**Title: Measures on development of robotics and automation industry**

The cabinet approved the following:

1. Agreed in principle measures on development of robotics and automation industry, and assigned concerned agencies to proceed in accordance with related rules and regulations. Ministry of Industry is authorized as main agency.
2. Ministry of Industry and concerned agencies are to take opinions of the Cabinet Secretariat into consideration.

**Gist of the matter**

Measures on development of robotics and automation industry are:

1st Measure: Measure on marketing to stimulate demand for robotics and automation in manufacturing/ service industries

2nd Measure: Measure on competitive enhancement of System Integrator to accommodate the growth of robotics and automation industry

3rd measures: Measure on creating supply to upgrade production process and standard of robotics and automation industry

4th Measure: Measure on establishment of Center of Robotics Excellence (CoRE) as a mechanism for the development of robotics and automation industry

5th Measure: other measures

**Title: Thailand’s position for the 2nd Meeting of Thailand-Bhutan Joint Trade Committee (JTC)**

The Cabinet agreed and approved proposals made by Ministry of Commerce as follows:

1. Approved Thailand’s position for the 2nd Meeting of Thailand-Bhutan Joint Trade Committee (JTC)
2. Should there be any further arrangement on trade or economic cooperation which would be beneficial to bilateral trade between Thailand and Bhutan, if not resulting in written agreement, Ministry of Commerce and Thai delegation is to proceed without further approval from the cabinet.
3. Minister of Commerce or his representative is authorized to endorse the meeting’s minutes and other documents (if any).

**Gist of the matter**

Ministry of Commerce reported that Thailand will host the 2nd Meeting of Thailand-Bhutan Joint Trade Committee (JTC) during August 30-31, 2017 in Bangkok. H.E. Lyonpo Leki Dorji, Minister for Economic Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan, is to co-chair the meeting. Thailand will affirm its position in the following areas: 1) trade and investment; 2) tourism cooperation; 3) agricultural cooperation; 4) industrial product development; and 5) medical treatment for Bhutanese people in Thailand.

**Title: Request for approval of the preparation and signing of the draft agreement between UNESCO and the government of Thailand on establishment of the Category 2 International Training Centre in Astronomy**

The cabinet approved proposals made by Ministry of Science and Technology as follows:

1. Approved draft agreement between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the government of Thailand on establishment of the Category 2 International Training Centre in Astronomy. Should there be any amendment, if not affecting the gist of the document or against the benefits or policies of Thailand, Ministry of Science and Technology, in consultation with Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is authorized to proceed without further approval from the cabinet.
2. Minister of Science and Technology or his representative is authorized as signatory.

The training centre is aimed to:

1) Train new researchers, teachers, and students in astronomy and sciences

2) Enhance potentiality in astronomy

3) Strengthen research and study in astronomy

UNESCO will provide support for the centre’s various activities, such as exchanging of experts and staff, while the Thai Government subsidizes resources necessary for the operation of the centre. The centre operates independently, and is not affiliated with UNESCO.

**Title: Draft MoU on Cooperation within the Framework of Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road initiative**

The Cabinet approved proposals made by Ministry of Foreign Affairs as follows:

1. Agreed with the Draft MoU on Cooperation within the Framework of Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road initiative. Should there be any amendment, if not affecting gist of the document or against the benefit of Thailand or against principles the Cabinet has agreed, Ministry of Foreign Affairs is authorized to proceed accordingly without further approval from the cabinet.
2. Minister of Foreign Affairs or his representative is authorized as signatory.

**The draft MOU** aims to promote cooperation on linkage of economic zones in all aspects (policy, facilitations, trade linkage, financial integration, and people-to-people interaction) through existing mechanisms, i.e., exchange of high-level visits between the public and private sectors, organizing forums to exchange information, joint researches, staff exchanges, and training, etc.

**Title: The 7th Mekong-Republic of Korea Cooperation Foreign Ministers’ Meeting**

The Cabinet approved proposals made by Ministry of Foreign Affairs as follows:

1. Agreed in principle on the draft Mekong - Republic of Korea Plan of Action (2017-2020), and the draft joint statement of the 7th Mekong-Republic of Korea Foreign Ministers’ Meeting. Should there be any amendment, if not affecting gist of the document or against the benefit of Thailand, Ministry of Foreign Affairs is authorized to proceed accordingly without further approval from the cabinet.
2. Minister of Foreign Affairs or his representative is authorized as signatory.

**The Draft Action Plan** specifies activities and projects to be implemented in the next 3 years in accordance with the visions and goals set in the Han-River Declaration. Cooperation specified under the Action Plan are in the areas of: 1. Infrastructure, 2. information and communication technology, 3. sustainable growth, 4. water resources development, 5. agriculture and rural development, 6. human resources development, and 7. Mekong - Republic of Korea Cooperation Fund.