



**JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT OF THE  
EIGHTH ASEAN PLUS THREE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON YOUTH  
(8<sup>th</sup> AMMY+3)**

*21 June 2023, videoconference*

---

**WE**, the ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth, met on 21 June 2023 via videoconference for the ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth, under the co-chairpersonship of Malaysia and Republic of Korea.

1. We **applaud** the successful convening of the Eighth AMMY +3 and **note with appreciation** the various initiatives conducted since our last meeting in 2019 to boost cooperation between ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries in creating more opportunities for the youth to actively participate in regional development.
2. We **recognise** the critical role of youth in line with the statement of our Leaders at the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Summit in November 2022 on ASEAN Plus Three's commitment to advance cooperation in promoting sustainable, inclusive and innovative development, as well as in strengthening cooperation with all stakeholders, including the private sector, to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
3. We **reiterate** our commitment to implement programmes under the ASEAN Plus Three Work Plan on Youth 2021-2025 across the five priority areas, namely: (a) Research and policy dialogue on the impact of the fourth industrial revolution and COVID-19 pandemic/other emergencies on youth with a view to exchanging lessons learned and best practices; (b) Youth exchange programmes, cultural/educational fora and competitions for deeper mutual understanding and forging a sense of commonality; (c) Promotion of the spirit of youth volunteerism to inculcate a stronger ASEAN Plus Three community spirit among ASEAN Plus Three youths by involving them in community development projects; (d) Engagement of youth in mutually beneficial programmes to support youth's health and wellbeing, including mental health; and (e) Skills development training and leadership programme for youth in the context of the fourth industrial revolution. Guided by these priority areas, we **encourage** the fostering of closer collaboration among ASEAN, the Plus Three Countries, and other relevant partners.
4. We **note with satisfaction** the contribution of activities implemented through the ASEAN Plus Three mechanism and those involving each respective Plus Three Countries to the progress made in advancing the ASEAN Work Plan on Youth 2021-2025 and the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Work Plan 2023-2027, namely:

- a. The engagement of ASEAN youths for meaningful youth participation, namely: (i) ASEAN Talk funded by the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund; (ii) the ASEAN Volunteers funded by the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund; and (iii) the First ASEAN Youth Dialogue in 2022 funded by the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund under the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Korea Frontiers Forum.
- b. The commitment of China to put youth development as the center of its development agenda and the implementation of ASEAN-China exchange programmes in line with the ASEAN Plus Three Work Plan on Youth 2021-2025 in the form of policy dialogue, youth exchange, volunteerism, as well as skill development, training and leadership.
- c. The implementation of the international youth exchange programmes by Japanese government, including “JENESYS” programme and SSEAYP as an initiative contributing to the ASEAN Plus Three Work Plan on Youth 2021-2025, which enhances leadership management skills and intercultural understanding among participating youths. In particular, the commemorative programmes and events of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship are being implemented in these programmes this year.
- d. The implementation of the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Korea Frontier Forum as an initiative contributing to the ASEAN Work Plan on Youth 2021-2025, which has enhanced mutual understanding, strengthened connections, and developed diplomatic abilities among youth delegates.

5. We **look forward** to collaborate through the ASEAN Plus Three mechanism and **remain committed** to the implementation of *ASEAN Plus Three Eco-Tourism and Agro-Tourism* project through support from the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Fund (APTCF) under the leadership of Lao PDR, in the light of her ASEAN Chairmanship.

6. Noting the ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on the Application of Timor-Leste for ASEAN Membership, we **congratulate** Timor-Leste on her first participation as observer in the Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth and **look forward** to further our cooperation in youth development towards the full membership of Timor-Leste in ASEAN.

7. We **convey** our appreciation to Malaysia and ROK for the Co-Chairpersonship and arrangements for the Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth and **welcome** Myanmar and China as the forthcoming Co-Chairs of the ministerial meeting in the year 2024.

\*\*\*