2018 ASEAN JOINT STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE TO THE 24th SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Adopted in Singapore on 13 November 2018

**WE**, the Heads of State/Government of 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 and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member States of ASEAN, on the occasion of the 33rd ASEAN Summit;

**RECALLING** previous ASEAN Joint Statements on Climate Change and ASEAN Leaders’ Statements on Climate Change to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); and

**WELCOMING** the convening of the Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Climate Action (SAMCA) and the Expanded SAMCA by Singapore, in its capacity as ASEAN Chair, on 10 July 2018, where ASEAN and the Plus Three countries engaged one another on their climate action plans, reaffirmed their commitment to the Paris Agreement and discussed ways to step up regional action to address climate change.

**NOTING** that ASEAN Member States (AMS) have reaffirmed our commitment to the UNFCCC, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC), in the light of different national circumstances, and its centrality in the Paris Agreement, by:

* Ratifying the Paris Agreement and implementing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs);
* Implementing measures to address climate change under the ASEAN Socio- Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint 2025, in alignment with the broader outcomes of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and national development priorities;
* Strengthening AMS transparency and accountability instruments for the implementation of the Paris Agreement;
* Promoting sustainable management of forests, including through the implementation of COP Decisions on Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD-plus) in developing countries, under the guidance of the Warsaw Framework for REDD-plus, as well as biodiversity conservation, protection and restoration of other ecosystems to enhance resilience and climate adaptation efforts;
* Promoting energy efficiency and conservation practices, renewable energy sources and low carbon energy technology;
* Strengthening ASEAN’s capacity in managing climate change related disaster risks through existing mechanisms under the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER);
* Engaging actively in the UNFCCC negotiations on the implementation of the Paris Agreement; and
* Initiating the establishment of an ASEAN NDC Partnership by leveraging the Global NDC Partnership.

**DO HEREBY:**

**EXPRESS** grave concern about the multi-faceted impacts of climate change throughout the ASEAN region as outlined in the Assessment Reports (AR) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and their disproportionate and adverse effects on vulnerable and marginalized groups. We **CALL UPON**

* Parties to the UNFCCC concerned to expedite their respective ratification of, or accession to the Paris Agreement in accordance with their domestic procedures;
* Parties to the UNFCCC to continue working effectively and in good faith on developing mechanisms, modalities, procedures and guidelines towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement to be adopted in COP-24/CMA-1, taking into account the principles of CBDR-RC as provided for under the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement; and
* Parties to the UNFCCC to strengthen collaboration towards long term low carbon and climate resilient development and implementation of their respective NDCs.

**WELCOME** the progress towards the finalisation of the Paris Agreement Work Programme, the Talanoa Dialogue process for the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue to evaluate progress of the implementation of and ways to achieve goal of the Paris Agreement, and the invitation from the COP Presidencies to Parties and non-Party stakeholders to organize Talanoa Dialogue at different levels (international, regional, national and local levels). We **CALL UPON**

* Developed country Parties and international/regional institutions to support the Talanoa Dialogue process at different levels, including in AMS and other developing country Parties.

**RECOGNISE** the importance of enhanced pre-2020 ambition and provision of the means of implementation by developed country Parties as the basis for the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. We **CALL UPON**

* Developed country Parties to honour and fulfil their existing mitigation commitments as well as financial support commitments of USD100 billion per year under the UNFCCC during the pre-2020 period in order to support AMS and other developing country Parties in further enhancing mitigation and adaptation efforts towards the attainment of their sustainable development; and
* Developed country Parties to enhance ambition on mitigation and provision of finance, technology development and transfer, capacity building as well as transparency of support during the pre-2020 period, in particular through the ratification by all Parties of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol, and the implementation of the outcome of the Bali Action Plan.

**EMPHASISE** that the ability of the developing country Parties to access readiness and implementation support from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) should be facilitated and ensured, given the important role the GCF and the GEF play as operating entities under the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC in supporting the enhanced implementation of the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC. We **CALL UPON**

* The GCF to facilitate and promote direct access of the fund by AMS and other developing country Parties and to accelerate the operationalisation of predictable and equitable results-based payments for REDD-plus in ASEAN, and to enhance organisational rapid-response capacity and technology transfer, noting that this assistance, together with the implementation of NDCs, can contribute significantly to the achievement of sustainable development and the global goals of the Paris Agreement; and
* The GEF to facilitate and enhance access by AMS and other developing country Parties to its resources for climate change mitigation, adaptation, reporting and technology transfer activities in support of the implementation of pre-2020 climate change actions by AMS and other developing country Parties and their post-2020 implementation of NDCs.

**STRESS** the need to strengthen support for ASEAN and other developing country Parties to implement adaptation measures including ecosystem based adaptation initiatives in the agricultural sector, recognising the important role of agriculture in ensuring food security, enhancing adaptive capacity to climate change and providing other co-benefits. We **CALL FOR**

* The rapid progress of the work of the Adaptation Fund serving the Paris Agreement in order for it to continue providing direct access funding for the adaptation efforts of AMS and other developing country Parties; and
* The timely implementation of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture which aims to address issues related to agriculture, including through workshops and expert meetings, working with constituted bodies under UNFCCC and taking into consideration the vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and approaches to addressing food security.

**UNDERSCORE** that adequate, predictable, transparent and needs-based technology development and transfer, research, capacity building and financial support in accordance with long-standing commitments by developed country Parties, as enhanced under the Paris Agreement, are needed to further scale up in a balanced manner, adaptation and mitigation efforts, and enhance awareness in the ASEAN region to contribute to global efforts led by developed country Parties to hold the average temperature rise to well below 2ºC and pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5ºC above pre-industrial level by the end of the century. We **CALL UPON**

* Developed country Parties to provide the means of implementation to AMS and other developing country Parties to enhance on-going protection and sustainable management as well as conservation of biodiversity, ecosystems and landscapes including its vulnerable terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems through an ecosystem based approach to build climate resilience and enhance adaptation of ecosystems as well as communities and livelihoods to the adverse effects of climate change, and to promote biodiversity conservation and restoration of forests, including rain forests, mangroves and peatlands;
* Developed country Parties to expedite the provision of the means of implementation in accordance with the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC, consistent with the principles of CBDR-RC, to enable AMS and other developing country Parties to pursue mitigation and adaptation regional collaboration that support the implementation of NDCs and their Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV);
* Developed country Parties to enhance support for on-going efforts to promote low- carbon and climate resilient development in AMS and other developing country Parties such as the implementation of energy efficiency and conservation practices, renewable energy sources and low carbon energy technology, early warning system to reduce the consequences of climate-related disasters, and development of effective solutions to manage waste;
* Developed country Parties to provide financial and technical assistance and capacity building to assist AMS and other developing country Parties in the implementation of climate objectives, including in addressing market-access difficulties faced by developing-country exporters;
* Developed country Parties to provide financial and technical assistance and capacity building to assist AMS and other developing country Parties in addressing loss and damage comprehensively, including risks assessment and risks management actions; and
* Developed country Parties to provide financial and technical assistance and capacity building to assist AMS and other developing country Parties in implementing the UNFCCC’s Gender Action Plan comprehensively.

Adopted in Singapore, the Thirteenth day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Eighteen.