



CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

THE ASEAN POST MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE (PMC) 10+1 SESSIONS WITH THE DIALOGUE PARTNERS AND TRILATERAL MEETINGS

VIENTIANE, LAO PDR
25 - 27 JULY 2024

1. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) 10+1 Sessions with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, namely Australia, Canada, China, the European Union, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America and three separate Trilateral Meetings between Lao PDR and ASEAN Secretariat with Norway, Türkiye and Switzerland were held in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on 25-27 July 2024.
2. ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners reviewed their relations over the past year and reiterated their commitment to further strengthening their partnerships and cooperation through effective implementation of their respective Plans of Action and existing frameworks. ASEAN also highlighted several milestones in its relations with Dialogue Partners, including the Commemorative Summit for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation in Tokyo, Japan, on 17 December 2023, the Special Summit to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations in Melbourne, Australia, on 4-6 March 2024, the First ASEAN-Gulf Cooperation Council Summit in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 20 October 2023, the 24th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting in Brussels, Belgium, on 2 February 2024, and commemoration of the 35th Anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations in 2024.
3. The Meetings reiterated their support for Lao PDR's priorities for its ASEAN Chairmanship 2024 under the theme "ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience", which reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to strengthening the ASEAN Community through intensifying ASEAN cooperation under the three community pillars, promoting infrastructure connectivity, narrowing the development gap, enhancing economic integration and people-to-people exchanges, and further strengthening ASEAN's relations with external partners, while maintaining ASEAN's relevance and ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture.

4. ASEAN expressed appreciation to its Dialogue Partners, external partners and international organisations for their continued support to its community-building efforts and initiatives to address the long-term social economic, and health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases as well as in preparing for other future public health emergencies, including through the COVID-19 and other Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases Fund, the One Health Initiatives as well as the operationalisation of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED). ASEAN also called for enhanced collaboration, coordination and sharing of information and experiences and expertise with its external partners.
5. The Meetings reaffirmed ASEAN's ongoing community-building efforts and the goals enshrined in the ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together, the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025, and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan IV (2021-2025).
6. ASEAN appreciated economic cooperation initiatives supported by its Dialogue Partners, in particular, in emerging areas such as digital and sustainable economy, renewable energy, supply chain resilience, and science and technology, among others. ASEAN welcomed the continued interest and support by external partners for ASEAN's commitments to further promote equitable, sustainable and inclusive development across the ASEAN Community by aligning sub-regional growth with the comprehensive development of ASEAN. ASEAN agreed to further strengthen partnerships and cooperation with our partners, including through sub-regional development cooperation and projects, thus contributing to the continued efforts towards the realisation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, as well as our proactive response to regional and global challenges and opportunities.
7. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Participating Countries underscored the importance of the full and effective implementation of the RCEP Agreement, which would contribute to an inclusive and open trade and investment architecture in the region and to post-pandemic global economic recovery, as well as to strengthen the regional supply chain and support the ASEAN economic integration agenda.
8. ASEAN underscored the importance of strengthening ASEAN unity and Centrality in its engagement with external partners, including through ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three (APT), East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), in order to build mutual trust and confidence as well as to reinforce an open, transparent, resilient, inclusive and rules-based regional architecture that upholds international law with ASEAN at the centre. The Meetings underscored the need to promote an enabling environment for peace, stability, prosperity, and sustainable development for all through ensuring a culture of dialogue and

cooperation, instead of rivalry, enhancing mutual trust and confidence, and respect for international law. ASEAN agreed to continue encouraging its Dialogue Partners and other external parties to support and undertake substantive, practical and tangible cooperation with ASEAN in the four priority areas of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP), namely maritime cooperation, connectivity, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and economic and other possible areas of cooperation, through concrete projects, activities and workstreams.

9. The Meetings reiterated the strong commitment to upholding regionalism and multilateralism and emphasised the importance of upholding to key principles, and shared values and norms enshrined in the UN Charter, the ASEAN Charter, the Declaration on Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN), the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ), the 2011 Declaration on the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations and the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP).
10. The Meetings exchanged views on regional and international issues of common interest and concern. These include existing and emerging traditional and non-traditional security challenges such as armed conflicts, ICT-security, natural disasters, climate change, maritime security and cooperation, as well as developments in various regions.
11. The Meetings discussed the developments in Myanmar during which deep concern were expressed over the escalation of conflicts and humanitarian situation. The Meetings reaffirmed support for the ASEAN Leaders' Five-Point Consensus (5PC) which remains the main reference to address the political crisis in Myanmar. The Meetings also reaffirmed the relevant Leaders' decisions. The Meetings condemned the continued acts of violence against civilians and public facilities and called for immediate cessation. The Meetings urged all parties involved to take concrete action to immediately halt indiscriminate violence, denounce any escalation, exercise utmost restraint, ensure the protection and safety of all civilians and create a conducive environment for the delivery of humanitarian assistance and inclusive national dialogue.
12. The Meetings welcomed the progress of the provision of ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance under Phase 1 (Life-Saving/COVID-19 response) and Phase 2 (Life-Sustaining) by the AHA Centre in coordination with Myanmar to implement Point 4 of the ASEAN Leaders' 5PC. The Meetings noted that as of 10 July 2024, the total distributed value under the Phase 2 response is around USD 1.88 million through the provision of food (rice and food packages composed of rice, pulses, oil, salt) and non-food items (family kits and personal hygiene kits) reaching the affected populations in Sagaing Region, Magway Region, southern Shan State and Mon

State. In this regard, the Meetings commended the AHA Centre for its continuous efforts in delivering ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance to Myanmar, and welcomed Thailand's humanitarian initiative, which are in line with the 5PC and coordinated with the ASEAN Chair through the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar. The Meetings appreciated the contributions by ASEAN Member States, external partners, and the private sector, and called for all relevant parties in Myanmar to ensure the safe and transparent delivery of humanitarian assistance, to the people in Myanmar without discrimination, towards the more effective implementation of Point 4 of the 5PC. The Meetings called for scaled-up additional financial support from the international community for humanitarian assistance, including to ensure the safety and livelihood of internally displaced persons (IDPs).

13. The Meetings commended the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar for efforts made to promote progress in the implementation of the 5PC in its entirety. The Meetings welcomed his efforts to continue reaching out to parties concerned in a sustainable manner, and to help the people of Myanmar to achieve an inclusive and durable peaceful resolution that is Myanmar-owned and -led for peace, security and stability in the region.
14. The Meetings discussed the situation in the South China Sea, during which concerns were expressed by some Ministers, on the land reclamations, activities in the area, including actions that put the safety of all persons at risk, which have eroded trust and confidence, increased tensions, and may undermine peace, security, and stability in the region. The Meetings reaffirmed the need to enhance mutual trust and confidence, exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability, and avoid actions that may further complicate the situation. The Meetings further reaffirmed the need to pursue peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS. The Meetings emphasised the importance of self-restraint in the conduct of all activities by claimants and all other states, including those mentioned in the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) that could further complicate the situation and escalate tensions in the South China Sea.
15. The Meetings reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety, and freedom of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea and recognised the benefits of having the South China Sea as a sea of peace, stability, and prosperity. The Meetings underscored the importance of the full and effective implementation of the DOC in its entirety. The Meetings was pleased with the progress achieved so far in the ongoing negotiations on the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC), notably the commencement of the third reading of the Single Draft COC Negotiating Text (SDNT) and encouraged continued positive momentum in this regard. The Meetings looked forward to the

early conclusion of an effective and substantive COC that is in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS.

16. The Meetings expressed concern over the declining commitment and cooperation in global non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament mechanisms, and most called on countries, especially Nuclear Weapon States (NWS), to maintain and fully implement their commitments under these mechanisms, including in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The Meetings called on the NWS to fulfil their obligations in advancing nuclear disarmament in accordance with the Article VI of the NPT and to recognise the need to completely eliminate nuclear weapons, which remains the only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons are never used again under any circumstances. The Meetings further reiterated its commitment to preserving the Southeast Asian region as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (NWFZ) and free of all other weapons of mass destruction as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter and the SEANWFZ Treaty, and stressed the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Treaty.
17. The Meetings expressed concern over the recent developments in the Korean Peninsula and stressed the importance of continued peaceful dialogue among all concerned parties in order to realise lasting peace and stability in a denuclearised Korean Peninsula. Some Ministers expressed grave concern over the recent surge in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) intercontinental ballistic missile testing and ballistic missile launches and the increased tension in the Korean Peninsula, which are a worrisome development that threatens peace and stability in the region. Some Ministers called on the DPRK to comply fully with all relevant UNSC Resolutions and called for peaceful dialogue among the concerned parties, and continue working towards the realisation of lasting peace, and stability in a denuclearised Korean Peninsula. Many Ministers called for the full implementation of all relevant UNSC Resolutions and noted international efforts to bring about the complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. Diplomatic efforts, including the creation of a conducive environment for peaceful dialogue among all concerned parties should remain a priority. The Meetings reiterated our readiness to play a constructive role, including through utilising ASEAN-led platforms such as the ARF in promoting a conducive atmosphere for peaceful dialogue amongst the concerned parties.
18. With regard to Ukraine, as for all nations, the Meetings continued to reaffirm our respect for sovereignty, political independence, and territorial integrity. The Meetings reiterated our call for compliance with the UN Charter and international law. The Meetings underlined the importance of reaching a just and lasting peace based on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter in all their entirety and an immediate cessation of hostilities and the creation of enabling environment for peaceful resolution. The Meetings supported the efforts of the UN Secretary-General in the search for peaceful solution. The Meetings also called for the

facilitation of rapid, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance for those in need, and for the protection of civilians, humanitarian personnel, and persons in vulnerable situations. Some Ministers also took note of views expressed on the recent developments and the need to address the root causes.

19. The Meetings expressed grave concern over the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza, which has been exacerbated following the 7 October attacks. The Meetings condemned all attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, which have resulted in the alarming number of casualties, particularly women and children, and deterioration of the humanitarian crisis, and called for more to be done to facilitate access to food, water, and other basic needs in Gaza. The Meetings urged all relevant parties to accept the ceasefire proposal as outlined in paragraph 2 of UN Security Council Resolution 2735. The Meetings called for the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages, including 23 ASEAN nationals, women, children, the sick and the elderly. The Meetings underscored the importance of release from any arbitrary detention. The Meetings commended the efforts of various ASEAN Member States and various East Asia Summit Participating Countries in providing humanitarian assistance to Gaza, and urged all ASEAN Member States and external partners to continue providing and facilitating such assistance for Gaza. The Meetings supported the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in the execution of its mandate and the UN Senior Humanitarian and Reconstruction Coordinator for Gaza to discharge her task effectively and efficiently, and to begin the work on post-conflict reconstruction as well as the work of other international aid organizations. The Meetings called for rapid, safe, unimpeded and sustained humanitarian access to all those in need, including through increased capacity at border crossings, including by sea. The Meetings called on all parties to the conflict to protect civilians and to abide by international humanitarian law and international human rights law. The Meetings urged all parties concerned to work towards a peaceful resolution to the conflict with a view to realising the two-State solution in accordance with international law and the relevant UNSC and UNGA resolutions. The Meetings took note, and some Ministers underlined the importance of the order on provisional measures issued by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on 26 January 2024. The Meetings acknowledged the Advisory Opinion of the ICJ on 19 July 2024. In this context, the Meetings reaffirmed the importance of upholding international law. The Meetings expressed great concern over the escalation of tension in the Middle East and called on all parties concerned to exercise self-restraint, avoid acts that may aggravate the situation, and resolve differences through diplomacy and dialogue in the interest of maintaining peace and stability in the region.

Australia

20. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with Australia was co-chaired by Lao PDR and Australia.

21. The Meeting welcomed the successful convening of the Special Summit to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations in Melbourne, Australia, on 6 March 2024, and the adoption of the “ASEAN-Australia Leaders’ Vision Statement – Partners for Peace and Prosperity” and the “Melbourne Declaration – A Partnership for the Future”. These statements map out the future direction for the ASEAN-Australia partnership and commit ASEAN and Australia to work together to contribute to the maintenance of peace and stability in the region. The Meeting welcomed and looked forward to activities to be held this year to commemorate the 50th Anniversary. The Meeting also looked forward to the convening of the 4th ASEAN-Australia Summit in October 2024.
22. The Meeting welcomed the package of new and expanded initiatives announced at the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit in March 2024, including those focused on implementing recommendations under *Invested: Australia’s Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040*. The Meeting looked forward to the implementation of these initiatives, including a AUD 2 billion Southeast Asia Investment Financing facility to catalyse Australian investment in South-East Asia.
23. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-Australia Strategic Partnership (2020-2024) and its Annex to implement the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. The Meeting adopted the new Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (2025-2029) and looked forward to continued cooperation under the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) that was meaningful, substantive, and mutually beneficial, including through the AUD 204 million Australia for ASEAN Futures Initiative, Aus4ASEAN Scholarship program and the Aus4ASEAN Digital Transformation and Future Skills Initiative in addition to initiatives announced at the 2024 ASEAN-Australia Special Summit.
24. The Meeting reaffirmed ASEAN’s and Australia’s commitment to continue strengthening the ASEAN-Australia CSP, which importantly contributes to maintaining peace, security, stability, and prosperity in the region.
25. The Meeting welcomed the expansion of the Aus4ASEAN Futures Initiative to cover all three ASEAN Community Pillars, and the ongoing implementation and successful delivery of over 27 projects under the Initiative. These included the ASEAN Strategy on Carbon Neutrality, the ASEAN Tariff Finder, and a Study on the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement. The Meeting looked forward to ongoing collaboration and cooperation under the Aus4ASEAN Futures Initiative.
26. The Meeting welcomed Australia’s support for ASEAN Centrality, the ASEAN-led regional architecture and the AOIP. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to enhancing practical cooperation toward the concrete implementation of the AOIP, in

line with the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Mainstreaming Four Priority Areas of the AOIP within ASEAN-led Mechanisms and the Joint Statement of the 2nd ASEAN-Australia Summit on Cooperation on the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific. To this end, the Meeting acknowledged Australia's initiatives and activities, including the convening of the first AOIP Seminar Series under the Project on "Strengthening Dialogue on Maritime Cooperation under the Framework of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific", which is funded by the AUS4ASEAN Futures Initiative in November 2023. The Meeting also welcomed Australia's support for the implementation of the MoU between ASEAN-Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) and between ASEAN-Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), namely through the convening of the ASEAN-Australia Indo-Pacific Workshop on the Use of Technology for Sustainable Aquaculture in May 2024 in Bali, Indonesia, that was participated by ASEAN Member States, Australia, PIF Member Countries, and the IORA Secretariat.

27. The Meeting welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN-Australia Centre (AAC) to support the implementation of CSP by deepening business, education, cultural and community connections between ASEAN and Australia.
28. The Meeting welcomed Australia's AUD 11.8 million in support of Timor-Leste's efforts to fulfil all the Roadmap criteria, including support for capacity-building workshops in partnership with ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat. It noted the successful conclusion of the first tranche of ASEAN Travelling Resource Persons Programme and looked forward to future instalments. ASEAN and Australia look forward to the commencement of English Language Training for ASEAN Accession Program.
29. The Meeting reaffirmed both sides' commitment to deepen political-security cooperation including on traditional and non-traditional security issues, through the implementation of the ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking program (ASEAN ACT) (2018-2028) and the ASEAN-Australia Political Security Partnership (APSP) and active participation in the ARF. This includes combatting transnational crime, terrorism and violent extremism, trafficking in persons, people smuggling, illicit drugs, malicious cyber-incidents and cybercrime, money laundering, non-proliferation and disarmament, maritime security, as well as in border management.
30. The Meeting welcomed Australia's ongoing work with ASEAN on conflict prevention, including the Track 2 ASEAN-Australia Workshop on Conflict Prevention and the ASEAN-led Regional Architecture in January 2024 co-chaired by Australia, Indonesia and Malaysia. The Meeting looked forward to a Track 1.5 ASEAN-Australia Workshop on Conflict Prevention and the ASEAN-led Regional Architecture, also co-chaired by Australia, Indonesia and Malaysia later this year. The meeting looked forward for a continued focus on conflict prevention and crisis

management in the future to follow up on the Track 2 ASEAN-Australia Workshop on Conflict Prevention and the ASEAN-led Regional Architecture.

31. The Meeting welcomed collective efforts to bolster peace and security in our region and address emerging common security challenges by expanding the scope and sophistication of our practical defence cooperation. The Meeting noted that Australia was an active member of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), and that ASEAN and Australia valued defence cooperation as a means for confidence building and conflict prevention, as well as capacity building. The Meeting noted Australia's active engagement in the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups (EWG), in particular as co-chair of the EWG on Military Medicine (2021-2023) with Brunei Darussalam, and EWG on Cyber Security with Cambodia for 2024-2027.
32. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress of implementation of the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) + Australia Work Plan on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime (2022- 2025) under the SOMTC + Australia Consultation mechanism. The Meeting looked forward to welcoming the *ad-referendum* adoption of the 2023-2024 ASEAN-Australia Programme of Work as a guiding document for ASEAN-Australia cooperation in immigration and border management under the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs Meeting Plus Australia (DGICM + Australia) Consultation framework. The Meeting also looked forward to the inaugural ASEAN Plus Australia Senior Officials' Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD + Australia) Consultation in 2024.
33. The Meeting reaffirmed ASEAN and Australia's unwavering commitment to addressing the multi-dimensional aspects of Trafficking in Persons (TIP). In this context, the Meeting noted with appreciation Australia's support in the development of the ASEAN Multi-Sectoral Work Plan Against Trafficking in Persons (Bohol TIP Work Plan 2.0), that was adopted at the 17th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) held in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia, on 21 August 2023. The Meeting welcomed the launch of the Counter Trafficking in Persons Centre of Excellence in Bangkok, Thailand, on 17 May 2024, supported by the ASEAN-ACT Programme.
34. The Meeting welcomed Australia's continued support to ASEAN in promoting safe and fair labour migration within the region and protecting and promoting the rights of migrant workers and their family members. The meeting further welcomed Australia's support through the Tripartite Action to Enhance the Contribution of Labour Migration to Growth and Development in ASEAN (TRIANGLE in ASEAN) programme.
35. The Meeting reiterated the importance of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA). The Meeting welcomed the signing of the Second Protocol

to Amend the Agreement Establishing the AANZFTA by all Parties and looked forward to the entry into force of the Protocol, which is one of the Priority Economic Deliverables of Lao PDR during its 2024 ASEAN Chairmanship year.

36. The Meeting likewise welcomed Australia's continued support under the Regional Trade for Development Initiative (RT4D) to support ASEAN Member States to implement AANZFTA and RCEP through the AANZFTA Implementation Support Program (AISP) and RCEP Implementation Support Program (RISP), respectively. The Meeting noted the successful implementation and conclusion of the Digital Trade Standards Initiative, and welcomed opportunities to continue its implementation under the Aus4ASEAN Futures Initiative. It looked forward to further support to the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) to support ASEAN's regional economic integration and sustainable and inclusive economic growth.
37. The Meeting welcomed ASEAN and Australia's engagement on ensuring regional food security. The Meeting welcomed progress under the ASEAN-Australia Joint Leaders' Statement on Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition in Response to Crises through the ASEAN-CGIAR Innovate for Food Regional Program and looked forward to the commencement of an ASEAN-specific cohort of the Meryl Williams Fellowship.
38. The Meeting welcomed Australia's contribution to the region's inclusive growth and equitable, sustainable development by promoting sub-regional development, including through effective implementation of the AUD 222.5 million second phase of the Mekong-Australia Partnership program.
39. The Meeting welcomed Australia's continued support for ASEAN's integration and Community-building efforts. The Meeting looked forward to further enhancing cooperation between ASEAN and Australia on connectivity and narrowing the development gap, including through support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 and the development of its successor document, i.e. the ASEAN Connectivity Strategic Plan (ACSP), the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan IV (2021-2025).
40. The Meeting welcomed Australia's support to smart and sustainable urban development, including under the ASEAN Australia Smart Cities Trust Fund. This included support to ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy and the ASEAN Smart Cities Network.
41. The Meeting appreciated Australia's support, through the Aus4ASEAN Futures Initiatives, in developing the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), and ASEAN Connectivity Division's Post-2025 Strategic Plans. This included the ASCC Post-2025 Results Framework and

Baselines as well as the continuous operation and maintenance of the ASCC Database for Monitoring and Evaluation (ADME) System. The Meeting emphasised the importance of establishing enabling mechanisms to support the implementation of the ASCC Post-2025 Strategic Plan.

42. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the strong ties between ASEAN and Australia on the socio-cultural spectrum, such as people-to-people connectivity, particularly through education, arts and cultural exchange program. The meeting welcomed the Aus4ASEAN Scholarships and ASEAN Scholars Leadership Program, New Colombo Plan, and Australia Awards-TVET Short Courses. The Meeting further welcomed Australia's commitment to provide additional Aus4ASEAN Scholarships and Aus4ASEAN Fellowships, announced at the 2024 ASEAN-Australia Special Summit as well as continued contribution for the implementation of the ASEAN TVET Council (ATC) Work Plan 2021-2030 under the Aus4ASEAN Futures Initiative.
43. The Meeting welcomed Australia's commitment in increasing access to quality Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in ASEAN, through the Aus4ASEAN Futures Initiatives, in enhancing the capacities of the ASEAN Member States to undertake systematic, effective, and holistic ECCE financing policy.
44. The Meeting acknowledged Australia's sustained commitment to ASEAN on health-related recovery efforts from the impact of the pandemic; strengthening health systems; supporting mental health; including under the ASEAN-Australia Youth Mental Health Fellowships; strengthening the One Health Initiatives through the ASEAN-Australia One Health Fellowship Program; and enhancing health security. The Meeting welcomed Australia's AUD 21 million to support the preparatory phase and establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED). The Meeting also highlighted the sustained cooperation in implementing the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on One Health Initiatives through the ASEAN One Health Joint Plan of Action 2023-2030 and the ASEAN One Health Network.
45. The Meeting appreciated Australia's cooperation with ASEAN to address environmental challenges such as climate change and biodiversity conservation. The Meeting appreciated Australia's contribution for the development of the ASEAN Strategy for Carbon Neutrality. The Meeting noted ASEAN and Australia remain committed to promoting regional resilience and adaptation through climate action. This included through the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change (ACCC) in Brunei Darussalam and the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD) in Thailand. The Meeting welcomed Australia's assistance to operationalize the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change and looked forward to Australia's continued support towards strengthening regional cooperation and coordination to address climate change. The Meeting also encouraged Australia to

contribute to the implementation and operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACCTHPC) in Indonesia for the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution.

46. The Meeting noted continued efforts to accelerate the energy transition to ensure stronger energy security, reliability, accessibility, sustainability, resiliency and affordability. The Meeting welcomed Australia's AUD 6.9 million Energy Cooperation Package announced at the 2024 ASEAN-Australia Special Summit to further strengthen climate and clean energy cooperation. This package will build on the support provided by Partnerships for Infrastructure (P4I) on energy planning, policy and connectivity as set out in the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy cooperation 2016-2025 (APAEC) and the 2023 ASEAN-Australia High-Level Dialogue on Climate Change and Energy Transition, co-chaired by Australia, Lao PDR and Vietnam.
47. The Meeting noted efforts to further enhance ASEAN's capacity to assess and monitor risks, prevent and mitigate, and respond to and recover from natural disasters, including through cooperation with the AHA Centre. The Meeting noted ASEAN and Australia would continue to cooperate on the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2021-2025.
48. The Meeting invites Australia to further collaborate on the field of disaster management through the development of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2026-2030) and the implementation of Leaders Declaration on Sustainable Resilience.
49. The Meeting acknowledged Australia's continuous support to raise the standard of civil service in the ASEAN region through cooperation between the ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM) and the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC). The Meeting looked forward to further cooperation between ASEAN and Australia on civil service matters, including civil service reform and workforce planning, transformative leadership, talent management, human resources professionals' capacity building, and other areas of mutual interest.
50. The Meeting acknowledged Australia's cooperation with ASEAN to address rural development and poverty alleviation, and encourage to enhance collaboration, through the Australia for ASEAN Futures Initiative (Aus4ASEAN Futures), including to support ASEAN initiatives, among others the ASEAN Villages Network.
51. The Meeting commended Australia's strong commitment to gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls in the region. The Meeting welcomed Australia's support to ASEAN's work on mainstreaming gender perspectives across the three ASEAN Community pillars through the implementation of the ASEAN

Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework (AGMSF), as well as in the implementation of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security. The Meeting appreciated Australia's support for the End-term Review of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and its successor regional framework.

52. The Meeting commended Australia's strong collaboration in advancing disability inclusive development and empowering persons with disabilities in the region. The Meeting appreciated Australia's collaboration for the implementation of the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025: Mainstreaming the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the roll-out of the recommendations arising from the Mid-Term Review of the Masterplan.
53. The Meeting looked forward to the implementation of Australia's support for the work of the ASEAN Task Force on Fake News (TFFN), including the campaign for the ASEAN youth on the effects of fake news as well as the familiarisation workshop on the ASEAN Guideline on Management of Government Information in Combating Fake News and Disinformation in the Media.
54. The Meeting thanked Lao PDR as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Indonesia as the incoming Country Coordinator.

Canada

55. The ASEAN-Canada Ministerial Meeting was co-chaired by Malaysia and Canada.
56. The Meeting noted the progress made in the fourth year of the implementation of the Plan of Action (POA) to Implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership (2021-2025). The Meeting looked forward to developing a new POA (2026-2030) that will guide both sides in realising the full potential of the Strategic Partnership for the next five (5) years.
57. The Meeting welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN-Canada Strategic Partnership through the adoption of Joint Leaders' Statement on ASEAN-Canada Strategic Partnership at the ASEAN-Canada Summit during the 43rd ASEAN Summit and related Summits in Jakarta in September 2023. The Meeting noted that the Summit also adopted the ASEAN-Canada Joint Leaders' Statement on Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition in Response to Crises.
58. The Meeting appreciated Canada's continued support and recognition for the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and underscored the relevance of further enhancing cooperation in the four (4) priority areas of the AOIP in an inclusive manner and in complementarity with Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS), through ASEAN-led mechanisms.

59. The Meeting noted that political-security engagement between ASEAN and Canada continues to strengthen on multiple fronts, including through Canada's active participation in the ARF and the SOMTC + Canada Consultation. The Meeting noted the negotiation of the new ASEAN-Canada Work Plan to Combat Transnational Crime is ongoing and looked forward to its adoption. The Meeting welcomed Canada's continued support for the advancement of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda in the region.
60. The meeting took note of Canada's increased engagement with the ARF, having co-chaired the 5th UNCLOS Workshop with Vietnam and other partners in November 2023, and will co-chair the 6th UNCLOS Workshop with Vietnam and other partners in the 2024 – 2025 ARF Inter-Sessional Year. Canada is also seeking to co-chair the next cycle of the ARF Inter-sessional meeting on Information and Communications Technologies Security with the Philippines, as well as proposing an ARF workshop on Women, Peace and Security in 2025, to be co-chaired with Vietnam.
61. The Meeting welcomed Canada's continued support for the advancement of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda in the region. The Meeting appreciated Canada's support for the implementation of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security through the 'Empowering Women for Sustainable Peace: Preventing Violence and Promoting Social Cohesion in ASEAN – Advancing WPS in ASEAN' project. The Meeting commended Canada's efforts to raise the profile of the WPS agenda in the region by supporting the RPA's implementation as well as in convening a series of dialogues with various stakeholders, among others.
62. The Meeting further noted that Canada was admitted as an observer in the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups (EWGs) on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) and on Maritime Security (MS) for the final year of the 2021-2024 cycle, and that Canada has submitted a new application to become an observer in the same two (2) EWGs for the 2024-2027 cycle.
63. The Meeting welcomed Canada's continued support for organisations in the ASEAN region, through the CAD 11.6 million Canadian Trade and Investment Facility for Development (CTIF), which to date has supported five projects with ASEAN and twelve (12) projects with various ASEAN Member States, as well as a project with Timor Leste.
64. The Meeting underlined the importance of further enhancing ASEAN-Canada trade and investment through the implementation of the ASEAN-Canada Joint Declaration on Trade and Investment (JDTI) Work Plan (2021-2025) as well as various activities pursued by the Canada-ASEAN Business Council (CABC). Additionally, the Meeting recalled that the 12th ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM)-Canada Consultation in

August 2023 endorsed a new target for the substantial conclusion of the ASEAN-Canada Free Trade Agreement (ACAFTA) negotiations in 2025 and looked forward to the constructive progress of the ongoing negotiations. The Meeting also welcomed support for the participation of ASEAN's LDC Member States in AFTA negotiating rounds hosted by Canada through the ASEAN-Canada Plan of Action Trust Fund.

65. The Meeting welcomed Canada's continued support for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the region, including through increased access to financing and other funding support mechanisms made available for ASEAN MSMEs, digital start-ups and women entrepreneurs and digital transformation. The Meeting noted that facilitating opportunities for MSMEs to collaborate on innovation and business-oriented research and development (R&D) partnership is one of ASEAN-Canada's efforts to support key areas of cooperation under the AOIP.
66. The Meeting welcomed Canada's continued commitment for ASEAN's regional efforts in strengthening policies to protect migrant workers, and their family members, through the Tripartite Action for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in the ASEAN Region (TRIANGLE in ASEAN) Programme amounting to a total of CAD 9.5 million.
67. The Meeting encouraged further ASEAN-Canada cooperation on good governance and civil service matters in support of the implementation of the ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM) Work Plan to further realise a future-ready ASEAN Civil Service and as a follow up to the ACCSM's study visit to Canada as organised by the Public Service Commission and Global Affairs Canada in March 2019.
68. The Meeting welcomed Canada's support for the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) in their efforts to increase women's political participation in the region, including through the development of a plan of action on the promotion of women's political participation.
69. The Meeting appreciated Canada's technical assistance to the ASEAN Tourism Marketing Partnership Working Group and the ASEAN Secretariat from November 2022 to November 2023 to undertake the Intra-ASEAN Tourism Recovery Campaign in order to promote travel within the region and help support economies in their recovery efforts. We looked forward to more initiatives and cooperation to promote tourism, culture, sports and arts exchanges, to strengthen people-to-people connections as a foundation for the ASEAN-Canada Strategic Partnership.
70. The Meeting welcomed Canada's technical assistance in the development of a study on "Promoting the Production of Sustainable Aviation Fuels from Agricultural Wastes in the ASEAN region." This initiative aims to enhance the energy sector's capacity

to evaluate the reliability of upstream feedstock supply and the potential for sustainable utilization and production within the region.

71. The Meeting appreciated the Canada-ASEAN Scholarships and Educational Exchanges for Development (SEED) initiative, which has provided 616 scholarships for students from AMSs to study and conduct research in Canada since September 2018. The Meeting encouraged Canada to continue and expand education and training cooperation with ASEAN, through on-going programmes such as SEED to be beneficial to all ASEAN Member States, especially for students from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam, and new programmes catered to ASEAN's growing education demands such as in digital skills, healthcare, science and technology, etc.
72. The Meeting took note the need to strengthen its cooperation to address transboundary haze pollution through the collaboration with ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre and the establishment and the operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution (ACCTHPC) in the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP).
73. The Meeting appreciated Canada's support for the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2021-2025 through the project on ASEAN Protection, Resilience, and Inclusion for Multi-Hazard Emergencies (ASEAN-PRIME) project, implemented by the AHA Centre. The Meeting also invites Canada to further collaborate on the field of disaster management through the development of the AADMER Work Programme (2026-2030) and the implementation of Leaders Declaration on Sustainable Resilience.
74. The Meeting agreed to convene a Special ASEAN-Canada Summit later this year on the sidelines of the 44th and 45th ASEAN Summits and Related Summits in Vientiane, Lao PDR and noted Canada's separate request to regularize ASEAN-Canada Summits.
75. The Meeting acknowledged Canada's sustained and expanded cooperation on regional health security initiatives through the decade-long Mitigation of the Biological Threats (MBT) Programme initiated in 2014. As we celebrate the 10-year anniversary of this cooperation, the third phase of the MBT Programme (CAD 10 million from 2024 to 2028) was officially launched in March this year to further bolster regional capacities to prevent, detect and respond to biological threats. This includes supporting the efforts of the Lao PDR ASEAN Chairmanship health-related deliverables in spearheading the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Biosafety and Biosecurity. The meeting also encouraged Canada to promote cooperation for the operationalization of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and

Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED) which will ensure successful regional prevention, preparedness, and response to future public health security emergencies.

76. The Meeting appreciated Canada's support through the Local Development Initiative (LDI) Fund (2023-2024) in the development of the knowascc.asean.org, a knowledge hub designed to provide relevant social-cultural data, insights and knowledge products in a format that is visually appealing and easily understandable by various stakeholders including policy makers, academics and the general public.
77. The Meeting thanked Malaysia as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Lao PDR as the incoming Country Coordinator.

China

78. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with China was co-chaired by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China.
79. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the significant progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action (POA) to Implement the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity (2021-2025) and its Annex to advance the ASEAN-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for Peace, Security, Prosperity, and Sustainable Development. The Meeting reaffirmed ASEAN's and China's commitment to continue strengthening the ASEAN-China CSP, which importantly contributes to maintaining peace, security, stability, and prosperity in the region.
80. The Meeting acknowledged ASEAN and China's active efforts to strengthen ASEAN-China cooperation, including China's vision to build a closer ASEAN-China community with a shared future and taking note of China's initiative to build a peaceful, safe and secure, prosperous, beautiful and amicable home in the region. The Meeting welcomed China's readiness to sign the Protocol to the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone without reservations.
81. The Meeting welcomed China's continued support in maintaining ASEAN Centrality and unity in the evolving regional architecture and its engagement with ASEAN, including through ASEAN-led mechanisms.
82. The Meeting appreciated China's co-chairmanship of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus Experts' Working Group on Humanitarian Mine Action (ADMM-Plus EWG on HMA) in the 2021-2023 cycle together with Cambodia and welcomed China's readiness to co-chair the ADMM-Plus EWG on Peacekeeping Operation with Brunei Darussalam and the 16th ARF ISM on Maritime Security with Cambodia in the ISY 2024–2025.

83. The Meeting emphasised the commitment to advancing cooperation in the priority areas identified in the AOIP to strengthen trust and cooperation among countries in the region and looked forward to the effective implementation of the Joint Statement on Mutually Beneficial Cooperation on the ASEAN-Outlook on the Indo-Pacific adopted at the 26th ASEAN-China Summit in September 2023.
84. The Meeting reiterated the importance of cooperation in combating transnational crime through various mechanisms under the AMMTC + China Consultation framework, the ASEAN Plus China Senior Officials' Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD + China) Consultation, and the ARF. The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the SOMTC + China Work Plan on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime (2024-2028) at the Preparatory SOMTC + China for the 10th AMMTC + China Consultation held in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia, on 20 August 2023 and looked forward to its effective implementation. The Meeting applauded the consensus reached on jointly fighting transnational crimes at the 13th ASEAN-China Prosecutors-General Conference.
85. The Meeting commended mutual commitment to addressing the regional challenges posed by landmines, unexploded ordnance, and other explosive remnants of war, especially through China's financial and technical assistance to the ARMAC operation. Thus, the Meeting adopted the ASEAN-China Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement on Strengthening Humanitarian Mine Action Cooperation and looked forward to working more closely together while also noting that the Global Security Initiative is being implemented by China in the region. The Meeting also welcomed China's proposal for issuing a statement on online scam and online gambling at the 27th ASEAN-China Summit in October 2024.
86. The Meeting commended China for organising alongside Cambodia the Multinational Joint Demining Exercise "Pure Homeland" as part of their co-chairmanship of the ADMM-Plus EWG on Humanitarian Mine Action, in Kampong Speu, Cambodia on 13-22 September 2023.
87. The Meeting also welcomed the progress on the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA) 3.0 upgrade negotiations and the implementation of the ACFTA and looked forward to the completion of the upgrade negotiations this year by the 23rd ASEAN-Economic Ministers-Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) of the People's Republic of China (AEM-MOFCOM) Consultation. The Meeting also looked forward to continuing to enhance cooperation, particularly in the areas of Digital Economy, Green Economy and Supply Chain Connectivity Standards, Technical Regulations, and Conformity Assessment Procedures (STRACAP), Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS), Customs and Trade Facilitation, Smart Agriculture, Clean Energy (MM) and to further support MSMEs in the region.

88. The Meeting underscored the significance of the ASEAN-China Action Plan on Green Agricultural Development 2023-2027, particularly in the utilisation and management of agricultural resources. The Meeting also encouraged stakeholders to coordinate with the ASEAN Secretariat to identify pertinent projects and programmes that would facilitate the successful implementation of the Action Plan. The Meeting also welcomed to issue a joint statement on promoting smart agriculture and digital village development at the 27th ASEAN-China Summit in October 2024.
89. The Meeting emphasised the importance of implementing the Joint Statement between ASEAN and China on Tourism Cooperation in 2017 and looked forward to the development of new cooperation measures and the gradual resumption of travel to the pre-COVID level. The Meeting also highlighted the need for innovative ways to revitalize the tourism industry.
90. The Meeting emphasised the importance of stepping up the implementation of the ASEAN-China Joint Statement on Synergising the MPAC-2025 and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and working to enhance connectivity in the region to facilitate a more conducive business environment and closer people-to-people ties, in line with the Connecting the Connectivities approach. The Meeting was pleased to note the launch of the Southeast Asia Tourism Website for the Chinese market that caters to the needs of Chinese travellers visiting ASEAN and fosters mutual understanding between ASEAN and China through tourism. The Meeting also looked forward to the exploring the possibility to further liberalisation of traffic rights under the ASEAN-China Air Transport Agreement (AC-ATA), which will enhance regional connectivity as well as the progressive resumption of more direct flights between ASEAN Member States and China.
91. The Meeting appreciated China's support to ASEAN's energy transition efforts, including through the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (2016-2025) and capacity building under the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) and East Asia Summit (EAS) frameworks. The Meeting welcomed China's proposal to establish an ASEAN-China Clean Energy Cooperation Centre to support ASEAN's work towards reducing their carbon emissions and meeting net-zero targets.
92. The Meeting welcomed the Concept Paper of Joint Statement on the Establishment of the ASEAN-China Blue Economy Partnership. The Meeting agreed to continue discussion on exploring the partnership on blue economy between ASEAN and China as envisaged in the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership Vision 2030 to promote marine sustainable development.
93. The Meeting appreciated the successful launch of the 2024 ASEAN-China Year of People-to-people Exchanges (ACYPPE) to deepen cultural connections and promote greater interaction which foster mutual understanding and friendship

between ASEAN and China while noting it is a practical action taken by China to implement the Global Civilization Initiative. The Meeting also applauded the efforts of the ASEAN-China Centre in this regard through sponsoring various events and activities. The Meeting noted the successful implementation of the ASEAN-China Internship Programme, the ASEAN Talk Project, and the ASEAN-China Young Leaders Programme, as well as the convening of China-led youth exchange programmes, such as the 15th China-ASEAN Youth Campus and China-ASEAN Youth Development Forum. Moreover, the Meeting welcomed China's proposal to issue a joint statement on people-to-people and encouraged the early launching of the negotiations of the Joint Statement.

94. The Meeting also reaffirmed the commitment to fostering cooperation in education, technical and vocational education and training, tourism and media, with a view to promoting mutual trust and understanding between the peoples of ASEAN and China. The Meeting also welcomed enhanced collaboration with China in the areas of human resources development including employment, skills development, occupational safety and health, and social security through the implementation of the ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting Plus Three (SLOM+3) Work Plan 2021-2025 and in form of South-south and Triangular Cooperation.
95. The Meeting noted that the AICHR and China are considering a joint activity on the promotion and protection of human rights.
96. The Meeting noted the progress in cooperation among the Guangdong-Hongkong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and Hainan Free Trade Port and ASEAN, and welcomed to use the advantages of Guangdong-Hongkong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and Hainan Free Trade Port to expand ASEAN-China cooperation.
97. The Meeting noted the region is currently undergoing a rapid digital transformation and the necessary to strengthen cross-regional and cross-mechanism cooperation, the Meeting welcomed to issue an initiative on facilitating cooperation in building a sustainable and inclusive digital ecosystem at the 27th ASEAN-China Summit in October 2024.
98. The meeting noted the Global Initiative for Artificial Governance (AI) proposed by China, and the ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics, and looked forward to exploring ASEAN-China cooperation on AI. Besides, the Meeting also welcomed the exploration of more ASEAN-China cooperation on emerging industries, electric vehicles, cross-border payment and settlement, cross-border flow of data and digital governance.
99. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the successful implementation of the Study Visit on Public Service Delivery and Innovation to China that was held on 25-29 March 2024. The Meeting looked forward to China's active participation at the Heads of

Civil Service Meeting of the 7th ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters Plus Three (ACCSM+3), to be held in Brunei Darussalam, on 7 August 2024, which will further strengthen ASEAN-China cooperation on good governance and civil service matters through the implementation of the ACCSM+3 Work Plan.

100. The Meeting also appreciated China's support to the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Research and Development Platforms on Poverty Action and on Media, Culture and Arts which actively contribute to enhancing the knowledge base and expertise to support efforts aimed at poverty eradication, and to promote media, cultural and artistic development in the region, respectively.
101. The Meeting called for stronger partnership with China in addressing poverty and rural development, including in the implementation of ASEAN Framework Action Plan (FAP) on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (RDPE) 2021-2025 and the operationalisation of ASEAN Villages Network (AVN).
102. The Meeting appreciated China's partnership with ASEAN on accelerating the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals through the regular conduct of the ASEAN-China-UNDP Symposium on SDGs that was inaugurated in 2016. The Meeting welcomed the ASEAN-China Knowledge Network for Development, ASEAN-China Special Loan for Common Development, and ASEAN-China Investment Cooperation Fund II, and looked forward to making good use of them to boost implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Meeting also noted 15 out of the first 50 Global Development Initiative(GDI) global projects cover ASEAN countries, and looked forward to exploring more GDI practical development cooperation.
103. The Meeting welcomed the continued implementation of the ASEAN-China Workplan on Disaster Management to contribute to disaster resilience building and encourages partnership for the implementation of the ASEAN Leaders Declaration on Sustainable Resilience through capacity building, sharing of information, good practices and experiences between ASEAN and China.
104. The meeting looked forward to continued efforts to operationalise the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change and welcomed China's support for the Centre towards further strengthening regional cooperation and coordination on addressing climate change. The Meeting also encouraged China's cooperation to address transboundary haze pollution through the acceleration of the early establishment and operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution (ACCTHPC) to ensure the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP). The Meeting also expected the establishment of an ASEAN-China clean energy cooperation centre.

105. The Meeting also appreciated China's support for ASEAN's initiatives to recover from the impact of COVID-19, and encouraged the implementation of the ASEAN-China Public Health Cooperation Initiative: Programme on Public Health Emergency Preparedness Capacity (PROMPT) and the ASEAN-China Joint Statement on Cooperation in Support of the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) which aims to promote sustainable and comprehensive recovery, and resilient and inclusive development in the region. The Meeting appreciated the project activities supported by PROMPT on traditional and complementary medicine, vaccine security and self-reliance, and encouraged further cooperation on vaccine research and development, capacity building on public health system strengthening and access to care, improvement of information and data exchange platforms; and health workforce capacity building. The Meeting recognize the importance of the initiative of ASEAN-China Women and Children's Health Cooperation Centre (ACWCC) proposed by China and welcome the endorsement of the Concept Note of the ACWCC. The Meeting encouraged the further building of the ACWCC to better improve women and children's health in the region.
106. The Meeting welcomed China's continued support to ASEAN's efforts in narrowing development gaps and promoting sub-regional development through the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (MLC), the BIMP-EAGA-China Cooperation (BECC) and other relevant sub-regional frameworks and mechanisms in narrowing development gaps and promoting sub-regional development.
107. The Meeting underscored the importance of the full and effective implementation of the DOC in its entirety. The Meeting welcomed the ongoing efforts to promote the implementation of the DOC, including confidence building measures and exploring practical maritime cooperation initiatives.
108. The Meeting welcomed the continued positive momentum in the ongoing negotiations on the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) and commended the progress achieved so far, notably the commencement of the third reading of the Single Draft COC Negotiating Text (SDNT).
109. The Meeting encouraged efforts to make full use of the Guidelines for Accelerating the Early Conclusion of an Effective and Substantive Code of Conduct in the South China Sea adopted at the PMC Plus One Session with China on 13 July 2023 and reaffirmed the aspirations to work towards the early conclusion of an effective and substantive COC that is in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS
110. The Meeting thanked Myanmar as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Malaysia as the incoming Country Coordinator.

European Union

111. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with the European Union (EU) was co-chaired by the Republic of the Philippines and the EU.
112. The Meeting welcomed the progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-EU Strategic Partnership (2023-2027) and look forward to its further implementation.
113. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the 24th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting (AEMM) on 2 February 2024 in Brussels, during which the Ministers adopted a Joint Ministerial Statement. The Meeting encouraged both sides to realise the goals and objectives stipulated in the Joint Ministerial Statement as part of efforts to enrich the ASEAN-EU Strategic Partnership.
114. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen ASEAN-EU cooperation and to uphold ASEAN Centrality. The Meeting noted that both the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and the EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific share relevant fundamental principles in promoting an open, inclusive, transparent and rules-based regional architecture in the Indo-Pacific region, in which ASEAN is centre. We agreed to explore the potential collaboration in the four priority areas of the AOIP, as well as in the seven priority areas of the EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific in a complementarity manner for implementation through ASEAN-led mechanisms. The Meeting looked forward to the progress of the 22 Global Gateway Team Europe-projects that were presented at the ASEAN-Indo-Pacific Forum (AIPF) in September 2023. We also reaffirmed our shared commitment to maintain and promote ASEAN's resilience against emerging challenges and future shocks through cooperation on enhancing energy security and food security, maintaining financial stability, and strengthening regional health architecture.
115. The Meeting welcomed the growing engagement between ASEAN and the EU on a broad range of traditional and non-traditional security and defence-related issues, including through the EU's active participation in the ARF and the ASEAN Plus EU Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC + EU) Consultation. The Meeting noted the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN-EU Work Plan to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime (2022-2024). The Meeting also underscored the importance of strengthening cooperation in cybersecurity and agreed to jointly address common challenges on cyber-related issues, including cybersecurity and cybercrime.
116. The Meeting welcomed the continued extensive and substantive policy dialogues between ASEAN and the EU counterparts supported by the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), which promote dialogue and cooperation on a wide range of policy areas of shared interest. The Meeting noted the convening of the 5th ASEAN-EU Policy Dialogue on Human Rights held on 2 October 2023, in Brussels and the AICHR-EU Dialogue on Misinformation and Disinformation held on

29 January 2024 in Singapore, and looked forward to the 1st ASEAN-EU Ministerial Dialogue on Environment and Climate Change in 2025. The Meeting looked forward to the outcomes of the Study on Women Political Participation and Leadership in ASEAN being developed by the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) with support from the E-READI. The Meeting looked forward to the development of the 2nd ASEAN Employment Outlook, the conduct of a series of Workshop on Strengthening Migration Measures in ASEAN, and the convening of the 3rd ASEAN-EU Dialogue on Safe and Fair Labour Migration following the successful implementation of the previous activities with the support of E-READI.

117. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to intensifying engagement on the ASEAN-EU trade and economic issues, exploring avenues in the short and medium terms to promote cooperation in areas of mutual interest such as the digital economy, green technologies and green services, and supply chain resilience, while reaffirming a future ASEAN-EU FTA as a common long-term objective. The Meeting took note of the endorsement of the ASEAN-EU Trade and Investment Work Programme (TIWP) (2024-2025) at the 19th ASEAN Economic Ministers-EU Trade Commissioner Consultation held on 20 August 2023 in Semarang, which aimed at enhancing economic relations, addressing emerging challenges, as well as seizing new trade and investment opportunities. The Meeting looked forward to the convening of the 20th AEM-EU Trade Commissioner Consultation, which will be held in September 2024, in Vientiane, at the sidelines of the 56th AEM and Related Meetings.
118. The Meeting welcomed joint efforts to promote ASEAN-EU connectivity, including through the EU-ASEAN Sustainable Connectivity Package (SCOPE), particularly under the Trade Component and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Component, as well as the Team Europe Initiative on Sustainable Connectivity for ASEAN, a Global Gateway flagship project. The projects will enhance practical connectivity cooperation as reflected in the ASEAN-EU Joint Ministerial Statement on Connectivity including in the area of digital connectivity, and in line with the stated vision of the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025. The Meeting also encouraged the EU's further support of ASEAN's sub-regional development efforts, including in the Mekong Region, to promote equitable, inclusive and sustainable development across the region.
119. The Meeting looked forward to the implementation of the EU-ASEAN SCOPE – Aviation Partnership Project (SCOPE APP), which aims to improve connectivity as well as safe and sustainable air transport between the two regions. This Project will also facilitate cooperation under the ASEAN-EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (CATA).
120. The Meeting welcomed ASEAN and the EU people-to-people connectivity initiatives and encouraged stronger research and education links between ASEAN and the

EU, including exchanges among researchers, students, and youth. In this context, the Meeting looked forward to the implementation of the EU-ASEAN Project on People-to-People Connectivity through Higher Education and TVET (SCOPE) which was recently endorsed by the ASEAN SOM on Education (SOM-ED).

121. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to work towards achieving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to protect biodiversity, particularly on sustainable management, rural development and poverty eradication, and utilisation of water and natural resources; access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and renewable energy; and sustainable and climate-smart agriculture, fisheries and forestry, as well as to continue the cooperation, including on capacity building and technical assistance, against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.
122. Both sides underlined their shared interest in developing cooperation in the field of Disaster Management and Emergency Response notably between AHA Centre and the EU's Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC). The Meeting appreciated the commitment and collaboration with EU in the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2021-2025 through the Integrated Programme in Enhancing the Capacity of AHA Centre and ASEAN Emergency Response Mechanisms (EU-SAHA Programme). The Meeting noted the key activities supported by the Programme, which includes the conduct of the ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (ARDEX-2023), the 1st ASEAN Disaster Resilience Forum in 2023, and a series of ASEAN commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2024.
123. The Meeting invites EU to further collaborate on the field of disaster management through the development of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2026-2030) and the implementation of Leaders Declaration on Sustainable Resilience, focusing on empowering communities for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
124. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the Third Meeting of the Joint Working Group on Palm Oil and Technical Webinar between the European Union and Relevant ASEAN Member States and took note of the voluntary participation of Member States to the Meeting, to continue promoting mutual understanding on the sustainable production of vegetable oils and addressing the challenges in this sector in a holistic, transparent, and non-discriminatory manner. The Meeting looked forward to the convening of the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Working Group on Palm Oil between the European Union and Relevant ASEAN Member States. The Meeting noted that relevant producing countries and the EU have established a Joint Task Force to strengthen the cooperation for the implementation of the EU's Deforestation Regulation.

125. The Meeting looked forward to efforts to realise energy security and resilience through the ASEAN Power Grid, as well as the transition towards climate neutrality, linked to ASEAN and the EU goals to increase energy efficiency and share of renewable energy, underpinned by cooperation and investment projects in renewable energy in ASEAN Member States and promoted by the ASEAN-EU Energy Dialogue. The Meeting welcomed the EU's partnership with the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogues (ACSDSD) on sustainable consumption and production in the circular economy, including the establishment of the ASEAN Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform and the EU's strong support for the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB).
126. The Meeting noted the convening of the 5th ASEAN-EU High-Level Dialogue on Environment and Climate Change held on 2 August 2023 in Bogor and took note of the ASEAN-EU green partnership to build on the EU's Green Team Europe Initiative and more concrete cooperation in such areas as renewable energy, circular economy as well as cooperation on managing forest and land fires and environmental protection to promote green growth in the region. The Meeting looked forward to the convening of the 6th ASEAN-EU High-Level Dialogue on Environment and Climate Change back-to-back with the 35th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Environment (ASOEN) in Laos in 2024 and the 1st ASEAN-EU Ministerial Dialogue on Environment and Climate Change in Malaysia in 2025.
127. The Meeting welcomed the cooperation under Outcome 3 on Food Systems to enhance the EU-ASEAN partnership and to reduce negative environmental impacts, as well as climate -related and disaster risks covering key areas of the European Green Deal.
128. The Meeting thanked the Philippines as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Brunei Darussalam as the incoming Country Coordinator.

India

129. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with India was co-chaired by the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of India.
130. The Meeting recalled the establishment of the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) in 2022 and the adoption of the Annex to the ASEAN-India Plan of Action (POA) 2021-2025, as a testament to both sides' long-standing partnership over the past decades. The Meeting noted the good progress made in ASEAN-India cooperation, including 100 percent implementation of the ASEAN-India POA 2021-2025 in which all measures/activities have been addressed. Meanwhile, under the Annex to the POA 2021-2025, thirty-six (36) out of forty-three (43) measures have been and the remaining ones are expected to be addressed. The Meeting reaffirmed ASEAN's and India's commitment to continue strengthening

the ASEAN-India CSP, which importantly contributes to maintaining peace, security, stability, and prosperity in the region. In this regard, the Meeting looked forward to developing a new ASEAN-India POA 2026 – 2030—that will guide both sides in realising the full potential of the CSP for the next five years.

131. As ASEAN and India aim to further advance a substantive, meaningful, and mutually beneficial CSP in the coming years, the Meeting encouraged both sides to intensify collaboration across the ASEAN Community pillars, including by effectively implementing the ASEAN-India POA 2021-2025 and its Annex, and intensifying cooperation in areas such as maritime cooperation; defence cooperation; cybersecurity; trade; economy; digital transformation; sustainable infrastructure; MSMEs; science, technology, and innovation; energy; blue economy; fintech; tourism; agriculture; public health; and public health emergencies; culture; connectivity; environment; information and communication technology (ICT); disaster management; smart city; labour and civil service matters; and education. Likewise, the Meeting encouraged both sides to enhancing people-to-people contacts, including through exchange programmes, scholarships, capacity building and training courses involving youth, students, media and artists.
132. The Meeting recalled India's 12-point proposal to expand cooperation between ASEAN and India, presented at the 20th ASEAN-India Summit in September 2023 in Jakarta, by Prime Minister H.E. Shri Narendra Modi. The Meeting noted that India has followed-up by submitting written proposals to ASEAN on (i) ASEAN-India Track 1 Seminar on Maritime Cooperation; (ii) ASEAN India Cyber Policy Dialogue; and (iii) ASEAN-India Finance Dialogue; and (iv) ASEAN-India Defence Ministers' Meeting; all of which are currently being consulted between ASEAN and India. The Meeting also appreciated steps taken by India in giving shape to the announcements, including a launch of ASEAN-India Fund for Digital Future.
133. The year 2024 marks a decade of India's Act East Policy that was announced at the 9th East Asia Summit and 12th ASEAN-India Summit in 2014. To mark this special occasion, the Meeting welcomed India's proposal for a Joint Statement on a Decade of Act East Policy to be adopted at the 21st ASEAN-India Summit.
134. The Meeting expressed mutual interest and shared aspiration in promoting regional peace, stability and prosperity, and underlined the need to exert efforts to implement of the ASEAN-India Joint Statement on Cooperation on the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific for Peace, Stability, and Prosperity in the Region and the ASEAN-India Joint Statement on Maritime Cooperation, through substantive, practical and tangible projects and activities implemented through ASEAN-led mechanisms, especially in the priority areas outlined in the POA and its Annex in line with the four priority areas of the AOIP.

135. The Meeting commended India's continued participation in the series of consultative meetings with ASEAN under the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and its notable contributions to ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the East Asia Summit, ADMM – Plus and the ARF. The Meeting also took note of the successful hosting of the 6th EAS Conference on Maritime Security in Mumbai on 4 - 5 July 2024. The Meeting encouraged both sides to strengthen cooperation in maritime domain, recalling ASEAN-India Joint Statement on Maritime Cooperation adopted last year.
136. The Meeting underscored the importance of the effective implementation of the ASEAN Plus India Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC+ India) Work Plan on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime (2023-2027) under the ambit of the SOMTC + India Consultation framework and enhancing cooperation in combating illicit drugs under the ambit of ASEAN Plus India Senior Officials' Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD + India) Consultation. The Meeting welcomed steps taken towards the implementation of the Work Plan as explained during the 11th SOMTC + India consultations.
137. The Meeting encouraged full and effective utilisation of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) to help strengthen economic ties between ASEAN and India, including through addressing the implementation issues faced by the private sector. The Meeting noted the progress in ongoing AITIGA review negotiations which are expected to make the AITIGA more user-friendly, simplified, and trade facilitative for businesses, and encouraged both sides to expedite the negotiations for substantial conclusion of the review in 2025. The Meeting reiterated ASEAN's desire for India to reconsider its decision on the RCEP and emphasised that as an original participant of the RCEP negotiations, the door remains open for India to join the RCEP as it would immensely contribute to the prosperity of the region. The Meeting also noted that ASEAN has continuously engaged the ASEAN-India Business Council (AIBC), by inviting the representatives of AIBC to ASEAN Economic Community Dialogue sessions and other relevant activities coordinated by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC).
138. Following the adoption of the ASEAN-India Joint Leaders' Statement on Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition in Response to Crises, the Meeting welcomed collaboration to further strengthen food security in the region, especially in times of crises, as well as to strengthen sustainability, competitiveness and resiliency of the region's food, agriculture and forestry sector. The Meeting recalled the successful convening in Indonesia and India of the ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023, which served as a platform to raise awareness about millets and foster sustainable agriculture.
139. The Meeting expressed satisfaction with the launch of the "ASEAN-India Fellowship for Higher Education in Agriculture and Allied Sciences," which aims to enhance the

capacity building of human resources in agriculture and allied sciences in ASEAN. Furthermore, the Meeting encouraged India to sustain its support for ASEAN in implementing the ASEAN Regional Guidelines for Sustainable Agriculture, which would bring about increased economic, social, and environmental benefits to the farmers in the region.

140. The Meeting encouraged both sides to strengthen cooperation on science, technology, and innovation by utilising the ASEAN-India Science and Technology Development Fund (AISTDF), including funding Research Training Fellowship, Collaborative R&D projects, and convening of Start-Up Festival, the Grassroot Innovation Forum, the Innotech summit, and the Women Scientists Conclave. The Meeting commended India for launching an innovative medium-term programme, ASEAN-India Scale Hub in Bali in July 2024, where in entrepreneurs from India and ASEAN met with the system integrators for reaching out to markets in India and ASEAN. The Meeting encouraged the ASEAN-India Working Group on Science and Technology (AIWGST) to develop an ASEAN-India Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (AIPASTI) to bring ASEAN-India STI cooperation to new heights and unlock boundless possibilities for mutual progress and advancement. The Meeting further encouraged the enhancement of ASEAN-India cooperation in the space sector, including through the establishment of Tracking, Data Reception and Processing Stations in Viet Nam and Indonesia, and encouraged cooperation between ASEAN and Indian space industry players, including in new areas of collaboration.
141. The Meeting looked forward to the 8th Meeting of the ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT) as a valuable platform for the policy makers and scholars from India and the ASEAN region to discuss and deliberate on the common economic, geopolitical and geostrategic challenges.
142. The Meeting took note of the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and India's Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership in December last year.
143. The Meeting agreed to enhance cooperation in the digital domain, including through the implementation of the ASEAN-India Digital Workplan through capacity building initiatives in Information Communication and Technology (ICT), networking technology, broadband access, digital management of telecom infrastructure and regulatory framework. The Meeting also looked forward to greater cooperation with ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE) and a possible collaboration between Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) - India and ASEAN CERT Network in view of tackling and building collective resilience towards addressing potential digital challenges.

144. The Meeting expressed appreciation for the support of the Government of India to the ASEAN Education Sector through the Scholarship Funds for Students from CLMV and ASEAN Countries Pursuing Master/Postgraduate Diploma at Nalanda University, which have been awarded since 2015. The Meeting noted that since it was first established, the scholarship programme has supported a total of 166 students, for both master and Ph.D. degrees. The Meeting appreciated: (i) the continuation of scholarships in top universities in India; and (ii) the successful and meaningful exchanges between faculty members in ASEAN and India under the pilot implementation of the ASEAN-India Network of Universities. Keeping in view the success of the programme, the meeting welcomed India's proposal to enhance the scholarships slots for Masters/post-graduate diploma programme to 80 per year and doctoral fellowships to 10 per year.
145. The Meeting appreciated India's support for ASEAN health priorities. The Meeting noted India's interest in establishing a dialogue between ASEAN and India's health sector, including through the India-initiated project proposal entitled "Inviting Representatives from ASEAN Member States to Annual National Cancer Grid Meeting (5 Years)" which is currently under review. The Meeting appreciated celebration of International Day of Yoga two years consecutively at the ASEAN Secretariat as a part of promoting a healthy lifestyle.
146. The Meeting appreciated India's support for the ongoing substantive policy discussion on the feasibility study of the envisaged ASEAN Cultural Heritage List (ACHL) led by the Senior Officials' Meeting on Culture and Arts (SOMCA). The Meeting also appreciated India's contribution in promoting ASEAN awareness both within the region and beyond through several initiatives, including the ASEAN Magazine Phase 3 and noted the significant milestones achieved through India's steadfast support for Phases 1 and 2 which resulted in the successful publication of 36 issues of The ASEAN magazine.
147. Under people-to-people exchange, the Meeting took note of the successful implementation of the ASEAN-India Media Exchange Programme, the ASEAN-India Artists' Camp, the ASEAN-India Music Festival, as well as the 4th ASEAN-India Youth Summit in promoting mutual understanding in cultural and religious diversity. The Meeting noted India's intention to hold the 3rd ASEAN-India Artist Camp in India, 3rd ASEAN-India Music Festival and 5th ASEAN-India Youth Summit this year. The Meeting also noted India's concept note to celebrate the year 2025 as the ASEAN-India Year of Tourism.
148. The Meeting emphasised the importance of strengthening ASEAN-India physical and digital connectivity partnership, including through supporting the implementation of the MPAC2025 and exploring synergies between MPAC 2025 and India's Act East Policy, in line with the "Connecting the Connectivities" approach. The Meeting looked forward to working closely together to strengthen regional connectivity,

including on digital connectivity and through the timely completion and operationalisation of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and its eastward extension. The Meeting looked forward to commencing the negotiation of the ASEAN-India Air Transport Agreement (AI-ATA) and concurrently finalising the ASEAN-India Maritime Transport Agreement (AI-MTA). The Meeting welcomed growing air-connectivity between ASEAN and India resulting in increase in bilateral tourism.

149. The Meeting encouraged India's continued support in narrowing the development gap in ASEAN, especially through the IAI Work Plan IV (2021- 2025), addressing the promotion of collaboration on the digital development, adapting of new technologies, cybersecurity, fintech cooperation, smart agriculture, safe and sustainable tourism, climate change, sustainable development, education, and people linkages, among others. The Meeting encouraged India's continued support for ASEAN's efforts in strengthening sub-regional cooperation, including through the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation frameworks.
150. The Meeting further noted India's intention to strengthen development partnership with ASEAN, driven by the need of partner countries. The Meeting encouraged India to support Timor-Leste in fulfilling all the criteria in the Roadmap, including through capacity-building programmes as well as any other support.
151. The Meeting thanked Singapore as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed the Philippines as the incoming Country Coordinator. India also welcomed Timor-Leste as an Observer in the Meeting and supported ASEAN Chairmanship of Lao PDR under the theme "ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience".

Japan

152. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with Japan was co-chaired by the Kingdom of Thailand and Japan.
153. The Meeting welcomed the establishment of an ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) at the 26th ASEAN-Japan Summit in Jakarta, in September 2023. The Meeting also commended the successful convening of the Commemorative Summit for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation in Tokyo, Japan, on 16-18 December 2023, and its substantive deliverables, including the adoption of a new Joint Vision Statement and its Implementation Plan to set out the direction for the partnership.
154. The Meeting welcomed the significant progress of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and noted the good progress in the new Implementation Plan of the Joint Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation-*Trusted Partners*, which serves as the comprehensive guide for

ASEAN-Japan cooperation. The Meeting reaffirmed ASEAN's and Japan's commitment to continue strengthening the ASEAN-Japan CSP, which importantly contributes to maintaining peace, security, stability, and prosperity in the region.

155. The Meeting welcomed Japan's support for ASEAN Centrality and unity as well as the AOIP and its mainstreaming. The Meeting reaffirmed its commitment to reinforce the ASEAN-Japan partnership through enhanced practical cooperation and collaboration in the four priority areas of the AOIP through ASEAN-led mechanisms, and in line with the Joint Statement of the 23rd ASEAN-Japan Summit on Cooperation on AOIP and looked forward to more concrete programmes and projects to be implemented under the JAIF 3.0, which Japan funded USD 100 million in 2023. The Meeting welcomed Japan's consistent support for strengthening connectivity under the Japan-ASEAN Comprehensive Connectivity Initiative announced in September 2023.
156. The Meeting welcomed the progress made in the defence cooperation between ASEAN and Japan under the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) including their recently completed co-chairmanship of the ADMM-Plus EWG on Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) with Viet Nam for the 2021-2024 cycle and the upcoming co-chairmanship of the ADMM-Plus EWG on MS with the Philippines for the 2024-2027 cycle. The Meeting also acknowledged Japan's contribution to enhance capacity building of defence authorities of ASEAN Member States through Japan-led platforms, namely the "Vientiane Vision 2.0: Japan's Defence Cooperation Initiative with ASEAN" and the newly launched "Japan-ASEAN Ministerial Initiative for Enhanced Defence Cooperation: JASMINE".
157. The Meeting agreed to continue enhancing cooperation in addressing security issues of common interest and concern, including transnational crime, maritime security, illicit drugs and non-proliferation and disarmament through various ASEAN-led mechanisms, such as the ARF. The Meeting underlined the need to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) + Japan Work Plan on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime (2023-2027) under the ambit of the AMMTC + Japan Consultation mechanism. The Meeting underscored the importance of strengthening cooperation between ASEAN and Japan in combating illicit drugs in the region, particularly under the framework of ASEAN Plus Japan Senior Officials' Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD + Japan) Consultation. The Meeting welcomed Japan's continued support for capacity building activities in the field of cybersecurity for ASEAN Member States through the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) and the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE) and encouraged enhanced cooperation in countering cyber threats.

158. The Meeting welcomed initiatives undertaken by ASEAN and Japan to further strengthen its cooperation in the field of law and justice such as the holding of the ASEAN-Japan Special Meeting of Justice Ministers, the ASEAN-G7 Justice Minister's Interface and the ASEAN-Japan Special Youth Forum for Promoting the Rule of Law on 5-7 July 2023. The Meeting encouraged the implementation of the outcomes of these meetings, particularly the Joint Statement and ASEAN-Japan Work Plan on Law and Justice under the spirit of friendship, cooperation, and equal partnership, and committed to elevating the ASEAN-Japan cooperation in the field of law and justice to the next phase.
159. The Meeting underlined the need to further deepen and expand trade and investment, including through the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement. The Meeting noted the activities carried out by the ASEAN Economic Ministers - Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (AEM-METI) Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee (AMEICC), the Federation of Japanese Chambers of Commerce and Industry in ASEAN (FJCCIA), the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), and the ASEAN-Japan Business Council (AJBC), and the ASEAN-Japan Centre (AJC) as well as the progress in the discussion towards introducing the electronic certificate of origin (e-CO) data exchange scheme for the AJCEP Agreement. The Meeting also reiterated the importance of implementing the RCEP Agreement in a transparent manner.
160. The Meeting encouraged the effective implementation and monitoring of the activities under the "Future Design and Action Plan of Innovative and Sustainable ASEAN-Japan Economic Co-Creation 2023-2033" endorsed at the 29th AEM-METI Consultation on 22 August 2023, including through future-oriented measures such as the ASEAN-Japan Circular Economy Initiative (AJCEI) to realise the ASEAN-Japan Economic Co-Creation Vision, which pursues the development of a society that is safe, prosperous, and free through fair and mutually beneficial economic co-creation.
161. The Meeting encouraged further collaboration under the ASEAN-Japan Co-Creation Initiative for the Next-Generation Automotive Industry, which was endorsed at the Commemorative Summit for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation.
162. The Meeting appreciated Japan's ongoing cooperation with ASEAN in various projects and activities and encouraged Japan to explore potential areas of cooperation with ASEAN, particularly in emerging areas such as digital trade, AI, green infrastructure, connectivity, sustainable economy, sustainable development and prosperity, rural networking and development, poverty eradication, supply chain resilience, empowerment of SMEs, human resource development, labour migration, civil service matters, sustainable forest management, science and technology,

energy transition, next-generation automotive industry and EV ecosystem, amongst others. The Meeting also welcomed Japan's support in the fields of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and food security, and noted Japan's support for the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC), especially for combatting IUU (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated) fishing.

163. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the continuous ASEAN-Japan cooperation on civil service matters through the implementation of the ASEAN Cooperation Civil Service Matters Plus Three (ACCSM+3) Work Plan 2021-2025 and looked forward to the conduct of the Workshop on Work Engagement and Well-being in the Public Service which will be held in Sapporo, Japan, on 10-11 October 2024. The Meeting also looked forward to the active participation of Japan at the Heads of Civil Service Meeting of the 7th ACCSM+3 in Brunei Darussalam, on 7 August 2024.
164. The Meeting looked forward to Japan's continued support in advancing the implementation of the MPAC 2025 and the Joint Statement of the 22nd ASEAN-Japan Summit on Connectivity, as well as the development of ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda and its implementation. The Meeting looked forward to the conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial ASEAN-Japan Air Services Agreement with a view to enhancing air connectivity between Japan and ASEAN Member States. The Meeting welcomed Japan's active and continued support for the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) such as through the convening of annual ASEAN-Japan Smart Cities Network High-Level Meeting that promotes dialogue and knowledge sharing between ASEAN and Japanese cities and private sector. The Meeting also took note of the progress of various cooperation projects and activities under the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP).
165. The Meeting welcomed Japan's continued support for ASEAN's integration and community-building efforts, including through JAIF 3.0, and looked forward to Japan's continued support for the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan IV (2021- 2025) to promote inclusive and sustainable development across the region, as well as programmes to foster human resource development, and narrow the development gap among ASEAN Member States. The Meeting also welcomed Japan's support for sub-regional development through Mekong-Japan cooperation. In this regard, the Meeting appreciated Japan's continued support for the IAI Attachment Programme, including new participation of Timor-Leste from the next Batch, as well as its support for the Master's Degree Programme for the IAI Attachment Programme Graduates.
166. The Meeting welcomed the first ASEAN-Japan Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry Meeting held on 4 October 2023 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, during which the ASEAN-Japan MIDORI Cooperation Plan was adopted. The Meeting underscored the significance of the Plan in strengthening resilient and sustainable agriculture and food systems to ensure regional food security. The Meeting encouraged ASEAN

and Japan to prioritise the identification and implementation of pilot projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting circular economy practices, and advancing smart agriculture initiatives. The Meeting also looked forward to Japan's continued support in ensuring food security, including through the effective implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) and the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS).

167. The Meeting appreciated Japan's intention to support in the development of the ASCC Post-2025 Strategic Plan which reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment in achieving human and sustainable development in the region.
168. The Meeting appreciated partnership with Japan in the establishment and operationalisation of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED) and its commitment of USD 50 million in the three host ASEAN Member States. The Meeting also reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to the completion of the negotiation of the establishing agreement of the centre at the earliest opportunity. The Meeting looked forward to continued collaboration with Japan and its support to the ASEAN Regional Reserves of Medical Supplies for Public Health Emergencies (RRMS) and the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF).
169. The Meeting commended Japan's sustained cooperation in institutionalising regional health preparedness and response capacity to disasters guided by the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Disaster Health Management, through the Project for Strengthening ASEAN Regional Capacity on Disaster Health Management (ARCH Project - Phase 2) (2022-2026). The Meeting acknowledged efforts to strengthen the healthcare and welfare system under the Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative (AHWIN), as well as Japan's Global Health Strategy to achieve more resilient, equitable, and sustainable Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in the region.
170. The Meeting encouraged strengthening cooperation on improving health and welfare services for the elderly in ASEAN Member States and Japan, including through cooperation with the ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation (ACAI). The Meeting also welcomed Japan's cooperation on public health, health system and access to care, social protection, and occupational safety and health through various platforms such as the ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Society.
171. The Meeting welcomed continued efforts to foster people-to-people, education, sports and cultural, intellectual science and technology exchanges, and research collaborations, through various programs, including the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS), Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0 - a new comprehensive people-to-people exchange program funded with 40 billion yen over the next 10 years, Sakura Science

Exchange Program, the Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program (SSEAYP), the exchanges through the ASEAN Council of Japan Alumni (ASCOJA) and ASJA International, Sport for Tomorrow and ASEAN-Japan Actions on Sports, and ASIA KAKEHASHI Project+(Plus). The Meeting looked forward to further strengthening cooperation on sports through the ASEAN Plus Japan Ministerial Meeting on Sports mechanism as well as on youth development, through the implementation of the ASEAN Work Plan on Sports 2021-2025 and the ASEAN Work Plan on Youth 2021-2025. The Meeting explored the need to enhance cultural cooperation, including through the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Work Plan on Cooperation in Culture and the Arts 2022-2025, particularly in the creative cultural industries cooperation.

172. The Meeting appreciated Japan's contribution on the works of information sector through the Comprehensive Review of the ASEAN Strategic Plan for Information and Media (2016-2025) and the Development of a New Work Plan.
173. The Meeting acknowledged Japan as a strong and long-standing supporter of ASEAN in strengthening disaster management and appreciated Japan's continued collaboration in building disaster resilience in the region through the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Work Plan on Disaster Management (AJWPDM) 2021-2025. The Meeting further appreciated Japan's support, through the AHA Centre, for the strengthening of the Disaster Emergency Logistics System for ASEAN (DELSA), the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) and the AHA Centre Executive Leadership in Emergency and Disaster Management Programme (ACE-LEDMP).
174. The Meeting invites Japan to further collaborate on the field of disaster management through the development of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2026-2030) and the implementation of Leaders Declaration on Sustainable Resilience, focusing on empowering communities for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
175. The Meeting appreciated Japan's partnership on the ASCC Research and Development Platforms on Public Health Emergencies, Disaster Management, and Climate Change which produced policy briefs and trend reports that promote policy-oriented discussions on both current and emerging issues with a foresight approach to identify future trends.
176. The Meeting encouraged further collaboration in addressing biodiversity conservation marine pollution, climate change and promoting transition to a climate resilient, clean energy, and decarbonized region, including through the Strategic Programme for ASEAN Climate and Environment (SPACE). The Meeting welcomed Japan's support for addressing the unprecedented triple global crisis of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss in the region under the Strategic Program for

ASEAN Climate and Environment (SPACE). The Meeting also welcomed Japan's support for the development of the ASEAN Climate Change Strategic Action Plan 2025-2030 (ACCSAP) to achieve the ASEAN's Climate Vision 2050. The Meeting looked forward to the 18th ASEAN-Japan Dialogue on Environmental Cooperation in Vientiane in 2024. The Meeting further looked forward to advancing practical cooperation on green growth, including through the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change on addressing transboundary haze pollution through the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACC THPC), and in addressing marine pollution, climate change, biodiversity conservation and environmentally sustainable cities through ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), Regional Knowledge Centre For Marine Plastic Debris at ERIA and ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogues (ACSDSD). The Meeting affirmed the necessity of enhancing energy cooperation and adequate financing to support the acceleration of energy transitions through various and practical pathways depending on national circumstances, as well as achieving sustainable economic growth, energy security and addressing climate change simultaneously. The Meeting noted the Japan-led 'Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) and relevant initiatives such as Japan's 'Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI)'.

177. The meeting welcomed the initiative of ASEAN and Japan to strengthen cooperation in the tourism sector to promote sustainable tourism and mutual exchanges, based on the Joint Statement of the Joint Media Statement of the ASEAN-JAPAN Tourism Ministers' Special Dialogue adopted at the ASEAN-JAPAN Tourism Ministers' Special Dialogue held on 27-29 October 2023.
178. The Meeting appreciated the ASEAN-Japan Centre for its contribution to the promotion of trade, investment, tourism, and people-to-people exchanges and welcomed its reappointment of Dr. Kunihiko Hirabayashi as Secretary General and its decision by consensus to amend the Agreement Establishing the Centre.
179. The Meeting expressed appreciation to Japan for the commitment in strengthening science, technology and innovation (STI) cooperation, including through researchers exchange programs and research collaborations with mutual benefits such as Strategic International Collaborative Research Program (SICORP) including Japan-ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Platform (JASTIP); and ASEAN-Japan Innovation Week. A new program that aims to further strengthen the STI collaboration of Japan and ASEAN to establish a sustainable research ecosystem was also welcomed.
180. The Meeting noted Japan's cooperation for promoting disability inclusion and the empowerment of persons with disabilities in the region particularly on the development of the Autism Mapping Report, which was coordinated by ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD). The Meeting welcomed Japan's continued commitment to supporting ASEAN's work on

disability inclusive development including in the areas of developmental disorders and the nexus between disability inclusion, health, and active ageing, among others.

181. The Meeting also emphasised the importance of addressing issues of humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the immediate resolution of the abductions issue.
182. The Meeting thanked Thailand as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Singapore as the incoming Country Coordinator.

New Zealand

183. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with New Zealand was co-chaired by Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand.
184. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress in the fourth year of implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-New Zealand Strategic Partnership (2021-2025) across the three ASEAN Community Pillars, and under the four key themes of Peace, Prosperity, People and Planet. The Meeting noted New Zealand's intentions to request the establishment of a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with ASEAN, and looked forward to considering more details, and to co-chair in Malaysia a Commemorative Summit as well as invite ASEAN leaders to a 'New Zealand Gala' event on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Dialogue Relations with ASEAN on the sidelines of the 47th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits in Malaysia in 2025.
185. The Meeting reaffirmed its commitment to further strengthening cooperation on political-security issues, including combating transnational crime under the SOMTC + New Zealand Consultation mechanism, and other ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ARF. The Meeting welcomed the *ad-referendum* adoption of the SOMTC + New Zealand Work Plan on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime (2023-2025) on 11 July 2023 and looked forward to its full and effective implementation.
186. The Meeting welcomed New Zealand's support for the implementation of the AOIP, including the implementation of the MoU between ASEAN- Pacific Islands Forum (PIF). The Meeting also looked forward to the implementation of the ASEAN-New Zealand Joint Statement on Cooperation on the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific: Standing firm amidst swirling currents adopted last year to intensify its collaboration to maintain ASEAN as an epicentrum regional and global growth by building the region's resilience against future shocks and emerging challenges, through strengthened cooperation through ASEAN-led mechanisms, including supporting for the region's financial stability, health architecture, and food security.

187. The Meeting welcomed the signing of the 2nd Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) by all Parties and looked forward to the entry into force of the Protocol, which is one of Lao PDR's Priority Economic Deliverables for its 2024 ASEAN Chairmanship. The Meeting noted that the upgraded AANZFTA intends to synergise with and complement other regional trade initiatives for resilient and inclusive growth in the region. The Meeting also noted the First Joint Committee Meeting hosted by New Zealand in Auckland in May 2024. The Meeting welcomed New Zealand's continued support under the Regional Trade for Development Initiative (RT4D) to support ASEAN Member States to implement AANZFTA and RCEP through the AANZFTA Implementation Support Programme (AISP) and RCEP Implementation Support Programme (RISP), respectively.
188. The Meeting appreciated New Zealand's support through the annual ASEAN-New Zealand Trade Academy, which was convened for the second time this year through online and in-person components of the course concluding in June 2024. The Trade Academy provided an opportunity for junior ASEAN trade negotiators to broaden and deepen their understanding of emerging issues in trade agreements and equip them with the necessary skills and capabilities for current and future negotiations.
189. The Meeting welcomed the successful conclusion of the ASEAN-New Zealand Regional Air Services Agreement (ANZ-RASA) negotiations and looked forward to the signing of the ANZ-RASA at the 30th ASEAN Transport Ministers' (ATM) Meeting in November 2024, which will enhance air connectivity between ASEAN and New Zealand and facilitate greater ease of movement of people and trade relations and contribute to the sustainable socio-economic development. The Meeting also looked forward to New Zealand's continued support for the implementation of the MPAC 2025, the IAI Work Plan IV (2021-2025), the ASCN and for ASEAN's efforts in narrowing the development gap and promoting sustainable development in all sub-regions across ASEAN.
190. The Meeting welcomed the resumption of people-to-people ties initiatives, including the Young Business Leaders Initiative, the Young Diplomats Study Tour, held in June 2023 and May 2024, and the Young Trade and Economic Officials Study Tour, held in June and December 2023, for which ASEAN welcomed New Zealand's support in terms of experience sharing and technical expertise. The Meeting also welcomed collaboration through programmes and joint research between ASEAN and New Zealand higher education institutions in various fields, including education cooperation on specific areas namely digital education, and capacity-building initiatives as well as workshops to learn best practices from New Zealand in the agriculture sector.
191. The Meeting welcomed the full resumption of New Zealand's Manaaki New Zealand Scholarships Programme (MNZSP) in the previous year. The Meeting expressed

appreciation for the ongoing provision of the MNZSP, including English Language Training for Officials and other Short-Term Training opportunities, for ASEAN members, which contribute towards human development, capability and technical capacity building.

192. The Meeting recognised the importance of working closely together to ensure a sustainable and climate-resilient economic recovery as well as exploring opportunities to strengthen the region's capabilities in addressing climate change, sustainability issues and natural disasters. In this regard, the Meeting welcomed New Zealand's NZD 281 million commitment to long-term climate related activities in the region, including the commitment of NZD 76 million through New Zealand's dedicated climate finance facility to support climate change resilience and the transition to renewable energy. The Meeting further noted New Zealand's contribution of NZD 500,000 to the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change (ACCC) to be established in Brunei Darussalam to develop research on climate change and generate policy recommendations in addressing climate challenges faced by the region, and New Zealand's contribution of NZD 250,000 to the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity. The Meeting encouraged New Zealand to explore further cooperation in the area of sustainable development through the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogues (ACSDSD).
193. The Meeting appreciated New Zealand's contribution to the implementation of the AADMER Work Programme 2021-2025, through the project on Strengthening the Institutional Capacity (SICAP) of the AHA Centre for ASEAN Disaster Capacity Building Programme. The Meeting noted the ASEAN Capacity Building Roadmap 2025-2030 on Disaster Management which was developed under the Project to serve as a comprehensive guide for ASEAN in developing a more coherent, relevant, and effective capacity building programme on disaster management programme. The Meeting further noted the ongoing technical assistance to the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) to assist with the implementation of ARMAC's 5-year strategy.
194. The Meeting invites New Zealand to further collaborate on the field of disaster management through the development of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2026-2030) and the implementation of Leaders Declaration on Sustainable Resilience.
195. The Meeting thanked Brunei Darussalam as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Viet Nam as the incoming Country Coordinator.

Republic of Korea

196. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with the Republic of Korea (ROK) was co-chaired by the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the ROK.

197. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the remarkable progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-ROK Joint Vision Statement for Peace, Prosperity and Partnership (2021-2025) of which, 113 out of the 128 (88.2%) action lines have been addressed. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to advancing ASEAN-ROK strategic partnership into a more substantial, dynamic and mutually beneficial relationship as stated in the ASEAN-ROK Joint Vision Statement for Peace, Prosperity and Partnership in 2019, the Joint Statement of the 22nd ASEAN-ROK Summit on Advancing ASEAN-ROK Cooperation for People-centred Community of Peace and Prosperity in 2021 and the Joint Statement of the 24th ASEAN-ROK Summit on Cooperation on the AOIP in 2023, working together toward a new chapter in ASEAN-ROK relations.
198. The Meeting acknowledged the ROK's support for and cooperation with ASEAN through the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) with a view to promoting mutual trust, mutual respect and mutual benefit, through ASEAN-led mechanisms, thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of peace, stability and prosperity in the region. The Meeting encouraged the ROK to undertake substantive, practical and tangible cooperation with ASEAN, in accordance with the objectives and principles contained in the AOIP on the four identified key areas, through practical projects to promote mutual trust, mutual respect, and mutual benefit through ASEAN-led mechanisms. In this regard, the Meeting looked forward to the effective implementation of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Statement on Cooperation on the AOIP adopted in 2023.
199. The Meeting noted that the AOIP and the ROK's Indo Pacific Strategy (IPS) share relevant fundamental principles in promoting peace and cooperation, and that the IPS demonstrates the ROK's commitment to a free, peaceful, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region. The Meeting supported the Korea-ASEAN Solidarity Initiative (KASI) and looked forward to its effective implementation, which further realise the ROK's commitment to deepen and expand ASEAN-ROK cooperation, strengthen the region's capacity as the epicentrum of growth, and support ASEAN's lead in shaping the economic and security architecture and ensuring that regional dynamics will continue to bring about peace, security, stability and prosperity for the peoples, while upholding ASEAN Centrality. The Meeting appreciated the ROK's plan to increase its contribution to ASEAN related cooperation funds to USD 48 million per annum by 2027 to support more cooperation projects. The Meeting looked forward to active and effective implementation of cooperation, in particular under ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund (AKCF) with the launch of the ASEAN-ROK Programme Management Team (AKPMT) Phase 2.
200. The Meeting welcomed the 35th anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations this year and the meaningful activities organized during the year to celebrate this important milestone. The Meeting welcomed and supported ROK's proposal to

establish the ASEAN-ROK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP), and in this connection, welcomed the significant progress in drafting the Joint Statement on the establishment of the ASEAN-ROK CSP, and looked forward to its adoption at the 25th ASEAN-ROK Summit in October 2024 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

201. The Meeting welcomed the successful convening of the ASEAN-ROK Day in Ha Noi, Viet Nam on 01 November 2023, which was a flagship initiative put forward by Viet Nam, during its term 2021-2024 as the Country Coordinator, as well as fully supported by the ROK and ASEAN Member States, contributing to further strengthening the strategic partnership and comprehensive cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK, leading up to the 35th anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations this year. In this connection, the Meeting welcomed Thailand, as the incoming Country Coordinator for the period 2024-2027, to host the ASEAN-ROK Day in Bangkok, Thailand, in conjunction with this year's milestone.
202. The Meeting reiterated the commitment to further strengthening cooperation to address non-traditional security issues, including cyber security, maritime security and transnational crime through ASEAN-led mechanisms. The Meeting took note of the extension of the implementation period of the ASEAN Plus ROK Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC-ROK) Work Plan for Cooperation to Prevent and Combat Transnational Crime (2019-2023) to 2025 and looked forward to its robust implementation through mechanisms under the AMMTC + ROK Consultation. We appreciated the ROK's active participation and contribution to a number of ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) meetings and activities, including co-hosting the 16th ARF Experts and Eminent Persons Meetings in Seoul in April 2024.
203. The Meeting welcomed the enhanced defence cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK through the ADMM-Plus, including the ROK's co-chairmanship of the ADMM-Plus EWG on Cyber Security with Malaysia in the 2021-2024 cycle, which was concluded with the successful conduct of the ADMM-Plus EWG on Cyber Security Training "CYTREX" in Seoul in November 2023, as well as the development of the Cyber Security Framework. The Meeting also acknowledged the ROK's commitment to complementing the ADMM-Plus' efforts, through the ROK's Action Plan for the ROK-ASEAN Defence Cooperation. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the effective implementation of the ASEAN Cyber Shield Project for nurturing cyber security experts and building cyber security response capabilities. On promoting humanitarian assistance in mine action, the Meeting appreciated the ROK's support to the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) through its multi-year project titled Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in the ASEAN Member States.
204. The Meeting acknowledged with satisfaction the continued momentum of the ASEAN-ROK economic cooperation and agreed to facilitate trade and investment linkages and deepen business-to-business cooperation, including through the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area (AKFTA) and

the RCEP, with a view to supporting regional recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Meeting welcomed the ratification of the Third Protocol to Amend the ASEAN-Korea Trade in Goods Agreement (AKTIGA) by all parties. The Meeting noted the completion of the Joint Review Study of the AKFTA and the Digital Trade Research, which serve as references for the possible upgrade of the AKFTA. The Meeting looked forward to the commencement of the Joint Studies on Digital Trade and New Trade Agendas utilising the ASEAN-Korea Economic Cooperation (AKEC) Fund to provide further insights for a possible upgrade of the AKFTA.

205. The Meeting agreed to further promote the transfer of knowledge and advanced technologies to ASEAN businesses, including start-ups and MSMEs through the ASEAN-ROK Start-ups Partnership. The Meeting welcomed the activities of the ASEAN-Korea Business Council (AKBC) and ASEAN-Korea Centre (AKC) in supporting trade and investment flow, and deepening business-to-business cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK. The meeting appreciated various cooperation projects by the ASEAN-ROK Financial Cooperation Centre, including the 2024 ASEAN-ROK Financial Cooperation Forum in Jakarta in July 2024, and looked forward to more mutually beneficial financial cooperation. The Meeting also welcomed the ROK's continued support in the areas of the ROK's expertise, particularly in the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), such as digital trade, digital transformation, sustainable economy, sustainable development, supply chain resilience, human resource development, food security and food safety, smart infrastructure, smart agriculture, renewable energy, future industries and science, technology and innovation (STI), amongst others. The Meeting looked forward to the ROK's plan to launch the USD 30 million the Korea-ASEAN Digital Innovation Flagship Project (KADIF) under the Korea-ASEAN Solidarity (KASI) and as part of the ROK's implementation of the AOIP to support ASEAN's digital connectivity and transformation through digital technology cooperation.
206. The Meeting encouraged ASEAN and the ROK to further explore potential areas of cooperation in promoting sustainable forest management through existing mechanisms such as the Asian Forest Cooperation Organisation (AFoCO) and in poverty eradication and rural development through among others the ASEAN Villages Network (AVN). Furthermore, the Meeting acknowledged the efforts to address climate crisis response through Forest cooperation such as Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in Developing countries (REDD+) and related ODA.
207. The Meeting appreciated the ROK's continued support and cooperation in enhancing regional connectivity and narrowing the development gap within ASEAN, including through the implementation of the MPAC 2025 and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan IV (2021-2025). The Meeting encouraged the ROK to further strengthen connectivity cooperation with ASEAN, including in areas such as sustainable infrastructure, digital innovation, and people mobility. The Meeting also

welcomed the ROK's support for ASEAN's efforts in supporting sub-regional development cooperation, including through the Mekong-ROK and the Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area ROK (BIMP-EAGA-ROK) Cooperation frameworks. The Meeting looked forward to the expeditious conclusion of a more liberal and mutually beneficial ASEAN-ROK Air Services Agreement (AK-ASA) that would further enhance air transport connectivity between and beyond ASEAN and the ROK, facilitate tourism, and support trade of goods and services in the effort to boost economic recovery. The Meeting welcomed the ROK's support in establishing the ASEAN Smart City Professional Program (ASPP) that would help create a regional community of young leaders advancing smart cities through provision of short-term training and master's degree course scholarships as well as conferences and webinars.

208. The Meeting appreciated the ROK's collaboration with the ASEAN Health Sector and its commitment in strengthening health systems to achieve sustainable Universal Health Coverage and health security for resilient health systems, in line with ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda 2021-2025. The Meeting encouraged ASEAN and the ROK cooperation on capacity building programmes for the health workforce, health security, big data analytics and visualisation, and cooperation for the operationalisation of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED) and ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Centre (ABVC).
209. The Meeting reaffirmed commitment to further strengthening people-to-people and cultural exchanges through TVET, scholarships, workshops and activities through relevant sectoral bodies, the ASEAN-Korea Centre and the cultural centres in Seoul, Busan, Gwangju, and Bangkok. The Meeting looked forward to sustaining collaboration in the protection, preservation and promotion of cultural heritage through the successful convening of the 4th Working Committee Meeting for the ASEAN-ROK Cultural Heritage Cooperation in June, and to celebrating ASEAN-ROK cultural dynamism through media and film development with joint initiatives such as the ASEAN-ROK Music Festival and ASEAN-ROK Film Community Programme 2022-2025. The Meeting commended ASEAN-ROK Music Festival's first ROUND 2024 in Busan in early July, and looked forward to its second event in Vientiane in coming November. The Meeting welcomed the ROK to further contribute to the Comprehensive Review of the ASEAN Strategic Plan for Culture and the Arts (2016-2025) and the Development of a New Work Plan. The Meeting appreciated the ROK's contribution to the expansion of scholarship programmes through the ASEAN-ROK project on "Higher Education for ASEAN Talents: Scholarship Opportunity for ASEAN Faculty Members in the ROK (HEAT)." The Meeting also encouraged to further collaborate with ASEAN Junior Fellowship Programme (AJFP).

210. The Meeting appreciated the ROK's continued partnership for disaster resilience building in the region through the implementation of the ASEAN-ROK Work Plan on Disaster Management 2021-2025 and looked forward to the 3rd ASEAN-ROK Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management to be held in October 2024 in Brunei Darussalam. The Meeting acknowledged the contribution of the ROK to ASEAN's capacity building through the ongoing flagship projects, namely the Disaster Risk Management Capacity Building Program for AMS (D-CAB) and the ASEAN Standards and Certification for Experts in Disaster Management (ASCEND).
211. The Meeting invites the ROK to further collaborate on the field of disaster management through the development of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2026-2030) and the implementation of Leaders Declaration on Sustainable Resilience.
212. The Meeting welcomed the ROK's support to enhancing cooperation on environmental issues, including biodiversity conservation and climate change through the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue on Environment and Climate Change. The Meeting also noted the ongoing development of a work plan for the ASEAN-ROK Carbon Dialogue and welcomed the launch of 'Partnership for ASEAN-ROK Methane Action (PARMA) and looked forward to its effective implementation through various pilot projects, including ASEAN-Korea Cooperation for Methane Mitigation (AKCMM), the first pilot project under PARMA. The Meeting welcomed the ROK's proposal for the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Project on Carbon Neutrality and Green Transition which aims to support the operations and enhance the capacities of the ACCC. The Meeting encouraged the ROK to support ASEAN's green transition, including through the establishment of the ASEAN Power Grid. The Meeting agreed to cooperate on the operationalisation of the ASEAN Centre on Climate Change in Brunei Darussalam upon its establishment as well as the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) in the Philippines. The meeting looked forward to the 4th ASEAN-ROK Dialogue on Environment and Climate Change in Vientiane in 2024.
213. The meeting encouraged to explore possible cooperation to contribute to the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) to effectively address land and forest fires as well as transboundary haze through the establishment and operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACC THPC).
214. The Meeting encouraged the strengthened cooperation in education, labour, employment and human resource development, as well as the nurturing of a regional workforce that is future-ready, competitive, and resilient through the ongoing implementation of the ASCC Research and Development Platforms on the Future of Work and the Future of Education, the ASEAN-ROK TVET Mobility Programme, the annual ASEAN+3 HRD Forum and the ASEAN-ROK Policy Sharing Workshop on Labour and Employment.

215. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the continuous ASEAN-ROK cooperation on civil service matters which are implemented through the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Civil Service Matters (ACCSM+3) Work Plan 2021-2025. The Meeting looked forward to the conduct of the ROK-led Webinar on Human Resources Innovation in the Public Sector in December 2024 that would further support the realisation of a future-ready ASEAN civil service. The Meeting also looked forward to the ROK's active participation at the Heads of Civil Service Meeting of the 7th ACCSM+3 in Brunei Darussalam, on 7 August 2024.
216. The Meeting appreciated the commitment of the ROK in advancing sports cooperation in the region through the implementation of exchange programmes for capacity development for sports officials and professionals. The Meeting acknowledged the activities of the ASEAN-Korea Football Interpersonal Exchange and Leadership Development (FIELD) Programme, which aims to improve the expertise and capacity of football human resources in ASEAN Member States towards the advancement of ASEAN football industry.
217. The Meeting reaffirmed the support for the ROK's Audacious Initiative, which aims to achieve a denuclearised, peaceful and prosperous Korean Peninsula that contributes to peace, stability, and prosperity in the region. Some Ministers also emphasised the importance of addressing issues of humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the immediate resolution of the abductions and detainees issues.
218. The Meeting thanked Viet Nam as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Thailand as the incoming Country Coordinator.

Russian Federation

219. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with Russia was co-chaired by the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Russian Federation.
220. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA) to Implement the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Russian Federation Strategic Partnership (2021-2025) and looked forward to the full and effective implementation of the CPA. The Meeting further looked forward to the development of the ASEAN-Russia CPA (2026 – 2030) that will guide both sides in realising the full potential of the Strategic Partnership in the coming years.
221. The Meeting reiterated the commitment to implement the Joint Statement of ASEAN and Russia Foreign Ministers on the Occasion of the 5th Anniversary of ASEAN-Russia Strategic Partnership adopted by the Foreign Ministers in 2023, including to

support the ASEAN's efforts to implement the four priority areas of cooperation of the AOIP through the existing ASEAN-led mechanisms and unimpeded trade and flow of food stuff and explore possibilities for food security cooperation.

222. ASEAN appreciated Russia's support for ASEAN Centrality and ASEAN's leading role in the evolving regional architecture and recognised Russia's active engagement and participation at various levels of ASEAN-Russia and existing ASEAN-led mechanisms, such as the ASEAN-Plus One, EAS, ARF, and ADMM-Plus.
223. The Meeting noted that the year 2024 marks the 20th year of Russia's accession to the Treaty of Amity of Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) and appreciated Russia's support and commitment to the principles enshrined in the TAC and adopted the Joint Statement of ASEAN and Russia Foreign Ministers Commemorating the 20th Anniversary of Russia's Accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia.
224. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the 4th ASEAN-Russia Consultations of the High Representatives for Security Issues on 24 April 2024, in St. Petersburg, Russia, ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime Plus Russia Consultations on 24 June 2024 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, and looked forward to the convening of the 4th ASEAN-Russia Dialogue on ICT Security-related Issues scheduled to be held on 24-25 October 2024 in Sochi, Russia. The Meeting looked forward to adoption of the Work Plan on the Activities in the Main Areas of Cooperation under ASEAN-Russia Dialogue on ICT Security-Related Issues (2024-2028) and the new ASEAN-Russia Work Plan on Countering Terrorism and Transnational Crime.
225. The Meeting welcomed the decision made by the 4th ASEAN Digital Senior Officials' Meeting (ADGSOM) held in January 2024 to accept Russia as a Dialogue Partner of the ADGSOM which provides further impetus for ASEAN and Russia to embark on stronger cooperation in the digital sector, including holding regular consultations and adoption of the ASEAN-Russia Digital Work Plan.
226. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the Conference «Smart City. Digital Space Russia-ASEAN» in October 2023, in Saint-Petersburg, Russia and looked forward to holding further ASEAN-Russia events on the development of smart cities in future.
227. The Meeting underlined the 5th Anniversary of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ASEAN and the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) in November 2023 to promote economic cooperation and collaboration in contributing to trade, investment, and economic expansion between ASEAN and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) Member States. The Meeting further looked forward to stronger cooperation in trade, economics, and investment, including

through the effective implementation of the ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Roadmap and the ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Work Programme 2021-2025, the Programme of Cooperation between ASEAN and the EEC for 2020-2025 and greater contributions from the Russia-ASEAN Business Council.

228. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the ASEAN-Russia Young Diplomats Summit on 2 March 2024, in Sochi, Russia, to promote youth cooperation and enhance mutual trust and respect among young diplomats, as well as looked forward to hold further editions of the ASEAN-Russia Young Diplomats Summits.

229. The Meeting welcomed people-to-people exchanges and initiatives in education and professional training between ASEAN and Russia, including the convening of the 5th Meeting of the Network of ASEAN-Russia Think Tanks (NARTT) and activities organised by the ASEAN Centre in the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO University). ASEAN appreciated the successful launch in September 2023 and continued enrolment of students to the Master's degree program "Political Economy of the ASEAN-Russia strategic partnership" at MGIMO University. The Meeting likewise appreciated the signing of several memoranda of understanding and cooperation agreements between MGIMO University with some ASEAN University Network (AUN) members in 2023. In this relation, the Meeting welcomed the adoption and looked forward to the implementation of the ASEAN-Russian Federation Plan of Action on Education (ARPAE) 2022-2026 in July 2023 to serve as a framework for strengthening ASEAN-Russia cooperation in education. The Meeting agreed to explore cooperation in the field of volunteering.

230. The Meeting encouraged ASEAN and Russia to initiate practical cooperation activities to support the implementation of AADMER Work Programme 2021-2025 in line with the Memorandum of Understanding between ASEAN and Russia on Cooperation in Field of Disaster Management signed in 2021.

231. The Meeting thanked Cambodia as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Myanmar as the incoming Country Coordinator.

United Kingdom

232. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with the United Kingdom (UK) was co-chaired by Brunei Darussalam and the UK.

233. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress made in the Plan of Action (POA) to Implement the ASEAN-UK Dialogue Partnership (2022-2026), in which over 80 percent of the listed action lines have been or are currently being addressed, and looked forward to the full and effective implementation of the POA.

234. The Meeting noted the importance of enhancing connectivity in ASEAN, in line with Lao PDR's ASEAN Chairmanship this year, and adopted the "ASEAN-UK Joint Ministerial Statement: "Enhancing Connectivity for a Prosperous and Sustainable Future".
235. The Meeting welcomed the progress under the five (5) Flagship ASEAN – UK multi-year Development Programmes. The Meeting welcomed the launch of the ASEAN-UK Economic Integration Programme (EIP), the ASEAN-UK Supporting the Advancement of Girls Education (SAGE) Programme and the ASEAN–UK Women, Peace and Security Programme, and looked forward to the launch and implementation of the ASEAN-UK Health Security Partnership and the ASEAN-UK Green Transition Fund.
236. The Meeting appreciated the UK's support for ASEAN Centrality and ASEAN's leading role in the evolving regional architecture. The Meeting welcomed the UK's participation as an observer in the activities of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) Experts' Working Group (EWGs) on Peace Keeping Operations (PKO) and Military Medicine (MM) for the 2021-2024 cycle and noted the UK's application for ADMM-Plus EWG observership programme for the 2024-2027 cycle. The Meeting noted the UK's interest in joining the ARF and the ADMM-Plus and noted that ASEAN is deliberating on membership.
237. The Meeting appreciated the UK's support and participation in ASEAN events and initiatives that promote the implementation of the AOIP and encouraged the UK to enhance cooperation in the four (4) priority areas under the AOIP through ASEAN-led mechanisms to promote cooperation and stability in the region.
238. The Meeting appreciated the UK's commitment to further substantiate the ASEAN-UK Dialogue Partnership by delivering practical and tangible programmes to support ASEAN Community-building efforts including actively supporting the implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific (AOIP), the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 as well as the upcoming ASEAN Community Vision 2045.
239. The Meeting also commended the UK's consistent efforts in advancing the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda in the region, including through the ASEAN – UK Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Programme.
240. The Meeting welcomed the launch of the ASEAN-UK Economic Integration Programme (EIP) and looked forward to the implementation of the Programme across its three (3) main pillars of regulatory reform, open trade, and financial services.
241. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment to deepening ASEAN-UK political-security cooperation, including on maritime security capacity building to, inter alia, promote

a deeper understanding of the 1982 UNCLOS. The Meeting also noted plans for further support and cooperation, such as strengthening regional forums on maritime issues, combating IUU fishing, enhancing maritime domain awareness and deepening further existing dialogues on maritime law enforcement. In this regard, the Meeting looked forward to the early finalisation of the ASEAN-UK Maritime Cooperation Programme for future implementation.

242. The Meeting appreciated the UK's support in providing technical assistance through the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) to the ASEAN One Health Network Initiatives, capacity building for the ASEAN Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) Network for public health emergencies, and for the operationalisation of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED). The Meeting welcomed the announcement and looked forward to the finalisation and implementation of the ASEAN-UK Health Security Partnership Programme (HSP).
243. The Meeting welcomed ASEAN-UK collaboration on priority political-security issues. The Meeting acknowledged the UK's continuing contribution to ASEAN capacity building in the cybersecurity sector, through the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE) in Singapore and the ASEAN Japan Cyber Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) in Thailand.
244. The Meeting welcomed the UK's support of ASEAN efforts to counter transnational crime, including collaboration between the UK National Crime Agency and ASEAN counterparts to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking and promote capacity building and policy co-ordination initiatives, such as the ASEAN Illicit Finance Working Group and ASEAN Regional Corrections Conference. The Meeting welcomed ASEAN – UK co-ordination to address the issue of terrorism in the region, including through the implementation of the Work Plan of the ASEAN Plan of Action to Prevent and Counter the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism (Bali Work Plan) 2019-2025.
245. The Meeting appreciated UK's involvement with ASEAN on climate actions, including through the ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility and mobilisation of funds for green projects. The Meeting welcomed the development of the ASEAN – Green Transition Fund (GTF) which will provide further support in accelerating green and climate-resilient growth.
246. The Meeting welcomed the announcement of the ASEAN-UK Green Transition Fund, which will support ASEAN's transition to a clean and climate-resilient economy. The Meeting also noted the role of the UK's Climate Action for a Resilient Asia programme that operates across the Indo-Pacific and works closely with partners in Southeast Asia to build climate resilience, improve the natural environment, and promote low carbon growth and access to climate finance. The Meeting encouraged the UK to explore cooperation activities for the implementation

of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2021-2025 to strengthen ASEAN's capacity for disaster monitoring and analysis, prevention and mitigation, response, and recovery.

247. The Meeting also encouraged the UK to explore further cooperation on sustainability, including through the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDDSD), the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change (ACCC), the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACCTHPC) and the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre.
248. The Meeting noted the UK's support to Laos PDR's Priority Economic Deliverables on the Roadmap on Digital Trade Standards in ASEAN with a focus on the development of a cross-border e-commerce framework. The Meeting also welcomed the UK's continued support to enhancing supply chain resilience, connectivity, and economic integration through the ASEAN Industrial Project Based Initiatives and the development of the Work Plan for the ASEAN Focal Group on Global Value Chains.
249. The Meeting underscored the significant contribution of public-private partnership in driving future growth, prosperity, sustainability and resilience. The Meeting noted with appreciation the important work of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council, supported by the Joint Business Councils, and UK-ASEAN Business Council in advancing economic integration in the ASEAN region. The Meeting welcomed the significant UK participation in the 2023 ASEAN Business Investment Summit (ABIS) and ASEAN Indo Pacific Forum and looked forward to further collaboration at ABIS 2024.
250. The Meeting reaffirmed commitment to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and to take action to tackle climate change in order to advance sustainable development and green growth in the region. The Meeting welcomed ASEAN-UK collaboration in this area, including the establishment of a new regional office of British International Investment, which will invest in climate-friendly and nature-based solutions in Southeast Asia, UK support to the ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility to accelerate green infrastructure investments in the region and technical collaboration through the UK's Green Cities and Infrastructure Programme. The Meeting welcomed the successful conclusion of the ASEAN-UK Sustainable Leadership in Infrastructure Programme (ASLIP) in 2024 and looked forward to its continuation in the 2025.
251. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the 1st ASEAN-UK Working Group on Regional Air Services Agreement (AUKWG-RASA) in May 2024 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam and encouraged the working group to work towards a liberal and mutually beneficial ASEAN-UK Air Services Agreement (AUK-ASA) to enhance air connectivity between and beyond ASEAN and the UK.

252. The Meeting acknowledged the enhanced socio-cultural exchanges and many ties between ASEAN and the UK over the years. In this regard, the Meeting took note of suggestions to further promote cooperation in several areas, including education; technical and vocational education and training (TVET); sports; youth, researcher, academic and cultural exchanges; information; tourism; and training programmes, including English language training and teacher training; as well as to explore links between universities in ASEAN and the UK, especially in the areas of research. The Meeting looked forward to the launch of Chevening ASEAN Scholarships, the GREAT Scholarships in several ASEAN Member States, as well as the ASEAN-UK Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Scholarships.
253. The Meeting welcomed the growing ASEAN-UK cooperation on science, technology and innovation, including UK support for the Research and Innovation for Development in ASEAN programme and the new AI for Sustainable Development in ASEAN programme. The meeting noted the successful inaugural ASEAN-UK Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation and welcomed the UK's participation as an observer in the recent 20th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation.
254. The Meeting supported the enhancement of people-to-people exchanges in the creative economy and digital economy sectors. The creative industries are considered one of the fastest-growing sectors globally with an estimated global value of USD 2.5 trillion, equivalent to 6.1% of global GDP and holds great potential for ASEAN. The Meeting welcomed the ASEAN-UK Advancing Creative Economy (ACE) Programme, which will support the creative sector in ASEAN through capacity building initiatives, policy development, and cultural exchanges between the UK and Southeast Asia. The Meeting acknowledged ASEAN's request for the UK to support the development of a Framework to further articulate a culture-centric approach in the development of the ASEAN Creative Economy. The Meeting appreciated the UK's commitment to support ASEAN Community-building efforts, including through the implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the upcoming ASEAN Community Vision 2045, as well as the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP).
255. The Meeting thanked Brunei Darussalam for their excellent support and guidance as the UK's first Country Coordinator. The UK welcomed and looked forward to working with Viet Nam as the incoming Country Coordinator.

United States

256. The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with the United States was co-chaired by the Republic of Indonesia and the United States (U.S.).

257. The Meeting recalled the ASEAN-U.S. Special Summit in Washington D.C. in May 2022 to commemorate the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN-US Dialogue Relations, including its Joint Vision Statement, and the establishment of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) at the 10th ASEAN-U.S. Summit in November 2022, as a testament to both sides' long-standing partnership. The Meeting reaffirmed ASEAN's and the U.S. commitment to continue strengthening the ASEAN-U.S. CSP, which importantly contributes to maintaining peace, security, stability, and prosperity in the region. The Meeting recalled the adoption of the Annex to the ASEAN-U.S. Plan of Action (2021-2025) at the ASEAN-US Post Ministerial Conference in July 2023, which incorporated new initiatives anchored under the four priority areas of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP). The Meeting also recalled the adoption of the ASEAN-United States Leaders' Statement on Cooperation on the AOIP at the 11th ASEAN-US Summit in September 2023, which further reflected both sides' continued commitment to enhancing cooperation in the four priority areas of the AOIP through ASEAN-led mechanisms. The Meeting took note of the progress of the ASEAN-U.S. new engagements in the areas of public health, transportation, gender equality and women's empowerment, energy, and environment and climate change, and looked forward to building concrete and effective cooperation in these areas. The Meeting further noted with satisfaction the significant progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN-U.S. Plan of Action (2021-2025) and its Annex, with the fulfilment of 98.37 percent of our Plan of Action commitments, and looked forward to developing a new ASEAN-U.S. Plan of Action (2026 – 2030) that will guide both sides in realising the full potential of the CSP for the next five years.
258. As ASEAN and the United States aim to further advance a substantive, meaningful, and mutually beneficial CSP in the coming years, the Meeting encouraged both sides to intensify collaboration across the spectrum of the ASEAN Community pillars, including by continuing to effectively implementing the ASEAN-U.S. Plan of Action (2021-2025) and its Annex and ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Statement on the AOIP. In particular, both sides continue to intensify cooperation in areas such as the digital economy; better access to education; cybersecurity; the empowerment of youth and, women, and persons with disabilities; clean energy transition; people to people exchanges; climate change and environment; sustainable development; public health; maritime cooperation; transboundary haze; tourism; high standard and climate resilient infrastructure; transport and connectivity. ASEAN expressed support for the U.S.' efforts to expand and elevate collaboration on emerging technologies and welcomed the U.S.' proposal for an ASEAN-U.S. Summit Leaders' Statement on "Promoting Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence".
259. The Meeting commended the United States for continuing to play a constructive role in promoting dialogue for regional peace, security and stability through its participation in various ASEAN-led mechanisms, such as the East Asia Summit

(EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) as well as the ASEAN Plus U.S. Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC + U.S.) Consultation. The Meeting also welcomed the U.S.' co-chairmanship for the ARF Inter-Sessional Year (ISY) 2023-2024 and commended the United States' active participation in the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups (EWGs) while respecting ASEAN Centrality and unity. The meeting recalled the important outcomes of the ASEAN-U.S. Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting in November 2023, in Jakarta, and noted the launch of the Emerging Defence Leaders Program in 2024. The Meeting noted with appreciation the implementation of the SOMTC-U.S. Work Plan for Transnational Crime (2019-2022). The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the renewed SOMTC + U.S. Work Plan on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime (2023-2026) at the 15th SOMTC + U.S. Consultation in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 23 June 2023, and looked forward to the effective implementation of the Work Plan.

260. The Meeting reaffirmed the shared commitment to comprehensive approaches in countering terrorism, including violent extremism. In this regard, the Meeting noted with appreciation the continued support of the United States in the implementation of cross-sectoral initiatives under the Work Plan of the ASEAN Plan of Action to Prevent and Counter the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism (Bali Work Plan) 2019-2025.
261. The Meeting noted the importance of longstanding and robust economic engagement between the United States and ASEAN and reiterated the commitment to deepening ASEAN-U.S. economic ties, including through the implementation of the ASEAN-U.S. Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA) and the Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) Initiative Work Plans, the U.S.-ASEAN Connect Series, as well as through dialogue and engagement among the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), and with the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council (US-ABC). ASEAN highlighted the fact that the United States continued to be ASEAN's largest source of foreign direct investment and welcomed initiatives to sustain and grow the regional footprint of the U.S. private sector.
262. The Meeting noted the progress of implementation of the 2023-2024 ASEAN-U.S. TIFA and E3 Work Plan, which has furthered cooperation on the digital economy, MSMEs development, trade facilitation, intellectual property rights, sustainability, good regulatory practices, labour, and agriculture. The Meeting also looked forward to the finalisation of the 2024-2025 ASEAN-U.S. TIFA and E3 Work Plan, building upon the existing cooperation under the current work plan, for approval by the AEM-United States Trade Representative (USTR) Consultation scheduled in September 2024. The Meeting commended the work of the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Inclusive Growth in ASEAN through Innovation, Trade and E-Commerce (IGNITE), notably in supporting the

implementation of various economic cooperation activities under the ASEAN-U.S. TIFA and E3 Work Plan, including the operation of the ASEAN Single Window (ASW), the review of the ASEAN Digital Integration Framework Action Plan (DIFAP), the development the ASEAN Digital Integration Index (ADII 2.0), and the support for ASEAN MSMEs. We also acknowledged and appreciated the role of USAID in expanding ASEAN-U.S. engagement in strengthening gender equality and mainstreaming, women's empowerment through various initiatives that support women-led MSMEs.

263. Recalling the signing of the MOU between the ASEAN Centre for Energy and USAID's Southeast Asia Smart Power Program (SPP) in June 2023, the Meeting appreciated and looked forward to the continued U.S. support for the ASEAN Power Grid, as well as the strengthening and decarbonization of the region's power system by boosting regional energy trade and accelerating the deployment of clean energy technologies. The Meeting appreciated USTDA's funding of the first two feasibility studies for the ASEAN Power Grid, which were announced during a signing ceremony in March 2024.
264. Recalling the convening of the ASEAN-U.S. Ministerial Dialogue on Environment and Climate and the ASEAN-U.S. Ministerial Dialogue on Energy in August 2023, ASEAN continued to welcome U.S.' contribution for ASEAN Member States in achieving their 2030 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement and developing ambitious 2035 NDCs, including by providing technical assistance to ASEAN member states through the U.S.-ASEAN Climate Solutions Hub. The Meeting encouraged cooperation on joint research, analysis, and policy development to achieve the region's climate-resilient and low-carbon vision between relevant US agencies and the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change (ACCC), once operational, as well as other relevant ASEAN centres. The Meeting also discussed the need to accelerate mutual priorities on climate change mitigation and adaptation, innovation, climate finance, and biodiversity conservation.
265. The Meeting welcomed U.S.' contribution to address transboundary haze pollution in ASEAN through cooperation between relevant US agencies, the ASEAN Specialise Meteorological Centre (ASMC) and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACC THPC).
266. The Meeting appreciated U.S.' support for the implementation of initiatives under ASEAN-U.S. Transport Cooperation Work Plan 2022-2025, in particular for the assistance in conducting the ongoing study to develop an Electric Vehicles (EV) implementation roadmap to support the adoption of EV and decarbonisation of land transport sector in the region. The Meeting welcomed the U.S. plans to launch new transport cooperation initiatives, including on equity and access in transport planning, policy and technology.

267. The Meeting welcomed and looked forward to further implementation of the ASEAN-US Digital Work Plan 2023-2025, including continued initiatives under the ASEAN-U.S. Digital Work Plan (2023 – 2025) under the ASEAN Digital Ministers and Senior Officials' Meetings. The Meeting also welcomed the convening of the 4th ASEAN U.S. Cyber Policy Dialogue in October 2023, which reaffirmed commitments to support and implement the framework of responsible state behaviour in cyberspace, acknowledged the work that has been done in fostering greater regional cybersecurity cooperation and capacity building, and discussed ways to strengthen regional cooperation in these areas. The Meeting also commended the U.S. support for capacity building on cybersecurity at the ASEAN Secretariat. The meeting also called for intensifying proposed activities under the ASEAN-U.S. Digital Work Plan to promote the safe, reliable, and secure development and deployment of digital technologies an open, interoperable, reliable, and secure information and communications technology (ICT) ecosystem, including undersea cables and cloud computing, increased collaboration on safe, secure, and trustworthy artificial intelligence, and cooperation to counter cybercrimes and online scams. The Meeting welcomed the United States' support for the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement negotiations.
268. The Meeting expressed appreciation for continued U.S. engagement with the ASCN through activities under the U.S.-ASEAN Smart Cities Partnership (USASCP) initiative, as well as the recently organised ASEAN-U.S. Smart Cities E-Waste Circularity Workshop in April 2024. The Meeting commended the continued work under the USASCP Business Innovation Fund (BIF) which aims to address urban challenges by offering a climate finance mechanism targeted to sub-national and city stakeholders offering sustainable low carbon solutions. The Meeting looked forward to the implementation to the next iteration of the Fund to accelerate urban sustainability through innovation and market solutions.
269. The Meeting welcomed the invaluable support of USAID Partnership for Regional Optimization within the Political-Security and Socio-Cultural Communities (PROSPECT) in realising gender equality through gender mainstreaming efforts across ASEAN Community pillars leading to the adoption of the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework (AGMSF) at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits. The Meeting further welcomed the continued support of USAID PROSPECT in building the institutional mechanism on AGMSF through the development of the AGMSF Implementation Plan and the establishment of the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Steering Committee (AGMSC). The Meeting looked forward to keeping the momentum on AGMSF implementation following the two Meetings of the AGMSC held on 21-22 February 2023 in Vientiane, Lao PDR and on 3 July 2023, in Yogyakarta, Indonesia supported by USAID PROSPECT and other partners.

270. The Meeting welcomed ASEAN-U.S.' continued collaboration in advancing the rights of persons with disabilities, including the first ASEAN-U.S. High-Level Dialogue on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in October 2023 in Makassar, and to explore further potential cooperation in technical assistance and exchange to enable full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in all areas in life and economic empowerment of persons with disabilities under the framework of the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025.
271. The Meeting appreciated the support of the U.S. through the Addressing Labour Exploitation in Fishing in ASEAN (ALFA) project that will strengthen the capacity of relevant ASEAN bodies to enhance labour standards in the fishing sector.
272. The Meeting commended the expanding health cooperation between ASEAN and the United States, as guided by the Terms of Reference for the ASEAN-U.S. Health Engagement which was adopted at the ASEAN-US Special Session Health Ministerial Meeting in May 2022. The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN-U.S. Health Cooperation Work Plan 2022-2025 and looked forward to its effective implementation. The Meeting further welcomed collaboration in strengthening regional health systems for public health emergencies, workforce development and capacity building, and information and data system. The Meeting appreciated the support of USAID in operationalising the whole-of-ASEAN Community approach to public health threats through the ASEAN Public Health Emergency Coordination System (APHECS) Framework, establishment of the ASEAN One Health Network, and enhancing tuberculosis (TB) services and prevention of airborne infectious diseases in high TB burden countries through the Airborne Infections Defence Platform.
273. The Meeting also appreciated the cooperation with the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the establishment and operation of the ASEAN-US Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Task Force, the strengthening of public health mentorship networks, the enhancement of ASEAN members' laboratory readiness to diagnose COVID-19 through the ASEAN Emergency Operation Center Network and the Regional Public Health Laboratory Network, and the instruction of the inaugural cohort of the ASEAN Public Health Emergency Management - Emerging Leaders' Programme (PHEM-ELP). The Meeting encouraged the United States to continue exploring potential cooperation in the operationalisation of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED).
274. The Meeting encouraged the United States to continuously collaborate with ASEAN in implementing the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2021-2025 to strengthen ASEAN's capacity for disaster monitoring and response, including through improved-early warning systems, prevention and mitigation, and recovery, including through AHA

Centre. The meeting expressed appreciation for the USAID's support for the ASEAN Humanitarian Logistics Training Curriculum and Regional assessment of ASEAN member state capacity for End-to-End Early Warning Systems for Multi-Hazard Disasters.

275. The Meeting welcomed U.S.' support for enhanced regional connectivity through advancing the implementation of the MPAC 2025 and looked forward to exploring synergies between the MPAC 2025 and U.S. connectivity initiatives in line with the "Connecting the Connectivities" approach. The Meeting commended the support of the United States in bridging the digital divide and ICT development gaps within ASEAN, and promoting the development of a secure, resilient and innovative 5G ecosystem and networks. The Meeting encouraged enhanced collaboration on digital infrastructures and e-commerce, particularly for our MSMEs.
276. The Meeting commended the United States significant development assistance for the region and noted the extension of the Regional Development Cooperation Agreement (RDCA) from 2025 to 2029 to cater to ASEAN's priorities and its needs for the post-2025 period. The Meeting congratulated the convening of the Closeout Event of ASEAN-USAID Projects, namely ASEAN Policy Implementation (API), Inclusive Growth in ASEAN through Innovation, Trade and E-Commerce (IGNITE), and ASEAN-U.S. Partnership for Regional Optimization within the Political-Security and Socio-Cultural Communities (PROSPECT), marking the successful conclusion of the three (3) programmes and their immense contribution to ASEAN Community building efforts. The Meeting looked forward to the implementation of successor projects in view of further strengthening ASEAN's capacity to advance economic growth, trade, good governance, resilience, and stability within the region. The Meeting supported ASEAN's efforts in narrowing the development gap within and between ASEAN Member States, including through the implementation of IAI Work Plan IV (2021-2025). The Meeting welcomed U.S.' support for ASEAN's sub-regional development efforts through the Mekong-U.S. Partnership (MUSP) and other Mekong cooperation mechanisms in collaboration with other ASEAN Partners.
277. The Meeting appreciated the U.S.' support in building a more people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN Community through various capacity building and development programmes. The Meeting highlighted the importance of initiatives such as the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI), which celebrated its 10th anniversary in December 2023, ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme, the U.S.-ASEAN Internship Programme, the ASEAN-U.S. Science Prize for Women, the Fulbright U.S.-ASEAN Visiting Scholar Program and the Billion Futures Program for human capital development in the region and for enhancing people-to-people ties. The Meeting also supported the enhancement of people-to-people exchanges in creative economy and digital economy sectors.

278. The Meeting commended the U.S.' commitment in strengthening education and youth cooperation through the Fullbright U.S.-ASEAN Visiting Scholar Program and the Young Southeast Asia Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) programs.
279. The Meeting welcomed the opening of the ASEAN-United States Centre in Washington D.C., in December 2023, which will further harness people-to-people linkages, promote awareness of ASEAN and provide a platform to enhance partnership among all stakeholders from both sides. The Meeting noted that the Centre has conducted a number of focus group discussions to gather inputs on its potential activities, including with the ASEAN Washington Committee, the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN, the ASEAN Secretariat, other stakeholders from the private sector, academia, as well as cultural and diaspora communities.
280. The Meeting thanked Indonesia as the outgoing Country Coordinator and welcomed Cambodia as the incoming Country Coordinator and looked forward to working closely with Cambodia to bring ASEAN-United States relations to a greater height.

Trilateral Meetings

281. There were also three separate Trilateral Meetings between Lao PDR and the ASEAN Secretariat with Norway, Switzerland and Türkiye, convened on 25 and 26 July 2024, to discuss the future directions and explore ways to forge closer and sustained collaboration with concrete and tangible outcomes between ASEAN and the respective Sectoral Dialogue Partners.

