



**THE SIXTH AEM-RUSSIA CONSULTATIONS
11 September 2017, Pasay City, Philippines**

JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

1. Economic Ministers from ten ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation (“the Ministers”) met on 11 September 2017 in Pasay City, Philippines, for the Sixth AEM-Russia Consultations. The Consultations were co-chaired by H.E. Ramon M. Lopez, Secretary of Trade and Industry of the Philippines, and H.E. Alexey Gruzdev, Deputy Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, representing H.E. Maxim Oreshkin, Minister of Economic Development, the Russian Federation.
2. Russia congratulated ASEAN on its 50th Anniversary, which marked a historic milestone in ASEAN’s deepening regional integration. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen economic cooperation towards shared prosperity and inclusive growth.
3. The Ministers noted the performance of merchandise trade between ASEAN and Russia which, according to ASEAN statistics, reached USD 12 billion in 2016, accounting for 0.5 per cent of ASEAN’s total merchandise trade. Foreign direct investment (FDI) flows from Russia to ASEAN reached USD 60 million in 2016.
4. The Ministers were pleased with the progress made in the implementation of the Post-2015 ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Work Programme, including the annual AEM-Russia Consultations, the SEOM-Russia Consultations, and various activities in the areas of science and technology, agriculture products, energy, MSMEs, transport, and tourism.
5. With the view to enhance and widen cooperation between ASEAN and Russia, the Ministers were pleased to endorse the revised ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Roadmap, along with its Post-2017 ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Work Programme which was built upon positive developments made under the Post-2015 Work Programme.
6. The Ministers discussed the progress of Russia’s proposal to launch a joint feasibility study of a possible free trade area between ASEAN and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) and requested the Senior Economic Officials to further discuss the necessary steps in moving forward this proposal, including building confidence through policy dialogues and existing activities under the Post-2017 ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Work Programme. The Ministers looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between ASEAN and the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), which is aimed at promoting economic cooperation and collaboration between ASEAN and EAEU. The Ministers also welcomed the proposal on convening the workshop on “Regional Economic Integration in the EAEU” to increase ASEAN’s understanding of the EAEU and vice versa.

LIST OF MINISTERS

1. **H.E. Paduka Lim Jock Hoi**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam (representing The Hon. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam);
2. **H.E. Sok Sopheap**, Under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia (representing H.E. Pan Sorasak, Minister of Commerce, Cambodia);
3. **Mr. Iman Pambagyo**, Director General of International Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia (representing H.E. Enggartiasto Lukita, Minister of Trade, Indonesia);
4. **Dr. Laohoua Cheuching**, Director General of Foreign Trade Policy, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR (representing H.E. Mrs. Khemmani Pholsena, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR);
5. **Datuk Seri J. Jayasiri**, Secretary General of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia (representing, H.E. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia);
6. **H.E. Kyaw Win**, Union Minister of Planning and Finance, Myanmar;
7. **H.E. Ramon M. Lopez**, Secretary of Trade and Industry, the Philippines;
8. **H.E. Alexey Gruzdev**, Deputy Minister of Economic Development, the Russian Federation (representing H.E. Maxim Oreshkin, Minister of Economic Development, the Russian Federation);
9. **Mr. Loh Khum Yean**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore (representing H.E. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry (Trade), Singapore);
10. **Mr. Boonyarit Kalayanamit**, Director General, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce, Thailand (representing H.E. Mrs. Apiradi Tantraporn, Minister of Commerce, Thailand);
11. **Mr. Luong Hoang Thai**, Director General, Multilateral Trade Policy Department, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam (representing H.E. Tran Tuan Anh, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam);
12. **H.E. Lim Hong Hin**, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community (representing H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN).