

## OVERVIEW

### ASEAN-TURKEY SECTORAL DIALOGUE PARTNERSHIP

1. Turkey was conferred the status of Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN by the 50<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) on 5 August 2017 in Manila, the Philippines.

#### a. Political-Security Cooperation

1. Turkey acceded to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) on 23 July 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. This reflects Turkey's strong commitment to regional peace, stability and a contribution to the TAC as an important code of conduct governing inter-states relations. The Government of Turkey accredited its Ambassador to ASEAN since September 2011.

2. Following the conferment of the status of Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN by the 50<sup>th</sup> AMM, ASEAN and Turkey convened the 1st ASEAN-Turkey Joint Sectoral Cooperation Committee (AT-JSCC) Meeting on 30 May 2018 at the ASEAN Secretariat to mark the launch of ASEAN-Turkey sectoral dialogue partnership. The Meeting adopted the Terms of Reference of ASEAN-Turkey Joint Sectoral Cooperation Committee (AT-JSCC). The "ASEAN-Turkey Sectoral Dialogue Partnership: Practical Cooperation Areas (2019-2023)", adopted at the 2<sup>nd</sup> AT-JSCC Meeting held on 18 July 2019, serves as the overall framework and priorities for engagement and cooperation between ASEAN and Turkey.

3. The first Trilateral Meeting of Minister of Foreign Affairs of Singapore as the then Chair of ASEAN, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey and Secretary-General of ASEAN, was held on 1 August 2018 in Singapore, during which both ASEAN and Turkey reviewed the progress and discuss future direction of the ASEAN-Turkey sectoral partnership.

#### b. Economic Cooperation

4. The Foreign Direct Investment from Turkey to ASEAN increased by 55% from US\$22.61 million in 2017 to US\$35.03 million in 2018. However, the two-way trade between ASEAN and Turkey experienced negative growth from US\$9.69 billion in 2017 to US\$8.71 billion in 2018.<sup>1</sup>

5. In tourism, the number of tourist arrivals from Turkey to ASEAN in 2017 amounted to 80,692, a 59.2% increase compared with the 2016 figure which stood at 50,685.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> ASEAN's Statistics Database as of July 2019. The trade statistics figure in 2018 is still preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> ASEAN's Statistics Database as of July 2019.

**c. Socio-Cultural Cooperation**

6. Turkey has long-standing bilateral socio-cultural cooperation with ASEAN Member States. Turkey has also initiated cooperation in this field with ASEAN, by organising two Training Programmes for Junior Diplomats from ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat at the Diplomacy Academy of Turkey on 2-7 July 2018 and 22-28 July 2019, respectively.

**d. Development Cooperation**

7. Since 2008 Turkish Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) has been active in development cooperation through various projects with several ASEAN Member States, including in the areas of humanitarian assistance.

