



MYANMAR, 2014

ASEAN-U.S. JOINT STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE
13th November 2014, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

1. We, the Heads of State/ Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the United States of America gathered at the 2nd ASEAN-U.S. Summit on 13 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
2. We are alarmed by the threat global climate change poses to the livelihoods, prosperity and economic development for all nations. As countries that represent some of the world's most vulnerable, and most vibrant economies, ASEAN Member States and the United States of America have a strong and abiding interest in responding to this challenge in an urgent and effective manner.
3. We are concerned about anthropogenic climate change and its worsening impacts globally as emphasised in the Fifth Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC AR-5). Scientific evidence warns us of the negative impacts of climate change, including the danger presented to our coastlines from rising sea levels, the alarming acidification of our oceans, the striking incidence of extreme weather events, and potentially scarce future water resources from shifting rain patterns. We also recognise that the tropics are especially at risk, where even small changes in temperatures can have dramatic effects on tropical ecosystems and the livelihoods that rely on them.
4. Recalling, inter alia, the objective, principles, and provisions of the UNFCCC, we are determined to combat climate change. ASEAN welcomes the substantial efforts made by the United States in reducing emissions. The United States applauds ASEAN's efforts to develop and implement low emission development strategies, promote renewable energy sources, combat illegal logging and trading, reduce deforestation, make their economies more resilient through adaptation, and pledges its continued support for these efforts through initiatives that includes climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building.

5. We are determined to continue working together through a wide range of activities toward a low carbon economic growth trajectory, enhancing the adaptive capacity of ASEAN to current impacts of climate change and building more climate resilient societies, and we intend to deepen our cooperation in these areas.
 6. We are committed to tackle the issue under the UNFCCC, and look forward to finalising a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties at the 21st Session of Conference of the Parties in 2015 in Paris. To this end, ASEAN Member States and the United States intend to communicate Intended Nationally Determined Contributions well in advance of the Paris Conference (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so) as reflected in the decision 1/CP.19. These Intended Nationally Determined Contributions will reflect our efforts to address climate change based on our respective national circumstances. ASEAN Member States and the United States are committed to reaching an ambitious 2015 agreement that reflects the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of national circumstances.
 7. We underscored that our action to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change, in the context of national circumstances and through international cooperation, can reduce the current and future impacts of anthropogenic climate change and, can yield substantial and immediate benefits in promoting cleaner air and environment, human health, resilience against natural disasters, and more diverse and cleaner sources of energy. We recognise the importance of working to integrate climate change considerations into our national planning processes, and to ensure that our cooperation is undertaken with respect to national circumstances including economic growth needs in the region, climate change impacts and co-benefits.
 8. We call on all countries around the world to come together in a cooperative spirit to address this challenge in an urgent and timely manner.
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