

## **Overview of ASEAN-Chile Development Partnership**

1. Chile was conferred the status of Development Partner of ASEAN during the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 22 June 2019, at the sidelines of the 34<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Bangkok, Thailand. The ASEAN-Chile Development Partnership has been further institutionalised through the convening of the First ASEAN-Chile Development Partnership Committee (AC-DPC) Meeting on 30 January 2020 at the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta. At the Meeting, ASEAN and Chile adopted the Terms of Reference for the AC-DPC, which serves as a platform to explore practical cooperation between ASEAN and Chile, and is expected to support ASEAN's community-building efforts.
2. ASEAN and Chile adopted the ASEAN-Chile Practical Cooperation Areas (PCA) for ASEAN-Chile Development Partnership 2021-2025 at the Second AC-DPC Meeting, which was held on 29 January 2021 via videoconference. The PCA serves as a guiding document for engagement and cooperation between ASEAN and Chile in the five years timeframe. To date, 42 percent measures/activities have been and/or being addressed under the current PCA. The Third and Fourth AC-DPC Meetings were held on 21 February 2022 via videoconference and on 16 February 2023 at the ASEAN Secretariat, respectively. The Meetings discussed, among others, the progress of implementation of the PCA. The Fifth AC-DPC Meeting was held on 22 April 2024 at the ASEAN Headquarters whereas both sides were encouraged to continue working closely in exploring collaborative activities of mutual interest on the remaining areas of cooperation under the PCA, noting its expiry in 2025.
3. Chile appointed its first Ambassador of Chile to ASEAN, H.E. Eduardo Ruiz Asmussen, who presented his credentials to the then Secretary-General of ASEAN, H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, on 17 June 2011. The 4<sup>th</sup> (incumbent) Ambassador to ASEAN, H.E. Mario Ignacio Artaza, presented his credentials to the Secretary-General of ASEAN, H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, on 17 January 2024.
4. Chile acceded to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) in 2016. There were several high-level visits between both sides over the past years, including the visit to the ASEAN Secretariat by the then President of Chile, H.E. Michelle Bachelet on 12 May 2017. Chile has established diplomatic relations with all ASEAN Member States, including its resident Ambassadors in six ASEAN Member States namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam, and accredited a non-resident Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar. The ASEAN Committee in Santiago was established in July 2013, consisting of five ASEAN Member States' Missions in Santiago, Chile.

5. The total two-way trade between ASEAN and Chile has increased from USD 4.35 billion in 2021 to USD 5.16 billion in 2022<sup>1</sup>. The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow from Chile to ASEAN accounted at 0.16 million in 2022, lower compares to USD 0.25 million in 2021<sup>2</sup>. Chile has been conducting various capacity-building programmes with individual ASEAN Member States through the Chilean International Cooperation for Development Agency (AGCID).

6. As a strong advocate of free trade agreements (FTAs), Chile has positioned itself as Latin America's gateway to the Asia Pacific region, with 33 bilateral and regional FTAs in place encompassing 65 markets<sup>3</sup>. Out of which, there are 4 bilateral agreements with individual AMS, namely Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, and Viet Nam; and one plurilateral trade agreement (Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership-CPTPP) which includes 4 AMS, namely Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore, and Viet Nam.

7. The Embassies of Chile in ASEAN Member States organised a series of webinars, to discuss a wide range of perspectives for the future relations between Chile and ASEAN, with the first dialogue series being held on 7 September 2021 via videoconference. In the area of good governance, Chile organised an online Certification Course titled "Transparency, Integrity and Good Governance" designed for professionals from ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat, held from 15 December 2021 to 29 January 2022.

8. Chile engages with ASEAN and its Member States through CELAC (formerly Rio Group) and the Pacific Alliance.

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<sup>1</sup> ASEAN Statistics database as of January 2024.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Source: <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/chile-trade-agreements>