

2023 CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE 11TH ASEAN-UNITED STATES SUMMIT

Adopted in Jakarta, Indonesia on 6 September 2023

1. The 11th ASEAN-United States (U.S.) Summit was held on 6 September 2023 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Summit was chaired by H.E. Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia. The Summit was attended by ASEAN Member States, the Honorable Kamala Harris, Vice President of the United States of America as well as Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste as an Observer. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance.
2. We reiterated our support for Indonesia's ASEAN Chairmanship under the theme "ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth", which aims to strengthen ASEAN as an organisation that is robust and agile, equipped with the strengthened capacity and institutional effectiveness to address today's challenges and to remain relevant for its people, the region and the world while continuing to serve as the region's epicentre of growth and prosperity. We congratulated Indonesia for the successful convening of the 56th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) and Related Meetings from 11 to 14 July 2023 in Jakarta, Indonesia.
3. We reaffirmed our shared commitment to continue strengthening the ASEAN-U.S. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP), which plays a significant role in maintaining peace, security, stability and prosperity in the region. We noted the progress made in the third year of the ASEAN-U.S. Plan of Action (2021-2025) and looked forward to its full implementation. We welcomed the adoption of the Annex to the ASEAN-U.S. Plan of Action (2021-2025) at the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with the United States on 14 July 2023, which has incorporated new initiatives to be implemented by ASEAN and the United States under the CSP. We also shared the view that the future of the ASEAN-U.S. CSP is meaningful, substantive, and mutually beneficial, building on the sustained commitment, mutual interests and values and the enduring goodwill of all sides. We welcomed the U.S.' continued commitment and support for ASEAN Community building efforts and ASEAN Centrality in a regional architecture that is open, transparent, inclusive, upholds international law, and built upon ASEAN-led mechanisms.
4. We are committed to the establishment of the ASEAN-U.S. Center in the United States. We acknowledged the Concept Note on the Establishment of the ASEAN-U.S. Center and continue to finalize the preparation with a view to launch the Center by 2024 which would serve to promote the interests of both sides.
5. We also welcomed U.S. support for ASEAN Centrality and principles of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP). In this spirit, we hereby adopt the ASEAN-U.S. Leaders' Statement on Cooperation on the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific, with a view to enhancing our cooperation in the four priority areas under the AOIP within ASEAN-led mechanisms to promote cooperation, peace, security, stability, and robust, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable development and growth in the region.
6. Towards this end, we welcomed U.S.' support and active contribution to the ASEAN-Indo-Pacific Forum: Implementation of the AOIP held in Jakarta, on 5-6 September 2023.

7. We welcomed the progress of ASEAN-U.S. engagement and cooperation on climate and environment, energy, health, transportation, and gender equality and women's empowerment. We discussed a broad range of critical issues, including post-pandemic recovery efforts; the climate crisis; clean energy transition; integrated electric vehicle ecosystems; sustainable and climate-resilient infrastructure; digitalisation; access to education; maritime cooperation; and sustainable development. We looked forward to enhancing concrete cooperation in these areas.
8. We welcomed the U.S. continued constructive role in promoting dialogue for regional peace, security and stability through its participation in various ASEAN-led mechanisms, such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus), the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) as well as the ASEAN Plus U.S. Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC + U.S.) Consultation. We also welcomed the U.S.' co-chairmanship for the ARF Inter-Sessional Year (ISY) 2023-2024 in of the 20th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting (ISM) on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime alongside the Philippines and Bangladesh; the 15th ARF ISM on Maritime Security alongside Indonesia and India; and the 15th ARF ISM on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament alongside Thailand and Sri Lanka. We commended the U.S.' active participation in the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups (EWGs), including through their co-chairmanship with Thailand for the EWG on Maritime Security in the 2021-2024 cycle and with Indonesia for the EWG on Military Medicine in the 2024-2027 cycle. We also looked forward to convening the ASEAN-U.S. Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting in November 2023 in Jakarta and launching the Emerging Defence Leaders Fellowship Program in 2024. We welcomed the adoption of the renewed SOMTC + U.S. Work Plan on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime (2023-2026) and effective implementation of the Work Plan, which covered five priority areas, namely, trafficking in persons (TIP); cybercrime; illicit drug trafficking; terrorism; and illicit trafficking of wildlife and timber (ITWT).
9. Acknowledging that the United States is ASEAN's largest source of foreign direct investment, we welcomed the continued positive development of economic relations between ASEAN and the United States as the global economy recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, and as we navigate through shared concerns about geopolitical tension risks to global food and energy security, supply chains, and price stability due to the impact of the pandemic and ongoing military conflicts. We reiterated our commitment to deepening ASEAN-U.S. economic ties, including through the implementation of the ASEAN-U.S. Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA) and the Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) Initiative Work Plan, U.S.-ASEAN Connect, as well as through dialogue and engagement among the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), and with the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council (U.S.-ABC).
10. We welcomed the 2023-2024 ASEAN-U.S. TIFA and E3 Work Plan, which will continue cooperation on the digital economy, Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) development, trade facilitation, intellectual property rights, sustainability, good regulatory practices, labor, and agriculture. We expressed appreciation for the work of USAID's Inclusive Growth in ASEAN through Innovation, Trade and E-Commerce (IGNITE) in supporting the implementation of various economic cooperation activities under the ASEAN-U.S. TIFA and E3 Work Plan, including the operation of the ASEAN Single Window (ASW), review of the ASEAN Digital Integration Framework Action Plan (DIFAP), development the ASEAN Digital Integration Index (ADII 2.0), and support to a regional learning platform for ASEAN MSMEs through the online ASEAN SME Academy. We also acknowledged and appreciated the role of USAID in expanding ASEAN-U.S. engagement in strengthening gender equality and women's empowerment through various initiatives that support women-led MSMEs.

11. We welcomed U.S.' support for enhanced regional connectivity through advancing the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 and looked forward to exploring synergies between the MPAC 2025 and U.S. connectivity initiatives in line with the "Connecting the Connectivities" approach. We also appreciated the support of the U.S. in bridging the digital divide and ICT development gaps within ASEAN, and promoting the development of a secure, resilient and innovative 5G ecosystem and networks. We welcomed enhanced collaboration on digital infrastructures and e-commerce, particularly for our MSMEs.
12. We commended the signing of the MOU between the ASEAN Center for Energy and USAID's Southeast Asia Smart Power Program (SPP) in June 2023 at the 41st Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) that will support the ASEAN Power Grid, as well as strengthen the region's power system by boosting regional energy trade and accelerating the deployment of clean energy technologies.
13. We appreciated U.S.' support for implementation of initiatives under ASEAN-U.S. Transport Cooperation Work Plan 2022-2025, in particular for the assistance in conducting the ongoing study to develop policy recommendations to improve Electric Vehicle (EV) infrastructure and charging stations in ASEAN to support adoption of EV and decarbonisation of land transport sector in the region.
14. We also welcomed initiatives on the Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership (DCCP) and the U.S.-ASEAN Connect Digital Economy Series, as well as U.S.' support for the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence and the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC). We also welcomed the convening of the 3rd ASEAN U.S. Cyber Policy Dialogue in February 2023, reaffirming commitments to support and implement the framework of responsible state behaviour in cyberspace, acknowledging the work that has been done in fostering greater regional cybersecurity cooperation and capacity building, and discussed ways to strengthen regional cooperation in these areas. We expressed appreciation for continued U.S. engagement in the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) through activities under the U.S.-ASEAN Smart Cities Partnership (USASCP) initiative, including the U.S.-hosted three-day symposium, Accelerating Science, Technology and Circular Innovation in Southeast Asia, held on the sidelines of the 43rd ASEAN Summit and Related Summits.
15. We welcomed the convening of the ASEAN-U.S. Ministerial Dialogue on Environment and Climate and the ASEAN-U.S. Ministerial Dialogue on Energy in August 2023. ASEAN also welcomed the U.S.' continued support for ASEAN Member States in achieving their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. We further welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Center for Climate Change (ACCC) in Brunei Darussalam, which would facilitate regional cooperation and coordination on climate change initiatives among Member States. We encourage cooperation on joint research, analysis and policy development to achieve the region's climate-resilient and low-carbon vision between relevant US agencies and the ACCC as well as other relevant ASEAN centers.
16. We also underscored the need to further explore cooperation to address transboundary haze pollution, including discussions to identify opportunities to support the establishment and operationalisation of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution (ACCTHPC), in the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP), as well as ways to address pollution control, land and/or forest fire prevention.

17. We applauded the U.S.' continued support for the implementation of the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework (AGMSF) and the establishment of ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the cross-sectoral and inter-pillar ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Steering Committee (AGMSC), and also appreciated the United States for their continued support for the implementation of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security, including convening the ASEAN WPS Summit: High-Level Dialogue to Advance the Implementation of the Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) held on 5-7 July 2023 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. We also appreciated the U.S.' support in the enhancement of the Gender Mainstreaming in Human Resource Toolkit: An Assessment Tool for Human Resources Practitioners and its planned implementation.
18. We noted the continuing U.S. support in the ASEAN-U.S. Health Futures initiative, in taking swift action to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and other public health threats, strengthen health systems, and promote health security, as well as providing support in post-COVID recovery. We also welcomed the enhanced health sector cooperation through the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN-U.S. Health Sector Engagement and the ASEAN-U.S. Health Work Plan 2022-2025; upcoming technical support to the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED); and, USAID's ongoing support to the development of the ASEAN Public Health Emergency Coordination System (APHECS) along with its institutional mechanisms and standard operating procedures to implement the framework, which will ensure a robust regional preparedness and response to future public health emergencies, as well as continuous support in the area of infection prevention and control.
19. We appreciated the U.S.' support in building a more people-oriented, people centred ASEAN Community that empowers its people through various capacity-building and development programs. We highlighted the importance of initiatives such as the 10th anniversary of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI), the ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme, the U.S.-ASEAN Internship Programme, the ASEAN-U.S. Science Prize for Women, the Fulbright U.S.-ASEAN Visiting Scholar Program, the ASEAN Youth Video Contest and ASEAN Youth Social Journalism Competition by the ASEAN Foundation, the U.S.-ASEAN Institute for Rising Leaders Fellowship, and the Billion Futures Initiative for human capital development in the region and for enhancing people-to-people ties through exploring internship opportunities and research collaborations. We further supported the enhancement of people-to-people exchanges in the creative economy and digital economy sectors, as well as across various leading fields. We also welcomed the continued collaboration in advancing the rights of persons with disabilities, and to explore further potential cooperation in technical assistance and exchange and to enable full and equal participation and economic empowerment of persons with disabilities under the framework of the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025.
20. We appreciated the U.S.-ABC's continued support for ASEAN Member States' initiatives especially in the areas of tourism capacity building and sustainable tourism, as well as active participation in the annual high-level dialogues with ASEAN Tourism Ministers (M-ATM) during the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF).

21. We further appreciated the cooperation with U.S Department of Labor (DOL) through the Addressing Labor Exploitation in Fishing in ASEAN (ALFA) Project, in implementing ASEAN initiatives to ensure decent work in the fishing industry, including relevant priority areas in the ASEAN Labour Inspection Committee (ALICOM) Work Plan 2022 – 2030. We appreciated the support of ALFA Project and other ASEAN partners in the development of the ASEAN Declaration on Placement and Protection of Migrant Fishers and ASEAN Declaration on Protection of Migrant Workers and Family Members in Crisis Situations, as well as their respective Guidelines. We looked forward to the continued collaboration towards ASEAN's adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on the Elimination of Child Labour in ASEAN in 2024.
22. We welcomed the invaluable support of USAID Partnership for Regional Optimization within the Political-Security and Socio-Cultural Communities (PROSPECT) in realising gender equality through gender mainstreaming efforts across ASEAN Community pillars leading to the adoption of the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework (AGMSF) at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits. We further welcomed the continued support of USAID PROSPECT in building the institutional mechanism on AGSMF through the development of the AGMSF Implementation Plan and the establishment of the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Steering Committee (AGMSC). We looked forward to keeping the momentum on AGSMF implementation following the two Meetings of the AGMSC held on 21-22 February 2023 in Vientiane, Lao PDR and on 3 July 2023 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia supported by USAID PROSPECT and other partners.
23. We reaffirmed the commitment to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals by promoting complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDD). In this regard, we looked forward to exploring concrete ideas and alternative approaches, including the Bio-Circular-Green Economy and other sustainability models.
24. We welcomed the support of the USAID Mekong for the Future to the ACWC for the implementation of the ACWC Work Plan 2021-2025, particularly on the project "Regional Dialogues Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Action Planning-Mekong for the Future: Phase 1 and Phase 2". We appreciated the commitment of USAID in spurring ASEAN's collective actions on climate change using a gender lens which further galvanises greater participation of civil society organisations on natural resource governance and transformation in ASEAN.
25. We welcomed ASEAN-U.S. development cooperation, particularly through the Mekong-U.S. Partnership (MUSP), USAID's IGNITE, PROSPECT, the ASEAN Policy Implementation projects (API), and the ASEAN USAID Regional Development Cooperation Agreement (RDCA) for further collaboration in new areas of cooperation. We also welcomed the extension of the RDCA between ASEAN and the USAID to 2029 to accommodate new programmes for 2024-2029. We also expressed support for ASEAN's efforts in promoting inclusive growth, equitable and sustainable development in the region and in promoting complementarity and synergy among ASEAN, MUSP and other existing sub-regional and Mekong cooperation mechanisms. We looked forward to the U.S. continued support for the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan IV (2021-2025).
26. We are committed to disarmament and the global non-proliferation objectives that promote international peace and security, and acknowledge the critical role played by NPT state parties in this regard, while acknowledging the important role of political and diplomatic means in effectively addressing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. We welcomed ASEAN's commitment to preserving Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and the contribution of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty towards strengthening regional security and stability, as well as promoting nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.

27. We reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety, freedom of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea, and the full and effective implementation of the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea in its entirety. Serious concerns were raised by many Leaders regarding recent developments, which have eroded trust and confidence, increased tensions, and undermined peace, security, and stability in the region. We reaffirmed the need to exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would escalate disputes and affect peace and stability and avoid actions that may further complicate the situation. We welcomed negotiations towards the conclusion of an effective and substantive Code of Conduct in the South China Sea that is consistent with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS, and respects the rights and interests of third parties. We further reaffirmed the importance of upholding international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS. We noted that at least one third of global shipping passes through the South China Sea every year, making its stability and security critical to the region's economic future and the broader global economy.
28. With regard to the war against Ukraine, we reiterated our national positions as expressed in other fora, including the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly, which, in resolution No. ES-11/1 dated 2 March 2022 as adopted by majority vote deplores in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine and demands its complete and unconditional withdrawal from the territory of Ukraine. Most members strongly condemn the aggression against Ukraine. The War in Ukraine has further aggravated the ongoing food security crisis around the world, especially in developing and least developed countries. We note with deep concern the adverse impact of the war in Ukraine and stress it is causing immense human suffering and exacerbating existing fragilities in the global economy — constraining growth, increase inflation, disrupting supply chains, heightening energy and food insecurity, and elevating financial stability risks. We underscored the need to reach a just and lasting peace based on the principles of the UN Charter, including the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and political independence of Ukraine. In this context, the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is inadmissible. We underlined our shared interest to maintain and strengthen ASEAN as the epicentre of growth for the region and the world.
29. We expressed grave concern over the continued ballistic missile launches by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The recent surge in the DPRK's intercontinental ballistic missile testing and ballistic missile launches and tensions in the Korean Peninsula are a worrisome development that threatens peace and stability in the region. We urged all concerned parties to resume peaceful dialogue and continue working towards the realization of lasting peace and stability in a denuclearised Korean Peninsula. Efforts toward this end, including diplomatic efforts for the creation of a conducive environment for peaceful dialogue among all concerned parties, remain our priority. We reiterated our commitment to the full implementation of all relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and noted international efforts to bring about the complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. We emphasised the importance of addressing issues of human rights and humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the immediate resolution of the abductions and detainees issues.
30. We discussed the development in Myanmar, particularly the implementation of the Five-Point Consensus (5PC) and strongly condemned the continued escalation of violence, causing prolonged suffering for the people of Myanmar, humanitarian crisis, the destruction of houses and public facilities such as schools, hospitals, markets, churches and monasteries, and adverse impacts on regional stability, particularly along the border region.

31. We reiterated our position that the 5PC remains as ASEAN's main reference to address the political crisis in Myanmar, and in that regard, we were gravely concerned by the lack of substantial progress on its implementation by the Authority in Myanmar, despite their commitment to the 5PC in April 2021.

32. We appreciated the Chair's diligent efforts to engage with all relevant stakeholders in Myanmar to build trust and confidence leading toward an inclusive dialogue and a comprehensive political solution that establishes inclusive democratic governance and respects the will of the people. We supported sustaining such engagements to push for the regime to implement the ASEAN Five-Point Consensus in its entirety, and commend ASEAN for continuing to work with the United Nations to address the ongoing violence against civilians. We strongly condemned the continued acts of violence, including air strikes, artillery shelling, widespread burning of villages, attacks that harm civilians, conflict-related sexual violence, and destruction of public facilities and urged the military regime to take concrete action to immediately halt all violence, release those unjustly detained, and create a conducive environment for the delivery of humanitarian assistance.