

2022 ASEAN LEADERS' STATEMENT ON ASEAN CONNECTIVITY POST-2025 AGENDA

Adopted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 11 November 2022

WE, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), namely Brunei Darussalam, 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 40th ASEAN Summit;

REAFFIRMING the ASEAN Community Vision 2025: Forging Ahead Together, Vientiane Declaration on the Adoption of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025, and the Ha Noi Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post 2025 Vision;

RECOGNISING the opportunities and challenges presented by the emergence and implications of mega-trends, together with the rapidly changing global and regional landscapes, as well as growing interests from external partners to engage and develop stronger cooperation on connectivity with ASEAN;

COGNISANT of the impacts of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and ASEAN's collective response to achieve a robust, resilient and comprehensive recovery for the peoples of ASEAN;

UNDERSCORING the importance of enhancing ASEAN Connectivity in promoting cross-pillar and cross-sectoral cooperation, and bringing maximum benefits to all ASEAN Member States by improving physical, institutional and people-to-people linkages, and strengthening resilience across the three pillars of the ASEAN Community;

ACKNOWLEDGING the achievements and ongoing efforts under the MPAC 2025 and its predecessor in supporting the ASEAN Community-building process and the implementation of the ASEAN Smart Cities Framework, the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and its Implementation Plan, and the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific to strengthen the region's competitiveness, recover better from the COVID-19 pandemic and build resilience to address growing challenges and transform socio-economic outcomes in ASEAN;

EXPRESSING appreciation to the work of ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC), Lead Implementing Bodies, relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, National Coordinators and National Focal Points, as well as for the support provided by our Dialogue Partners and external parties in implementing the MPAC 2025 and their continued interest to partner with ASEAN in achieving the goals of ASEAN Connectivity 2025 and beyond;

DETERMINED to foster a caring and sharing, peaceful, prosperous and seamlessly connected ASEAN Community, thereby securing a future ready ASEAN, in line with Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship priorities and deliverables under the theme "ASEAN A.C.T.: Addressing Challenges Together";

DO HEREBY:

1. **ENHANCE** ASEAN Connectivity by evaluating MPAC 2025 and advancing ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda;
2. **RESOLVE** that ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 shall promote people-centred and people-oriented approaches, sustainable development, regional integration, and future-oriented policies, including

climate resilient and sustainable infrastructure, smart cities, digital transformation, supply chain connectivity and resilience, energy transition and green growth, support for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), as well as effective partnerships with enhanced institutional capacity to strengthen people-to-people linkages, harness the connectivity opportunities and address the challenges together;

3. **WELCOME** the work of the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision on core elements of ASEAN Connectivity as an integral part of the ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision and its attendant documents;
4. **AGREE** that the development of an ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda shall be carried out with a whole-of-Community approach in a comprehensive, pragmatic, participatory, inclusive, responsive, coherent and coordinated manner, towards synergising and complementing connectivity efforts across sectors, ASEAN Community pillars as well as those within and beyond the region, including through sub-regional cooperation frameworks, the "Connecting the Connectivities" approach, and initiatives to implement ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific, to fully harness the benefits of connectivity;
5. **CALL ON** ASEAN Community Councils and all relevant ASEAN Sectoral Ministerial Bodies to contribute to the development of ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda, building upon the achievements, past lessons and opportunities in the implementation of the MPAC 2025, ASEAN Community Blueprints 2025 and ASEAN sectoral plans, as well as taking into consideration current and emerging connectivity trends and priorities, activities and projects at the sub-regional, regional and global levels;
6. **STRENGTHEN** the engagement with private sectors, international and regional organisations, relevant stakeholders, and external partners, to support the implementation of MPAC 2025 and the development of ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda and its implementation; and
7. **TASK** the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC), in coordination with ASEAN Community Councils, to oversee the development of ASEAN Connectivity Post2025 Agenda that would be aligned with the development of ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision.

ADOPTED in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, on the Eleventh of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Two, in a single original copy in the English language.