



Ref.: AMMS-SOM-SOMS/2022/07/DEC

ASEAN DECLARATION ON LEVERAGING THE ROLE OF SPORTS IN ASEAN COMMUNITY-BUILDING AND ACHIEVING THE SDGS

WE, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as “ASEAN”) namely, Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), 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, met at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits in Phnom Penh on 11 November 2022;

COGNISANT of the opportunities to align with the Kazan Action Plan as a foundation of the global framework for leveraging sport for development and peace and a tool for aligning international and national policy in the fields of physical education, physical activity and sports with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

RECALLING our commitment in the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 to build upon and deepen the integration process to realise a rules-based, people-oriented, people-centered ASEAN Community, where our people enjoy high quality of life and the benefits of community building, reinforcing our sense of togetherness and common identity;

REAFFIRMING the importance of strengthening cooperation in various fronts towards a dynamic and harmonious community that is aware and proud of its identity, culture, and heritage with the strengthened ability to innovate and proactively contribute to the global community;

NOTING the commitment of ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports in the 2013 Vientiane Declaration on Sports Cooperation in ASEAN to promote community-based, non-discriminatory, affordable, accessible programmes, sports and physical activities for all facilities and the 2021 Joint Statement of ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports on Cementing Strong Foundation for ASEAN Athletes at the Southeast Asian Games;

ACKNOWLEDGING the socio-economic value of sports in improving physical and mental health and well-being, as well as the importance of leveraging the role of sports in ASEAN Community-Building and achieving the SDGs through collaboration with various stakeholders;

RECOGNISE that sports can foster a sense of solidarity, and develop integrity, leadership and life skills among the youth of ASEAN, which are essential for ASEAN Community-building;

WELCOME the Post-2020 Vision of ASEAN Sports Cooperation and priorities of the ASEAN Work Plan on Sports in strengthening cooperation towards an active ASEAN Community, where sports serve an essential means in advancing socio-cultural development and promoting peace;

DO HERE BY AGREE TO:

1. **STRENGTHEN** cooperation in sports to promote greater inclusion of and a healthier lifestyle amongst the ASEAN peoples so as to realise our objectives of cultivating a stronger appreciation of the ASEAN identity and culture, and thereby contribute to ASEAN Community building;
2. **STRENGTHEN** good governance and mechanisms to promote greater sports integrity and enhance the resilience of the sports sector;
3. **SUPPORT** the growth of high performance sports through advancing stronger cooperation in sports science and capacity building as we work towards realising the potential of our athletes at international sports arenas as a means of nurturing ASEAN pride;

4. **EXPLORE** innovation to enhance the contribution of sports to ASEAN Community-building as well as the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, through inclusion and empowerment of societies through sports;
5. **STRENGTHEN** research and capacity building on the contribution of sports to national and regional socio-economic development and to the ASEAN Community-building to support evidence-based policy making and results-based management in the sports sector;
6. **STRENGTHEN** collaboration with relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies in promoting sports participation and physical activities across different age groups as an additional step towards a healthier and more active ASEAN Community;
7. **PROMOTE** inclusive access to sports and recreation to increase participation among the local communities, including women, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups by setting up more sports and recreation zones across ASEAN Member States with the engagement of local authorities and strengthen multistakeholder partnership for sports infrastructure development;
8. **EXPLORE** the potential of sports to create employment opportunities for the youths of ASEAN such as through professional exchange, training, and other skills development programmes; and
9. **TASK** the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports (AMMS), with the support of the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Sports (SOMS), and other relevant ASEAN Sectoral Ministerial Bodies to:
 - a. **DEVELOP** a strategic plan of action to implement the Declaration;
 - b. **ESTABLISH** a committee to monitor the implementation of declaration;
 - c. **EXPLORE** innovative financing resources to mobilise sector-wide strategic plan on sports including through the strengthening of cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners;

- d. **STRENGTHEN** collaboration with research centers to undertake national and regional research and capacity building on sports to inform regional policy formulation and programme development;
- e. **COLLABORATE** with UNESCO, where applicable, to implement and participate in relevant programmes and platforms for experience and data sharing at the regional level; and
- f. **STRENGTHEN** collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat in its capacity as the lead organisation in measuring the contribution of sports to sustainable development using the Sports and SDGs indicators, and other relevant regional entities.

ADOPTED in Phnom Penh, on this Eleventh Day of November in the year Two Thousand Twenty Two in a single original copy, in the English language.
