

**Video Message by H.E. Mr. HAYASHI Yoshimasa,  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan,  
for the International Symposium  
co-organized by the Japan Foundation and  
the National Research and Innovation Agency, Indonesia (BRIN)**

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Dr. Lasksana Tri Handoko, Chairman of the National Research and Innovation Agency

Excellencies, Distinguished guests and participants,

I am HAYASHI Yoshimasa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. I would like to congratulate the Japan Foundation and the National Research and Innovation Agency for organizing this symposium in commemoration of the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation.

For the last half-century, Japan and ASEAN have worked together for peace, stability and prosperity in the region as true friends backed by “heart-to-heart” relations. I have just had an opportunity to deepen our relations with my ASEAN friends during the ASEAN-related Foreign Ministers’ Meetings recently held in Indonesia.

The foundation of the current strong Japan-ASEAN relationship is nothing less than the trust and respect established through a wide variety of exchanges between our peoples. The Japan Foundation has contributed to strengthening people-to-people ties between Japan and ASEAN by promoting cultural and intellectual

exchanges and supporting Japanese language education under the “WA Project.”

In order for the next generation to embrace this relationship, we would like to further promote attractive initiatives that will succeed the project.

The theme of today's symposium, "Mobility," is a keyword for understanding today's complex international affairs and building a more resilient and sustainable future.

Furthermore, to create "*Golden Friendships, Golden Opportunities*", which is the official catchphrase for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation, it is important to facilitate the transmission of ideas and wisdom in addition to the movement of people and goods. I am confident that today's symposium will lay the foundation for such developments.

Japan and ASEAN will hold a Commemorative Summit in Tokyo this December. Let us take this opportunity to further galvanize mobility between Japan and ASEAN, and together create a vision for further Japan-ASEAN cooperation towards a more peaceful, stable and prosperous future for the Indo-Pacific region.

Thank you very much for your attention.