

Attachment: Overview of Sessions

(Session 1)

● Opening

(1) Prime Minister Kishida, as the host and co-chair, welcomed the Heads of State and Government and their delegations and gave his remarks as follows.

- In 1973, soon after the establishment of ASEAN, Japan was the first country in the world to start dialogue with ASEAN. After half a century, ASEAN has expanded, integrated and developed to become the center of global growth;
 - Over the years, ASEAN and Japan have contributed to regional peace, stability and prosperity in close cooperation in a wide range of fields, not only as major trading and investment partners, but also as true "heart-to-heart" friends;
 - However, we have also experienced many challenges during this period, including the Asian Financial Crisis, the Sumatra Earthquake and Indian Ocean tsunami, the Great East Japan Earthquake, and the COVID-19 pandemic. ASEAN and Japan have demonstrated that we are "Trusted Partners" by helping each other in times of difficulty. We hope to pass on this trust to the next generations;
 - Today, the international community is at a turning point in history, and the free and open international order based on the rule of law is under serious challenge. We are also facing complex and compounding challenges such as climate change and economic inequality;
 - We would like to work more closely than ever based on "trust" with ASEAN to "co-create" a peaceful and stable world where everyone can live with dignity as well as a sustainable and prosperous future; and
 - At today's meeting, I would like to review the ASEAN-Japan relations over the past half century and have frank discussions with our ASEAN friends to set out a new vision and concrete cooperation for the future. I would like to make this historical Commemorative Summit a "Golden Opportunity" to pass on our "Golden Friendship" to the next generation.
- (2) Next, the Co-chair, President Joko of Indonesia, made opening remarks and stated that Japan is the trusted partner and expressed his expectation

that ASEAN would remain a center of regional growth in cooperation with Japan and peace and stability would be maintained under the partnership of new generations..

- (3) Then, Secretary-General Watanabe of ERIA and Secretary-General Hirabayashi of the ASEAN-Japan Centre delivered their remarks as guests of the Chair.

- **Agenda 1: Review of ASEAN-Japan relations**

- (1) Prime Minister Kishida stated as follows: while Japan has over the years assisted the development of ASEAN countries, Japan has also supported ASEAN Community building, strengthening connectivity, and integration including the narrowing the development gap, among others, by noting that ASEAN and Japan have implemented more than 570 projects under the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund; ASEAN and Japan share fundamental principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, such as the renunciation of the threat or use of force, the rule of law and good governance, principles of democracy, fundamental freedoms and human rights, and social justice; Japan has consistently and strongly supported ASEAN Centrality and unity and the AOIP, and will continue to work for the mainstreaming of the AOIP; and Japan announced a new plan for a FOIP in March this year and the "Japan-ASEAN Comprehensive Connectivity Initiative" in September to strengthen connectivity, one of the priority areas of cooperation under the AOIP.
- (2) ASEAN Member States highly valued the development of ASEAN-Japan relations over the years and Japan's wide range of cooperation with ASEAN, mentioning individual cooperation projects.

- **Agenda 2: Partners for Peace and Stability & Regional and International Issues**

- (1) Prime Minister Kishida emphasized the importance of upholding the principles which the international community should rely on in terms of regional and international issues, saying that maintaining and strengthening a free and open international order based on the rule of law is essential for the Indo-Pacific region to remain a global center of growth and build a society where everyone can live with dignity. Furthermore, stating that Japan would like to deal with regional and

international issues in cooperation with ASEAN based on this recognition, he reiterated Japan's position on the situation in Myanmar, which continues to deteriorate further; the continued and intensified activities in the East China Sea that infringe upon Japan's sovereignty, the continued activities which increase tensions in the South China Sea. Prime Minister Kishida also expressed Japan's serious concerns over the intensified nuclear and missile activities by North Korea and requested continued understanding and cooperation for an immediate resolution of the abductions issue. Prime Minister Kishida also reiterated Japan's position on other issues including the situation in Israel and Palestine and Russia's aggression against Ukraine.

(2) Furthermore, Prime Minister Kishida stated that Japan would like to cooperate more closely with ASEAN as "Partners for Peace and Stability," not only in dealing with these regional and international issues, but also in strengthening cooperation in a wide range of fields, such as nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation based on the "Hiroshima Action Plan"; cooperation on law and justice including legal technical assistance; Women, Peace and Security (WPS); cybersecurity; and defense cooperation and exchanges. He also expressed his will to contribute to regional peace and stability through Official Security Assistance (OSA) that was newly established this year.

(3) ASEAN Member States mentioned the importance of a regional order based on the rule of law, their appreciation for Japan's consistent support for ASEAN centrality and the AOIP, and the importance of AOIP and FOIP for peace and stability in the region. They also expressed their expectations for further strengthening cooperation in the areas of maritime cooperation and security, transnational crime and cybersecurity.

Regarding regional and international issues, ASEAN Member States mentioned the concerning situation in East and South China Sea and expressed the importance of upholding the international law and a willingness to work toward the conclusion of a "Code of Conduct" in accordance with international law. With regard to Myanmar, they mentioned their efforts to reach a solution based on the "Five-Point Consensus". They also expressed their condemnation on the launch of missiles and spoke about the importance of denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and resolution of the abductions issue. They also expressed their

respective positions on the situation in Ukraine and the Middle East.

- (4) In summing up the discussions, Prime Minister Kishida stated that he was encouraged that through the frank exchange of views with the Leaders, he was able to reaffirm that ASEAN and Japan share the vision of a world where all countries can pursue peace and prosperity, and where principles such as democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights and fundamental freedom are respected. ASEAN and Japan also agreed to further strengthen our cooperation as "Partners for Peace and Stability".

(Session 2)

● Agenda 3: Heart-to-Heart Partnership Across Generations (Working Lunch)

- (1) Prime Minister Kishida recalled the first ASEAN-Japan Summit in 1977 and then-Prime Minister Fukuda's goal of building a "heart-to-heart" partnership of mutual trust as true friends in a wide range of fields, not only political and economic, but also social and cultural fields, and also looked back at the wide range of people-to-people exchanges of nationals thereafter. He also referred to programs such as the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS), a youth exchange program, NIHONGO (Japanese language) Partners, the Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program (SSEAYP), Asia Kakehashi Scholarship in Japan, the Sakura Science Exchange Program, the Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) Scholarship, including specific numbers of their participants; and he emphasized the alumni of these various youth exchange programs who matured friendship and camaraderie are now active in various fields around the world, serving as bridges between ASEAN and Japan. He also mentioned the commemorative events for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation held this year, which amounted to 470, and stated that he would like to steadily promote the initiatives set forth at the Ministerial Conference on Tourism and on Sports.

In addition, as a new initiative to connect heart-to-heart relations with the next generations, he announced the launch of the 40 billion yen "Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0" a comprehensive human exchange program to be implemented and

benefit more than 10 million people over the next 10 years. He also announced the networking of young business leaders between ASEAN countries and Japan, programs to receive international students and government officials from ASEAN countries, and the launch of a new 15 billion yen project for international joint research and human resource exchange and development.

- (3) The ASEAN Member States expressed their high appreciation for the long-standing ASEAN-Japan cooperation in promoting exchanges of culture, education, sports, and people-to-people connection, including those listed above. They also expressed high expectations for Japan's new initiatives, including the "Partnership to Co-Create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0" mentioned above.
- (4) Based on their discussions, they affirmed the importance of further deepening exchanges, specifically among the youth generation who will lead the next generation of ASEAN-Japan relations.

● **Agenda 4: Partners in Co-creation of Economy and Society of the Future**

- (1) After the opening remarks by the co-chair, President Joko of Indonesia, Prime Minister Kishida gave an overview as follows:
 - In addition to close trade relations between ASEAN and Japan, Japan is ASEAN's second largest direct investor, with an average of about 2.8 trillion yen in direct investment from Japan to ASEAN each year in recent years. In addition, the number of business establishments of Japanese companies in ASEAN is approximately 15,000, and the number of Japanese residents in ASEAN is approximately 200,000;
 - The economic growth of the ASEAN countries over the past 50 years has been remarkable, and ASEAN's GDP was the world's fifth largest in 2022, making ASEAN the world's center of growth. On the other hand, the world is at a historical turning point, and we are facing various challenges that need to be addressed jointly, including climate change, infectious diseases, and disaster management; and
 - Against this background, the keyword for future ASEAN-Japan cooperation in economic and social fields is "co-creation." It is important to work together to find solutions to the challenges that our economies and societies face together, based on long-standing trust and with the use

of Japan's ODA. From this perspective, I would like to first listen carefully to the thoughts of the Leaders of the ASEAN Member States.

- (2) ASEAN Member States expressed their appreciation for Japan's contributions over the years to ASEAN's economic and social development and enhanced connectivity. They also stressed the importance of deepening economic integration and strengthening supply chains, including through the utilization of Economic Partnership Agreements. They also expressed high expectations for further ASEAN-Japan cooperation in the areas of digital economy, smart cities, innovation, infrastructure development, clean energy, and energy transition, including new initiatives launched by Japan this year such as Japan-ASEAN Comprehensive Connectivity Initiative, ASEAN-Japan Co-Creation Initiative for the Next-Generation Automotive, MIDORI Cooperation Plan and Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) platform, while they are required to address climate change and new technologies including AI.
- (3) In response, Prime Minister Kishida stated that he could reaffirm that ASEAN and Japan share understandings in many respects, and he expressed his intention to promote initiatives based on "ASEAN-Japan Economic Co-Creation Vision," "Strategic Program for ASEAN Climate and Environment (SPACE)," "ASEAN-Japan MIDORI Cooperation Plan," and "New Luang Prabang Action Plan of AJTP", which are all initiatives that have been launched at the ministerial level this year. He also mentioned the continued support for the early launch of ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED), and the establishment of an Rapid Financing Facility that can be activated flexibly in the event of natural disasters.
- (4) Prime Minister Kishida then introduced new initiatives as outlined below:
 - This year, Japan revised its Development Cooperation Charter and set co-creation of social value as one of its basic policies. In addition, Japan introduced new mechanisms such as "Co-Creation for Common Agenda Initiative," which maximizes development effects in cooperation with various actors including the private sector, and "Private Capital Mobilization-type Grant;"
 - Further promoting the use of overseas investment and loans by establishing a mechanism among others that JICA will work together with ADB to invest high-quality infrastructure projects;

- In particular, the government and private sector will work together in the priority areas of strengthening connectivity, climate change countermeasures including the realization of the Asian Zero Emission Community (AZEC) platform, and support for small, medium, and micro enterprises and start-ups, with the aim to mobilize more than 35 billion USD in public and private funds for the region over the next five years;
- In addition, to ensure that ASEAN's automotive industry remains the world's central production and export hub in the face of intensifying international competition for next-generation automobiles, Japan will establish and implement "ASEAN-Japan Co-Creation Initiative for the Next-Generation Automotive Industry";
- Japan will create and support the industries that will lead the future, specifically by creating flagship projects between ASEAN and Japan. In addition, we will work on the development of industrial human resources;
- In the spirit of "co-creation," we will further strengthen our partnership by using the knowledge of international organizations such as the OECD, ERIA, and the ASEAN-Japan Center.