**2 The 6th ASEAN Digital Ministers' Meeting and Related Meetings
Ha Noi, Viet Nam, 15 to 16 January 2026**

JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

The 6th ASEAN Digital Ministers Meeting (ADGMIN) was held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam from 15 to 16 January 2026. His Excellency Mr. Nguyen Manh Hung, Minister of Science and Technology of Viet Nam, chaired the Meeting with His Excellency Mr. Pengiran Dato Shamhary Mustapha, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications of Brunei Darussalam, as the Vice-Chair.

Theme "Adaptive ASEAN: From Connectivity to Connected Intelligence"

1.   The Meeting recognised the successful completion of the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025 (ADM 2025) and noted that ASEAN had put in tremendous efforts to implement the 82 approved projects undertaken to the eight desired outcomes of the masterplan in period of 2021 to 2025. These efforts have led to transform ASEAN into a leading digitally connected community and economic bloc powered by secure and transformative digital services, digital technologies and ecosystem. The completion report of the ADM 2025, highlighted significant outcomes and key achievements as well as provided recommendations for the development of the new masterplan.

2.   The Meeting welcomed the launch of the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2030 (ADM 2030), marking a new and ambitious chapter in ASEAN's digital transformation journey. This forward-looking masterplan sets a bold vision for ASEAN as an inclusive, trusted, and innovative digital community that empowers every citisen and business to thrive in the global digital economy. ADM 2030 reflects the strong and renewed commitment of all ASEAN Member States to elevate regional digital development through deeper cooperation, enhanced engagement, and collective action.

3.   Meeting welcomed the revision of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the ASEAN ICT Center and the ASEAN ICT Fund, which will henceforth operate as the ASEAN Digital Center and the ASEAN Digital Fund to becoming more adaptive and aligned with the ADGSOM and ATRC scope of work. The Meeting also welcomed the revision of the ASEAN TELSOM/ATRC Project Implementation and Funding Management Manual (ATPMM) into the ADGSOM/ATRC Project Administration and Funding Management Manual (APAMM), establishing an updated, and streamlined mechanism to enhance efficiency, transparency, and accountability in the administration of ASEAN digital projects and funding processes.

4.   The Meeting endorsed 17 projects for implementation in the 2026 ADGSOM Work Cycle. The projects reflect ASEAN Member States' collective efforts as we work towards the vision of the ADM 2030, thereby setting a renewed trajectory to strengthen regional digital initiatives and affirming the region's recognition of digital transformation as a vital catalyst for economic resilience, societal well-being, and sustainable development.

5.   The Meeting noted the progress of the Working Group on AI Governance (WG-AI), which supports ADGSOM in its role as the lead ASEAN sectoral body coordinating and advising on AI matters, and serves as the focal point for ASEAN's engagement on AI with

relevant stakeholders, including Dialogue and Development Partners and industry, through public–private dialogue and capacity-building activities on AI governance, building on the ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics (2024) and the Expanded ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics - Generative AI (2025). The adoption of the Declaration on the Establishment of the ASEAN AI Safety Network at the 47th ASEAN Leaders' Summit affirms the strong commitment and collaboration among ASEAN Member States to operationalise the Network in alignment and complementarity with WG-AI and other relevant regional initiatives.

6.   The Meeting welcomed the Enhanced ASEAN Guidelines for Strengthening Resilience and Repair of Submarine Cables, which provides best practices to expedite submarine cable repairs through streamlined processes and enhance cable protection in accordance to the principles of the United Nation's Convention on the Law of the Seas 1982 (UNCLOS 1982). The Meeting also welcomed the Working Group on Submarine Cables' (WG-SC) continued efforts to support practical implementation of the Enhanced Guidelines through information-sharing and capacity building engagements.

7.   The Meeting noted the ongoing efforts at the Working Group on Digital Data Governance (WG-DDG) and the ASEAN Data Protection and Privacy Forum to facilitate cross-border data flows in ASEAN, including promoting the adoption of the ASEAN Model Contractual Clauses, the operationalisation of the Global Cross-Border Privacy Rules (CBPR) and Global Privacy Recognition for Processors (PRP) Systems, and raising awareness of Privacy Enhancing Technologies.

8.   The Meeting welcomed the ASEAN Guide on Anti-Scam Policies and Best Practices, which provides practical guidance for governments, telecommunications regulators, and the industry in ASEAN to adopt recommended anti-scam measures, share scam-related information, and strengthen protection for public and industry resilience against scam calls and SMS.

9.   The Meeting underscored the urgent need for collective actions to effectively prevent and combat the threat of scams over digital and telecommunication channels, particularly through the Working Group on Anti-Online Scams (WG-AS), to safeguard public safety, economic security, and trust in digital infrastructure.

10.   The Meeting welcomed the Guidelines for Digital Platform Regulation in ASEAN as regional recommendations that provide practical, future-ready guidance to strengthen trust, safeguard consumers and digital users, enhance governance, transparency and fairness and promote sustainable growth across ASEAN.

11.   The Meeting noted the project implementation of the Public-Private Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence that is supported by the ASEAN-ICT Fund. The project successfully incorporates perspectives from key industry actors and provides recommendations that are designed as adaptable guidance rather than prescriptive frameworks, allowing ASEAN Member States (AMS) to select actions suited to their individual priorities, institutional readiness, and levels of technological maturity.

12.   The Meeting emphasised the importance of the ASEAN Digital Award, ASEAN Cyberkids Camp, ASEAN Cyber Shield (ACS), as annual platforms that empower our

communities and enhance the capacities of businesses and peoples in developing digital skills and talents.

13. The Meeting commended the progress of 5G deployment in each AMS. The Meeting further welcomed the ATRC's regional efforts toward mobile roaming tariff reduction, spectrum management and coordination, exploring the feasibility of establishing an ASEAN internet exchange network, and studying low-carbon emissions in telecommunications infrastructure and support the establishment of the ASEAN Working Group on Telecommunication Infrastructure (WG-TI) to advance the initiatives.

14. The Meeting also welcomed the progress made towards the operationalisation of the ASEAN Regional CERT, following the 2nd ASEAN Regional CERT Taskforce Meeting held in Singapore on 26 August 2025 under Malaysia's Coordinatorship. The ASEAN Regional CERT Information Sharing Mechanism has successfully onboarded all AMS and the ASEAN Secretariat onto the operational platform since May 2025. The ASEAN Regional CERT serves to strengthen regional cyber resilience through timely information exchanges and the sharing of best practices among ASEAN Member States on cyber threats and attacks. It serves as a dedicated platform for in-person activities, including cyber exercises and CERT-to-CERT capacity building programs, to promote cohesive collaboration across ASEAN.

15. The Meeting adopted the Ha Noi Digital Declaration on Adaptive ASEAN: From Connectivity to Connected Intelligence, recognising the critical importance of cybersecurity, innovation, and inclusivity in building a resilient and prosperous digital future for ASEAN. The Meeting also emphasised the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2030 as a framework for engaging with ASEAN Dialogue Partners and International Organisations on digital cooperation initiatives.

DIGITAL COOPERATION WITH ASEAN DIALOGUE PARTNERS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

16. The Meeting looked forward to deepening cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners and International Organisations to strengthen partnerships that leverage expertise and resources in advancing ASEAN's digital agenda and promoting ASEAN's digital standards and best practices on the global stage.

17. The Meeting acknowledged the Chairman's Statement of the 28th China–ASEAN Summit held in October 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which underscored the importance of strengthening exchanges and cooperation between ASEAN and China in the field of AI, and encouraged the concrete implementation of the *ASEAN-China Joint Statement on Facilitating Cooperation in Building a Sustainable and Inclusive Digital Ecosystem*. The Meeting expressed appreciation to China for the progress made on the Action Plan for Implementing the ASEAN-China Partnership on Digital Economy (2021-2025) and the 2025 ASEAN-China Digital Work Plan. The Meeting further noted the establishment of the *China-ASEAN AI Industry Innovation Center* and the *China-ASEAN Digital Academy*, and the ongoing development of the Joint Guide on the *Mapping of the ASEAN MCCs and China's Standard Contractual Clauses for Cross Border Data Flows*. Additionally, the Meeting endorsed the *Action Plan for China-ASEAN Cooperation on Building a Sustainable and Inclusive Digital*

Ecosystem (2026–2030), and *ASEAN-China Digital Work Plan for 2026* focusing on policy and strategy alignment, digital infrastructure, open-sources, digital security and trust.

18.   The Meeting expressed appreciation to Japan for the progress made on the ASEAN-Japan Digital Work Plan 2025. The Meeting also welcomed the ASEAN-Japan Digital Work Plan 2026, which focuses on: (i) AI and digital policy; (ii) cybersecurity; (iii) digital infrastructure and digital transformation; and (iv) cooperation and coordination. Furthermore, the meeting welcomed the advancement of ASEAN-Japan cooperation on AI and adopted the ASEAN–Japan Digital Ministers' Joint Statement on Promoting Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence, which focuses on: (i) governance; (ii) AI development and digital Infrastructure; (iii) capacity building and human resource development; (iv) co-creation of AI solutions; (V) inclusive and trustworthy AI; and (vi) digital solidarity and economic development.

19.   The meeting commended the Republic of Korea (ROK) for its commitment to advancing digital cooperation with ASEAN, and acknowledged the successful implementation of the ASEAN-ROK Digital Work Plan 2025, particularly the completion of the ASEAN Cyber Shield Project, which has strengthened cybersecurity resilience across ASEAN as well as the progress of the Korea-ASEAN Digital Innovation Flagship (KADIF) Projects. The meeting welcomed the ASEAN-ROK Digital Work Plan 2026, which includes continued implementation of the KADIF Projects aimed at establishing a strong AI foundation, strengthening human capacity, and promoting the utilisation of AI. The meeting also expressed its expectations of further enhancing cooperation in the areas of AI safety and regional cybersecurity.

20.   The Meeting acknowledged the adoption of the ASEAN–India Joint Statement on Advancing Digital Transformation at the 21st ASEAN-India Summit on 10 October 2024 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, aimed at strengthening cooperation on Digital Public Infrastructure, Financial Technology, Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing, and Sustainable Financing and Investment. The Meeting also noted the progress made in implementing the cooperation activities in the ASEAN-India 2025 Digital Work Plan through capacity-building programs. Additionally, the Meeting welcomed the ASEAN-India Digital Work Plan for 2026, which includes the themes: (i) ICT training / ICT capacity-building programs; and (ii) the India-ASEAN Regulators' Conference and (iii) deployment of telecom ICT solutions. The Meeting also welcomed operationalisation of a special 'ASEAN-India Fund for Digital Future'.

21.   The Meeting welcomed the substantial progress of the ASEAN-U.S. Work Plan 2023-2025, which includes the ASEAN-U.S. 2025 Digital Work Plan priorities, such as: (i) artificial intelligence (AI); (ii) cybersecurity; (iii) undersea cables; (iv) cloud computing; (v) combatting online scams; and (vi) supporting the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA) negotiations and its eventual implementation. The Meeting noted the successful 6th ASEAN-US Cyber Policy Dialogue which was held on 21 October 2025 in Singapore and highlighted our shared priority to tackle online scams. The Meeting endorsed the ASEAN-U.S. 2026 Digital Work Plan, where priorities would be a continuation of the 2025 priorities, supporting the ASEAN-U.S. Joint Vision Statement for a Stronger, Safer, and More Prosperous ASEAN and America and furthering the ASEAN-U.S. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. The Meeting commended U.S. private-public sector collaboration to combat online scams, including through workshops providing technical assistance and formulating a set of public-private

partnership principles. The Meeting noted the ASEAN Workshop on Public-Private Partnership to Tackle Scams, held on 20 August 2025 in Bangkok, hosted by Thailand in collaboration with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy, U.S. Mission to ASEAN, US-ABC, and Meta. The meeting also noted the Google-led and U.S. Mission to ASEAN- supported September 2025 workshop in Singapore focused on technological approaches and partnerships to counter online scams. The workshops, under the ASEAN-U.S. 2025 Digital Work Plan, discussed regional responses to online scams and ways to enhance national and regional coordination.   The meeting acknowledged the significant potential of artificial intelligence driven by the U.S. public-private partnership.

22.   The Meeting expressed appreciation to Russia for its continued support, building on existing cooperation frameworks, and seizing the opportunities brought by the digital transformation. The Meeting noted the role of digital technologies in shaping economic and social development in ASEAN and Russia, emphasised the potential of collaborative action, and stressed the common challenges, such as digital divide. The Meeting has noted the priority collaboration areas with Russia, based on themes of ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025 and Comprehensive Plan of Action to Implement ASEAN-Russia Strategic Partnership (2021-2025). The Meeting look forward to cooperation with Russia under the endorsed 2026 ASEAN-Russia Digital Work Plan, which includes areas of cooperation such as: (i) Artificial Intelligence; (ii) e-government; (iii) Digital Economy; and (iv) Regional Digital Integration.

23.   The Meeting welcomed the deepening cooperation between ASEAN and the EU. It expressed appreciation to the EU for its support under the ASEAN-EU 2025 Digital Work Plan, which included the contribution to the first ASEAN AI Summit and to the ASEAN-UNESCO Multistakeholder Forum on the Governance of Digital Platforms. In addition, ASEAN Member States extended their appreciation of the ongoing Global Gateway projects SCOPE-Trade and SCOPE-Digital. The Meeting also welcomed the ASEAN-EU 2026 Digital Work Plan, including exchange and cooperation in secure and trusted connectivity, governance of AI, digital platforms and online scams, digital standards, digital trade and Earth observation. The EU-ASEAN Business Council also contributed to the meeting by presenting a report on ASEAN Responsible AI Ecosystem.

24.   The Meeting expressed appreciation to the ITU for its committed support towards advancing the development of the digital sector in ASEAN, in the implementation of ADM 2025, particularly on the co-operation towards regional implementation of the WSIS Process-including its Action Lines, GovStack Initiative through the ASEAN Digital Government Technical Framework, emerging technologies including 5G, AI standards, and efforts to strengthen the resilience of submarine telecommunication cables through the work of the International Advisory Body for Submarine Cables Resilience, as well as the direct assistance extended to individual ASEAN Member States to accelerate digital transformation. The Meeting welcomed the growing engagement of ASEAN Member States in the multi-stakeholders AI for Good platform as a means to promote inclusive, responsible, and human-centric applications of artificial intelligence. The Meeting welcomed the outcomes of the activities under the ASEAN-ITU Priority Cooperation Area 2024-2026 to further strengthen

cooperation between ASEAN and the ITU. The ITU is encouraged to propose the ASEAN-ITU Priority Cooperation Areas for the period 2027-2030 in line with ADM 2030, especially taking note of the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference -2025 (WTDC-2025), Asia Pacific Regional Initiatives (ASP-RIs). The Meeting also welcomed the ASEAN-ITU Digital Work Plan for 2026.

25.   The Meeting expressed appreciation to the APT for its committed support towards ASEAN through collaborative activities, particularly training courses and a web dialogue. The Meeting noted with appreciation the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2024-2026 and the Tokyo Statement which was adopted by APT Ministerial meeting in 2025, which include strategic pillars that align with the development of ASEAN Digital sector. The Meeting welcomed opportunities for further cooperation with the APT in areas of common interest to promote the advancement of ICT development and the digital economy in the Asia-Pacific region. Further, the Meeting endorsed the ASEAN-APT Digital Work Plan for 2026.

26.   The Meeting also welcomed the 1st ADGSOM consultation with the World Bank Group and looked forward to the development of a long-term partnership to support ASEAN's priorities on inclusive, trusted, and resilient digital transformation, with a view to promoting regional integration, sustainable economic growth and job creation. In this regard, the Meeting endorsed the 2026 ASEAN–World Bank Digital Work Plan, aimed at strengthening digital transformation, digital infrastructure development, capacity building, and including activities to advance the digital economy through the promotion of an inclusive digital economy interoperable digital identities and verifiable credentials, the harmonisation of policy approaches to facilitate cross-border data flows, collaboration with the WG-AI and the newly established ASEAN AI Safety Network, and regional capacity-building on satellite regulatory frameworks.

NEXT MEETING

27.   The Meeting agreed to convene the 7th ADGMIN and Related Meetings in Bandar Seri Begawan in January 2027.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

28.   The Meeting expressed appreciation to Viet Nam for the warm hospitality accorded to them and for the excellent arrangement made for the 6th ADGMIN and Related Meetings.