



Annex F

Summit Statements in FY2021

THE OECD SEARP Ministerial Conference

9-10 February 2022

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ of the OECD SEARP Ministerial Conference Seoul

30. **We recognised the importance of making use of the knowledge and experience of the regional partner organisations such as the ADB, UNESCAP, APEC, AMRO, ERIA and development agencies as well as the OECD Tokyo Centre in facilitating an effective and sustainable implementation of the OECD SEARP.** We will continue to strengthen our collaboration building upon recently concluded or renewed MoUs with most of these regional partners. We called for the SEARP Steering Group to examine ways to collaborate with development partners active in Southeast Asia and report back on progress in implementation at the next Steering Group Meeting in 2022.

THE 25th MEETING OF ASEAN TOURISM MINISTERS

19 January 2022

Joint Media Statement of the 25th MEETING OF ASEAN TOURISM MINISTERS

Positioning ASEAN as a Single Tourism Destination by 2025

16. The Meeting noted the Report on the Viability Study of the Regional Secretariat to Implement the MRA-TP and its recommendations contained therein prepared by the MRATP Consultant. The Meeting took note of the development progress of Competency Standards and toolboxes for the ASEAN Competency Standards for MICE and Event Professionals, which cover 32 job titles with 86 New Competencies Standard (55 MICE and 31 Event). **The Meeting also noted that in conjunction with the 10th anniversary of the MRA-TP, the ASEAN NTOs are engaging the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) to undertake a Comprehensive Study on the Implementation of the MRA-TP: Enhanced Mechanism for Tourism Professionals with the key objective to ensure that the MRA-TP is relevant in view of the shifting trends and recent global developments in the tourism industry.** In this connection, the Meeting looked forward to the assessment and recommendations of the Comprehensive Study by the end of 2022 as a Priority Economic Deliverable of Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2022.

Enhancing ASEAN Sustainable and Inclusive Tourism

20. **The Meeting commended the work towards the development of a study on sustainable tourism in ASEAN within the context of a post-pandemic recovery, through the support of ERIA.** The Meeting further noted that the Study provides a systematic approach towards the development of a framework and list of policy recommendations to promote sustainable tourism in the region. The framework is expected to fill the knowledge gap and raise awareness among ASEAN Member States to better understand the importance of sustainability in the tourism sector, particularly in implementing a common framework or approach. In this regard, the Meeting also welcomed the inclusion of the Framework on Sustainable Tourism Development in ASEAN in Post-COVID-19 Era as a Priority Economic Deliverable of Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2022.

THE 16TH EAST ASIA SUMMIT

27 October 2021

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE 16TH EAST ASIA SUMMIT

Environment and Energy

8. We welcomed the productive outcomes of the 15th EAS Energy Ministers' Meeting hosted by Brunei Darussalam on 16 September 2021 via videoconference. We noted with satisfaction the implementation of concrete initiatives in working towards a sustainable energy future for the EAS region under the three work streams of the EAS Energy Cooperation Task Force (ECTF), namely, Energy Efficiency and Conservation, Biofuels FINAL 3 for Transport and Other Purposes, and Renewable and Alternative Power Generation. We looked forward to the initiatives contributing to energy transition in the EAS region on the promotion of innovative technologies and low carbon societies, including hydrogen, carbon recycling, and carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS). We welcomed the successful convening of the New Energy Forum by China via videoconference and looked forward to the convening of the Clean Energy Forum by China scheduled this year. We noted that there is no single pathway to achieve a low carbon economy, but rather there are diverse paths for each country. We emphasised the need to explore a variety of options and utilise all fuels and technologies to ensure a secure and stable supply of energy for achieving economic growth. **We appreciated the continued contributions of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) in implementing the EAS Mid-Term Energy Policy Research Roadmap 2019 - 2021 for the three EAS ECTF work streams. We welcomed the successful convening of the 4th East Asia Energy Forum (EAEF4) co-organised by ERIA and Brunei Darussalam on 13 September 2021 via videoconference that focused on the low carbon energy transition in the ASEAN region.** We looked forward for the convening of the 5th East Asia Summit Clean Energy Forum

to be held in Chengdu, China on 25 – 26 November 2021. **We also welcomed the successful convening of the 1st Asia CCUS Network Forum co-hosted by ERIA and Japan on 22 – 23 June 2021 via videoconference, as well as the Asia Green Growth Partnership Ministerial Meeting hosted by Japan on 4 October 2021 via videoconference.** We further encouraged enhancing EAS energy cooperation in line with the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) Phase II: 2021-2025.

Economic Cooperation and Trade

23. We commended ERIA for its continued research and analysis on key regional economic issues that support economic integration and digital economy in the region. We welcomed the report of the 14th ERIA Governing Board Meeting held on 12 October 2021, which highlighted the approaches and strategies that promote physical and digital connectivity that ASEAN and East Asia should pursue to establish the “new normal” in ensuring a strengthened and resilient economic environment in the region. We encouraged ERIA to continue providing for the Chair of the ASEAN Summit and the EAS its support and targeted high-quality research and actionable policy recommendations that highlight and address the ERIA’s paper on “Supply Chain Resilience and Post-Pandemic Recovery in the East Asia Summit region” to EAS Economic Ministers.

THE 24th ASEAN-JAPAN SUMMIT

27 October 2021

CHAIRMAN’S STATEMENT OF THE 24th ASEAN-JAPAN SUMMIT

15. We welcomed the support of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) in promoting our close economic partnership and Japan’s contribution to the Institute.

17. We welcomed the successful convening of the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) Consultations with Dialogue Partners and Other External Partners on Connectivity and the 12th ASEAN Connectivity Symposium, with support from the ERIA, on 25 and 26 August 2021, respectively.

22. ASEAN expressed appreciation for Japan’s continued support to combat marine plastic debris through the ASEAN Plus Three Marine Plastics Debris Cooperative Action Initiative, as well as the efforts of the Regional Knowledge Centre for Marine Plastic Debris at the ERIA.

THE 24TH ASEAN PLUS THREE SUMMIT

27 October 2021

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE 24TH ASEAN PLUS THREE SUMMIT

21. **We noted the successful convening of the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) Consultations with Dialogue Partners and Other External Partners on Connectivity and the 12 th ASEAN Connectivity Symposium, with support from the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), on 25 and 26 August 2021, respectively.**

27. **We welcomed in particular activities of the Regional Knowledge Centre for Marine Plastic Debris (RKC-MPD) of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) to address the marine plastic issue, as well as collective efforts towards the achievement of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP).** We noted with appreciation the activities of the Private Sector FINAL 8 Platform by RKC-MPD to promote the collaboration between policymakers and business sectors to tackle the marine plastic issue.

THE TWENTIETH FIRST AMAF PLUS THREE

27 October 2021

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT

9. **The Meeting expressed their appreciation to the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) for their support and contribution in conducting the research projects on the utilization of digital technologies for food value chain resilience and the development of the cold chain in ASEAN, including the conduct of the knowledge sharing workshops. The Meeting also thanked ERIA for the support in formulating the ASEAN Guidelines on Promoting the Utilisation of Digital Technologies in the Food and Agriculture Sector and looked forward to the continued collaboration in other priority areas such as food systems and sustainable agriculture.**

THE FORTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE ASEAN MINISTERS ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

27 October 2021

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT

10. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the endorsement of the ASEAN Guidelines on Promoting the Utilisation of Digital Technologies for ASEAN Food and Agricultural Sector that will equip the ASEAN with recommendations and implementation considerations for making an informed decision that will shape agriculture's digital transformation in the region. The Guidelines will outline conditions and actions needed to make use of digital technologies for agriculture and food system improvements, including interventions to facilitate digital technology uptake in the food and agricultural sectors. In this regard, the Meeting appreciated the support of the Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia in the preparation of the Guidelines.

THE 38TH AND 39TH ASEAN SUMMITS

26 October 2021

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE 38TH AND 39TH ASEAN SUMMITS

A. Global ASEAN

66. We acknowledged the contribution of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) to ASEAN, in particular, its support to the development of Brunei Darussalam's two (2) PEDs, namely the Framework on Circular Economy for the AEC; and the NTM Toolkit in cooperation with UNCTAD. We also appreciated ERIA's assistance and support through research and studies that contribute to ASEAN's economic priorities, including but not limited to the upgrade of the ATIGA, addressing issues pertaining to the mobility of professionals in ASEAN Member States especially in relation to the 4IR, the follow-up work on the ASEAN Seamless Trade Facilitation Indicators - Trade Transactions Cost (ASTFI-TTC II), and supply chain resilience.

Asia Green Growth Partnership Ministerial Meeting

4 October 2021

Chair's Summary

Efforts for Energy Transitions in Asia

8. We noted the importance of supporting each country to proactively and timely chart its own pathway to sustainable energy transitions with social equity and inclusiveness at its centre, which reflects its national circumstances, its sustainable development path, and its commitments for the Paris Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We emphasised the opportunities presented by such pathways to reduce inequality through inclusive energy access; create new jobs and employment opportunities, support economic growth and prosperity, and protect ecosystems by ensuring the sustainable use of resources. We also noted the importance of empowering people by ensuring gender equality and addressing the essential energy needs of vulnerable people including children, youth, local communities and other vulnerable populations.

In this regard, we acknowledged the collective efforts and contributions by several international organisations and welcomed the readiness of international organisations and research institutes such as the IEA and ERIA to share knowledge and provide support to each country in considering its own pathway for energy transitions.

THE 15th EAST ASIA SUMMIT ENERGY MINISTERS MEETING

16 September 2021

JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

6. **On the 'Biofuels for Transport and Other Purposes' work stream, the Meeting looked forward to the results of the Joint Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) study on the Analysis of EAS Future Mobility Fuel Scenario considering the sustainable use of biofuels and other alternative vehicle fuels.** The Meeting noted that the consumer surveys underway in Thailand, Philippines, Malaysia, and Viet Nam are helping understand consumer awareness and attitudes towards renewable energy, including consumer willingness-to-pay for higher shares of renewable electricity supply. The Meeting looked forward to the results of similar surveys in Indonesia and follow-up analysis in Malaysia.

11. On the promotion of innovative technologies and low carbon societies, the Meeting expressed appreciation to Japan for its continued advocacy on the development of hydrogen and mobility decarbonisation technologies. **Recognising the importance of promoting carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) and carbon recycling, the Meeting noted the successful launch of the Asia CCUS Network during the 1st CCUS Network Forum co-hosted by ERIA and METI-Japan last June 2021.** They looked forward to the capacity building activities, and case studies under this initiative.

12. **The Meeting noted the contributions of ERIA towards energy policy research activities in the EAS region through the implementation of the rolling 3-year Roadmap on EAS Mid-Term Energy Policy Research for 2019-2021, including analyses on the impact of the pandemic on the EAS region and the updated EAS energy outlook, as well as the voluntary preliminary scenario building analyses on low carbon energy transition roadmaps conducted with the Institute of Energy Economics, of Japan (IEEJ).**

The Meeting also welcomed the successful convening of the 4th East Asia Energy Forum (EAEF4) focusing on the low carbon energy transition in the ASEAN region on 13 September 2021 organised by ERIA and Brunei Darussalam and noted the “Brunei Reflections from the EAEF4”.

THE NINTH EAS ECONOMIC MINISTERS' MEETING

15 September 2021

JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

8. **The Meeting commended Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) for its significant contribution, through the studies and research activities that support regional economic issues.** The Meeting noted ERIA's paper on “Supply Chain Resilience and Post-Pandemic Recovery in the East Asia Summit region”. Reemphasizing the need for greater collaboration to deal with the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Meeting welcomed ERIA to continue supporting the EAS process through its research.

THE 27 AEM-METI CONSULTATIONS

15 September 2021

JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

10. **The Meeting also acknowledged the contribution of Japan to the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), which continued to support and contribute to ASEAN economic integration and AEC-building efforts.**

THE 53rd ASEAN ECONOMIC MINISTERS' (AEM) MEETING

8-9 September 2021

JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper: Brunei Darussalam's Priority Economic Deliverables

14. **The Meeting welcomed the development of the Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community and acknowledged the efforts of the ASEAN Secretariat and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).** The Framework will provide a clear understanding and prioritisation of work on circular economy in the AEC, taking into account related ongoing initiatives and existing mechanisms for cross-pillar and cross-sectoral coordination. The Meeting agreed on the importance of implementing this Framework to ensure that concrete benefits ADOPTED 5 are achieved. The Meeting noted that a Consultative Workshop on Circular Economy was held on 30 June 2021 to gather inputs from relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies, as well as the private sector. The Meeting recognised that the support of the sectoral bodies and broader stakeholders would be crucial in the implementation of the Framework.

Trade Facilitation

18. The Meeting commended the progress made in addressing the trade barrier effects of NTMs in the region; the establishment of the Independent NTM Panel/Rapporteurs as alternative mechanism to resolve NTM cases; strengthened notification procedures for draft NTMs; the progressive resolution of outstanding cases in the Matrix of Actual Cases (MAC) on NTMs/trade barriers; validating/ uploading NTMs onto the ASEAN Trade Repository/National

Trade Repository (ATR/NTR), and enhancing the utilisation of ASEAN Solution for Investment, Services, and Trade (ASSIST), among others. The Meeting noted the completion of the Baseline Study of the ASEAN Seamless Trade Facilitation Indicators (ASTFI) and Trade Transaction Cost (TTC) and urged AMS to redouble efforts to submit the required data for the Follow-up Study on ASTFI and TTC (ASTFI-TTC II) within this year. **The Meeting also noted that the public version of the ASTFI Baseline Study report reflecting the state of trade facilitation in all AMSs in 2018 has been finalised and published at the websites of the ASEAN Secretariat and ERIA.** The public version is produced for the purpose of raising the public's awareness of ASEAN's trade facilitation initiatives.

Collaborating with Development Partners

- Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

40. **The Meeting thanked ERIA for its continued support and contribution to ASEAN economic integration and AEC-building efforts, the most notable of which is the support it has given in the development of Brunei Darussalam's two PEDs, i.e., the Framework on Circular Economy under the AEC and the Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) Cost-Effectiveness Toolkit for ASEAN (NTM Toolkit), which was done in cooperation with UNCTAD. The Meeting noted that through its research activities, ERIA has also contributed studies on, among others, (i) an Assessment of the Impact of the ATIGA on Intra-ASEAN Trade, which is a component of the ATIGA General Review; (ii) Enhancing the Utilisation of ASEAN MRAs in Facilitating Mobility of Professionals in ASEAN, which includes identifying existing regulatory barriers to mobility of professionals in AMS; (iii) the Impact of Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) on Evolving Services Trade Landscape and Mobility of Professionals, which would encourage improvement in movement of ASEAN professionals in ASEAN; (iv) the follow-up study on ASEAN Seamless Trade Facilitation Indicators and Trade Transaction Cost (ASTFITTC II) that would help determine the reduction by 10% in trade transactions cost in the region by 2020; and (v) "UK-ASEAN Trade: Strengthening the Supply Chain Linkages" - a study of UK-ASEAN supply chains that emanate from ASEAN's regional objectives and frameworks for strengthening and deepening ASEAN's economic resilience. ERIA, in cooperation with the Coordinating Committee on Services (CCS) and the ASEAN Business Sectors Working Group, is also undertaking further review of the domestic regulations and mapping the issues affecting the mobility of ASEAN professionals, to facilitate the movement of ASEAN Professional and enhancing the utilisation of ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangements. ERIA also continued to support capacity building to AMS officials related to services sectors to contribute towards developing their respective Schedules of Non-Conforming Measures under the ATISA.**