

JOINT STATEMENT ON ASEAN-NORWAY PARTNERSHIP

WE, the Foreign Ministers of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Norway;

RECOGNISING the long standing relations between ASEAN Member States and Norway, and Norway's keen interest to engage ASEAN to promote peace and prosperity in the region;

RECALLING the accession of Norway to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) on 1 July 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan and reaffirming the joint commitment to promoting the principles, common values and norms stipulated in the ASEAN Charter and the TAC;

REAFFIRMING ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture with the view to promoting peace, stability and prosperity in the region;

REAFFIRMING our respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, renunciation of threat or use of force, peaceful settlement of disputes, mutual respect and mutual benefit;

ACKNOWLEDGING Norway's significant efforts in providing humanitarian assistance to ASEAN following Cyclone Nargis in 2008 and Typhoon Haiyan in 2013;

EXPRESSING desire to continue working closely together on the basis of the friendship, goodwill and understanding for the realisation of an ASEAN Community, including the narrowing of development gap through the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI); and the implementation of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision;

HEREBY state the following:

1. We launch the ASEAN-Norway Partnership that is action-oriented, mutually beneficial and forward-looking, and comprising political and security cooperation, economic cooperation and socio-cultural cooperation including, but not limited to, the following areas:

Political and Security Cooperation

2. We engage in dialogue and support efforts to realise the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), as set out in the APSC Blueprint.
3. We promote the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as a code of conduct governing inter-state relations in the region for the promotion of peace and stability as well as uphold the principles of moderation and tolerance as a common value.
4. We enhance ASEAN's capacity building efforts in preventive diplomacy, peaceful settlement of disputes, and conflict management and conflict resolutions; support the work of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR); and enhance cooperation through capacity building efforts with ASEAN Member States in UN Peacekeeping Operations and civilian capacity in post-conflict peace building.
5. Norway welcomes the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) by the ASEAN Leaders at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan in 2013, and expresses its support for the operationalisation of the Centre.
6. We promote maritime security and safety, freedom of navigation and overflight, unimpeded commerce, the exercise of self-restraint, the non-use of force or threat to use of force and the resolution of disputes by peaceful means, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the relevant standards and recommended practices by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
7. We foster greater collaboration in multilateral and regional frameworks, in particular the United Nations to contribute to the peace, stability, development and prosperity of the region and the world.
8. Norway continues to support the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) in the promotion of human rights in ASEAN.
9. We enhance cooperation in countering terrorism, economic crimes, and other transnational crimes; and, in supporting criminal justice and law enforcement as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Leaders' Joint Statement in Enhancing Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons in Southeast Asia and the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015.

Economic Cooperation

10. Norway pledges to support the realisation of an ASEAN Economic Community, including through technical cooperation in capacity-building and training in the areas of

trade and investment opportunities and other areas of mutual interest in strengthening regional efforts to achieve inclusive economic growth.

11. We enhance economic cooperation in areas to be mutually agreed upon between ASEAN and Norway, focusing on trade and investment facilitation.

12. We promote greater interactions between the private as well as public sectors in ASEAN and Norway with a view to enhance mutual trade and investment and recognise the pivotal role of the business community, including strengthening business networks and raising awareness on business opportunities in ASEAN and Norway.

13. Norway continues to support ASEAN's work on strengthening regional capacity to develop and implement economic and social policies to mitigate the effects of economic integration.

14. We encourage collaboration through sharing experience in the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) sector, in particular those relevant for the implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for Small and Medium Enterprise Development including transfer of technology to generate SMEs role in the regional and global supply chain.

15. Norway pledges to support ASEAN Connectivity including the implementation of Master Plan of ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) by, among others, encouraging greater involvement of the private sector.

16. Norway will continue to support the realization of the CLMV Priority Action List through the promotion of human resources development and the enhancement of capacity building, particularly to develop and implement policies and measures to mitigate social and economic disparities within the region.

17. We explore the opportunities to transfer relevant know-how and provide technical assistance in trade related matters, including infrastructure development, to CLMV countries.

18. We seek ways and means to develop and enhance industrial cooperation in the areas of, among others, seafood processing, maritime industry, as well as information and communication technology.

19. We encourage collaboration through sharing of experiences and investment in the energy sector to promote energy security in ASEAN including in the areas of power generation, oil and gas, as well as renewable energy.

20. We seek ways and means to support private – public collaboration that promotes sustainable agricultural commodity production.

Social and Cultural Cooperation

21. We strengthen socio-cultural cooperation in support of the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for the Attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

22. Norway pledges to support ASEAN's efforts to build civil service capability, with a particular focus on promoting effective and efficient civil service, public accountability and good governance.

23. Norway continues its support for ASEAN's work on promoting women and youth entrepreneurship.

24. We foster greater collaboration in disaster risk management and emergency response.

25. Norway continues to support the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) to facilitate cooperation and coordination among ASEAN Member States and with relevant UN agencies and international organisations.

26. Norway continues to support the work of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), particularly in its work of preventing, protecting and helping victims of violence against women and violence against children in ASEAN, including to support the implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection and the Declaration on Elimination of Violence against Women and Children in ASEAN, adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit.

27. We support the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, including to support the ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2011-2020).

28. We promote technical cooperation and assistance on human security in line with UN General Assembly Resolution 66/290.

29. We agreed to further strengthen collaboration to address climate change and its emerging impacts, by reducing air pollution, adapting to and mitigating global warming, and improving the global environment, inter alia, through sustainable natural resources management and biodiversity conservation; the promotion of energy efficiency, renewable energy and other clean energy programmes and technologies which will contribute to enhanced food production, sustainable development, agricultural productivity and environment as well as natural resources sustainability. Assistance will also be provided to developing countries to prepare and implement Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD)-Plus strategies and mechanisms.

30. Norway pledges to share expertise on sustainable development and conservation of biodiversity.

31. We enhance collaboration in promoting sustainable forest management, and support ASEAN's work plan for strengthening forest law enforcement and governance in the ASEAN region.

32. We foster cooperation to enhance the ASEAN Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) Mechanism for surveillance, prevention, preparedness, and responses to EIDs, particularly at cross border areas.

33. We reinforce mutual cooperation and assistance in human resource development through promoting further education sector linkages student and youth exchanges and scholarships.

34. We foster greater cooperation in research, science and technology development, technology transfers and establishment of networks of scientific and technological institutions with the active participation of private sector and other relevant agencies.

35. We promote people-to-people exchanges, as well as interfaith dialogues and exchanges of cultural activities in order to further strengthen public diplomacy and understanding between ASEAN and Norway.

Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI)

36. Norway continues to support ASEAN's efforts in narrowing the development gaps within ASEAN, and pledges to inter alia, through support for the effective implementation of the IAI Work Plan II (2009–2015) in accordance with Guidelines for IAI Projects for ASEAN Dialogue Partners and External Parties and its successor documents as well as through other sub-regional frameworks.

Other Areas of Cooperation

37. We agree that, in the future, ASEAN and Norway may, upon mutual agreement, enter into other areas of cooperation than those specified in this Joint Statement.

Implementation Arrangements

38. We agree that the implementation of measures in the Joint Statement will be funded by the Norwegian ASEAN Regional Initiative Fund.

39. We task our officials to implement and to review regularly the Progress of implementation of the Joint Statement on the ASEAN–Norway Partnership.

ADOPTED in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on the Eighth Day of August in the year Two thousand and Fourteen