I. BACKGROUND

1. The ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth (SOMY+3) was established to facilitate closer ASEAN Plus Three collaboration on youth development in the East Asian region, as expressed by ASEAN Plus Three Leaders in the Joint Statement on East Asia Cooperation to “further deepen and broaden East Asian cooperation with tangible impact on the quality of life of the people of East Asia”.

2. The First ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth (1st SOMY+3) was held on 4-5 November 2004 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

3. The 1st SOMY+3 first adopted the Terms of Reference (TOR) on 4 November 2004, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. This TOR was adopted by the 7th AMMY+3 on 19 July 2019 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

II. MANDATES

1. To implement directives emanating from the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders Meetings on youth and relevant issues;

2. To develop and recommend collaborative strategies and programmes/projects for ASEAN Plus Three cooperation on youth development, particularly with regard to preparing the region’s youth for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st Century, taking into consideration the existing capacity and achievements of previous projects in the ASEAN Plus Three countries;

3. To facilitate the participation of the Plus Three countries in relevant ASEAN SOMY projects, as guided by mutually agreed implementation arrangements between the ASEAN lead country and Plus Three countries;

4. To intensify the networking of youth among the ASEAN Member States and the People’s Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, including through participation of the Plus Three countries at the ASEAN Youth Day Meetings;

5. To coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of ASEAN
Plus Three projects and activities on youth, recommend measures for improvement and further identify priority areas for ASEAN Plus Three cooperation on youth;

6. To deliberate and recommend common positions, where appropriate, especially in preparation for international meetings relevant to youth development;

7. To exchange information and ideas concerning national, regional and international activities on youth development, including youth employability and promotion of cross-cultural awareness and understanding;

8. To jointly collaborate with regional and international agencies and other relevant agencies and co-sponsors in implementing programmes for youth development; and

9. To enhance and strengthen international, regional and national partnership with educational institutions so that they can perform a proactive role in the employability of ASEAN Plus Three youth.

III. COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE

1. The ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth shall comprise senior representatives at the Permanent Secretary/Director General level, from the Ministries responsible for youth of ASEAN, the People’s Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

2. ASEAN Dialogue Partners, relevant regional and international agencies and partners may be invited, with the consent of the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth, to attend the open sessions to promote collaboration and partnerships.

IV. CO-CHAIRPERSONSHIP

1. The tenure of Plus Three Co-chairpersonship shall be concomitant with the chairmanship of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth.

2. The ASEAN Member Country chairing the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth shall host and co-chair the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth with one of the Plus Three countries.

3. The Plus Three Co-chair for the ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials
Meeting on Youth shall be rotated among the Plus Three countries alphabetically.

V. PROCEDURES

1. The ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth shall meet back-to-back with the regular ASEAN Senior Officials Meetings on Youth. Participation of ASEAN Member States, Plus Three Countries and ASEAN Secretariat in the AMMY shall be on self-financing basis.

2. The ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth shall further deliberate and recommend the convening of an ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth, as and when necessary.

3. The ASEAN Secretariat shall assist the Co-Chairs in preparing the agenda of the SOMY+3, circulating the draft agenda for consideration of the members and keeping a summary record of discussions.

4. The ASEAN Secretariat shall provide technical and administrative support in convening the SOMY in compliance with the Guide to ASEAN Practices and Protocol.

5. The ASEAN Member States and Plus Three countries shall provide support in hosting non-scheduled meetings, as appropriate.

6. The ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth shall establish ad-hoc working groups and/or expert task forces to provide assistance in performing certain technical and specific functions, as appropriate, with defined terms of reference and duration.

VI. DECISION MAKING

1. Decision-making in SOMY+3 shall be based on consultation and consensus in accordance with the ASEAN Charter.

2. Matters requiring the attention and/or decision of SOMY+3 shall be channelled through the SOMY Chair for consultation with the members of SOMY+3. Consultation for decision-making shall be done during the Meeting or through ad-referendum by the SOMY Chair or the ASEAN Secretariat as assigned by the SOMY Chair.

VII. AMENDMENTS

The Terms of Reference is open for review from time to time; necessary
amendments shall be made by consultation and consensus among the ASEAN Plus Three countries.

[end]