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KEMENTERIAN KEWANGAN MALAYSIA

19TH ASEAN FINANCE MINISTERS MEETING

20-21 MARCH 2015

Malaysia, which is holding the Chairmanship of ASEAN for 2015, will be hosting the 19th ASEAN Finance Meeting and the inaugural ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Joint Meeting on 20th to 21st March 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.

With the theme, "Our People, Our Community, Our Vision", the ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors will focus on accelerating cooperation efforts towards realizing the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by end of 2015.

YB Dato' Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah, the Second Finance Minister will chair the 19th ASEAN Finance Meeting in the morning of 21st March at the KL Convention Centre, (KLCC). In the afternoon, the inaugural ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Joint Meeting will convene, to be chaired by the Minister, Dato' Seri Ahmad Husni and the Governor of Bank Negara Malaysia, Tan Sri Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz.

On 20th March the Ministers and Governors will have a courtesy call on YAB Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak in Putrajaya.

During the course of the meetings, Ministers and Governors will exchange views with various profound entities, such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Bank (WB) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and ASEAN + 3 Macro Economic Research Office (AMRO) on the economic outlook and policy challenges in ASEAN. The Ministers are also expected to have an engagement with ASEAN-EU Business Council and ASEAN-US Business Council.

Ministers and Governors will take stock of the progress of the initiatives under the financial cooperation and integration component of the AEC and provide guidance on further action needed to accelerate the realization of the AEC by end-2015 as well as develop plans for post 2015 ASEAN financial integration.

Among the main issues discussed under the Roadmap for Monetary and Financial Integration for ASEAN will include:

- Financial Services Liberalisation;
- Capital Account Liberalisation;
- Capital Market Development;
- Payment and Settlement Systems;
- Banking Integration;

Other significant areas of cooperation that will be discussed include:

- Enhancing Regional Surveillance;
- Infrastructure Financing- ASEAN Infrastructure Fund;
- Customs Matters;
- Taxation;
- Insurance; and
- Financial Inclusion.

ASEAN Ministers will also participate in the 1ASEAN Entrepreneurship Gathering aimed at facilitating people-to-people connection and promote economic development and growth in ASEAN.

A Joint Ministerial Statement will be issued after the meeting followed by a Press Conference.

Office of the Minister of Finance II

Putrajaya

19 March 2015