



JOINT STATEMENT

THE FIFTEENTH ASEAN PLUS THREE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME (15TH AMMTC + 3) CONSULTATION

Melaka, Malaysia, 11 September 2025

1. The Fifteenth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (15th AMMTC + 3) Consultation was held in Melaka, Malaysia, on 11 September 2025, and chaired by Malaysia, under the theme “Inclusivity and Sustainability.”
2. We acknowledged the outcomes of the Twenty-Second ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (22nd SOMTC + 3) Consultation convened in Putrajaya, Malaysia, on 26 June 2025, the Fourth ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs Meeting Plus Three (4th DGICM + 3) Consultation convened in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 14 August 2025; and the Preparatory SOMTC + 3 for the 15th AMMTC + 3 Consultation convened in Melaka, Malaysia, on 9 September 2025.
3. We exchanged views on practical cooperation and measures that could be further explored and undertaken to advance ASEAN Plus Three (APT) cooperation in addressing the complex and ever-evolving challenges of transnational crime, border management and immigration. In this regard, we recognised the importance of enhancing collaboration in key areas, including but not limited to trafficking in persons (TIP), terrorism, cybercrime and online scams, including telecommunication fraud, with a view to building a safer and more secure region.

4. We shared a common understanding of the threat posed by cybercrime and online scams, including telecommunication fraud, to regional and global security. We underlined the importance of promoting closer information exchange in support of law enforcement efforts to dismantle criminal syndicates and networks, as well as seize criminal proceeds, including those converted into digital currencies, such as cryptocurrencies.
5. We encouraged the full and effective implementation of the SOMTC Plus Three Work Plan on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime (2024–2027) and the DGICM Plus Three Work Programme (2023–2027). We underscored the importance of strengthening and streamlining ASEAN Plus Three law enforcement cooperation in combatting various forms of transnational crime and in the areas of border management and immigration, thereby strengthening our collective capacity to address shared challenges in these domains.
6. We welcomed the kind offer by the Republic of the Philippines to host the 16th AMMTC + 3 Consultation in 2026.
7. We conveyed our sincere gratitude to the Government of Malaysia for the warm hospitality accorded to us and our respective delegations, including the excellent arrangements made for this Consultation, which was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of solidarity and cordiality.
