

2011 JOINT DECLARATION FOR ENHANCING ASEAN-JAPAN STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERING TOGETHER (BALI DECLARATION)

Adopted in Bali, Indonesia on 18 November 2011

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WE, the Heads of State/ Government of Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and Japan, gathered in Bali, Indonesia on 18 November 2011, for the 14th ASEAN-Japan Summit, noted with deep satisfaction the progress achieved through our long-standing friendship and strategic partnership based on the Tokyo Declaration for the Dynamic and Enduring ASEAN-Japan Partnership in the new Millennium for the peace, stability, prosperity and development in the region and the world;

RECOGNISING the dramatic changes in the global political and economic landscape since the Tokyo Declaration of 2003, including the shift of gravity to the Asia-Pacific, where ASEAN is taking on an increasingly important role and the establishment of the East Asia Summit in 2005 and expansion of its membership to the Russian Federation and the United States of America;

ACKNOWLEDGING that one of the major developments since the Tokyo Declaration is the emergence of a more integrated, resilient and united ASEAN by the entry into force of the ASEAN Charter in 2008 and the adoption of the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on the Roadmap of the implementation of the ASEAN Community Blueprints, and showing the clear vision of building the ASEAN Community in 2015 with the three pillars – political and security, economic and socio-cultural communities;

RECOGNISING ASEAN's increasing role in promoting regional cooperation and in forging regional architecture due to its large population, economic growth and strategic importance as the hinge of the Asia-Pacific and ASEAN's strong commitment to democratic values, the rule of law and people-oriented approach reinforced ASEAN's importance as a stabilizing force in the region;

APPRECIATING the special ties between ASEAN and Japan based on "heart-to-heart" understanding, mutual trust, respect, and the principles guiding ASEAN-Japan partnership since 1973 and Japan's strong and continued commitment to support the development and integration of ASEAN, which has contributed to the development and stability of the region;

REITERATING ASEAN's strong commitment to realize the building of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and Japan's unwavering support for the ASEAN Community building process;

REAFFIRMING the commitment of ASEAN and Japan to work closely in supporting ASEAN integration and narrowing the development gap in the region, and reaffirming the support of the Government of Japan in the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, with a view to intensifying the flow of trade, investment, tourism and people-to-people interaction. The deepening and widening of connectivity in the region would reinforce ASEAN's position as the hub of East Asia region, which could further be strengthened through realising the potentials of a broader connectivity in the longer term with its partners in the wider region;

REALIZING that new opportunities in East Asia and global challenges, such as financial crisis, climate change, recurrence of natural disasters, food and energy security, demographic change, outbreak of infectious diseases, as well as transnational crimes and terrorism, require closer ASEAN-Japan partnership and cooperation;

REAFFIRMING the growing economic interdependence and potential to prosper together and the need to promote people-to-people interaction in enhancing the strategic partnership between ASEAN and Japan;

RECOGNISING peace and stability in the sea that connects ASEAN and Japan is essential for the prosperity of the region;

REITERATING our common resolve to work together and share experience and knowhow in addressing existing and emerging challenges facing ASEAN and Japan;

REITERATING ALSO ASEAN's compassion, solidarity and support to the Government and people of Japan suffering from the Great East Japan Earthquake and the support that ASEAN has extended for the early recovery and reconstruction efforts of Japan;

NOTING Japan's appreciation for the convening of the Special ASEAN-Japan Ministerial Meeting on 9 April 2011 and Japan's reconfirmation of its unwavering commitment to ASEAN Community building;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the appointment of the Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN and the establishment of the Mission of Japan to ASEAN in Jakarta have further contributed to enhancing dialogue partnership between ASEAN and Japan; and

REAFFIRMING that a strong and integrated ASEAN Community in a global community of nations would serve as a strategic anchor in East Asia to maintain peace and stability as well as to promote prosperity within the region and beyond;

NOTING the unique characteristics and contributions of various fora in the region of which ASEAN and Japan are members, and the usefulness of synergy among them, through, as appropriate, open, complementary and effective networking;

RECOGNISING the changing environment in the region and the huge potential it presents requires ASEAN and Japan to strengthen the ASEAN-Japan strategic partnership;

Hereby endorse, inter alia, the following five strategies to further enhance peace, stability and prosperity in the region

Strategy 1: strengthening political-security cooperation in the region;

Strategy 2: intensifying cooperation towards ASEAN community building;

Strategy 3: enhancing ASEAN-Japan connectivity for consolidating ties between ASEAN and Japan;

Strategy 4: creating together a more disaster-resilient society; and

Strategy 5: addressing together common regional and global challenges.

And adopt the following:

I. POLITICAL-SECURITY COOPERATION

1. Enhance cooperation through intensified consultation and joint activities based on the established principles as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and relevant international law and the principles and spirit of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia.

2. Continue to expand and deepen political and security cooperation at all levels in order to maintain regional peace and stability, to promote peaceful settlement of any disputes in the region in accordance with international law, to forge common vision and principles for the prosperity and stability in the region;
3. Reaffirm our commitment to further intensifying regional cooperation in East Asia and building a regional architecture that is open, transparent and inclusive, while Japan reaffirms its continued support for ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture, including the ASEAN Plus Three (APT), East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus), including the ADMM Plus Experts' Working Groups (EWGs) and other regional processes;
4. Promote and deepen ASEAN-Japan cooperation on maritime security and maritime safety in the region in accordance with universally-agreed principles of international law such as freedom of navigation, safety of navigation, unimpeded commerce and peaceful settlement of disputes, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and other relevant international maritime law;
5. Welcome the adoption of the Guidelines for the implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and look forward to the eventual conclusion of a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea, so as to further contribute to peace, stability, respect of freedom and safety of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea, with adherence to international law;
6. Promote cooperation in disarmament and non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery, including through strengthening export control capacity of ASEAN Member States, as well as combating the illicit transfer and trafficking of WMD related materials;
7. Cooperate in combating illegal transfer and excessive accumulation of small arms and light weapons in accordance with the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;
8. Enhance cooperation in the areas of preventing and combating nontraditional security challenges such as terrorism, trafficking in persons and other transnational crimes through the existing ASEAN-initiated mechanisms;
9. Strengthen coordination between ASEAN and Japan, namely through Japan's Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta as well as Japan's diplomatic missions in ASEAN Member States, and ASEAN's diplomatic missions in Japan;
10. Collaborate on human rights and support the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and, where appropriate, ASEAN sectoral bodies dealing with human rights, aimed at enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
11. Enhance dialogue and cooperation to promote the rule of law and democracy through, as appropriate, the Bali Democracy Forum and other fora;
12. Further promote defence and military cooperation and exchanges through bilateral and multilateral frameworks such as ADMM-Plus and the ARF.

II. ECONOMIC COOPERATION

13. Fully cooperate to substantially enhance connectivity between ASEAN and Japan by mobilizing necessary resources and take various policy measures to realise a seamless and safe ASEAN-Japan connectivity and beyond, thus increasing trade, investment and people-to-people exchange, including tourism;
14. Support enhanced ASEAN Connectivity through the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and the flagship projects along the visions of the “Vital Artery for East-West and Southern Economic Corridor” and “Maritime ASEAN Economic Corridor” as well as consider the future vision of the ASEAN connectivity plus, which would explore connectivity beyond ASEAN;
15. Enhance cooperation on infrastructure development including transportation network, which is needed to promote economic growth in the region;
16. Continue to work on the smooth implementation and facilitate the maximum utilisation of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (AJCEP), which had entered into force in December 2008 and work towards the conclusion of the negotiations on trade in services and investment;
17. Strengthen the institutional harmonization and connectivity among ASEAN Member States as a whole, such as the realization of National Single Window and the ASEAN Single Window to achieve better interface among ASEAN Member States, with Japan and beyond, proceeding with cooperation to realise the Asia Cargo Highway;
18. Work towards the simplification and, where possible, harmonisation of customs procedures in order to facilitate trade in the region;
19. Strengthen regional financial cooperation to prevent the recurrence of and to enhance the region’s resilience against potential economic and financial crisis through such initiatives as the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM);
20. Intensify cooperation in the area of information and communication technology (ICT) such as the ASEAN Smart Network by drawing up medium and long-term plans and activities on developing next generation of ICT infrastructures promoting content and innovative industries, as well as establishing an enabling policy and regulatory environment to make ASEAN an ideal region for business and investment for Japan and the world;
21. Further intensify cooperation on human resource development in support of ASEAN Community building efforts;
22. Strengthen support for the realisation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and sub-regional development to narrow the development gaps through Mekong Japan Summit, BIMP-EAGA-Japan Cooperation, and other relevant processes in ASEAN and expedite regional integration;
23. Promote ASEAN-Japan cooperation on water resources management toward sustainable use of these shared resources, which is of particular importance to livelihood and food security in the region taking into account the climate change circumstances, including through working together to develop concrete actions making use of current initiatives;

24. Enhance further cooperation to improve the capacity of ASEAN Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to expand their business opportunities and promote equitable economic development in the region towards narrowing the development gap;
25. Enhance regional energy security by strengthening cooperation on energy infrastructure, renewable energy sources and new energy technologies, boosting energy efficiency and conservation, and nuclear energy for peaceful use, including nuclear safety;
26. Strengthen cooperation on environmental protection and conservation by facilitating the green technology transfer and encouraging investment on environmental infrastructure, making use of East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership;
27. Enhance cooperation to maintain stability and food security in the region, utilizing the framework of ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) Agreement and ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS);
28. Enhance business environment and competitiveness in ASEAN through dialogues with business sector, and by completing the ASEAN-Japan 10-Year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap by the 18th AEM-METI Consultations in 2012 to realize the shared vision of a prosperous and sustainable society;
29. Create greater opportunities for trade and foreign direct investment by facilitating ASEAN and Japanese corporations through a number of initiatives, including the possibility of tapping the local markets with local currencies, leading to an increase of production capacity in ASEAN Member States and to the expansion of intra-regional trade.

III. SOCIO-CULTURAL COOPERATION

30. Enhance regional cooperation in the fields of emergency preparedness, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, through the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), through inter alia, strengthening of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), sharing experiences and lessons learned, conducting training and capacity building and establishing a comprehensive information sharing system, particularly through Japan's initiative on Disaster Management Network for the ASEAN Region;
31. Intensify cooperation toward early recovery and reconstruction efforts of Japan;
32. Deepen and broaden further cooperation on social and cultural affinities, including the development of ASEAN-Japan people networks, such as exchanges among educational and research institutes, universities, vocational training institutions, business and youth, and in this regard, welcome Japan's intention to consider implementing a new youth exchange programme, which aims to promote global understanding of Japan's revival in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake;
33. Promote joint efforts to address global challenges such as climate change, based on the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, biodiversity loss, sustainable water resource management, sustainable development and environmental protection through developing and implementing agreed initiatives and programmes by all ASEAN countries and Japan within the framework of ASEAN-Japan Dialogue on environmental cooperation;

34. Promote joint research and development programmes aimed at enhancing technology transfer including clean technology and green technology;
35. Emphasise the importance of enhancing cooperation in preserving cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, including the preservation of cultural values and norms for the benefit of future generations;
36. Promote cooperation among public information agencies, media and others, as well as harness greater use of ICT, in the effort to enhance awareness and understanding of the ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership;
37. Enhance joint efforts in strengthening health care systems to prevent the spread of trans-boundary diseases, and to promote healthy lifestyles in the region and continue to collaborate within the relevant ASEAN-Japan mechanism, ASEAN Plus Three and East Asia Summit processes to prevent and address threats of pandemic diseases, including to support the development of health care policy and laboratory capacities; and
38. Enhance cooperation for the promotion of an inclusive caring society and the development of social safety nets for vulnerable groups, namely senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

IV. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

39. Continue to enhance ASEAN-Japan policy dialogue and, where appropriate cooperation in such areas as:
 - United Nations Reform process;
 - Disarmament and non-proliferation;
 - Peaceful use of nuclear energy and nuclear safety;
 - UN Peacekeeping Operations;
 - Korean Peninsula;
 - Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
 - Climate change;
 - Biodiversity;
 - Food security and energy security;
 - Sustainable water resources management;
 - Global health;
 - Regional economic integration in East Asia;
 - WTO Doha Development Agenda;
 - International economic and financial frameworks including G20 and International Financial Institutions;

40. Recognise that the ASEAN Plus Three Summit, East Asia Summit, ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Plus and ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) are important processes to promote cooperation on areas covering the three pillars of ASEAN Community in order to attain the goals and objectives of ASEAN-Japan cooperation;
41. Promote further cooperation under the frameworks such as Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) and other relevant sub-regional cooperation schemes.
42. Deepen and expand cooperation in areas covering the three pillars of ASEAN Community to attain the goals and objectives of ASEAN-Japan cooperation as well as to complement and synergise cooperation in regional and multilateral fora;

V. INSTITUTIONAL AND FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION

43. ASEAN and Japan will implement concrete activities and flagship projects in realising the purposes of this Declaration based on the attached Plan of Action; and
44. ASEAN and Japan will work closely to ensure the timely and efficient utilisation of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) for effective coordination and implementation of this Declaration and the Plan of Action. ASEAN appreciates Japan's continued contribution to the JAIF that has served as an important instrument to promote ASEAN-Japan cooperation.