

**JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT OF THE
8TH MEETING OF THE ASEAN MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR
CULTURE AND ARTS**

“Embracing the Culture of Prevention to Enrich ASEAN Identity”

24 October 2018, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

1. The Eighth ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) Meeting and the AMCA Meetings with Dialogue Partners, including the ASEAN Plus Three, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, were held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 24 October 2018.
2. The theme of the 8th AMCA was “Embracing the Culture of Prevention to Enrich ASEAN Identity.”
3. The Meeting was preceded by the 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials Responsible for Culture and Arts (SOMCA) on 22 October 2018, as well as its meeting with China, Japan, ROK and the Plus Three Countries on 23 October 2018.

Opening Ceremony

4. The Opening Ceremony commenced with Welcome Remarks by H.E. Prof. Muhadjir Effendy, Minister of Education and Culture of Indonesia, who expressed it was an honour for Indonesia to host the 8th AMCA and Related Meetings.
5. The ASEAN Anthem “The ASEAN Way” was played during the Opening Ceremony.
6. The chairmanship of the AMCA was handed over from Brunei Darussalam to Indonesia. In the Outgoing Remarks of the 7th AMCA Chair, Brunei Darussalam has achieved milestones in the culture and the arts sector, predominantly through the efforts in adopting and realising the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration to Promote ASEAN’s Identity Towards a Dynamic and Harmonious ASEAN Community and the Vientiane Declaration on Reinforcing Cultural Heritage Cooperation in ASEAN; and the developments in the implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Plan on Culture and Arts 2016-2025. Brunei Darussalam congratulated ASEAN SOMCA, ASEAN-COCI and the

Sub-Committee on Culture for their excellent job in delivering the projects and activities as outlined in the Strategic Plan.

7. The Meeting was Chaired by H.E. Prof. Muhadjir Effendy, Minister of Education and Culture of Indonesia, with H.E. Mr. Samraing Kamsan, Secretary of State, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts of Cambodia who served as Vice Chair. The list of Ministers and representatives from all ASEAN Member States, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea appears as **ANNEX 1**.

8. H.E. Prof. Muhadjir Effendy extended a warm welcome to all fellow Ministers of ASEAN Member States, and representatives of Dialogue Partners (China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea) to Yogyakarta, Indonesia. He shared the spirit behind Indonesia's decision to adopt the theme of "Embracing the Culture of Prevention to Enrich ASEAN Identity" was to implement the ASEAN Declaration on Culture of Prevention for a Peaceful, Inclusive, Resilient, Healthy and Harmonious Society that was adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 31st ASEAN Summit on 13 November 2017 in Manila. He expressed hope that the ASEAN Culture and Arts sector could mainstream the CoP in the current and future work plans. The mainstreaming of CoP in the sector would further inculcate shared values among ASEAN Member States such as peace, harmony, intercultural understanding, the rule of law, good governance, respect, trust, tolerance, inclusiveness, moderation, social responsibility, and diversity. He also mentioned that the ASEAN Culture and Arts sector could provide common denominators that would potentially cement a stronger sense of belonging among ASEAN Member States. The AMCA Chair's remarks appear as **ANNEX 2**.

Embracing the Culture of Prevention to Enrich ASEAN Identity

9. The Ministers expressed their support and reaffirmed their commitment to implement the ASEAN Declaration on Culture of Prevention (CoP) for a Peaceful, Inclusive, Resilient, Healthy and Harmonious Society that was adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 31st ASEAN Summit on 13 November 2017 in Manila.

10. The Ministers exchanged views on further strengthening culture and arts cooperation in promoting ASEAN identity. The Ministers reiterated that ASEAN, with its rich cultural and traditional diversity, acted as an important enabler toward building a people-centered and people-oriented ASEAN Community.

11. The Ministers supported the institutionalisation of the Culture of Prevention and adopted the **Yogyakarta Declaration on Embracing the Culture of Prevention to Enrich ASEAN Identity (ANNEX 3)**. The Ministers welcomed the efforts to mainstream

the culture of prevention into the ASEAN Culture and Arts sector with upstream policy initiatives and activities that would contribute positively towards fostering a dynamic ASEAN identity.

12. The Ministers tasked SOMCA to be the lead Sectoral Body of thrust one of the CoP on promoting a culture of peace and intercultural understanding, as recommended by the First Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Culture of Prevention (WG CoP) which was held in Jakarta on 17 September 2018. The Ministers believed that the ASEAN Culture and Arts sector have the modality to support the CoP, considering the works under this sector directly touched upon the grass root level of the society, by promoting interaction and people-to-people contact which would lead to greater mutual understanding.

ASEAN City of Culture - Yogyakarta

13. The title of ASEAN City of Culture was handed over from Bandar Seri Begawan City of Brunei Darussalam to Yogyakarta, Indonesia for the period 2018-2020. This would be the fifth city in ASEAN which was selected as the ASEAN City of Culture. The Ministers expressed support for the ASEAN City of Culture to embody the various thrusts of the ASEAN Declaration on Culture of Prevention, particularly in promoting a culture of peace and intercultural understanding. To mark this significance, the city staged the ASEAN Festival of Arts on 24 October 2018 with participations of artists and performers from all ASEAN Member States and the Plus Three countries. The Festival was an example to which ASEAN could capitalise on culture and the arts to promote the region's heritage and traditions, celebrate its cultural diversity, and cultivate long-lasting friendship among the peoples of ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.

ASEAN Cultural Year 2019

14. The Ministers adopted the designation of the "ASEAN Cultural Year 2019", which was initiated by Thailand to promote ASEAN culture internationally, and drive the promotion of the creative industries, cultural tourism, and sustainable development through culture. The Ministers encouraged all the AMS and its partners to carry out meaningful events during the ASEAN Cultural Year 2019.

ASEAN Strategic Plan for Culture and Arts (2016-2025)

15. The Ministers noted the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Plan for Culture and Arts (2016-2025). The Ministers also appreciated the support of the ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information (COCI) in the operationalisation of Strategic Plan. The Ministers encouraged the ASEAN Culture and Arts sector to continue to vigorously implement the Strategic Plan.

2nd ASEAN Culture and Arts Cooperation Dialogue

16. The Ministers welcomed the 2nd ASEAN Culture and Arts Cooperation Dialogue, which would be implemented in 2019 in Jakarta. The Dialogue would focus on promoting small and medium-sized cultural enterprises (SMCEs), and explore regional collaborations to strengthen their branding and financing, as well as policy support.

Cooperation with Dialogue Partners

17. The Ministers exchanged views on the progress of ASEAN cooperation with China, Japan and Republic of Korea in the field of culture and arts. The Ministers agreed that culture and arts cooperation would focus on (a) cultural exchanges, (b) creative cultural industries, (c) cultural heritage management; and (d) human resource development. The Ministers encouraged further development of city-level exchanges between the ASEAN cities of Culture and East Asian Cultural Cities.

18. The ASEAN Ministers appreciated China's efforts in leveraging culture and arts to foster friendly ASEAN-China ties, as well as China's initiatives on promoting cultural exchanges supported by the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund (ACCF) and through the annual China-ASEAN Cultural Forum. The Ministers adopted the ASEAN-China Work Plan on Cooperation in Culture and the Arts 2019-2021.

19. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed Japan's initiatives in the field of pop-culture, cultural heritage management, copyright protection, Japanese language education and various cultural exchange programs. The ASEAN Ministers appreciated the ASEAN Cultural Heritage Digital Archive project. The Ministers appreciated the financial support from Japan to implement the cooperation projects through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF 2.0). The Ministers adopted the ASEAN-Japan Work Plan on Cooperation in Culture and the Arts 2019-2021.

20. The ASEAN Ministers welcomed the opening of the ASEAN Culture House in Busan, ROK and recognised its contribution to people-to-people exchanges. The Ministers appreciated Korea's support to culture projects utilising the ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund (AKCF). The Ministers adopted the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Work Plan on Cooperation in Culture and the Arts 2019-2021. The ASEAN Ministers considered positively ROK's proposal to hold the 2019 AMCA Plus ROK Meeting in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of dialogue relations between the Republic of Korea and ASEAN.

21. The ASEAN Plus Three Ministers adopted the ASEAN Plus Three Work Plan on Cooperation in Culture and the Arts 2019-2021 which outlines the cultural initiatives to

be jointly undertaken by ASEAN and the Plus Three countries. The Ministers appreciated the financial support from the Plus Three countries, through ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund (APTCF), to implement the cooperation projects in the Work Plan.

Closing and Acknowledgement

22. The Ministers agreed to convene the 9th AMCA and its related Meetings with Dialogue Partners in Cambodia in 2020.

23. The Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Indonesia for the warm hospitality accorded to all delegates and the excellent arrangements made for the 8th AMCA, 14th SOMCA and Related Meetings. The Meetings were held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity and cordiality.

/END/