



JOINT STATEMENT

THE FOURTEENTH ASEAN PLUS THREE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME (14TH AMMTC + 3) CONSULTATION

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 29 August 2024

1. The Fourteenth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (14th AMMTC + 3) Consultation was convened in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 29 August 2024 and chaired by Lao PDR, under the theme “ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience”.
2. We acknowledged the outcomes of the Twenty-first ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (21st SOMTC + 3) Consultation convened in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 27 June 2024; the Third ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs Meeting Plus Three (3rd DGICM + 3) Consultation convened in Nha Trang, Viet Nam on 15 August 2024; and the Preparatory SOMTC + 3 for the 14th AMMTC + 3 Consultation convened in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 27 August 2024.
3. We welcomed the co-chairing mechanism for subsidiaries under the AMMTC + 3 Consultation, in alignment with the practice of the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials’ Meeting (APT SOM). We recognised that this practice would support ASEAN Centrality and streamline collaboration between the AMMTC and its subsidiaries and the Plus Three countries. We further welcomed the transfer of coordinator of the Plus Three countries from the Republic of Korea (ROK) to Japan, following the Ninth Trilateral Summit held in Seoul, the ROK on 27 May 2024.
4. We commended the adoption of the SOMTC + 3 Work Plan on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime (2024-2027) in 2023, as the first work plan under the SOMTC + 3 Consultation framework, to streamline law enforcement cooperation as well as to complement the transnational crime component of the APT Cooperation Work Plan 2023-2027. We looked forward to its full and effective implementation.
5. We welcomed the extension of the implementation period of the DGICM + 3 Work Programme from 2023-2024 to 2027, to align it with the APT Cooperation Work Plan 2023-2027. We looked forward to the effective implementation of the Work Programme to enhance cooperation among ASEAN and the Plus Three countries on border management and immigration matters.

6. We exchanged views on ways to advance APT cooperation in the fight against transnational crime, including but not limited to terrorism, cybercrime, trafficking in persons (TIP) and online and telephone fraud, to achieve a safe and secure region contributing to more robust economic development.
7. We welcomed the kind offer from Malaysia to host the 15th AMMTC + 3 Consultation in 2025.
8. We conveyed our sincere gratitude to the government of Lao PDR, particularly the Ministry of Public Security for the warm hospitality extended to us and our delegations, as well as for the outstanding arrangements made for this Consultation under the traditional ASEAN spirit of solidarity and cordiality.
