



ASEAN JOINT DECLARATION ON HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS AND WASTES MANAGEMENT

WE, the Ministers Responsible for Environment of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

RECALLING the ASEAN Vision of 2020 that envision a clean and green ASEAN with fully established mechanisms for sustainable development to ensure the protection of the region's environment, the sustainability of its natural resources, and the high quality of life of its people.

RECALLING ASEAN Community Vision 2025 that envisions the Socio-cultural Community (ASCC) by 2025 shall be one that engages and benefits the peoples, and is inclusive, sustainable, resilient and dynamic.

ACKNOWLEDGING the global commitment and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development particularly on Goal 12 Ensuring Sustainable Consumption and Production Pattern.

ADHERING the purposes of ASEAN enshrined in Article 1 of the ASEAN Charter, that is to promote sustainable development so as to ensure the protection of the region's environment, the sustainability of its natural resources, the preservation of its cultural heritage and the high quality of life of its people.

URGENTLY HIGHLIGHTING the need to implement environmentally sound management of hazardous chemicals and wastes particularly the recycling, recovery, and treatment of hazardous wastes, more effectively through governance, capacity building and exchange of information.

RECOGNIZING the environmental and health concerns, especially in developing countries and among the vulnerable populations including women, children, and future generations, resulting from exposure to hazardous chemicals and wastes.

ENSURING the transboundary movement of hazardous chemicals and wastes are managed in an environmentally sound manner through technical cooperation, capacity building and information exchange so as to combat illegal traffic of hazardous chemicals and wastes more effectively.

RECALLING ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Environment Joint Statement on the Implementation of Sustainable Consumption and Production in ASEAN by the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Environment in 2013 that articulated ASEAN commitment to strengthen the cooperation within ASEAN, and between ASEAN and dialogue/ development partners towards the implementation of sustainable consumption and production.

REAFFIRMING the importance of the Basel Convention, the Rotterdam Convention, the Stockholm Convention, and the Minamata Convention, including the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), as milestones in the international sound management of hazardous chemicals and wastes.

RECOGNIZING the significant role of the Basel Convention Regional Centre for South-East Asia/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre (BCRC-SEA/SCRC) in providing training, technology transfer, technical assistance, and capacity building for the implementation of the Basel Convention, the Rotterdam Convention and the Stockholm Convention in ASEAN region.

EXPRESSING the importance of BCRC-SEA and the interim secretariat of Minamata Convention in facilitating the ratification and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury, and accelerating entry into force of the Ban Amendment of the Basel Convention to prevent importation of hazardous waste.

EMPHASIZING desire to strengthen regional cooperation to ensure the protection of the environment, the sustainability of natural resources and the high quality of life of our people.

HEREBY:

CALL UPON ASEAN Member States to continue working closely and strengthen cooperation in good faith, and further mobilize the capacity building, exchange of relevant information, including transfer of technology, hence explore new additional financial resources towards the establishment of environmentally sound hazardous substances and waste management and achieving the 2020 Goal of SAICM and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda;

CONTINUE to implement an environmentally sound management of hazardous chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle and substantial reduction of waste through prevention, reduction, reuse recycle and recovery;

CONTINUE our efforts, in accordance with agreed international frameworks and agreements, to significantly minimize the adverse impacts on human health and the environment caused by the release of hazardous chemicals and wastes to air, water and soil, in the ASEAN region;

IMPLEMENT decisions by the ASEAN Summit and the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment to ensure the coherence, transparency, continuity and effectiveness of the representation of ASEAN Member States where a common position exists in hazardous chemicals and wastes-related international conventions, including the

Basel Convention, the Rotterdam Convention, the Stockholm Convention and the Minamata Convention, subject to where applicable those which have been ratified by ASEAN Member States, as well as in internationally agreed-upon arrangement such as the SAICM thereto;

ENHANCE the coordination and collaboration between ASEAN Member States and partner organizations in providing continuous support for capacity building, and creating opportunities to share and exchange information and knowledge, and transfer of technologies including financial resources among the ASEAN Member States in the implementation of the Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, and Stockholm Convention;

ENDORSE the establishment of networks between ASEAN Member States in the management of hazardous chemicals and wastes to improve the supervision of trade in such substances, thus enhance coordination in information exchange on preventing the illegal traffic of chemicals and wastes in ASEAN territory;

OPTIMIZE the functions of BCRC-SEA/SCRC in providing capacity building and assisting ASEAN Member States in exploring new or additional financial resources to strengthen the implementation of the Basel Convention, the Rotterdam Convention, and the Stockholm Convention in ASEAN region;

ENCOURAGE each ASEAN Member State that has not yet ratified the Minamata Convention and the Ban Amendment of the Basel Convention to do so expeditiously to accelerate their effective implementation;

CALL UPON non-ASEAN Member State Parties particularly developed Parties to the Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, and Stockholm Convention to strengthen and deepen the cooperation with ASEAN towards the full implementation of the conventions;

DONE by the ASEAN Ministers responsible for the Environment, on this Twenty Six Day of April in the Year Two Thousand and Seventeen.