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ASEAN-RUSSIAN FEDERATION JOINT DECLARATION FOR COOPERATION TO COMBAT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

We, the Foreign Ministers of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation:

MINDFUL of the Declaration on Terrorism by the 8th ASEAN Summit and the 2001 ASEAN Declaration on Joint Action to Counter Terrorism, which, inter alia, undertake to strengthen cooperation at bilateral, regional and international levels in combating terrorism;

RECALLING the Joint Declaration of the Foreign Ministers of the Russian Federation and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on Partnership for Peace and Security, and Prosperity and Development in the Asia-Pacific Region, signed on 19 June 2003 in Phnom Penh, in which the parties resolutely reject all acts, methods and practices of international terrorism and express their readiness to enhance cooperation in combating this global menace;

WELCOMING Russia's efforts to combat international terrorism at the national, regional and global levels, in particular, within the framework of the United Nations, G-8, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CST) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO);

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NOTING the CIS' 1999 Treaty on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism and the SCO's 2001 Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism;

STRESSING the central coordinating role of the United Nations in the fight against terrorism;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to counter, prevent and suppress all forms of terrorist acts in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, relevant international conventions on international terrorism and other international instruments, in particular the principles outlined in United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1267, 1373, 1390, 1455 and 1456;

SUPPORTING the work of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee, aimed at enhancing effectiveness of the international efforts in the fight against terrorism;

VIEWING acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed wherever, whenever and by whomsoever as a profound threat to international peace and security, which require concerted action to protect and defend all peoples and the peace and security of the world;

REJECTING any attempt to associate terrorism with any religion, race, culture and nationality; stressing the need to strengthen dialogue and promote mutual understanding within and among countries, cultures and civilizations in order, inter alia, to help address the underlying causes of terrorism without acknowledging these as justifications for terrorist and/or criminal activities;

RECOGNISING the importance and need to respect each other's independence, sovereign equality and territorial integrity, the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States and the non-use or threat of force;

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ACKNOWLEDGING the value of cooperation on security, intelligence and law enforcement matters, and desiring to strengthen and expand this cooperation to combat international terrorism through the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), as a leading ASEAN body for cooperation in combating terrorism, and relevant ASEAN-Russia mechanisms and welcoming the Agreement on Information Exchange and Establishment of Communication Procedures;

RECOGNISING the transnational nature of terrorist activities and the need to strengthen international cooperation at all levels in combating terrorism in a comprehensive manner

Solemnly declare as follows:

Objectives:

1. ASEAN and Russia (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the participants") reaffirm the importance of having a framework for cooperation to prevent, disrupt and combat international terrorism through the exchange and flow of information, intelligence and capacity-building and welcome effective legal cooperation through the arrangement of mutual legal assistance and extradition agreements.

2. The participants emphasize that the purpose of this cooperation as stated in this Declaration is to enhance the efficacy of the efforts to combat terrorism.

Scope and Areas of Cooperation:

3. The participants stress their commitment to implement in good faith the principles and provisions of this Declaration, in conformity with their obligations under international law and in accordance with their respective domestic laws, in any or all of the following activities:

i. Strengthen and expand interaction through the AMMTC as a leading ASEAN body for cooperation in combating terrorism, ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), ASEAN

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Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN-Russia Post-Ministerial Conferences, ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials' Meeting, ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee and other regional and dialogue mechanisms including relevant bodies that may be established in future. In this regard, the participants have agreed to explore the possibility to establish the ASEAN-Russia Working Group on Counter-Terrorism.

ii. Take steps to enhance practical cooperation on counter-terrorism between their agencies concerned including law enforcement agencies, research institutions and "think tanks", as well as strengthen links with INTERPOL, EUROPOL, ASEANAPOL, the CIS' Anti-Terrorist Center and Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

iii. Continue and improve intelligence and terrorist financing information sharing on counter-terrorism measures, including the development of more effective counter-terrorism policies and legal, regulatory and administrative counter-terrorism regimes.

iv. Enhance liaison relationships amongst their law enforcement agencies to engender practical counter-terrorism regimes.

v. Strengthen capacity-building efforts through training and education; consultations between officials, analysts and field operators; seminars, conferences and joint operations as agreed on a case-by-case basis.

vi. Provide assistance on transportation, border and immigration control challenges, including document and identity fraud to stem effectively the flow of terrorist-related material, money and people.

vii. Comply with United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1267, 1373, 1390, 1455, 1456 and other United Nations resolutions or declarations on international terrorism.

viii. Explore additional areas of cooperation.

Participation:

4. The participants are called upon to become parties to all 12 United Nations conventions and protocols relating to terrorism.

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5. The participants are each called upon to designate an agency to coordinate with law enforcement agencies, authorities dealing with countering terrorism financing and other concerned government agencies, and to act as the central point of contact for the purposes of implementing this Declaration.

Disclosure of Information:

6. The participants expect that no participant would disclose or distribute any confidential information, documents or data received in connection with this Declaration to any third party at any time, except to the extent agreed in writing by the participant that provided the information.

Implementation:

7. All the participants are urged to promote and implement in good faith and effectively the principles and provisions of the present Declaration in all its aspects.

Done in duplicate on the Second Day of July in the Year Two Thousand and Four in Jakarta, both texts being equally authentic.

For ASEAN

Dr. N. Hassan Wirajuda
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Republic of Indonesia,
Chairman of the 37th ASEAN Standing Committee

Sergey Lavrov
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Russian Federation

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