JOINT STATEMENT OF THE 29TH ASEAN-JAPAN SUMMIT ON REALISING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

WE, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Japan, on the occasion of the 29th ASEAN-Japan Summit in Manila, the Republic of the Philippines on 17 November 2026;

Recalling the Joint Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation Trusted Partners adopted at the 2023 Commemorative Summit for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation; and **Welcoming** Japan's full support for ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future;

Emphasising the importance of peace, stability**,** and prosperity in the region**,** and of the open, inclusive, transparent, resilient, and rules-based regional architecture, and **Reaffirming** our commitment to upholding international law, including the Charter of the United Nations and the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), values and norms enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) and the 2011 Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles), and the shared fundamental principles in the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP);

Recognising the importance of responding to new developments, including rapid technological innovation, heightened security challenges, geopolitical instability**,** and climate change, as well as the growing need for resilience amid the increasingly complex global environment;

Welcoming Japan's efforts through its Updated Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) vision to enhance resilience and promote each country's freedom to decide for itself in light of these new developments; **Reaffirming** that both the AOIP and the Updated FOIP share relevant fundamental principles in promoting an open, transparent, resilient, inclusive, rules-based regional architecture that upholds international law and international order based on the rule of law and will generate strong synergies; **Welcoming** Japan's efforts to promote cooperation rather than division and confrontation through the Updated FOIP; and **Recognising** that all these efforts will lead to the maintenance of peace, stability, freedom, and prosperity in the region;

Recalling the Joint Statement of the 23rd ASEAN-Japan Summit on Cooperation on ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific and the Joint Statement of the 28th ASEAN-Japan Summit on Further Promotion and Implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific to promote

the implementation of concrete AOIP projects and activities that will contribute to the fundamental principles and objectives shared by the AOIP and the Updated FOIP**,** and to further strengthening ASEAN Centrality and unity, as well as the realisation of ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future;

DO HEREBY DECLARE, AS TRUSTED PARTNERS, TO:

1. **Further strengthen** the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Strategic Partnership that is meaningful, substantive, and mutually beneficial, and **Enhance** cooperation to strengthen economic resilience to support the realisation of ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future.

I. Economic Resilience: Energy, Food and Supply Chain Security

2. **Reaffirm** the importance of maintaining peace and stability, maritime safety and security, and upholding freedom of navigation and overflight in line with international law, particularly the 1982 UNCLOS, and the relevant standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). In this regard, we call for the restoration of the safe, unimpeded, and continuous transit passage of vessels and aircraft in the Strait of Hormuz in line with the 1982 UNCLOS, ensuring the safety of seafarers and ships in accordance with the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), as well as maintaining well-functioning, stable and transparent markets, and rules-based trade for energy and other essential goods;

3. **Support** regional energy security cooperation and ASEAN's efforts to early realise the ASEAN Power Grid (APG), strengthen cooperation on energy efficiency, including through promoting technology cooperation for renewable energy integration, mobilising public and private investment in cross-border power interconnectivity and transmission infrastructure, as well as through the ASEAN-Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership (AJEEP); **Strengthen** energy security and supply chain resilience, through relevant initiatives such as the Partnership On Wide Energy and Resources Resilience Asia (POWERR Asia), as appropriate, in line with the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) (2026-2030) and the ASEAN Connectivity Strategic Plan (ACSP) (2026–2035); and **Support** cooperation in other relevant energy areas, including petroleum security, in line with the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Petroleum Security on a voluntary and commercial basis, as well as facilitating exchanges on strengthening voluntary fuel reserve systems with support from relevant institutions, such as the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) where appropriate, and recognising the importance of coordination on

energy between producing and consuming countries in accordance with the respective mandates and competencies of relevant authorities;

4. **Support** the implementation of the APAEC (2026–2030), including through relevant cooperation under the Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) to address climate change, promote economic growth, enhance energy security, resilience**,** and sustainability through sharing experiences and knowledge including on Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), geothermal, hydrogen and ammonia technologies, nuclear safety and security, and sustainable use of energy while taking into account the diverse circumstances of the region and each ASEAN Member State, and utilising a broad range of energy options, including clean, low carbon and renewable energy, as well as civilian nuclear energy such as small modular reactors (SMRs) for those countries that choose to use it, biofuels and liquefied natural gas;

5. **Enhance** food security as well as sustainable, resilient**,** and regenerative agriculture systems in response to geopolitical risks, climate change**,** and environmental degradation. This includes promoting digital and green innovations such as the use of satellite data, AI-driven crop monitoring**,** and other smart agricultural technologies to strengthen food security and resilience, as well as green transformation technologies such as Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD); and **Promote** the effective implementation of the updated Annex of the ASEAN-Japan MIDORI Cooperation Plan (AJMCP) and other relevant initiatives;

6. **Promote** transparent, diversified, secure, sustainable, trustworthy and reliable supply chains to strengthen global supply chain resilience for critical products, such as critical minerals, while noting concerns about market-distorting practices that affect resilient supply chains and cause excess capacity, as well as economic coercion that seeks to exploit economic vulnerabilities and dependencies, and reiterate our shared commitment to an open, inclusive, fair, non-discriminatory, and rules-based multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core, indispensable for sustainable and resilient economic growth;

7. **Advance** cooperation
   (a) to build resilient and sustainable critical mineral supply chains through ASEAN-Japan Resource Circulation Partnerships on E-Waste, ELV and Critical Minerals (ARCPEEC) and relevant initiatives of Multilateral Development Banks including the World Bank (RISE Partnership and RISE+) and the Asian Development Bank Critical Minerals-to-Manufacturing Financing Partnership Facility (CMM-FPF), as well as supporting the implementation of the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan IV

(2026–2030) and the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Critical Minerals;

(b) to support ASEAN's efforts to strengthen connectivity by promoting quality infrastructure projects, including through effective implementation of the ACSP, the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership (AJTP), economic security-related Official Development Assistance (ODA), and Overseas Economic Security Arrangement (OESA);

(c) to promote regional financial cooperation to strengthen the financial safety net including through the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) and ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO), deepen capital markets, and advance disaster risk financing and cross-border digital payments, in support of financial stability and sustainable growth in the region;

(d) to promote regional capacity-building and the sharing of information and good practices in the fields of economic security and supply chain resilience, including through Japan's new initiative, the Japan-ASEAN Economic Security Leadership Program, to be launched in 2027, and think-tank cooperation; and

(e) to promote cooperation on technical standards, engineering quality assurance, and resilient infrastructure development by facilitating joint research, technical capacity-building, and knowledge transfer among professional engineering bodies in ASEAN and Japan;

8. **Welcome** the commencement of the review process to upgrade the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement including the launch of a Joint Feasibility Study (JFS) to explore possible upgrading elements such as supply chain resilience and connectivity, facilitation of the stable supply of critical minerals and energy, and digital and green economies;

9. **Welcome** Japan's technical assistance in complementing regional trade frameworks such as the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) and ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA), to ensure inclusive economic growth and robust supply chain resilience;

10. **Strive** to co-create a future-ready workforce as a foundation of economic resilience, including through cooperation on technical and vocational education and training (TVET), engineering, semiconductor and advanced manufacturing talent, digital and Artificial Intelligence (AI) skills, Japanese language education, student, researcher and faculty mobility, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) Scholarship, Global Network Project to Promote Study in Japan, Inter-University Exchange Project, ASEAN University Network / Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net), Sakura Science Exchange Program, the Japan

International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Knowledge Co-Creation Program, and continued support for the ASEAN Junior Fellowship Programme at the ASEAN Secretariat (AJFP);

11. **Advance** ASEAN's integration and community-building efforts through the realisation of ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future, with a view to enhancing economic resilience in the region. This includes continued cooperation to narrow the development gap in ASEAN by implementing the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan V (2026–2030), developing economic corridors and special economic zones, and strengthening subregional cooperation, including Mekong-Japan Cooperation, Japan-Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), and Japan's Development Partnership with the Ayeyawady–Chao Phraya–Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), and aligning sub-regional growth with the comprehensive development of ASEAN;

II. Digital Transformation, AI, and Innovation

12. (a) **Express** our shared commitment to co-creating a safe, secure, accountable, human-centric, and trustworthy AI ecosystem, in line with relevant and existing ASEAN AI governance frameworks and initiatives and in the spirit of the Hiroshima AI Process, fostering innovation and harnessing opportunities while mitigating related risks, and under the Japan-ASEAN Co-Creation Initiative for AI;
    (b) **Support** further expanding and accelerating of cooperation and strengthening capacity-building, to enhance the national capability and resilience of AI ecosystems in the region, including by promoting native-language AI that safeguards cultural identity and industry-specific foundational models, sharing knowledge and experience on open resources in AI, and co-creating AI solutions tailored to the specific needs of each country to ensure that the benefits of AI cooperation are equitably and inclusively distributed across ASEAN Member States; and
    (c) **Endeavor** to cultivate advanced AI talent through cooperation between relevant institutions of ASEAN Member States and Japan with a view to fostering an innovation ecosystem and advancing Government AI cooperation, while respecting national regulatory frameworks and developmental priorities;

13. (a) **Welcome** the launch of the Japan-ASEAN AI Safety and Security Partnership by Japan, which is voluntary, non-binding, and focused on the sharing of best practices and information, as well as capacity-building, in coordination with the ASEAN Working Group on AI Governance and the ASEAN AI Safety Network to deepen cooperation on AI safety, security, governance, and assurance;

(b) **Address** the opportunities and risks posed by AI, including cybersecurity risks amplified by frontier AI models and AI-enabled misinformation, disinformation, and deepfakes, while promoting media and information literacy;

(c) **Promote** further consultations on AI governance that is responsible, inclusive, capacity-building oriented**,** and consistent with the ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics and Expanded ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics – Generative AI; and

(d) **Work** together to enhance AI cooperation, with a view to a future AI summit hosted by Japan;

14. **Strengthen** cooperation to address urban challenges through the use of AI and digital technologies for smart cities, including in waste management, under the Smart City supported by Japan ASEAN Mutual Partnership (Smart JAMP) and the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) while ensuring safe, trusted, and resilient urban systems;

15. **Commit** to cooperation on digital infrastructure development, including but not limited to data centers, undersea cables, Open RAN, Beyond 5G/6G, satellite communications, All-Photonics Network, as well as technology-neutral regulatory approaches and interoperability, while ensuring technology neutrality and avoiding vendor lock-in in line with the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2030 (ADM2030), ACSP, with support from relevant ASEAN-Japan cooperation initiatives and Japan's "FOIP Digital Corridor Initiative", and by strengthening the security, protection, and resilience of such digital infrastructure against cyber and physical threats, while recognising that trusted digital infrastructure systems are the backbone of the global digital economy and are essential to secure, reliable, and resilient regional connectivity;

16. **Promote** secure, seamless and trusted cross-border data flows, in light of data governance with appropriate safeguards for cybersecurity, and personal data protection and privacy, consistent with applicable domestic laws and regulations, and relevant international legal frameworks, and support related capacity-building to that end while promoting a complementary digital supply chain, contributing to the advancement of the ADM2030 and other areas of interest for ASEAN, such as data governance/Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT), and supporting the implementation of the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA);

17. **Promote** research, innovation and collaboration in critical and emerging technologies such as AI, quantum technology, and future communications technology, by developing vibrant innovation communities, facilitating international joint research, strengthening capacity-building, and building robust researcher networks through the Networked

Exchange, United Strength for Stronger Partnerships between Japan and ASEAN (NEXUS), Sakura Science Exchange Program, and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science's (JSPS) International Fellowships for Research in Japan;

18. **Task** our Ministers and Senior Officials to undertake concrete measures to implement this Joint Statement, and report on its implementation to the ASEAN-Japan Summit through relevant existing mechanisms;

ADOPTED in Manila, the Republic of the Philippines, this Seventeenth Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.