

Co-Chairs' Summary
of the High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue on Enhancing Complementarities
between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and
the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
31 March 2017, Bangkok

1. The High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue on Enhancing Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was convened at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand, on Friday, 31 March 2017. The Dialogue was co-chaired by His Excellency Mr. Don Pramudwinai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, as ASEAN's coordinator on sustainable development, and Her Excellency Dr. Shamsad Akhtar, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. Ms. Victoria Kwakwa, Vice President for East Asia and the Pacific of the World Bank and Mr. Vongthep Arthakaivalvatee, Deputy Secretary-General of the ASEAN Secretariat participated in the Dialogue as did high level development experts of ASEAN Member States, high level representatives of UNDP, and UN Women. Representatives of Germany, which is ASEAN's Development Partner, were also present as guests of the Co-Chairs.

2. The Dialogue was a concrete follow-up to the Special Session of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting focusing on sustainable development which was convened in New York on 24 September 2016. It is part of the ongoing efforts to develop priority cross-cutting areas for the region that would help ASEAN and its Member States to undertake the Community's Vision 2025 while helping attain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3. The meeting had wide ranging and in depth discussions on how to concretely advance the shared goals of enhancing complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It reaffirmed the commitment to enhance such complementarities and to transform this vision into reality through concrete projects.

4. The main outcome of this meeting was the endorsement of the proposal to undertake a joint report by UN ESCAP, Thailand and the ASEAN Secretariat on how to concretize such complementarities. The report would be jointly submitted to the ASEAN-UN Summit in November this year in Manila by UN ESCAP, Thailand and the ASEAN Secretariat. The report aims to help ASEAN Member States to develop strategies and policies that will leverage the complementarities between the ASEAN Community 2025 Vision and Blueprints and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development through the identification of priority cross-cutting areas that are embedded in both agendas and which provide the opportunity for implementing both agendas effectively. The report would also identify and propose specific implementation actions. The report aims to catalyse action that would simultaneously promote ASEAN Community-building and the SDGs.

5. The Meeting strongly supported the priority areas identified and it was agreed that the report would focus on these issues: resilience, infrastructure and connectivity, poverty eradication, sustainable production and consumption, and sustainable management of natural resources. At the same time, issues such as inequality, trade and productivity, gender, micro, small and medium enterprises, agriculture and finance would be addressed through the priority areas identified.

6. The Meeting also appreciated the efforts of UNDP, UN Women and the World Bank in submitting concrete project proposals that would help serve as a catalyst to enhancing complementarities between ASEAN Community-building and attaining the SDGs. In this connection, the Meeting welcomed fast tracking a number of these project proposals and ideas including the UNDP's MY World 2030 Survey: MY ASEAN Edition, UN Women's proposal to hold a workshop/conference to promote the economic empowerment of women, and the World Bank's proposal on addressing malnutrition and stunting, within the broader objective of achieving prosperity for all. The meeting agreed that the projects would be aligned with the priority areas of complementarity identified.

7. The Meeting looked forward to continuing dialogue and discussions between the relevant organizations and ASEAN, as well as to the ASEAN Secretariat's continuing efforts to help coordinate this matter with the relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies, including the latter's views with regard to Thailand's Revised Information Paper/Matrix: Compilation of Possible Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Blueprints 2025 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as instructed by the ASEAN Coordinating Council in September 2016.

8. The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of ensuring that no one is left behind in sustainable development efforts that would remain people-centred. The participants expressed their appreciation to the Royal Thai Government and UN ESCAP for hosting this High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue.

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