



**ASEAN DECLARATION ON THE ROLE OF
THE CIVIL SERVICE AS A CATALYST FOR ACHIEVING
THE ASEAN COMMUNITY VISION 2025**

WE, the Heads of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), consisting 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, on the occasion of the 30th ASEAN Summit 2017 in Manila, Philippines;

RECALLING the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together, adopted during the 27th ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 22 November 2015;

RECOGNISING the significance of the civil service as the backbone of good governance in the region, and its critical mission not only in providing vital public services to the peoples of ASEAN, but also in driving national and social development, administering public resources responsibly, anticipating the changes ahead and managing the evolving relationship between the government and the people;

FURTHER RECOGNISING the role of the civil service as a catalyst for enhanced cross-sector and cross-pillar cooperation, in building the ASEAN Community, providing support towards furthering regional integration in accordance with the ASEAN Vision 2025, and promoting ASEAN awareness;

ACKNOWLEDGING the contribution of the civil service to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals by ASEAN Member States through continuing initiatives towards the highest standards of professionalism, efficiency, effectiveness, participatory approach, responsiveness, transparency and accountability of civil service;

REAFFIRMING the commitment of the civil services of ASEAN Member States in supporting further integration of the ASEAN Community as embodied in the Putrajaya Joint Declaration on Post 2015 Priorities - Towards an ASEAN Citizen Centric Civil Service, which was adopted by the Heads of Civil Service in Putrajaya, Malaysia on 17 November 2015; and the ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM) Work Plan 2016-2020 adopted by the Heads of Civil Service in Manila, Philippines on November 2016;

Do hereby agree to endeavor to:

- i. Promote cooperation in the development and implementation of capacity-building programmes and share best practices in critical areas of concern such as environment promotion and climate change adaptation and mitigation; disaster management, mitigation and response; health management; gender equality in the workplace; good governance; progressive people management, organisational performance and employee engagement, talent attraction and skills building in the civil services of ASEAN;
- ii. Raise the professional standards and capability of civil servants in different sectors, and build the community of professionals in each sector to forge closer ties and enable collaboration;

- iii. Ensure that the civil services of ASEAN embrace good governance principles such as citizen-centricity and innovation, and share best practices and knowledge in these areas for mutual benefit, so as to build government institutions that are resilient, trusted and future-ready, and capable of addressing new challenges and complexities;
- iv. Uphold and protect the welfare of civil servants in the region, including those engaged in intra-regional commitments and those performing critical roles in times of disaster and other hazardous situations; and
- v. Strengthen alliance-building/networking/partnership among ASEAN Member States as well as with ASEAN Dialogue Partners, regional and multilateral organisations, civil society, private sector, and other stakeholders in supporting the effective implementation of the commitments reflected in this Declaration.

We task the ACCSM, as the lead, in collaboration with relevant sectoral bodies under the ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) to develop a work plan towards realising the aspirations contained in this Declaration.

Done at Manila, the Philippines on the Twenty Ninth Day of April in the Year Two Thousand and Seventeen, in a single original copy in the English Language.

For Brunei Darussalam:



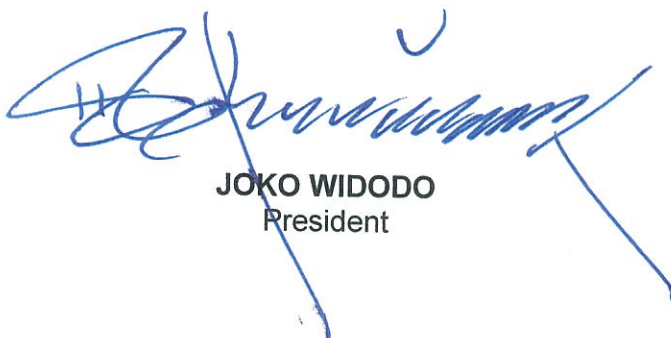
HAJI HASSANAL BOLKIAH
Sultan of Brunei Darussalam

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:



SAMDECH AKKA MOHA SENA PADEI TECHO HUN SEN
Prime Minister

For the Republic of Indonesia:



JOKO WIDODO
President

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:



THONGLOUN SISOULITH
Prime Minister

For Malaysia:



DATU' SRI MOHD NAJIB TUN ABDUL RAZAK
Prime Minister

For the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:



AUNG SAN SUU KYI
State Counsellor

For the Republic of the Philippines:



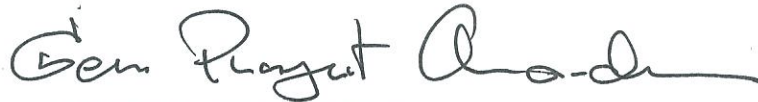
RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
President

For the Republic of Singapore:



LEE HSIEN LOONG
Prime Minister

For the Kingdom of Thailand:



GENERAL PRAYUT CHAN-O-CHA (RET.)
Prime Minister

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:



NGUYEN XUAN PHUC
Prime Minister