

ASEAN STATEMENT ON COLLABORATION AND NETWORK OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ASEAN

WE, the Heads of Civil Service of Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

RECALLING the fulfillment of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 requires the full integration of ASEAN goals and principles at all levels of government and society by all ASEAN Member States, particularly encouraging local governments to take a more active role in its realisation;

RECOGNISING that good governance is at the heart of the Strategic Plans of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 which can be achieved by ensuring the full and effective implementation of agreed areas of cooperation to enhance good governance within the ASEAN Community, including the improvement of the professional skills and the strengthening of ethics and leadership of public entities on good governance;

ACKNOWLEDGING that cooperation in the area of good governance will allow greater access to capacity development for local governments and civil servants and the free flow of ideas, knowledge, expertise, and skills, enabling local governments in ASEAN Member States to develop responsive programmes, share best practices, and anticipate their constituents' needs in an ever-globalising environment;

REAFFIRMING ACCSM's commitment and cooperation to realise good governance and strengthen the capacities of local administrations on promoting the rule of law as well as enhancing administrative effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency, through policy dialogue and capacity building activities;

DO HEREBY AGREE TO ENDEAVOUR TO:

1. Facilitate and strengthen collaboration and networking among local governments across the region for knowledge sharing and capacity building in line with their role as an active driver of community development and ASEAN integration;
2. Advance capacity building for local government officials to continuously provide vital public services, drive national and social development, efficiently manage public resources, anticipate future changes, and manage evolving relationships between the government and the people;
3. Promote good governance and effective public service delivery through knowledge exchange among ASEAN Member States, including training, policy dialogue, expert meeting, study, research, benchmarking, and sharing of best practices among local governments across the region.

WE task the ACCSM Senior Officials' Meeting (ACCSM SOM) to undertake the necessary efforts towards the effective implementation of the proposed initiatives contained in this Statement through concrete follow-up activities in the ACCSM Work Plan 2026-2030.

ADOPTED on this Thirtieth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Six, in a single original copy in the English language.