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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND RECREATION
MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT | BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

MEDIA RELEASE

TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE SUB-REGIONAL MINISTERIAL STEERING COMMITTEE ON TRANSBOUNDARY HAZE POLLUTION

(27TH MSC)

9 July 2026, Bali, Indonesia

1. The Twenty-seventh Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution (27th MSC) was held on 9 July 2026 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting was attended by Ministers, senior officials and/or representatives for land, forest fires and haze, from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and Timor Leste and the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, under the Chairpersonship of H.E. Mohammad Jumhur Hidayat, Minister of Environment of Indonesia. The Twenty-seventh Meeting of the Technical Working Group on Transboundary Haze Pollution (27th TWG) preceded the Meeting.
2. Brunei Darussalam's delegation was led by Yang Mulia Dayang Dr Nor Imtihan binti Haji Abd Razak, Deputy Minister of Development and comprised of officials from Department of Environment, Parks and Recreation and Ministry of Development.
3. The Meeting reaffirmed their commitment to the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Strategic Plan for the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 whereby it has been mandated to enhance the implementation of regional agreements, such as the AATHP, as well as strengthen the capabilities of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control, in order to achieve a sustainable community that advances ASEAN's sustainability agenda in coherence with the Sustainable Development Goals and the post-2030 global development agenda.
4. The Meeting expressed appreciation to Indonesia for its continued efforts in preparing for the establishment and operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACC THPC), including progress on legal and procedural arrangements as well as key operational documents, infrastructure and facilities, technology and monitoring capabilities, organisational structure, and financial support, and expressed appreciation to Viet Nam for its

Instrument of Approval to the Establishment Agreement of the ACC THPC. The Meeting also took note the domestic ratification process being undertaken by the MSC countries and underscored the importance of timely deposit of the instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession by the ASEAN Member States necessary for its entry into force to ensure its full operationalisation.

5. The Meeting welcomed the Implementation Plan of the ASEAN Investment Framework for Haze-Free Sustainable Land Management (AIF-HFSLM) to complement and support the implementation of the Haze-Free Roadmap (Haze-Free Roadmap) and the Second ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (APMS) 2023-2030. The Meeting encouraged deepening partnerships with existing Dialogue Partners, and exploring new partnerships, to address the root causes and drivers of fire and haze, through sustainable forest and peatland management, and haze-free agriculture practices and commodity sectors, with a view to realising our vision for a Transboundary Haze-Free ASEAN by 2030.

6. The Meeting noted the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre's (ASMC's) weather and smoke haze review, as well as outlook for the southern ASEAN region. The overall hotspot counts across the southern ASEAN region in the first half of 2026 increased by approximately 86% compared to the same period in 2025, driven in part by the drier-than-normal conditions over many parts of the region during January, March and April 2026. ASMC reported that the current El Niño conditions are forecast to persist through the second half of 2026 and likely to become strong from August – September 2026. Positive IOD is predicted to develop in July – August 2026. Based on latest climate outlooks, below-normal rainfall is expected over most parts of the southern ASEAN region in the coming months. Under these conditions, the hotspot and smoke haze situation could escalate, increasing the risk of transboundary smoke haze occurrence under prevailing southeasterly or southwesterly winds. The situation could intensify further should a strong El Niño develop, raising the likelihood of extended periods of persistent dry conditions. The Meeting welcomed ASMC's continuous efforts to improve its products and services in haze dispersion modelling, developments on its burnt area mapping products and ENSO monitoring refinement, and as well as its regional capability-building programme.

7. The Meeting acknowledged the continued efforts of the Malaysian Meteorological Department (MET Malaysia) to strengthen the operational capacity of the Southeast Asia Fire Danger Rating System (SEA FDRS). The Meeting noted MET Malaysia's assessment on low Fire Weather Index (FWI) during July to December 2025 which contributed to the lower hotspot activity compared to 2024 in the southern ASEAN region. The Meeting also noted the deployment of two additional Automated Auxiliary Weather Stations (AAWS) at peatland reserve forests in Peninsular Malaysia for effective early fire risk detection, as well as the launch of Malaysian Community Air Quality Model (MyCMAQ) in March 2026 as a real-time operational air quality forecasting system to provide routine, high-resolution forecasts of atmospheric pollutants over Malaysia and the Southeast Asia region.

8. The Meeting, in view of the ASMC's on the onset of El Niño conditions in June 2026 and MET Malaysia's expectation of more challenging hot and dry weather due to the El Niño phenomenon, reaffirmed its commitment to taking coordinated action with communities, businesses, civil society, development partners, and relevant

government agencies to strengthen prevention, preparedness, suppression, and mitigation efforts, as well as necessary support, in line with the Haze-Free Roadmap and the ASEAN Standard Operating Procedure for Monitoring, Assessment, and Joint Emergency Response (SOP MAJER).

9. The Meeting agreed that bilateral cooperation complemented regional efforts, including the implementation of the AATHP, and noted the recent Memorandum of Understanding between Indonesia and Singapore on Bilateral Partnership on Environmental Cooperation, which included cooperation on transboundary pollution, among other areas.

10. The Meeting agreed to explore and assess the feasibility of incorporating science diplomacy within the AATHP framework through existing mechanisms or the establishment of new platforms, as appropriate; as well as to examine the feasibility of enhancing the ASEAN Transboundary Haze Pollution Control Fund by diversifying contributions from other relevant stakeholders and expanding its utilisation for scientific research and science diplomacy initiatives, supported by a transparent and accountable governance framework.

11. The Meeting looked forward to the convening of the 21st Meeting of the Committee under the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COM-21) and the 21st Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COP-21) tentatively in October 2026 in Da Nang, Viet Nam.

12. The Meeting expressed their appreciation to the Government of Indonesia for hosting the 27th MSC Meeting and the excellent arrangements made. The 28th MSC Meeting will be held in Malaysia in 2027.

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SIARAN MEDIA

MESYUARAT KE-27 JAWATANKUASA PANDU MENTERI-MENTERI SUB-SERANTAU MENGENAI PENCEMARAN JEREBU RENTAS SEMPADAN

(MSC KE-27)

9 Julai 2026, Bali, Indonesia

1. Mesyuarat Ke-27 Jawatankuasa Pandu Peringkat Menteri-Menteri Sub-Serantau (MSC Ke-27) Mengenai Pencemaran Jerebu Rentas Sempadan telah diadakan pada 9 Julai 2026 di Bali, Indonesia. Mesyuarat tersebut dihadiri oleh Menteri-menteri, pegawai-pegawai kanan dan/atau wakil-wakil bagi hal ehwal tanah, kebakaran hutan dan jerebu dari Negara Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapura, dan Thailand, serta Timbalan Setiausaha Agung ASEAN bagi Komuniti Sosio-Budaya ASEAN, dan di Pengerusikan oleh Yang Berbahagia Mohammad Jumhur Hidayat, Menteri Lingkungan Hidup Indonesia. Mesyuarat Kedua Puluh Tujuh Kumpulan Kerja Teknikal (TWG Ke-27) Mengenai Pencemaran Jerebu Rentas Sempadan telah diadakan sebelum Mesyuarat ini pada 8 Julai 2026.
2. Delegasi Brunei Darussalam telah diketuai oleh Yang Mulia Dayang Dr. Nor Imtihan binti Haji Abd Razak, Timbalan Menteri Pembangunan, Kementerian dan disertai oleh pegawai-pegawai kanan dari Jabatan Alam Sekitar, Taman dan Rekreasi Kementerian Pembangunan.
3. Mesyuarat mengesahkan semula komitmen mereka terhadap pelaksanaan penuh dan berkesan terhadap Perjanjian ASEAN mengenai Pencemaran Jerebu Retas Sempadan (AATHP) dan Pelan Strategik Komuniti Sosio-Budaya ASEAN (ASCC) untuk Visi Komuniti ASEAN 2045 yang mana ianya telah dimandatkan untuk mempertingkatkan pelaksanaan perjanjian serantau, seperti AATHP, serta memperkukuh keupayaan Pusat Penyelarasan ASEAN bagi Kawalan Pencemaran Jerebu Rentas Sempadan, demi mencapai komuniti mampan yang memajukan agenda kemampanan ASEAN selaras dengan Matlamat Pembangunan Mampan dan agenda pembangunan global pasca-2030.
4. Mesyuarat merakamkan penghargaan kepada Indonesia atas usaha berterusan dalam menyediakan penubuhan dan pengoperasian Pusat Penyelarasan ASEAN bagi Kawalan Pencemaran Jerebu Rentas Sempadan (ACC THPC),

termasuk kemajuan dalam pengaturan undang-undang dan prosedur serta dokumen operasi utama, infrastruktur dan kemudahan, keupayaan teknologi dan pemantauan, struktur organisasi, dan sokongan kewangan, serta merakamkan penghargaan kepada Viet Nam atas Instrumen Kelulusan (*Instrument of Approval*) bagi Perjanjian Penubuhan ACC THPC. Mesyuarat juga mengambil maklum tentang proses ratifikasi domestik yang sedang dijalankan oleh negara-negara MSC dan menegaskan kepentingan penyerahan dokumen ratifikasi, penerimaan, kelulusan, atau penyertaan tepat pada masanya oleh Negara Anggota ASEAN yang diperlukan bagi penguatkuasaannya demi memastikan pengoperasian penuh pusat tersebut.

5. Mesyuarat mengalu-alukan Pelan Pelaksanaan Rangka Kerja Pelaburan ASEAN untuk Pengurusan Tanah Mampan Bebas Jerebu (*Implementation Plan of the ASEAN Investment Framework for Haze-Free Sustainable Land Management*, AIF-HFSLM) sebagai pelengkap dan sokongan kepada pelaksanaan Pelan Hala Tuju Bebas Jerebu (*Haze-Free Roadmap*) dan Strategi Pengurusan Tanah Gambut ASEAN Kedua (APMS) 2023-2030 (*Second ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (APMS) 2023-2030*). Mesyuarat turut menggalakkan pengukuhan kerjasama dengan Rakan Dialog sedia ada, serta meneroka kerjasama baharu, bagi menangani punca utama dan faktor penyumbang kebakaran dan jerebu, melalui pengurusan hutan dan tanah gambut yang mampan, serta amalan pertanian dan sektor komoditi bebas jerebu, ke arah merealisasikan visi kita demi mencapai ASEAN Bebas Jerebu Rentas Sempadan menjelang 2030.

6. Mesyuarat mengambil maklum mengenai maklumat cuaca dan asap jerebu Pusat Meteorologi Khas ASEAN (ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre, ASMC), serta tinjauan bagi rantau selatan ASEAN. Jumlah keseluruhan bilangan titik panas di rantau selatan ASEAN bagi separuh pertama tahun 2026 meningkat kira-kira 86% berbanding tempoh yang sama pada tahun 2025. Peningkatan ini sebahagiannya berpunca daripada keadaan cuaca yang lebih kering daripada biasa di kebanyakan kawasan rantau ini sepanjang bulan Januari, Mac dan April 2026. ASMC turut melaporkan bahawa keadaan El Niño dijangka berterusan sepanjang separuh kedua tahun 2026 dan berkemungkinan menjadi lebih kuat bermula Ogos hingga September 2026. Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) positif pula diramal akan berkembang pada antara bulan Julai hingga Ogos 2026. Berdasarkan tinjauan iklim terkini, taburan hujan yang lebih rendah daripada biasa dijangka berlaku di kebanyakan kawasan di rantau selatan ASEAN dalam bulan-bulan mendatang. Keadaan ini berpotensi meningkatkan bilangan titik panas dan asap jerebu, sekali gus meningkatkan risiko berlakunya asap jerebu rentas sempadan di bawah pengaruh tiupan angin sedia ada dari arah tenggara atau barat daya. Situasi tersebut dijangka akan bertambah serius sekiranya El Niño yang kuat berkembang, yang akan meningkatkan kemungkinan berlakunya tempoh keadaan kering berpanjangan yang lebih lama. Mesyuarat mengalu-alukan usaha berterusan ASMC untuk menambah baik produk dan perkhidmatannya dalam pemodelan penyebaran jerebu, pembangunan produk pemetaan kawasan terbakar dan penambahbaikan pemantauan ENSO, serta program pembangunan kapasiti di peringkat serantau.

7. Mesyuarat turut mengiktiraf usaha berterusan Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (MET Malaysia) dalam memperkukuh keupayaan operasi Sistem Penarafan Bahaya Kebakaran Asia Tenggara (*Southeast Asia Fire Danger Rating System, FDRS*). Mesyuarat mengambil maklum penilaian MET Malaysia bahawa Indeks Cuaca

Kebakaran (*Fire Weather Indexes*, FWI) berada pada tahap rendah sepanjang tempoh Julai hingga Disember 2025, yang telah menyumbang kepada penurunan aktiviti titik panas berbanding tahun 2024 di rantau selatan ASEAN. Mesyuarat turut mengambil maklum mengenai pemasangan dua (2) Stesen Cuaca Bantu Automatik (*Automated Auxiliary Weather Stations*, AAWS) di kawasan hutan simpan tanah gambut di Semenanjung Malaysia bagi meningkatkan keupayaan pengesanan awal risiko kebakaran. Di samping itu, Mesyuarat mengalu-alukan pelancaran Model Kualiti Udara Komuniti Malaysia (*Malaysian Community Air Quality Model*, MyCMAQ) pada bulan Mac 2026 sebagai sistem ramalan kualiti udara operasi masa nyata yang menyediakan ramalan berkala beresolusi tinggi terhadap pencemar atmosfera di Malaysia dan rantau Asia Tenggara.

8. Berikutan laporan mengenai permulaan keadaan El Niño pada Jun 2026 dan ramalan MET Malaysia terhadap cuaca panas dan kering yang lebih mencabar disebabkan oleh fenomena El Niño, Mesyuarat menegaskan semula komitmennya untuk mengambil tindakan yang diselaraskan bersama komuniti, perniagaan, masyarakat sivil, rakan dialog, dan agensi kerajaan yang berkaitan bagi memperkukuh usaha pencegahan, kesiapsiagaan, pemadaman, dan mitigasi, serta sokongan yang diperlukan, selaras dengan Pelan Hala Tuju Bebas Jerebu (*Haze-Free Roadmap*) dan Prosedur Operasi Standard ASEAN bagi Pemantauan, Penilaian, dan Tindak Balas Kecemasan Bersama (*ASEAN Standard Operating Procedure for Monitoring, Assessment, and Joint Emergency Response*, SOP MAJER).

9. Mesyuarat bersetuju untuk meneroka dan menilai kebolehlaksanaan bagi menerapkan diplomasi sains dalam rangka kerja AATHP melalui mekanisme sedia ada atau penubuhan platform baharu, mengikut kesesuaian; serta meneliti kebolehlaksanaan untuk mempertingkatkan Dana Kawalan Pencemaran Jerebu Rentas Sempadan ASEAN dengan mempelbagaikan sumbangan daripada pihak berkepentingan lain yang berkaitan dan memperluas penggunaannya bagi penyelidikan saintifik serta inisiatif diplomasi sains, dengan didukung oleh rangka kerja tadbir urus yang telus dan bertanggungjawab.

10. Mesyuarat menantikan penganjuran Mesyuarat Ke-21 Jawatankuasa di bawah Persidangan Pihak-Pihak kepada Perjanjian ASEAN mengenai Pencemaran Jerebu Rentas Sempadan (COM-21) dan Mesyuarat Ke-21 Persidangan Ahli-Ahli Parti kepada Perjanjian ASEAN mengenai Pencemaran Jerebu Rentas Sempadan (COP-21) yang dijadualkan secara tentatif pada Oktober 2026 di Da Nang, Viet Nam.

11. Mesyuarat merakamkan penghargaan kepada Kerajaan Indonesia atas kesudian mejadi tuan rumah bagi Mesyuarat MSC ke-27 dan mengambil maklum mengenai Mesyuarat MSC ke-28 yang akan diadakan di Malaysia pada tahun 2027.

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