



About the ASEAN 2026 Philippine Chairship

Navigating Our Future, Together

The Philippines assumes the ASEAN Chairship in 2026 at a defining moment for the region. Home to nearly 700 million people and the world's 5th largest economy, ASEAN stands at the crossroads of unprecedented opportunity and evolving global challenges. By 2030, ASEAN is poised to become the 4th largest economy in the world—a powerful testament to the strength of its cooperation, diversity, and shared aspirations.

As Chair, the Philippines embraces this responsibility with resolve and vision. Guided by the theme **“Navigating Our Future, Together,”** the 2026 Chairship reflects the Philippines' commitment to leading ASEAN with unity, clarity, and purpose. It is a call to steer our region toward greater resilience, deeper connection, and meaningful change that places our people at the center of progress.

Rooted in ASEAN's founding values of peace, stability, and inclusive growth, the Philippines' Chairship is shaped by three strategic priorities:

- 1. Peace and Security Anchors** : Championing peace and regional stability through dialogue, adherence to international law, and strengthened cooperation on emerging and non-traditional security threats.
- 2. Prosperity Corridors** : Building systemic connections towards a shared prosperity through economic integration, digital transformation, and inclusive and sustainable development that benefits all ASEAN peoples.
- 3. People Empowerment** : Empowering ASEAN's people by fostering social inclusion, protecting vulnerable groups, and promoting a sense of shared identity and community.

Together, these priorities serve as our compass—anchoring our decisions, guiding our initiatives, and shaping a future where peace, prosperity, and people are not only aspirations, but enduring foundations of the ASEAN community.

This Chairship also coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), a timely opportunity to reaffirm ASEAN's founding principles and collective vision.

As we confront the future, the Philippines invites all Member States and partners to walk this path not apart, but side by side. Because the only way to truly move forward is by navigating our future, together.

