

2019 ASEAN DECLARATION ON INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMATION TO INDUSTRY 4.0

Adopted in Bangkok, Thailand on 2 November 2019

WE, the Heads of State/Government representing the peoples of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as 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, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, on the occasion of the 35th ASEAN Summit in Bangkok, Thailand:

GUIDED by the purposes and principles enshrined in the ASEAN Vision 2025 Community and the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint 2025 that consolidate our community, building upon and deepening the integration process to enhance a people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN Community, where our peoples enjoy higher quality of life and the benefits of community building, reinforcing our sense of togetherness and common identity;

INSPIRED by the recognition at the 30th ASEAN Summit 2017 in Manila, where we recognized the need for ASEAN to be well-prepared and able to maximize the opportunities from the Fourth Industrial Revolution (Industry 4.0), so as to foster the region's economic growth, and promote inclusive and equitable economic development, as well as to maintain ASEAN centrality and affirm its role as a key player in global production networks;

EMPHASISING the importance of cooperation within the ASEAN community: in achieving a politically cohesive, economically integrated and socially responsible society, empowering and driving robust regional growth and building immunity against the impact of global transformative change;

REAFFIRMING the importance of preparing for the future by utilizing advanced technologies to develop ASEAN industries taking into account different levels of development to maintain the momentum of building inclusive growth as well as an ASEAN community that leaves no one behind;

COGNISANT of the ASEAN-centred regional trade architecture and its interdependence with various international communities including the fact that over 70 percent of ASEAN's trade is with countries outside the region and that our growing Internet Economy is estimated to reach US\$ 200 billion by 2025; in order to preserve the dynamic growth and economic prosperity of ASEAN Member States, we agree to promote digital value chain connectivity for the empowerment of enterprises especially Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to access the regional and global market as well as facilitate ASEAN's industrial transformation to Industry 4.0 in order to achieve sustainable development;

REALIZING the importance of fostering industrial collaboration among ASEAN Member States, through developing and enhancing mechanisms to enhance the preparedness of the ASEAN peoples including MSMEs, youth, academia, research institutes and workforce in the face of Industry 4.0 as well as to deal with its impact on economic, social and political security;

DESIRING to create a prosperous and equitable ASEAN community by embracing innovation and digital technologies in Industry 4.0 to accelerate economic growth and social advancement;

DO HEREBY DECLARE TO:

FIRST, intensify engagement and interaction among ASEAN Member States in existing dialogues/fora as well as to explore the possibility of establishing new mechanisms and open platforms to support government, academia and industry to provide a comprehensive range of support, including promoting digital value chain connectivity, to accelerate ASEAN transformation to Industry 4.0, with special focus on Start-ups, MSMEs, e-Government, Smart Cities, and Vocational Educations.

SECOND, enhance human resource development and capacity building to catch up on frontier technologies and innovation in relation to smart factories, digital value chains and digital literacy by focusing on the up-skilling and re-skilling of the workforce including MSMEs.

THIRD, stimulate adoption and diffusion of innovation and technologies involving Industry 4.0 such as Internet of Things (IoT), Big data and Cloud-based Technology, Artificial Intelligence, Augmented Reality and Additive Manufacturing (3D printing) through joint researches, investments, and development activities, and through the sharing of information, experience and best practices on formulating and implementing policies, especially innovation system policies and mechanisms to promote Industry 4.0.

FOURTH, reaffirm commitments to advance Industry 4.0 through: an ASEAN consolidated strategy on the Fourth Industrial Revolution, with emphasis on promoting innovation and technology-driven industries.

FIFTH, enhance cooperation in developing a favorable regulatory framework in support of ASEAN Industrial Transformation to Industry 4.0 by strengthening public and private dialogues, collaborating with international organizations, promoting and facilitating the conformance and certification of digital standards, facilitating cross-border data flows and developing a common platform on industrial statistic linkage through employing digital technologies such as Big Data and Artificial Intelligence.

SIXTH, address the challenges impeding ASEAN industrial advancement and the solutions to address these challenges.

DONE in Bangkok on the 2nd of November in the Year Two Thousand and Nineteen.