

2023 JOINT STATEMENT OF ASEAN AND RUSSIA FOREIGN MINISTERS ON THE OCCASION OF THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF ASEAN-RUSSIA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Issued in Jakarta, Indonesia on 13 July 2023

WE, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Russian Federation, met in Jakarta, Indonesia on 13 July 2023 for the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) 10+1 Session and to mark the year of the 5th anniversary of ASEAN-Russia Strategic Partnership.

RECALLING the Joint Declaration of the Heads of State/Government of the Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Head of State of the Russian Federation on Progressive and Comprehensive Partnership adopted in 2005, the Joint Statement of the 3rd ASEAN-Russian Federation Summit on Strategic Partnership adopted in 2018, and the Joint Statement of the 4th ASEAN-Russia Summit: Building a Peaceful, Stable and Sustainable Region adopted in 2021, which laid down a foundation for the strategic partnership between ASEAN and the Russian Federation, contributing to peace, stability, and sustainable development in the region.

REAFFIRMING the importance of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the ASEAN Charter, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations as well as universally recognised principles of international law to promote peace, stability, prosperity, and cooperation in the region

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of ASEAN Centrality and unity in the evolving regional architecture in the Asia-Pacific built upon ASEAN-led mechanisms with ASEAN as the driving force, and based on international law and the principles of openness, transparency, inclusivity, mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality, trust and mutual benefit.

UNDERLINING the importance of the areas of cooperation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP), which are inclusive in nature, and aimed to guide cooperation of ASEAN in the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean region, and to generate momentum for win-win cooperation and to strengthen existing ASEAN-led mechanisms while not creating new mechanisms or replacing existing ones.

REVIEWING the achievements of ASEAN-Russia Strategic Partnership made over the past five years and noted the significant contribution of the ASEAN-Russia relations to the ASEAN integration and Community building process across the three pillars in political-security, economic and socio-cultural spheres.

NOTING the continued implementation of the Comprehensive Plan of Action to Implement ASEAN-Russia Strategic Partnership (2021-2025), in particular launching of ASEAN-Russia Consultations of the High Representatives for Security Issues, successful start of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue on ICT Security-related Issues in 2021, the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus Experts' Working Group on Counter-Terrorism for the 2021-2023 cycle, and the successful holding of ASEAN-Russia Year of Scientific and Technical Cooperation (2022) and elevation of ASEAN-Russia Tourism Consultations to the ministerial level, including to implement the ASEAN-Russia Federation Tourism Work Plan 2022-2024.

We hereby agree on the following to promote the strategic partnership between ASEAN and the Russian Federation:

1. Continue ASEAN-Russia progressive and comprehensive dialogue and cooperation through ASEAN-Russia Summits, ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with Russia, ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials' Meeting, and deepen cooperation between ASEAN and Russia in the framework of ASEAN-led mechanisms, in particular the East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus);
2. Enhance strategic trust through support for ASEAN's efforts to implement the four areas of cooperation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo Pacific (AOIP) through existing ASEAN mechanisms;
3. Advance constructive cooperation at the United Nations and its various specialised agencies with a view to upholding universally recognised principles of international law and the purposes and principles of the UN Charter;
4. Highlight the importance of adhering to the principles of international law and the UN Charter, including self-determination, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the renunciation of the threat of use of force or use of force;
5. Strengthen cooperation in combating terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, transnational crime and illicit drug trafficking through the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC Plus Russia Consultation) and the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD) Plus Russia Consultation guided, respectively, by the Statement of ASEAN and Russia Ministers of Foreign Affairs on Joint Efforts to Counter International Terrorism adopted in 2017 and the Statement of ASEAN and the Russian Federation on Cooperation against Illicit Drugs Trafficking adopted at the 4th ASEAN-Russia Summit in 2021;
6. Promote cooperation and encourage joint initiatives on security of and in the use of ICTs within the framework of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue on ICT Security-Related Issues in accordance with the Statement of ASEAN and the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the Field of Security of and in the Use of Information and Communication Technologies adopted in 2018;
7. Enhance regional food security, promote relevant sectoral cooperation and new projects under the Work Programme for the ASEAN-Russia Cooperation on Agriculture and Food Security (2021-2025) to contribute to building agriculture and food systems in Southeast Asia to achieve long term resilience against current and future crises and economic uncertainties, support ASEAN's efforts in ensuring food security, including by advancing and encouraging unimpeded trade and flow of foodstuffs and exploring food security cooperation in the areas of trade, finance, and transport;
8. Ensure maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation and overflight and unimpeded commerce. Promote self-restraint, non-use of force or the threat to use force and the resolution of dispute through peaceful means in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including as stated in the United Nations Charter, the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the relevant Standards and Recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and relevant instruments and conventions of the International Maritime Organization (IMO);
9. Facilitate cooperation in the field of energy security and sustainability, including through implementation of the ASEAN-Russia Work Plan on Energy Cooperation (2023-2025);

10. Endeavour to effectively implement the revised ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Cooperation Roadmap and ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Work Programme (2021-2025) aimed at increasing trade and investment opportunities and facilitating ASEAN-Russia business ties, in particular between micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), as well as coordinating efforts for economic growth in line with the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025;
11. Promote further ASEAN-Russia practical cooperation and sustainable growth in the areas of economy, maritime domain, connectivity, achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development under the Comprehensive Plan of Action to Implement the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Russian Federation Strategic Partnership (2021-2025) and in accordance with ASEAN Community Blueprints 2025, Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025, IAI Work Plan IV (2021-2025) and ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific;
12. Strengthen cooperation in the digital economy, including through the exchange of best practices and ideas on harnessing the potential of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and smart manufacturing built upon the outcome of the 2023 ASEAN Digital Senior Officials' Meeting and ASEAN Telecommunications Regulators' Council (ADGSOM-ATRC) Sideline Meeting with Russia held in Ha Noi in June 2023;
13. Support sustainable economic recovery in the region and explore practical cooperation to facilitate the promotion of people-to-people connectivity between ASEAN and Russia;
14. Strengthen cooperation in disaster management in areas that have been agreed under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ASEAN and the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the Field of Disaster Management signed in 2021;
15. Promote cooperation in the areas of environment, climate change, and biodiversity through, among others, working with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity and explore possibilities of working with the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change, once it is established;
16. Explore possible practical cooperation on issues of mutual interest between ASEAN and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) based on Memorandum of Understanding between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Eurasian Economic Commission on Economic Cooperation signed in 2018, and ASEAN and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) based on Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariat of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Secretariat of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization signed in 2005, which could contribute to cross-regional cooperation;
17. Enhance cooperation in pandemic preparedness and response, including through scientific research, exchange of information and technical expertise, epidemic surveillance and forecasting of epidemiological situation with a view to establishing an ASEAN-Russia expert mechanism on public health emergencies in accordance with the Statement of the Special ASEAN-Russia Foreign Ministers' Meeting on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) adopted in 2020 and ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework;
18. Encourage new joint initiatives among the think tanks, research and higher education institutes to promote science, education technology and innovation development under the ASEAN-Russia Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (2016-2025). Implement the ASEAN-Russia Plan of Action on Education (2022-2026) to strengthen cooperation in education between ASEAN and Russia;

19. Explore ASEAN-Russia city-to-city partnerships under ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) by fostering exchanges of best practices and capacity-building to help build cities that are resilient, innovative, well-connected and technologically advanced.¹

¹ A typographical error in the original text on the ASEAN Secretariat website uses a semi-colon instead of a full stop at the end of paragraph 19.