

PRESS RELEASE

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM HOSTS 18TH ASEAN-OSHNET COORDINATING BOARD MEETING AND 4TH ASEAN-OSHNET CONFERENCE

The Department of Labour, Ministry of Home Affairs, hosted the 18th ASEAN Occupational Safety & Health Network (OSHNET) Coordinating Board Meeting on 4 to 5 April 2017 at the Centrepoint Hotel, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

The ASEAN-OSHNET Coordinating Board has been established since 1996. The Board Meetings are organized annually on a rotational basis among the ASEAN Member States. The main aims of the Coordinating Board Meeting are to exchange information, discuss strategies, and share practices and experiences in the field of occupational safety and health in ASEAN. The Meeting presents an opportunity for potential collaboration with external partners with a view to strengthen ASEAN's commitments towards the creation of safe and healthy workplaces in the region. ASEAN Governments, through the work of the Coordinating Board Meeting, have been actively implementing devised policies and programs on occupational safety and health in response to hazardous workplaces and workers' wellbeing.

This 18th ASEAN OSHNET Coordinating Board Meeting marks the second occasion that Brunei Darussalam had hosted the Board Meeting since the 8th ASEAN OSHNET Coordinating Board Meeting in the capital in 2007.

The two-day meeting was opened by Awang Abdul Mutalib bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Setia Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yusof, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs. The 18th ASEAN OSHNET Coordinating Board Meeting was chaired by Awang Ajman bin Haji Meludin, Commissioner of Labour, and attended by senior officers from the Department of Labour.

A total of 40 delegates had attended the event, including representatives from the ASEAN member states, government agencies of Brunei Darussalam, ASEAN-OSHNET Secretariat, the ASEAN Secretariat, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Association of Labour Inspection (IALI), the State Administration of Work Safety China (SAWS), the Korean Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA) and Japan Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW).

The 18th ASEAN OSHNET Coordinating Board Meeting will be followed by the 4th ASEAN OSHNET Conference on 6 April 2017. The Conference which will also be held at the Centrepoint Hotel, is expected to receive a wider audience of 200 invited participants and will see occupational safety and health-themed presentations by the

ASEAN-OSHNET, the International Labour Organization (ILO), local companies as well as by Government officials from ASEAN member states on progressive and current safety and health issues.