT-GT regional cooperation. It is important to work towards transforming challenges into opportunities in order to fully operationalize tangible projects in the subregion. He cited the improvements in air and sea transport linkages and facilitation of cross-border goods and investment. He emphasized the need for the increased commitment of the local government to

support business activities. He expects the Forum to support the empowerment of the business community to enhance economic growth in the region.

7. By working together, the local business players and respective governments will be able to deliver and implement more projects in the IMT-GT Roadmap. He stressed the importance of cooperation in various sectors such as human resources development, infrastructure and transport and tourism to make the region more attractive to investments. A better investment environment should be fostered and this requires stronger and deeper coordination within IMT-GT institutions including the local governments.

The full Opening Remarks appear as Annex III.

AGENDA ITEM 5: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

8. The Forum considered and adopted the Agenda of the 4th IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum which appears as Annex IV.

AGENDA ITEM 6: ELECTION OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE

9. The Forum appointed two (2) representatives from each country as members of the drafting committee as follows:

a. Indonesia - Mr. Jondi Indra Bustian

- Mr. Mugi Syahrialdi

b. Malaysia - Ms. Sharifah Intan Eriyatty Syed Mansor

- Mrs. Siti Noorliza bt. Md. Salleh

c. Thailand - Mr. Kittipol Chotipimai

- Mrs. Kanchana Siriwat Minson

AGENDA ITEM 7: REPORT AND UPDATE OF THE 3rd IMT-GT GOVERNORS AND CHIEF MINISTERS' FORUM

10. The Honourable Dato' Tang See Hang, Selangor State Executive Councillor presented the report and update of the 3rd IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum on 15th February 2007 at Trang Province, Thailand.

11. The IMT-GT JBC proposed that each country should organize at least 5 events/activities for the Visit IMT-GT Year 2008. The Forum agreed to the proposals made by the IMT-GT JBC.

The detailed report appears as Annex V.

12. A proposal was made by the IMT-GT JBC for contribution to Visit IMT-GT Year 2008 at least 5 events per country. The proposed events as informed by Indonesia are:

- 18th Krakatau Festival, 25-30 August 2008 at Lampung province
- Festival Dragon Boat, 15-17 November 2008 at Tanjung Pinang, Riau Island Province
- Traditional Food & Customs Festival 2008 at Batam, Riau Island Province
- Sumatera International Travel Fair, 30 May-2 June 2008, West Sumatera Province
- Festival Musi, 2008, Palembang / South Sumatera Province

The full report appears as Annex VI.

AGENDA ITEM 6: REPORT OF THE SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING BY CHAIRPERSON OF THE 14th SOM

13. The Honorable Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Deputy Secretary-General of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) of Thailand, as chairperson of the 14th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM), presented the report on the outcome of the 14th SOM held on 4-5 September 2007 in Songkhla Province. He was pleased to report on the fruitful discussion and agreement, particularly the

strengthened implementation of the IMT-GT Roadmap aimed at achieving the development vision of the IMT-GT subregion.

14. The 14th SOM has agreed to accept as new members of the IMT-GT the following provinces proposed by Thailand: Chumphon, Ranong, SuratThani, Krabi, PhangNga and Phuket. The SOM was pleased with the progress in establishing the Centre for IMT-GT Sub-regional Cooperation, which will enable the strengthening of coordination mechanisms and processes among IMT-GT institutions and the facilitation, implementation and monitoring of priority projects. The SOM is pleased with JBC's report on the progress of its current projects and noted JBC's decision for its Working Groups to be chaired by the lead country in accordance with the government Working Groups, on a two year trial period. The SOM requested the agencies from the member countries to look into and act on the issues raised by JBC which fall within their areas of concern.

15. The SOM expressed appreciation for the support from the ADB and the ASEAN Secretariat. ADB has expressed its willingness to support institutional strengthening and connectivity which are key elements of the IMT-GT Roadmap. The meeting noted that Singapore has agreed to host the 3rd IMT-GT Summit on 19 November 2007 as a parallel meeting of the 13th ASEAN Summit.

AGENDA ITEM 7: REPORT AND UPDATE OF IMT-GT JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL (JBC)

16. The Honorable Mr. Somkiat Anuras, Chairperson of the IMT-GT JBC, presented the report of the IMT-GT JBC to the 4th IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum. Arising from the previous JBC meeting held on 24-25 August 2007 in Perak, Malaysia., the JBC wishes to inform the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum that the Lead Country for each of the six JBC Working Groups will align itself with the lead Country of the Government Working Groups. JBC also wishes to inform the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum that IMT-GT further strives to encourage the participation of the business and government sectors in order to achieve goals set for projects such as the IMT-GT Plazas.

17. The JBC respectfully requested the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum to endorse, consider and facilitate a number of issues proposals, initiatives and projects.

18. With the exception of the bull-fighting and cock-fighting events, the Forum agreed to adopt the proposals of the JBC. They will do their best to provide the necessary support and facilitation for projects such as the IMT-GT Plaza and Visit IMT-GT Year 2008. The issue of the bull-fighting and cock-fighting will be discussed further. The issues raised by the JBC will be carefully examined and resolved.

Full report appears as Annex VII

AGENDA ITEM 8: CONCLUSION AND OTHER MATTERS

19. The Chairperson of the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum summarized the discussion of the meeting which acknowledged the report of the 14th SOM, and also endorsed the report of the IMT-GT JBC. The IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers realized the role to work closely with the central governments particularly with the National Secretariats and also to facilitate the JBC. The Forum will expedite the way to work and resolve the local issues particularly the cross-border facilities to foster economic and social activities. The Forum also welcomed initiatives both from national and regional level and expressed full support and commitment and look forward to co-organizing the Visit IMT-GT year 2008 Events as well as the establishment of the IMT-GT Plazas. The Forum also expressed its appreciation that in addition to business opportunities, more cultural and social events are created in the region. Likewise, Indonesia and Malaysia also expressed their full support for the new initiatives in the IMT-GT.

20. The date and venue of the 5th Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum of the IMT-GT will be held in conjunction with the 15th Ministerial and Senior Officials' Meeting either in Banda Aceh (Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam) or Palembang (South Sumatera Province) in Indonesia. JBC proposed to also organize the IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum back-to-back with the JBC Meetings. The Forum noted and considered their proposal.

AGENDA ITEM 9: CLOSING SESSION

21. The Honorable Dato' Tang See Hang, the Head of Malaysian Delegation expressed their appreciation to the host country for their warm welcome and hospitality to the delegates.

22. The Honorable alternate Head of Indonesian Delegation congratulated the host for the excellent preparations for the event. He expressed his eagerness to see everyone in the meeting in Indonesia next year in the 5th Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum.

23. The Honorable Mr. Somkiat Anuras, the Chairperson of the IMT-GT JBC urged continuous support for the JBC programmes and thanked for the opportunity to present their report to the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum.

24. In his concluding remarks, the Right Honorable Dr. Sondhi Tejanant, the Head of Thai Delegation and Chairperson of the Forum noted that the 4th Governors and Chief Ministers' forum has proved to be productive and is a critical venue for enabling the enhancement of sub-regional initiatives in IMT-GT. He noted that in order for the Forum to fully achieve its goals, it could be the Forum to welcome the activities both within IMT-GT countries and at the regional level. He urged the Forum to follow up the implementation of priority issues especially those prioritized projects under the IMT-GT Roadmap, by which there is a need to work closely between the Forum and the JBC. He supported that the Forum could facilitate the JBC by expediting their prioritized projects within the IMT-GT sub-region and to endorse priority issues within the proposed timeline.

**INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THAILAND
GROWTH TRIANGLE (IMT-GT)**

**THE 14TH IMT-GT
MINISTERIAL MEETING**

AGREED MINUTES

**Songkhla Province, Thailand
6 September 2007**

**AGREED MINUTES
INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THAILAND GROWTH TRIANGLE
14th MINISTERIAL MEETING
SONGKHLA, THAILAND
6 SEPTEMBER 2007**

INTRODUCTION

1. The 14th Ministerial Meeting (MM) of the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) was convened in Songkhla Province, Thailand on 6 September 2007. The Indonesian delegation was led by H.E. Police General Tan Sri Da'i Bachtiar, Special Envoy of The President of The Republic of Indonesia on Sub-regional Cooperation, and the delegation from Malaysia was headed by H.E. Dato' Seri Dr. Shahidan Kassim, Chief Minister of Perlis. The Thai delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Sawanit Kongsiri, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, who also acted as the Chairman of the 14th IMT-GT MM.

The full list of delegation is attached as **Annex I**.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING REMARKS BY GOVERNOR OF
SONGKHLA PROVINCE**

2. In his Opening Remarks, the Right Honorable Dr. Sondhi Tejanant, Governor of Songkhla Province, warmly welcomed all the distinguished delegates and extended his invitation to everyone to enjoy the sights of Songkhla. He noted that the Meeting would provide the opportunity to learn the progress of work of the IMT-GT Working Groups, Senior Officials and the Joint Business Council, as well as to discuss the strategy for the next five years under the IMT-GT Roadmap. He stressed that the Meeting would help build the foundation for a peaceful and prosperous IMT-GT sub-region, given the IMT-GT programme's clear focus on development cooperation. He noted the important role being played by development partners, namely the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the ASEAN Secretariat in strengthening IMT-GT collaborations. He wished the delegates a fruitful meeting, and hoped that clear ideas and frameworks for achieving a brighter future for the people of IMT-GT are exchanged.

The Opening Remarks of the Governor of Songkhla Province appears as **Annex II**.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: OPENING REMARKS BY HEADS OF
 DELEGATIONS FOR THE MM**

3. In his Opening Remarks, H.E. Mr. Sawanit Kongsiri, the Head of Thai Delegation, noted that IMT-GT cooperation has evolved into a more mature stage, with the expansion in its area coverage, the creation of new mechanisms to drive the cooperation process and the adoption of the IMT-GT Roadmap for 2007-2011, which was developed with ADB support. The implementation of the Roadmap, whose endorsement by the Leaders marked a milestone, would require unwavering commitment of IMT-GT stakeholders and should take into account the challenges of globalization, economic cycles and disasters, and the fact that the IMT-GT is a component of the larger ASEAN framework. He stressed the important role of peace and security in bringing prosperity to the people, and called on the IMT-GT countries to join hands in ensuring peace and calm prevail through by speeding up cooperation and making development impacts more felt. He highlighted some of the promising areas of cooperation that would help enhance competitiveness and attract investments to the subregion, such as: in tourism, to integrate attractive destinations for sub-regional marketing promotion; on halal products and services, to boost cooperation with Thailand which offering its expertise in halal science and laboratory for standard certification; and in energy trade and investment, citing the Thai-Malaysian Gas Pipeline from the Joint Development Area (JDA) in the Gulf of Thailand. He stressed that with the spirit of IMT-GT cooperation growing, continued commitment to the programme would help realize the IMT-GT's common vision and goal of a seamless, progressive, prosperous and peaceful Growth Triangle. This commitment could be translated into action through the vigorous implementation of the IMT-GT Roadmap for Development.

The Opening Remarks of the H.E. Mr. Sawanit Kongsiri appears as **Annex III**.

4. In his Opening Remarks, H.E. Police General Tan Sri Da'i Bachtiar, the Head of Indonesian Delegation extended his sincere appreciation for the excellent hospitality he received in Songkhla. He noted that the Meeting today proves the commitment of the three member countries to the development and integration of the economies in this sub-region, which in the face of globalization, requires the member countries to enhance the mobility of goods and people. He

stressed the importance of promoting public-private partnership in the IMT-GT, expressed appreciation to the JBC for making its voice heard, and urged greater private sector participation in IMT-GT activities. He underscored the vital role of the new Working Groups in identifying, prioritizing and implementing doable projects. Within the ASEAN framework to build a Community, the IMT-GT members must share common ground such as through a Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) in the labor sector. In view of the many challenges, he urged closer collaboration between all stakeholders, particularly in carrying out the programmes and projects in the IMT-GT Roadmap 2007-2011. He noted the progress achieved in various sectors, and stressed that the enhancement of connectivity is an important strategy in support of greater mobility of people and goods and promotion of trade and tourism. He urged more supports for improving connectivity through greater participation of the transport sector and local governments. He commended the dialogue between Governors and the private sector, and noted that closer contacts between policy makers and business people would lead to concrete benefits to the sub-region. He hoped the meeting would be fruitful and lead to stronger commitment to cooperation.

The Opening Remarks of H.E. Police General Tan Sri Da'i Bachtiar appears as **Annex IV.**

5. In his Opening remarks, H.E. Dato' Seri Dr. Shahidan Kassim, the Head of Malaysian Delegation, extended his heartfelt appreciation to the host for the efficient and smooth conduct of the IMT-GT meetings. He noted that 2007 marks a challenging first year in the implementation of the IMT-GT Roadmap, and was pleased to announce the launch by the Malaysian Government of the Northern Corridor Economic Region (NCER) in July 2007, with the theme "increasing value add-on from existing industries" emphasizing transformation and expansion of the agricultural, manufacturing, tourism and logistics sectors in the region. He urged the Working Groups to identify IMT-GT initiatives that can ride on this programme. He was also pleased to announce the establishment of the Centre for IMT-GT Sub-regional Cooperation (CIMI) in August 2007, which would strengthen coordination mechanisms and consultation processes among IMT-GT institutions in the sub-region. As the responsibilities of the CIMI are monumental, he urged stakeholders in the IMT-GT, both public and private, to provide full support and cooperation to CIMI. He noted that with the restructuring of the Working Groups, delivery mechanisms in the IMT-GT programme and projects are expected to be improved. He reminded that initiatives under IMT-GT are very much in-line with the aspirations of the ASEAN Economic Community, and

cautioned on the need to ensure that the pace of our development remains sustainable, taking into account the impacts of global climate change. He concluded by expressing optimism that the IMT-GT programme is moving into a more exciting phase and welcomed the six provinces in Southern Thailand as new members. He proposed renaming IMT-GT into Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Golden Corridor (IMT-GC) since the sub-region is no longer shaped as a triangle with many more states and provinces have since joined as members of IMT-GT.

The Opening Remarks of H.E. Dato' Seri Dr. Shahidan Kassim appears as **Annex V**.

AGENDA ITEM 3: ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

6. H.E. Mr. Sawanit Kongsiri, the Head of Thai Delegation to the Ministerial Meeting, was elected as Chairperson of the 14th IMT-GT Ministerial Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 4: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

7. The Meeting considered and adopted the Agenda which appears as **Annex VI**.

AGENDA ITEM 5: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

8. The Meeting was held in plenary. The programme of the Meeting appears as **Annex VII**.

AGENDA ITEM 6: REPORT OF THE 14TH SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING

9. The Hon. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, the Head of Thai Delegation to the SOM, and Chairperson of the 14th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the IMT-GT presented the Report of the 14th SOM for the consideration of the Ministers. He was pleased to note the enhancement in IMT-GT cooperation since last year and discussed the major new developments such as the acceptance of 6 provinces of Thailand as new members (Chumphon, Ranong, SuratThani, Krabi, PhangNga and Phuket), the streamlining of IMT-GT Working Groups to better implement the Roadmap, and the establishment of the Centre for IMT-GT Sub-regional Cooperation (CIMT) to facilitate coordination and implementation of prioritized sub-regional initiatives. The meeting also expressed appreciation to

the JBC for the substantial accomplishments and requested the Working Groups to look into the issues raised by the JBC. The SOM Chairperson then gave the highlights of the reports of the 6 Working Groups,

10. The SOM Chairperson also reported that the Meeting also expressed appreciation to ADB for its support to IMT-GT, particularly in institutional strengthening and development of infrastructure and connectivity which are key elements of the IMT-GT Roadmap. The SOM looked forward to ADB support for institution building and developing economic connectivity corridors. Preparations for the 3rd IMT-GT Leaders' Summit is well underway with Singapore agreeing to host in parallel with the 13th ASEAN Summit on 19 November 2007. A draft of the Joint Summit Statement was circulated for comments and it was agreed that the Statement would be finalized in a National Secretariat Meeting to be hosted by Thailand in October 2007. It was also noted that the 13th ASEAN Summit in Singapore in November 2007 marks ASEAN's 40th year during which ASEAN is expected to endorse the ASEAN Charter making it a rules-based organization.

11. The SOM agreed to hold the next Meeting in either Banda Aceh or Palembang in Indonesia, at a date to be notified by the host later.

12. Indonesia commended the 14th SOM for presenting a very comprehensive and informative report to the Ministers. He noted that while cooperation among border areas in the sub-region has progressed, it should also be fostered between areas that do not share borders. He welcomed the new members which can enrich the cooperation. On human resources, he said that the IMT-GT cooperation to congregate the demand and supplies of employment could answer the challenge in this area. He had a view that through the Working Group on Human Resources Development, the opportunity would be opened for all relevant parties to meet in providing the necessary framework to facilitate traffic among IMT-GT sub-region. On infrastructure and transportation sector, he strongly recommended that the respective related agencies could generate the participation from the private transport companies that have capabilities to operate the sea and air linkage among IMT-GT points. He urged Tourism Working Group to strengthen and expedite their tourism activities and promotion to support the load factor requirement that become the strongest demand from the air operator to materialize their routes among IMT-GT sub-region. He also informed of the new investment law in Indonesia designed to attract new businesses. He hoped that public and private sectors work toward more effective mechanisms to facilitate trade in the sub-region.

13. Thailand proposed strengthening cooperation in a number of areas. In energy, in response to the persistence of high oil prices, it is beneficial to tap the resources available in the sub-region such as natural gas, bio-fuels and other alternative energy sources. On logistics systems, he stressed the need to accelerate connectivity, in terms of both hardware and software, through efficient air, sea and land transport links. He noted the potentials of Malaysia's plan for the development of the Northern Corridor Economic Region (NCER) and Thailand's new southern economic development plan. He said the Ranong-Phuket-Aceh corridor should be developed to further enhance connectivity in the subregion.

14. Mr. Somkiat Anuras, Chairman of the IMT-GT JBC announced the JBC's plan to launch the Visit IMT-GT Year 2008 with a programme in Hat Yai in January 2008, which will consist of a number of activities such as travel fairs, sports and cultural activities. He noted that performers from the three countries have been invited to the activities. Sports activities would include football, basketball and volleyball and sepak takraw, to be participated by teams all around the sub-region. The JBC also proposed cultural events to stimulate grassroots' interests and awareness of the activities to ensure their success. Malaysia said it would support the activities to be launched by the JBC, including dove singing competition but stressed it is not able to participate in the proposed bullfighting and cockfighting activities, since these two activities were traditionally associated to gambling.

15. The Meeting agreed to adopt the recommendations of the SOM. The full text of the Report of the 14th SOM of the IMT-GT is attached as **Annex VIII**.

AGENDA ITEM 7: REPORT OF THE 4th GOVERNORS AND CHIEF MINISTERS' FORUM

16. The Right Honourable Dr. Sondhi Tejanant, Governor of Songkhla Province and the Chairperson of the 4th IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum, presented the report of the Forum, which was convened in Songkhla Province, Thailand on 5 September 2007. The Indonesian delegation was led by the Right Honorable Eko Maulana Ali Msc, Governor of Bangka-Belitung Province and the delegation from Malaysia was headed by the Honorable Dato' Tang See Hang, State Executive Councilor, Selangor State Government. The

Forum acknowledged the report and update of the 3rd IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum, presented by the Head of Malaysian delegation, the highlights of which included the admission of 6 new provinces of Thailand, and support to the JBC proposals. The Forum noted the report of the Chairperson of the 14th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) and endorsed its findings and recommendations particularly with respect to the acceptance of new members from Thailand, the establishment of the CIMT and reorganization of the Working Groups, the new project proposals of the WGs, and agreements and preparations for the Third Leaders' Summit in Singapore in November 2007. The Meeting also noted the report of the JBC particularly with respect to the events and activities for the Visit IMT-GT Year 2008. The Meeting agreed to the JBC proposals with the exception of some events, and committed to provide support to the development of the IMT-GT Plazas and the organization of the Visit IMT-GT Year 2008. The Meeting agreed to hold the 5th Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum in either Banda Aceh or Palembang in Indonesia back-to-back with the 15th IMT-GT SOM.

17. Indonesia recommended strengthening the role of local governments in IMT-GT cooperation. He stressed that local governments should refer to the result of each Working Group and JBC outcomes to enable strengthening of the role of the local governments in IMT-GT sub-region. He said that conducive local regulations and policies are important to support and promote business initiatives. He also mentioned that support from central government is critical in supporting local business initiatives.

18. Malaysia informed of the improvements in its air and port transport facilities to enhance travel and tourism within the sub-region. He stressed the need to provide better support for the development of the economic corridors. Malaysia proposed to implement additional activities in conjunction with the Visit IMT-GT Year 2008, such as the International Convention of Two Cities in April 2008. He suggested that the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum retain its informal nature in the spirit of the earlier discussions that created it.

19. The Chairman of the Ministerial Meeting commended the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum on report and for proposing new initiatives and suggestions. As the Head of Thailand Delegation he agreed that the Halal product promotion should look into adopting standards of the Organization of Islamic Conferences (OIC) standard. He agreed with Malaysia's suggestion to keep the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum an informal one so that people

can be more open and direct in making their views known. He stressed however the need for the Forum to maintain its framework, with a clear agenda so that useful outcomes are obtained in its discussions. For greater chance of success, linkages between and among the SOM, the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum and the JBC should be strengthened.

20. The JBC noted the importance of establishing focal points between the JBC and Forum. He expressed concern on the slow pace of some initiatives such as the IMT-GT Plazas that could promote exchange of goods among the countries.

21. The MM adopted the report of the 4th IMT-GT Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum. The full text of the Report of the 4nd Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum appears as in **Annex IX**.

AGENDA ITEM 8: OTHER MATTERS

22. **Preparation of the 3rd IMT-GT Summit.** The Meeting took note of the draft Joint Statement for the Summit which was circulated for the consideration of the member countries. The Meeting agreed to the SOM proposal for the draft Joint Statement to be finalized in a National Secretariat Meeting in October 2007 and that comments are still welcomed in the meantime.

23. Mr. Kuniki Nakamori, Deputy Director General, Southeast Asia Department, ADB, expressed his great pleasure at participating in the Meeting, citing ADB's involvement in the Roadmap development equipping it with comprehensive familiarity with the IMT-GT family of which ADB is happy to be part of. He noted that ADB focused its resources in two areas: strengthening institutional capacities and coordination mechanisms, and facilitating development of economic connectivity corridors. He said ADB has proposed initiatives and studies to increase its analytical understanding of issues in transport, trade and investment, which will help benchmark its future position relative to the present, and provide empirical analysis to support policy dialogues. He hopes the Meeting will endorse these initiatives to continue development of the IMT-GT economic connectivity corridors. He reiterated ADB supports for capacity building and technical assistance to the Centre for IMT-GT Sub-regional Cooperation (CIMT) and the Working Groups to help them implement programmes under the Roadmap. He said ADB recognizes the vital role of the private sector in the development of the sub-region, and looked forward to

working with the latter in deepening private participation in investment and enhancing public-private partnerships.

24. Dr. Anish Kumar Roy, Director, Office of Coordination, Bureau of External Relations and Coordination of ASEAN Secretariat, welcomed the need for better synergies between IMT-GT and ASEAN as reiterated by the Heads of delegations in their Opening Statements. As ASEAN moves towards establishing an ASEAN Community by 2015, he said initiatives such as IMT-GT are vital to regional integration and narrowing development gaps. He agreed with the call of the Meeting for stronger cooperation in protecting the environment, and noted that the 13th ASEAN Summit is expected to sign a declaration providing a framework for cooperation between ASEAN, the international community and the private sector in promoting sustainable development. He said the ASEAN Leaders are expected to endorse an ASEAN Charter to make it a rules-based organization.

AGENDA ITEM 9: DATE AND VENUE OF 15TH MM

25. It was agreed that Indonesia would host the next IMT-GT Ministerial Meeting, back-to-back with the SOM, the Governors and Chief Ministers' Forum and the JBC meeting. The venue and date of the meeting would be announced by Indonesia later through the respective National Secretariat. Thailand and Malaysia expressed appreciation to Indonesia for the kind invitation.

AGENDA ITEM 10: CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 14th IMT-GT MM

26. The Ministers considered and adopted the Agreed Minutes of the 14th IMT-GT MM.

AGENDA ITEM 11: SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF THE 14th IMT-GT MM

27. The Ministers signed the Agreed Minutes of the 14th IMT-GT MM.

AGENDA ITEM 12: CLOSING

28. In his closing statement H.E. Police General Tan Sri Da'i Bachtiar, the Head of Indonesian delegation noted that the meeting succeeded in taking stock

of progress and setting the way forward in IMT-GT cooperation, and stressed the need for full commitment to enhancing public-private partnerships. He urged that the focus be in mobilizing resources to build on competitive strengths and creating jobs to improve the quality of life of the people and to realize the sub-region's potentials and make it a growth center of ASEAN. He thanked the host, the Government of Thailand and the Province of Songkhla, for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality.

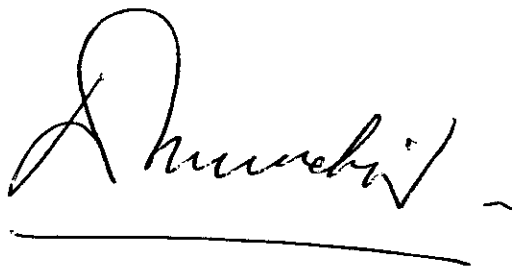
29. In his closing statement, H.E. Dato' Seri Dr. Shahidan Kassim, the Head of Malaysian delegation thanked the Government of Thailand and the Province of Songkhla for graciously hosting the Meeting and for providing excellent arrangements and warm hospitality accorded to all delegates. He commended the delegates for tackling the issues well and providing new directions to enhance cooperation and achieve the subregion's development vision. He welcomed the new members of IMT-GT composed of 6 provinces in Thailand, which would provide a bigger market for the business sector in the sub-region. He said that the people of the sub-region are waiting for tangible results and enjoined everyone to do their best in promoting equitable development in the sub-region.

30. In his concluding remarks, H.E. Mr. Sawanit Kongsiri, the Head of Thai delegation as the MM Chairperson noted that the Meeting has been a productive one and succeeded in identifying new areas for expanding cooperation endeavors, reflecting the strong spirit of partnership in the area. He encouraged all members to follow up on the issues raised to obtain the desired results. He encouraged the private and public sectors to work together in exchanging views and developing business linkages. He wished the CIMT success in its work and thanked the Ministers and all delegates and the Secretariat for contributing to the Meeting's success. He said Thailand looks forward to enhancing cooperation among the member countries and the support of the development partners. He concluded by thanking the Heads of delegation of Indonesia and Malaysia for their support and invited everyone to the press conference which would be held after the Meeting.

Done in Songkhla Province, Thailand on 6 September 2007



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H.E. Mr. Sawanit Kongsiri
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
Head of Thai Delegation
THAILAND



.....
H.E. Police General Tan Sri Da'i Bachtiar
Special Envoy of the President of the Republic of Indonesia
on Cooperation with Countries in East ASEAN Growth Area Region
Head of Indonesian Delegation
INDONESIA



.....
H.E. Dato' Seri Dr. Shahidan Kassim
Chief Minister of Perlis
Head of Malaysian Delegation
MALAYSIA