

2021 JOINT STATEMENT OF THE SIXTH ASEAN PLUS JAPAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME CONSULTATION

Issued on 30 September 2021

1. The Sixth ASEAN Plus Japan Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (6th AMMTC + Japan) Consultation was held on 30 September 2021 via videoconference. The Meeting was co-chaired by the Kingdom of Thailand and Japan.
2. We took note of the outcomes of the Seventeenth ASEAN Plus Japan Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (17th SOMTC + Japan) Consultation held virtually on 28 July 2021 and the Preparatory SOMTC + Japan for the 6th AMMTC + Japan Consultation held on 28 September 2021 via videoconference.
3. We took note of the efforts of law enforcement agencies of the ASEAN Member States in combating transnational crimes, through collaborations funded by the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), the implementation of the SOMTC-Japan Work Plan for Cooperation to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime (2018- 2022) and other cooperation initiatives.
4. We exchanged views on the need to further strengthen ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in combating transnational crime on areas of mutual interest, including terrorism and cybercrime.
5. We reaffirmed our commitment to prevent and combat transnational crime, including in addressing the emergence of new forms of crimes amidst the COVID-19 pandemic that continue to threaten our region in order to ensure peace and stability.
6. We noted views expressed by some Ministers on the importance of addressing the humanitarian concern of the international community, including the immediate resolution of the abductions issue.
7. We welcomed the kind offer by the Kingdom of Cambodia to host the 7th AMMTC + Japan Consultation in 2022.
8. We expressed our deep appreciation to the Government of Brunei Darussalam for their efforts and contributions to the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting. The Meeting was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of solidarity and cordiality.