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ON THE OCCASION OF
THE OPENING OF
THE 11th CHINA-ASEAN PROSECUTORS-
GENERAL CONFERENCE (11th CAPGC)

THE RIZQUN INTERNATIONAL HOTEL
TUESDAY, 14th August 2018

Theme:
***"Enhancing Capabilities and Cooperation in Addressing
Cybercrime"***



العالمين
والصلاة والسلام على أشرف الأنبياء والمرسلين
سيدنا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين
اما بعد

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

The Honourable

Dato Paduka Haji Hairol Arni bin Haji Abdul Majid

Attorney General

Yang Mulia

Datin Seri Paduka Hajah Elinda binti Haji C.A Mohammad

Deputy Minister of Prime Minister Office

Yang Mulia

Dayang Zuraini binti Hj Sharbawi

Solicitor General

H.E. Mr Zhang Jun, Prosecutor General of the Supreme People's Procuratorate of
the People's Republic of China

Prosecutors-General of ASEAN Member States

Heads of Prosecuting Agencies of Hong Kong and Macau

Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all distinguished heads and members of delegations present here to attend **the 11TH CHINA-ASEAN PROSECUTORS-GENERAL CONFERENCE.**

Brunei Darussalam is honoured to host the Conference and its theme of ***“Enhancing Capabilities and Cooperation in Addressing Cybercrime”***.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We live in an increasingly interconnected world where technology has become an “indispensable” part of our daily lives, and where the promise of the “Internet of Things” (IOT) has begun to manifest itself in more and more of our data enabled devices.

Technology and the internet have fundamentally changed the way that we live and interact, bringing about a digital revolution that offers immense opportunities for social-economic growth and development.

The advances of this revolution however, have also led to the evolution of new generation of threats and risks, as criminals, terrorists and extremists, seek to exploit the borderless world of the internet for their own nefarious purposes.

Crime in cyberspace is attractive due to its swift, anonymous and borderless nature, and we now see an increase in fraud and money laundering carried out through the online technology.

The use of the internet by terrorists and extremists to spread their propaganda and facilitate recruitment is also on the rise, particularly through social media channels.

Brunei Darussalam too has seen its share of threats posed by cyber criminals and those seeking to promote terrorist and extremist agendas.

Our countries must be vigilant against new cyber threats that are constantly emerging. The proliferation of misinformation and confusion through "*fake news*" on the internet and its associated media has been identified as a new form of cybercrime that may endanger social cohesion and affect national security in many countries.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Nowadays, human creativity has been exploited to distort truth and create false stories with the aim to deliberately misinform the public for various interests and purposes. Today, our biggest challenge is to guarantee the credibility and reliability of the sources of information.

Without a doubt, fake news is a threat not only to the government, but also to society's trust in each other. Hence the need for:

- i. Education at all levels on the responsible use of digital technology. In Brunei Darussalam, the public is frequently reminded to be more responsible in using social media, besides reviewing our current laws and the monitoring processes.
- ii. The collective ASEAN way to engage media providers and others. This is not an issue that is affecting just one country or one sector. But ASEAN can leverage on our established communications link to combat the misuse and abuse of data.
- iii. Enhance data security. Strengthen network security so we are less liable to become victims of internet scams that illegally access our data.

Such misinformation requires swift response in order to avert public confusion and social disharmony that may harm a country's socio-political stability.

We have to be prepared to comprehensively secure the processes that allow us to face this change.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In view of this, Brunei Darussalam has taken a number of initiatives to tackle Cybercrime including:

- Firstly, strengthening enforcement in order to ensure that our nation and population are protected;

- Secondly, the establishment of the Cybersecurity Working Group to coordinate information sharing and formulate joint action to address cybercrime and cybersecurity matters, and led to the creation of the Brunei Darussalam National Cybersecurity Framework in 2017 to ensure the country's cyber defences are cohesive and robust;
- Thirdly, the setting up of a Cybercrime Focus Group by the Attorney General that aims to continuously study and research international best practices while ensuring our laws are compliant with international standards;
- Fourthly, creating a strong legal framework in any national strategy to address cybercrime where, the laws of Brunei Darussalam such as the Computer Misuse Act and the Penal Code ensured that cyber criminals are brought swiftly to justice and punished;
- In relations to this, Brunei Darussalam became the first country in this region to establish a Child Online Protection Framework built upon the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) - Child Online Protection Initiative in support of the country's priority in protecting children and younger generation;
- Lastly, public awareness campaigns and outreach programmes initiated by the Attorney General's office in educating younger generation and disseminating preventive messages to reduce vulnerability to cybercrime especially through Social Media.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Cybercrime is a global challenge that needs to be tackled collectively and we need to have an innovative approach to address it.

Hence, an international cooperation is essential and I encourage the prosecutors and law enforcement agencies of our region and beyond, to work closer together to eradicate cybercrime. This is particularly important in light of the recent ASEAN Leader's Statement on Cybersecurity Cooperation at the recent 32nd ASEAN summit in Singapore.

We need to work with multilateral agencies such as the United Nations and the International Police Organization (INTERPOL).

Regional efforts through ASEAN such as the ASEAN Cyber Capacity Program and ASEAN Cybersecurity Cooperation Strategy, as well as Conferences such as this play an important role in addressing cybercrime.

I also would like to commend the establishment of the ASEAN Cybercrime Prosecutors' Roundtable Meeting which provides a platform for sharing knowledge and expertise amongst prosecutors on fighting cybercrime across ASEAN.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On that note, I wish you all a fruitful and productive conference and encourage all delegations to share each other's best practices, as well as the challenges faced by your jurisdictions. I hope that you will also look at more efficient ways to cooperate with one another, to strengthen the region's cyber resilience.

The Joint Declaration that will be conclude this conference, will no doubt be a strong testament to the unwavering commitment of prosecutors in China-ASEAN region in fighting cybercrime.

I wish all delegations every success and a pleasant stay in Brunei Darussalam.

With the kalimah 'Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim', I now declare the 11th China-ASEAN Prosecutors-General Conference, officially open.

Wabillahit Taufiq Walhidayah, Wassalamu'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.
