CHAIRMAN’S STATEMENT

OF THE 6th ASEAN – UNITED NATIONS (UN) SUMMIT

12 November 2014
Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

1. The 6th ASEAN-United Nations (UN) Summit was held on 12 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Meeting was chaired by His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the UN. H.E. Mr. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN, was also in attendance.

2. The Leaders of ASEAN and the Secretary-General of the United Nations expressed their commitment to further deepen and broaden cooperation between the two Organisations, which has been reflected in the outcome documents of previous Summits of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations, held in Bangkok on 12 February 2000, the United Nations Headquarters on 13 September 2005, Hanoi on 29 October 2010, Bali on 19 November 2011 and Bandar Seri Begawan on 10 October 2013, respectively.

3. Recalling that one of the outcomes of the 5th ASEAN-UN Summit was for the Secretariats of ASEAN and the UN to draft a “Roadmap on the Implementation of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership for 2014-2015”, the Summit welcomed the adoption of the ‘ASEAN-UN Work Plan for 2015’, which charts out priorities for ASEAN-UN cooperation in all the pillars of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the UN and in maintaining and promoting regional and international peace, security and prosperity. The Summit acknowledged that, in formulating the Work Plan, the two Organisations took careful note of the challenges and recommendations contained in the 2013-2014 Joint
Report of the two Secretariats on the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the United Nations.

4. The Summit encouraged the implementation of the AESAN-UN Work Plan for 2015. They also looked forward to the formal review of the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership in 2015 under the Chairmanship of Malaysia.

5. The Leaders of ASEAN encouraged the UN to work closely with ASEAN to achieve the common goals as set out in the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership in particular for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with support from the UN system and support for ASEAN Community building, including the successful implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009-2015 and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) with support from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP).

6. The Leaders of ASEAN appreciated the UN’s support to ASEAN’s efforts towards the realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 and formulation of ASEAN Community’s Post-2015 Vision as well as to the implementation of the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III).

ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership and ASEAN Community Building

7. The Summit reiterated that the partnership between ASEAN and the UN, which is based on the distinctive capacity of each organization, brings benefits to the region and contributes to peace, security and sustainable development of the international community through timely and effective response to global issues of common concern.

8. Welcoming the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership in all key areas of cooperation, the Leaders also agreed to strengthen joint activities more strategically through ensuring better coordination.
9. The Summit encouraged for further advancement of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership and the implementation of the ASEAN-UN Work Plan for 2015 by undertaking more concrete measures encompassing political-security, economic, and socio-cultural cooperation.

10. The Summit welcomed the adoption of the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the Realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015, which was issued at the 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in May 2014 as well as the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the ASEAN Community’s Post-2015 Vision and Declaration on the strengthening of ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs adopted on 12 November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

11. The Summit welcomed the progress in the implementation of the Roadmap for the establishment of ASEAN Community (2009-2015) that will ensure lasting peace and stability, sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and social progress in the region.

12. The Summit recognised ASEAN’s efforts to strengthen its institutions as well as to set its Post-2015 Vision that will ensure the credibility and centrality of ASEAN in changing circumstances and support the post-2015 Development Agenda.

13. The Summit also welcomed the progress of the implementation of the Bali Declaration on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) Plan of Action (2013-2017), which will enhance ASEAN’s role in addressing global challenges and seizing the opportunities of the twenty-first century.

14. The Summit noted with satisfaction the progress ASEAN has made in the implementation of United Nations Political Declaration on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) and the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) in ASEAN, which was adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit on 9th October 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

15. The Summit welcomed the signing of an agreement on cooperation between the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the United Nations Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) in June 2014, and encouraged the UN system to continue their cooperation on
counter terrorism efforts through the United Nations Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF). The Summit noted that such cooperation could strengthen global counter-terrorism efforts, particularly in preventing violent extremism and fostering reconciliation, as well as instil values of moderation in the context of identity-based tensions and conflicts.

**Political and Security Cooperation**

16. The Summit reaffirmed the importance of enhancing regional security and cooperation to promote peace, stability and prosperity in the region and the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and the ASEAN Charter, including the peaceful settlement of disputes, and international law. In this respect, the Summit welcomed the cooperative activities being undertaken in conflict prevention, peaceful settlement of disputes, peacekeeping operations, peace building, promotion of good governance, rule of law, and democracy, as well as in countering terrorism and transnational organized crime. In this regard, the Summit encouraged the implementation of the Outcome Document of the ASEAN-UN Workshop: Regional Dialogue (AURED) in Kuala Lumpur in June 2014 on ‘Conflict Prevention and Maintenance of Peace and Stability in Multi-Cultural and Pluralistic Societies’.

17. The Summit further encouraged the United Nations to provide strengthened support and cooperation including through exchanges of best practices and capacity building of the Association of Southeast Asia Nations Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) and the Association Southeast Asia Nations Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC). The Summit also looked forward to the ASEAN-UN Workshop: Regional Dialogue II (AURED II) on Political-Security Cooperation: ‘ASEAN-UN Collaboration in Support of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation,’ which is scheduled be held in Myanmar in the near future.

18. The Summit recalled that the ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter-Terrorism was drafted in cooperation with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) and was endorsed in 2009 to implement the 2007 ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism. The UN Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) reflected the growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters (FTF) who are joining entities such as the so-
called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). In this regard, the Summit recognised the need for ASEAN and the UN to combat this new phenomenon together, joining efforts via the UN CTITF that coordinates UN entities in their response and assistance to the Member States.

19. The Summit acknowledged the importance of maritime cooperation, such as exchange of information and experiences, in implementation of universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and maritime security and safety, and underscored the need to further strengthen such collaboration and cooperation in order to address related issues and challenges.

20. The Summit called for the full implementation of the 2010 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Action Plan by actively contributing to the outcomes of the 2015 NPT Review Conference. In this regard, the Summit reiterated the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability in the Southeast Asian region and the world at large.

21. The Summit encouraged cooperation between the United Nations and ASEAN in the field of human rights, particularly through support for the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights, including the rights of women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities, as well as the rights of migrant workers in accordance with national laws, regulations and policies of ASEAN Member States, as well as the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD) and the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the ASEAN Human Right Declaration. The Summit also welcomed efforts in drafting the ASEAN instrument on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers and supports the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children in ASEAN adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in October 2013.

22. The Summit welcomed ASEAN’s efforts to finalise and endorse the draft ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) and the
Regional Plan of Action (RPA) and its submission to the 26th ASEAN Summit in 2015.

23. The Summit agreed to enhance cooperation to support the realisation of a Drug-free ASEAN in 2015.

Economic Cooperation

24. The Summit recognised the efforts of ASEAN Member States towards implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015 and welcomed the United Nations support in enhancing the contribution of regional integration to inclusive and sustainable development. In this context, the Summit reiterated the importance of regional integration in Southeast Asia and its potential contribution to regional and global prosperity, stability and development. It encouraged cooperation between the two Organisations in order to narrow development gaps and reduce poverty, calling on ESCAP to continue and strengthen its support for regional connectivity in areas such as transportation, trade, energy and ICT. In this regard, it emphasised the promotion of sustainable development by enhancing levels of science, technology and innovation; strengthening national statistical capacities; improving access to development financing; and promoting integrated approaches to addressing the impacts of climate change in the region, including through climate financing initiatives and appropriate technology solutions.

25. The Summit acknowledged the continued cooperation between ASEAN and UN on Intellectual Property Rights and encouraged the United Nations, through its special body-World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), to support ASEAN’s efforts to implement ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Action Plan (2011-2015), particularly in encouraging the use of IP services such as ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC), supporting the efforts of ASEAN IP office infrastructure modernization and extending supports in development of an ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI 2015-2020), and to the development of the Post-2015 ASEAN IPR Strategic Plan (2016-2025).

26. The Summit encouraged the United Nations to continue providing analytical and policy support to ASEAN in areas including intellectual property rights standards within trade agreements; South-South
cooperation in connecting trade policy and trade facilitation measures to other public policies; advice on economic policies that avoid the 'middle-income trap'; and enhancing integration of CLMV into regional and global value chains to support economic diversification and inclusive growth.

27. The Summit also took note of the continued consultation between ASEAN and UNWTO through the annual meeting of ASEAN tourism ministers to progress joint activities such as the conduct of joint project on River-Based Tourism and the convening of UNWTO-ASEAN International Conference on Tourism and Climate Change held on 19-20 May 2014 in Legzapi City, Philippines.

**Socio-Cultural Cooperation**

28. The Summit reiterated the urgency to step up cooperation between the UN and ASEAN in addressing climate change through, promoting, among others, the Poverty and Environment Initiative (PEI), implementing the 10 Year Framework of Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production, and implementing multilateral environmental agreements, including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Montreal Protocol, and the regional seas conventions and action plans.

29. The Summit encouraged the promotion of cooperation between ASEAN and the UN on Conservation of Biodiversity through the implementation of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and coordination with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, through the sharing of knowledge on the best practices in sustainable use of biological diversity. The Summit called on the UN system to continue strengthening its support for PEI, climate change, biological diversity and the Montreal Protocol.

30. The Summit committed to further strengthen cooperation between the UN and ASEAN to ensure effective response and management of natural disasters, through the implementation of the 2nd Phase of the ASEAN-UN Strategic Plan on Disaster Management, which will align with Phase 2 of the AADMER Work Programme (2013-2015), and strengthening the capacity and technical support to the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) and other relevant ASEAN bodies. In this respect, the Summit welcomed the formation and
commencement of the Joint Task Force comprising officials from the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and other relevant ASEAN bodies to promote synergy among ASEAN bodies working on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR). The Summit further welcomed the coordinated approach in this field which is provided by the multi-agency UN Thematic Working Group on Environment and Disaster Risk Management under the auspices of the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for Asia and the Pacific, convened and chaired by ESCAP.

**International and Regional Issues of Common Concern**

31. The Summit exchanged views on international and regional issues of common concern including among others, achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), setting the development agenda beyond 2015, encouraging information sharing and capacity strengthening maritime cooperation, promoting tolerance and harmony, conflict prevention, peace-keeping, and peace building, promoting and protecting human rights, climate change, urban development, promoting green technology and sustainable development.

32. The Summit also exchanged views on emerging challenges. ASEAN Leaders and the UN Secretary-General are determined to strengthen their collaboration in order to address these challenges.

33. The Summit recognised the emerging threat posed by the recent outbreak of Ebola, and the spread of violent extremism and radical ideologies of the so-called the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and agreed to strengthen cooperation to tackle these issues.

**Joint Action and Follow-up Coordination Mechanisms**

34. The Summit welcomed the establishment of a UN liaison presence in Jakarta as agreed between the Leaders of ASEAN and the UN Secretary-General at the 5th ASEAN-UN Summit and encouraged both Secretariats of the two Organisations to provide support in order to maximize its contribution to further operationalise the partnership.

35. The Leaders of ASEAN and the UN Secretary-General confirmed the usefulness of the existing mechanisms for the implementation of the
ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership, namely the Secretariat-to-Secretariat dialogues, Informal ASEAN-UN Senior Officials’ Meeting, the ASEAN-UN Ministerial Meeting (AUMM) and the ASEAN-UN Summit.

36. The Summit also agreed that the AUMM should continue to take place during the UN General Assembly in September, and welcomed the joint press statements of successive AUMMs. In welcoming further engagement between relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies and UN agencies to promote substantive cooperation between ASEAN and the UN, the Summit proposed that future secretariat-to-secretariat dialogues be convened also in the ASEAN region to facilitate more in-depth engagement between relevant ASEAN bodies and the United Nations entities.

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