

JOINT STATEMENT
8TH ASEAN PLUS THREE HEALTH MINISTERS MEETING
30 AUGUST 2019, SIEM REAP, THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

1. WE, the Ministers of Health of ASEAN Member States (AMS), representing 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 and the Ministers of Health of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea convened the 8th ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Meeting (APTHMM) on 30 August 2019 in Siem Reap, the Kingdom of Cambodia.
2. We note that our health development collaboration are aligned with the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda with specific focus on common concerns on healthy and active ageing, ending all forms of malnutrition, responding to communicable and emerging health threats, antimicrobial resistance, universal health coverage, human resources for health, traditional and complementary medicine, maternal and child health, rapid response in food safety issues and crisis, traceability and recall plan in ensuring food safety, and food-borne outbreak investigation capacity building.
3. We commit to continue our efforts on the implementation of IHR, Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies (APSED III) to enhance AMS and Plus Three countries' capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to public health threats. In sustaining the progress made, there is further need to strengthen: (1) combating antimicrobial resistance, food safety and zoonotic disease control, (2) inter-sectoral communications and information-sharing including the regular sharing of outbreak investigation reports between human and other relevant sectors, and (3) existing inter-sectoral mechanism, which includes Development Partners, to oversee IHR core capacity development within AMS and Plus Three countries.
4. We agree to strengthen our joint efforts in advocating, facilitating and implementing relevant social and economic interventions in addressing non-communicable diseases and its risk factors including tobacco consumption and the harmful use of alcohol and unhealthy diet, as well as inactive lifestyle.
5. We affirm that the health of our populations to be of paramount importance irrespective of our geographical, geopolitical and economic status. We reaffirm our commitments to the United Nations SDGs to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by 2030 which includes financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all. We therefore task the ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD

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to accelerate the progress towards UHC in all countries by building up the national and regional capacity to assess and manage the equitable and efficient health systems to support UHC, including activities under the ASEAN Plus Three UHC Network.

6. We acknowledge the potential health activities to be undertaken under the ASEAN Plus Three and therefore urge ASEAN Plus Three SOMHD to consider initiatives that are identified as regional in nature, to be incorporated in the new Work Programmes of relevant ASEAN Health Clusters.
7. We note the contribution by, and further commit to collaborate closely with Dialogue and Development Partners, with adherence to the *Rules of Procedure on the Engagement of Entities with the ASEAN Health Sector*.

We look forward to further exchanges of views and collaboration in health development at our next Meeting in the Republic of Indonesia in 2021.
