

Closing Remarks

By

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Minister of Tourism and Sports

Delivered at the 15th Ministerial Meeting of

Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT)

23 October 2008, Thursday, 09.20-09.30 A.M.

At Palembang, South Sumatera, Indonesia

*Your Excellency Minister of Development for Disadvantaged Areas,
Head of Indonesian Delegation,*

*Your Excellency Deputy Director-General II, Economic Planning Unit,
Prime Minister's Department, Head of Malaysian Delegation,*

*Honorable Governors and Chief Ministers from Indonesia, Malaysia,
and Thailand*

*Deputy Director General, Southeast Asia Department, Asian
Development Bank*

Chairmen of the IMT-GT Joint Business Council,

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Meeting has been very fruitful. Over the past three days, it has been heartening to know that senior officials, business leaders, and governors from the three countries, and the international organization like ADB, sit together and actively discuss progresses and challenges. I am truly appreciated all the hard works and progresses done by them with the confident that this meeting is successful to the satisfaction of all parties.

While looking at the way forward, I strongly believed that the success of IMT-GT cooperation is the key to drive economic growth and

well-being of people among the three countries as well as the catalyst for moving the whole region toward achieving ASEAN community. As you know, this task can not be done overnight and may not be done by one country alone. Greater collective cooperation in this regard is what we actually need.

We all know, actions speak louder than words. So, as we walk away from this meeting with plans to meet again next year, we each have a responsibility in moving our agenda forward.

Let speed up priorities actions, particularly the implementation of the IMT-GT Roadmap.

Excellencies,

Finally, I would like to reaffirm that Thailand attaches great importance to IMT-GT cooperation as always. We are prompted to work with Malaysia and Indonesia as a dynamic partner to expedite works, build capacity, deal with difficulties, and share our promising future of cooperation. We also extend fully support to the IMT-GT work under Indonesia's chairmanship and to the next Ministerial Meeting in Malaysia next year.

Once again, all 35 Thai delegates here wish to express deep and sincere appreciation to the Indonesia government for hosting this important meeting -- another crucial step to address the progress and to shape future direction of the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT). The warmest welcome and hospitality extended to us,

especially during the remarkable dinner yesterday, have speaks itself for a lovely people of Palembang and the charming of Indonesia country.

Thank you very much.

