

## **47th ASEAN Ministers' Meeting concludes along with sideline events**

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Aug—The sideline meetings of the 47th ASEAN Ministers' Meeting were held here on Sunday. The ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations, the ASEAN-New Zealand Ministerial Meeting, the 4th East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum, and the 7th Mekong-Japan Ministerial Meeting at Myanmar International Convention Center-1 (MICC-1).

During the session of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations, the agreement was made on the multi-cooperation plan between the bloc and Australia from 2014 to 2019. The members of ASEAN appreciated Australia's movement in fighting against human trafficking cases with five-year plan since March 2014, with the exchange of views on international and regional affairs.

The meeting of the ASEAN-New Zealand Ministerial Meeting at 8 a.m. discussed the four joint pivotal plans of scholarship programme, exchange on young entrepreneurs, disaster management plans and agricultural sector, negotiating about holding the 40th anniversary of partnership.

The 4th East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting held at 11:30 a.m. was attended by foreign ministers from ASEAN members, as well as their counterparts from Australia, Canada, PR China, India, Japan, Korea, the United States and Russia Federation.

The event discussed the subsequent implementations on the result from the 8th East Asia Summit held in October 2013 and the preparations for the 9<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit which will be celebrated in November this year in Nay Pyi Taw.

The 21 ASEAN Region Forum was held with two sessions of exclusive meeting and inclusive meeting, with the participation of ministers of foreign affairs from ASEAN countries, as well as their counterparts from Australia, Bangladesh, PR China, Canada, EU, Korea, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, the United States, Russia Federation, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste.

The exclusive meeting discussed international and regional affairs, while the inclusive meeting reviewed the activities of ASEAN Regional Forum, anti-terrorism plans in 2014 and 2015, fighting against trans-border crimes.

The ASEAN Regional Forum also issued two declarations of preventions, responses and rehabilitation on oil spills, as well as forging cooperation on rescue plans on navigation and air transport.

The closing ceremony of the 47th ASEAN Ministers' Meeting and its sideline events were held with the farewell speech of Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin.