



**ASEAN
CAMBODIA 2022**

**ASEAN A.C.T.:
Addressing Challenges Together**

**CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE 2ND ANNUAL ASEAN-AUSTRALIA SUMMIT
PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA
12 November 2022**

1. The 2nd Annual ASEAN-Australia Summit was held in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, on 12 November 2022. The Summit was chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and attended by ASEAN Member States and the Honourable Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister of Australia. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance.
2. We reiterated our support for Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship under the theme "ASEAN A.C.T.: Addressing Challenges Together", which reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to address our common challenges and sustain the momentum of ASEAN's community-building efforts with a strong sense of togetherness. We applauded Cambodia for successfully convening the 55th AMM and Related Meetings in August 2022, which produced fruitful outcomes for ASEAN to further continue our efforts in enhancing our institutional capacity and effectiveness to better respond to the changing circumstances. Australia welcomed ASEAN's in-principle agreement to admit Timor-Leste as the eleventh member of ASEAN, and reaffirmed its commitment to providing capacity building to Timor-Leste to support its full ASEAN membership, including through its existing AUD 6.6 million commitment.
3. We noted with satisfaction the implementation of the ASEAN-Australia Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-Australia Strategic Partnership (2020-2024), reflecting the active engagement of Australia with ASEAN. We welcomed the adoption of the Annex to the current ASEAN-Australia Plan of Action, which will serve as a roadmap to deepen practical cooperation under the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. We also noted Australia's proposal to convene the ASEAN-Australia Commemorative Summit in Australia to mark the 50th Anniversary of the ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations in 2024 and look forward to working together to develop this proposal further.
4. We appreciated Australia's commitment and effort to give effect to the implementation of the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) that is meaningful, substantive and mutually beneficial, including through

the announcement of AUD 154 million under the Australia for ASEAN Initiatives. In this regard, we took note of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ASEAN and Australia on the Australia for ASEAN (Aus4ASEAN) Futures Initiative. The initiative includes AUD 124 million to address regional challenges across all three ASEAN pillars and to support the practical implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP). We noted that the first set of projects has already been jointly agreed upon, including developing smart, sustainable cities; facilitating business engagement across ASEAN; and supporting the Initiative for ASEAN Integration Work Plan and the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework. Australia looks forward to welcoming 100 scholars, who will undertake masters-level studies in 2023 in Australia's world class universities in fields that advance the AOIP. We also noted that in 2023, Australia will welcome the scholars to commence their Master's degrees in fields such as public health, science, international business, economics, law and justice and gender equality at a wide range of Australian universities. We welcomed the Australia for ASEAN Digital Transformation and Future Skills Initiative to support our region's future skills needs, respond to rapid digitalisation, and support long-term economic recovery through a new skills policy dialogue, 350 VET scholarships which will commence in 2023, and technical assistance partnerships between Australia and ASEAN training institutions.

5. We welcomed Australia's ongoing support for and cooperation with ASEAN under the AOIP and commitment to supporting the concrete implementation of the mainstreamed four key areas identified in the AOIP within ASEAN-led mechanisms, namely connectivity, maritime cooperation, sustainable development goals (SDGs), and economic and other possible areas of cooperation, to promote mutual trust, mutual respect, and mutual benefit through ASEAN-led mechanisms, as well as contribute to peace, stability, and prosperity in the region. In this regard, we welcomed the adoption of the Joint Statement of the 2nd Annual ASEAN-Australia Summit on Cooperation on the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific.
6. We welcomed Australia's unwavering support for ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture, and we reiterated our commitment to support an ASEAN-centred regional architecture that is open, transparent, and rules-based built upon ASEAN-led mechanisms, including East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus). We emphasised the importance of key principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) and the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN). We underscored the importance of

multilateralism, regionalism and adherence to international law and respect for sovereignty in contributing to global and regional peace, stability and prosperity.

7. We resolved to continue enhancing cooperation in fighting against the COVID-19 pandemic as well as to advance regional economic recovery for post-pandemic. In this regard, we appreciated Australia's support for ASEAN's recovery effort, including AUD 21 million for the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED); AUD 1 million contribution to the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund; AUD 5 million ASEAN-Australia Health Security Initiative (AAHSI); and the establishment and ongoing operation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) Support Unit at the ASEAN Secretariat, for which Australia has recently extended its funding. Additionally, we commended Australia's commitment to supporting equitable vaccine access and health security in the region, including through its Regional Vaccine Access and Health Security Initiative (VAHSI). In this sense, we appreciated Australia's delivery of vaccine doses, drawing on AUD 623 million funding through VAHSI and the Quad Vaccine Partnership; AUD 215 million funding to the Gavi COVAX Advance Market Commitment (COVAX AMC), of which six ASEAN Member States (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines and Viet Nam) are eligible to be supported; and the provision of over 48 million COVID-19 vaccine doses for Southeast Asia, as well as technical support on regulatory requirements and provision of equipment and logistics. We welcomed the commencement of 40 ASEAN-Australia One Health Scholarships. We welcomed strengthening ASEAN-Australia mental health cooperation, including through 40 ASEAN-Australia Youth Mental Health Fellowships.
8. We reaffirmed our commitment to deepening political-security cooperation, on traditional and non-traditional security issues, including strengthening maritime security and cooperation, promoting non-proliferation and disarmament, countering terrorism, violent extremism, and other transnational crimes, such as combatting trafficking in persons and promoting safe migration, including through the AUD 80 million ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking Initiative (ASEAN ACT), TRIANGLE in ASEAN program, and the ASEAN-Australia Political Security Partnership initiative. We welcomed Australia's support for the Philippines' hosting of the 12th ASEAN Maritime Forum and the 10th Expanded Maritime Forum to be held in Manila in December 2022. We further highlighted the importance of advancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in the region and congratulated Cambodia for successfully hosting the 2nd ASEAN Women Leaders' Summit under the theme "Building a More Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient Future: Unlocking Women's Entrepreneurship in ASEAN" on 14 October 2022, which aimed to promote women's roles in ASEAN's post-COVID-19 economic recovery efforts. We welcomed the planned ASEAN-Australia Women Leaders' Side Event on Unlocking Women's

Entrepreneurship Towards Regional Economic Growth, to be held on 12 December 2022.

9. We noted with satisfaction the active and continued engagement of Australia to further enhance defence and security cooperation to address shared traditional and non-traditional challenges through ASEAN-led mechanisms, including through the ADMM-Plus and the ARF, which Australia is currently serving as the Co-Chair of the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on ICTs Security, alongside Indonesia and the Republic of Korea (ROK), while co-chairing with the Philippines the ARF Nuclear Risk Reduction Workshop process, and co-chairing with Brunei Darussalam on the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group (EWG) on Military Medicine for the current 2021-2024 cycle. We also welcomed the outcome of the 1st ASEAN-Australia Counter-Terrorism Dialogue and the adoption of the SOMTC + Australia Work Programme on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime 2022-2025.
10. We remain concerned over the unabating tide of protectionism and anti-global sentiments and reaffirmed our commitment to upholding a free, open, non-discriminatory, inclusive, transparent, and rules-based multilateral trading system, as embodied in the World Trade Organization (WTO) to promote regional economic cooperation. We acknowledged the entry into force of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement and encouraged the full and effective implementation of the RCEP Agreement to reinforce regional economic recovery and affirm ASEAN's Centrality to the regional rules-based order, regional integration as well as economic development across the region.
11. We welcomed the Announcement of the Substantial Conclusion of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) Upgrade Negotiations and reiterated the importance of ensuring that the Agreement remains high standard, fit for its purpose, future-proof against emerging challenges, relevant for businesses and people and responsive to economic recovery. We welcomed the AANZFTA Implementing Support (AIS) programme as the successor programme of the AANZFTA Economic Cooperation Support Programme (AECSP), which will ensure continuity in the AANZFTA economic cooperation activities. In this connection, we noted and welcomed the key outcomes from the implementation of AECSP that include: (i) a coordinated mechanism for project implementation, (ii) broader access to online learning resources, (iii) dedicated capacity building for newer ASEAN Member States, (iv) a robust and consistent engagement with the business sector, and (v) improved gender equality and social inclusion considerations in project implementation. In this aspect, we also welcomed Australia's commitment of AUD 46 million under the Regional Trade for Development Initiative (RT4D) that will support ASEAN Member States to implement AANZFTA and RCEP. We welcomed Australia's

appointment of a Special Envoy for Southeast Asia to deepen engagement with the region, and to drive the delivery of a Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040.

12. We acknowledged the significant contribution of the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program Phase II (AADCP II) to ASEAN's Community-building process and continued to provide strategic support for the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025. In this connection, we appreciated Australia's commitment to supporting ASEAN's efforts to deepen regional economic integration and looked forward to the successor Australia for the ASEAN Futures Economic Connectivity program (Aus4ASEAN Futures-ECON) amounting to AUD 80 million, which commenced in late 2022. Furthermore, we looked forward to enhancing cooperation between ASEAN and Australia on connectivity and narrowing the development gap, including through support for the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan IV (2021-2025), the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Forum, as well as on the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN). We welcomed support for the implementation of the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy through the ASEAN-Australia Smart Cities Trust Fund.
13. We welcomed Australia's support for ASEAN's infrastructure and connectivity agenda through the Partnerships for Infrastructure initiative (P4I), to support regional economic recovery with high-quality infrastructure development and technical assistance, to address challenges through enhanced training, and technical advice and cooperation.
14. We encouraged continued collaboration in areas such as digital entrepreneurship, e-commerce, MSME digitalisation, science, technologies and innovation, taking into consideration the fast-evolving Fourth Industrial Revolution. In this regard, we welcome further ASEAN-Australia cooperation on digital economy and digital standards through the AUD 5 million ASEAN-Australia Digital Trade Standards Initiative, which will support the development of an inclusive digital economy by leveraging digital trade standards. We also noted Australia's AUD 5 million in support for the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), the AUD 1 million in support for ASEAN Fall Armyworm Action Plan to reduce crop losses and AUD 232 million Mekong-Australia Partnership to promote sustainable water resources management, further scholarship opportunities and strengthen technology capabilities to support economic integration and development in the Mekong sub-region.
15. We attached great importance to the strong ties between ASEAN and Australia on the socio-cultural spectrum, such as people-to-people connectivity, particularly through education, arts and cultural exchange programmes,

including the New Colombo Plan, Australia Awards, and programmes run by the Australia-ASEAN Council, which continue to deepen social and cultural linkages and strengthen people-to-people connectivity between ASEAN and Australia. We recognised the provision of long-term scholarships and short-term skill training programmes have been contributing to ASEAN's human capital for development, including through the Australia for ASEAN Scholarships; Australia for ASEAN Digital Transformation and Future Skills Initiative and welcome Australia's cooperation on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), including through the ASEAN TVET Council. We looked forward to the continuation and enhancements of this socio-cultural cooperation, including exploring the utilisation of digital platforms and tools to promote arts, culture exchanges, digital education, capacity-building on ICT-related training and sharing best practices in this field.

16. ASEAN Leaders appreciated Australia's cooperation with ASEAN in addressing environmental challenges such as climate change, biodiversity conservation, including the conservation of forests and sustainable land management practices, disaster management, marine debris and circular economy models such as Bio-Circular-Green economy. We welcomed Australia's support for the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change. We remained committed to building a resilient ASEAN with enhanced capacity to respond to natural disasters, including through support for the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2021-2025 and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre).
17. We noted Cambodia's idea to establish an ASEAN Green Deal with the aim to gradually transform ASEAN region towards a green future, sustainability, effective use of resources, resilience, and economic competitiveness. We also noted Australia's proposal to co-chair with Viet Nam and Lao PDR an ASEAN-Australia High Level Dialogue on Climate Change and Energy Transition in 2023.
18. With respect to Myanmar, while there is little progress in the implementation of ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus (5PC) and the exacerbated situation on the ground, we are committed to assisting Myanmar in finding a peaceful and durable solution to the current crisis. Australia welcomed the endorsement of the ASEAN Leaders' Review and Decision on the Implementation of the Five-Point Consensus at the 41st ASEAN Summit. Australia will continue to support ASEAN's efforts to facilitate a peaceful solution in the interest of the people of Myanmar, including through the work of the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar, in building confidence and trust with full access to all parties concerned, and effective delivery of humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar including those who are the most in need, without discrimination. We

reiterated our commitment to peace and stability in the region and continue to call for the immediate cessation of violence in Myanmar and for the release of all foreign detainees, including Australian Professor Sean Turnell. We will redouble our collective efforts toward a peaceful solution in Myanmar that reflects a continued commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms, as outlined in the ASEAN Charter. The ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre) has also continued the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar. In this regard, we welcomed Australia's commitment to supporting ASEAN's efforts to facilitate the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar through the AHA Centre through AUD5 million contribution.

19. We have closely followed developments in the Korean Peninsula and encouraged continued peaceful dialogue amongst all concerned parties in order to achieve denuclearisation and establish peace in the Korean Peninsula by peaceful means. We express grave concerns over the recent surge in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)'s intercontinental ballistic missile testing and ballistic missile launches, which threaten peace and stability in the region. We called on the DPRK to fully comply with all relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions. We reiterated our commitment to the full implementation of all relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions and noted international efforts to bring about the complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. Diplomatic efforts, including the creation of a conducive environment for peaceful dialogue amongst all concerned parties should remain a priority. We reiterated our readiness to play a constructive role, including through utilising ASEAN-led platforms such as the ARF in promoting a conducive atmosphere to peaceful dialogue amongst the concerned parties.
20. With regard to the conflict in Ukraine, we reaffirmed the need to respect sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity, and the call for compliance with the fundamental principles of international law and the United Nations Charter. We underlined the importance of an immediate cessation of hostilities, the creation of an enabling environment for the peaceful resolution of conflict and supported the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General in the search for a peaceful solution. We also called for the protection of civilians, humanitarian personnel, and persons in vulnerable situations.
21. We reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety, and freedom of navigation and overflight in the South China Sea, in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Some countries expressed concerns about activities and serious incidents in the area that have increased tensions and may undermine peace, security and stability. We underscored the importance

of full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in its entirety. We noted the progress of the ongoing negotiations towards a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC). 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.
