

Joint Summary of Meeting between H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates, and H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary-General of ASEAN

Rabat, 24 June 2025

1. At the invitation of H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates, H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), paid an official visit to Morocco, from 24 to 26 June 2025.
2. The meeting was the occasion to reaffirm the excellent relations between the Kingdom of Morocco and ASEAN, as well as to discuss actions to be undertaken to strengthen the relations between Morocco and ASEAN, both in substance and scope.
3. Minister Bourita expressed thanks and appreciation to SG Dr. Kao and through him to all ASEAN Member States for their support to Morocco's Sectoral Dialogue Partner Status, granted in September 2023. SG Dr. Kao expressed high appreciation for Morocco's actions and commitment to enhancing cooperation with ASEAN and its Member States.
4. Secretary-General Dr. Kao welcomed Morocco's presence and engagement in various frameworks in the ASEAN regions, such as the Mekong River Commission (MRC), with whom the Kingdom has a Partner status since 2017, the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), that Morocco joined as an Observer Member in 2020, and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO), which Morocco joined as an Associate Member in 2021.
5. Minister Bourita highlighted that the strengthening of relations between Morocco and ASEAN is in conformity with the strategic Vision of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, aimed at diversifying Morocco's partners and promoting a strong and solidarity-based South-South cooperation.
6. Both sides stressed their unwavering support to the principles of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), including respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of UN Member States, which include ASEAN Member States and Morocco, as well as the non-interference in internal affairs and the peaceful settlement of disputes.
7. Minister Bourita praised the role played by ASEAN in promoting and preserving political stability, economic prosperity and social resilience in one of the most dynamic regions in the world. In this regard, he reiterated Morocco's readiness to support and collaborate with ASEAN in many sectors, as outlined in the Practical Cooperation Areas (PCA) 2024-2028, on a win-win approach with ASEAN as a group and with all its Member States.
8. SG Dr. Kao noted with appreciation the Atlantic Initiatives launched by His Majesty King Mohammed VI, namely the Initiative to enable Atlantic Ocean Access for Sahel states, the Africa-Atlantic Gas pipeline (AAGP) and the Atlantic African States Initiatives, as briefed by Minister Bourita.
9. Both sides agreed that Morocco offers an important gateway for ASEAN Member States to Africa. In the same vein, ASEAN represents a real opportunity for Morocco to develop and open up for more economic cooperation with the region in particular and with Asia as a whole.
10. SG Dr. Kao underlined that Morocco's numerous assets make it an attractive platform for trade and investments for ASEAN governments and business communities. He added that the partnership between both sides will facilitate the access of ASEAN to the African space and the opportunities offered under the Atlantic Initiatives in the region.
11. SG Dr. Kao commended Morocco's engagements and initiatives within the framework of ASEAN-Morocco Sectoral Dialogue Partnership. In this regard, the Secretary-General

thanked Morocco for its financial contribution to the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC) based in Cambodia and the construction of the Educational Center of the Mekong River Commission (MRC) in Vientiane.

12. Both sides welcomed the holding of the 2nd ASEAN-Morocco Joint Sectoral Cooperation Committee (AM-JSCC) Meeting in Jakarta, on 27 November 2024, which was an opportunity to review the progress of the implementation of the PCA 2024-2028 and to explore ways to expand and deepen cooperation between both parties. They looked forward to holding the 3rd AM-JSCC Meeting scheduled to be held in November 2025.
13. Both sides underscored the importance of the training programmes offered by the Moroccan Institute of Training, Research and Diplomatic Studies (IMFRED) for diplomats from ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat. They welcomed existing successful cooperation programmes between ASEAN Member States and Morocco, through the Moroccan Agency for International Cooperation (AMCI) in favour of ASEAN Member States and African countries.
14. SG Dr. Kao noted the active participation of Morocco in various ASEAN events, including seminars and workshops related to human rights, economic cooperation, transport, social welfare and development, connectivity and smart city development, among others.
15. SG Dr. Kao praised His Majesty King Mohammed VI's leadership in advancing social and economic developments towards ensuring continued stability, prosperity and development in the country. He commended the major socio-economic and infrastructure developments and the successful reforms achieved in Morocco.
16. Both officials emphasized their strong commitment to work closely together in order to further strengthen relations and cooperation between ASEAN and Morocco.
