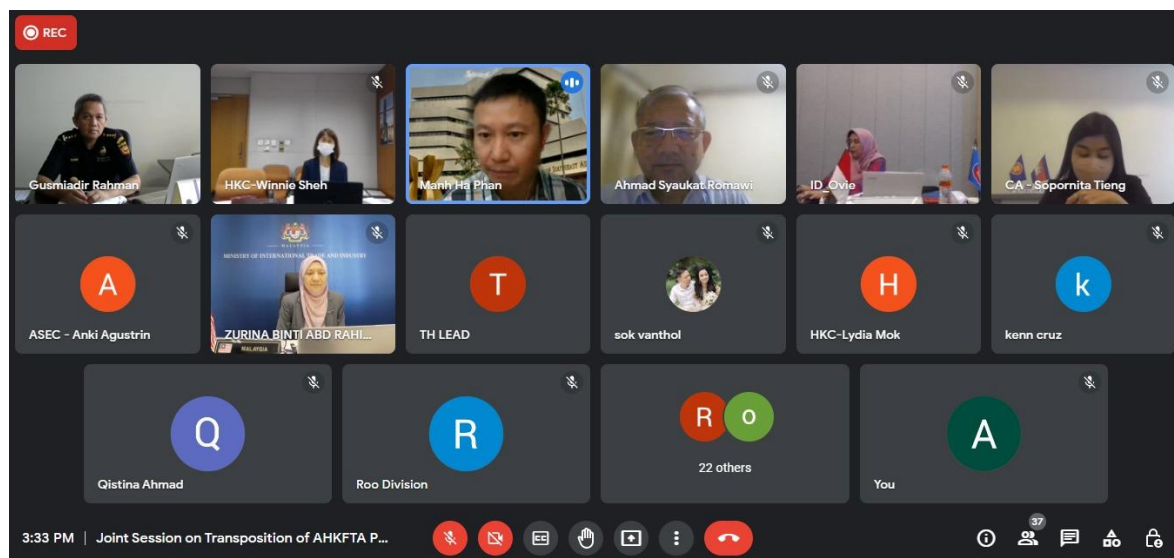


## Transposition of the AHKFTA PSR from HS 2012 to HS 2017 and subsequently to HS 2022



The Transposition of the ASEAN-Hong Kong, China Free Trade Agreement (AHKFTA)'s Product Specific Rules (PSRs) from Harmonized System (HS) 2012 to HS 2017 and subsequently to HS 2022 is a project under the AHKFTA ECOTECH Work Programme endorsed by the AHKFTA Joint Committee in 2022. The project is a follow-up to the decision of the AHKFTA Sub-Committee on Rules of Origin (AHK SCROO)'s Meeting in November 2021 on the necessity of a transposition exercise of the AHKFTA PSR following the finalisation of the review of the AHKFTA PSR under Annex 3-3.

The objective of the Project is to transpose the PSR in order to align with the periodic changes to the HS in a timely manner for implementation. Specifically, the Project seeks to address the possible delay in the process of the transposition of PSR for AHKFTA due to the need for substantial coordination among AHKFTA Parties and domestically between an AHKFTA Party and her relevant agencies.

Mr. Phan Manh Ha, an independent consultant and expert on Rules of Origin expert from Viet Nam, was hired to prepare a draft for the transposition of the AHKFTA PSR and to facilitate a joint-session in discussing the transposed PSRs under Chapter 3 of the AHKFTA from HS 2012 into HS 2017 and subsequently into HS 2022. The Joint session was held virtually on 25-26 July 2022 and was attended by the AHK SCROO members from all Parties. The transposed PSRs were endorsed by the AHKFTA JC on 8 December 2022.

In addition, the development of the Guidelines of the PSR transposition was also included as part of the project to ensure that officials in charge of the transposition of the PSR will be guided in transposing future PSR. The AHKSCROO endorsed the Guidelines in November 2022.

The project has proven that joint activities organised to advance the implementation of AHKFTA are important and receives appreciation from the Parties. It is recommended that more joint activities such as trainings, workshops, and seminars related to ROO be initiated more often in the future.