



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND COOPERATIVES
THAILAND**



**MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES,
ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
MALAYSIA**

REPORT

THE 17TH MEETING OF THAILAND – MALAYSIA JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE (JSC) ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GOLOK RIVER BASIN

**22 JUNE 2023
ONLINE MEETING**

INTRODUCTION

The Seventeenth Meeting of Thailand - Malaysia Joint Steering Committee (JSC) on the Development of the Golok River Basin was held virtually on 22 June 2023.

The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Sedthakiat Krajangwongs, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC), Thailand, and YBhg. Dato' Haji Rosli Bin Isa, Secretary General, Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change (NRECC), Malaysia.

AGENDA 1 OPENING REMARKS

- 1.1 Mr. Sedthakiat Krajangwongs, the Head of the Thai Delegation, welcomed both delegates from Malaysia and Thailand to the 17th JSC Meeting. He mentioned that this project was a shining example of how neighboring countries could integrate work to promote understanding, goodwill, and cooperation in the development and management of transboundary rivers for the well-being of our people. He expressed his gratitude to all delegates for their contributions to the project. He also encouraged both sides to resolve pending issues and ensure the project's smooth implementation, which would serve as a model for future collaborations. The full text of his Opening Remarks appeared as **ANNEX 1**.
- 1.2 Yang Berbahagia Dato' Haji Rosli Bin Isa, the Head of the Malaysian Delegation, expressed his sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to Thailand for arranging this Meeting online after it was initially scheduled for 2020 but postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The full text of his Opening Remarks appeared as **ANNEX 2**.

AGENDA 2 ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA

The Meeting adopted the Agenda, which appeared as **ANNEX 3**.

AGENDA 3 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

3.1 Monitoring and Evaluation of Golok River Mouth

The Meeting was informed that:

- (1) The Malaysian side proposed to adjust the design channel level to be -4.0m instead of -3.0m while maintaining the stability of river banks and their engineering protection works, for larger ships and low tide navigation.
- (2) The monitoring survey also showed that there was no sedimentation within the navigation channel (> -3.00 MSL).
- (3) A task force team was formed to determine the method of measurement for river discharge and finalized matters of the hydrological station at Golok River and its tributaries. The team was led by a hydrologist from each side and the team members, which appeared as **ANNEX 4.**

Endorsement by JSC

The Meeting agreed to continue the monitoring survey with a more detailed analysis. The Meeting also agreed to form the task force team as recommended by the Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG).

3.2 Maintenance Dredging of Golok River Mouth

The Meeting was informed that the maintenance dredging was required based on the following criteria from the Joint Hydraulics Studies:

- a) "The cross-section of the river mouth between Thai and Malaysian breakwater tips is blocked up to 30% (for drainage) or
- b) The bed level at the river mouth is -2m MSL or shallower (for navigation)."

The Meeting took note of the results of the pre-monsoon survey 2022 as follows:

- a) The cross-section of the river mouth was not blocked (0%)
- b) The maximum sea bed level was at -2.70 m MSL < -2.0 m MSL

c) Erosion at THAI breakwater was about -5.90 m MSL

which appeared as **ANNEX 5**.

The Meeting noted that there is a need to dredge the bed level to -4m MSL for navigation purposes at the Golok River Mouth.

Endorsement by JSC

The Meeting took note that the Malaysia team will arrange an internal discussion on the data and information required with all related Malaysia's technical agencies and report back to the Joint Evaluation Team (JET) and JTWG.

3.3 Mutual Calibration of Rating Curve at Cableway Station

The Meeting was informed that:

- (1) Twenty-four (24) mutual gauging was done from January until December 2021, and the Maximum Discharge was recorded at 433.342 cumecs on 6 January 2021.
- (2) The results of the 2022 mutual gauging data **appeared as ANNEX 6**. The maximum discharge was recorded at 476.323 m³/s at the stage of 10.14 m. MSL. on 26th February 2022 **appeared as ANNEX 7**.
- (3) The 2021 mutual rating curve developed by the Thai side using water year mutual gauging data **appeared as ANNEX 8**. This rating curve was selected because of the highest maximum flow rate 560 m³/s at the stage of 10.60m for flood prediction purposes.
- (4) The cross-section at the cableway station showed no significant change by comparing 2021 and 2022.
- (5) The comparison of the 2021 and 2022 engineering cross survey at the cableway station done by the Thai side, showed that the riverbank on the Thai side was slightly higher (0.698m MSL) compared to the Malaysia river bank.

Endorsement by JSC

The Meeting took note of the results of the 2022 mutual gauging data.

3.4 Real-Time Monitoring System and Joint Websites for Golok River Basin

The Meeting noted that fifteen (15) telemetry hydrological data had been shared on the Golok Joint Website (<http://h2o.water.gov.my/golok/main.html>).

Malaysia team proposed for a separate website to be developed for this purpose and its cost to be borne by both parties.

Endorsement by JSC

The Meeting agreed on this proposal.

3.5 Flood Problem in Golok River Basin

The Meeting was informed that:

- (1) Tumpat district in Kelantan suffered severe flooding on 2 December 2019, which lasted for 2 weeks. The Thai team also informed that they also experienced severe flooding in Sungai Kolok and Tak Bai districts.
- (2) The Malaysian team had initiated a flood bund project.
- (3) The Malaysian team requested data sharing regarding flood bund level by both sides.
- (4) The Malaysian side presented the layout concept of the flood bund project. The project was in the final stage of construction.
- (5) Both sides shared flood bund level on 14 November 2022.

Endorsement by JSC

The Meeting took note of the flood bund project.

3.6 Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) Plan for Golok River

The Meeting was informed that:

- (1) The new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Government of Malaysia and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand in the field of Integrated River Basin Management had been drafted by the Malaysian team and a copy of the proposed MOU was forwarded to Wisma Putra on 21 July 2020, hence Wisma Putra has sent the draft MOU to Thailand through the diplomatic channel on 18 August 2020;
- (2) The draft MOU was also submitted to the Thai team during the Sixteenth Joint Steering Committee Meeting for review and further action.
- (3) The National Water Resources (ONWR) was reviewing the draft MOU.

The Malaysian side suggested that the matter to be dropped and for it to be discussed on other platforms as it was beyond the scope of the JSC.

Endorsement by JSC

The Meeting agreed to drop this agenda from the JSC Meeting and for it to be discussed on the relevant platform as it was beyond the scope of the JSC.

3.7 Protection Works at Transit Point B

The Meeting was informed that:

- (1) Transit Point B was a lighthouse located at the Golok River Mouth and also acted as a national boundary marking.
- (2) The monitoring found that erosion was occurring around the structure. Therefore, the protection works around the Transit Point B structure needed to be implemented immediately.

Refer to Minutes of JSC-16 (Apr 2019)

The Meeting was informed that the Malaysian side received the report of the design of protection work at Transit Point B from the Thai side. The Malaysian side was currently reviewing the report.

The Malaysian side observed that the proposed protection works involved new specifications and components, which needed to be further deliberated since it was not in line with the provisions in the 1997 Agreement. Hence, Malaysia proposed a new agreement be drafted and negotiated between both sides.

The Thai side's opinion was that the 1997 Agreement included the proposed protection works, which were stated as protection works to transit point B under ANNEX 1 Paragraph 3.0 (b) of the 1997 Agreement.

The Thai side proposed that the Supplementary Agreement be prepared in line with Article 9 of the 1997 Agreement.

Refer to Minutes of JTWG-37 (MAR 2020)

The Meeting was informed that the proposed protection works at Transit Point B had been designed by the Thai team.

The Malaysian team agreed on the proposed protection works and requested the Thai team to consider adding a landing point or jetty for maintenance works for Transit Point B. The Thai team agreed to consider the matters and would be present in the next JET meeting.

Report by 38th JTWG (AUG 2022)

The Thai side proposed for the Malaysian side to check the stability of the Transit Point B structure as the latest survey showed that erosion occurred at Transit Point B at - 7.3m Thai MSL. The Malaysian side took note of this matter.

The Thai side informed that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) was not represented in the JET Thai Committee for considering the 1997 Agreement on The Golok Rivermouth Improvement Project.

The JET Meeting agreed that this matter be further discussed in the next JTWG Meeting.

Endorsement by JSC

The Meeting noted that the Malaysian side needed more time to study and prepare the supplementary agreement proposed by the Thai side and would report at the next JTWG Meeting.

AGENDA 4 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

Rehabilitation and Protection Works at Golok River Mouth

The Meeting was informed that the EIA for the proposed Rehabilitation and Protection Works at Golok River Mouth was approved in August 2021.

Both sides proposed the JSC endorse the construction roadmap to construct works at the same time this year.

Endorsement by JSC

The Meeting endorsed the construction roadmap. Both sides would undertake the Rehabilitation and Protection Works at Golok River Mouth at the same time this year.

AGENDA 5 DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The Meeting agreed to convene the 18th Meeting of the JSC as follows:

- Host: Malaysia
- Proposed Date: September 2025
- Proposed Venue: Pulau Pinang

The Meeting agreed to convene the 39th Meeting of the JTWG as follows:

- Host: Thailand
- Proposed Date: August or September 2023
- Proposed Venue: Phuket

AGENDA 6 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

The Meeting adopted the Report of the 17th Meeting of Thailand - Malaysia Joint Steering Committee on the Development of the Golok River Basin through ad-referendum.

AGENDA 7 CLOSING SESSION

YBhg. Dato' Haji Rosli Bin Isa, Secretary General, Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change (NRECC), Malaysia, expressed his appreciation to the Thai delegation and the Secretariat for their valuable cooperation and excellent arrangements for the Meeting. The full text of his Remarks appeared as **ANNEX 9**.

Mr. Sedthakiat Krajangwongs, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC), Thailand, expressed his gratitude to all delegates of the JSC for their contributions and active participation leading to the successful outcome of this Meeting. He looked forward to the next Meeting in Malaysia in 2025. The full text of his Closing Remarks appeared as **ANNEX 10**.

**OPENING ADDRESS
BY
MR. SEDTHAKIAT KRAJANGEWONGS
DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES, THAILAND**

**AT THE 17TH MEETING OF
THAILAND – MALAYSIA JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE
ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GOLOK RIVER BASIN
22 JUNE 2023
VIRTUAL MEETING**

Dato' Haji Rosli Bin Isa
Secretary-General
Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of the Kingdom of Thailand as well as on my own behalf, I am pleased and honored to welcome you to the Seventeenth Meeting of Thailand - Malaysia Joint Steering Committee on the Development of the Golok River Basin today.

As all of us are well aware, the Joint Steering Committee Meeting has gone its long way in fostering understanding, goodwill and cooperation between us, which has resulted in successful cooperation in various areas, including the development of the Golok River Basin. This project is a shining example of how neighboring countries can integrate work at the local, bilateral, and international levels to promote understanding, goodwill, and cooperation in the development and management of transboundary rivers for the well-being of our people.

I am pleased to learn about the progress of work since our last Meeting in April 2019, even though we had a hard time with COVID-19. I take this opportunity to thank the related officers of both sides for your kind contribution to the project.

I am confident that we will continue our best efforts and amicably solve our pending issues to ensure the smooth implementation of this project to reflect the remarkable cooperation between our two countries. Our success will pave the way for other collaborative projects. Moreover, the successful form of cooperation for the common work can be a showcase to other projects and the international community.

I look forward to a productive virtual meeting today and to continuing our fruitful partnership in the years to come.

Thank you.

OPENING ADDRESS
BY
YANG BERBAHAGIA DATO' HJ. ROSLI BIN ISA
SECRETARY GENERAL
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES,
ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE CHANGE (NRECC), MALAYSIA

AT THE 17TH MEETING OF
THAILAND – MALAYSIA JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE
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Bismillahi Rahmanir Rahim,
Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh
Good Evening and Salam Sejahtera.

Thank you Mr. Sedthakiat Krajangwongs

Greetings Your Excellency, Mr. Sedthakiat Krajangwongs,
Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, and all distinguished members,

Good Morning, Sawadee Krab and Selamat Pagi,

It is a great honour to be able to Co-Chair this 17th Joint Steering Committee meeting with Your Excellency Mr. Sedthakiat Krajangwongs this morning. Let me introduce myself, my name is **Dato' Haji Rosli Bin Isa, Secretary General of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia**. On behalf of Malaysia's delegates would like to express our gratitude to the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand for arranging this meeting online.

First of all, on behalf of the Government of Malaysia, please allow me to extend to all delegates the most cordial and warmest welcome to the 17th Meeting of Malaysia – Thailand Joint Steering Committee (JSC) on the development of Golok River Basin. It is indeed a great honour to attend this 17th JSC Meeting on the Development of Golok River Basin this year hosted by Thailand. It has been four years since our last meeting in April 2019 at Pahang, Malaysia for the 16th JSC Meeting. The 17th meeting was

originally scheduled to be held in 2020 but postponed due to the global pandemic Covid-19 disease. Fortunately, we are able to meet again today via online.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen all distinguished members,

The Joint Cooperation Meetings between Malaysia and Thailand have gone its long way in fostering understanding, goodwill and cooperation between us. The meetings provide us with a forum to share and exchange our experiences and expertise through joint cooperation programs.

In this Biennial JSC meeting, the agreed matters discussed in the recent 38th Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG) meeting held via online last year on 29th August will be discussed in this meeting. I am confident that this meeting will be conducted in the most efficient manner with the support and commitment from both sides of delegations.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen all distinguished members,

I am sure and confident that this spirit of cooperation through friendly and fruitful meetings will enhance our relationship between two countries, for mutual benefits and hopefully lead to more joint projects in the future.

May our efforts be blessed, and may this session be a productive one. With that note, I end my opening remarks.

Thank you.



Proposed Agenda

Agenda 1: Opening Session

Agenda 2: Adoption of Agenda

Agenda 3: Matters for Information

- 3.1 Monitoring and Evaluation of Golok River Mouth
- 3.2 Maintenance Dredging of Golok River Mouth
- 3.3 Mutual Calibration of Rating Curve at Cableway Station
- 3.4 Real Time Monitoring System and Joint Website for Golok River Basin
- 3.5 Flood Problem in Golok River Basin
- 3.6 Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) Plan for Golok River
- 3.7 Protection Work at Transit Point B

Agenda 4: Matters for Consideration

- 4.1 Rehabilitation and Protection Works at Golok River Mouth

Agenda 5 : Other Matters

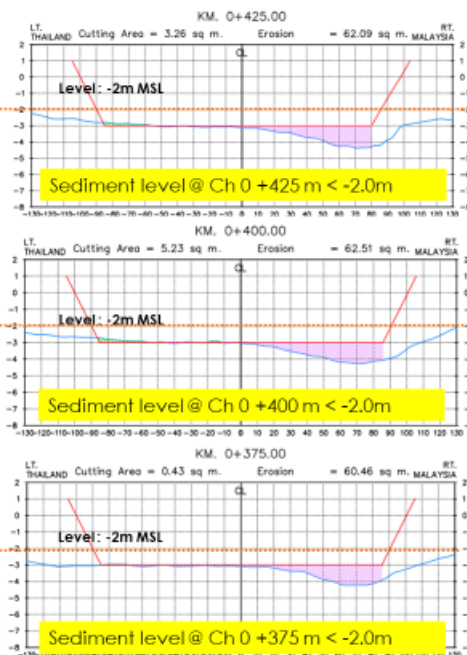
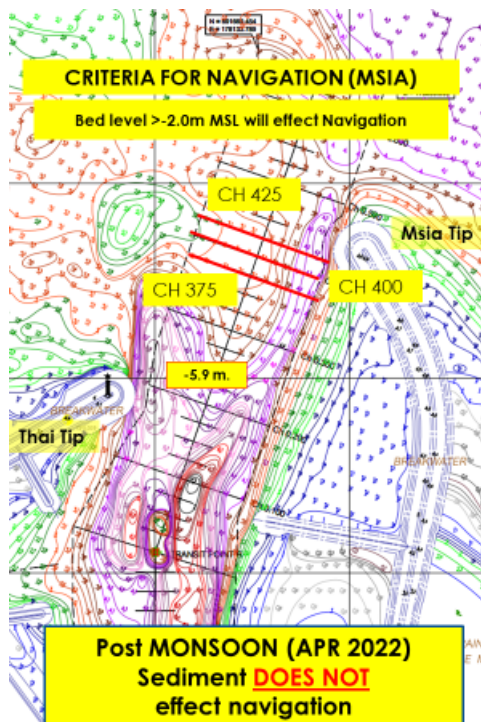
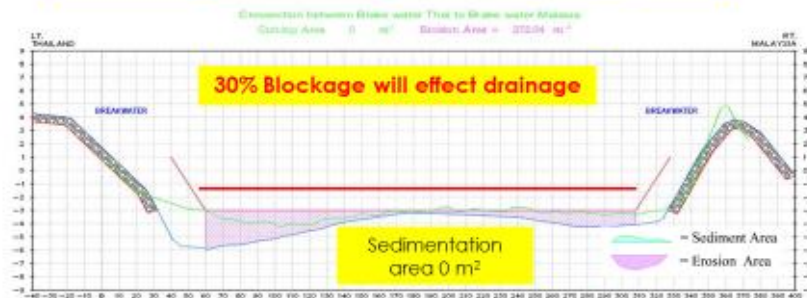
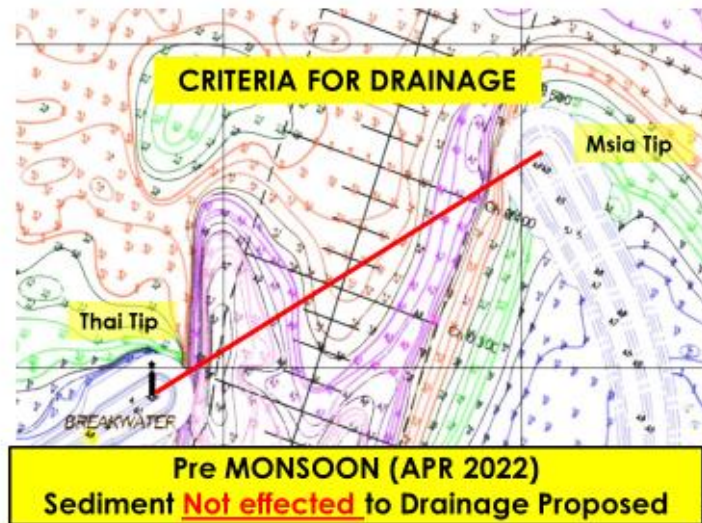
Agenda 6: Adoption Of Minutes Of Meeting

Agenda 7: Closing Session

ANNEX 4

Revised of Task Force Team			
THAILAND TEAM		MALAYSIA TEAM	
	Acting Lt. Tanasakda Tuptone Director, Hydrology Irrigation Center (Southern Region), Royal Irrigation Department		Ir. Yuhaslin bin Yusof Acting Deputy Director Water Resources Management and Hydrology Division, Department of Irrigation and Drainage Malaysia
	Mr. Chinnawat Prommanop Director, Golok River Basin Operation and Maintenance Project Regional Irrigation Office 17		Mr. Zaidi bin Deraman Engineer Department of Irrigation and Drainage Kelantan
	Mr. Soratorn Panluan Survey Engineer, Professional Level Survey and Engineering Bureau, Marine Department		Mrs. Kalsom binti Mean Senior Engineer Coastal Zone Management Division, Department of Irrigation and Drainage Malaysia
	Mr. Attapan Diloksopon Civil Engineer, Professional Level Royal Irrigation Department (Secretariat)		Mr. Mohd Eizam bin Yusof Engineer Division of Water Resources Management and Hydrology, Department of Irrigation and Drainage Malaysia (Secretariat)

ANNEX 5



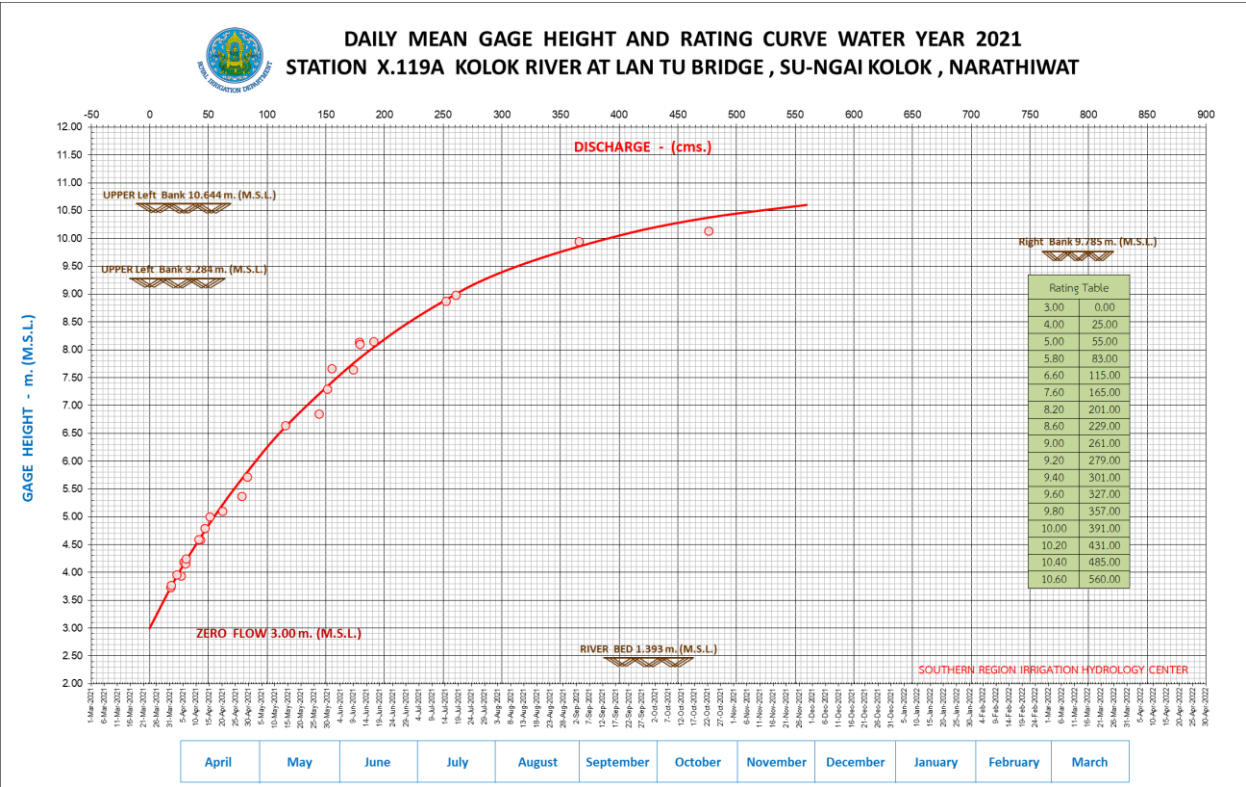
ANNEX 6

Mutual Gauging Data at Golok River at Rantau Panjang Cableway Station

Mutual Gauging 2021					
No.	Date	Stage (m)	Discharge (m ³ /s)	Area, A (m ²)	Velocity (m/s)
1	6 Jan 2021	10.100	433.342	363.300	1.193
2	12 Jan 2021	8.280	205.999	252.711	0.815
3	18 Feb 2021	3.630	13.343	58.042	0.23
4	10 Mar 2021	3.320	8.053	48.800	0.165
5	9 Apr 2021	4.190	28.747	72.248	0.398
6	22 Apr 2021	3.940	26.897	69.724	0.381
7	20 May 2021	5.370	78.226	111.700	0.7
8	23 May 2021	5.720	83.211	124.095	0.61
9	25 May 2021	4.790	46.634	91.056	0.512
10	24 June 2021	5.000	51.128	89.900	0.569
11	30 July 2021	3.730	17.534	42.200	0.415
12	26 Aug 2021	4.590	43.167	75.600	0.571
13	30 Aug 2021	6.10	49.615	89.347	0.556
14	23 Sep 2021	3.960	22.626	51.100	0.433
15	28 Oct 2021	4.160	30.509	62.060	0.492
16	17 Nov 2021	7.660	155.199	195.381	0.794
17	18 Nov 2021	8.140	178.486	216.455	0.825
18	3 Dec 2021	8.100	178.946	232.040	0.772
19	3 Dec 2021	8.150	190.823	223.307	0.855
20	17 Dec 2021	7.300	151.439	186.367	0.813
21	18 Dec 2021	8.880	252.129	272.463	0.925
22	18 Dec 2021	8.980	260.807	275.885	0.945
23	19 Dec 2021	9.950	365.831	339.186	1.079
24	31 Dec 2021	7.640	173.423	215.140	0.806

Agenda 3.3: Mutual Calibration of Rating Curve at Cableway Station

TABLE 3.5.2: Mutual Gauging 2022					
No	Date	Stage (m)	Discharge (m ³ /s)	Area, A (m ²)	Velocity (m/s)
1	19 Jan 2022	4.250	30.793	72.675	0.424
2	25 Jan 2022	4.18	18.271	58.763	0.311
3	28 Jan 2022	3.770	18.065	54.873	0.329
4	10 Feb 2022	6.640	115.712	166.650	0.694
5	10 Feb 2022	7.05	117.967	164.927	0.715
6	24 Feb 2022	5.100	61.722	107.424	0.575
7	25 Feb 2022	6.850	144.310	175.842	0.821
8	26 Feb 2022	10.140	476.323	412.507	1.157
9	31 Mar 2022	4.600	41.863	88.564	0.473
10	21 April 2022	5.31	67.143	114.592	0.586
11	22 May 2022	4.570	40.636	92.037	0.442
12	13 Jun 2022	4.80	38.916	87.376	0.445
13	22 Jun 2022	5.16	51.871	97.787	1.142
14	22 July 2022	4.88	36.970	81.822	0.452
15	24 August 2022	4.26	38.624	84.993	0.455



**CLOSING REMARKS
BY
DATO' HAJI ROSLI BIN ISA
YANG BERBAHAGIA DATO' HJ. ROSLI BIN ISA
SECRETARY GENERAL
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES,
ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE CHANGE (NRECC), MALAYSIA**

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Your Excellency Mr. Sedthakiat Krajangwongs,
Ladies and Gentlemen
and all distinguished members,

We have come to the end of our 17th JSC meeting. It has been a great honor to attend this meeting and to be able to co-chair this meeting with Mr. Sedthakiat Krajangwongs for the first time.

Undoubtedly this meeting provides an excellent opportunity for us to discuss and to fortify our joint cooperation program. Other than discussing related issues to this cooperation, I am glad that we are also able to share other technical and common issues together for the good of both countries.

With the concrete actions and contributions from both sides, we managed to deliberately discuss all the relevant issues in detail and together agreed to consider the issues to be taken by JTWG and JET for further implementations. It is my belief that this spirit of cooperation through friendly and fruitful meetings will continue and become a path to numerous opportunities for future cooperation. While waiting for the next meeting, I certainly hope we shall continue with our support and correspondence with each other at any time.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen
and all distinguished members,

The next 18th JSC meeting is expected to be held in 2025 and will be hosted by Malaysia, and we are looking forward to the continuation of this joint cooperation. We will ensure to offer our best hospitality to you just like we always received from Thailand every time we went to Thailand in our previous meeting.

On that note, I would like to take this opportunity again to express my sincere appreciation to all delegates, both from Malaysia and Thailand for your strong support and continued cooperation in making this meeting a success, and to the organizing committee for all your efforts in organizing this meeting. We hope to see you again in the near future or in the next 18th JSC meeting hosted by Malaysia in the year 2025. Thank you.

**CLOSING REMARKS
BY
MR. SEDTHAKIAT KRAJANGEWONGS
DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES, THAILAND**

**AT THE 17TH MEETING OF
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22 JUNE 2023
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Dato' Haji Rosli Bin Isa

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, I want to take a moment to thank all delegates for your valuable contributions and active participation. Your hard work and cooperation have played a crucial role in the successful outcome of this meeting.

Together, we have made significant progress in the development of the Golok River Basin, thanks to our strong partnership. The Golok River Mouth Improvement Project is a prime example of how neighboring countries can work together for sustainable development.

Let us continue working closely together and achieve even more success in the Golok River Basin, benefiting the people living there and the two nations.

Once again, I want to express my gratitude to each of you for your dedication and effort in making this project possible. Your commitment is truly inspiring and greatly appreciated.

Wishing you all the best and looking forward to our next meeting in Malaysia in 2025.

I now declare the Meeting close.

Thank you.

Terima Kasih.