

2015 EAST ASIA SUMMIT STATEMENT ON COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Adopted in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 22 November 2015

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation and the United States of America on the occasion of the 10th East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 22 November 2015,

RECALLING the 2014 East Asia Summit (EAS) Statement on the Rise of Violence and Brutality Committed by Terrorist/Extremist Organisations in Iraq and Syria,

WELCOMING the EAS Symposium on Religious Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration hosted by Singapore and the EAS ad hoc informal meeting on ISIL and extremist organizations convened in Jakarta on 26 April 2015,

TAKING NOTE of the process launched by the White House Summit on Countering Violent Extremism in February 2015, and the outcomes of the Sydney Regional CVE Summit in June 2015 and the Leaders' Summit on Countering ISIL and Violent Extremism held in the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015,

RECALLING the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism and the ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter Terrorism,

WELCOMING initiatives by civil society including the Content Creators' Workshop on Countering the Narrative of Violent Extremism, organised by the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation and Google in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 19 May 2015,

EXPRESSING grave concern about the spread of violent extremism and terrorism that undermines local communities and threatens peace and security, including in the Asia-Pacific region,

WELCOMING efforts to establish a centre focusing on narratives to counter terrorism at the regional level in Malaysia,

RECOGNISING that responding to the threat of terrorist groups exploiting the Internet and social media platforms to recruit and radicalise to violent extremism vulnerable individuals requires international cooperation as well as action by all tiers of government, together with civil society and the private sector,

EMPHASISING that terrorism and violent extremism should not be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization, and should be neither tolerated nor condoned,

RECOGNISING that moderation guides actions that emphasize tolerance, understanding, dialogue, mutual respect and inclusiveness, and is a core value in countering radicalism and extremism,

REAFFIRMING support for the effective implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2129 (2013), 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015), and relevant statements by the President of the Security Council (S/PRST/2014/23 and S/PRST/2015/11),

RECOGNIZING the role of governments and their competent bodies, international and regional institutions and civil society in countering violent extremism and terrorism, and in international cooperation in this field,

DO HEREBY DECIDE TO:

DENOUNCE terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations, including the spread of violent extremist ideologies and propaganda,

CONDEMN the heinous terrorist attacks in Bamako, Paris, Beirut, Ankara and against Russian aircraft over the Sinai, and elsewhere, which are an affront to all humanity, and emphasise our unshaken resolve to stand together in countering terrorism and violent extremism,

WORK to support each other's efforts to counter violent extremism, including through coordination of efforts, capacity building, and sharing of information, research, experience, best practice and lessons learned,

SUPPORT and share research and expertise drawn from both the public and private sectors that contribute to a thorough collective understanding of what drives individuals to violent extremism,

COOPERATE to counter terrorist and violent extremist ideology and propaganda, and promote positive messages of respect, inclusion and moderation, including through developing a compendium of regional counter-narratives and a regional network for civil society organisations to amplify effective messages across the region and to foster peer-to-peer learning,

INVEST in enhancing the ability of communities and individuals to challenge terrorist propaganda, including building technical capacity and capability of grass roots organisations, community leaders and people with influence to promote non-extremist messages that resonate with vulnerable individuals,

PROMOTE the role of education in building resilience against violent extremism, through fostering respect for different cultures and beliefs and providing opportunities for social and economic inclusion, given that violent extremist propaganda often targets youth,

EMPOWER youth, women, families, religious, cultural and education leaders, and community groups to amplify alternative messages of respect, inclusiveness, social cohesion, diversity and moderation,

WORK closely with the private sector, particularly the media and technology sectors, to support and promote government and civil society efforts to build resilience in communities and prevent the process of radicalisation to violent extremism, particularly online,

DEVELOP and implement comprehensive strategies, to counter violent extremism that include non-legislative, legislative and law enforcement responses to the threat, including efforts to address the underlying conditions that are conducive to the spread of violent extremism,

CALL for the promotion of religious tolerance, mutual understanding and interfaith dialogue to build integrated and inclusive societies,

CONTINUE to work with the United Nations and other international and regional institutions, including the UN's Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism, Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation and the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation to counter terrorism and violent extremism.

Adopted at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, this Twenty-Second Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen at the 10th East Asia Summit.