



JOINT STATEMENT

ELEVENTH INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THAILAND GROWTH TRIANGLE SUMMIT

28 APRIL 2018, SINGAPORE

1. We, the Leaders of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Kingdom of Thailand, meet today in Singapore on the occasion of the 11th Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) Summit under Thailand's Chairmanship.
2. We commend the long-standing subregional cooperation as we celebrate the IMT-GT 25th anniversary. We acknowledge the significant progress of the economic cooperation evidenced from the average annual economic growth of 4.8 percent for the period 2012-2016. Per capita GDP also increased from US\$11,508 in 2011 to US\$14,557 in 2016. Furthermore, the unemployment rate and poverty incidence in the IMT-GT continue to decline.
3. We firmly believe that development of infrastructure connectivity is the key to ensuring continuous and sustainable economic development of the subregion that will contribute towards the realisation of the IMT-GT Vision 2036. We call for active involvement of all IMT-GT stakeholders to accelerate the implementation of the Physical Connectivity Projects (PCPs), and initiatives on the IMT-GT Sixth Corridor linking Pattani-Yala-Narathiwat in Thailand with Perak and Kelantan in Malaysia. We encourage the establishment of the Project Implementation Teams to expedite the Implementation Blueprint (IB) 2017-2021 projects and enhance IMT-GT economic competitiveness.
4. We commend the success of the Chief Ministers and Governors' Forum's Green City Action Plans (GCAPs) in Melaka, Songkhla, Hat Yai, Batam and Medan. Through GCAPs, IMT-GT is able to play an active role in addressing global issues on sustainable development and climate change by having successful projects on energy efficiency such as that in Melaka and environmental participatory management in Thailand. We welcome the Sustainable Urban Development Framework (SUDF) and look forward to the launching of SUDF in the Ministerial Meeting in September 2018. We are committed to finance green initiatives to support GCAP projects.
5. We acknowledge the completion of the Tourism Strategic Framework (TSF) 2017-2036 and the Action Plan 2017-2021. The TSF will enhance tourism by pursuing sustainable, inclusive and competitive cross-border circuits and routes in the subregion. We encourage relevant IMT-GT stakeholders and private sector, especially the IMT-GT Joint Business Council (JBC) to support tourism activities along those circuits and routes. We look forward to the creation of new cruise routes linking Sabang, Langkawi, Penang, Satun, Krabi, Phuket and Samui with international cruise destinations beyond IMT-GT.

6. We encourage the timely revision of the IMT-GT Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Air Linkages to further improve air connectivity and to facilitate tourism and trade. We task the Ministers to establish a task force to fast track the formulation of action plans on air linkage networking involving relevant private sector and airline operators with the aim to operate new entry points and routes. We recognise the importance of promoting e-commerce development and cooperation as well as the enhancement of digital economy usage and welcome the establishment of a new Sub-Working Group on ICT Connectivity.
7. We welcome the steady progress on human resource development that will enable IMT-GT to enhance the adaptability and competitiveness to increase mobility of its workforce. We commend the effort for standardised data compilation on labour market demand and supply, and the various joint capacity building programmes. We also welcome the implementation of the IMT-GT University Network Strategic Action Plan for collaboration among universities, local governments, private sector and local communities. This is to enhance growth and productivity focusing on sustainable economic and inclusive social transformation; innovative applied research; and solution for sustainable communities. We congratulate the MOU between relevant IMT-GT universities for collaboration on the Super Fruit Project that illustrates the importance of value added agriculture production through technology transfer cooperation.
8. We underscore the importance of collaboration on agricultural projects and capacity building programme in IMT-GT. The success of these programmes, such as the SurathRed Goat and other projects, will be an important milestone in achieving the priority subregional goal of sustainable, inclusive and innovative agriculture sector and to strengthen food security. We also encourage the implementation of the Young Farmer Training Programme to promote the participation of youths and new entrepreneurs in the subregion.
9. We agree to further enhance trade facilitation by expediting the conclusion and implementation of IMT-GT Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Cooperation Framework as well as initiatives on IMT-GT Time Release on Cargo Clearance. We welcome the establishment of the Sub-Working Group on IMT-GT Trade, Investment and Tourism Database to develop a database for the monitoring and evaluation.
10. We agree to accelerate the development of and cooperation among the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to foster subregional value chains such as the Songkhla and Narathiwat SEZ and Kota Perdana Special Border Economic Zone as well as the plan to connect with the new proposed SEZs in Arun, Tanjung Api-Api and Sei Mangkei. These projects will complement and further enhance the establishment of SEZs. We also welcome the efforts in linking the value chains of the subregional rubber industry through ongoing projects such as the Songkhla and Kedah Rubber Cities.
11. We emphasise the importance of promoting Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises expansion in the subregion through the reactivation of IMT-GT Business Centres. We are pleased that the IMT-GT Plazas in Bukit Bunga, Malaysia and in Pekanbaru, Indonesia are expected to be completed in 2019 as the first two IMT-GT Business Centres. We also look forward to the convening of the 4th IMT-GT & BIMP-EAGA Trade Expo, which will be held in Songkhla, Thailand in July 2018.

12. We recognise that IMT-GT aims to be the centre of excellence for trade and knowledge in halal products and services through strengthening the capacity and capability of local industries; empowering human capital development; crafting same level playing fields to maximise benefit gained from each country; and minimising trade barriers. In this regard, we strongly urge Senior Officials and all relevant agencies to expedite the finalisation of mutual recognition on halal logos.
13. We appreciate the continuous active participation of the private sector in the implementation of PCPs and other projects under the IB2017-2021. We also acknowledge the crucial role of local governments and JBC in supporting collaborative development and implementation of IMT-GT projects.
14. We appreciate Asian Development Bank's (ADB) strategic advice, technical support, and capacity building programmes. We recognise ADB's assistance in preparing the TSF as well as the implementation of the Green Cities Initiative. Going forward, we urge to further strengthen collaboration with ADB as our Regional Development Partner. We request ADB, among others, to continue supporting the development of green cities, special economic zones, economic corridors, capacity building, and supporting links with ASEAN.
15. We recognise the importance of the IMT-GT as a building bloc of the ASEAN Community. We look forward to continuing our constructive engagement in contributing to the ASEAN Community Vision 2025. In this regard, we look forward to further collaboration between the Centre for IMT-GT Subregional Cooperation (CIMT) and ASEAN Secretariat.
16. We appreciate the important role of CIMT in facilitating the implementation of projects and programmes as well as monitoring progress towards achieving targets in the IMT-GT Vision 2036 and IB2017-2021. To this end, we emphasise that CIMT work closely with the Working Groups and other relevant stakeholders.
17. We express our gratitude to the Government of Singapore as our host and for their warm hospitality and to the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand for the excellent arrangements and chairmanship for the 11th IMT-GT Summit.

Singapore
28 April 2018

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