

2025 CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE 15TH ASEAN-UNITED NATIONS SUMMIT

Issued in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 27 October 2025

1. The 15th ASEAN-United Nations (UN) Summit was held on 27 October 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Summit was chaired by the Honourable Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia and the Chair of ASEAN. The Summit was attended by the ASEAN Member States and H.E. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the UN. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance.
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 within an inclusive and sustainable framework - anchored in the Charter of the United Nations, the ASEAN Charter, and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), and guided by the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP).
3. We reaffirmed our commitment in advancing the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership in alignment with the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future and reaffirmed our continued support for the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs), International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action, and the UN Pact for the Future and its annexes, the Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations.
4. We underscored the significance of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership towards ASEAN Community-building efforts as well as in our collective efforts in addressing global and regional concerns, while pursuing shared goals and complementary initiatives, for the benefit of the peoples of ASEAN. We reaffirmed our unwavering commitment to upholding multilateralism, as well as the rule of law and a rules-based international order in responding to increasingly complex global challenges. We looked forward to the forthcoming 30th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP30) and Second World Summit for Social Development in November 2025 as multilateral platforms led by the UN to address pressing global issues with deep interlinkages to the work of regional organisations. We looked forward to the entry into force of the Agreement under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) in January 2026. The UN Secretary-General also appreciated ASEAN's contribution of military and police peacekeeping personnel to UN peacekeeping operations and welcomed ASEAN-UN cooperation through multilateral training initiatives in the region, such as the UN Triangular Partnership Programme.
5. We noted the significant progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Plan of Action (2021-2025) and welcomed the adoption of the successor document for 2026-2030, which outlines our shared priorities and will continue to pursue the goals and objectives of our comprehensive partnership in the next five years.
6. We commended our cooperation on health with the World Health Organization (WHO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), including through the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda (2021-2025), ASEAN Strategic Framework to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance through One Health Approach (ASF-AMR) (2019-2030), Revised ASEAN Rabies Elimination Strategy, a series of ASEAN-Occupational Safety and Health Network (OSHNET) events, ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on One Health (OH) Initiatives, and the ASEAN-UN partnership in the ongoing efforts to establish ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED) to ensure the region's resilience against future health threats.

7. We noted our cooperation on peace and security issues including in the areas of preventive diplomacy, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, transnational crime, illicit drugs, as well as the promotion and protection of human rights in the region through continued engagement between the UN and the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD), ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR), as well as ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR). We welcomed the launch of the ASEAN-IPR Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) study and looked forward to further cooperation with the UN to advance the YPS agenda. We also recognised the humanitarian imperative to protect civilians and ensure unhindered humanitarian access in conflict situations, consistent with international humanitarian law. We welcomed the ASEAN-UK Symposium on Money Laundering organized in April 2025, which was hosted by Malaysia and supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). We further welcomed the convening of the Second Border Management Cooperation Dialogue for the ASEAN Region held on 16-17 October 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand, which was co-hosted by Thailand and the UNODC. We welcomed the adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on the Right to a Safe, Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment, and acknowledged the ongoing collaboration between the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UNEP, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), AICHR and the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN) in advancing environmental governance, including through safeguarding the right to a healthy environment.
8. We further noted our expanded collaboration to promote digital transformation and connectivity in ASEAN, including through the endorsement of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) – ASEAN Priority Cooperation Areas document for 2024-2026, in line with the ASEAN Digital Masterplan (ADM).
9. We appreciated the continued cooperation between the United Nations and the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC), in particular through the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in advancing humanitarian mine action, peacebuilding, and resilience across the region. We noted ARMAC's ongoing efforts to strengthen regional awareness, enhance victim assistance, and promote knowledge sharing and innovation in mine action, contributing to sustainable peace and human security in ASEAN. We encouraged continued UN support for ARMAC's initiatives under the new ASEAN–UN Plan of Action (2026–2030), including sharing of expertise and best practices to address the humanitarian impact of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) in affected Member States.
10. We were encouraged by our cooperation on labour and migration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and IOM including through their respective work programmes, the ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML), and the finalisation of the ASEAN Roadmap for the Prevention of Child Labour including the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2035.
11. We commended the strong regional cooperation to end AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030 through the sustained implementation of the ASEAN Declaration of Commitment on HIV and AIDS: Fast-Tracking and Sustaining HIV and AIDS Responses to End the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda (2021-2025), and the ASEAN Health Sector Work Plan on HIV and AIDS (2021-2025).
12. We reaffirmed our commitment to advance sustainable agriculture, food security, nutrition and food safety, reduce carbon emissions, harness digital innovation, and strengthen climate resilience, through the implementation of the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on the Vision for Food, Agriculture, and Forestry Towards 2045. We supported landscape restoration, sustainable bioeconomy, and resilient regional rice and staple food supply – including through emergency stockpiles, and open, predictable trade, as well as smart agriculture and fisheries for smallholders.

13. We appreciated the ongoing cooperation in ending all forms of malnutrition by 2030, including through the implementation of the multi-sectoral ASEAN Strategic Framework and Action Plan for Nutrition (2018-2030), and welcomed the launch of the ASEAN Guidelines and Minimum Standards on key nutrition priorities. We encouraged ASEAN-UN collaboration – including with FAO, WFP, UNICEF and other relevant UN agencies – to share best practices, strengthen logistics and data systems, and scale nutrition-sensitive social protection models such as school meals across the region.
14. We encourage strengthened collaboration in sustainable rural development through ASEAN Villages Network, to empower rural communities, facilitate collaboration among villages to accelerate poverty eradication, and contribute to the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs). We further acknowledged the convening of the 7th ASEAN-China-UNDP Symposium on SDGs in Bali, Indonesia.
15. We also reaffirmed our commitment to upholding the rights of children in the context of migration through the joint support of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), IOM, and UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in accelerating the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action on Implementing the ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration (ASEAN RPA on CCM).
16. We welcomed UNICEF's support in advancing the rights of children with disabilities, and ensuring child-friendly policies and programmes in ASEAN Member States as guided by the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025: Mainstreaming the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
17. We looked forward to the continued support from the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and UNICEF in advancing early childhood care and education (ECCE) in laying the foundation for lifelong learning, inclusive development, and social cohesion across ASEAN. We acknowledged UNESCO's technical support in the development of the ASEAN State of Education Report and the ASEAN Workplan on Education (2026-2030).
18. We reaffirmed our commitment in realising ASEAN's vision for a climate-resilient Community, including through the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement. We looked forward to the 30th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP30).
19. We noted the collaboration between ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) and UNDP, FAO, and UNEP, including through the Effectively Managing Ecological Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS) Programme, the Development of Programming Directions on Forest Biodiversity Mainstreaming in the Asia-Pacific, and the upcoming project on UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre. We acknowledged ASEAN's efforts to address air pollution within and across countries, including through the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP). We acknowledged cooperation on air pollution in line with the United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution 6/10 on regional cooperation on air pollution to improve air quality globally through initiatives such as the Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership (APCAP), the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) mechanisms where UNEP has been collaborating with the ASEAN Secretariat and Member States to strengthen normative and capacity-building work on air quality.
20. We commended the commitment of ASEAN Leaders to harness the potential of the Blue Economy as a driver of inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth, in accordance with the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). We recognised the importance of fisheries and aquaculture in the region. We welcomed ASEAN's efforts to combat IUU fishing and the renewed efforts to strengthen global and regional collaboration in this respect.

21. We acknowledged that disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action and emergency response remains our priority, including through the implementation of the ASEANUN Joint Strategic Plan of Action on Disaster Management 2021-2025 (JSPADM IV), strengthening collaboration with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre), and the preparation for the ASEAN-UN JSPADM V to support the implementation of the disaster management and emergency response (AADMER) Work Programme 2026-2030 and we welcomed support from UN agencies, including OCHA, ESCAP, UNDRR, and UNDP.
22. We emphasised the significance of deepening collaboration between ASEAN and the UN Tourism (UNWTO) in key areas of tourism competitiveness, capacity building programmes, and sustainable tourism.
23. We endorsed the Complementarities Initiative 2.0 and appreciated the support of the UNESCAP in developing the Complementarities Initiative 2.0 to ensure alignment with the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs). We noted the convening of the ASEAN Multistakeholder Forum on Sustainability, which includes the 2025 ASEAN Forum on SDGs with National Development Planning Agencies, and the ASEAN Multistakeholder Forum on Sustainability, and the forthcoming 9th High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue on Promoting Complementarities Initiatives (HLBD).
24. We commended the collaboration between ASEAN and UN Women to advance gender mainstreaming across all three ASEAN Community pillars, including in reviewing the implementation of key regional frameworks on women and children, and in developing the successor frameworks post-2025. We appreciated UN Women's ongoing support to the ASEAN Gender Outlook, promoting strategies for the care economy and related initiatives. We also recognised the partnership between UN Women and AIPA in promoting inclusive governance through the development and implementation of the Plan of Action on Women's Political Participation and Leadership (WPPL), which complements ASEAN's broader efforts to strengthen women's leadership and representation in decision-making. We appreciated UN Women's support in convening the 2025 ASEAN Women, Peace and Security Summit held on 9-10 September 2025, in Kuala Lumpur and we looked forward to strengthening regional cooperation to advance the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security (ASEAN RPA WPS).
25. We reaffirmed our commitment to strengthening social work and the wider social service workforce in the region, including through collaboration between the Senior Officials' Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD), the ASEAN Social Work Consortium (ASCW), the ASEAN Training Centre for Social Work and Social Welfare and UNICEF in accelerating ASEAN's efforts in the implementation of the Ha Noi Declaration on Social Work Towards Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN Community.
26. We noted our collaboration in promoting the development and participation of youth and children in the region. In this regard, we looked forward to the convening of the 2025 ASEAN ICT Forum on Child Online Protection, scheduled in November 2025 by Malaysia and Thailand.
27. We welcomed joint efforts in building a conducive cultural and creative ecosystem through the implementation of the ASEAN Creative Economy Sustainability Framework, alongside the Siem Reap Declaration on Promoting a Creative and Adaptive ASEAN Community to Support the Cultural and Creative Economy. We also looked forward to the collaboration between the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Sports (SOMS) and UNESCO in implementing the ASEAN Declaration on Fostering ASEAN Identity through the Safeguarding of Traditional Sports and Games (TSG) in the Modern World, as well as the endorsement and adoption of the Melaka Declaration on Cultural Heritage Value Creation by the Senior Officials' Meeting on Culture and the Arts (SOMCA) and ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA).
28. We commended the collaboration to enhance regional economic competitiveness, inclusiveness, and resilience through the promotion of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for sustainable development in sectors crucial for ASEAN's green transition and post-pandemic recovery. We

looked forward to promoting ASEAN as a unified investment destination across key sector value chains through the ASEAN Investment Forums and the ASEAN Regional Investment Promotion Action Plan.

29. We appreciated the continued support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 and looked forward to strengthening cooperation under the ASEAN Connectivity Strategic Plan (ACSP). We were encouraged by the ongoing collaboration with the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) through the Implementation of the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS) together with the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN). We welcomed the completion of the ASEAN Blue Economy Innovation Project, implemented under the auspices of the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ACCMSME), and the launch of the ASEAN Blue Carbon and Finance Profiling Project, endorsed by the ASEAN Coordinating Task Force on Blue Economy (ACTF-BE), both supported by the UNDP. These initiatives reflect our shared commitment to advance sustainable and inclusive growth by harnessing the potential of marine and freshwater ecosystems and contribute to the implementation of the ASEAN Blue Economy Framework.
30. We recognised the importance of promoting all forms of literacy in the age of rapid digital transformation and the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), and minimising the harmful effects of disinformation, misinformation, and hate speech through the 2025 Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration to Reaffirm the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information's Commitment to Strategic Progress in Media and Information, as well as the 2025 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Safe and Responsible Use of Social Media Platforms for ASEAN. We are grateful for UNESCO's cooperation with ASEAN's Ministers Responsible for Information and ASEAN's Digital Senior Officials in areas related to the governance of digital platforms, including through the ASEAN-UNESCO Multistakeholder Forum on Platform Governance, hosted by Thailand. We looked forward to exploring cooperation with UN Global Pulse Asia-Pacific on the intersection of digital innovation and human sciences.
31. We highlighted the importance of promoting sustainable energy cooperation in regulatory frameworks, technology adoption and technical standards on alternative, clean, and renewable energy, energy efficiency, regional energy connectivity and experiences in the implementation of SDG7, including grid modernisation; sustainable biofuels and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF); energy efficiency; and responsible critical-minerals value chains, in line with the ASEAN Principles on Sustainable Minerals Development and the ASEAN Minerals Development Vision and the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan 2026-2030. We encouraged the UN to support ASEAN's green energy transition, including through the ASEAN Power Grid (APG), just transition financing, and underscored the importance of this work to accelerate an inclusive energy transition in the region.
32. We welcomed the UN's continued support for Timor-Leste and encouraged the continuation of capacity-building programmes and initiatives to assist Timor-Leste's post-admission efforts in implementing the Roadmap for Timor-Leste's Full Membership in ASEAN.
33. We acknowledged the work of the ASEAN Committee in New York that helps raise awareness of ASEAN and ASEAN-United Nations relations, contributing to advancing the ASEAN-United Nations Comprehensive Partnership.