ASEAN Leaders’ Joint Statement on the ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the ASEAN Member States namely: 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, at the 18th ASEAN Summit on 7-8 May 2011 in Jakarta, Indonesia;

Realizing that as part of the wider community of nations, ASEAN is confronted with the dynamics of the 21st century challenges, where issues have become more complex, multifaceted, transnational, increasingly interlinked and interdependent;

Affirming that ASEAN’s history has been one of milestone progress and transformation in response to the changing dynamics while upholding its fundamental principles, values and norms in the pursuit of its shared vision;

Recognizing that ASEAN’s shared vision and coordinated action on various global issues of common interest and concern are already evident in several ASEAN instruments namely the ASEAN Charter, and relevant treaties, declarations, and statements, and in the form of existing cooperation and collaborations within and with regional and international organizations such as the United Nations, including the contributions of individual ASEAN Member States to addressing various global issues;

Anticipating the rapidly evolving regional and global environment and mindful of the necessity to develop and enhance ASEAN’s capacity, as a dynamic community, to adapt and adjust to these realities in order to maximize ASEAN’s potential to shape global development on issues of common concern;

Mindful that efforts to take forward ASEAN’s shared vision and coordinated action on various global issues of common interest and concern should complement continuing efforts to build and strengthen an ASEAN Community and to enhance and maintain ASEAN centrality and its role in the evolving regional architecture;
Emphasizing the need for ASEAN pursue its purposes enshrined in the ASEAN Charter towards a resilient, people-oriented ASEAN Community in a global community of nations;

We hereby agree that by 2022, in a global community of nations, ASEAN shall endeavour to have a common platform, with inter alia, the following characteristics:

- A more coordinated, cohesive, and coherent ASEAN position on global issues of common interest and concern, based on a shared ASEAN global view, which would further enhance ASEAN’s common voice in relevant multilateral fora;

- An enhanced ASEAN capacity to contribute and respond to key global issues of common interest and concern which would benefit all ASEAN Member States and its peoples;

- A strengthened ASEAN Community centered on ASEAN as a rules-based organization, with the ASEAN Charter as the foundation, while upholding the fundamental principles, values and norms of ASEAN; and

- A strengthened capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat which is able to support the vision and development of the ASEAN Community in a global community of nations.

In the meantime, building on current practice and achievements, we will identify key global issues of common interest and concern, enhance ASEAN coordination and cooperation on these key global issues in relevant multilateral fora and international organizations such as the United Nations and raise ASEAN’s profile and constructive role in the global stage. To help ASEAN better prepare itself for this task, we believe that ASEAN would need to undertake an assessment of key long-term trends, including the evolution of the global architecture, and develop appropriate adjustment and response strategies to such trends.

For that purpose, we task the ASEAN Foreign Ministers to develop the Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations to be issued by the ASEAN Leaders at the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia.

Adopted in Jakarta, Indonesia, this Eighth of May in the Year Two Thousand and Eleven, in a single original copy, in the English language.

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