



CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE TWELFTH ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT (AMMDM) AND THIRTEEN MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP) TO THE ASEAN AGREEMENT ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (AADMER)

24 October 2024, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam

1. The 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) and the 13th Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) were convened on 24 October 2024, in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ahmaddin bin Haji Abdul Rahman, Minister of Home Affairs of Brunei Darussalam, as the Chair of AMMDM, and attended by Ministers in-charge of Disaster Management and representatives of ASEAN Member States, and Timor Leste as observer, as well as the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre).

2. The Meeting appreciated the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) in guiding and overseeing the implementation of the AADMER Work Programme 2021-2025, as well as the Governing Board of the AHA Centre in providing guidance on the operationalisation of the AHA Centre. Accomplishments in both policy and operational fronts are essential in achieving the aspirations of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), the ASEAN Declaration on One ASEAN, One Response: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One in the Region and Outside the Region and the ASEAN Vision 2025 on Disaster Management; and in fulfilling the objectives of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint 2025.

3. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the achievements in 2024 across all Priority Programmes of the AADMER Work Programme (AWP) 2021-2025, such as the endorsement by the ACDM on the Report on Strengthening ASEAN Multi-Hazard End to End Early Warning System (E2E EWS) for Natural Disasters – An Assessment of Current Capacity, the Report on Transboundary Disaster Risk Assessment and Scenario Planning for Tropical Cyclones and Droughts in the ASEAN Region, the Impact Study of ASEAN Disaster Management Capacity Building Programmes, the ASEAN Capacity

Building Roadmap 2025-2030 on Disaster Management, and the ASEAN Disaster Risk Communication Framework (ADRCF); the continued strengthening of the Disaster Emergency Logistics System for ASEAN (DELSA) through DELSA Phase IV Project, the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) through the Strengthening the Capacity of the ASEAN-ERAT Phase III Project, the AHA Centre's Learning Management System (LMS) through the Strengthening the Institutional Capacity (SICAP) of the AHA Centre for ASEAN Disaster Management Capacity Building Programme, and the integration of protection, gender and inclusion into disaster management through the ASEAN Protection, Resilience, and Inclusion for Multi-Hazard Emergencies (ASEAN-PRIME); the successful conduct of AHA Centre Executive Leadership in Emergency and Disaster Management for ASEAN Programme (ACE-LEDMP) Middle Level - First Batch, and Executive Level – Second Batch, the ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management (SPDDM) 2024, and the first ASEAN Standards and Certification for Experts in Disaster Management (ASCEND) Competency Assessment.

4. The Meeting noted the discussion of ACDM on the recommendations of the Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the AADMER Work Programme (AWP) 2021-2025, in particular, streamlining the outputs under AWP 2021-2025 to ensure implementation of the 102 outputs in the AWP 2021-2025 by the end of 2025. The Meeting also noted the decision of the ACDM to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the meetings under the Disaster Management Sector starting in 2025.

5. The Meeting launched the ASEAN Ministerial Declaration on Building a Resilient ASEAN through Inclusive and Sustainable Disaster Recovery, which is in line with the theme of Brunei Darussalam's AMMDM Chairmanship. The Declaration reiterated ASEAN's resolve to further strengthen the capacity of ASEAN Member States to recover from disasters and to strengthen and harmonise regional early warning system components, accelerate the implementation of Resilient Recovery and explore innovative ways in financing recovery, among others.

6. The Meeting underscored the importance of year 2024 as it marks the 20th Anniversary of the Indian Ocean Tsunami which provides a momentum for ASEAN to take stock of the progress in the strengthening of ASEAN's capacity in monitoring, preventing, mitigating, preparing for, responding to and recovering from large-scale disasters. The Meeting appreciated the initiatives of ASEAN Member States in organising a series of commemorative events, including the commemorative events which scheduled on 11-14 September 2024 in Jakarta, Indonesia; 25 October 2024 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam; 5 November 2024 in Pulau Pinang, Malaysia; and 26 – 27 December 2024 in Phang-Nga, Thailand.

7. The Meeting also launched the ASEAN Ministerial Statement on the Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of Indian Ocean Tsunami. The Statement highlighted key regional progress in ASEAN in building disaster resilience 20 years after the Tsunami and affirmed commitment to further strengthening the regional disaster management tools and mechanisms in all phases of disaster management, developing a comprehensive regional early warning system, promoting public awareness campaigns on disaster risk information, strengthening preparedness for catastrophic disasters, and enhancing ASEAN's global leadership in disaster management.

8. The Meeting noted the progress in the conduct of a review of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC) aiming to strengthen the roles of SG-AHAC, in line with the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the Strategic and Holistic Initiative to Link ASEAN Responses to Emergencies and Disaster (ASEAN SHIELD).

9. The Meeting noted that the ACDM, supported by the ASEAN Secretariat, is working on the draft Operational Guidelines of the Revised Financial Rules of the ASEAN Disaster Management and Emergency Relief (ADMER) Fund to enable contribution from the public and private sources. The Meeting noted the current balance of the ADMER Fund and encouraged the Member States to make voluntary contributions to support the implementation of the AADMER. The Meeting also noted the renewal of activation of the Special Humanitarian Assistance Fund, under the AADMER Fund, by the AMMDM Chair to support the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance to Myanmar.

10. The Meeting noted the preparation for the development of the AADMER Work Programme 2026-2030. The Meeting encouraged the relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies (ASBs) and stakeholders to provide input and support for its timely completion and adoption at the 13th AMMDM and 14th COP to AADMER in 2025.

11. The Meeting noted the ongoing preparation to conduct the ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (ARDEX) in Cambodia, in 2025. The Meeting underscored the importance of continued efforts in strengthening ASEAN's disaster preparedness mechanisms, exemplifying the spirit of 'One ASEAN, One Response'. The Meeting looked forward to the successful conduct of the exercise and called for the full support and participation of the ASEAN Member States in the ARDEX-25.

12. The Meeting congratulated the Government of the Philippines on the successful hosting of the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) 2024 under the theme "Surge to 2030: Enhancing ambition in Asia-Pacific to accelerate disaster risk reduction" on 14-18 October 2024 in Manila, the Philippines. The Meeting reiterated ASEAN's commitment, as highlighted in the Joint Statement of

the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) 2024, towards achieving the full and effective implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030.

13. The Meeting underlined the importance of continuously promoting a whole-of-ASEAN approach in disaster management and commended the continued work of the ASEAN Disaster Resilience Platform (ADRP), which is composed of thirteen ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and the AHA Centre. In this regard, the Meeting encouraged active participation of the ASEAN Sectoral Bodies in the ADRP to utilise the Platform for information exchange and potentially to develop joint activities to strengthen resilience to disasters in ASEAN.

14. The Meeting appreciated the renewed commitment of China, Japan and ROK as well as the United Nations, in supporting ASEAN in strengthening disaster resilience in the region and encouraged the partners to strengthen efforts in implementing the respective action plan/work plans.

15. The Meeting noted the progress in the implementation of ASEAN-United Nations Joint Strategic Plan of Action on Disaster Management (JSPADM) IV 2021-2025, and the result of the Mid-Term Review of the JSPADM IV 2021-2025.

16. The Meeting noted the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-China Work Plan on Disaster Management. The Meeting appreciated the support of China to the ACDM through the ongoing ASEAN-China Disaster Management Capacity Building Programme. The Meeting noted the approval of the Disaster Management Cooperation Project between ASEAN and China. The Meeting also noted the ongoing negotiation on the draft Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of the ASEAN-China Centre for Emergency Management Cooperation (ACCEMC).

17. The Meeting noted the progress of the ASEAN-Japan Work Plan on Disaster Management 2021-2025. The Meeting appreciated the continued support from Japan particularly on the ASEAN-ERAT Phase III, DELSA Phase IV, and AHA Centre Executive (ACE) - Leadership in Emergency and Disaster Management for ASEAN Programme (LEDMP) Programmes, the Development of the AADMER Work Programme 2026-2030, and the Enhancement of the AHA Centre's ICT System.

18. The Meeting noted the progress of ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Work Plan on Disaster Management 2021-2025. The Meeting appreciated the progress of the cooperation between ASEAN and ROK in disaster management particularly the ASEAN Standards and Certifications for Experts in Disaster Management (ASCEND), Disaster Risk Management Capacity Building Programme for AMS (D-CAB) and ASEAN-ROK

Capacity Building Programme on Harnessing Advanced Science, Technology and Innovation for Disaster Resilience projects.

19. The Meeting acknowledged the efforts undertaken by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in implementing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ASEAN and the IFRC on the Strengthening of Community Resilience in Southeast Asia, including through the recent the IFRC and National Red Cross Red Crescent Societies' Engagement with ASEAN held on 4 September 2024 in Bali, Indonesia.

20. The Meeting appreciated continued commitment by ASEAN external partners to supporting ASEAN disaster resilience building, as showcased in the launching of projects and/or signing ceremonies with United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Global Affairs Canada, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), Federal Republic of Germany, and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) of the Republic of India.

21. The Meeting appreciated the support of other ASEAN external partners and relevant stakeholders, including the AADMER Partnership Group and the private sector in implementing the AADMER Work Programme 2021-2025 in building a resilient ASEAN.

22. The Meeting noted the convening of the 21st Meeting of the Governing Board of the AHA Centre, and congratulated the Governing Board for the effective implementation of the AHA Centre Work Plan in 2024. The Meeting reiterated the important role of the AHA Centre in operationalising the ASEAN Declaration on "One ASEAN One Response: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One in the Region and Outside the Region". The Meeting commended the AHA Centre for its swift response to support the Philippines in response to the combined effects of the Southwest Monsoon, Tropical Cyclone Gaemi, and Tropical Cyclone Prapiroon in July to August 2024, as well as to support Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam in response to Tropical Cyclone YAGI and the Southwest Monsoon in September 2024. The Meeting commended the development of the AHA Centre's Knowledge Management Strategy to strengthen the AHA Centre's role as the regional knowledge hub on disaster management in ASEAN and looked forward to its implementation.

23. The Meeting appreciated the progress in the implementation of Point 4 of the ASEAN Leaders' Five-Point Consensus for the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance to Myanmar, including the completion of the Phase 1 which focused on COVID-19 response in March 2024 and the ongoing delivery of Phase 2 to the affected people in Myanmar, which aims to address broader humanitarian needs.

24. The Meeting expressed appreciation for the leadership of the Government of Brunei Darussalam as Chair of the ACDM, the Governing Board of the AHA Centre, the Conference of Parties (COP) to AADMER and the AMMDM in 2024. The Meeting applauded the Government of Brunei Darussalam for the remarkable achievements and comprehensive list of deliverables under its chairmanship. The Meeting looked forward to the 13th AMMDM and the 14th Meeting of the COP to AADMER under the chairmanship of Cambodia in 2025.
