ADOPTED

ASEAN LEADERS' DECLARATION ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF SPACE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION COOPERATION

(Short title)
ASEAN Declaration on Space Cooperation

WE, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) namely Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, gathered in Manila, Philippines on the occasion of the 49th ASEAN Summit, on 15 November 2026;

REAFFIRMING our shared commitment to the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and its respective Strategic Plans, including the AEC Strategic Plan 2026–2030, which calls for accelerating advancement in space technology through research and capacity development in geoinformatics, satellites and other applications;

MINDFUL OF the diverse levels of development, technological readiness, institutional capacities, and space capabilities among ASEAN Member States, and REAFFIRMING our commitment to ensuring that no ASEAN Member State is left behind in advancing space science, technology and innovation through equitable cooperation, capacity building, knowledge sharing, and mutual support;

RECOGNISING the critical work of the ASEAN Committee on Science, Technology, and Innovation (COSTI) and Sub-Committee on Earth, Ocean and Space Science (SC-EOSS), as well as the progress made under the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2026-2035;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the principles of innovation, as articulated in the ASEAN Declaration on Innovation, serve as a foundation in efforts to leverage space science, technology, innovation and its application (SSTIA) for sustainable development, disaster resilience, and socio-economic empowerment in the ASEAN region;

RECOGNISING the transformative role of SSTIA in fostering inclusive, resilient, sustainable and innovative societies, driving economic development, and safeguarding the environment, including the emergence of outer space as a unifying frontier for humanity—one that advances peace, prosperity, and sustainability while enhancing ASEAN's global relevance and competitiveness;

RESPONSIVE and resilient to the increasing risks and rapid changes induced by climate change and the evolving regional and global landscape, including those brought by the Fourth Industrial Revolution, there is an urgent need to reaffirm for

stronger cooperation among ASEAN Member States (AMS) in advancing Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) to ensure a future-ready and inclusive approach to space technology development and utilisation;

ACKNOWLEDGING that outer space activities themselves may have environmental and climate impacts on Earth's atmosphere, ecosystems, and long-term sustainability, requiring careful assessment, transparency, and mitigation in line with international norms;

BEARING IN MIND the growing participation of developing economies in the space domain, the rise of new space agencies, and the increasing collaboration across public, private, and academic institutions and the need to uphold existing international space laws, norms and cooperative mechanisms to promote the responsible, and peaceful uses of outer space, fostering innovation, and contributing to sustainable development;

OBSERVING the rapid advancement of global space activities and the growing relevance of space in security, economy, environment, workforce development, and innovation;

COGNIZANT of the need for effective policies and laws that support a competitive, innovative, inclusive, and dynamic ASEAN in outer space activities.

HEREBY DECLARE TO:

1. **MAXIMISE** the opportunities and benefits from the present and future initiatives of ASEAN Member States in SSTIA;

2. **AGREE** to intensify regional and international cooperation in space safety and security, space economy, and space workforce, that would promote an inclusive, peaceful, responsible, safe, secure, and sustainable outer space environment;

3. **PROMOTE** the development of technologies and measures that minimize the potential environmental impact of manufacturing and launching space assets, including launch emissions, orbital debris reentry, and life-cycle effects of space systems. Maximize the use of renewable resources and the reusability or repurposing of space assets as integral to the long-term sustainability of those activities

4. **CONTINUE** to cooperate among ASEAN Member States on space situational awareness and space traffic management project, including by exploring the formulation of the Space Traffic Coordination Framework, under the SC-EOSS that would prevent accidents and hazards both in earth and outer space;

5. **PROMOTE** the development of space infrastructure that will improve the capacity of ASEAN Member States to generate, exchange, and utilise vital

space data to address common challenges and create opportunities in the region;

6. **ENHANCE** regional cooperation in times of natural or man-made disasters through the voluntary sharing of Earth Observation data and support facilities, with a view to generating timely and relevant information to support disaster response, mitigation, and comprehensive planning;

7. **SUPPORT** the sharing of Ground System Infrastructure among ASEAN Member States, in accordance with the national laws and policies of the respective countries and with due regard to information security, data protection and the security and safety of relevant infrastructure, to enhance flexibility and responsiveness in satellite operations;

8. **FOSTER** a dynamic intra-ASEAN policy environment that will enable and broaden a competitive and vibrant regional space economy;

9. **SUPPORT** the promotion of the regional space industry, including space-based products and services developed by entities in the region, while respecting intellectual property rights and legitimate commercial interests, in accordance with the respective national laws and policies of ASEAN Member States;

10. **COMMIT** to raising public awareness and education on SSTIA to foster greater interest and involvement among ASEAN youth and its citizens, nurturing a knowledgeable workforce ready to contribute to sustainable space activities;

11. **ENCOURAGE** the utilisation of existing regional network platform, ASEAN Research and Training Center for Space Technology and Applications (ARSTA) and other applicable relevant centres and facilities of ASEAN Member States for joint research and development, fellowships, capacity-building, and technical cooperation for both upstream and downstream applications to address challenges and strengthen space capabilities among ASEAN Member States;

12. **PROMOTE** technology transfer, knowledge transfer, and joint development among ASEAN Member States through long-term partnerships in order to advance their self-reliance in space science, technology and innovation, in accordance with their respective national laws and policies;

13. **STRENGTHEN** cooperation between ASEAN and external partners for a mutually beneficial relationship while consistently upholding ASEAN Centrality in this collaborative endeavor;

14. **LAY** the groundwork to explore a unified multisectoral framework to strengthen space cooperation among AMS;

15. **DEVELOP** an ASEAN Space Cooperation roadmap towards stronger regional cooperation in outer space, with clear strategic objectives, measurable targets, implementation timelines, monitoring, and evaluation mechanisms, under the auspices of ASEAN COSTI and the SC-EOSS, in coordination with relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies and ASEAN-led mechanisms, including through the convening of relevant ASEAN meetings to explore future implementation and cooperation, aligning with the impetus for sustainable outer space for the present and future generation;

16. **ENCOURAGE** ASEAN Member States to promote and implement relevant policies that support the peaceful, responsible, safe, secure and sustainable development and exploration of outer space in accordance with international laws and treaties and, as applicable, the relevant international space treaties to which ASEAN Member States are parties; and

17. **ENCOURAGE** ASEAN Member States to consider pursuing the cooperation envisaged in this Declaration, in accordance with their respective national laws, policies, and priorities, and subject to their respective capacities and available resources.

ADOPTED in Manila, the Philippines, this Fifteenth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

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