

**JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST
ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY (ASCC) COUNCIL**

17 MAY 2019, CHIANG MAI, THAILAND

1. We, the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council Ministers and Heads of Delegation 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, gathered together on 17 May 2019 in Chiang Mai, Thailand for the 21st ASCC Council Meeting, under the chairmanship of Thailand.
2. We extend our full support to Thailand ASEAN Chairmanship and its theme of "Advancing Partnership for Sustainability" and to Thailand's priorities for the ASCC Pillar, which include promoting future-oriented actions for human security, promoting people-to-people connectivity and partnerships, and promoting socio-cultural sustainability in the region.
3. We welcome Thailand's efforts in establishing seven ASEAN Centres, including the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue, during its Chairmanship. Among the centres, four are ASCC-related centres which will be established or developed, namely the ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation (ACAI), ASEAN Cultural Centre, the ASEAN Training Centre for Social Work and Social Welfare (ATCSW), and also the setting up of the Disaster Emergency Logistics System for ASEAN (DELSA) Satellite Warehouse.
4. We look forward to the adoption of the Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in ASEAN Region, and notation of the ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris at the 34th ASEAN Summit, which reaffirm ASEAN's commitment to conserve the marine environment and strengthen regional cooperation in this area.
5. We welcome 2019 as ASEAN Cultural Year with the theme of Diversity, Creativity and Sustainability, which aims to promote a respect for diversity and a greater sense of ASEAN Identity. We look forward to the notation of the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the ASEAN Cultural Year 2019 at the 34th ASEAN Summit.
6. We are encouraged by the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Statement on the Future of Work: Embracing Technology for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth, which aims to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all in the context of transformative changes such as technological

advances, demographic transition and the rise of green economy. We look forward to its notation at the 34th ASEAN Summit.

7. We stand by our commitment to promote green jobs for equity and inclusive growth for the ASEAN Community and look forward to the notation of the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Joint Statement on Green Initiative to the 108th International Labour Conference, at the 34th ASEAN Summit.
8. We support the proposal of having a Youth Leaders' Interface with ASEAN Leaders at the 34th ASEAN Summit in Bangkok, Thailand.
9. We note with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the ASCC Blueprint, including cross-cutting initiatives and community-building issues. We are encouraged by the progress in implementing the various declarations adopted under the ASCC Pillar. We encouraged sectoral bodies under the ASCC, with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat, to continue to implement effectively their respective sectoral work plans and to share their reports to the ASCC Council.
10. We conveyed our deep appreciation to Thailand for the effective chairmanship and excellent arrangements for the 21st ASCC Council Meeting.

---end---

Annex

**LIST OF ASCC MINISTERS/HEADS OF DELEGATION
ATTENDING THE 21ST ASCC COUNCIL MEETING**

17 May 2019, Chiang Mai, Thailand

- 1. MAJOR GENERAL (RTD)**
**DATO PADUKA SERI HAJI AMINUDDIN IHSAN BIN PEHIN ORANG KAYA
SAIFUL MULOK DATO SERI PADUKA HAJI ABIDIN**
Minister
Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
Brunei Darussalam
- 2. YUOK NGOY**
Secretary of State
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
Cambodia
- 3. Y.B. SATYA SANANUGRAHA**
Permanent Secretary
Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Culture
Indonesia
- 4. SAVANKHONE RAZMOUNTRY**
Vice-minister
Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism
Lao PDR
- 5. MUHAMMAD BAKHTIAR WAN CHIK**
Deputy Cabinet Minister
Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture
Malaysia
- 6. KYI MIN**
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture
Myanmar

7. NOEL MORTIZ MACALALAD

Assistant Secretary
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Philippines

8. DESMOND LEE TI-SENG

Minister
Ministry of Social and Family Development
Singapore

9. VIRA ROJPOJCHANARAT

Minister
Ministry of Culture
Thailand

10. NGUYEN THI HA

Vice minister
Ministry of Labour-Invalids and Social Affairs
Viet Nam

11. KUNG PHOAK

Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community
The ASEAN Secretariat

---end---