

**SUMMARY REPORT  
OF  
THE 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE ASEAN PLUS THREE EMERGENCY RICE RESERVE  
(APTERR) COUNCIL**

**22-23 April 2015; Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Council was held on 22-23 April 2015 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. The Meeting was organised by the APTERR Secretariat and hosted by Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam.
2. The Meeting was attended by the members of the APTERR Council and the delegates from ASEAN Plus Three countries except from Malaysia and Myanmar. Representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board (AFSRB) Secretariat and the APTERR Secretariat were also present at the Meeting. The list of delegates appears in **ANNEX 1**.
3. The Meeting was co-chaired by Ms. Hajah Aidah Binti Haji Mohd Hanifah, Director, Department of Agriculture and Agrifood, Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam and Mr. Qu Sixi, Counsel, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, the People's Republic of China.

**OPENING SESSION**

4. Ms. Hajah Hasnah Binti Ibrahim, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Primary Resources Development) of Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam, delivered her Opening Remarks. She greeted all distinguished delegates and participants from ASEAN Plus Three with warm welcome and appreciated the APTERR members for generous support on the APTERR operation, particularly the Tier 3 programme. Then, she provided the Meeting with brief information about the Meeting agenda. She expressed her confidence that with the collective knowledge and expertise, the Meeting could work together to address the challenges in achieving the ASEAN Plus Three long-term food security mechanism. Finally, she congratulated Mr. Wiroj Saengbangka as the first General Manager (GM) of the APTERR Secretariat. Her Opening Remarks appears in **ANNEX 2**.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Agenda Item 1: Welcome Remarks by the Co-Chair Representing the Host Country of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the APTERR Council**

5. Ms. Hajah Aidah Binti Haji Mohd Hanifah, a Co-Chair from Brunei Darussalam, expressed her sincere appreciation to all APTERR members for giving her the trust as the Co-Chair of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the APTERR Council. She also extended her thanks the outgoing Co-Chair from Vietnam and the Republic of Korea for their constructive guidance during the entire course of their chairmanship. In her conclusion, she wished for a successful meeting and also all participants to have a pleasant stay in Brunei Darussalam.

**Agenda Item 2: ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

6. The Meeting adopted the agenda as amended, which appears in **ANNEX 3**.

**Agenda Item 3: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENT**

7. The Meeting was held in plenary. The delegates were given a brief summary on the meeting programme and other arrangements for the Meeting.

**Agenda Item 4: UPDATE ON THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE APTERR FUND**

8. The APTERR Secretariat reported on the contribution to the Endowment Fund (EF) and the annual contribution to the Operational Cost (OC). The document and presentation appear in **ANNEX 4-5**.

9. The Meeting requested the APTERR Secretariat to send a letter together with an invoice to all member countries to request for the transfer of the APTERR Fund for a next financial year.

**Agenda Item 5: THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND**

10. The APTERR Secretariat presented the findings from the study of the Management of the EF to the Meeting for consideration. The document and presentation appear in **ANNEX 6-8**.

11. The Meeting agreed on a recommendation of the APTERR Secretariat to transfer the EF in US dollar to Krung Thai Bank fixed account in subject to the written evidence on principal guarantee from the bank. The transfer fees will be paid by the OC.

**Agenda Item 6: REPORT ON REALISATION OF WORK PLAN AND BUDGET PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014**

12. The APTERR Secretariat presented the realisation of Work Plan and Budget Plan for fiscal year 2014. The document and presentation appear as **ANNEX 9-10**. The financial statements also appear as **ANNEX 11-12**.

13. The Meeting endorsed the realisation of Work Plan and Budget Plan for fiscal year 2014.

14. The Meeting noted that Japan will continue to contribute to the stockpile rice and dispatch the expert to the APTERR Secretariat. For fiscal year 2015, Japan will contribute to the stockpile rice approximately USD 230,000 to the Tier 3 programme.

15. The Meeting welcomed Thailand's contribution to the APTERR Secretariat by providing a new office for the APTERR Secretariat in nearly future. The office will be located in a new building of the Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand.

**Agenda Item 7: PROPOSED WORK PLAN AND BUDGET PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015**

16. The APTERR Secretariat presented the proposed Work Plan and Budget Plan for fiscal year 2015. The document and presentation appear in **ANNEX 13-14**.

17. The Meeting endorsed the Work Plan and Budget Plan for fiscal year 2015.

18. The Meeting agreed to speed up the rice assistance to help people during an acute and emergency situation and supported the APTERR Secretariat on starting the implementation of Tier 1, Tier 3 (pre-positioned stockpiled rice system) as well as the Food Emergency Monitoring and Information (FEMI).

**Agenda Item 8: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS OF THE APTERR SECRETARIAT**

19. The APTERR Secretariat presented the Subsidiary Regulations consisting of the Subsidiary Regulations on the Salary Inter-Step, Career Path and Meeting Disbursement to the Meeting. The documents and presentations appear in **ANNEX 15-18**.

20. The Meeting highlighted several concerns and requested the APTERR Secretariat to circulate the documents earlier.

21. The Meeting agreed on conducting the working meeting to consider on the Subsidiary Regulations. The finalised documents will be circulated to the APTERR Council for endorsement.

**Agenda Item 9: UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TIER 3 PROGRAMME IN THE PHILIPPINES (SUPER TYPHOON HAIYAN)**

22. The representative from the Philippines presented the report on the implementation of Tier 3 Programme for typhoon Haiyan victims under Malaysia and Japan's contributions. The presentations appear in **ANNEX 19-20**.

23. The Meeting took note of the report on the implementation of Tier 3 programme in the Philippines.

24. The representative from the Philippines thanked the donor countries; China, Thailand, Malaysia and Japan, the APTERR Secretariat as well as the other APTERR members for generous contribution and support to the Philippine people. He emphasised that the cooperation shall be sustainable and continue providing the humanitarian assistance to the members.

25. The Meeting noted that the distribution of rice donated by Japan will be completed before the wrap-up meeting on 28 April 2015. The final report of the programme implementation including the financial report will be submitted to the APTERR Secretariat later.

26. The Meeting commended that the ceremonial turn-over and distribution of rice donation organised in the receipt country are significant because it helps people recognise and understand about APTERR. In connection to this, it is necessary to invite the representatives of the donors to participate in the mentioned ceremonies.

**Agenda Item 10: UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF APTERR TIER 3 PROGRAMME DONATED BY JAPAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014**

27. The APTERR Secretariat presented the update on the implementation of Tier 3 programme donated by Japan for fiscal year 2014. The document and presentation appear in **ANNEX 21-22**.

28. The Meeting took note of update on the implementation of Tier 3 programme donated by Japan for FY 2014.

**Agenda Item 11: OTHER MATTERS**

29. The representative from the ASEAN Secretariat updated the Meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of AIFS Framework and SPA-FS (2015-2020) related to APTERR and the Technical Assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB) to APTERR activities. The presentation appears in **ANNEX 23**

30. The Meeting acknowledged the update of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of AIFS Framework and SPA-FS (2015-2020) and the Technical Assistance from ADB.

31. Regarding the acquisition of the APTERR Secretariat's legal personality, the Meeting took note that the OAE will submit the bill on the operation of the APTERR Secretariat to the cabinet by 2015. After an approval of the cabinet, the bill will be submitted to the National Legislative Assembly for approval and published in the Government Gazette respectively. In the meantime, the Meeting was reaffirmed that the APTERR Secretariat is fully and smoothly operated under the Thai law by using the legal personality of the OAE until the legal personality of the APTERR Secretariat is fully obtained.

**Agenda Item 12: DATE AND VENUE OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF APTERR COUNCIL**

32. The Meeting noted that the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the APTERR Council shall be hosted by Cambodia in Siem Reap in early May 2016. The APTERR Secretariat in collaboration with Cambodia will announce the date and venue of the meeting.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

33. The Co-Chair from China thanked all participants for supporting his role as the Co-Chair of the Meeting. He reiterated that all the comments and contribution discussed at the Meeting will be well considered by the APTERR Secretariat. Meanwhile, the Co-Chair from Brunei Darussalam summarised the outcomes of the Meeting and expressed her sincere thanks to the APTERR Council as well as other delegates for accomplished the goals of the Meeting.

34. The Meeting was held in the spirit of the ASEAN Plus Three co-operation and cordiality.