



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SECOND ASEAN PLUS THREE WORKING GROUP ON MOBILITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND ENSURING QUALITY ASSURANCE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

16 October 2014, Bali, Indonesia

INTRODUCTION

1. The Second ASEAN Plus Three Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education was held on 16 October 2014 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting was attended by delegates from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam as well as China, Japan and Republic of Korea (ROK). Representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN University Network (AUN) Secretariat, and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (RIHED) were also in attendance. The list of delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.

OPENING FORMALITIES

2. Prof. Dr. Djoko Santoso, Director General of Higher Education, Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia, officially delivered his opening remarks and officially opened the Meeting. In his opening remarks, he highlighted that partnership in higher education especially in the area of student mobility among ASEAN Plus Three countries is constructed based on understanding and trust that will be mutually beneficial. He also expressed hope that the deliberation of the Meeting will further facilitate the efforts in strengthening cross-border mobility and internationalisation of education between ASEAN countries and China, Japan and Republic of Korea (ROK).

3. Ms. Ji Young Park, Director of International Education Cooperation Division, Ministry of Education of the Republic of Korea (ROK), as the Co-Chair expressed her appreciation to Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia and the ASEAN Secretariat for organising the Meeting with a view to enhance mutual benefits and strengthen the relationship between ASEAN countries and China, Japan and Republic of Korea (ROK) by promoting mobility of higher education for the development of human resources throughout the region.

4. Prof. Dr. Djoko Santoso, Director General of Higher Education, Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia, and Ms. Ji young Park, Director of International Education Cooperation Division, Ministry of Education of the Republic of Korea (ROK), were elected as the Chairman and Co-Chair of the Second ASEAN Plus

Three Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education, respectively.

MEETING DISCUSSIONS

Report on the First Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education

5. Japan briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the First Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education held in Tokyo on 30 September 2013. The slide presentations of Japan on the outcomes of the Working Group Meeting appear as **ANNEX 2**.

6. With regard to the cooperation in Quality Assurance of higher education in the region, the ASEAN Secretariat informed the Meeting that the ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN) has yet to be affiliated to ASEAN.

ASEAN-Wide Initiatives on Mobility

7. The Meeting noted the shared information by the ASEAN Secretariat on the ongoing initiatives related to ASEAN mobility of higher education and ASEAN Cross-Pillar Mobility, which appears as **ANNEX 3**.

Lesson Learned from Guideline on AIMS Programme

8. Dr Chantavit Sujatanond, Special Advisor of SEAMEO RIHED, briefed the Meeting on their mobility scheme programme, ASEAN International Mobility for Students (AIMS), where it is tied-up with the higher education system and Quality Assurance mechanisms. Dr Chantavit also shared with the meeting the operational guidelines for the AIMS programme. The SEAMEO-RIHED's presentation appears as **ANNEX 4**.

Progress and Future Plans on the TOR Revision

9. The Meeting agreed to rotate Chairmanship alphabetically (IV. **5**. in TOR).

10. ROK suggested deleting the term “permanent organizer” with the aim to encourage more balance and active participation from member countries and proposed the revision of TOR to set the role of Co-Organizer accordingly.

11. China sought further clarification on the role and responsibility of the Organizer. As the Working Group has been established and it has two co-chairs, China believe that, for high efficiency, there is no need to have permanent organizer and hosting country respectively. Instead, permanent organizer and hosting country could be combined as hosting country, which could be hosted by “10+3” member countries by turns in

voluntary basis and permitted by the working group. Under the guidance of the ASEAN Secretariat, the hosting country should be responsible for sponsoring working group meetings, draft the meeting agenda, and preparing the reports (IV. 6. in TOR).

12. The Meeting agreed to submit the revised TOR following the 3rd APT WG to the APT EMM for notation, which appears as **ANNEX 5**.

Discussion on Matrix of ASEAN Plus Three Draft of Student Exchange Guideline

13. The Meeting discussed and agreed on the elements of the Draft of the ASEAN Plus Three Guidelines on Student Exchange based on Japan's presentation, which appears as **ANNEX 6**. On that note, the Meeting agreed with the following principles:

- The guidelines are designed to provide generic guidelines of mobility programme in APT countries which will be able to accommodate most of existing mobility programmes in the region.
- Given the fact that the guidelines are non-binding in nature, there is a need to soften the language in the Draft of the ASEAN Plus Three Guidelines on Student Exchange.
- The aim of the “Guidelines” is to solve the general and common questions faced with Asian students mobility and strive to provide service to all kinds of Asia students mobility and promote the barrier free mobility.
- All the standards, credit transfer system, financial support as stated in “Guidelines” should not be obligatory, but respect regulations of the involved countries.
- There is a need to verify the curriculum and diploma, providing evidence for the students’ mobility so that the study achievements could be used after leaving campus.
- There is a need to do research into the QA guidelines of students’ mobility to make sure the curriculum and diploma is quality-assured.
- “CREDIT AND CREDIT TRANSFER SYSTEM” needs to be out of “STUDENT EXCHANGE AND MOBILITY” and set as a basic element of the guidelines.
- “FINANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY” needs to be separated into two elements: “Finance” and “(other) Student Support”.
- “OTHERS” need to be changed to “MONITORING”.
- Some statements in “REMARKS” need to be classified into the other elements.

- The revision exercise which will elaborate on the details of guidelines will be led by Japan in consultation with other member countries through correspondence.
- The Guidelines will be submitted to the APT EMM for their adoption by 2017.

Progress of ASEAN Plus Three Quality Assurance (APT-QA) Meeting

14. The Meeting noted the brief presentation by the representative of the National Institution for Academic Degree and University Evaluation (NIAD-UE), which appears as **ANNEX 7**.

Future Direction of ASEAN Plus Three Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education

15. The Meeting noted on the presentation by the Ministry of Education and Culture, Republic of Indonesia on the future of the APT WG, which appears as **ANNEX 8**. The Meeting noted that quality assurance of mobility program should cover not only academic quality but also interaction between international dan domestic students to facilitate exchange of culture, ideas, and perspective. It was also mentioned that to minimise physical burdens, the proliferation of online lessons and materials would allow students to be virtually mobile, with the key catchphrase being ‘from Bricks to Clicks’.

Date and Venue of the 3rd Working Group

16. The Meeting welcomed the offer by Thailand to host the 3rd ASEAN Plus Three Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education in 2015.

17. The Meeting also welcomed Japan’s proposal to designate ROK and China as the co-organisers of ASEAN Plus Three Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education.

18. The Meeting also noted that Lao PDR will be the Chair of the next Meeting and China will be the Co-Chair.

CLOSING

19. The Meeting ended with closing remarks presented by the Chair and Co-Chair, thanking the participants for their active contributions and the fruitful discussions.

20. On a final note, the participants expressed their appreciation to Ministry of Education and Culture, Republic of Indonesia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangement rendered. The Meeting also expressed its appreciation to the ASEAN Secretariat for its support and invaluable assistance extended in the conduct of the Meeting.
