

**AGREED MINUTES  
INDONESIA – MALAYSIA – THAILAND GROWTH TRIANGLE (IMT-GT)  
THE 1<sup>ST</sup> WORKING GROUP MEETING ON TOURISM**

**Novotel Hotel  
Bukittinggi, West Sumatera, Indonesia  
August, 8-9, 2007**

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The 1<sup>ST</sup> IMT-GT Working Group Meeting on Tourism was held at Novotel Hotel, Bukittinggi, West Sumatera, Indonesia on August 8-9, 2007. Over 60 delegates from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand comprising both the public and private sectors participated in the meeting.
2. The Indonesian Delegation was led by H.E. Dr. Sapta Nirwandar, Secretary General of Ministry of Culture and Tourism; the Malaysian Delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Ab. Ghaffar bin A. Tambi, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of Tourism; and the Thailand Delegation was led by H.E. Dr. Sasithara Pichaichannarong, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Sports.
3. This meeting has been agreed upon as the 1<sup>st</sup> Tourism Working Group Meeting according to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit of the IMT-GT in Cebu, Philippines in January 2007, having approved the Roadmap for Development of the 2007-2011.
4. The list of the delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.

**II. WELCOME REMARKS**

5. Welcoming remarks was given by H.E. the Vice Governor of West Sumatera Province, H.E. Prof. Dr. Marlis Rachman. He warmly welcomed all delegates to the 1<sup>ST</sup> IMT-GT Working Group Meeting on Tourism in Bukittinggi, West Sumatera Province. Welcoming Remarks appears as **ANNEX 2**.

**III. OPENING STATEMENTS BY HEAD OF INDONESIAN, MALAYSIAN AND THAI DELEGATION**

6. Opening statement by Head of Indonesian Delegation was delivered by H.E. Dr. Sapta Nirwandar, Secretary General, Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The statement appears as **ANNEX 3**.

7. Opening statement by Head of Malaysian Delegation was delivered by H.E. Mr. Haji Ab. Ghaffar bin A. Tambi, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of Tourism. The statement appears as **ANNEX 4**.
8. Opening statement by Head of Thailand Delegation was delivered by H.E. Dr. Sasithara Pichaichannarong, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Sports. The statement appears as **ANNEX 5**.

#### **IV. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE**

9. The Head of Thai delegate as the lead country for the IMT-GT Tourism Meeting officially opened the meeting.
10. The meeting agreed to elect the Head of Indonesian Delegation, H.E. Dr. Saptia Nirwandar as the Chairperson of the Meeting as proposed by H.E. Mr. Haji Ab. Ghaffar bin A. Tambi, the Head of Malaysian Delegation, and seconded by H.E. Dr. Sasithara Pichaichannarong, the Head of Thai Delegation. The proposal has been approved in plenary.
11. The Meeting appointed members of Drafting Committee representing each country, as follows:
  - Indonesia : 1. Mr. Roby Ardiwijaya  
2. Ms. Ni Wayan Giri Adnyani  
2. Ms. Martini Paham
  - Malaysia : 1. Ms. Hamdiah Ismail  
2. Mr. Mohd. Akmal B. Abdoll Malik  
3. Ms. Fauziah Jalaludin
  - Thailand : 1. Mr. Anothai Udomsilp  
2. Ms. Prapa Tantasuparuk  
3. Mr. Kittipol Chotipimai
12. The Meeting also appointed members of Branding Committee representing each country, as follows:
  - Indonesia : 1. Mr. Syamsul Lusa  
2. Mr. Henry Hutabarat
  - Malaysia : 1. Dr. Nor Ain Othman
  - Thailand : 1. Mr. Pong-Anan Sunpanich  
2. Mrs. Numphon Boonyawat  
3. Ms. Suladda Sarutilavan  
4. Ms. Thitirat Sookphartjaroen

**V. DISCUSSION**

**Agenda 1 : Adoption of the Agenda**

13. The Meeting agreed to adopt the agenda with additional item on ASEAN NTOs update, which is now to be read as appears in **ANNEX 6**.

**Agenda 2 : Business Arrangement**

14. The meeting was conducted in plenary.

**Agenda 3 : ASEAN Update**

15. Mr. Eddy Krismeydi, the Representative of the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC), updated the meeting of the recent development in ASEAN tourism cooperation which include the ATA (ASEAN Tourism Agreement) signed in November 2002, the institutional mechanism of ASEAN Tourism 2007, and the current activities undertaken by ASEAN Secretariat concerning the tourism cooperation. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 7**.
16. The ASEC representative stated the importance of having the tourism cooperation in the sub-regional areas such as IMT-GT, particularly for the program which is difficult to be carried out at the ASEAN level such as joint fam trip program. He also noted that the sub-regional cooperation would be an effective approach to support the ASEAN investment program acknowledged as the ASEAN Tourism Investment Zone.
17. The Meeting agreed to have the ASEC representative as a permanent facilitator of the Tourism Cooperation meeting of IMT-GT as proposed by Thailand. The ASEC representative would report to the ASEAN Secretariat to consider the proposal.

**Agenda 4 : TOURISM PROGRAMME**

**(1.1) Facilitation of Travel**

**(1.1.1) Development of Ports**

18. Thailand updated the meeting on the Kantang Port, Trang Province and Tammalang port, Satun Province development to accommodate the

service for regular vessel. The service to accommodate the extension to cruise services would be consulted with Thailand Marine Department.

19. Thailand suggested the Meeting to pay more attention on the cruise service development in the region since most ports concentrated on the trade, not tourism. As the initial effort, the information regarding the cruise line port services should be put on the IMT-GT website and the ASEAN cruise website.
20. Having noted the suggestion of Thailand, Indonesia informed the Meeting on the new line service development of Sabang as one of the priority ports to link to Phuket, Kantang Port, Trang Province and Tammalang port, Satun Province.
21. Malaysia informed the meeting of the existing ports in Malaysia which can already be utilized under IMT-GT. This include for ferry, cruise and cargo services. Thailand emphasized the importance for the Meeting to list the port priority for the sea linkages development in the region. The meeting agreed that three countries were requested to submit the list. Thailand proposed Phuket, Tammalang, and Kantang. List of these ports appears as **ANNEX 8**.
22. The Meeting requested the ASEC representative to inform the port development in the IMT-GT region to the ASEAN Cruise Working Group.

#### **(1.1.2) International Air Linkages**

23. Thailand acknowledged the Meeting the proposal of the private sectors on the air linkages development between Medan, KLIA in Selangor and Hat Yai, instead of Medan, Penang and Hat Yai concerning the short distance of Penang and Hat Yai.
24. Indonesia requested the Meeting to propose the relevant authorities in the region to add air linkages on low cost carriers between Padang and Hat Yai.
25. Malaysia requested Indonesia to approach relevant authorities to reactivate the air services for low cost carrier to travel from Banda Aceh to Penang, Langkawi, Alor Star, and Ipoh, and *vice versa*.
26. Indonesian updated the recent development on accommodation in destinations proposed for air linkage development services.
27. The meeting agreed to expedite the submission of this proposal to IMT-GT Working Group on Infrastructure and Transportation for immediate implementation.

**(1.2) Master Plan for the Tourism Development by UNWTO**

28. Thailand reported to the Meeting the progress on the UNWTO technical assistance on the master plan for the tourism development. The project would be an assessment of the areas to identify which destinations prioritized to develop on the IMT-GT tourism cooperation. Thailand recalled the Meeting to secure more fund to support the program.
29. The Meeting noted that the UNWTO would cover the professional fees for two consultants; meanwhile Thailand would cover the international economy-class air ticket to Bangkok, as well as the domestic air ticket and board and lodging during the stay in Thailand. Malaysia and Indonesia would also cover international air fare from Bangkok to respective countries, the domestic air ticket and local arrangement in the respective countries. The visit of the two consultants will be planned for 5-7 days in each country.
30. In addition, Thailand as the lead country of the tourism cooperation would prepare the draft TOR of the project and submit to Indonesia and Malaysia to get approval. After that, the three countries will submit the request to UNWTO as soon as possible.
31. Given the fact that the development of a master plan is costly and time consuming, the Meeting supported the idea of the development of tourism potential assessment as strategic plan which provide concrete action plan which would be easier to implement.

**Agenda 5 : MARKETING AND PROMOTION****(2.1) Logo**

32. The IMT-GT logo and theme of IMT-GT has been endorsed at the SOM Meeting in Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia, September 2006 as follows:

Logo :



**(2.2) Theme**

33. The Meeting proposed themes of the IMT-GT tourism cooperation:
  - a. Dynamic Tourism Alliance
  - b. Golden Treasure Triangle
34. The Meeting agreed to appoint 2 delegates from each country to discuss and select the most appropriate one representing the tourism cooperation in the region. The meeting of this team was conducted during lunch time.
35. The team has come up with the decision to decide and choose "Dynamic Tourism Alliance" as the brand of the IMT-GT tourism and submitted to the meeting.

**(2.3) Directory/Travel Guide Book on 3-star hotels**

36. Indonesia informed the meeting that list of 3-star hotels in Indonesia is on the SITF handbook. Member countries were requested to submit the list of the 3-star hotels to MITTA's which will be included in the Directory/Travel Guide Book.
37. Malaysia will submit the update list of the 3-star hotels to be compiled with other IMT-GT countries.

**(2.4) Website**

38. The meeting agreed to use the website [www.focus-imtgt.com](http://www.focus-imtgt.com) as the official website on IMT-GT Tourism.
39. Indonesia proposed the website to also link to ASEAN Tourism Website. The ASEC representative informed the meeting that the hyperlink between the ASEAN tourism website and ASEAN cruise tourism website with the IMT-GT tourism website could be done.

**(2.5) Activities for Visit IMT-GT Year**

40. The Meeting agreed that the activities for Visit IMT-GT Year 2008 will be led by private sector and supported by the governments of the three countries.
41. Malaysia suggested that each country would propose at least five events spreading out in many cities within the sub-region, which would be participated by the stakeholders from the three countries.

42. Indonesia informed the Meeting on the Visit Indonesian Year 2008 and it will be 100 festivals during the year meaning that ten provinces in the IMT-GT area will have many festivals. Indonesia proposed that the events should not be overlapping among member countries.
43. The meeting agreed that member countries should submit five events to be included in the Visit IMT-GT Year 2008 activities and requested a team to discuss and decide the date, place of the events. The proposed events from the three countries as appear in **ANNEX 9**.

#### **(2.6) IMT-GT remaining budget at MITTA's**

44. MITTA's was established and assigned to undertake the marketing and promotion task under the supervision of the Government Working Group on Tourism.
45. The meeting agreed that Thailand as the lead country would invite MITTA's to report to IMT-GT Tourism Working Group. The meeting is scheduled to be held in Hat Yai in November 8, 2007.

#### **(2.7) Travel Fairs**

46. Chairman of SITF reported to the meeting on result of SITF 2007 in Medan which was held successfully on 8-10 July 2007, and the preparation of SITF 2008. The next SITF will be held in Padang, West Sumatera, on 30 May - 1 June 2008. The chairman wished the member countries to actively participate in the event.
47. Malaysia informed and invited the Meeting to participate in the annual MATTA travel fair in 7-9 September 2007 in Kuala Lumpur.

#### **(2.8) Home Stay Network**

48. Malaysia will organize a workshop on home stay in April 2008 in Kedah as part of the Visit IMT-GT Year program. The aims of the workshop are to increase awareness on the home stay program, to educate people on community based tourism, as well as to share experience on home stay concept.
49. Thailand supported the idea of Malaysia, and suggested the Meeting to have an annual rotating workshop in the three countries on various subjects.

**Agenda 6 : PREPARATION FOR THE IMT-GT TOURISM  
MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BANGKOK, 21 JANUARY 2008**

50. The IMT-GT Tourism Ministerial Meeting is planned to be held in Bangkok, 21 January 2008 in conjunction with ASEAN Tourism Forum 2008. Thailand will distribute the agenda of the meeting, with the Senior Official Meeting prior to the meeting. Thailand would report all the preparation after the meeting in November 2007 in Hat Yai. Thailand requested Indonesia and Malaysia to inform the Tourism Minister of the respective countries regarding the schedule of the meeting.

**Agenda 7 : OTHER MATTERS**

51. The Meeting requested the ASEAN Secretariat's consideration for having the IMT-GT tourism item on the permanent agenda of the ASEAN tourism meeting. The ASEAN representative stated that it would be an effective agenda for the IMT-GT to report the activities which have been undertaken to the ASEAN tourism meeting.

**Agenda 8 : DATES AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

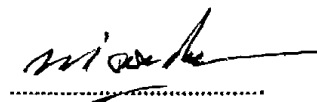
52. Malaysia agreed to host the next IMT-GT Tourism Meeting before May 2008 in Penang.

**APPRECIATION**

Malaysian and Thai Delegations expressed their appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for the warm hospitality extended to all participants and for the excellent arrangement in organizing the meeting.

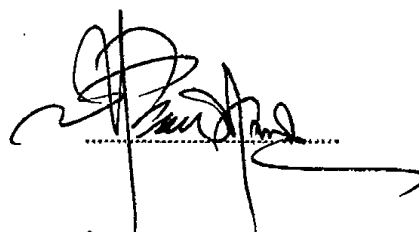
Acknowledged and signed in Bukittinggi, Indonesia on August 8, 2007.

Dr. Sapta Nirwandar  
Secretary General  
Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Indonesia  
Head of Indonesian Delegation



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Mr. Ab. Ghaffar bin A. Tambi  
Deputy Secretary General  
Ministry of Tourism, Malaysia  
Head of Malaysian Delegation



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Dr. Sasithara Pichaichannarong  
Deputy Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Tourism and Sports, Thailand  
Head of Thai Delegation



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