

JOINT STATEMENT

**THE THIRD ASEAN PLUS JAPAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON TRANSNATIONAL
CRIME (3RD AMMTC + JAPAN) CONSULTATION**

Manila, Philippines, 21 September 2017

1. We, the Ministers of ASEAN Member States and Japan responsible for handling transnational crime matters, convened the Third ASEAN Plus Japan Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (3rd AMMTC + Japan) Consultation on 21 September 2017 in Manila, Philippines. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Dato Hamdan Abu Bakar, Deputy Minister at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam and H.E. Hachiro Okonogi, Minister of State, Chairperson of the National Public Safety Commission of Japan.
2. We took note of the outcomes of the Fourteenth ASEAN Plus Japan Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (14th SOMTC + Japan) Consultation held in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 25 May 2017 and the Preparatory SOMTC + Japan for the 3rd AMMTC + Japan Consultation in Manila, Philippines, on 18 September 2017.
3. The Ministers of ASEAN Member States expressed appreciation to the Government of Japan for their generous contribution in supporting ASEAN Member States' efforts in combating transnational crime through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) 2.0, including by regularly convening the ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism (AJCT) Dialogue, ASEAN-Japan Cybercrime (AJCC) Dialogue and the cooperation initiatives implemented under these frameworks.
4. We exchanged views on issues of mutual interest relating to ASEAN - Japan cooperation in countering terrorism and transnational crime including on the need to further strengthen the existing cooperation.
5. We reaffirmed our commitment in fighting terrorism and further strengthen our efforts to prevent and combat transnational crime.
6. We emphasized the importance of addressing humanitarian concern of the international community, such as the abduction issue.
7. We took note of the progress made to implement the SOMTC + Japan Work Plan for Cooperation to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime (2015-2017) and

looked forward to the development of the SOMTC – Japan Work Plan for Cooperation to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime (2018-2022) to renew our commitment and further strengthen our efforts to prevent and combat terrorism and transnational crime.

8. We welcomed the kind offer by Myanmar to host the 4th AMMTC + Japan Consultation in 2018.
9. We expressed our deep appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of the Philippines for their warm welcome and the generous hospitality accorded to us and our respective delegations, as well as for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.
