

# 2022 ASEAN DECLARATION ON FOSTERING ASEAN IDENTITY THROUGH THE SAFEGUARDING OF TRADITIONAL SPORTS AND GAMES IN THE MODERN WORLD

*Adopted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 11 November 2022*

**WE**, 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 (Lao PDR), 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, met at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits in Phnom Penh on 11 November 2022;

**ACKNOWLEDGE** Traditional Sports and Games (TSG) as vehicles for cultural heritage promotion and dissemination, intercultural dialogue, as well as social inclusion and cohesion;

**REAFFIRMING** the importance of cooperation towards an ASEAN Community that is aware and proud of its identity, culture, and heritage with strengthened ability to innovate and proactively contribute to the global community;

**RECOGNISING** the contribution of TSG—as a shared heritage and tool to promote positive principles and values—to ASEAN Community-building, the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and other relevant global development frameworks that are in line with the Kazan Action Plan;

**RECALLING** the Narrative of ASEAN Identity adopted at the 37th ASEAN Summit and our commitment in the ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on the ASEAN Cultural Year 2019 to promote appreciation for ASEAN culture, respect for diversity and a greater sense of ASEAN identity by showcasing ASEAN culture in global framework;

**REITERATING** our commitment at the 19th ASEAN Summit to enhance cooperation in sports and sports-related activities to promote healthier lifestyles among the citizens of ASEAN Member States and strengthen people-to-people exchange in the ASEAN Community-building;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the role of youth as practitioners and inheritors of TSG as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, and the value of TSG as a means for skills building among the youth to enhance positive socio-cultural and economic outcomes towards fostering a dynamic ASEAN Identity;

**NOTING** the commitment of the 2013 Vientiane Declaration on Sports Cooperation in ASEAN to sustain the contribution of the ASEAN sports industry in enhancing the socio-economic development of ASEAN and the Post-2020 Vision Statement of ASEAN Sports Cooperation to strengthen cooperation towards an active ASEAN Community where sports serve an essential means in advancing socio-cultural development and promoting peace;

**WELCOMING** the priority of the ASEAN sports cooperation in promoting ASEAN Awareness and Culture through regional sports exchange programmes and major sports events;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the significance of safeguarding and promoting TSG in the modern world to foster ASEAN Identity and celebrate cultural diversity towards a dynamic ASEAN Community;

**MINDFUL** of the increasingly digitalised and technology-enabled ASEAN Community, which presents opportunities to increase our outreach in promoting the richness of TSG culture across the region;

**DO HEREBY AGREE TO:**

1. **PRESERVE** and **PROMOTE** ASEAN TSG at local, national, and regional levels;
2. **SUPPORT** the role of relevant national committees, sectoral bodies, and the potential of establishing a regional committee to work on the preservation and promotion of TSG;
3. **DELIBERATE** and **CONSIDER** the inclusion of more ASEAN TSG in major ASEAN sporting events;
4. **LEVERAGE** TSG as a tool to promote sports industry in the region including in and through sports and cultural festivals;
5. **CONSIDER** the innovative use of information and communications technology in the preservation and promotion of ASEAN TSG, including the engagement of ASEAN youth, media, volunteers, private sectors, and other stakeholders to support ASEAN TSG and enhancing awareness on its role in ASEAN Community-building;
6. **TASK** the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports (AMMS), with the support of the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Sports (SOMS), and other relevant ASEAN Sectoral Ministerial Bodies to preserve and promote TSG at local, national, and regional levels to meet the ASEAN Motto: *One Vision, One Identity, One Community* by:
  - a. Developing a strategic plan of action to safeguard TSG across ASEAN Member States, as well as guidelines, tools and mechanisms to encourage multi-stakeholder participation and guide ASEAN Member States in the preservation and promotion of TSG;
  - b. Promoting knowledge on TSG in ASEAN to guide national and regional policies on preserving and promoting TSG through collaboration with key partners, such as think tanks on conducting research and regional studies;
  - c. Mobilising more resources to enhance awareness and understanding on the contribution of TSG to ASEAN Community-building;
  - d. Encouraging and undertaking more dialogues with relevant stakeholders on the possibility of including more ASEAN TSG in major ASEAN sporting events and festivals;
  - e. Organising workshops, dialogues, and youth engagement activities to promote awareness on ASEAN TSG in ASEAN Community-building and advocate for the preservation and promotion of ASEAN TSG at national and regional levels;
  - f. Promoting the role of TSG in fostering peace, intercultural dialogue, and social cohesion as well as exchanges at community and national levels and encourage youth-led TSG activities to promote our shared Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in different settings and communities; and
  - g. Exploring the possibility of incorporating ASEAN TSG into ASEAN Member States' school curriculum.

**ADOPTED** in Phnom Penh, on this Eleventh Day of November in the year Two Thousand Twenty Two in a single original copy, in the English language.