

2025 CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE 47TH ASEAN SUMMIT

Adopted in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 26 October 2025

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1. We, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), gathered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 26 October 2025 for the 47th ASEAN Summit, under the Chairmanship of Malaysia. The Summit was chaired by the Honourable Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia and the Chair of ASEAN, and convened in accordance with the ASEAN Charter.
2. We reaffirmed our support for Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship under the theme "Inclusivity and Sustainability," reflecting our shared commitment to regional peace, security, stability, and prosperity through an inclusive, forward-looking, and sustainable regional framework. We further reaffirmed the need to prioritise efforts towards narrowing development gaps and reducing inequalities, improving living standards, and mitigating the impacts of climate change.
3. We welcomed the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste as the 11th Member State of ASEAN and extended our congratulations to the Government and people of Timor-Leste on this momentous occasion and historic achievement. We acknowledged the collective efforts undertaken through the continued implementation of the Roadmap for Timor-Leste's Full Membership in ASEAN, and appreciated the support extended by ASEAN Member States and external partners throughout this process. We looked forward to Timor-Leste's active and meaningful participation in ASEAN's Community-building efforts and its contributions to promoting regional peace, stability, security and prosperity.
4. We emphasised the importance of enhancing regional resilience by narrowing development gaps, advancing inclusive and sustainable development, accelerating digital transformation, and addressing climate-related challenges.
5. We reaffirmed our commitment to uphold and strengthen ASEAN unity and Centrality in shaping a peaceful, stable and resilient region. In this regard, we underscored the importance of fostering strategic trust among nations through dialogue, diplomacy, and mutual respect, as well as initiatives that reinforce an open, transparent, inclusive and rules-based regional architecture, anchored in international law, with ASEAN at its core. This includes the implementation of concrete ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) projects and activities through workstreams under its four priority areas, and through relevant ASEAN-led mechanisms.
6. We reaffirmed our shared commitment to maintaining and promoting peace, security, and stability in the region, as well as to the peaceful resolution of disputes, including full respect for legal and diplomatic processes, without resorting to the threat or use of force, in accordance with international law.
7. We emphasised the need to further enhance ASEAN's external relations and broaden mutually beneficial partnerships within and beyond the region, in line with the principles of equality, mutual interest, and shared responsibility.
8. We recognised the need to build a resilient, competitive, and integrated ASEAN Economic Community that delivers for all. In this regard, we underscored the importance of deepening intra-ASEAN trade and investment, strengthening supply chain connectivity, and advancing digital transformation and sustainable development to enhance regional competitiveness and ensure ASEAN remains responsive and relevant in a rapidly evolving global economy.

ASEAN COMMUNITY-BUILDING

9. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future at the 46th ASEAN Summit 2025 along with the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Strategic Plan, the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Strategic Plan, the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Strategic Plan, and the ASEAN Connectivity Strategic Plan, to guide the ASEAN Community-building process over the next 20 years. Taking into account the lessons learned from the End-Term Reviews of the current ASEAN Community Blueprints, and Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025, ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future shall serve as a guide for all ASEAN Organs and Bodies in formulating their respective work plans and activities. On this note, we are pleased that our External Partners remain committed to supporting and implementing ASEAN Community-building, including by collaborating on initiatives and projects through the ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and ASEAN-led mechanisms. This would contribute to our collective efforts in realising the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future, towards a resilient, innovative, dynamic, and people-centred community.
10. We reaffirmed the importance of the APSC Strategic Plan, which envisions a peaceful, stable and secure region based on the fundamental principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, the UN Charter and international law, including international humanitarian law, subscribed to by ASEAN Member States. The Strategic Plan underscores ASEAN's determination to sustain and reinforce its centrality through ASEAN-led mechanisms and other relevant platforms, leveraging its strengths in the peaceful conduct of relations among states, as well as in forging new and potential partnerships while ensuring substantive and mutually beneficial relations. It also seeks to enable ASEAN to project common positions on regional and global issues on the basis of ASEAN consensus principle, and to remain a primary driving force in shaping the regional architecture while contributing towards a rules-based international order anchored in international law amidst geopolitical tensions and rivalries.
11. We looked forward to the effective implementation of the AEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030, which will be central to deepening integration, strengthening regional resilience, and driving long-term, high-quality growth. Its implementation will contribute significantly to positioning ASEAN to become the world's fourth largest economy, driven by a growing middle-income population, and the vision for the AEC to become a future-ready single economy, anchored on sustainable growth, empowered by advanced technologies and responsive to emerging opportunities, by 2045. In this context, we welcomed the adoption of the 'Quick Wins, Consolidated List of Activities and Key Outcome Indicators', serving as an integral part to reaffirm our commitment in delivering tangible outcomes under the AEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030 through a strong focus on practicality, accountability, transparency, and inclusive engagement. We are also encouraged by the comprehensive communication efforts undertaken to socialise the AEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030, ranging from the Regional Socialisation convened in June 2025, which engaged over 500 stakeholders from across the region, to a series of publications designed to reach the wider public. Along this line, we noted the progress of the AEC Enhanced Monitoring, Evaluation, Review and Learning Framework which will be key to tracking progress, informing policy adjustments, and ensuring that AEC initiatives remain effective, responsive, and aligned with the AEC Strategic Plan's intended outcomes. We also welcomed the development of respective Sectoral Plans under AEC to support a coherent and coordinated implementation of the AEC Strategic Plan.

12. We commended the ASCC for establishing a strong foundation for its Strategic Plan's effective implementation and monitoring through the development of the ASCC Results Framework which will operationalise the Plan with measurable indicators, baselines, and targets. We also noted with satisfaction the communication and outreach activities for the ASCC Strategic Plan, which aim to increase stakeholder awareness, ownership and engagement in ASEAN Community-building efforts.
13. We underscored the importance of the End-of-Term Reviews of the APSC Blueprint 2025, AEC Blueprint 2025, ASCC Blueprint 2025, and the MPAC 2025, and agreed to integrate the lessons learned and best practices towards effectively realising the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future.
14. We agreed to coordinate and provide mutual support for ASEAN Member States' candidacy in regional and international organisations, where possible. In this regard, we reaffirmed ASEAN's support for Singapore's candidate for the World Intellectual Property Organization Director General position for the term 2026-2032 as the ASEAN candidate.

TIMOR-LESTE'S FULL MEMBERSHIP IN ASEAN

15. We acknowledged the efforts undertaken by Timor-Leste in fulfilling the criteria in the Roadmap for Timor-Leste's Full Membership in ASEAN. We encouraged Timor-Leste to continue implementing the remaining criteria in the Roadmap, including the accession to all ASEAN treaties, conventions, instruments and agreements across the three ASEAN Community Pillars, to support its full and effective integration into the ASEAN Community.
16. We welcomed Timor-Leste's full and active participation in all ASEAN meetings and mechanisms across the three Community Pillars and encouraged continued efforts to strengthen institutional capacity and contribute meaningfully to ASEAN's shared goals and priorities.
17. We acknowledged the valuable contributions of ASEAN's Dialogue Partners and external partners in supporting Timor-Leste's preparation towards ASEAN full membership. We encouraged the continued provision of targeted support to strengthen Timor-Leste's capacity following its admission.

KEY DELIVERABLES

THEME: "INCLUSIVITY AND SUSTAINABILITY"

18. We reaffirmed our commitment to strengthening the ASEAN Community, upholding its Centrality and unity, and reinforcing its role as the primary driving force in shaping a peaceful, rules-based regional architecture. We emphasised the importance of sustained dialogue, diplomacy, and goodwill, and reaffirmed ASEAN-led mechanisms as platforms for inclusive and constructive regional cooperation.
19. We underscored our strong commitment to inclusivity and sustainability as a cornerstone of ASEAN's progress and future. We acknowledged that the region's growth and integration must be people-centred and should leave no one behind. In this regard, we pledged to bridge development gaps, empower people in vulnerable situations and expand equitable access to economic opportunities, education, social protection, and environmental sustainability.

20. We were pleased with the full completion of 12 out of 18 Priority Economic Deliverables (PEDs) under Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship, reflecting strong progress across its four strategic thrusts: enhancing trade and investment, deepening regional connectivity, advancing inclusive and sustainable growth, and accelerating digital transformation. We looked forward to the timely delivery of the remaining six PEDs within the year, reinforcing ASEAN's collective commitment to a resilient, integrated, and future-ready regional economy.
21. We welcomed the Complementarities Initiative 2.0 which maps the synergies between the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 (ACV 2045) and the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We commended Thailand, as the ASEAN Coordinator for Sustainable Development Cooperation, for leading various initiatives including the streamlining of ASEAN platforms into a unified approach. The ASEAN Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Sustainability, convened in August 2025 in Thailand exemplified these efforts, aimed at reducing redundancy and cultivating a more synchronised strategy for advancing the SDGs across ASEAN, its external partners, and all stakeholders.

ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY

22. We reaffirmed the continued relevance of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as the foundational code of conduct governing inter-state relations in the region and as a key instrument for maintaining regional peace and stability. We reiterated our commitment to upholding and promoting the principles of the TAC and to further enhancing the relevance of the Treaty in the region and beyond. We encouraged all High Contracting Parties (HCPs) to honour their obligations under the Treaty. We welcomed the increasing interest of non-regional countries in acceding to the TAC, in accordance with its purposes and principles. We welcomed the accession of the Republic of Finland to the TAC. We also welcomed the convening of the second iteration of the Conference of HCPs to the TAC, held on 18 September 2025, at the ASEAN Headquarters/ASEAN Secretariat, as part of the preparations for the 50th anniversary of the TAC in 2026. We looked forward to the successful adoption of an ASEAN-sponsored resolution to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the TAC during the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
23. We underscored the immense contribution of nuclear weapon-free zones to nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and enhancing international peace and security. We welcomed the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ). We reiterated our commitment to preserve the Southeast Asian region as a nuclear weapon-free zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction, as enshrined in the SEANWFZ Treaty and the ASEAN Charter. We stressed the importance of the full and effective implementation of the SEANWFZ Treaty, including through the Plan of Action to Strengthen the Implementation of SEANWFZ Treaty (2023-2027). We welcomed Timor-Leste's accession to the SEANWFZ Treaty, which will further reinforce the region's commitment to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
24. We noted that the Executive Committee of the SEANWFZ Commission is continuing to explore the possibility of allowing individual Nuclear-Weapon States (NWS) which are willing to sign and ratify the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty without reservations and to provide prior formal assurance of this commitment in writing, to proceed with the signing. We welcomed any NWS that are ready to do so. We reaffirmed our commitment to continuously engage all the NWS, including those with reservations, and intensify efforts of all parties to resolve all outstanding issues in accordance with the objectives and principles of the SEANWFZ Treaty. We encouraged our ASEAN experts to explore ways to bridge the differences, including the possibility of engaging with the NWS experts.

25. We reaffirmed our commitment to enhancing the profile of the SEANWFZ Treaty globally, including through strengthening cooperation with other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (NWFZs). In this connection, we welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN-sponsored biennial resolution on the SEANWFZ Treaty by the 78th Session of the UNGA on 4 December 2023, which reiterates the importance of the Treaty in contributing to international peace and security. We looked forward to the adoption of the ASEAN-sponsored biennial SEANWFZ Resolution by the First Committee of the 80th Session of the UNGA, which will reaffirm the Treaty's important contribution towards strengthening the security of States within the Zone and towards enhancing international peace and security.
26. We commended the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) for their continued efforts in enhancing cooperation among the nuclear regulatory bodies in the region and in strengthening practices and standards of nuclear safety, security, and safeguards, guided by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) standards and international best practices. We noted the substantive discussions made at the 12th Annual Meeting of ASEANTOM in August 2025 and progress made to operationalise the ASEAN Protocol for Preparedness and Response to a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency, including the Early Warning Radiation Monitoring Network (EWRMN) and ASEAN Radiation Data Exchange Platform (ARDEP) and both regional and national efforts to sustain these capabilities.
27. We further recognised the need to maintain and strengthen stability in the maritime sphere in our region and underlined the importance of strengthening maritime cooperation. We reaffirmed the role of the ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF) and Expanded AMF (EAMF) as Track 1.5 platforms in promoting maritime cooperation in the region through dialogue and consultations. Recognising the cross-cutting nature of maritime issues, we encouraged stronger coordination among ASEAN sectoral bodies and other relevant ASEAN mechanisms to avoid duplication. We emphasised the importance of ASEAN Centrality and an integrated and comprehensive approach to maritime cooperation. We welcomed the convening and outcomes of the 15th AMF and 13th EAMF, held on 11 September 2025, in Port Dickson, Malaysia.
28. We noted the convening of the 4th ASEAN Coast Guard Forum (ACF) Commander's Meeting, held on 25-26 June 2025 in Pattaya, Thailand. We encouraged further discussion towards the finalisation of the Terms of Reference (TOR) and Concept Paper on the Establishment of the ASEAN Coast Guard Forum (ACF).
29. We noted the approval of the new ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) Five-Year Workplan (FYWP) 2026-2030 by the 58th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM) in July 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Within AICHR's mandate of promoting and protecting human rights in the region, the FYWP 2026-2030 demonstrates AICHR's resolve to be responsive, innovative, agile, adaptive, decisive, timely, and future-ready in the face of emerging challenges in the region. The FYWP 2026-2030 also encourages greater coordination on cross-pillar and cross-sectoral issues, in line with ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future.
30. We adopted the ASEAN Declaration on the Right to a Safe, Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment, which reaffirmed our commitment to advancing this human right for present and future generations by promoting the implementation of environmental laws, multilateral environmental agreements, to which all ASEAN Member States are parties, access to meaningful information, public participation, scientific research, and environmental education, while enhancing efforts to mitigate environmental degradation and ensure equal and effective protection of the rights of people in vulnerable situations. We looked forward to the development of an inclusive and sustainable Regional Plan of Action to follow up on this Declaration.

31. We adopted the ASEAN Declaration on Promoting the Right to Development and the Right to Peace Towards Realising Inclusive and Sustainable Development, which reaffirmed our commitment to advancing the right to development, the right to peace, and inclusive and sustainable development through an ASEAN-led, whole-of-region approach. This approach seeks to foster equality, non-discrimination, and meaningful participation, while addressing obstacles to inclusive and sustainable development in accordance with respective national contexts and regulations and promoting active participation for all peoples, including those in vulnerable situations. We looked forward to the follow-up actions for realisation of this Declaration in line with the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future.
32. We reaffirmed the importance of upholding ASEAN's unity and centrality in promoting peace and stability in the region. In keeping with this spirit, we recognised the role and continued contribution of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR). We supported efforts to improve the effectiveness and ensure the sustainability of the ASEAN-IPR.
33. We welcomed the successful convening of the 19th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) and Its Related Meetings, held on 9-11 September 2025, in Melaka, Malaysia, and commended the adoption of the Melaka Declaration on Combatting Transnational Crime and the ASEAN Plan of Action in Combatting Transnational Crime (2026-2035), which would guide the trajectory of law enforcement cooperation against transnational crime for the next decade.
34. We recognised the challenges faced by law enforcement in tracing the proceeds of criminal activities and their subsequent use in facilitating other forms of transnational crime. In this context, we adopted the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Combatting Money Laundering and welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting (SOMTC) Working Group on Money Laundering (WG on ML) as an avenue to garner closer cooperation in addressing money laundering and its nexus with various forms of transnational crime.
35. We expressed concern over the favourable conditions created by the advancement of technology and regional integration which have enabled criminal fugitives to evade capture. In this regard, we adopted the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Enhancing Cooperation in Locating and Arresting Criminal Fugitives.
36. We adopted the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on the Use of Sports for Preventing Violent Extremism, which highlights the role of sports in building social cohesion, enhancing resilience, and providing positive alternatives to violent extremism, particularly among youth. We further emphasised the necessity for continued cross-sectoral implementation of the Work Plan of the ASEAN Plan of Action to Prevent and Counter the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism (Bali Work Plan) 2019-2026 to address the root causes of terrorism and violent extremism in the region.
37. We commended the adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on Combatting Cybercrime and Online Scams by the 19th AMMTC, which is timely against the backdrop of heightened concerns over the growing sophistication of online scams and cyber-enabled crimes in the region. In this regard, we welcomed Viet Nam's hosting of the signing ceremony of the UN Convention against Cybercrime, the first global treaty on this matter, on 25-26 October 2025 in Ha Noi, which underscores ASEAN's shared commitment to strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating cybercrime. We further recognised the convergence of online scams with forced criminality and trafficking in persons (TIP) and therefore emphasised the importance of continued efforts to implement the ASEAN Multi-Sectoral Work Plan against TIP 2023-2028 (Bohol TIP Work Plan 2.0).

38. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on Countering People Smuggling in ASEAN by the 19th AMMTC, which underlined the necessity to focus attention on people smuggling and its multifaceted relations with other forms of crimes, which transcended borders, with some ASEAN Member States serving as the source, transit, and/or destination country.
39. We also welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Border Management Cooperation Roadmap by the 19th AMMTC, which provides region-wide arrangements and appropriate action lines to enable ASEAN Member States to address cross-border challenges in a more effective, timely, holistic, and comprehensive manner.
40. We recognised the important role of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters (AMMD) in spearheading coordination to combat illicit drugs in the region and reaffirmed our commitment towards the realisation of a Drug-Free ASEAN and a zero-tolerance approach towards illicit drugs. We commended the ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Center (ASEAN NARCO) for its efforts to publish the next issue of the ASEAN Drugs Monitoring Report 2024, as a key initiative of ASEAN's cooperation in combatting illicit drugs.
41. We welcomed the further progress made within the defence sector this year. We noted that the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) remains committed to ASEAN Community-building efforts, as reflected in the Joint Statement by ASEAN Defence Ministers on the Implementation of the APSC Strategic Plan 2045, to be adopted by the 19th ADMM. We recognised the expanding areas of cooperation under the ADMM, which attest to the growing relevance of the sectoral body. We also noted that the ADMM is currently charting its future policies to enhance its work processes and strengthen the impact of its cooperation. We noted efforts to outline guiding principles for defence cooperation in Critical Underwater Infrastructure (CUI) Security and encourage future regional collaboration to enhance awareness and protection of CUI. We looked forward to the continued implementation of the AOIP from a defence perspective.
42. We acknowledged the role of the ADMM-Plus in preserving a regional security architecture that respects ASEAN Centrality. We noted that in its 15th year, the ADMM-Plus has expanded both its practical cooperation and its external engagements. We applauded the ADMM-Plus for strategically leveraging its diversity to promote capacity and confidence-building among its defence establishments through the seven Experts' Working Groups (EWGs). We also observed that the ADMM-Plus aspires to be more adaptive and responsive by taking on emerging issues. We welcomed the second iteration of the Observership Programme, which reflects the spirit of an open and inclusive ADMM-Plus.
43. We commended the work of the ASEAN Law Ministers' Meeting (ALAWMM), and the ASEAN Senior Law Officials' Meeting (ASLOM) in strengthening ASEAN's legal cooperation and promoting the rule of law and justice, as well as a rules-based regional order. We noted ALAWMM's engagement with Dialogue Partners, in particular the planned 1st ALAWMM+Japan Meeting, to be held in conjunction with the 13th ALAWMM in November 2025 in Manila, the Philippines.
44. We commended the conclusion of negotiations of the ASEAN Extradition Treaty and looked forward to its signing on the sidelines of the 13th ALAWMM, which will complement the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (ASEAN MLAT) in strengthening ASEAN's cooperation in crime prevention and the criminal justice system, and combatting transnational crimes.

45. We welcomed the successful convening of the ASEAN Law Forum 2025 and the adoption of the Joint Statement on International Commercial Arbitration and Mediation Development by the ASEAN Law Ministers on 21 August 2025, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which reaffirm ASEAN's commitment to developing arbitration and mediation mechanisms that are aligned with international standards to support regional economic development.
46. We noted with satisfaction the work of the ASEAN Ministers/Attorneys General Meeting of the Central Authorities on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (AMAG-MLAT), supported by its Senior Officials' Meeting of the Central Authorities of Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (SOM-MLAT), in particular the adoption of the Guidelines for Accession to the ASEAN MLAT by non-ASEAN Member States and the Instrument of Accession to the ASEAN MLAT. We further note the endorsement by SOM-MLAT of the model templates on Mutual Legal Assistance requests, which are essential for the effective and efficient implementation of the ASEAN MLAT.
47. We welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Prosecutors/Attorneys General Meeting (APAGM) as an ASEAN Sectoral Ministerial Body under the APSC in accordance with the ASEAN Charter, to support and expedite regional legal cooperation in the areas of prosecution among ASEAN Member States in combating transnational crimes, reaffirming ASEAN's commitment to justice, rule of law, and a rules-based agenda.
48. We commended the role of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) as a centre of excellence in promoting ASEAN's efforts to address the issue of explosive remnants of war (ERW) for interested ASEAN Member States and in raising awareness of the dangers of ERW among affected communities. We reiterated the importance of mine action in national rehabilitation and sustainable development and welcomed efforts to promote mine action at both the regional and global level, including at the UN. We expressed appreciation to ASEAN Member States, Dialogue Partners, external partners, and international organisations that have contributed to the undertaking of projects and operations of ARMAC.

ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

49. We noted with satisfaction that ASEAN continued to demonstrate economic resilience, registering a growth rate of 4.8 per cent in 2024, surpassing the global average. While external headwinds in 2025 have tempered business and consumer sentiment and may pose challenges to investment in the region, and economic performance of AMS that are more reliant to external demand, the region's overall outlook remains cautiously optimistic. We also noted that the growth projection for 2025 has been revised downward to 4.3 per cent from the earlier forecast of 4.7 per cent. Despite ongoing global uncertainties and rising geoeconomic risk, we expressed confidence that strong macroeconomic fundamentals and resilient domestic demand will continue to provide a buffer against external shocks and support the region's economic momentum.
50. We expressed concern over rising global trade tensions and growing uncertainties in the international economic landscape, particularly the unilateral actions relating to tariffs, which are counterproductive and risk exacerbating global economic fragmentation and pose complex challenges to ASEAN's economic stability and growth. We underscored the importance of a predictable, transparent, inclusive, free, fair, sustainable and rules-based multilateral trading system, with the World Trade Organisation (WTO) at its core. We reaffirmed our commitment to work constructively with all partners to this end. We emphasised the need to diversify trade by expanding engagement with new and emerging partners, including region-to-region linkages such as with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

51. We noted the preliminary recommendations from the ASEAN Geoeconomics Task Force (AGTF) as timely and strategic in guiding ASEAN's response to an increasingly uncertain global environment. These recommendations underscore the urgency of strengthening the region's economic resilience amidst external shocks, deepening regional economic integration by ensuring full and effective implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement and the upgraded ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), and diversifying economic partnerships to reduce overreliance on any single market, whilst simultaneously advancing internal reforms to support a more competitive, agile, and future-ready regional economy.
52. We recognised the importance of leveraging ASEAN's centrality in the RCEP as key pillar of ASEAN's external economic architecture and a key driver of regional economic integration and in shaping the emerging economic order. We welcomed the ongoing efforts to ensure the effective and full implementation of the RCEP Agreement, including to strengthen the RCEP institutions through the establishment of an effective RCEP Secretariat. We looked forward to the expansion of the RCEP membership and its improvement, which will further reinforce its role in advancing open, inclusive, and mutually beneficial economic cooperation across the region.
53. We were encouraged by the projected completion rate of 87 per cent in the implementation of the AEC Blueprint 2025 by the end of this year. We supported the AEC's efforts to review the remaining activities of the AEC Blueprint 2025, and encouraged for ongoing initiatives to be completed or aligned with the AEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030 for continuity beyond 2025.
54. We welcomed the Second Protocol to Amend the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA). The Upgraded ATIGA introduces critical enhancement to deepen economic integration in the region, including deeper tariff liberalisation, improved mechanisms to address non-tariff barriers, and greater use of digital tools to facilitate cross-border trade and strengthen regional supply chain connectivity and further tariff liberalisation. Furthermore, it also incorporates provisions on emerging issues, such as remanufactured goods, trade and the environment, humanitarian trade, food security, and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. These forward-looking provisions demonstrate ASEAN's strategic commitment to deepen its economic integration and to move towards a more seamless ASEAN market, future-proofing its trade architecture, and aligning it with shifting global dynamics and regional aspirations for inclusive and sustainable growth, amid rising uncertainties in the global trading landscape. The Upgraded ATIGA reaffirms ASEAN's unwavering commitment to an open, inclusive and rules-based trading system.
55. We welcomed the completion of notification process of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS) to the World Trade Organization (WTO), which marks an important milestone in ASEAN's integration in trade in services, aligning ASEAN's regional efforts with global trade practices. With regard to the transitioning of Member States' commitments under the AFAS into the ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA), we looked forward to the completion of the first batch of Schedules of Non-Conforming Measures under the ATISA by April 2026 in line with the provisions under the ATISA.
56. We were pleased with the significant progress in the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap (BSBR): An ASEAN Digital Transformation Agenda to Accelerate ASEAN's Economic Recovery and Digital Economy Integration. As the penultimate action item in the BSBR, we welcomed the substantial conclusion of the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA), a comprehensive and forward-looking agreement that will set the foundation for doubling the potential value of the region's digital economy. We looked forward to the timely conclusion of the negotiations and the signing of ASEAN DEFA in 2026, which will mark a critical step in ASEAN's journey towards a digitally-enabled and future-ready economy.

57. We welcomed the progress in operationalising the ASEAN Regional Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), launched in October 2024 in Singapore, and its information sharing mechanism. This initiative is a significant step towards enhancing regional cyber resilience through timely information sharing and the exchange of best practices among AMS. We commended the ongoing regional capacity-building work undertaken by the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) and the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE) in building regional cybersecurity resilience to address emerging threats. Furthermore, we acknowledged the progress made on the ASEAN Norms Implementation Checklist and Regional Action Plan Matrix on norms implementation to identify specific capacity-building activities and practical initiatives that would assist AMS in implementing voluntary, non-binding norms of responsible State behaviour in cyberspace, in alignment with national priorities, and needs. In this regard, we noted that the 5th ASEAN Digital Ministers Meeting (ADGMin) endorsed the 'ASEAN Checklist for the Implementation of the Norms of Responsible State Behaviour in Cyberspace', which will support capacity-building and responsible state behaviour in cyberspace, in alignment with ASEAN's voluntary norms framework. We noted the outcomes of the 10th ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Cybersecurity Chairman's Statement, which underscored the importance of strengthening existing regional cybersecurity cooperation and coordination, as well as capacity building initiatives to enable ASEAN Member States to address evolving cyber threats and strengthen our regional cybersecurity posture.
58. We acknowledged the ongoing efforts of ASEAN Member States to expand the exchange of e-Sanitary and Phytosanitary (e-SPS) Certificates through the ASEAN Single Window (ASW), which is essential to facilitating safe, efficient, and transparent cross-border trade in agricultural and food products. We also commended the progress in implementing the Next Generation of the ASW (ASW 2.0) aimed at making the platform more inclusive, secure, and interoperable with external electronic trade facilitation platforms. We looked forward to the operationalisation of ASW 2.0 in 2026, which will mark a significant step towards enhancing digital trade facilitation, strengthening digital connectivity among ASEAN Member States and enabling seamless exchange of electronic documents with our Dialogue Partners.
59. We underscored the important role of harmonised standards in emerging areas and technologies in advancing productivity and innovation to facilitate inclusive and sustainable development while fostering competitiveness. In this regard, we noted the adoption of the Roadmap on Digital Trade Standards in ASEAN, which is a key step towards accelerating digital trade and digital integration in the region. We also welcomed the finalisation of the ASEAN Foresighting Framework Policy Paper, which establishes a systematic approach for the early identification of emerging areas and technologies to guide the future harmonisation of standards.
60. We noted the progress in the Implementation Roadmap to Establish Regionally Comparable and Recognised Unique Business Identification Number (UBIN) in ASEAN, which serves as a foundational digital infrastructure to foster trust, transparency, and operational efficiency. We reaffirmed ASEAN's shared commitment to expedite the operationalisation of UBIN to empower micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) as active participants in the digital economy.
61. We acknowledged that the transformative power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) unleashes immense economic and social opportunities to ASEAN Member States and underscored the imperative of harnessing this potential in a safe, ethical, and inclusive manner. In this context, we underscored the central role of the ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics and its Expanded ASEAN Guide on Generative AI as a foundational framework for guiding responsible AI adoption across the region. We acknowledge the central coordinating body and advisory role of ASEAN Digital Senior Official Meeting (ADGSOM) and ASEAN Working Group on AI Governance (WG-AI) in advancing AI

governance. We also adopted the ASEAN Leaders Declaration on the Establishment of an ASEAN AI Safety Network (ASEAN AI SAFE) to further advance ASEAN's coordinated strategies on AI safety.

62. We underscored the importance of deepening integration within ASEAN to unlock new opportunities that further catalyse trade and investment particularly amid the increasingly fragmented global economic landscape. The expansion of cross-border payment linkages in the region—now totalling 26 this year, alongside a notable surge in cross-border transactions for QR and Person-to-Person fund transfers, marks a significant milestone in advancing regional economic integration and promoting financial inclusion.
63. We welcomed the finalisation of the ASEAN Framework for Integrated Semiconductor Supply Chain (AFISS), which is ASEAN's flagship strategy to position the region at the heart of global semiconductor value chains amidst shifting geopolitical dynamics, evolving trade alliances, and accelerating technological transformation. The Framework underscores ASEAN's collective ambition to strengthen supply chain resilience, boost investment attractiveness, expand and advance regional production capacity in this critical and strategic sector. Through AFISS, ASEAN aims to seize the momentum and capture a significant share of the global semiconductor market, which is projected to surpass USD980 billion and potentially reach USD1 trillion by 2029.
64. We reaffirmed ASEAN's strong commitment to advancing financial stability and deepening financial integration as critical enablers of regional economic resilience and inclusive growth. In this regard, we welcomed the endorsement of the Model Operating Guidelines for Local Currency Transaction Framework in ASEAN, which will serve as a practical framework to facilitate the wider use of local currencies in intra-ASEAN trade and investment. This will reduce exchange rate risks, lower transaction costs, and promote greater financial resilience within the region. We also commended ASEAN's continued efforts to promote financial inclusion, particularly for MSMEs and underserved populations, through regional dialogues and knowledge exchanges focused on digitalisation and digital financial literacy (DFL). We welcomed the commitment to further leverage digital technologies to address persistent financing gaps, improve access to affordable financial services, and ensure that financial inclusion is safe, sustainable, and accessible to all segments of society.
65. We welcomed the agreement-in-principle by the ASEAN Central Bank Governors to re-establish the ASEAN Swap Arrangement (ASA) to provide short-term foreign exchange liquidity support to member countries in the event of them experiencing balance of payment difficulties. The ASA, established in Kuala Lumpur in 1977, is an important layer of regional safety net arrangement that complements the global financial safety net in maintaining regional financial stability.
66. We commended the ASEAN Capital Markets Forum (ACMF) in the development of its Action Plan 2026-2030 and looked forward to its launch in November 2025. The Action Plan will build a more sustainable and resilient ASEAN, promote inclusivity and financial empowerment, strengthen regional integration and global positioning, as well as drive digitalisation.
67. We welcomed the signing of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Competition (AFAC), which is ASEAN's first legally binding instrument on competition. AFAC marks a key milestone in the region's commitment to fostering a fair, competitive, dynamic, and rules-based business environment toward an ASEAN single and future-ready economy. The Agreement will enhance regulatory coherence, facilitate cross-border enforcement coordination, boost investor confidence, and support deeper economic integration, innovation, efficiency, and inclusive growth. We encouraged the full completion of the signing and ratification processes to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the Agreement.

68. We welcomed the finalisation of the ASEAN Guidelines on Product Safety Labelling, which will serve as a reference for regulators and businesses to harmonise regulatory practices, empower consumers to make well-informed choices, and facilitate safe product circulation across the ASEAN market. The Guidelines aim to strengthen consumer trust, reduce regulatory gaps, and foster ASEAN trade. We encouraged ASEAN Member States to align their national regulatory frameworks with the Guidelines for effective and practical application by industry stakeholders.
69. We commended the steady progress in the negotiations to upgrade the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Intellectual Property Cooperation (AFAIPC 2.0) and looked forward to its signing in 2026. The upgraded Agreement reflects ASEAN's united determination to foster convergence in ASEAN Member States' Intellectual Property (IP) laws, policies, practices and enforcement measures, align approaches to IP commercialisation, deepen integration in cross-border Intellectual Property services, and integrate IP into ASEAN's sustainable development agenda. AFAIPC 2.0 is expected to position ASEAN as an innovation-driven, integrated, and globally competitive market for investors and businesses seeking streamlined IP protection in the region, while amplifying its collective presence in international Intellectual Property fora.
70. We recognised steady progress in advancing the ASEAN Strategy for Carbon Neutrality as a key regional effort to support an inclusive transition towards a green economy. We commended the successful convening of the first ASEAN Task Force for Carbon Neutrality (ATF-CN) meeting in May 2025, and its second meeting in September 2025 which provided a platform for dialogue, alignment, and guidance to operationalise the Strategy through a regional workplan and joint initiatives, reinforcing the region's climate and economic resilience.
71. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Blue Economy Implementation Plan, that aligns with the ASEAN Blue Economy Framework, which represents a strategic step in unlocking the region's blue economy potentials as a new engine of sustainable and inclusive economic growth. The Plan will enhance coordination across sectors and pillars, promote responsible oceans, seas, and fresh water development, promote sustainable and inclusive development and responsible use of marine and inland water resources, and strengthen collaboration among ASEAN Member States and stakeholders towards realising long-term economic and environmental resilience.
72. We looked forward to the publication of Version 4 of the ASEAN Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance (ASEAN Taxonomy) in November 2025, which will provide complete coverage including the principles-based Foundation Framework and Technical Screening Criteria for the six focus and three enabling sectors in the Plus Standard. This will reinforce the ASEAN Taxonomy's role in guiding capital allocation towards sustainable activities – one that is responsive to the diverse circumstances of ASEAN Member States while remaining interoperable with other international frameworks and guidance.
73. We welcomed the adoption of the non-legally binding ASEAN Sustainable Investment Guidelines (ASIG), which aim to guide ASEAN Member States in fostering responsible and inclusive investment practices that advance the region's long-term economic, environmental, and social well-being. The ASIG encompasses key principles and future initiatives, covering investment policy, promotion, administration, facilitation, corporate practice, and collaborative effort. We looked forward to the effective implementation of the Guidelines, including through the activities outlined in the ASEAN Economic Community Strategic Plan 2026-2030.

74. We reaffirmed our commitment to enhance energy interconnection, including by accelerating the establishment of the ASEAN Power Grid (APG), as well as through the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline, ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement and Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS). We welcomed the ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting's decision to realise the ASEAN Power Grid by 2045, as part of efforts to advance a secure, resilient and interconnected low-carbon regional energy future. We welcomed the signing of the enhanced Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the APG, laying a stronger foundation for deeper power interconnections and expanded multilateral power trade among the ASEAN Member States. The enhanced MoU marks a major milestone in ASEAN's long-standing efforts to operationalise a unified regional power market and foster greater energy security and connectivity. We also welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN Submarine Power Cable Development Framework TOR and recognise the importance of this framework in facilitating the transit, deployment and maintenance of submarine power cables integral to realising the ASEAN Power Grid. We also welcomed the enhancements to the Lao PDR-Thailand-Malaysia-Singapore Power Integration Project (LTMS-PIP) and progress of the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines Power Integration Project (BIMP-PIP) and reaffirm the importance of these projects as building blocks of the APG.
75. We affirmed that the APG is pivotal to building a more resilient and sustainable energy future for ASEAN. On this front, we welcomed the APG Financing Initiative, supported by Multilateral Development Banks, as a key enabler to unlock investment and accelerate implementation of cross-border electricity infrastructure. Furthermore, we commended the cross-sectoral efforts between the Energy, Economics and Finance tracks in facilitating the APG Financing Initiative, translating regional political will into bankable and implementable APG projects. We also welcomed the APG Financing Initiative as a key enabler to unlock investment and accelerate implementation of cross-border electricity infrastructure. We are encouraged by the interest from more than 15 prominent investors and strategic partners to support the APG, including the Asian Development Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), AVPN, CIMB, FinDev Canada, HSBC, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), Maybank and MUFG. We looked forward to witnessing tangible progress in the years ahead, supported by the continued collaboration all ASEAN Member States, and various stakeholders in catalysing the required financing to accelerate the development of the APG and support the region's broader sustainability goals.
76. We further welcomed the conclusion and signing of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Petroleum Security, which will strengthen the region's coordinated measures to respond to petroleum supply disruptions. The Agreement reflects ASEAN's commitment to collective preparedness and reinforces the importance of regional cooperation in ensuring stable and reliable energy supply chains.
77. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2026–2030 as the strategic blueprint to guide ASEAN's energy priorities in the coming years. The APAEC outlines ASEAN's unified direction in advancing APG, enhancing oil & gas connectivity, security, and sustainability, promoting clean coal transformation, improving energy efficiency, scaling up renewable energy, strengthening policy and planning in energy, and pursuing civilian nuclear energy cooperation. In this regard, we welcomed the APAEC's 20-year theme: Secure, Resilient, and Interconnected Low-Carbon ASEAN Energy Future, which will anchor ASEAN's energy collaboration through 2045.
78. We adopted the Declaration on the ASEAN Minerals Development Vision outlining ASEAN's ambition to become a leading destination for minerals investment, including critical minerals. The Vision aims to strengthen production and trade through technological advancement, sound governance, and sustainable best practices, while protecting the environment, empowering communities, and contributing to the region's economic development.

79. We also welcomed the adoption of key strategic document that will guide ASEAN's minerals cooperation beyond 2025, namely the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan (AMCAP-IV) 2026-2030. The document provides the policy direction and implementation framework for advancing responsible, resilient, and forward-looking development of the region's mineral resources.
80. We welcomed the successful convening of the 2025 ASEAN Minerals Investment Forum (AMVest), held in conjunction with the 10th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Minerals (AMMin), as a valuable platform for fostering public-private dialogue and advancing responsible, forward-looking investment in the sector. We also acknowledged the continued implementation of the ASEAN Minerals Awards, which recognises outstanding achievements and best practices in sustainable minerals development across the region. These initiatives reaffirm ASEAN's commitment to positioning the region as a premier destination for sustainable minerals development, anchored in sound governance, environmental protection, community empowerment, and technological innovation.
81. We looked forward to the signing of the ASEAN-New Zealand Air Services Agreement and its Protocol 1, a key milestone in strengthening air connectivity between New Zealand and the ASEAN region, facilitating trade and tourism and deepening people-to-people ties. We also looked forward to the adoption of the ASEAN Transport Sectoral Plan 2026-2030, which will provide a comprehensive framework for the region toward enhanced safety, sustainability, and integration in transport thereby reinforcing ASEAN's broader integration and economic resilience.
82. We welcomed the adoption of the Policy Recommendation and Guidelines to Support ASEAN Electric Vehicle (EV) Implementation Roadmap and its annexes on Guidelines for an ASEAN Battery Passport and Guidelines for an EV Emergency Response Guide (ERG). These instruments will help advance sustainability in the EV battery ecosystem and strengthen safety and emergency response measures in line with international standards and best practices. We also looked forward to the adoption of key sustainable transport initiatives, including the ASEAN Electric Vehicle (EV) Implementation Roadmap to advance the EV ecosystem and the Recommendations on the Implementation of Digitalisation of Public Transport and Last-Mile Delivery Services in ASEAN Member States to accelerate the transition to cleaner, smarter, and more connected mobility systems across the region.
83. We adopted the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on the Vision for Food, Agriculture, and Forestry Towards 2045, which articulates a long-term aspiration to establish a sustainable, inclusive, resilient and secure Food, Agriculture and Forestry (FAF) sector that nurtures farmer livelihoods, safeguards the environment, contributes to climate change adaptation and mitigation, fosters innovation, and strengthen ASEAN's role as a key trading partner and a catalyst for collaboration in the FAF Sector. We encouraged all stakeholders to work collaboratively to advance the implementation of the Vision, along with the framework, as well as its priorities including promoting sustainable regenerative agriculture, reducing carbon emissions, leveraging digital technology, facilitating climate change adaptation and resilience as well promoting responsible and sustainable investment which establishes a strategic foundation for deepening regional integration and intra-ASEAN trade, and addressing the challenges of an ageing farming population.
84. We commended the significant progress achieved by the food, agriculture, and forestry sector in advancing ASEAN's sustainable development agenda, particularly in driving decarbonisation, reducing harmful chemical use, adopting digital technologies, and fostering stronger public-private partnerships (PPPs) to scale innovation, mobilise investment, and support inclusive participation in the region's green transition.

85. We commended the significant efforts made by the tourism sector and noted with appreciation the strong recovery of tourism activities in the region. We were pleased to note that approximately 127.1 million visitors travelled in ASEAN in 2024, with 37.5% originating from the region. We further noted that the sector generated nearly USD 379 billion for Southeast Asia's economy, representing 9.7% of the region's GDP and supporting around 42.5 million jobs. Recognising the sector's vital contribution to regional economic growth, job creation and cultural exchange, we reaffirmed our commitment to advance quality, high-value, sustainable, and resilient tourism. To this end, we adopted the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Quality Tourism, which provides a landmark framework to strengthen ASEAN's positioning as a single destination, foster human capital development, accelerate digital transformation, and promote inclusive marketing. We also welcomed the ASEAN Tourism Outlook, offering foresight to guide future strategies, and the ASEAN Tourism Sectoral Plan (ATSP) 2026-2030, which charts a shared path toward a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient ASEAN tourism sector. To achieve this, we will strengthen ASEAN's positioning as a single tourism destination, prioritise human capital development, accelerate digital transformation, and pursue inclusive and strategic marketing initiatives. These efforts will reinforce ASEAN's identity as a premier, diverse, and competitive destination that delivers meaningful values to both travellers and local communities.
86. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2026–2035, a forward-looking strategy grounded in two foresight studies to position ASEAN as a competitive and innovation-led region. The Plan aims to build an integrated ASEAN powered by science, technology, and innovation (STI) that enables seamless regional collaboration, boosts global competitiveness, drives sustainable and inclusive economic growth for a prosperous future.
87. We commended the successful rollout of ASEAN Startup Year 2025 and the launch of the Startup ASEAN platform, which have activated a dynamic regional innovation ecosystem now valued at USD131.2 billion. We applauded deepened strategic partnerships, marked by the establishment of a 3.5-petaflops High-Performance Computing facility in Bogor, Indonesia, with support from the Republic of Korea, and Japan's USD100 million contribution under the Networked Exchange for Unified Support (NEXUS) to advance ASEAN's STI cooperation. We recognised the ASEAN Talent Pool under the ASEAN Talent Mobility initiative as a strategic regional asset, connecting over 8,000 researchers and 140 laboratories to drive cross-border collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange across ASEAN.
88. We welcomed ASEAN's collaboration with 15 External Partners, which resulted in the delivery of over 100 STI initiatives in 2025. These included the enhancement of the ASEAN Journal on Science and Technology for Development through the integration of artificial intelligence for scholarly analysis; the strengthening of regional research cooperation on nuclear safety and risk assessment; and the promotion of battery safety to support the energy transition through the ASEAN Battery Safety Network.
89. We welcomed the establishment of the Centre of Excellence for MSMEs in Green Transition as a key step toward building coordinated, impactful capacity for green and sustainable business practices. We reaffirmed our collective commitment to empowering MSMEs as essential drivers of inclusive and sustainable growth across the region. We noted with appreciation the development of the Digital Readiness Assessment Tool, which enables MSMEs to assess their digital maturity, identify priority areas for adoption, and access tailored support, accelerating their integration into ASEAN's digital economy. We also supported the successful convening of the 8th ASEAN Inclusive Business Forum on 11-12 September 2025, which advanced inclusive and sustainable business models to foster resilient and equitable economies.

90. We reaffirmed the growing role of the private sector in advancing ASEAN's economic integration. We welcomed the inclusion of ASEAN-BAC's Activities in the forthcoming AEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030 and noted its on-going efforts to strengthen its institutional capacity in order to better fulfil its mandate as the region's apex private sector body.
91. We noted the broadening of private sector engagement with ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and Dialogue Partners, with more than 100 engagements in 2025, which has systematically embedded business perspectives into ASEAN's regional economic cooperation. We also welcomed business-to-business collaboration between ASEAN business communities and their counterparts, which is to expand ASEAN's network of economic partnerships, unlocking new opportunities for trade and investment across the region.
92. We supported Malaysia's initiatives aimed at assisting Small and Medium Enterprises' (SMEs) green transition through the launch of Version 2 of the ASEAN Simplified ESG Disclosure Guide (ASEAN SEDG) in November 2025. The ASEAN SEDG provides a practical, step-by-step guide developed to help SMEs meet environmental, social and governance (ESG) reporting requirements, equipping them to build resilience and competitive advantage in an evolving marketplace. This supports the ASEAN Vision 2040 which aspires to transform AMS into resilient, sustainable economies individually as well as a whole. Version 2 builds on Version 1, which was published in April 2025.
93. We reaffirmed our commitment to deepening our engagement with external partners as a key strategy to ensure the region's continued relevance and resilience amid an increasingly complex and uncertain geopolitical and economic environment. We underscored that our Free Trade Agreements (FTA) play a vital role in providing our businesses with reliability, stability, and predictability. In this regard, we welcomed the entry into force of the Second Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA), looked forward to the signing of the ASEAN-China FTA 3.0 Upgrade Protocol at the sidelines of the 28th ASEAN-China Summit and welcomed the announcement of commencing the ASEAN-Korea FTA Upgrade negotiations early next year, which are aimed at establishing comprehensive, predictable, inclusive, and forward-looking FTA that addresses current challenges and emerging development in the region. Furthermore, we reaffirmed our commitment to advancing the ongoing FTA negotiations with Canada and the review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA).
94. We also recognised the importance of diversifying ASEAN's economic partnerships to broaden opportunities for sustainable economic growth and development. In this regard, we looked forward to the follow-up of the Joint Declaration on Economic Cooperation between ASEAN and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), to move swiftly to deepen strategic ties and advance the Joint Feasibility Study for an ASEAN-GCC FTA and, unlocking new areas of cooperation, to create long-term value for both sides.

ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

95. We commended the key ASCC priorities under Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship, which fostered a resilient, inclusive and people-centred ASEAN. We were pleased by the adoption of 5 outcome documents and the notation of 13 outcome documents, demonstrating collective commitment to improving the well-being of the ASEAN peoples. These outcome documents reflect the ASCC's ongoing effort to preserve our region's rich cultural heritage, realise the full socio-economic potential of ASEAN's cultural and creative industries, mitigate the spread of misinformation through safe and responsible social media use, and advance higher education.

96. We adopted the Melaka Declaration on Cultural Heritage Value Creation, which underscores the importance of maximising the socio-economic potential of ASEAN's rich cultural heritage, while safeguarding both tangible and intangible assets. This Declaration shall further complement and reinforce the ASEAN Creative Economy Sustainability Framework's goal of harnessing the cultural and creative industries for inclusive and sustainable development and economic growth.
97. Recognising the need for a safe, secure, inclusive, and resilient online environment to protect citizens' rights and well-being, we adopted the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Safe and Responsible Use of Social Media Platforms for ASEAN. We further welcomed the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration to Reaffirm the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information's (AMRI) Commitment to Strategic Progress in Media and Information, reinforcing AMRI's efforts to strengthen cooperation, and advance the media and information sector's role in realising the ACV 2045.
98. We adopted the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Higher Education: Towards an Inclusive, Sustainable and Prosperous ASEAN, reaffirming our commitment to transforming higher education in line with the ACV 2045. The Declaration underscores inclusive access, regional cooperation, quality assurance, and sustainability. It also highlights the role of digital transformation, technical and vocational education and training (TVET), and lifelong learning in equipping individuals with the knowledge, skills, and values to thrive and contribute meaningfully to society.
99. We adopted the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to the 30th Session of Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 30) and welcomed the ASEAN Pavillion at the UNFCCC COP30, reaffirming our strong commitment to tackling climate change and enhancing collaboration with global partners. We further looked forward to the development of the ASEAN Climate Change Strategic Action Plan (ACCSAP) to further advance climate action in the region.
100. We recognised the vital role of education in shaping an inclusive, resilient, and future-ready ASEAN. We welcomed the successful convening of the ASEAN Education Ministerial Roundtables held in June 2025, in Langkawi, Malaysia, which served as a strategic platform to address the future of higher education and the urgent challenges faced by out-of-school children and youth (OOSCY). We noted with appreciation the adoption of the Langkawi Joint Statement on OOSCY and looked forward to its effective implementation as part of ASEAN's broader commitment to leaving no one behind.
101. We commended Cambodia for its efforts in disaster management and humanitarian assistance under its chairmanship of the sector. We noted the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)'s adoption of the following key documents: the Joint Statement of ASEAN for the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) 2025; the ASEAN Ministerial Statement on the 20 Years of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER): ASEAN Vision for Global Leadership in Disaster Resilience; and the AADMER Work Programme 2026-2030. We also underscored the significance of the ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise 2025 (ARDEX-25), hosted by Cambodia in July 2025, in demonstrating our collective commitment to regularly test and strengthen ASEAN's emergency response mechanisms to achieve "One ASEAN, One Response."

102. We appreciated Malaysia's leadership, as Chair of ASEAN, in activating the role of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC), as well as additional financial contribution from ASEAN Member States to the AHA Centre in accordance with the current Terms of Reference, in supporting and facilitating the humanitarian assistance and recovery phase and the efforts of ASEAN Member States in supporting ASEAN's response to Myanmar following the M7.7 Mandalay Earthquake in Myanmar on 28 March 2025. We also commended the ASEAN Member States' and AHA Centre's swift response, including deploying the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT), and mobilising ASEAN relief items from the Disaster Emergency Logistics System for ASEAN (DELSA) warehouses. We noted ASEAN's continued assistance to Myanmar in the post-earthquake recovery phase.
103. We commended the AHA Centre's continued efforts in delivering ASEAN's humanitarian assistance to Myanmar under Phase 2 (Life-Sustaining), in support of Point 4 of the ASEAN Leaders' Five-Point Consensus (5PC). We appreciated the contributions from ASEAN Member States, partners, and the private sector, and called on all relevant parties in Myanmar to ensure a safe, transparent, inclusive, and non-discriminatory delivery of humanitarian assistance to enable more effective implementation of Point 4 of the 5PC. We also reiterated the need for increased international financial support for humanitarian efforts in Myanmar.
104. We welcomed adoption of the Joint Statement on Actionable Plan for Green Jobs Towards a Sustainable and Inclusive ASEAN Workforce, by the ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting, which underscores ASEAN's commitment to advancing green job opportunities and fostering green skills development. We looked forward to the adoption of the ASEAN Framework and Action Plan for a Just and Inclusive Transition to Green Jobs (2025-2030) by the ASEAN Labour Ministers this year to translate the Joint Statement into actions by 2030. We also welcomed the successful convening of the 2025 ASEAN Green Jobs Forum in August 2025, which served as a platform for knowledge exchange and regional dialogue on harnessing digital and green transformations to promote sustainable employment.
105. We commended Malaysia for initiating and leading the ASEAN Year of Skills 2025 through a series of regional and national activities, including the ASEAN Forum of Manpower Ministers for Human Capital Development in October 2025. We noted the adoption of the Joint Statement on Skills Development for the Future Workforce in ASEAN by the ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting, which seeks to strengthen skills development, drive long-term sustainability, and enhance regional and global workforce resilience.
106. We welcomed the progress in implementing the ASEAN Consensus on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, including the completion of the Checklist of the Vientiane Declaration on Skills Mobility, Recognition, and Development for Migrant Workers, as well as the Checklist for ASEAN Member State Governments, Labour Recruiters, and Employers of Migrant Workers on Fair Recruitment and Decent Employment Practices. The combined progress under the said Consensus shall bolster collective regional effort towards uplifting labour upskilling, reskilling and better employment opportunities within ASEAN member states, as well as protecting and promoting the rights of migrant workers.
107. We noted the adoption of ASEAN Roadmap for the Prevention of Child Labour Including the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2035 by the ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting. Building on previous achievements, this post-2025 Roadmap will guide cross-sectoral regional cooperation to strengthen policy coherence and promote inclusive and sustainable solutions in addressing child labour issues amidst globalisation, inter-dependent supply chains, and digitalisation and technological advancement.

108. We welcomed the good progress in discussions towards the finalisation of the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme 2026-2030 and the ongoing development of the ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM) Work Plan for the next five years, which will shape ASEAN's efforts to promote the well-being of its people, build a future-ready workforce, and strengthen good governance across the region.
109. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on Future-Ready Public Service by the ACCSM Heads of Civil Service during the ASEAN Conference on Future-Ready Public Service in October 2025. The Declaration commits ASEAN to promote innovations and forward-looking approaches in governance and public service delivery.
110. We applauded companies in ASEAN Member States that received the 6th ASEAN-OSHNET Awards this year for their exemplary practices and innovations in promoting workplace safety and health. The Awards underscored the vital role of occupational safety and healthy in sustaining businesses, productivity, and well-being of workers.
111. We welcomed the outcomes of the 12th Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development and the 8th ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development which reaffirmed ASEAN's common resolve on enhancing social protection for the people in vulnerable situations and the strengthening of social service workforce as key enablers in delivering effective social protection services. We looked forward to sustained cross-sectoral collaboration in ASEAN towards improving social protection policies and systems that build on ASEAN's achievements, shared priorities and experiences and civil society participation.
112. We noted ASEAN's progress in advancing disability rights and the growing cooperation and partnerships across sectors together with organisations of persons with disabilities. We noted "The Path Ahead Path Ahead: Strategies to Operationalise the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025: Mainstreaming the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities Towards Realising ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and the Mid-Term Review Report of the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025" which were endorsed by ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD). We looked forward to continuing support and collaboration of the three ASEAN Community pillars as ASEAN shapes the future where persons with disabilities rights are mainstreamed in all dimensions of development.
113. We commended the tangible outcomes of regional cooperation on empowering older persons in the region. Inspired by ASEAN's values of respect for older persons and intergenerational solidarity, we called for stronger cooperation to harness ageing as an opportunity to build more inclusive and resilient societies.
114. We acknowledged the steady progress made in advancing the Regional Plan of Action to Implement the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Ageing: Empowering Older Persons in ASEAN. This was reflected in the successful convening of the ASEAN+ROK Conference on Care and Support for Older Persons, held from 30 June to 2 July 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Organized by SOMSWD Malaysia in collaboration with the Republic of Korea (ROK), the Conference provided a valuable platform for ASEAN Member States and ROK to share innovative practices and national strategies in addressing the needs of older persons. The Conference also developed key recommendations underscoring dignity and autonomy, family- and community-centred care, intergenerational equity and inclusion, innovative and knowledge-driven transformation, as well as multisectoral and regional cooperation. Recognising that ASEAN is steadily moving towards becoming an ageing region, this Conference was both timely and pertinent, underscoring the need for stronger collective preparation to ensure that our societies remain inclusive, resilient, and well-prepared for the future.

115. We reaffirmed our shared commitment to narrowing development gaps in the region, particularly in rural and remote areas, as crucial for a more inclusive and resilient ASEAN Community. We welcomed the successful convening of the ASEAN Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on the ASEAN Master Plan on Rural Development and the ASEAN+3 Forum on Women and Digitalisation as strategic platforms to advance concrete, cross-sectoral initiatives that empower rural communities, promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, and accelerate their integration into ASEAN's broader development and digital transformation agenda. We also looked forward to the convening of the 14th ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication and Related Meetings to be held in Thailand in December this year.
116. We commended the continued operationalisation of the ASEAN Villages Network (AVN) recognising its role in fostering inclusive and sustainable rural development across the region. We looked forward to the convening of the 3rd ASEAN Villages Network Meeting in December 2025 and reaffirmed our commitment to advancing the AVN as a flagship regional initiative that strengthens cooperation and enhances capacities at the grassroots level, contributes to narrowing the development gap, and promotes resilience. We underscored the importance of leveraging innovation, knowledge-sharing, and partnerships to further elevate the AVN as a model for community empowerment and people-centred regional cooperation.
117. We welcomed the continued progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework (AGMSF) and its Implementation Plan, which reflect our collective commitment to advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the region. We encouraged all ASEAN Sectoral Bodies to further intensify efforts to institutionalise gender perspectives across their work plans and activities.
118. We welcomed the launch of the Study on Women's Political Participation and Leadership in ASEAN, supported by the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), as a key step towards advancing gender-responsive governance in the region. We reaffirmed our commitment to promoting women's full and meaningful participation in political and public life across ASEAN.
119. We welcomed the convening of the 2025 ASEAN WPS Summit on 9-10 September 2025 in Kuala Lumpur. The Summit reaffirmed the importance of women's leadership in peacebuilding, called for stronger measures to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against women, and urged the integration of WPS perspectives into emerging security challenges. We noted Malaysia's launch of its first National Action Plan on WPS. The recommendations of the Summit, supported by the Advisory Group on WPS in ASEAN, will guide deeper cross-pillar and cross-sectoral cooperation in advancing the WPS agenda under the ASEAN RPA on WPS.
120. We recognised the growing importance of the care economy as a strategic priority for ASEAN. We looked forward to the convening of the New Frontiers in the Care Economy Conference on 4-6 November 2025 in Malaysia, as a platform for Member States to share progress, reflect on good practices, and identify areas for deeper cooperation, while fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration and catalysing innovative approaches in the care sector. We also welcomed the finalisation of the Guidance Note to implement the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening the Care Economy and Fostering Resilience Towards the Post-2025 ASEAN Community, and expressed support for its effective operationalisation across relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and noted that the Conference will also highlight areas of convergence and provide clearer signals on where future cooperation can accelerate regional efforts.

121. We noted the ASEAN Guidelines for Addressing Child and Forced Marriage within the Context of Trafficking in Persons that was endorsed by the AMMSWD and commended the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) for championing the cohesive action in combating trafficking in persons including its linkages with child and forced marriage.
122. We commended the proactive efforts of the ACWC in addressing violence against women and children in cyberspace, and protecting children from online violence. In this regard, we looked forward to the successful convening and strategic recommendation arising from the of the 2025 ASEAN ICT Forum on Child Online Protection in November this year under the leadership of Malaysia.
123. We commended the achievements of youth and sports-related initiatives under Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship. These efforts focused on strengthening regional cooperation in youth development and sports, enhancing youth leadership and entrepreneurship, and fostering inclusive participation in regional initiatives. We also welcomed the 4th ASEAN Youth Statement, themed "Youth for a Sustainable Future: Empowering Inclusion and Driving Change in ASEAN," which underscores the collective aspirations and commitments of ASEAN youth in driving innovation, resilience, and sustainable growth in the region.
124. We commended Viet Nam for its efforts in advancing regional cooperation in sports under its Chairmanship of the sector this year, as well as for the successful delivery of its priorities during the term, which reaffirms ASEAN's commitment to strengthening cooperation in realising an active ASEAN Community by harnessing sports as a vital means to advance socio-cultural development and promote peace. We also noted the successful convening of the 8th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports and Related Meetings held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam in October 2025, which reinforced the region's shared aspiration to foster solidarity, youth engagement, and people-to-people connectivity through sports.
125. We commended the ASEAN Health Sector's sustained efforts in strengthening national and regional disaster health management capacity through the Project for Strengthening ASEAN Regional Capacity in Disaster Health Management (ARCH Project) in cooperation with Japan through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) which is observing its tenth year of implementation. We acknowledge the significant achievements of this initiative, including the development of Standard Operating Procedures for the Coordination of Emergency Medical Teams (EMT SOP) which is now a chapter of ASEAN Standard Operating Procedure for Regional Standby Arrangements and Coordination of Joint Disaster Relief and Emergency Response Operations (ASEAN SASOP), which facilitated the effective and coordinated mobilisation of EMT from Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand as a component of the overall ASEAN response to Myanmar coordinated by AHA Centre following the M7.7 Mandalay Earthquake in March 2025.
126. We noted the progress of the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Strengthening Regional Biosafety and Biosecurity the ongoing initiatives led by Lao PDR and Malaysia, with the support of the ASEAN Mitigation of Biological Threats (MBT) Programme, to operationalise the Declaration. We welcomed establishment of the ASEAN Network on Biosafety and Biosecurity and the development of the Plan of Action to achieve health security and effectively address future threats through meaningful engagement with relevant sectors, stakeholders and partners in ASEAN.

127. We welcomed the progress and milestones of the health-related deliverables under Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship. These efforts focused on promoting good nutrition and healthy diet, enhancing regional preparedness and response to public health emergencies, implementing of the Regional Collaborative Strategy for ASEAN Drug Security and Self-Reliance (ADSSR) to operationalise the ASEAN Declaration of Commitment on ADSSR, ensuring food safety through risk assessment and enhancing the sponsored clinical trial ecosystem in ASEAN. We urged the finalisation of the Establishment Agreement and the operationalisation of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED).
128. We welcomed the outcomes of the 18th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment (AMME) held on 3 September 2025. We commended the recipients of selected cities with the 6th ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) Award and 5th Certificates of Recognition as recognition of their exemplary efforts by cities for keeping their cities clean, green, and liveable. We congratulated the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) on its 20th anniversary establishment as the ASEAN's centre of excellence in supporting biodiversity conservation and the ASEAN Heritage Parks Programme. We also commended the designation of selected protected areas as ASEAN Heritage Parks, which now comprises a network of a total of 69 ASEAN Heritage Parks to strengthen regional cooperation in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem protection.
129. We welcomed the outcomes of the 20th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COP-20 AATHP), particularly on the progress of the implementation of the Second Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control with Means of Implementation (ASEAN Haze-free Roadmap) 2023-2030, the Second ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (APMS) 2023-2030, and the ASEAN Investment Framework for Haze-Free Sustainable Land Management (AIF-HFSLM) as key regional frameworks to achieve the vision of a Haze-Free ASEAN by 2030.
130. We welcomed the signing of the Establishment Agreement of the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change by all ASEAN Member States and looked forward the Centre's full establishment and operationalisation towards strengthening regional cooperation and coordination in addressing climate change issues in the region.
131. We noted that transboundary haze pollution has adverse impacts on the public health, well-being, and economies of ASEAN. We emphasised that transboundary haze pollution arising from land and forest fires remains a concern in the region. We stressed the importance of remaining vigilant and welcomed the ongoing preventive efforts to minimise transboundary haze pollution during periods of drier and hotter weather. We reiterated our commitment to the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, and welcomed continued work to implement the Second Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control with Means of Implementation (Haze-free Roadmap) 2023-2030, Second ASEAN Peatland Strategy 2023-2030, and Chiang Rai 2017 Plan of Action for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control in the Mekong Sub-Region. We commended the signing of the Establishment Agreement of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACC THPC) by all ASEAN Member States and looked forward to the full establishment and operationalisation of the ACC THPC in Indonesia to address transboundary haze pollution. The operationalisation of the ACC THPC, as well as the work of the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre, the AHA Centre, the ACB, and the ASEAN Research and Training Centre for Space Technology and Applications (ARTSA), in accordance with their respective mandates under the Establishment Agreement of the ACC THPC, will facilitate effective implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution and further reaffirm ASEAN's commitment in enhancing regional cooperation and coordination on transboundary haze pollution in the ASEAN region.

132. We highlighted the need to further the collaboration with Dialogue Partners, Sectoral Dialogue Partners, Development Partners, to tackle environment, climate change and transboundary issues, and to promote investment among others in nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based adaption, natural capital, carbon pricing, and circular economy.
133. We highlighted the importance of promoting plastic circularity and advancing circular economy approaches to reduce waste, while supporting a sustainable blue economy that protects marine ecosystems and sustains livelihoods. We commended the successful 3rd ASEAN Circular Economy Forum held in October 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and reaffirmed our commitment to the implementation of the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States (2021-2025) as a key framework for regional cooperation in tackling plastic pollution.
134. We looked forward to the development of the Post-2025 ASEAN Strategic Plan on Environment, which will guide the region's long-term environmental agenda. This plan is expected to build on past achievements while addressing emerging challenges in a rapidly changing environmental landscape.
135. We commended the ASCC Research and Development Platforms Programme for promoting evidence-based policymaking and research uptake across the region. The published reports from the Future of Work and Future of Education Platforms have offered valuable insights into workforce adaptation, inclusive human resource development, educational transformation, learning recovery, and teacher professional development. We looked forward to the findings from the Poverty Action, Media, Culture and Arts, and Care Economy Platforms, as well as the development of the ASCC Development Outlook Volume 2, which will critically assess the human impact of digitalisation.
136. We commended the ongoing End-Term Review of the ASCC Blueprint 2025 (ASCC ETR) and noted the Interim Report's findings, which highlighted ASCC's contributions to human and sustainable development in the region. We looked forward to the completion of the ASCC ETR Final Report, which will provide comprehensive insights and findings upon the conclusion of the ASCC Blueprint 2025.
137. We noted with satisfaction the continued use of the ASCC Database for Monitoring and Evaluation (ADME) System, which supports ASCC's work with timely, accurate, and reliable data. We welcomed the planned enhancement of the ADME System, which will further strengthen ASCC's monitoring and reporting capabilities, including using digital platforms and tools, and through the co-ownership of the ADME System, which will allow AMS focal points to update the data.
138. We recognised The ASEAN magazine's value as a vital tool for promoting public awareness and understanding of ASEAN's work and initiatives. We commended its role in fostering a stronger regional identity and disseminating key information and look forward to its sustained presence and long-term contribution.

ASEAN CONNECTIVITY

139. We commended the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC), Lead Implementing Bodies, ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, National Coordinators, and national agencies for their work in advancing the ASEAN Connectivity agenda through the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025. We welcomed the final report of the End-Term Review of MPAC 2025, which provides valuable insights and lessons learned that will strengthen the implementation of the ASEAN Connectivity Strategic Plan (ACSP). We further commended the continued efforts of the Lead Implementing Body for Sustainable Infrastructure (LIB-SI) in promoting sustainable

infrastructure development in the region through building capacity and in updating and advancing the Initial Pipeline of ASEAN Infrastructure Projects.

140. We emphasised the importance of a whole-of-Community approach and called on relevant stakeholders to work together in enhancing connectivity through the implementation of the (ACSP) across its six strategic areas. We further encouraged continued support and cooperation from ASEAN's external partners to strengthen connectivity within and beyond the region and looked forward to co-developing activities to implement the ACSP in synergy with key connectivity initiatives and the implementation of the AOIP, through the "Connecting the Connectivities" approach. We welcomed the development of further activities to implement the Strategic Measures of the ACSP.

ASEAN EXTERNAL RELATIONS

141. We underscored the importance of strengthening ASEAN unity and Centrality in our engagement with external partners, including through ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ASEAN Plus One, APT, EAS, ARF, ADMM-Plus, and EAMF, in order to build mutual trust and confidence as well as to reinforce an ASEAN-centred, open, inclusive, transparent, resilient, and rules-based regional architecture that upholds international law. We emphasised the need to promote an enabling environment for peace, stability and prosperity for all by ensuring a culture of dialogue and cooperation, instead of rivalry, enhancing mutual trust and confidence and respect for international law.
142. We are committed to advancing an outward-looking ASEAN Community that promotes sustainable growth and strengthens regional resilience through inclusive cooperation and collaboration with external partners. We took note of the growing interest from countries, regional and international organisations in formalising relations and substantive cooperation with ASEAN, reflecting ASEAN's increasing global relevance and unique convening power for diplomacy amid today's geopolitical and geo-economic uncertainties. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Decision on Enhancing ASEAN Relations with External Parties, which seeks to ensure that new external engagements are aligned with ASEAN's principles and purposes, and consistent with ASEAN's established rules, procedures, and protocols, including through pursuing the implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and enhancing engagements with High Contracting Parties to the TAC, and aligned with the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future.
143. We acknowledged the broad, in-principle support by ASEAN Member States for Türkiye's Dialogue Partnership application. We also acknowledged the Assessment Paper on ASEAN's Formal Partnerships prepared by the ASEAN Secretariat, including the recommendation therein to decide by 2026 on the future of the current moratorium on new Dialogue Partners. In this regard, we agreed, in principle, to confer Dialogue Partnership upon Türkiye, subject to the finalisation of the review on the issue of the moratorium.
144. We noted the discussion on establishing modalities for Papua New Guinea's role as a Special Observer in ASEAN, as a means to further strengthening ASEAN's engagement with Papua New Guinea.
145. We welcomed the enhanced engagement between the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) and ASEAN's external partners, including through participation of the 96 Non-ASEAN Ambassadors Accredited to ASEAN (NAAAs). We also acknowledged the continued efforts of the 55 ASEAN Committees in Third Countries and International Organisations (ACTCs) in promoting ASEAN's visibility and advancing its interests in respective host countries and multilateral fora.

146. We welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between ASEAN the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) in football development. The signing of the ASEAN-FIFA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the announcement of the ASEAN-FIFA Cup marked significant milestones in regional sports collaboration. These initiatives are poised to advance the development of football across ASEAN member states. We reaffirmed our commitment to protect sports integrity with regard to the renewal of the ASEAN-World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Memorandum of Understanding. We looked forward to the effective implementation of the joint programmes under the respective MOUs, which will further enhance ASEAN's collective efforts in strengthening football development and sports integrity in line with the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future.

DIALOGUE PARTNERS

147. We looked forward to successful outcomes of the 5th ASEAN-Australia Summit; 28th ASEAN-China Summit; 22nd ASEAN-India Summit, 28th ASEAN-Japan Summit; 26th ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Summit; and the 13th ASEAN-United States (U.S.) Summit.
148. We looked forward to the ASEAN-New Zealand Commemorative Summit and the adoption of the ASEAN-New Zealand Leaders' Joint Vision Statement on the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue Relations, with the establishment of the ASEAN-New Zealand Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) that is meaningful, substantive and mutually beneficial.
149. We welcomed the further strengthening of ASEAN's partnership with China, India, New Zealand, and the ROK through the adoption of successor Plans of Action (POAs) for 2026-2030 as well as a Joint Vision Statement with the U.S to Promote Stronger, Safer, and More Prosperous ASEAN and America. These instruments will guide the further development of ASEAN's external partnerships in alignment with the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future.

ASEAN SECTORAL DIALOGUE PARTNERS AND ASEAN DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

150. We welcomed the progress in ASEAN's Sectoral Dialogue Partnerships with Brazil, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, South Africa, Switzerland, Türkiye, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), as well as its Development Partnerships with Chile, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Peru. We also welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Development Partnership Practical Cooperation Areas (PCAs) 2025-2029 with the Netherlands and Peru, in 2025. We took note of the extension of the PCAs for ASEAN-Chile Development Partnership for the period of 2021-2025 to 2021-2026. We also looked forward to the development of the successor of ASEAN-Norway Sectoral Dialogue Partnership PCAs (2026-2030) for its adoption next year.

GUESTS OF THE CHAIR

151. We noted with appreciation the participation of Canada, the European Union (EU), and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as Guests of the Chair, who were invited to deliver statements at the 47th ASEAN Summit. The presence of these partners reflects ASEAN's commitment to fostering constructive and meaningful engagement with a broad range of stakeholders in support of regional stability and prosperity.

152. We commended Canada's commitment to strengthening economic cooperation, through substantial conclusion of ASEAN-Canada Free Trade Agreement (ACAFTA) in 2026, and its aspiration to double non-U.S. exports over the next decade. We noted the benefit of ASEAN-Canada trade and investment relations and the potential for deeper collaboration across key sectors. We welcomed Canada's continued efforts to engage with the ASEAN Member States to unlock new markets and create mutually beneficial opportunities.
153. We welcomed the European Union's commitment to strengthening its partnership with ASEAN in the areas of trade, connectivity, digitalisation, transport, energy, green transition and people-to-people connection. We looked forward to further enhancing our engagement and cooperation in these areas, and to commemorating the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations in 2027 as an important milestone in advancing our longstanding partnership.
154. We noted the briefing by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the global economic and regional outlook. We welcomed the IMF's collaboration with ASEAN Member States towards improving access to finance, enhance skills of the labour force to uplift productivity, which will strengthen economic resilience. We further welcomed the IMF's collaboration with the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) to strengthen and operationalise the enhanced Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM).

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

155. We reaffirmed the importance of multilateralism and international cooperation and underscored the importance of ASEAN's partnerships with regional and international organisations, including the UN to address global concerns, pursue shared goals and complementary initiatives, and promote sustainable development for the benefit of our peoples. In this regard, we looked forward to the continued high-level interactions between ASEAN and the UN, including the convening of the 15th ASEAN-UN Summit at the 47th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits.
156. We noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the UN (2021-2025) and welcomed the adoption of the new ASEAN-UN Plan of Action (2026-2030) to continue advancing our shared goals and objectives across all pillars of the ASEAN Community.

ASEAN PLUS THREE (APT)

157. We reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) cooperation framework in advancing regional community-building efforts and in promoting peace, stability, security, prosperity, and regional cooperation in the East Asian region, with ASEAN as the driving force. We welcomed the substantive progress in the implementation of the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2023-2027) and the continued efforts to further strengthen APT mechanisms including the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI), the Disaster Risk Financing (DRF), the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) and the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR). We reaffirmed our commitment to further deepen APT cooperation, including through tangible cooperation in the four priority areas of the AOIP to contribute to greater regional sustainability and resilience, in support of the implementation of the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future.

EAST ASIA SUMMIT (EAS)

158. We welcomed the 20th Anniversary of the East Asia Summit (EAS) and looked forward to the adoption of an EAS Leaders' Declaration marking this important milestone. We reaffirmed our support for further strengthening the EAS process, ensuring its strategic value, relevance, adaptability, and responsiveness to emerging regional and global challenges, with the aim of promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity in the East Asia region.
159. We recognised the respective and complementary roles of the East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting in providing strategic guidance, the EAS Senior Officials Meetings in ensuring policy coordination and follow-up, the Group of East Asia Summit Ambassadors in Jakarta, as important mechanisms to facilitate ongoing engagement and dialogue, and the EAS Unit in the ASEAN Secretariat in providing institutional support and continuity, all contributing to efforts in strengthening the EAS and supporting the effective implementation of the EAS Leaders' statements, declarations, decisions, and initiatives, as well as the EAS Plan of Action (2024-2028), including the exchange of information on regional development cooperation and security policies, as well as discussions on the evolving regional architecture.
160. We looked forward to the adoption of thematic Leaders' Statements at the 20th East Asia Summit, reflecting ASEAN's shared priorities and collective responses to regional challenges, and to promote regional inclusivity and sustainability.

ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM

161. We reaffirmed the importance of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) as an ASEAN-led platform for open, constructive and inclusive consultation, as well as constructive dialogue and cooperation on regional political and security issues of common interest and concern. We welcomed the adoption of the paper on Recommendations on the Revitalisation of the ARF by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers, which aimed at bolstering the ARF's effectiveness, significance and relevance.
162. We further welcomed the progress of the development of the new Plan of Action to succeed the ARF Ha Noi Plan of Action II (2020-2025), to be adopted in 2026. We looked forward to a revitalised ARF that is more responsive, effective, interactive and better equipped to address shared emerging challenges in the evolving regional security landscape., as well as to consider ways the ARF can move forward to the preventive diplomacy stage, at a pace comfortable for all Participants, with confidence-building measures still at the core.

ASEAN OUTLOOK ON THE INDO-PACIFIC (AOIP)

163. We noted the significant role of the AOIP as a key guiding framework for ASEAN's engagement in the wider Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regions, particularly in providing an enabling environment for peace, stability, and prosperity. We were pleased to see that more External Partners of ASEAN have expressed their support for the AOIP, including through joint statements, as well as practical and concrete initiatives. In this regard, we encouraged all our partners to continue undertaking concrete projects and activities through workstreams under the four priority areas of the AOIP, as well as exploring further mutually beneficial cooperation through relevant ASEAN-led mechanisms.
164. We also welcomed the convening of the 2nd Seminar of the AOIP Seminar Series: Submarine Cables co-hosted by Indonesia, Singapore, Australia, Japan, and Korea on 13 February 2025, in Jakarta, Indonesia, and looked forward to the convening of the 3rd Seminar on Marine Protection and Preservation by Singapore, Australia, India, and Japan in Jakarta, Indonesia in December 2025.

165. We looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-Indo-Pacific Forum 2025 as a special session of the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (ABIS) on 27 October 2025, in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia, focusing on regional economic integration and key sustainability initiatives, the AOIP Forum 2025: Towards an Inclusive and Sustainable Indo-Pacific, Malaysia on 14-15 November 2025; as well as the Maritime Cybersecurity Conference in Kuala Lumpur, in November 2025, an AOIP activity in the defence sector as highlighted in the Concept Paper on the implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific from a Defence Perspective (AOIP DP), which was adopted by the 17th ADMM on 15 November 2023.

INITIATIVE FOR ASEAN INTEGRATION (IAI)

166. We adopted the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the Adoption of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan V (2026-2030), which reflects ASEAN's continued commitment to narrowing the development gap within and among ASEAN Member States and to ensuring that regional integration remains inclusive and equitable. The new Work Plan aligns with the ACV 2045 and its corresponding Strategic Plans, and takes into consideration the recommendations of the Reframed Strategies for Narrowing Development Gaps and Promoting Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Growth in the ASEAN Region. We reaffirmed our strong support for the IAI Task Force in spearheading the implementation of the Work Plan and encouraged continued collaboration with ASEAN's external partners to mobilise resources and expertise in support of the new IAI Work Plan.

SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION

167. We reaffirmed the importance of ASEAN unity and Centrality in promoting sub-regional development. We recognised the relevance and complementarity of subregional development to ASEAN's regional integration and Community-building process, especially in advancing economic integration and narrowing the development gap. In this regard, we encouraged the exploration, strengthening and promotion of closer coordination, collaboration, and synergy between ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and ASEAN-approved sub-regional cooperation frameworks, to facilitate the realisation of this endeavour, including in possible areas of cooperation such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, smart agriculture, energy connectivity, digital transformation, food, water and energy security.

ASEAN SMART CITIES NETWORK (ASCN)

168. We welcomed the ASEAN Smart City Action Plan (ASCAP) 2026-2035 adopted at the 8th ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) Annual Meeting in September 2025, which builds upon the ASEAN Smart Cities Framework adopted by ASEAN Leaders at the 33rd ASEAN Summit in 2018 and aims to support the implementation of the ASEAN Connectivity Strategic Plan. The ASCAP 2026-2035 is ASEAN's first comprehensive, decade-long blueprint to transform the region's urban landscape in shaping smarter, greener, and more inclusive cities, driving digital innovation, and strengthening climate resilience. We underscored the need to align regional aspirations with national and local development priorities, and to foster smart and sustainable urban and rural development actions across ASEAN.
169. We welcomed the successful convening of the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Forum, the ASEAN Governors and Mayors Forum (AGMF) and the Meeting of Governors and Mayors of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) on 10-15 August 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. We commended the endorsed Kuala Lumpur Sustainable Declaration on Localising ASEAN Community Vision 2045 that calls for stronger local-level action and financing to advance local priorities under the ASEAN 2045 Pillars and to promote inclusive local governance through active partnerships with the private sector, civil society and community-based organisations in the cocreation of local solutions.

ASEAN PRIZE

170. We recognised the pivotal role of the ASEAN Prize as the region's premier award in advancing ASEAN Community building and in fostering a shared ASEAN identity to heighten awareness among its peoples. We congratulated the Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia (UYFC), a non-profit social organization, a non-governmental organization a regional youth movement based in Cambodia, on being conferred the ASEAN Prize for the year 2025, in acknowledgement of their sustained commitment to promoting ASEAN awareness through an array of youth-led and intercultural initiatives, enhancing regional interconnectedness, and furthering regional cooperation towards the realisation of an inclusive, dynamic, people-oriented, and people-centred ASEAN Community.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

171. We expressed our deep concern over the escalation of conflicts and humanitarian situation in Myanmar and urged progress on the implementation of the ASEAN Five-Point Consensus (5PC). We reaffirmed our united position that the 5PC remains our main reference to address the political crisis in Myanmar. We denounced the continued acts of violence against civilians, public facilities, and civilian infrastructures, and urged all parties involved to take concrete action to immediately halt indiscriminate violence, exercise utmost restraint, ensure the protection and safety of all civilians and civilian infrastructures, and create a conducive environment for the safe, unimpeded and non-discriminatory delivery of humanitarian assistance and inclusive national dialogue. In this regard, we reaffirmed the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on an Extended and Expanded Ceasefire in Myanmar. We also welcomed the continued progress in the provision of humanitarian assistance to Myanmar by the AHA Centre in support of Point 4 of the ASEAN Leaders' 5PC. We reviewed the implementation of the 5PC and adopted the ASEAN Leaders' Review and Decision on the Implementation of the Five-Point Consensus on ASEAN's long-term approach to the situation in Myanmar.
172. We commended the dedicated efforts of H.E. Tan Sri Othman Hashim as the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar. In carrying out his mandate, the Special Envoy has actively engaged a wide and diverse range of stakeholders through an inclusive approach, reflecting ASEAN's commitment to collective efforts in addressing the complex challenges in Myanmar. We looked forward to deliberations on the proposal for a longer-term role of the ASEAN Special Envoy on Myanmar, particularly in sustaining the momentum that has been established. We reaffirmed our commitment to the continued and sustainable strategies and approaches to help the people of Myanmar find an inclusive and durable peaceful resolution that is Myanmar-owned and Myanmar-led for peace, security, and stability in the region.
173. We discussed the situation in the South China Sea, during which concerns were expressed by some Leaders over incidents and activities in the area which have eroded trust and confidence, increased tensions, and may undermine peace, security, and stability in the region. We reaffirmed the need to enhance mutual trust and confidence, exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability and avoid actions that may further complicate the situation. We further reaffirmed the need to pursue peaceful resolution of disputes, in accordance with the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS.

174. We reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety and freedom of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea and recognised the benefits of having the South China Sea as a sea of peace, stability, prosperity, and sustainable development.
175. In this regard, we underscored the importance of the full and effective implementation of the DOC in its entirety. We welcomed the progress achieved so far in the ongoing negotiations on the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC), notably the completion of the third reading of the Single Draft COC Negotiating Text (SDNT) and encouraged continued positive momentum on the Draft COC. In line with the Guidelines for Accelerating the Early Conclusion of an Effective and Substantive Code of Conduct in the South China Sea, we looked forward to the early conclusion of an effective and substantive COC that is in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS. We emphasised the need to maintain and promote an environment conducive to the COC negotiations, including the situation in the South China Sea, and thus welcomed practical measures that could reduce tensions and the risk of accidents, misunderstandings, and miscalculation. We stressed the importance of undertaking confidence building and preventive measures to enhance, among others, trust and confidence amongst parties, and we reaffirmed the importance of upholding international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS.
176. We expressed deep concern over the continued tensions in the Middle East and called on all parties involved to exercise utmost restraint, avoid actions which could aggravate the situation, and resolve differences through peaceful means, dialogue, and diplomacy in the interest of maintaining regional
177. We welcomed the agreement reached between the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) and Israel on the first phase of the Comprehensive Plan to End the Gaza Conflict, announced by United States President Donald J. Trump in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, on 8 October 2025, with a view to achieving a permanent cessation of hostilities. We commended the constructive efforts of the United States of America, Arab Republic of Egypt, the State of Qatar, the Republic of Türkiye. We call upon all the concerned parties to fully adhere to the agreed terms and urge for its comprehensive implementation. We acknowledge that this development marks a crucial step towards ending the conflict, including preventing further suffering, loss of lives, forced displacement of people, ensuring the release of all hostages and detainees, ensuring full withdrawal of the Israeli forces, supporting the reconstruction of Gaza and realisation of the rights to self-determination and statehood for the Palestinian people.
178. We reaffirmed our strong support for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in carrying out its mandate. We called for the full resumption of rapid, safe, unimpeded, and sustained humanitarian access to all those in need, including through enhanced capacity at border crossings and sea routes. We urged all parties to the conflict to protect civilians and to abide by international humanitarian and human rights law. We emphasised the urgent need for an immediate, permanent and unconditional ceasefire; the immediate, unimpeded, safe, and sustained delivery of humanitarian assistance to all affected communities – including through the strengthening of UNRWA's role and mandate – and the immediate commencement of comprehensive reconstruction efforts in Gaza to rebuild lives and restore the dignity of the Palestinian people.

179. We reaffirmed our longstanding support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and to their homeland. In this regard, we urged all parties concerned to work towards a peaceful resolution of the conflict, with a view to realising a two-State solution in accordance with international law and relevant UNSC and UNGA resolutions, including UNGA Resolution A/RES/ES-10/23 on the Admission of New Members to the United Nations (10 May 2024) and UNGA Decision A/DEC/80/506 on the Endorsement of the New York Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution (12 September 2025), both of which we supported. We also welcomed the Advisory Opinions of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the question of Palestine, including on The Obligations of Israel in relation to the Presence and Activities of the United Nations, Other International Organisations and Third States in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, issued on 22 October 2025.
180. We expressed concern over the recent developments regarding the Korean Peninsula and stressed the importance of resuming peaceful dialogue among all concerned parties in order to realise lasting peace and stability in a denuclearised Korean Peninsula. We expressed grave concern over the recent surge in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) intercontinental testing and ballistic missile launches, which are worrisome developments that threaten peace and stability in the region. We called on the DPRK to comply fully with all relevant UNSC resolutions and continue working towards the realisation of lasting peace and stability in a denuclearised Korean Peninsula. We also called for the full implementation of all relevant UNSC resolutions and noted international efforts to bring about the complete denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. Diplomatic efforts, including the creation of a conducive environment for peaceful dialogue among all concerned parties, should remain a priority. In this vein, we expressed support for the resumption of dialogue through proactive de-escalation and confidence-building measures, with the aim of achieving peaceful coexistence and shared growth on the Korean Peninsula through the expansion of inter-Korean exchanges, normalisation of relations, and advancing denuclearisation. We reiterated our readiness to play a constructive role, including through ASEAN-led platforms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), in promoting a conducive atmosphere for peaceful dialogue among the concerned parties.
181. We commended Malaysia's role in facilitating bilateral dialogue toward ceasefire between Cambodia and Thailand, particularly through the Special Meeting chaired, hosted and witnessed by Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim of Malaysia, as Chair of ASEAN, on 28 July 2025 in Putrajaya. We were also appreciative of the role of the United States of America in co-organising the Special Meeting and the active participation of the People's Republic of China, to promote a peaceful resolution to the ongoing situation.
182. We further welcomed the signing of the Joint Declaration by the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand on the Outcome of Their Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 26 October 2025, witnessed by the Prime Minister of Malaysia and Chair of ASEAN, and the President of the United States of America. This constitutes an important path towards a lasting and sustainable peace.
183. We are confident that the goodwill demonstrated by both Cambodia and Thailand will result in the full and effective implementation of the ceasefire arrangements, including the deployment of the ASEAN Observer Team. We also expressed support for Malaysia's readiness to coordinate an observer team comprising ASEAN Member States to impartially verify and ensure the implementation of the ceasefire.

184. We appreciated the leadership of President Donald J. Trump for his significant role in the whole process, particularly his constructive engagement with Cambodia, Thailand, and with Malaysia as the current ASEAN Chair, in ensuring the effective implementation of the ceasefire agreement, and the conclusion of this Joint Declaration.