

## **HA NOI DECLARATION ON THE ADOPTION OF THE INITIATIVE FOR ASEAN INTEGRATION (IAI) WORK PLAN IV (2021-2025)**

**WE**, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as ASEAN), namely, 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, on the occasion of the 37<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit;

**UPHOLDING** the Initiative for ASEAN Integration launched at the Fourth Informal Summit in Singapore in 2000 and Ha Noi Declaration on Narrowing Development Gap for Closer ASEAN Integration in 2001, which provided direction on collective efforts in ASEAN to narrow the development gap within ASEAN and between ASEAN and the rest of the world, and to enhance ASEAN's competitiveness as a region;

**ENCOURAGED** by the significant progress achieved by Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam (CLMV countries) in the past twenty years, and the contribution of capacity building and technical assistance under IAI Work Plans I, II and III to the CLMV countries' development;

**NOTING** the prevalent development gaps which still exist within and among ASEAN Member States;

**RECOGNISING** the emerging challenges and priorities brought about by global and regional developments and trends, such as the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the need to effectively respond to these challenges in narrowing the development gap;

**REAFFIRMING** the commitment made in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together in 2015 to strengthen efforts and cooperation in advancing regional integration and reducing the development gap through, among others, the Initiative for ASEAN Integration;

**COMMENDING** the work of the IAI Task Force in the formulation of the IAI Work Plan IV (2021-2025);

**EXTENDING** our appreciation to ASEAN's partners for supporting the implementation of past IAI Work Plans and **LOOKING FORWARD** to a stronger partnership in the IAI Work Plan IV (2021-2025);

### **DO HEREBY:**

1. **ADOPT** the IAI Work Plan IV (2021-2025), which aims to promote effective cooperation and mutual assistance to narrow the development gap among ASEAN Member States as well as between ASEAN and the rest of the world, devoting special efforts and resources to assist CLMV countries to meet

ASEAN-wide targets and commitments towards realising the goals of the ASEAN Community;

2. **AGREE** that this Work Plan succeeds the IAI Work Plan III, and together they constitute an integral part of the *ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together*;
3. **AFFIRM** that this Work Plan shall contribute towards the implementation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework in increasing the capacity and resilience of public health systems, education systems, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) as well as key economic sectors such as agriculture and trade, and in preparing ASEAN, particularly the CLMV countries, for economic and social transformation towards a comprehensive recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and stronger ASEAN resilience;
4. **RESOLVE** that ASEAN Member States shall mobilise resources along with ASEAN's partners and external parties, including international organisations and the private sector, to implement the Work Plan in a timely and effective manner;
5. **TASK** relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies to support implementation of the Work Plan particularly in areas under their respective purview; and
6. **MANDATE** the IAI Task Force to coordinate, monitor and report the progress of implementation of the IAI Work Plan IV (2021-2025) to the ASEAN Summit annually, through the ASEAN Coordinating Council.

**ADOPTED** at the Summit, this Twelfth day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty, in a single original copy in the English Language.