



**JOINT STATEMENT OF THE
THIRD ASEAN PLUS THREE MINISTERIAL MEETING FOR
SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (3rd AMMSWD+3)**

“Strengthening Family Institution: Caring for the Elderly”

26 NOVEMBER 2010, BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

1. We, the Ministers/Representatives responsible for social welfare and development of ASEAN Member States, the People’s Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea convened the Third ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting for Social Welfare and Development (3rd AMMSWD+3) on 26 November 2010 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, which carried the theme “Strengthening Family Institution: Caring for the Elderly”.
2. We noted that one of the purposes of ASEAN as set out in the ASEAN Charter is to enhance the well-being and livelihood of the peoples of ASEAN by providing them with equitable access to opportunities for human development, social welfare and justice.
3. We reaffirmed the priorities set out in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint in building a people-oriented ASEAN with special emphasis on measures that would safeguard the interests and rights, provide equal opportunities as well as raise the quality of life and standard of living for women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.
4. We supported the Ha Noi Declaration on the Enhancement of Welfare and Development of ASEAN Women and Children adopted at the 17th ASEAN Summit on 28 October 2010. The Declaration recognises the role of women and children in the ASEAN Community building.
5. With the aim of enhancing the ASEAN Plus Three collaboration in social welfare and development, we had valuable information sharing and exchanged of views on “Strengthening Family Institution: Caring for the Elderly”. We recognised the growing trend of ageing populations in ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries as life expectancies are rising steadily and the need to address the challenges in providing adequate care and support for the elderly who are in need of social assistance. In this regard, we stressed the importance of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in providing care and support as well as promoting the quality of life and well-being of the elderly. The

role of family, being the basic unit of society, should be strengthened in promoting active and healthy elderly.

6. We commended the development of the ASEAN Strategic Framework for Social Welfare, Family and Development for the period of 2011-2015 which is built on the priorities of the previous framework and commitment to realise the ASEAN Community of caring societies by 2015 as well as focusing on the scope of cooperation in social welfare and development of children, persons with disabilities and the elderly with sustained impact both nationally and regionally.

7. We acknowledged the achievements of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in social welfare and development and were committed to fostering concerted efforts for the benefits of the peoples of ASEAN. We expressed our high appreciation to the continued support of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea in enhancing the social welfare and social cohesiveness of ASEAN.

8. We noted the convening of the ASEAN+3 Seminar on Urban Disaster Emergency Management in Beijing on 5-7 May 2010, the ASEAN+3 Workshop on Social Welfare for Persons with Disabilities in Beijing on 20-21 September 2010 and the China-ASEAN Workshop on Policies for Social Assistance in Beijing on 19-21 October 2010.

9. We also noted the convening of the Eighth ASEAN-Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies on 30 August – 2 September 2010 in Tokyo, Japan, under the theme "Poverty alleviation with a focus on vulnerable people through strengthening collaboration between the social welfare and health services".

10. We further noted the progress of Phase III (2009-2012) of the ASEAN-ROK Home Care for Older People in the ASEAN Member States Project.

11. We thanked the Government and people of Brunei Darussalam for their warm and generous hospitality accorded to us and our respective delegations and the excellent arrangements for the Meeting.

12. We welcomed the generous offer of Cambodia to host the Eighth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting for Social Welfare and Development and the Fourth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting for Social Welfare and Development in 2013.

13. The Third ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting for Social Welfare and Development was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality.

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