



**ASEAN
CAMBODIA 2022**

ASEAN A.C.T.:
Addressing Challenges Together

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE 55th ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING 3 August 2022

1. The 55th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) was held on 3 August 2022 in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia. The Meeting was chaired by Cambodia under the theme "ASEAN A.C.T.: Addressing Challenges Together." We reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to address our common challenges and to sustain the momentum of ASEAN's community-building efforts with a strong sense of togetherness. We also discussed the need to further strengthen engagement and cooperation with Dialogue Partners and external partners, including through existing ASEAN-led mechanisms, and the importance of ASEAN Centrality, credibility and relevance in maintaining peace, stability, and prosperity in our regional and global endeavours amidst uncertainty and rapid changes in Southeast Asia and beyond.

ASEAN COMMUNITY BUILDING

ASEAN Community Vision 2025

2. We reaffirmed our commitment towards the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025. We underscored the importance of maintaining ASEAN's unity and Centrality in our community-building efforts and engagement with external partners, in promoting peace, security and stability as well as in enhancing regional resilience in response to common and emerging challenges.
3. We reaffirmed our shared commitment to maintaining and promoting peace, security and stability in the region, as well as to the peaceful resolution of disputes, including full respect for legal and diplomatic processes, without resorting to the threat or use of force, in accordance with the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
4. We reaffirmed our belief that regionalism and multilateralism are important principles and frameworks of cooperation, and that their strength and value lie in their inclusivity, rules-based nature, and emphasis on mutual benefit and respect.
5. We commended the ongoing work of all ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and Organs for progress in the implementation of the three ASEAN Community Blueprints 2025. We noted that the Mid-Term Reviews of the ASEAN Community Blueprints and their recommendations serve to accelerate the implementation of remaining and ongoing action lines in order to ensure the timely accomplishments of the Blueprints. We further noted the need to incorporate

and align action lines of the ASEAN Community Blueprints with the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework.

6. We underscored the importance of seizing the opportunities of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) with the COVID-19 pandemic having accentuated the urgency for digital transformation. We welcomed the adoption of the Consolidated Strategy on the 4IR for ASEAN at the 38th and 39th ASEAN Summits, and noted the ongoing work to coordinate an implementation plan to operationalise the Consolidated Strategy. We encouraged relevant sectoral bodies from across the three Community pillars to contribute to the development of ASEAN's 4IR Implementation Plan. We also welcomed the support extended by ASEAN's Dialogue Partners and external partners to prepare ASEAN in embracing the 4IR, including initiatives to enhance ASEAN's 4IR capacity and readiness.
7. We emphasised the importance of strengthening ASEAN's cross-pillar and cross-sectoral coordination, including through enhancing the role and function of the Joint Consultative Meeting (JCM) which has been mandated to promote the coordination of cross-cutting issues across the three pillars. In this regard, we urged for active and full participation of all JCM members to focus on substantive and strategic coordination in line with their mandate.

ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision

8. We noted with satisfaction the progress made by the High-Level Task Force on the ASEAN's Community's Post-2025 Vision (HLTF-ACV) in the development of the ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision. We looked forward to the finalisation of the core elements by the HLTF-ACV to be submitted to the ASEAN Coordinating Council for consideration. We also looked forward to the submission by the HLTF-ACV of its recommendations on strengthening ASEAN's capacity and institutional effectiveness to ASEAN Leaders at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits later this year for consideration.

Review of the Implementation of the ASEAN Charter

9. We commended the work of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR), assisted by the ASEAN Secretariat, in conducting the review of the implementation of the ASEAN Charter and noted the submission of its recommendations to the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC) for further guidance. We looked forward to the effective implementation of the recommendations to ensure the smooth and efficient functioning of the ASEAN system.

ASEAN's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

10. We remained concerned with the continued human cost and suffering as well as profound socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and acknowledged the ongoing whole-of-government efforts of ASEAN Member States as well as a proactive whole-of-Community approach by ASEAN in advancing its collective efforts to respond to, and recover swiftly from, COVID-19.

11. We further noted the important coordinating role of the ACC and the active work of the ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group on Public Health Emergencies (ACCWG-PHE), as well as the work of the ASEAN Health Sector and other relevant sectoral bodies, which demonstrate ASEAN's solidarity and ability to address unprecedented challenges of this pandemic in a coordinated multi-sectoral, cross-pillar and multi-stakeholder manner.
12. We welcomed the continued utilisation of, and the contributions to, the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund and underscored the need to continue strengthening the Fund and the region's capacities to prevent, prepare for, detect, respond to, and recover from future emerging diseases.
13. We encouraged the effective operationalisation of the ASEAN Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies (RRMS) for Public Health Emergencies and the ASEAN Strategic Framework for Public Health Emergencies. We appreciated ASEAN's efforts towards the establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED) and looked forward to the finalisation of the ACPHEED's establishment agreement by September 2022, based on outcome of the "Results of the Trilateral Ministerial Meeting" (Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam) on ACPHEED, held on 13 May 2022 which was presented at the 15th ASEAN Health Ministers' Meeting (AHMM) Retreat.
14. We noted with satisfaction the progress of implementation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) and its Implementation Plan to accelerate ASEAN's COVID-19 recovery efforts with a view to mitigating the profound and multidimensional impact of the pandemic, strengthening supply chain connectivity, supporting economic recovery and improving stability and resilience of the region.
15. We underscored the importance of strengthening ASEAN's cooperation with its Dialogue Partners, external partners, and international organisations to address the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases as well as in preparing for other future public health emergencies. We welcome contributions and support from external partners to the region's recovery efforts, including through the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund. We called for enhanced collaboration, coordination and sharing of information and experience and expertise with ASEAN's partners in support of ASEAN's efforts to develop manufacturing and strengthen research networks to attain vaccine security and self-reliance during peace times and emergency situations, access affordable and quality COVID-19 vaccines and medicines, and build capacities for regional and national health systems.
16. On the economic front, we recognised the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic through widespread supply chain disruptions, job losses, and demand shocks. We reiterated our commitment to keeping our markets open for trade and investment, promoting and accelerating trade and investment facilitation initiatives, enhancing transparency, and refraining from imposing unnecessary non-tariff measures to ensure supply chain connectivity, particularly for food, medicines, medical supplies, and other essential products. We welcomed the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the Implementation of Non-Tariff Measures on Essential Goods under the

Hanoi Plan of Action on Strengthening ASEAN Economic Cooperation and Supply Chain Connectivity in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

17. We commended the coordination and efforts by various sectoral bodies on measures towards reopening and recovery, particularly the Joint Statement on Mutual Recognition of COVID-19 Vaccination Certificates recently adopted by the 15th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting.
18. We appreciated the continuous work by the *Ad Hoc* Task Force on the Operationalisation of the ASEAN Travel Corridor Arrangement Framework (ATCAF) including efforts to publicise the Framework. We acknowledged that the ATCAF is a useful tool for ASEAN during the time of travel restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and future public health emergencies. We looked forward to further discussion on the implementation of the ATCAF in line with the ASEAN Declaration on the ASEAN Travel Corridor Arrangement Framework.

ASEAN Connectivity

19. We commended the progress in implementing the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025, which supports COVID-19 recovery and strengthens resilience towards achieving a connected, sustainable and inclusive ASEAN Community. We welcomed the findings of the Assessment of Future Sustainable Infrastructure Trends and Priorities in a Post-Pandemic ASEAN to assist in promoting new priority areas of sustainable infrastructure. We looked forward to the finalisation of the Framework on ASEAN Supply Chain Efficiency and Resilience which aims to promote globally competitive ASEAN supply chains through innovation and continuous improvement in cost, speed, reliability, and resilience. We were pleased with the implementation of the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS), including through the successful convening of the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Forum on 6-8 October 2021 and completion of city technical proposals. We looked forward to the launch of the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Report this year.
20. We appreciated the continued support from Dialogue Partners, and other external partners through connectivity projects and activities. We encouraged relevant stakeholders to further strengthen existing partnerships and forge new partnerships through co-development of initiatives and financing schemes in advancing MPAC 2025 and beyond. To this end, we looked forward to the adoption of the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025. We encouraged the implementation of the Connecting the Connectivities initiative, which supports the implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific (AOIP).

ASEAN Smart Cities Network

21. We commended the concerted efforts of the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) in advancing the smart city action plans and strengthening partnerships for smart and sustainable urban development, as well as in the regional response to, and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. We noted that ensuring synergies between the ASCN and other ASEAN urban initiatives, such as the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS) under MPAC 2025,

would be crucial to maximise impact and bolster the long-term vitality of smart cities. We were encouraged by the ASCN's continued undertakings in promoting and mobilising resources for smart cities initiatives, through the development of an ASCN Online Portal, ASEAN Smart City Investment Toolkit, and engagement with external partners.

Promoting Complementarities between ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

22. We reaffirmed our commitment to enhancing sustainable development cooperation, including with partners, by promoting the Complementarities Initiative. We reiterated our continued support for the effective implementation of the Complementarities Roadmap (2020-2025) and for the work of the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD). We took note of the outcomes of the 6th High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue (HLBD) on 30 May 2022, which explored concrete ideas and alternative approaches, including the Bio-Circular-Green Economy and other sustainability models, to complement regional efforts to advance Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and propel ASEAN Community building towards a more sustainable and resilient future. In this regard, we encouraged further efforts to link the areas of cooperation under the Complementarities Initiative with relevant development strategies in order to strengthen regional collaboration.

Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and Narrowing the Development Gap

23. We reaffirmed the importance of narrowing the development gap within ASEAN to enhance ASEAN's competitiveness as a region. We supported efforts to accelerate digital adoption and raise awareness on gender and social inclusion, especially when the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the livelihoods of our peoples, particularly vulnerable groups in ASEAN. We commended the ongoing study on the Follow-Up Monitor of the ASEAN Frameworks for Equitable Economic Development (AFEED).
24. We commended the work of the IAI Task Force and were pleased with the progress in the implementation of the IAI Work Plan IV (2021-2025), which guides our collective efforts to narrow the development gap within ASEAN and between ASEAN and the rest of the world, taking into consideration emerging gaps, challenges and priorities from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sub-regional Cooperation

25. We emphasised the importance of ASEAN unity and Centrality in promoting ASEAN's sub-regional development. We recognised the relevance of sub-regional development to ASEAN's regional integration and community-building process, especially in narrowing the development gap, and encouraged closer coordination between ASEAN sectoral bodies and ASEAN-approved sub-regional cooperation frameworks to facilitate the realisation of this endeavour. In this regard, we welcomed the success of the ASEAN High-Level Forum on Sub-Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth hosted by Viet Nam on 30 November 2021.

26. We reiterated the commitment to further promote equitable development across the ASEAN Community by aligning sub-regional growth, including in the Mekong area such as the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), as well as the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), and the Singapore-Johor-Riau (SIJORI) Growth Triangle, with the comprehensive development of ASEAN. We welcomed the continued support and assistance of external partners in the relevant processes.

ASEAN Junior Fellowship Programme with the ASEAN Secretariat (AJFP)

27. We welcomed the upcoming convening of the first batch of the ASEAN Junior Fellowship Programme with the ASEAN Secretariat (AJFP) on 15 August – 11 September 2022 in Jakarta to provide junior officers of ASEAN Member States with a strengthened sense of ASEAN identity and increased knowledge with the work of ASEAN.

ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY

Implementation of the APSC Blueprint 2025

28. We noted with satisfaction the encouraging progress made in the implementation of the APSC Blueprint 2025, with 98% implementation rate or 285 out of 290 action lines having been acted upon. We encouraged the relevant sectoral bodies to continue to work expeditiously in addressing the remaining action lines. As tasked by the 24th APSC Council in October 2021, we took note of the recommendations on addressing the unaddressed action lines contained in the ASEAN Secretariat's paper "On the APSC Blueprint 2025's Still-to-be-Addressed Action Lines: An Examination of the Challenges and Prospects". We commended the efforts to ensure that the APSC Blueprint 2025 remains adaptive and relevant to the changed global and regional environment, including the monitoring and reporting of emerging issues such as the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP), cybersecurity, Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, ASEAN's COVID-19 Response, and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda.

Non-Traditional Security Threats

Terrorism and Violent Extremism

29. Recognising the importance of a collective and comprehensive approach in addressing the threats of violent extremism and terrorism, we expressed continued support for the ASEAN Plan of Action to Prevent and Counter the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism (PoA PCRVE) 2018-2025 and noted progress of the implementation of the Bali Work Plan 2019-2025. We commended the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) for spearheading this initiative and its cross-sectoral and cross-pillar cooperation. We looked forward to the active engagements of 19 other relevant

ASEAN Sectoral Bodies/Organs/Entities, as well as Dialogue Partners and external parties, in the effective implementation of the Bali Work Plan.

Illicit Drugs

30. We commended and affirmed our full support for the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters (AMMD) in leading the cross-sectoral and cross-pillar coordination to combat illicit drug activities in the region. We underscored our continued serious concerns over global moves to reclassify certain types of illicit drugs to less restrictive schedules under the international drug conventions, and reaffirmed our commitment towards a drug-free region and a zero-tolerance approach towards illicit drugs.
31. We noted with appreciation the finalisation and adoption of the Mid-Term Review of ASEAN Work Plan on Securing Communities Against Illicit Drugs 2016-2025 (ASEAN Work Plan 2016-2025) and the Mid-Term Review of the ASEAN Cooperation Plan to Tackle Illicit Drug Production and Trafficking in the Golden Triangle 2020-2022 (ASEAN Cooperation Plan 2020-2022), which were led by Indonesia and Thailand respectively in 2021. We welcomed the progress of the ASEAN Work Plan 2016-2025 implementation where 92% of the components had been implemented. We welcomed the Mid-Term Review of the said Work Plan. We commended the good work of the ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Centre (ASEAN NARCO) in publishing the series of the ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report (ADM). We reiterated our call for all ASEAN Member States to continue intensifying efforts in fighting the drug menace to secure the ASEAN Community against trafficking of illicit drugs and other drug-related crimes. We expressed concern over the unending struggle to grapple with the consequences and destabilizing effects of drug trade and trafficking. We reaffirmed the need for the ASEAN Community to protect the health, security and welfare of the people in the region through coordinated, effective, and swift responses in addressing drug threats and challenges so as to achieve the vision of a drug-free ASEAN.

Trafficking in Persons (TIP), People Smuggling and Irregular Movement of Persons

32. We commended the continued commitment of the AMMTC in combating TIP in a more holistic manner by taking the lead in cross-sectoral and cross-pillar coordination with eight other ASEAN Sectoral Bodies. We welcomed the adoption of the Review Report of the Bohol TIP Work Plan 2017-2020. We expressed support to the ongoing development of the draft ASEAN Multi-Sectoral Work Plan Against Trafficking in Persons 'Bohol TIP Work Plan 2.0' 2022-2027.
33. We discussed the issue of irregular movement of persons, including its connection with people smuggling and TIP in our region, which requires the parties concerned to identify and address the root causes and other contributory factors, whether at origin, during transit or destination as well as the involvement of relevant stakeholders based on the principle of shared responsibility as well as a balanced approach between law enforcement and humanitarian response to tackle the challenges.

34. We expressed concern over the continued irregular movement of persons in the Southeast Asia region. We noted that criminal groups had taken advantage of the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to exploit vulnerable groups. We acknowledged the close connection between irregular movement of persons, TIP, and people smuggling. We reaffirmed the need for ASEAN Member States' coordinated responses in addressing the issues of TIP, people smuggling and related transnational crime, including irregular movement of persons.

Cybersecurity

35. We were pleased to note the progress in ASEAN cybersecurity cooperation and reaffirmed our commitment in building an open, safe, secure, stable, accessible, interoperable, peaceful, and resilient cyberspace. Noting of the role cybersecurity plays in supporting the growth of the region's digital economy and community, we welcomed the updated ASEAN Cybersecurity Cooperation Strategy 2021-2025. We also welcomed the development of the ASEAN Regional CERT, which will strengthen the region's cybersecurity incident response and preparedness. We recognised the role of cybersecurity awareness activities and capacity building programmes of the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE) in Singapore and the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) in Bangkok in complementing existing ASEAN efforts in building regional cybersecurity posture.

Peace and Security

36. We reaffirmed the importance of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as the key code of conduct in governing inter-state relations in the region and as a foundation for maintaining regional peace and stability. We remain committed to further promoting the principles embodied in the TAC and emphasised the importance of all High Contracting Parties in fulfilling their obligations under the Treaty. We welcomed the accession of the Kingdom of Denmark, the Hellenic Republic, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Sultanate of Oman, the State of Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates to the TAC. We also welcomed the growing interest of non-regional countries to accede to the TAC, on the basis of respect for and in conformity with the purposes and principles of the TAC.
37. We welcomed the adoption of new initiatives under the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM), namely Concept Paper on Enhancing Cooperation Amongst Defence Forces of ASEAN Member States in Cross-Border Pandemic Containment, Concept Paper on Enhancing Supporting Mechanism for ASEAN Women Peacekeepers, and Concept Paper on Establishment of ASEAN Defence Educational Institutions' Collaboration (ADEIC). We also welcomed the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ADMM Cybersecurity and Information Centre of Excellence and took note the ADMM's Discussion Paper on Promoting Information-Sharing between the Southeast Asia Maritime Law Enforcement initiative (SEAMLEI) and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) in the Area of Maritime Security and Discussion Paper on Reflecting Military History to Promote Sustainable Peace. We are confident that

these initiatives will amplify the defence sector's contribution to cross-sectoral, ASEAN-wide agenda, as aspired in the Joint Declaration of the ASEAN Defence Ministers on Defence Cooperation to Strengthen Solidarity for Harmonised Security adopted by the 16th ADMM in June 2022. We commended the ADMM's closer engagements with the Plus Countries and welcomed the ADMM's in-principle approval of the ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise. We noted that the development of the ADMM's Strategy Paper is ongoing and in view of complementarity, we encouraged the ADMM to situate it within the context of ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision. We also looked forward to the operationalisation of the ASEAN Cyber Defence Network and the ADMM Cybersecurity and Information Centre of Excellence. In the same vein, we expressed appreciation towards the ADMM-Plus for furthering practical defence cooperation through the seven ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups (EWGs) which are in the second year of the current cycle 2021-2023. We emphasised the ADMM-Plus as an open and inclusive process that promotes ASEAN Centrality. In addition, we welcomed the Phnom Penh Vision on the Role of Defence Establishments in Support of COVID-19 Recovery issued at the 16th ADMM. We looked forward to the successful convening of the ADMM Retreat and the 9th ADMM-Plus in November 2022.

38. We noted the development of ASEAN cooperation on law and legal matters, undertaken by the ASEAN Law Ministers' Meeting (ALAWMM) and the ASEAN Senior Law Officials' Meeting (ASLOM) in supporting the ASEAN community-building agenda and strengthening a rules-based ASEAN, and looked forward to the expedited negotiations and conclusions of the ASEAN Extradition Treaty (AET). We looked forward to the convening of the 3rd ASEAN Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (ACCPCJ) on 22-24 August 2022 in Bangkok, Thailand.
39. We further took note of the work progress of the Senior Officials' Meeting of the Central Authorities on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (SOM-MLAT) in ensuring the effective implementation of the ASEAN Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (ASEAN MLAT), which strengthens ASEAN Member States' capacity and enhances their cooperation to combat transnational crimes.
40. We reiterated our commitment to preserve the Southeast Asian region as a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction as enshrined in the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ Treaty) and the ASEAN Charter. We stressed the importance of the full and effective implementation of the SEANWFZ Treaty. We agreed to extend the Plan of Action to Strengthen the Implementation of the SEANWFZ for another five-year period (2023-2027). We reaffirmed our commitment to continuously engage the Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) and intensify the ongoing efforts of all parties to resolve all outstanding issues in accordance with the objectives and principles of the SEANWFZ Treaty. Our ASEAN experts could explore ways to bridge the differences, including the possibility of engaging with the NWS experts.
41. We reiterated the importance of strengthening efforts to address common regional challenges in a strategic and holistic manner including in the area of

non-proliferation and disarmament. We noted the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and reaffirmed our commitment to this landmark treaty. We recognised the necessity of multilateral negotiations and noted the lack of a verification measure, the latter of which poses a challenge to the effectiveness of the Convention. We also placed great importance on enhancing international cooperation, assistance, and exchanges in toxins, biological agents, equipment, and technology for peaceful purposes. We welcomed the successful conduct of the ARF Table-Top Exercise on Response Capabilities to CBRN Incidents held in Manila on 13-15 June 2022. We also commended the achievements by the Network of ASEAN Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defence Experts to foster greater regional cooperation in this domain.

42. We noted ongoing multilateral discussions on emerging issues involving international peace and security, such as outer space. We reiterated that access to outer space is an inalienable right of all States and that the use of outer space should exclusively be for peaceful purposes only, and for the collective benefit of humanity.
43. We commended the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) for their efforts in enhancing cooperation among the nuclear regulatory bodies and further strengthen nuclear safety, security, and safeguards in the region and welcomed the progress of the implementation of the Practical Arrangements (PA) between ASEAN and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Cooperation in the Areas of Nuclear Science and Technology and Applications, Nuclear Safety, Security and Safeguards, which was signed in September 2019.
44. We congratulated the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR) on the 10th Anniversary of its establishment. We welcomed the completion of the ASEAN-IPR Research – Aceh Case: Peacebuilding and Post-Tsunami Recovery. We noted ASEAN-IPR's activities with relevant ASEAN Bodies' and ASEAN External Partners to promote the culture of peace and moderation in ASEAN. We encouraged the ASEAN-IPR to find innovative solutions to ensure its sustainability and activities. We also noted ASEAN-IPR's continued support for ASEAN Women for Peace Registry (AWPR) to implement the ASEAN Leaders' Joint Statement on Promoting Women, Peace and Security (WPS) in ASEAN. We encouraged ASEAN-IPR to engage with other relevant stakeholders, including the AWPR and Southeast Asian Network of Women Peace Negotiators and Mediators, to further implement the Joint Statement.
45. We welcomed ASEAN's efforts in promoting and empowering women's participation and leading roles in peace and security in the region. We reaffirmed the need to further implement the WPS agenda activities and encouraged the integration and promotion of the WPS agenda across the three ASEAN Community pillars. We welcomed the development of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security. We further encouraged the ASEAN-led mechanisms and entities, to implement the Joint Statement on Promoting the Youth, Peace, and Security Agenda at the ASEAN Regional Forum. We acknowledged that the WPS agenda is a cross-sectoral and inter-pillar issue that requires collective action of a number of ASEAN

sectoral bodies and entities. We reaffirmed the need to harness cooperation and partnerships with international partners and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

46. We reiterated the importance of mine action in national rehabilitation and sustainable development and welcomed efforts to promote mine action at the global level, including at the United Nations. We commended the role of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) as a centre of excellence in promoting ASEAN's efforts to address the issue of explosive remnants of war (ERW) for interested ASEAN Member States and raise awareness of the danger of ERW among affected communities. We expressed appreciation to ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, external partners, and international organisations in contributing to the undertaking of projects and operationalisation of the ARMAC.

Maritime Cooperation

47. We noted the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/76/72 emphasising in the Preamble, the universal and unified character of the 1982 UNCLOS, and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained.
48. On the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the 1982 UNCLOS, we noted Indonesia's initiative to convene a Track 1.5 event on ASEAN Regional Conference on the 40th Anniversary of the 1982 UNCLOS: Promoting Legal Order for the Seas and Oceans.
49. We welcomed positive developments in maritime cooperation among ASEAN Member States, including through continued constructive dialogues on issues of common interest and concern under the ambit of ASEAN-led mechanisms. We encouraged ASEAN Member States to intensify cooperation in promoting maritime security, safety and freedom of navigation and overflight, addressing transnational crime at sea, creating conducive environment for peaceful settlement of disputes, ensuring marine sustainability, providing humanitarian assistance to persons and vessels in distress at sea, combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, promoting maritime connectivity and commerce, strengthening marine scientific research, in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS, the relevant Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the relevant instruments and conventions of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).
50. We reaffirmed the role, objectives, and guiding principles of the ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) and Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) in promoting maritime cooperation in the region through dialogue and consultations. Taking into account the cross-cutting nature of maritime cooperation, we encouraged stronger coordination among ASEAN cross-sectoral bodies and other relevant ASEAN mechanisms to avoid duplication of efforts. We emphasised the importance of ASEAN Centrality and further encouraged the exploration of an integrated and comprehensive approach to

maritime cooperation. We looked forward to the convening of the 12th AMF and 10th EAMF to be chaired by the Philippines later this year.

Blue Economy

51. We reiterated the importance of cooperation on the Blue Economy and called for the implementation of the ASEAN Leaders Declaration on the Blue Economy. We looked forward to exploring cooperation on the Blue Economy in accordance with the said Declaration.

Human Rights

52. We commended the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) on its achievements in the progressive implementation of the Five-Year Work Plan 2021-2025 and Priority Programmes/Activities of AICHR on human rights. We tasked our Senior Officials to continue working on the implementation of the decision made by the 52nd ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) on AICHR and looked forward to the establishment of the Panel of Experts.
53. In commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD), we welcomed ASEAN's efforts to respect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the AHRD.
54. We welcomed the successful convening of the ASEAN Human Rights Dialogue 2021 in September 2021 and took note of the proposal from AICHR to hold the ASEAN Human Rights Dialogue 2022 in November 2022.

ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

55. We were pleased to note the significant recovery in the region's economy, which expanded by 3.0% in 2021 compared to a 3.2% contraction in 2020. ASEAN's economic growth could further accelerate to 5.0% in 2022. We noted that ASEAN's total merchandise trade reached USD 3.3 trillion in 2021, of which 21.3% was within the region, while services trade reached USD 743 billion with intra-ASEAN comprising 11.7%. Meanwhile, inflows of foreign direct investments to ASEAN reached USD 174.1 billion in 2021, 12.0% of which was among ASEAN Member States. We were optimistic that our macroeconomic fundamentals remain robust and committed to continue working together to ensure the region's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and as well as strengthening our region's collective resilience and competitiveness in the long run.
56. We welcomed the launch of negotiations to upgrade the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA), which underscores not only the region's aim of accelerating post-pandemic economic recovery but also to ensure that the ATIGA is transformed into a more modern, forward-looking Agreement, able to respond to regional and global challenges and contribute meaningfully to deeper economic integration among the ASEAN Member States, provide an

environment conducive not only to the growth and development of supply chains but also to make them more resilient.

57. We noted the progress in finalising the Protocol to Amend the ASEAN Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons (MNP), expected to be signed within this year, which shall put into effect a common format for Schedules of Commitments (SOCs) that are easier to understand by the general public, reflecting ASEAN's commitment to work towards greater facilitation of the temporary cross-border movement of natural persons involved in the provision of trade in goods, trade in services and investment, and looked forward to the timely signing of this Protocol.
58. We noted the publication of Version 1 of the ASEAN Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance (ASEAN Taxonomy) by the ASEAN Taxonomy Board on 10 November 2021, that encapsulates the key components of a sustainable finance taxonomy catered to the needs of the ASEAN Member States. The principles-based Foundation Framework will allow ASEAN Member States to pursue the region's sustainability agenda in a way that reflects their individual circumstances, while the Plus Standard will set out science-based metrics and thresholds for the classification of economic activities that contribute to Paris Agreement-aligned goals. We looked forward to the further development of the ASEAN Taxonomy, which will take into consideration the feedback collected through the stakeholder consultations.
59. We underscored the importance of resilient micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) as a vehicle of inclusive growth and recovery. Hence, we commended the launch of ASEAN Access MATCH, as a flagship business matching platform to connect cross-border economic activities in the region. We also appreciated the relentless efforts to revamp the ASEAN SME Academy to version 2.0 as a learning platform to upskill and reskill MSMEs to embrace the digital economy. We commended the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) and Joint Business Councils (JBC) for the comprehensive recommendations for the region to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. We encouraged the private sector's support through lending of expertise and resources, particularly towards enhancing digital trade connectivity and sustainable business practices in the region and urged the relevant ASEAN bodies to work closely with the private sector in this regard.
60. We underscored the increasingly pivotal role of digital transformation and the adoption of the Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap: An ASEAN Digital Transformation Agenda to Accelerate ASEAN's Economic Recovery and Digital Economy Integration and the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025 in achieving an inclusive, resilient and sustainable economic growth in the region, especially during and in the post pandemic era. We noted that the BSBR affirmed ASEAN's commitment to commence the negotiations for the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement by 2025 that will provide strategic guidance for ASEAN to be a leading digital community.
61. We appreciated the efforts and commitments from ASEAN Tourism Ministers/Leaders and ASEAN tourism partners for physically and virtually attending ASEAN Tourism Forum 2022, successfully organised on 16-22

January 2022 in Preah Sihanoukville Province, Cambodia, amid the COVID-19 outbreak. We welcomed the outcomes of the 25th Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers and Related Meetings which include the announcement of gradual reopening of ASEAN Tourism. We noted the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025 and the Post-COVID-19 Recovery Plan for ASEAN Tourism, which would speed up the recovery process of the tourism industry in the region and strengthen the sustainability and resilience of the sector in the future. We welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN Guidelines on Hygiene and Safety for Professionals and the Communities in the Tourism Industry along with the launch of ASEAN Safe Travel Stamp “Safe and Warm”, the ASEAN Guidelines on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and the 2nd Edition of ASEAN Community-Based Tourism (CBT) Standard, which would increase trust and confidence, tourism service quality and enhance human resource development in ASEAN as a safe destination.

62. We commended the work towards the development of a Study to develop a Framework on Sustainable Tourism Development in ASEAN in the Post-COVID-19 Era, and the Comprehensive Study on the Implementation of the Mutual Recognition Agreement for Tourism Professionals (MRA-TP): Enhanced Mechanism for Tourism Professionals. We welcomed the launch of ASEAN’s new logo and tagline "A Destination for Every Dream", to raise awareness on the region's incredible diversity of offerings that travellers could re-discover once borders reopen around the world. We looked forward to the adoption of the Phnom Penh Declaration on Transforming ASEAN Tourism at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits.
63. We acknowledged the progress made in ASEAN’s decarbonisation agenda, in particular the development of the Implementation Plan for the Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community, and the Concept Note on ASEAN Strategy for Carbon Neutrality. Both documents aim to provide guidance on pathways for the region’s transition towards a circular and low-carbon economy, which are expected to be delivered by the end of this year. We also acknowledged the development of the Work Programme to Support the Implementation of the Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community, a Priority Economic Deliverable under Cambodia’s ASEAN Chairmanship, which will support the socialisation and capacity building of the circular economy and sustainable development.
64. We noted with satisfaction the successful completion of the legal scrubbing of the ASEAN-EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (AE CATA). We encouraged ASEAN Member States to speed up their respective domestic procedures aiming for the signing of the AE CATA at the earliest possible opportunity. We noted the steady progress in the negotiations of the ASEAN-New Zealand Air Services Agreement (ANZ-ASA). In this regard, we encouraged the relevant sectoral body to keep up the good work for early conclusion of the ANZ-ASA to provide a more open environment for air links and to facilitate greater ease of movement of people and goods.
65. We welcomed the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation Phase II 2021-2025, which frames the region’s work

towards energy transitions and resilience and aims to respond to both the impact of the pandemic and the long-term requirements of sustainable development. In this regard, we welcomed the successful commencement of the Lao PDR – Thailand – Malaysia – Singapore Power Integration Project (LTMS-PIP) on 23 June 2022. The LTMS-PIP serves as an important pathfinder project to advance regional integration and energy resilience, underpinned by the ASEAN Power Grid Vision.

Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)

66. We welcomed the entry into force of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) from 1 January 2022. The RCEP would make significant contribution to our recovery strategy and continue to support an inclusive and open trade and investment architecture in the region. We welcomed the outcomes of the first RCEP Joint Committee (RJC) Meeting, held on 26-27 April 2022, which discussed the preparation of RCEP implementation, including the establishment of the Committees to monitor RCEP implementation and the endorsement of the key elements on the establishment of the RCEP Secretariat. We noted the progress of discussions in the upgrade and reviews of ASEAN Plus One FTAs. The upgrade of ASEAN Plus One FTAs will ensure that the agreements remain relevant, modern, forward-looking, and responsive to regional and global challenges.
67. We appreciated economic cooperation initiatives supported by ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, in particular, in emerging areas such as digital trade, sustainable economy, supply chain resilience, and science and technology. We highlighted that these cooperation areas are aligned with ASEAN priorities and long-term development objectives.

Agriculture and Forestry

68. We acknowledged that sustainable food production and resilient agricultural practices, including sustainable production of vegetable oils, are essential to the attainment of the SDGs by 2030 and will contribute to the regional and global effort towards economic recovery and green growth. We welcomed the convening of the Second Meeting of the Joint Working Group on Palm Oil between the European Union and Relevant ASEAN Member States, and took note of the increased voluntary participation of Member States to the meeting, to continue promoting mutual understanding on the sustainable production of vegetable oils and addressing the challenges in this sector in a holistic, transparent, and non-discriminatory manner. We reaffirmed our support for the relevant Member States to promote collaboration and sustainability efforts and practices in the vegetable oil sector and looked forward to the convening of the Third Joint Working Group on Palm Oil between the European Union and Relevant ASEAN Member States.

Transportation

69. We acknowledged the importance of sustainable transportation in reducing green-house gas emissions. We noted the ongoing discussions on electric vehicles in the relevant sectoral bodies on transportation, energy, and

standards and quality. We further noted the effort to develop an electric vehicles ecosystem under the ASEAN – U.S. Transport Work Plan 2022 – 2025 and looked forward to its timely implementation.

ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

Peoples and Institutions

Culture

70. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Strategic Policy Framework on Promoting an Adaptive Community of Fostering Greater Understanding, Tolerance and a Sense of Regional Agendas among the Peoples of ASEAN. We looked forward to the development of a strategy playbook to foster efforts in building greater understanding, tolerance and deepening a regional sense of belonging. We further recognised the ongoing efforts by the culture and the arts sector to promote and develop the ASEAN Creative Economy, and recognised its vital contributions, as part of the multi-sectoral initiatives through the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework, toward post pandemic recovery.

Gender Mainstreaming

71. We reaffirmed our commitment to advocate gender equality and ensure meaningful participation of women and girls in the region's political, economic and social development. We also reiterated our support to promote women's political leadership and appreciated the work of the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) and the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC). We also welcomed the launch of the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework 2021-2025 in 2022, which provides a long-term strategy to advance gender mainstreaming in ASEAN and ASEAN Member States.

Social Welfare and Development

72. We reaffirmed the need for social protection to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable groups and took note of the recommendations from the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD) Special Online Meeting held in June 2020.
73. We commended and welcomed multi-sectoral efforts aimed at strengthening ASEAN's human resources, with a view of developing a regional workforce that is future-ready, competitive and resilient. We welcomed the adoption of the Ha Noi Declaration on Strengthening Social Work Towards a Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN Community and its Road Map at the 37th ASEAN Summit. We looked forward to the development of the ASEAN Regional Guidance on the Role of Social Work and Social Service Workforce Strengthening in Social Protection led by Cambodia.

Education

74. We noted the implementation of the ASEAN Work Plan on Education 2021-2025 which upholds the principles of quality, equity and inclusion in education. We recognised that it is anchored on a robust lifelong learning framework encompassing different stages and modalities of education and catering to the needs and contexts of all learners.
75. We underscored the transformative potential of digital technology to increase access to and participation in quality education among marginalised populations. We looked forward to the finalisation and adoption of the Declaration on Digital Transformation of Education Systems in ASEAN.

Youth Development

76. We welcomed the adoption of ASEAN Work Plan on Youth 2021-2025 and its Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework by the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY). We commended the successful convening of the First ASEAN Youth Dialogue on 25-26 July 2022 in Siem Reap, Cambodia in light of 2022 as the Year of ASEAN Youth, with the support from the Government of the Republic of Korea (ROK), which signified ASEAN's commitment in enabling youth's participation in policy discourse. In the same vein, we looked forward to the adoption of ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the Year of ASEAN Youth to Strengthen the Role of Youth in ASEAN Community-Building at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits.

Sports

77. We noted the importance of the Post-2020 vision of ASEAN Sports Sector towards an active ASEAN Community where sports serve as an essential means in advancing socio-cultural development and promoting peace. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Work Plan on Sports 2021-2025, the ASEAN-FIFA Collaboration Plan, and the Joint Statement of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports on Cementing Strong Foundation for ASEAN Athletes at the Southeast Asian Games in October 2021. We commended the efforts of the ASEAN Sports Sector in protecting the integrity of sports by fostering the principles of clean sports and fair play across the region, which has led to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between ASEAN and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) on 14 March 2022 during the 17th Asia/Oceania Region Intergovernmental Ministerial Meeting on Anti-Doping in Sport. We looked forward to the adoption of ASEAN Declaration on Leveraging the Role of Sports in ASEAN Community Building and Achieving the SDGs and the ASEAN Declaration on Fostering ASEAN Identity through the Safeguarding of Traditional Sports and Games (TSG) in the Modern World at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits.

Health Development and Relevant Cross-Sectoral Initiatives

78. We appreciated the ASEAN Health Sector's efforts in launching, scaling-up and sustaining a timely and cohesive regional health response to the COVID-19 pandemic through the mobilisation of coordination platforms, such as the

ASEAN Emergency Operations Centre Network for public health emergencies; the ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Centre; the ASEAN Risk Assessment and Risk Communication Centre; and the ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network.

79. We acknowledged the efforts by ASEAN Health Ministers in strengthening public health emergency preparedness and regional health security in responding to all hazards and emerging threats, which are realized through, among others, regional initiatives including the ASEAN Public Health Emergency Coordination System, the Mitigation of Biological Threats Programme Phase 2, and the Project for Strengthening ASEAN Regional Capacity on Disaster Health Management – Phase 2, as well as through enhanced and expanded cooperation with external partners in these areas.
80. We commended the ASEAN Health Ministers for re-affirming their commitment towards *A Healthy, Caring and Sustainable ASEAN Community* through the adoption of the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda 2021-2025 and the corresponding Work Programmes of the four ASEAN Health Clusters responsible for promoting healthy lifestyle, responding to all hazards and emerging threats, strengthening health systems and access to care, and ensuring food safety.

Information

81. We appreciated the ongoing efforts by the information sector to address the harmful effects of fake news and misinformation. We welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Task Force on Fake News that would further support ASEAN's coordinated response, and looked forward to greater cooperation in capacity-building, information exchange, and policy development, so as to minimise the deleterious impact and proliferation of fake news and misinformation.

Labour and Migrant Workers

82. We commended ASEAN Member States for the completion of the first self-assessment of their respective implementation of the ASEAN Consensus on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in 2020, and the translations of the ASEAN Consensus into some national languages. We looked forward to the second self-assessment results by the ASEAN Member States to be completed in 2023. We looked forward to the finalisation of the ASEAN Declaration on Portability of Social Security Benefits for Migrant Workers in ASEAN.
83. We noted the close cooperation between ASEAN and the United Nations pertaining to migration particularly through the International Labour Organization (ILO) and International Organization for Migration (IOM), including in planning the areas of ASEAN-ILO and ASEAN-IOM cooperation until 2025.
84. We commended the labour sector in the adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on Promoting Competitiveness, Resilience and Agility of Workers for the Future of Work. We also underlined the importance of strengthening labour market

information sharing in the region through the development of an ASEAN labour productivity index as a tool to support the capacities of ASEAN Member States in enhancing workforce productivity. We were pleased to note ASEAN Member States' continuous effort in combatting child labour through the ASEAN Roadmap on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2025.

Civil Service

85. We recognised the pivotal role of the ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM) in the continuous promotion of transparent, and accountable civil service systems and good governance at all levels. We looked forward to the implementation of the ACCSM Framework for Strategic Partnerships that would further guide ASEAN cooperation to promote good governance principles and agile civil service in the digital era. We were pleased to note the adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on Fostering the Civil Service's Adaptability to the New Challenges and looked forward to the finalisation of the Action Plan this year.

Environment

86. We remained committed in advancing cooperation and strengthening partnerships on environmental protection and conservation with greater efforts to address issues for sustainable development, including in the areas of marine debris pollution, integrated waste management, transition to a green and circular economy, environmentally sustainable cities, climate change, clean energy transition, sustainable water management, and biodiversity conservation. We also recognised the importance of awareness raising on emerging environmental issues and climate change through education. We also stressed the importance of utilisation of technologies for environmental protection and conservation. We also noted that the efforts for COVID-19 recovery should not be at the expense of the environment.
87. We encouraged enhanced regional cooperation in addressing marine debris pollution including marine plastic waste management. We encouraged the timely implementation of the ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris and the ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States (2021–2025).

Climate Action

88. We reaffirmed our commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances. We welcomed the adoption of the Glasgow Climate Pact at the UNFCCC COP 26 in the United Kingdom. We also recognised the importance of enhancing cooperation in areas such as capacity-building, and the provision of climate finance by developed countries, for the implementation of the commitments in the Paris Agreement and the Glasgow Climate Pact. We also looked forward to the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the UNFCCC on 6-18 November 2022 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

89. We noted the developments on, and looked forward to, the establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change (ACCC) in Brunei Darussalam towards enhancing climate change coordination and cooperation among ASEAN Member States to realise a climate-resilient and low carbon ASEAN region.

Biodiversity

90. We reiterated ASEAN's commitment to promoting biodiversity conservation, sustainable use, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources. We looked forward to the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework at the 15th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in December 2022. We recognised the importance of promoting nature-based solutions, in order to minimise the devastating consequences of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation in line with post-pandemic recovery efforts. We continue to support the work of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) in assisting the ASEAN Member States in mainstreaming biodiversity into various development sectors, promoting nature-based solutions to enhance the region's resilience against zoonotic diseases, addressing climate change, and facilitating ASEAN's contributions to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Transboundary Haze Pollution

91. We recognised that transboundary haze pollution, arising from land and forest fires, remains a major concern in the region. We reiterated our commitment to the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP). We welcomed the Final Review of the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (APMS) 2006-2020 and welcomed the commencement of the formulation of the next APMS. We also welcomed the Report of the Final Review and the Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control with Means of Implementation which have helped the region track progress and sustain momentum in ensuring demonstrable improvements for a haze-free ASEAN. We expressed our appreciation for the valuable support from Partners in the ongoing implementation of projects in peatland and ecosystems management related to fire and haze mitigation. We stressed the importance of remaining vigilant and noted the ongoing preventive efforts to minimise any possible occurrence of transboundary smoke haze during periods of drier weather. We looked forward to the establishment and full operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACCTHPC) which will facilitate faster and effective implementation of all aspects of the AATHP to address transboundary haze pollution in the ASEAN region.

Disaster Management and Emergency Response

92. We noted progress in the implementation of the AADMER Work Programme 2021-2025 and collective efforts to realise the ASEAN Vision 2025 on Disaster Management to be a global leader in disaster management. We commended the work of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) in enhancing ASEAN's disaster risk reduction and disaster management

capabilities through inter-sectoral cooperation, capacity building, scalable innovation, resource mobilisation, new partnerships, and stronger coordination among ASEAN Member States. We stressed the importance of hydrometeorological cooperation for disaster risk reduction and sustainable development in the ASEAN region. We welcomed ASEAN's active participation at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2022, co-hosted by UNDRR and the Government of Indonesia, which demonstrated ASEAN's leadership and cooperation in disaster management, including through the issuance of the ASEAN Joint Statement on Strengthening Resilience to Disasters, adopted by the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management. We looked forward to the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the ASEAN and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on the Strengthening of Community Resilience in Southeast Asia, and the ASEAN Framework on Anticipatory Action in Disaster Management. We welcomed the first ASEAN Disaster Resilience Platform (ADRP) meeting which promotes a whole-of-ASEAN approach in disaster management amongst ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, Centres and Entities associated with ASEAN. We also noted the progress in the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the Strategic and Holistic Initiative to Link ASEAN Responses to Emergencies and Disasters (ASEAN SHIELD) to prepare for and address disasters and emergencies in the region through a holistic, cross-pillar and cross-sectoral approach. In this regard, we also took note of the progress of reviewing the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Secretary-General as ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC) and looked forward to the complete review and adoption of the revised Full Financial Rules of the ADMER Fund.

93. We reaffirmed the importance of promoting a whole-of-ASEAN approach in disaster management. We reaffirmed our commitment to continuously enhance ASEAN's capacity in implementing the ASEAN Declaration on One ASEAN One Response: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One in the Region and Outside the Region, including through the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre). We commended the AHA Centre's leading role in preparations for and the initial undertaking of the Joint Needs Assessment (JNA) on Humanitarian Assistance to Myanmar conducted by ASEAN Emergency Response Assessment Team (ERAT) from 1-7 June 2022. We looked forward to the completion of the JNA, and the subsequent assessment and recommendations on broader humanitarian assistance to be implemented in Phase 2 (Life-Sustaining) of ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance to Myanmar.
94. We reaffirmed our support for a more visible and enhanced role of ASEAN to support Myanmar by providing humanitarian assistance, facilitating the repatriation process, and promoting sustainable development in Rakhine State. We appreciated the work of the Ad Hoc Support Team of the ASEAN Secretariat (AHAST) and efforts of the Secretary-General of ASEAN in leading the implementation of the recommendations of the Preliminary Needs Assessment (PNA), and the contribution from ASEAN Member States and some external partners in supporting ASEAN activities, such as the prioritised projects to facilitate the repatriation process and to promote inclusive and sustainable development in Rakhine State, including through providing basic

services and creating livelihood opportunities for the displaced persons. We welcomed the outcomes of the 4th High-Level Coordination Meeting, particularly the endorsement of five additional projects to further advance the implementation of the recommendations of the PNA and looked forward to the Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) when conditions allow and encouraged the Secretary-General of ASEAN to continue identifying possible areas for ASEAN to effectively facilitate the repatriation process.

95. We stressed the importance of and reiterated our continued support for Myanmar's commitment to ensure safety and security for all communities in Rakhine State as effectively as possible and facilitate the voluntary return of displaced persons in a safe, secure, and dignified manner in accordance with the bilateral agreement between Myanmar and Bangladesh. We also welcomed the outcomes of the 5th Meeting of Myanmar-Bangladesh Joint Working Group (JWG). We looked forward and stood ready to support and facilitate the full implementation of the Arrangement on Return of Displaced Persons from Rakhine State between the Government of Myanmar and the Government of Bangladesh signed in 2017 and the renewed MoU between the Government of Myanmar, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which is valid until March 2023.
96. We also reaffirmed ASEAN's continued support for Myanmar's efforts to bring peace, stability, the rule of law, promote harmony and reconciliation among the various communities, as well as ensure sustainable and equitable development in Rakhine State.

ASEAN EXTERNAL RELATIONS

97. We underscored the importance of strengthening ASEAN Centrality and unity in our engagement with ASEAN's external partners, including through ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ASEAN-Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three (APT), East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and ADMM-Plus, in order to build mutual trust and confidence as well as reinforce an open, transparent, resilient, inclusive, and rules-based regional architecture with ASEAN at the centre. We underscored the need to promote an enabling environment for peace, stability and prosperous development for all through ensuring a culture of dialogue and cooperation, instead of rivalry, enhancing mutual trust and confidence and respect for international law. We reaffirmed that ASEAN shall act in accordance with ASEAN Centrality in external political, economic, social and cultural relations while remaining actively engaged, outward-looking, inclusive and non-discriminatory, in line with the ASEAN Charter.
98. We noted with satisfaction the encouraging progress in ASEAN's relations with our Dialogue Partners, Sectoral Dialogue Partners, and Development Partners through the existing frameworks, Plans of Action, Practical Cooperation Areas and development cooperation programmes based on mutual interest and benefit. We acknowledged with appreciation the contribution of these partnerships to our ASEAN Community-building and development cooperation efforts. We agreed to further strengthen partnerships and cooperation with our

partners, thus contributing to the continued efforts towards the realisation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and our proactive response to regional and global challenges and opportunities.

99. We took note of the growing interest from countries and regional organisations outside of the region in developing stronger collaboration and substantial cooperation with ASEAN, including through applications for formal partnerships with ASEAN. We affirmed the importance of pursuing an outward-looking policy and agreed on the need to reach out to new potential partners based on shared interest, constructive engagement, and mutual benefit which could contribute to ASEAN's community-building, regional integration and development cooperation efforts.
100. We welcomed the increased engagement between the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN and ASEAN's partners, including through the 96 Non-ASEAN Ambassadors Accredited to ASEAN (NAAAs). We also welcomed the role of the 55 ASEAN Committees in Third Countries and International Organisations in promoting ASEAN's interest and forging partnerships in the respective host countries and international organisations.

Dialogue Partners

101. We recalled the decision of the 54th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) held on 2 August 2021 to confer the United Kingdom (UK) the status of Dialogue Partner of ASEAN. In this regard, we welcomed the inaugural ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference (PMC) Session with the UK to be held on 4 August 2022 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and looked forward to the adoption of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-UK Dialogue Partnership (2022-2026) to guide future ASEAN-UK cooperation.
102. We looked forward to the convening of the 2nd ASEAN-Australia Summit, 25th ASEAN-China Summit, the 25th ASEAN-Japan Summit, the 23rd ASEAN-Republic of Korea Summit, the 10th ASEAN-U.S. Summit, and the 19th ASEAN-India Summit to commemorate the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-India relations, to be held back-to-back with the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits and Related Summits in November 2022. We looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-European Union (EU) Commemorative Summit to commemorate the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN-European Union Dialogue Relations in December 2022 in Brussels.
103. We underscored that the establishment of a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) with ASEAN should be meaningful, substantive and mutually beneficial. We welcomed the establishments of the ASEAN-Australia and ASEAN-China CSP in October 2021 and reaffirmed our commitments to working closely with Australia and China respectively in implementing these CSPs. We looked forward to the establishment of an ASEAN-U.S. CSP at the 10th ASEAN-U.S. Summit in November 2022 as guided in the Joint Vision Statement of the ASEAN-U.S. Special Summit in May 2022. We were encouraged by the continued discussions on India's proposal on the establishment of a CSP with ASEAN and looked forward to the establishment of an ASEAN-India CSP in November 2022.

104. We welcomed the successful convening of the ASEAN-U.S. Special Summit in Washington, D.C. on 12-13 May 2022 to commemorate the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue Relations and the Special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi, India on 16 June 2022 to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations.
105. We looked forward to the adoption of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-EU Strategic Partnership (2023-2027), the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-UK Dialogue Partnership (2022-2026), as well as the Annexes to the Plans of Action with Australia and China to guide the implementation of the respective CSPs.

ASEAN Sectoral Dialogue Partners and ASEAN Development Partners

106. We noted the good progress made in the ASEAN's Sectoral Dialogue Partnerships with Norway, Switzerland and Türkiye, as well as Development Partnerships with Chile, France, Germany and Italy. We welcomed Brazil and the United Arab Emirates becoming Sectoral Dialogue Partners of ASEAN. We welcomed the adoption of the Practical Cooperation Areas for ASEAN-Switzerland Sectoral Dialogue Partnership 2022-2026 and Practical Cooperation Areas for ASEAN-Italy Development Partnership 2022-2026, and looked forward to the adoption of the Practical Cooperation Areas for ASEAN-France Development Partnership 2022-2026, and appreciated the ongoing support of these partnerships for ASEAN's community-building efforts. In this connection, we looked forward to the convening of the individual Trilateral Meetings between the ASEAN Chair, the Secretary-General of ASEAN and Norway, Türkiye and Switzerland, respectively to explore opportunities for further cooperation and exchanges on issues of mutual interest.

Regional and International Organisations

107. We reaffirmed the importance of multilateralism and international cooperation and underscored the importance of ASEAN's partnerships with other external partners such as regional and international organisations to address global concerns, pursue shared goals and complementary initiatives, and promote sustainable development for the benefit of our people. In this regard, we looked forward to the continued high-level interactions between ASEAN and the UN, including the convening of ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting with the United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), as well as the 12th ASEAN-United Nations Summit later this year. We welcomed the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ASEAN and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) which paved the way for further and enhanced cooperation in areas of shared priorities and interests.
108. We were pleased to note the positive progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the United Nations (2021-2025). We reaffirmed our commitment to intensifying cooperation in the implementation of the Complementarities Roadmap and effectively realising the goals of the

United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and continuing our close collaboration and cooperation at regional and international fora.

ASEAN Plus Three (APT)

109. We reaffirmed the important role of the APT cooperation framework in promoting peace, stability and prosperity in the East Asian region. Commemorating the 25th anniversary of APT framework, we underscored the need to further strengthen and deepen functional cooperation with ASEAN as the driving force. We noted the substantive progress of implementation of the APT Cooperation Work Plan 2018-2022 and the EAVG II Recommendations. We looked forward to the adoption of the successor APT Cooperation Work Plan 2023-2027, which will serve as a master plan in enhancing the APT process and cooperation over the next five years. We also looked forward to the convening of the 20th East Asia Forum in Viet Nam which coincides and contributes to the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of APT cooperation process in 2022.

East Asia Summit

110. We reaffirmed our commitment to further strengthening the East Asia Summit (EAS) as a Leaders-led forum for dialogue on broad strategic, political, and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability, and economic prosperity in the region with ASEAN as the driving force. In this regard, we were committed to ensuring the effective follow-up on the Ha Noi Declaration on the 15th Anniversary of the EAS to further strengthen the EAS process, sustain its strategic value and relevance as well as enhance its responsiveness to fast-changing developments in the regional and global context. We agreed to further enhance EAS practical cooperation under the Manila Plan of Action to Advance the Phnom Penh Declaration on the EAS Development Initiative (2018-2022). We looked forward to the adoption of the successor Plan of Action (2023-2027) to build on the existing Plan of Action and further enhance EAS cooperation over the next five years, including facilitating a sustainable comprehensive recovery of the region. We welcomed the continued discussions and efforts to strengthen the EAS, including through, among others, the regular engagement of the EAS Ambassadors' Meeting in Jakarta to discuss implementation of the Leaders' decisions as well as exchanging information on regional development cooperation initiatives and security policies and initiatives, and discussions on the evolving regional architecture and with the support of the EAS Unit at the ASEAN Secretariat to enhance coordination.

ASEAN Regional Forum

111. We reiterated the importance of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) as a key platform for dialogue and consultation on regional political and security issues of common interest and concern and reaffirmed the need to further enhance its effectiveness and maintain its relevance in the evolving regional security architecture. We noted with satisfaction the progress of cooperation in the ARF and commended the provisional measures undertaken to ensure continuity of cooperation and operations of the ARF in the post COVID-19 recovery. We

were encouraged with the progress made in the implementation of the Ha Noi Plan of Action II (2020-2025) and looked forward to further discussion on efforts and follow-up actions to streamline and enhance the efficiency of the ARF based on the agreed Guide to ARF Processes, Procedures, Practices and Protocol. We noted the implementation of the ARF Joint Statement on Promoting the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda, including the convening of the ARF Workshop on Youth, Peace and Security. We also looked forward to the adoption of the ARF Statement to Promote Peace, Stability, and Prosperity through Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy, the ARF Statement on Reiterating Commitment to Preserve Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone, and the ARF Framework on Inclusive Processes for the Women, Peace and Security and Youth, Peace and Security Agendas in Confidence Building Measures, Preventive Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution during the 29th ARF.

ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific

112. We reaffirmed the objectives and principles of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP), which provides a guide for ASEAN's engagement in the wider Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regions. We noted that ASEAN-led mechanisms continue to serve as useful platforms for dialogue and cooperation to implement the Outlook. We agreed to continue encouraging external partners to support and undertake substantive, practical and tangible cooperation with ASEAN, in accordance with the principles contained in the Outlook, on the four identified key areas, namely maritime cooperation, connectivity, UN SDGs 2030, economic and other possible areas of cooperation, through practical projects to promote mutual trust, mutual respect, and mutual benefit through ASEAN-led mechanisms, thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of peace, stability and prosperity in the region. We looked forward to exploring potential cooperation between the AOIP and their respective initiatives on the Indo-Pacific. We are encouraged by the continuing discussions in ASEAN on further mainstreaming cooperation under the AOIP based on the *Concept Paper: Mainstreaming Four Priority Areas of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific within ASEAN-led Mechanisms*, including through a stock-taking exercise of programmes, projects and activities being undertaken within ASEAN and with external partners relative to the four priority areas of the AOIP.

Timor-Leste's Application for ASEAN Membership

113. We were pleased to note the successful conducts of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) and ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Fact Finding Missions (FFMs) to Timor-Leste on 6-8 July 2022 and 19-21 July 2022 respectively with participation from all ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat. We looked forward to the finalisation and adoption of the assessment reports of the FFMs, after which the comprehensive assessment of Timor-Leste' application for ASEAN Membership will be developed. We looked forward to accelerating the process of Timor-Leste's application for accession to ASEAN. We reaffirmed our commitment to continue exploring ways to provide capacity building assistance to Timor-Leste, including through participation in non-policy making activities in ASEAN.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

South China Sea

114. We discussed the situation in the South China Sea, during which concerns were expressed by some Ministers on the land reclamations, activities, serious incidents in the area, including damage to the marine environment, which have eroded trust and confidence, increased tensions, and may undermine peace, security, and stability in the region. We reaffirmed the need to enhance mutual trust and confidence, exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability, and avoid actions that may further complicate the situation. We further reaffirmed the need to pursue peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS. We emphasised the importance of non-militarisation and self-restraint in the conduct of all activities by claimants and all other states, including those mentioned in the DOC that could further complicate the situation and escalate tensions in the South China Sea.
115. We reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety, and freedom of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea and recognised the benefits of having the South China Sea as a sea of peace, stability, and prosperity. We underscored the importance of the full and effective implementation of the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in its entirety. We welcomed ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation between ASEAN and China, and were encouraged by the progress of the substantive negotiations towards the early conclusion of an effective and substantive Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) consistent with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS, within a mutually-agreed timeline. We welcomed the resumption of physical textual negotiation of the Single Draft COC Negotiating Text through the convening of the 36th JWG-DOC on 25-27 May 2022 in Siem Reap, and looked forward to the early conclusion of an effective and substantive COC that is in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS. We emphasised the need to maintain and promote an environment conducive to the COC negotiations, and thus welcomed practical measures that could reduce tensions and the risk of accidents, misunderstandings, and miscalculation. We stressed the importance of undertaking confidence building and preventive measures to enhance, among others, trust and confidence amongst parties, and we reaffirmed the importance of upholding international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS.

Developments in the Korean Peninsula

116. We stressed the importance of continued peaceful dialogue amongst all concerned parties in order to realise lasting peace and stability in a denuclearised Korean Peninsula. The recent surge in the DPRK's intercontinental ballistic missile testing and ballistic missile launches are a worrisome development that threatens the peace and stability in the region. We

urged all concerned parties to resume peaceful dialogue and continue working towards the realisation of lasting peace and stability in a denuclearised Korean Peninsula, including through the full and expeditious implementation of the Panmunjom Declaration, the Pyongyang Joint Declaration and the Joint Statement by the US and DPRK leaders. We reiterated our commitment to the full implementation of all relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions and noted international efforts to bring about the complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. Diplomatic efforts, including the creation of a conducive environment for peaceful dialogue amongst all concerned parties should remain a priority. We reiterated our readiness to play a constructive role, including through utilising ASEAN-led platforms such as the ARF in promoting a conducive atmosphere to peaceful dialogue amongst the concerned parties.

Developments in Myanmar

117. We extensively discussed the recent developments in Myanmar and expressed our concerns over the prolonged political crisis in the country, including the execution of four opposition activists. We welcomed the efforts to help address the situation including visits to Myanmar by Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, in January 2022, and by H.E. Mr. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, as the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar in March and late June to early July 2022. We were deeply disappointed by the limited progress in and lack of commitment of the Nay Pyi Taw authorities to the timely and complete implementation of the Five-Point Consensus. Towards this end, upholding the agreement of our Leaders at the 38th and 39th ASEAN Summits and consistent with Article 20 of the ASEAN Charter, we recommended that the ASEAN Summit assesses the progress towards the implementation of the Five-Point Consensus by the State Administration Council to guide the decision on the next steps. We reiterated our commitment to peace and stability in the region and expressed ASEAN's readiness to assist Myanmar in a positive, peaceful, and constructive manner, including in the delivery of humanitarian assistance. We agreed that the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar shall engage all Myanmar relevant stakeholders at the earliest.

Situation in Ukraine

118. With regard to Ukraine, as for all nations, we continue to reaffirm our respect for sovereignty, political independence, and territorial integrity. We reiterated our call for compliance with international law and the United Nations Charter. The Meeting underlined the importance of an immediate cessation of hostilities and the creation of an enabling environment for the peaceful resolution of conflict. We supported the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General in the search for a peaceful solution. We also called for the facilitation of rapid, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance for those in need in Ukraine, and for the protection of civilians, humanitarian personnel, and persons in vulnerable situations.

56th ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

119. We looked forward to the convening of the 56th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Post Ministerial Conferences, 24th APT Foreign Ministers' Meeting, 13th EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting, and 30th ARF to be held in the Republic of Indonesia in 2023.
